

Irish News

CLARE.—Newspaper Seized

The 'Clareman' offices and premises at Ennis were recently seized by the Sub-Sheriff, in satisfaction for the damages and costs awarded to Mr. M'Inerney, Ennistymon, in connection with the recent libel action. The damages, exclusive of costs, amounted to £500. A receiving order at the suit of Mr. M'Inerney was obtained over £68 due to the 'Clareman' from Ennis County Council, and a short time previously a like order was obtained for a similar amount.

Death of a '48 man

There recently passed away at Miltown-Malbaw Mr. Michael T. O'Brien at the age of 76 years. Mr. O'Brien was closely connected with the Smith O'Brien movement of 1848, when the Council directed that he should take the field at Tipperary. After that he was arrested and immediately sent to gaol. Blake Dillon, father of the present Mr. John Dillon, M.P., drove through Miltown-Malbaw with a reward of £500 out for his arrest, and O'Brien had the privilege of carrying him away safely. Richard O'Gorman was also sheltered in the home of the deceased. They conveyed Mr. Dillon to Cloonena, parish of Kilmurphy, and placed him in the hands of the brothers Walsh and the late Garrett Doherty, of Kilrush, who kept him until he was conveyed beyond the seas to America.

CORK.—A Royal Exhibitor

Much satisfaction was expressed in Cork when it became known that the King would be an exhibitor at the spring show of the County Cork Agricultural Society. This announcement was rendered all the more gratifying by the fact that this is the first time that exhibits from the Royal farms have been shown in Cork, although many years ago his Majesty, when Prince of Wales, sent some cattle from the herd which he then kept at Sandringham.

Death of a well-known Piper

The death is announced of Mr. Robert Thompson, the well-known Irish piper, which occurred in Cork on March 21. Mr. Thompson gained notoriety as a piper by winning first prize against all comers at the Feis Ceoil held in Dublin in 1897, and the following year at Belfast he was also successful in heading the list. As an all-round player of the pipes, and also as a maker of 'reeds,' Mr. Thompson had few, if any, equals in Ireland.

DERRY.—Accidents on the Hunting-field

At the close of a day's hunting with the Route hounds at Kilraughts, Ballymoney, a series of unfortunate accidents occurred. A young gentleman named Lyle, who resides in the neighborhood, had a fall which occasioned concussion of the brain. Mr. Robert Moore, of Gorteen, Coleraine, had his collar bone fractured by a fall when jumping a fence, and Mr. John Kernohan, V.S., Ballymena, sustained a severe general shaking in similar manner. One of the horses engaged in the hunt fell dead when returning home.

A Centenarian

The latest notable Irish centenarian to die was Mr. George Carlton, Ballyvarton, Cumber Claudy (father of the Very Rev. Dean Carlton, Macclesfield), removing one of the links that connect the twentieth century with the eighteenth. The venerable old man, says the 'Derry Journal,' was born as the eighteenth century was coming to a close, and though his life covered an immense span his faculties remained vigorous to the end and he never lost his erectness of form and elasticity of step. The late Mr. Carlton's life was full of lessons. He was born at a time when Ireland's soil was reddened by the blood-storm of '98. The chains of the Catholic still clanked o'er his limbs. The voice of O'Connell had not yet been heard. Though the penal laws were largely in force, still Ireland was then a nation with a Parliament of its own. He had lived through all the years of O'Connell's efforts for Ireland, and he had lived more than half a century after O'Connell had been called to his reward. But for the man individually the grandest fact was that not a stain had attached to his name through the hundred years and more he had spent in the parish.

DUBLIN.—Viceregal Visitors

During one of Father B. Vaughan's sermons in Gardiner street Church, Dublin, a party from the Viceregal Lodge occupied one of the tribunes. Father Vaughan subsequently accompanied Lady Dudley on a visit to the Blind Asylum.

A Praiseworthy Undertaking

How to find work for Irishwomen in Ireland is a problem more easily stated than solved, judging from the emigration returns and the numbers of women in all ranks of life who are seeking remunerative employment in their native country. An interesting little offshoot of the Irish Industries Association, the Cruagh Lace School, which has been established in a village a few miles south of Dublin (says the 'Freeman's Journal'), affords an example which might, with advantage, be followed elsewhere. The school is under the direction of a committee, of which the chairman is the Rev. Father Gossan, P.P. Nearly a score of girls from the surrounding district are engaged every day at the school under a qualified teacher in the production of Carrickmacross, Applique, and Guipure, the proceeds of the sales being divided be-

tween the workers on the co-operative principle. It is satisfactory to learn that the lace made by these co-operative workers finds a ready sale; and now that the Irish Industries Association are about to establish trade relations with the Continental markets, the demand for Irish lace is likely to increase considerably in the near future.

