

Irish News.

ANTRIM.

Five new appointments to the city magistracy are announced (says the 'Belfast Weekly'). No Catholic citizen is among the number. Nor has any Catholic been appointed for several years past. This fact speaks for itself trumpet-tongued.

CORK. - Getting Rusty.

Opening the business of the Cork Borough Sessions, the Recorder, addressing the Grand Jury, said he was really beginning to apprehend that he was getting a little rusty in his knowledge of Crown law in the city of Cork, he had so little to do in it. He congratulated them on having so little to do at the sessions. The cases to go before them were few in number and light in character. There were, in fact, only four—one of those was for wounding, another for larceny, one for malicious injury to property, and one for uttering base coin. He did not think any one of those required any special instructions.

Holdings Purchased.

The tenants on the estate of Captain Digby Wright, in the neighborhood of Skibbereen and in Caheragh, have been for some time negotiating about the purchase of their holdings, and with the aid of his Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. Kelly, Bishop of the diocese, have succeeded. Some few years ago the Townshend estate was about being sold. This was a very extensive area, and the tenants waited on his Lordship and expressed to him their desire to purchase out their holdings. He immediately took the matter in hand and worked for months unceasingly, with the result that the tenants were made peasant proprietors. The people of the district are delighted that his Lordship has been again successful, and that the tenants on the Wright estate are now in the same position as the Townshend tenantry.

DERRY.—A New Altar.

There has just been erected for the Right Rev. Monsignor M'Faul, P.P., Waterside, a high altar of rare beauty. A pleasing circumstance in this connection is that the popular and widely-esteemed parish priest has been able to get every part of the work done by Irish artists.

DUBLIN.—Death of a Priest.

The death is reported of the Very Rev. Father Slattery, Finglas, County Dublin, in the 59th year of his age.

Death of Major Blount.

Major Blount, a gentleman well known in Kingstown and neighborhood, died on April 17, to the deep regret of a large circle of acquaintances. He was the youngest son of Mr. Michael Henry Blount and the Hon. Mrs. Elizabeth Blount, of Mapledurham, Oxfordshire. Major Blount belonged to one of the oldest and best-known Catholic families in England. At an early age he obtained a commission in the 20th Regiment, and was engaged in active service during the Indian Mutiny; he also saw service in China. For several years he was a member of the Kingstown Urban District Council. The funeral took place from St. Patrick's Church, Monkstown, to Dean's Grange Cemetery.

KERRY.—Extremely Satisfactory

Addressing the Grand Jury at the opening of the Tralee Quarter Sessions his Honor County Court Judge Shaw said—I am happy to be able to tell you that your business is very light. There are three indictments to go before you, and they are all against the same man. In other respects, as far as I can ascertain from competent authorities, the condition of the district is extremely satisfactory.

LIMERICK.

In a recent issue we ('Catholic Times') stated that the charge of intolerance brought in England against the Catholics of Limerick by Mr. Long, the so-called 'medical missionary,' had been repudiated by Mr. R. Gibson, a Limerick Protestant, from whom Mr. W. A. McKnight, of Liverpool, had sought information on the subject. Since then both Dr. Long and Mr. Robertson, the Protestant Rector of St. Munchin's, Limerick, have attempted to defend the system of proselytism carried on by this agent of the Irish Church Missions. The defence has, however, been a perfect fiasco. Mr. Gibson, who is not merely fearless and straightforward, but a gentleman of high intellectual ability, has left them in a helpless plight. We regret much that want of space prevents us from publishing his powerful exposure of the methods adopted by the Irish Church Missions, but even from a few sentences our readers can judge of the force of his arguments. He writes: 'Dr. Long asks what he has done that I should make such charges as I do against him and the I.C.M. I will tell him. He started a free dispensary—very good and noble if done to relieve suffering, but as soon as he got Catholics going there he began to talk to them against the doctrine of their Church. That I call vile. Then he labels the Catholics of Limerick, saying they persecute Protestants. That is abominably false. How many Protestant doctors practise in Limerick and are esteemed by their Catholic patients? He says I am in a pugilistic mood, and he does not appreciate this fighting. Yes, I always am in a fighting mood when I hear friends whom I esteem and love slandered, and I am quite sure he does not like this fighting in the open with one who is intimately acquainted with both sides of the question.' It may be taken for granted that in future the proselytisers will avoid controversy with Mr. Gibson.

