

Irish News

CORK.—A Crimeless County

At the sitting of the Bandon Quarter Sessions Mr. James Long, Deputy Clerk of the Peace, on behalf of the Sheriff, presented his Honor Judge Bird, K.C., with a pair of white gloves, remarking that there was no criminal business to be disposed of. His Honor appropriately replied, and said that this happy condition of affairs reflected great credit on the people of the district. There was no criminal business at the Macroom sessions, and there had been no notification given to the Sessional Crown Solicitor, Mr. Sherlock, of Crown business at the Skibbereen Sessions, so that there was not a single criminal case to be disposed of at the Quarter Sessions for the West Riding of the County Cork, which comprises ten Rural and five Urban districts.

DUBLIN.—Death of Dean Mahoney

On Easter Sunday (writes a Dublin correspondent) the death took place of the Very Rev. William J. Mahoney, S.M., Dean of the archdiocese of Wellington, New Zealand. Last May the deceased left Nelson, New Zealand, where his entire missionary career was spent, to seek in his native land renewed vigor and health, which 27 years of laborious work left him sadly in need of. The best medical attention, coupled with the salubrious air of the South of Ireland, failed to restore his health, and he breathed his last on Easter Sunday, fortified by the rites of Holy Church. On the following Wednesday his remains were interred after Office and Requiem Mass in the parish church, Pallasgreen, County Limerick.

Temperance Work

For 23 years the Father Mathew, O.S.F.C., Total Abstinence Association in connection with the Church of Our Lady of Angels, Dublin, has been actively promoting the cause championed by its patron with such wonderful success. The organisation, of which the Very Rev. Father Nicholas, O.S.F.C., is president, has seen a most encouraging revival, and may legitimately claim a large share of the credit due for the vitality of the movement. In many places, thanks to the energy of the Capuchin Fathers, thriving temperance societies have been established, and are carrying on a vigorous crusade. From the annual report of the Association, which has just been published, it is evident that there are no signs of decline in the parent body. The advantages placed within the reach of the members are numerous. Evening classes are held for their benefit. There are ample recreation rooms. By means of industrial classes the young are trained in many useful accomplishments. A labor bureau exerts itself to secure work for men who are out of employment. Athletics are cultivated, and, in a word, the association is a most effective engine of progress, physical, intellectual, and moral.

KILDARE.—Employment of Young Girls

Writing to Miss O'Reilly, hon. sec. of a newly-formed co-operative society established in Naas, under the auspices of the Gaelic League, the Most Rev. Dr. Foley, Bishop of Kildare, says he is greatly pleased to learn that it has been established for the purpose of providing the girls of the district with employment which, in addition to enabling them to earn a competence, may also have the effect of training them to habits of self-respect and self-reliance, in which it is to be feared so many of our town girls are wanting. His Lordship wishes the society every blessing and success.

New Member

Mr Denis Kilbride, recently released from prison, after serving part of a sentence of eight months for alleged intimidation, has been elected unopposed for Kildare South. Mr M. J. Minch, the sitting member, having resigned.

KING'S COUNTY.—No Work for the Judge

Judge Curran, at Birr, King's County, Spring Quarter Sessions, said he was happy to announce there was no criminal business to transact. This showed that that division of King's County was in a satisfactory state. The Sheriff then presented his Honor with a pair of white gloves. This is the third time within two years years that white gloves have been presented at Birr Quarter Sessions.

LIMERICK.—Not a Laborer

Forty guineas damages and costs were awarded at Limerick Quarter Sessions to Frank Ryan, a blacksmith, against the amalgamated Society of Engineers for illegally procuring his dismissal. The plaintiff's case was that he was employed at a foundry in Cork, but lost his place through the local secretary of the Union complaining that he was only a laborer.

MAYO.—A Pleasing Memento

At the opening of the Mayo Criminal Sessions Mr. Thomas F. Rutledge, Sub-Sheriff, presented County Court Judge Wakely with white gloves. His Honor said he was very glad and pleased on this his first visit to Mayo in the capacity of County Court Judge to receive white gloves. It spoke well for the state of the county, which, he trusted, would long continue. He would preserve those gloves as a very pleasing memento of his first visit to Mayo.

