

health. His medical advisers urged him to prolong his holiday, but he was anxious to be in his place for the committee stage of the London Education Bill and the Land Bill, and, with that object, hastened his return.

Records to be Destroyed

If the papers can be relied on (writes a Dublin correspondent) Sir Anthony MacDonnell is quickening his pace at the Castle in an almost incredible fashion. It is said that he has ordered the destruction, by burning, of all papers kept under seal in police stations throughout Ireland relating to persons suspected of Fenianism or participation in secret societies during the last quarter of a century. For my part I am rather doubtful that such a sweeping step has been taken.

Police at Railway Stations

The regulations issued to the Royal Irish Constabulary by the Government, no doubt in accordance with the suggestion embodied in Captain Donelan's question to the Chief Secretary, of which a long notice had been given, prohibiting the attendance of police constables at railway stations in Ireland, unless when specially ordered, will stop a practice which was wholly indefensible, and was calculated and probably intended to impress travellers in Ireland with the belief that an armed force was absolutely essential for the preservation of law and order and the protection of strangers from the violence of the 'wild Irish.'

Automobile Fortnight

The programme of the Irish automobile fortnight has been settled as follows:—Wednesday, July 1, exhibition of the competing cars at Earlsfort terrace rink, Dublin; Thursday, July 2, the Gordon-Bennett Race; Friday, July 3, gymkana at the Phoenix Park, and possibly a torchlight procession to the Castle by night; Saturday, July 4, speed trials in the Phoenix Park; Monday, July 6, tour to Newcastle and Belfast; Tuesday, four-mile time test at Newcastle, hill-climbing trial for the Henry Edmunds' trophy; Wednesday, July 8, return to Dublin; Thursday, tour to Cork, via Waterford or Lismore; Friday, speed or hill-climbing trial at Cork; Saturday, motor boat race for the Alfred Harmsworth Cup at Queenstown; Monday, July 13, start of tour through the Killarney district; Wednesday, July 15, hill-climbing trial on the Killorglin-Tralee road for the County of Kerry Cup.

The National Convention

Mr. William Redmond, M.P., in giving his impressions of the great National Convention held in Dublin recently said: 'A Canadian chanced to be sitting near me, and he remarked that in his country under similar circumstances he doubted if so large a gathering could be conducted with such an entire absence of heat and ill-feeling. An American politician of wide experience of political meetings beyond the Atlantic declared that it would have been quite impossible to have held a convention in America with such absolute order and perfect good humor. Whatever the outcome of the Mansion House Convention may in the end be, it has already proved one thing to demonstration, and that is that the Irish when they feel the sense of responsibility upon their shoulders are able calmly and with the greatest good order to transact their own business. One sometimes hears of conventions being "rioted," but the Dublin Convention could not have been, for its very size forbade such a thing for a moment. There were, as the secretaries informed me, considerably over 2500 delegates from all parts of the land, and representing not only political organisations but also all the local governing bodies in the country. Then there were clergymen of all denominations who were entitled to be present by reason of their cloth. The vast majority of these delegates had never seen each other before, and they all had special interests to look after and special opinions to express. Now what was the first thing these 2500 Irish delegates did? Mr. Gully will be surprised to hear that almost the first thing they did was to impose a time, and a short time limit, upon the speakers! Ten minutes for the proposer of a resolution and five minutes for all subsequent speakers! The Convention at once carried this arrangement with a shout, and business was proceeded with. Each delegate had an order paper in his hand, and followed the discussion of the amendments with keen interest. No Committee of the House of Commons was ever more earnest or close in following the business than the members of this huge gathering. When a divergence of opinion arose it was wonderful to see how eagerly the course of the different arguments was watched, and it was perhaps more wonderful to note the good feeling that was shown between those who held opposing views.'

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People We Hear About

The distinguished Irish-American orator, the Hon. Mr. Bourke-Cockran, is a native of the parish of Kilvarnet, in the diocese of Achonry, Ireland.

