

GENERAL.

Lenten Pastorals.

The Lenten pastorals of the Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland (writes a Dublin correspondent) contain this year, as usual, words of grave counsel to priests and people, the result, we may be certain, of long and thoughtful meditation on the part of their Lordships who, always solicitous for the welfare of their flocks, are more so than ever, if possible, at this holy season of the year. His Eminence Cardinal Logue, after expressing his grateful thanks to Divine Providence for being able to testify that the evil of intemperance has very much decreased owing to the influence of temperance societies, energetically worked by some zealous priests, goes on to say that while we are no worse or even as bad as our neighbors, still the evil is sufficiently widespread to awaken the anxiety and fire the zeal of all who are interested in the welfare of the people. He draws a vivid picture of all that could be done to promote our national prosperity if the Catholics of Ireland would only bind themselves together, dispense with drink, and pay into a common fund the millions that are annually expended upon it. His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, referring to the degrading vice, says it is the cause not only of many and most grievous temporal calamities, sickness, and sudden deaths, disgrace and beggary, but also of the ruin and everlasting damnation of souls. The other members of the Irish hierarchy all deal with the subject in an equally trenchant manner. The Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Ferns, deals at length with this, undoubtedly the most prolific source of intemperance in Ireland. He says a number of zealous priests, struck by the prevalence of intemperance, and attributing it in great measure to our foolish social habits, have determined to make an effort to lessen this great evil. They intend during this Lent to ask their people to make a promise to give up the custom of giving or accepting treats in public houses.

Parliamentary Fune.

A substantial subscription to the Irish Parliamentary Fund is announced from Mr. W. J. Evelyn, Dorking, who has subscribed £100. Mr. Evelyn, it will be remembered, was formerly a Conservative member for Deptford, whose leanings to Ireland and the Irish Party caused him to lose his seat. In British politics Mr. Evelyn is still a Conservative, but he has abated none of his love for Ireland, notwithstanding what that attachment has cost him.

Recent Deaths.

Among the deaths reported in our latest Irish exchanges are the following—Dr. Robert Barry, Limerick; Mr. Henry McCloskey, Moneglass, at the age of 107 years; Alderman L. A. Ryan, Waterford.

Domestic Servants.

Strange as it may seem, the domestic servant question is becoming a serious one even in Ireland. An Irish exchange of February 8 says. At Abbeyfeale, County Limerick, on Tuesday, the season for hiring domestic and agricultural servants opened. Owing to emigration farmers were obliged to advance from £14 to £18 for ten months to retain the services of those whom they formerly employed for half those sums. Many farmers have been obliged to change their mode of farming from dairying to dry-stock keeping.

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People

The 'N. Y. World Almanac' for 1902 gives the list of the 3546 millionaires in the United States. Of this number nearly 150 are Catholics.

Another Spanish Irishman (says 'Church Progress') has set foot in the New World. Señor Ignacio Yvoro O'Donnell took charge of the Spanish consulate at New Orleans, La. The new consul is a Catholic.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor will publish shortly a new penny weekly, under the title of 'T. P.'s Weekly.' Unlike 'M. A. P.' which is chiefly concerned with social news, the new journal will be a literary miscellany on popular lines. The critical article, entitled 'A book of the week,' which Mr. O'Connor contributed for many years to another journal, and which had a large circle of readers, will form a prominent feature of the new weekly.

The 'Catholic Citizen' printed a list recently of more than 100 millionaires of Irish blood in America, and commented thereon as follows: 'We print this list merely as evidence of the sociological fact that the Irish-American element in the United States is coming up in the financial world—that it is not to be thought of exclusively as a factor in the domain of labor, but it is also a factor in the domain of capital. We may further observe—not with any ostentation, however (for we think our wealthy Irish-Americans are not above the average in public spirit)—that this list may be submitted in the British House of Commons as an exhibit illustrating that under proper industrial conditions, equal laws, and good government, the Irish race would hold its own with any other element, in ability to get on in the world. The above-listed Irish-American millionaires could easily buy up all the arable land in Ireland at even twice its present value.'

Mr. Clement Scott, the celebrated Catholic dramatic critic, edits a newspaper called the 'Free Lance.' It has recently been added to the list of publications prohibited for sale in South Africa by order of the military authorities. Clement Scott served 20 years in the War Office. His eldest son, Captain Philip Scott, was through the siege of Ladysmith, and his youngest son, Eric Scott, was for two years in the Imperial Yeomanry. Mr. Scott communicated his grievances to the War Office, and received a reply that the matter has been referred to Lord Kitchener. Mr. Scott protests that he is a 'loyal subject'; but it is probable that the title of the publication had more to do with its censorship than a perusal of its contents, as Lord Roberts, has expressed his interest in a poem in the 'Free Lance' written by the veteran journalist himself.

Hon. Chas. Fitzpatrick, Minister of Justice for the Dominion of Canada, was born in Quebec on the 19th December, 1853. He was educated at St. Ann's College, and graduated as B.A. and B.C.L. at Laval University, where he carried off the Governor-General's medal in 1876. During the same year he was admitted to the Bar of the province. His career as an advocate has been brilliant in all the courts, civil and criminal. In 1887 he was president of the Quebec branch of the Irish National League. From 1890 to 1896 he represented the County of Quebec in the local Legislature, when he resigned and was returned to the House of Commons for the same constituency. He was appointed Solicitor-General in the Government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier at its formation, and has ever since been an active and prominent member of

the administration. Mrs. Fitzpatrick is a daughter of the late Hon. R. E. Caron, a distinguished judge, who also filled the office of Lieutenant-Governor of the province. The new Minister of Justice is a man of eminent ability. He is of fine presence and courteous manners. That he will reflect credit on his race and creed and discharge the important duties of his high office with ability goes without saying (says the Montreal 'True Witness'). It is particularly gratifying to see that Mr. Fitzpatrick has, at length, succeeded in wiping out the policy of ostracism against Irish Catholics in the province of Quebec that has been followed since 1867, the date of Canadian Confederation. At that time Hon. Thomas D'Arcy McGee, the most eloquent man in Canada, was crowded out. From that day till the present accession of Mr. Fitzpatrick, the Irish Catholics of this province, who had sent such men as Bernard Devlin, the present Mr. Justice Curran, Mr. M. J. F. Quinn, and others to the Dominion Parliament, have never been able to secure a position in the Federal Cabinet. To-day the barrier has been removed. We heartily congratulate the new Minister of Justice, and feel grateful to Sir Wilfrid Laurier for having had courage to put the right man in the right place.

Singular Antipathies.

The antipathies of the human mind are very extraordinary, and their effects are involuntary, irresistible, and unaccountable. Out of the almost innumerable cases of this affection of the nerves on record, we here subjoin a few of the most remarkable. Uladslaus, King of Poland, used to become almost frantic if apples were put in his sight. Henry III of France could not stay in a room where there was a cat; yet this king was at the time so absurdly fond of dogs that he would often walk about his palace with a basket of young puppies dangling by a piece of ribbon from his neck. Scalliger could not look at velvet without a violent shaking of his whole body. Boyle used to fall into 'convulsions' at hearing water running from a tap. M. la Motte de Vayer though he could not bear music, yet was delighted to listen to the roar of thunder. James I. could not bear the sight of a drawn sword, and Sir Knowles Digby relates that his Majesty shook so violently in knighting him that he would have run the point of the sword into the eye of the knight-elect had not the Duke of Buckingham guided it across his shoulder.

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