

have heard this and marvelled at the gentle politeness with which the countryman explained to his unbelieving listener that had he drawn away and ricked the hay too soon, it would be mouldy and only fit for manure by this time. The farmer is not always obstinate in his old ways without good reason, as statistics just issued in the Blue Book for 1901 show. These Blue Books are published by Government and are considered infallible, therefore what is quoted from them is believed to be incontestable, and so the Irish farmer might, were he so rude as to do so, quote disdainfully for his critics, the 'experts,' the following figures, with the gentle reminder, that an ounce of experience is worth, etc., etc. The average yield in Great Britain of wheat last year was 30.84 bushels per acre, while in Ireland it was 31.24 bushels. In England, the yield of barley was 30.98 bushels per acre, while in Ireland the yield was 40.43 bushels, while the difference is still greater in the yield of oats, for while the Irish farmer produced 46.45 bushels per acre, the English farmer only produced 36.74. M.B.

COUNTY NEWS.

CORK.

As the result of negotiations which extended over many years, the tenants of the agricultural property of the Munster and Leinster Bank in the immediate neighborhood of Bandon, have just finally completed the purchase of their holdings. The estate contains about 50 separate farms, and the new peasant proprietors number 23. The actual purchase was effected in 1898, but several attempts had been made previous to that to bring about a sale by the landlords, but without effect. However, the intending purchasers were in no way discouraged, and they determined to keep renewing the effort until their object would be obtained. One of their number, Mr. J. Wren, a gentleman whose abilities admirably suited him for the position, was selected to carry on the negotiations with the bank, and to him and the Very Rev. Canon Shinkwin, P.P., V.F., Bandon, is mainly due the credit for the very satisfactory termination of the purchase scheme.

DOWN.—The Late Election.

Mr. William Johnson, of Ballykilbeg, was the sponsor at the contest in East Down on behalf of Colonel R. H. Wallace, the landlords' and Orangemen's candidate, who was defeated by the votes of the Presbyterian tenant farmers. The Colonel is a resident landlord, head of the firm of Messrs. H. Wallace and Co., solicitors, and an Orangeman. At the election for County Councillor for the Downpatrick Division, he was opposed by Mr. Henry McGrath, Nationalist, and got beaten.

KILKENNY.—Death of a Baronet

Captain Sir Elliot Derrick Le Poer Power, Baronet, died from enteric in South Africa on January 20. The deceased baronet was born in 1872, and succeeded his brother in 1900. The family seat is at Kilfane, Thomastown, County Kilkenny. Sir Elliot's uncle, Mr. Adam Clayton Power, succeeds to the title.

Parliamentary Representation.

Mr. P. McDermott, M.P., has found it necessary, owing to increased business duties, to sever his connection with the Irish Parliamentary Party. He has applied for the 'Chiltern Hundreds.' His constituents in North Kilkenny part with regret from their member, who was always most attentive to his duties.

LIMERICK.

The funeral of the late Mr. Aubrey de Vere, the poet, took place at Askeaton Cemetery. All classes were represented. The Very Rev. Dean Flanagan officiated.

Another Centenarian.

The death has occurred in the

townland of Carhumor, near Ballingarry, County Limerick, of Mrs. Margaret O'Sullivan, who, at the time of her demise, had attained the wonderful age of 105 years. During the course of her long life she was never known to be for any time ill. Up to the time of her demise her hair had retained its original color, not a single silver thread being observable amongst the luxuriant growth of auburn locks.

SLIGO.—Judge Morris Again.

Judge O'Connor Morris got a bad fall at Sligo. He treated the Grand Jury to one of his harangues against Compulsory Purchase. That Grand Jury consisted of five Catholics—possibly Nationalists—and 15 Protestants—presumably Conservatives. They listened to the Judge's diatribe; they retired, and they passed a resolution in favor of Compulsory Purchase.

People

A new story is being told of the days when Mark Twain was a hack-writer in San Francisco on a weekly salary representing but one figure, Bret Harte and Joaquin Miller serving on the same staff with like pay. A woman of means who patronised Bohemia and gave the impecunious strugglers many a good dinner, saw Mark Twain thinly clad and imperfectly shod, standing with a cigar box under his arm and looking hungrily in at a confectioner's window. The patroness of letters asked what was in the box. 'Oh,' drawled the humorist, 'I'm moving again.'

