

Irish News.

ARMAGH.

The Dublin 'Freeman's Journal' has the following news item—The sudden bark of a dog has led to a somewhat serious farm fire at Cavanacaw, a remote district of County Armagh. The bark caused a cat to jump on to a table where it overturned a lamp. The burning oil set fire to several articles in the room and saturated the cat's fur. Maddened by pain the cat ran round the room, spreading the fire, and then it rushed to a stack-yard, where it set fire to several haystacks. The flames were not got under until considerable damage had been done. The farmer's son has been seriously burnt about the head and arms.

GORK.—Queenstown Cathedral.

The Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Cloyne, addressing the congregation at the Cathedral, Queenstown, recently, made an important statement respecting the cost of the works that have been carried on in the Cathedral since his Lordship's accession to the See, and added that it was his intention to hold a great bazaar in Queenstown a year and a half hence, in the autumn of 1903, for the purpose of lessening the heavy debt on the building. Although £27,000 has been expended in beautifying the Cathedral and its surroundings during Dr. Browne's occupancy of the Ancient See, yet the debt on the Cathedral has not been increased. That the Bishop made the completion of the Cathedral a favorite object during the past seven years is a well known fact, and scarcely a day passes that his Lordship does not receive congratulations from Catholics outside the Cloyne diocese on the completion of the work. Well-nigh everything that is best in architecture has been introduced into the church, and in its internally completed state it excites the admiration of visitors who come from long distances to see it.

DERRY.—Death of a Priest.

The death is reported of the Rev. Thomas J. Larkin, of Moneymore, County Derry, one of the oldest and most estimable priests in Ulster. For close on half a century Father Larkin earnestly discharged the duties of his high office, and in the course of that lengthy period his actions ever aimed at the accomplishment of that which was good and holy. Father Larkin was born in Ballinderry in 1829, and at an early age went to Armagh Seminary, where he distinguished himself by close and brilliant study. He subsequently attended Maynooth College, and in the year 1856 was ordained priest. Soon afterwards he was appointed dean and general manager of the Seminary at Armagh. During his stay there he was beloved by the students and citizens alike, and it was with feelings of regret that they learned of his departure from amongst them to take up his first curacy in Carrickmore. Father Larkin's next appointment was to Keady, and thence to Donaghmote, and later on to Moneymore. Here he remained until his death.

DONEGAL.—Longevity.

The air of the Innishowen seaboard must be of a first-class vitalizing quality. In the Irish papers the death is announced of Cornelius Doherty, Ballymacarter, Lower Moville, at the extraordinary age of almost six score years—115. It is a remarkable age to attain to, but instances of persons living to very advanced years in Innishowen are not wholly uncommon.

DOWN.—Result of a Boycott.

It is said (writes a Belfast correspondent) that the Press boycott inflicted on Mr. T. W. Russell in the Down election is likely to have a

significant result. The Harmsworth family are contemplating a descent on Belfast, and the Presbyterian Assembly is going to consider the establishment of a paper giving Presbyterians the voice in the Press which the present organs deny them, since the said organs all turned Orange and pro-landlord in their tone. The Harmsworths are newspaper producers irrespective of politics. In London they own two Tory papers, and at least two professedly Liberal papers in the British provinces. A nondescript paper in Ireland would complete the circuit of possibilities for the exercise of their enterprise and comprehensive sympathies.

DUBLIN.

The Archbishop of Dublin, in his Lenten pastoral, writes:—For some years past attention has had to be called to the steadily-growing disregard of all moral restraint amongst those who are responsible for the management of places of relaxation and amusement in our city. The evil, though perhaps somewhat abated, gives little sign of coming to an end. It is not easy to suggest an effective remedy. Whether from cowardice or from demoralisation, the public opinion that could easily make an end of the mischief continues to be all but dumb. But the pastors of our Catholic people should never allow them to forget that it is the encouragement given to debasing performances, by those who flock to them as gratified spectators, that makes it possible to maintain such doings in our midst. Another evil, of comparatively recent development amongst us, is the telling of fortunes by means of palmistry and other foolish devices. Practised at first in a spirit of mere pleasantry, palmistry has come to be regarded in all seriousness, not of course, by the impostors whose trade it is, but by their dupes amongst both rich and poor, whose superstitious folly makes that trade a profitable one.

Sudden Death.