More White Gloves.

His Honor Judge Adams opened the Easter Quarter Sessions at Rathkeale. Mr. William Beauchamp, Clerk of the Crown and Peace, said that in the unavoidable absence of the High Sheriff he had much pleasure in presenting his Honor with white gloves, as there was no criminal business for disposal. His Honor said he was glad to learn that the western portion of the county was in such a peaceable condition and so free from crime.

WATERFORD. I.

The proprietress and editor of the 'Waterford Star' have been served with summonses requiring them to attend a special Crimes Act Court. The summonses are as follow—'Whereas, a complaint has been made to me that, between the 1st day of November, 1901, and the 16th day of April, you, the defendants, in a certain newspaper called the 'Waterford Star,' at Waterford, in the county borough aforesaid, being a proclaimed district under the provisions of the Criminal Law and Procedure (Ireland) Act, 1887, did wrongfully and without legal authority, unlawfully use intimidation towards John McGrath, John McKenry, Patrick Hickey, David Barry, and Edmond Power, respectively, in consequence of their having done acts which they had a legal right to do—namely, to use and occupy, as tenants thereof, certain farms of land situate in the County Waterford, from which tenants had been evicted.' The charges are framed on reports of League meetings that appeared in the 'Star.' The issuing of the summonses had excited great local interest, especially in the west of the county and in the city proper.

GENERAL.

Gaelic Revival.

The country seems so have responded generously to the appeal of the

Gaelic League for funds. The collections carried out during the 'Irish Language Week' produced about £1500, the metropolis having contributed some £500 of that amount.

St. Patrick's Day in South Africa

Despite the distractions of the war the Irishmen of South Africa celebrated the Irish National Festival with great enthusiasm. From a Cape Town paper we learn that the local Irish Associations held a banquet on March 17 at which the Rev. Dr. Welch presided. There was a representative gathering, including the Mayor and many public men. Greetings were received from the Irishmen of Maritzburg, Durban, Diamond-fields, Kimberley, Port Alfred, Somerset, Mafeking, Mashonaland, Laurence Marques, etc. It will be noticed that these messages came from nearly every important centre in South Africa, so it is evident that Irishmen are pretty well scattered over these districts. During the evening a number of patriotic speeches were made, the principal speakers being the Rev. J. J. McClure, Advocate Uptington, and General Macnamara. The Irishmen of Kimberley postponed their celebration of St. Patrick's Day in consequence of the serious illness of Mr. Rhodes.

Catholic Truth Society.

The Catholic Truth Society of Ireland has achieved a marked measure of success since its inauguration a few years ago. To such an extent has the work developed that the committee of management has been compelled to obtain more extensive premises than those hitherto occupied. No. 27, Lower Abbey street, where it is now located, is a large and commonous building, admirably suited to the growing requirements of the Society, which has much hard work to accomplish in ousting the pernicious literature which is spread broadcast throughout the land, and supplying the public with good, wholesome reading instead.

Aid from America.

Mr. J. Redmond a few weeks ago received from the treasurer of the United Irish League in America £1000 on account of the New York subscriptions, and £500 from Philadelphia, in addition to £1000 already acknowledged.

Proclaimed Districts.

There is considerable speculation (says the 'Belfast Examiner') as to the motives of the Government in proclaiming the cities of Cork and Waterford, because, as a matter of fact, there has lately been less political activity there than in any city of Ireland, with the exception perhaps of Derry, whilst in both cases the judges have recently been 'presented with white gloves.' The Chief Secretary explained in his speech a few evenings ago that the step was taken with a view to stopping boycotting, but everyone knows that the real object is to facilitate the collection of rents. There is not in the County of Cavan, for instance, a single case of boycotting, but there is controversy between the tenants on the Morley estate, and the syndicate to whom Lord Morley sold the property over the heads of the tenants.

Mr. T. W. Russell on Coercion.

In the debate in the House of Commons on the renewal of the Crimes Act in Ireland Mr. T. W. Russell said he must admit that after having sat 17 years in the House, and hearing many discussions on the Crimes Act, he had never seen a step taken by the Government as this one with apparently so little cause. The Chief Secretary had given Ireland a pretty clean bill, which, in fact, would be a pretty clean bill for any country. In March last there were, according to his statement, 301 persons boycotted; but when the Crimes Bill was introduced into the House in 1887 they numbered more than 3001. He was perfectly clear that this movement