Kingstown Slums

The Kingstown Urban Council have applied for a Provisional Order to enable them to acquire certain property in Kingstown, and also to get a loan of some £70,000 for the purpose of building artisans' dwellings. The application was opposed by a number of interested property holders, and an inquiry was instituted to receive evidence. The leading witness on behalf of the Corporation was Father Murphy, the parish priest of Kingstown, who supplied minute statistics showing that a large number of families were housed in dwellings which he described as 'desperately bad.' In one case he found fourteen families with only a single latrine accommodation. In a one-roomed house, 12ft by 10ft, he found a husband, wife, and four children. In some cases where the families were grown up, he found that the children had to live away from their parents in order to preserve the amenities of decency. These are some samples of the statements put forward by Father Murphy, who has inquired very closely into the condition in which his people live, and is resolved to strive for their betterment. By most people Kingstown is regarded as a villa suburb of Dublin, and the statement now published showing the existence of slums of the most degraded character comes as an eye-opener to the public at large.

FERMANAGH.—Parliamentary Contest

The result of the parliamentary contest in North Fermanagh was that Mr. Mitchell, the Russellite candidate, headed the poll with 2407 votes, his opponent, Mr. Craig, the Orange Ministerialist, having but 2255. The majority is not great, but it will serve. At the last election a Conservative was returned unopposed. In 1898, when Dr. Thompson stood as an Independent candidate, the official Conservatives had a majority of 477. In 1895 and 1892 the Conservatives held the seat by majorities of 376 and 317 respectively. In 1885 and 1888 the seat was held by the Nationalists, Mr. William Redmond being then the member. There is a heavy Catholic vote in the constituency, and most of it went this time to the Russellite candidate.

Landlord Tactics

In an article in the 'Freeman's Journal' Mr. T. W. Russell exposes some of the tactics of the landlords and Unionists at the Fermanagh Parliamentary election, which resulted in the return of a follower of Mr. Russell. 'The election (writes Mr. Russell) was fought in the good old style of the pre-Land Act days. Rank intimidation prevailed. An official in the Orange Order presided at our first meeting in the constituency. Judge my surprise when I heard of his being summoned to attend a "Grand Lodge" or some such gathering to answer for his conduct. A poor farmer came to one of the polling stations, was met at the door by his landlord, and after an interview went home without voting. Another farmer who worked hard for us had received a "favor" from his landlord, and was promptly told that the favor was cancelled. Men who signed Mr. Mitchell's nomination papers were visited, reasoned with, cajoled, and threatened. Some of these men gave way and others stood firm. This sort of thing went on night and day. As usual, the entire Unionist press was arrayed against us. Lists of those who were alleged to have recanted were displayed. Rioting was resorted to in one centre. In fact, it was all in the good old landlord style. And by good luck it failed.'

KILDARE.—Maynooth College

The Catholic Ecclesiastical College at Maynooth (says an exchange) has within its walls nearly 600 clerical students. About 80 young priests are ordained there annually. Before entering Maynooth the student has already spent three or four years in a diocesan seminary. He goes to Maynooth when he is about eighteen years of age, and his course there extends over seven years, of which the last four are devoted mainly to the study of theology, Scripture, and Canon Law. There are two vacations in the year: a summer vacation of two months, and at Christmas a vacation of three weeks. The teaching staff consists of 24 professors and lecturers; six of them being laymen, and one a Dominican.

Agricultural Society

At the first ordinary meeting of the shareholders of the South Kildare Agricultural Society, Mr. M. J. Minch, M.P., presided. The chairman explained that they had procured the grounds for their show at the Horse Fair Green at a cost of £200. Two hundred subscribers alone had subscribed £1000. Mr. Minch, M.P., was then elected president of the society; Mr. W. J. Fennelly, J.P., vice-president; and Mr. Greene, Mageeny, deputy vice-president. Dr. Kilbride and Mr. Corcoran were elected secretaries, and Messrs. M. Whelan and R. K. Penny-cooke treasurers. The president, vice-president, and Sir A. A. Weldon were elected trustees.

LIMERICK.—Mr. Carnegie's Gift.

The Town Clerk of Limerick has received a letter from Mr. Carnegie, expressing his gratification that a site had been secured for the new Free Library, stating that he had authorised his cashier to arrange for the payment of the £7000 as the building proceeds, and asking that reduced sketch plans of the new edifice be