Dr. Glennon, who has been appointed Coadjutor-Bishop of St. Louis, is a County Meath man. He was educated at St. Mary's, Mullingar, and afterwards at All Hallows.

His Eminence Cardinal Vaughan was born in Gloucester. After his ordination he joined the Order of Oblates of St. Charles. In 1872 he was appointed Bishop of Salford, and in 1892 he was elected to the See of Westminster. He has been ten years a Cardinal.

Sir Edward Clarke, leader of the English Bar, began life as an errand boy in a chemist's shop. He afterwards got a position as a reporter on one of the London papers, and while engaged in that pursuit he put in his spare moments studying the intricacies of the law.

Rev. George J. Blatter, pastor of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Chicago, is building a new brick chimney on his parochial school. This would not be remarkable save for the fact that Father Blatter is laying every brick himself, and the chimney will be 65 feet high. The parish is poor and the pastor has some spare time. He says it is a simple business proposition and good exercise besides.

The Hon. John Leahy, Queensland Minister for Railways, is a County Cork man. At the age of twenty he arrived in Queensland, looking for adventure and wealth; and he got both. At first he roughed it for years in the back blocks of Queensland. He was elected M.L.A. for Bulloo in 1893, and he has represented that constituency ever since.

Colonel Plunkett, who lost his life in Somaliland, belonged to one of the oldest of Irish families. The Plunketts were settled in the County Meath long before the Norman invasion of Ireland. In Meath and the adjoining counties the family has maintained a leading position for ten centuries. There are no fewer than five peers in the family, all claiming descent from the same ancestry. They are the Earl of Fingall, and Lords Dunsany, Louth, Plunket, and Rathmore.

Ireland possesses the oldest Judge in the United Kingdom. This is Vice-Chancellor Chatterton, who was born in 1819—six years before Lord Halsbury—and who stepped from Parliament to his present position in 1867. As Irish Attorney-General he piloted through the House the Act which created the Irish Vice-Chancellorship, and, as the position will cease with his own life, he will enjoy the distinction of having been the first and last Vice-Chancellor of Ireland. The oldest English Judge, Sir Alfred Wills, is nine years the junior of Mr. Chatterton.

The King, says the 'Daily Chronicle,' finds 'a friend at Court' even in the Vatican. This is the Archbishop of Trebizond, an ecclesiastic better known in this country as Monsignor Stonor, the younger son of a Lord Camoys and therefore the member of a family renowned for its service to the Royal House of England. For the arrangement of details he has an ingrained aptitude, and though the episcopal purple of his robes (they are likely enough to be red before long) is set off by an ample crown of the whitest hair, he is young enough to bear without fatigue frequent comings and goings between London and Rome.

A London paper has been examining the family tree of Mr. St. John Broderick, concerning which it says:—He has lately been rusticating at his 'ancestral' home in Midleton, County Cork, where the first Lord Midleton is buried. This Midleton was the son of the St. John Broderick who went to Ireland from Wandsworth in 1611; got a fine estate at Midleton, in Cork, in 1653 for having served under Cromwell; and received a large addition to it from Charles II., whose restoration, presumably, he favored. The Cromwellian St. John Broderick's son was a member of Parliament for Cork in the Irish House of Commons, and was attainted of treason for his opposition to James II. That, however, was good luck rather than ill, for he was afterwards advanced as a lawyer under William of Orange. In the opening of Queen Anne's reign he became Speaker of the Irish House of Commons by a majority of four votes. After this he became Chief Justice of Ireland, with a seat in the Irish Lords, but was dismissed from that office by the Irish Government of the day, who did not like his views on matters of Royal succession. The dismissed Broderick became a member of the English House of Commons for a Surrey seat, and by all accounts had a somewhat stormy career at Westminster. George I., however, came to the aid of Broderick, made him Lord Midleton, and presented him with the post of Lord Chancellor of Ireland. But trouble dogged his footsteps in that position, and after many disputes and contentions he was driven to resign in 1725, and four years later died at his residence near Midleton.

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