A remarkable cure for cancer of 20 years' growth has been effected in San Jose, California, by means of the X-ray, in the case of Father Comerford, 83 years old. The cancer was of the lupus class, or skin cancer, and had been gradually spreading over the priest's face. Prominent physicians of France and America had pronounced it incurable. Three months ago Father Comerford placed himself under the care of Dr. J. S. Hall, of San Francisco, who had just returned from a two years' study in Europe. A daily treatment of 15 minutes under the X-ray was commenced. After the 20th treatment it could be seen that the cancer was healing. From that time up to the 30th treatment the affected parts healed rapidly, until the cancer has entirely disappeared, leaving only a scar.

Reviewing a book on Cardinal Newman, the 'Athenaeum' speaks of the convert as 'the greatest religious force and one of the greatest intellects and most fascinating personalities in the 19th century.' In another part of the same issue of the 'Athenaeum' another reviewer, speaking of Newman, says that 'the magic of his name continues and sheds interest on all the lesser stars who twinkled in his orbit.'

Mr. Seton, who recently resigned the pastorate of St. Joseph's church, Jersey City, with the intention of making his residence in future at Rome, is a member of a noble Scotch family which traces its ancestry back to the Norman Conquest. Dougall de Say-toun, of Norman parentage, was of the Knights of Scotland in the beginning of the 12th century. Later in the same century his descendant was Sir Christopher de Seton, and two centuries later a Lord Seton appears. From that period the Setons and their relatives, branching into most of the noble families of Scotland, played an important and prominent part in Scottish history down to modern times. Mr. Seton has compiled the record of his people in a recently published genealogical work entitled 'An Old Family; or, The Setons of Scotland and America.' The book is dedicated to 'A dear

and honored kinsman, Sir Bruce-Maxwell Seton, of Abercorn, baronet.' Among the American members of the family was the late Mother Catherine Seton, who was one of the first received into the Order of Mercy, when it was established in New York by Archbishop Hughes.

Counsellor Francis Garvey, a gentleman known to all the members of the legal profession within the radius of more than 100 miles from St. Louis, died recently. He was in his 85th year. Born in Roselevin at the old family home of the Garveys, near Westport, County Mayo, Ireland, Francis Garvey graduated from Trinity College, Dublin, and no man had a more admirable love for country and college. The themes were always on his tongue to the greatest delight of his listeners, who never seemed to tire of their recital. After graduating he took up the study of law, becoming a barrister in the year 1836. He practised for some years in the Dublin and London Courts. In 1865 he went with his family to the United States, and after spending some time in New York and Chicago he eventually settled down in St. Louis, where he engaged in the practice of his profession. He retired about 12 years ago.

They say that Pio Centra, the Pope's valet, receives a greater quantity of letters than any other man in Europe. But Pio Centra takes less notice of the letters he finds every morning in his breakfast tray than any other man, for he simply takes little bundles of them while he is drinking his chocolate and throws them into the fire without even looking at the addresses on the envelopes. Pio Centra lives with his family in a small pavilion in the Contré San Damaso, which is in the Vatican itself. He looks so distingue, with his clean-shaven face and his large, beautiful, gray eyes, that those who do not know him take him for a Monsignor, and a high-born one, and when, as early as 5 a.m., he crosses the yard which leads to the Pope's apartments, those he meets honor him with a deep bow. These honors he receives with great dignity, and as if they were due to him. At six o'clock he enters the apartments of his Holiness, whom he helps to get up and dress. Then he assists at the Mass in the private chapel, kneeling behind the master, attends afterwards to the light collation, consisting of toast and chocolate, and practically never leaves the Holy Father during the day. To Pio Centra alone Dr. Lapponi gives minute directions about diet, rest, or exercise, and the amount of sleep or work. More than once the Cardinals and high dignitaries have been horrified to see Pio Centra snatch a cup or glass from his master's hands, or gently compel him to sit down or coax him into a little walk.

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