By the startling and painfully sudden death of the Very Rev. Philip Canon Carberry (says the 'Irish Catholic' of January 25), which occurred last night, in his residence at Dolphin's Barn, the archdiocese of Dublin has lost one of its most devoted and hard-working clergymen.

KERRY.—No Work for the Judge

There is no county in Ireland where the Irish League has a firmer footing than in Kerry, yet there seems to be an almost total absence of crime there. At the Tralee Quarter Sessions Judge Shaw was presented with a pair of white gloves as there was no criminal business for disposal. The following interesting conversation took place on the occasion. His Honor—It is extremely satisfactory that I have no Crown business in this county at all during these sessions—either at Killarney or Listowel or here. I don't know whether it is equally satisfactory to the members of the legal profession. Crown Solicitor—It is, sir, to me, anyhow, very satisfactory. As your honor has got gloves at Killarney, Listowel, and Tralee, I was suggesting to the Sheriff that he should give you a pair for the county-at-large.

LIMERICK.—Voluntary Sale.

The Mount Plummer estate, which has been in the Court for some years, has, it is announced, been offered to the occupying tenants for sale, with a view to the ultimate purchase thereof, under the provisions of the Land Purchase Act, at the rate of 18 years' purchase, of the small and hill tenants, and at the rate of 20 years to the holders of approved farms. The property is situated between Broadford and Ashford West, Limerick.

A Bequest.

By the will of the late Miss Cecelia Tully, of Boston, United States, St.

Mungret's College, Limerick, will benefit to the extent of £1000.

Ejectment Decrees.

At Rathkeale Quarter Sessions recently close on 40 ejectment decrees were obtained against tenants on the Ellis estate. His Honor Judge Adams, after hearing the evidence, in giving a decree for a half-year's rent, delivered the following judgment:—I wish to say that this is the most painful case I was ever called upon to dispose of. Here is a number of tenants coming into Court, apparently respectable men. What may happen in this case God only knows. It may be the first act in another drama. I would earnestly ask both parties to try to come to terms. On one side is the agent, a descendent of a princely line, the noble and honored Fitzgeralds; and on the other is the patriotic pastor of Abbeyfeale, Father Casey. I hope a spirit of goodwill will prevail. This day's proceedings alone will cost from £250 to £300. I again appeal to both parties to come to fair terms, and I must say that the manner in which the tenants' cause was put forward by Mr. Leahy, as well as Mr. Blood-Smith for the landlord deserves credit.

MONAGHAN.—A Diocesan Work

The new episcopal residence which is being built in Monaghan for the Most Rev. Dr. Owens is now approaching completion, and will cost about £4000. Half of this sum is to be provided by the priests of the diocese, and the balance, it is expected, will be contributed by the laity.

TIPPERARY.—Objected to Serve

While the Grand Jury were being sworn at Clonmel Quarter Sessions, the name of Thomas E. Byrne was called. Mr. Byrne, a venerable-looking old gentleman, addressing the judge, said he was not a British subject, he was an American citizen and did not wish to be sworn. He asked to be excused. His honor replied—Very well; we will excuse you. You can leave the box.

WATERFORD.

In accordance with the suggestion made at a meeting of the Waterford Corporation by Mr. Michael J. Wyse, two splendid trees were recently planted opposite the house on the Mall in Waterford in which the illustrious General Meagher was born. The Mayor said that it was a great pleasure to him to see General Meagher's memory perpetuated and to preside on an occasion like this, when they were assembled to pay even a small tribute to his priceless services.

WICKLOW.—Mining Industry.

A syndicate has commenced prospecting for copper ore in the East Cronbane mine, Ovoca, County Wicklow. This mine was worked many years ago, but under circumstances of little profit, owing to the expense of the undertaking, but new processes of extraction have since been devised, and it is thought that sufficient ore might now be extracted to remunerate the cost of working. Of course, much thus depends on the extent of the ore to be worked, and the prospecting operations now in progress in Cronbane are with a view to obtaining this information, which, if found satisfactory, may lead to the formation of a company. It is computed that if 2½ per cent. of copper is yielded the operations would be encouraged, but, of course, a large vein would be needed to justify operations on such a result. It is anticipated that about 2,200,000 tons of ore might be available for working, which would yield about 44,000 tons of metallic copper. A number of men are engaged working new shafts and repairing others, which would enable some knowledge to be acquired of the extent of the vein.