WATERFORD. A Cause for Rejoicing

Speaking in the Convent of Mercy, Dungarvan, the Most Rev. Dr. Sheehan said they were now learning to

pride themselves on everything Irish—on Ireland's past, which they had such good reason to be proud of, but which had been so long hidden. When one looked out upon the country to-day, the revival of Irish Ireland in her literature, in her language, in her history, and in the thrilling sweetness of her music and song, one might easily call to mind that beautiful story in Jewish history when in time of distress the holy men took the sacred fire still burning and put it in the earth, and when better times came they dug into the earth, and with great joy found it burning as brightly as ever. And was it not something similar they were doing in Ireland to-day? They should be all proud of their land, her history, the traditions handed down to them, but in an especial manner should they all rejoice at the sweet strains of their country's music. Where was the music that could touch the heart in joy or in sorrow like that of their native land? It found its way into their very being, and touched the chords of their hearts. He would, therefore, ask them to do all they could to revive it again, and cherish it as one of their dearest possessions.

GENERAL

A Large Circulation

As showing the great interest that was taken in the Irish Land Bill, it is stated that 6000 copies were circulated. This is the largest figure reached by any Bill ever brought into Parliament.

A Curious Coincidence

The severe storm of February 28 (says the 'Free-man's Journal') blew down the wooden steeple of the Protestant church of Termonfeckin. This steeple, the only one of its kind in Ireland—stood storm and shine for the last 90 years until the visitation of the late storm. However, the day before the storm, an old lady died, and by her will she left a large bequest for the purpose of erecting a cut stone spire to the church, and her generous aid will now be availed of in replacing the old wooden spire with a beautiful one of cut stone.

Transit Scheme

In the House of Commons in the early part of April Mr. Wyndham explained that a sum of £185,000 per annum would be devoted to three purposes—first, as a guarantee against a contingency of loss in the flotation of stock issued; second, as a fund from which the educational demands of Ireland could be met; and third, as a fund for the promotion of the economic development and transit facilities in Ireland and also to develop the transport facilities of the country in the light of modern invention. Lord Iveagh and Mr. Pirrie, of Belfast, were prepared to come forward, and out of private enterprise to take the question of transport. Nothing more patriotic or businesslike had occurred in Ireland since the last century. The transit scheme which Lord Iveagh and Mr. Pirrie would develop was to apply to all Ireland.

Episcopal Suggestions

Both the Archbishop of Dublin and the Archbishop of Tuam have been contributing to the discussions on the Land Bill. Dr. Walsh clears away a misconception which has been very prevalent in British newspaper offices by showing that the £12,000,000 to be provided for the working out of the new scheme of land purchase is not a 'free grant' from the British taxpayer, inasmuch as the Government has undertaken to cut off £250,000 a year from the present Treasury expenditure upon the civil establishment in Ireland. Very reasonably his Grace urges that since, according to Mr. Wyndham's statement, the economies are to be regarded as savings effected for the benefit of Ireland, they should be placed in a special account and earmarked as money to be expended on some purely Irish purpose. The Most Rev. Dr. Healy, who strongly approves of the Bill as a whole, made an appeal to the Government which will, no doubt, receive earnest consideration. The tenants who purchase their holdings are to pay a perpetual Crown rent. The chief object for which this is to be exacted is to prevent them from unduly subdividing their lands and falling into the clutches of money-lenders. But Dr. Healy is convinced they may be trusted to act with discretion, and he asks that this bar to perfect ownership, the sense of which is so stimulative of energy, be removed.

The Evicted Tenants

Mr John Redmond, M.P., has received the following statement from Sir Anthony MacDonnell:—It is not the intention of the Government to exclude any evicted tenants from the benefits which the Land Bill confers on the class. On the general question of these money limits, I would say that they were adopted on the supposition that they fairly met the substantial necessities of the case. But any suggestions regarding these limits that may reach the Government will be carefully considered.

Irish Industries

Yet another new association for the revival of Irish industries is about to be started in London, this time by Lord Charles Beresford. The scheme was broached at a dinner party given by Lord Charles, and according to his own account of the gathering, given to a 'Westminster' interviewer, the result was greater than anything he expected. 'There were,' he said, 'distinguished Irishmen present of every shade of political and religious convictions—influential men, substantial business men, and all with one object—the commercial development of Ireland and the good of the country generally.'