

theless he was a great favorite, and his demise is greatly deplored. He was a great scholar, and could speak no less than seven different languages fluently. During his time Father O'Neill had been stationed in nearly all the Franciscan centres throughout the country, where his death will be learned with unfeigned regret.

GENERAL

The Gaelic League

Dr. Douglas Hyde has been unanimously re-elected President of the Gaelic League, and the Rev. P. O'Leary and Mr. John MacNeill vice-presidents.

A Vital Clause

A cable message received last week states that the Irish Parliamentary Party is delighted with Mr. Wyndham's amendment to the Land Bill exempting non-judicial tenants from the limitation of 'the zone' system, and leaving liberty to judicial tenants to bargain with their landlords either with or without that system. Mr. J. E. Redmond declares that the concession has saved the Bill, there being no vitally-contentious points left. The progress of the Bill is very slow. A resolution to empower the Commissioners to arrange for the restoration of evicted tenants, moved by Mr. W. O'Brien, was withdrawn after some discussion. Mr. Wyndham declined to give a peremptory direction to the Commissioners, but allowed them a wide discretion in regard to reinstating and providing capital to restock.

Employment Bureau

The Gaelic League of London has started an employment Bureau with the object of enabling Irish people at present residing in London to find employment in Ireland should they desire to return there, which it is found that many wish to do, but having once left are not able to arrange to get back to their own land. No charge is made except postage, for which sixpence is charged. The bureau is already in touch with Irish employers.

Advance in Temperance

The annual report of the Dublin Total Abstinence Society, a non-sectarian body in which all creeds combine to combat the drink evil, says that there has been a great advance in temperance during the past year. This it attributes to 'the action of the Catholic societies throughout the country and the spirit in which the Anti-Treating League has been received.' This is pleasant reading for the founders of the League and for tens of thousands who pin their faith to it as a most powerful factor in the work of making Ireland sober and Ireland free.

Gaelic at Oxford

Students of many nationalities and of varied speech have found shelter within the walls of Oxford in the course of the University's history. The Irish language, however, had probably never been heard in a public speech at a University Society's dinner until a few weeks ago. On that occasion the Newman Society, comprising all the Catholic undergraduates, entertained a number of guests, including the Duke of Norfolk, the Bishop of Birmingham, Lord Edmund Talbot, M.P., Mr. J. P. Boland, M.P., and Mr. Hilare Belloc. Replying to the toast of the Newman Society, of which he was formerly a president, Mr. Boland startled the gathering by concluding his speech in Irish, expressing the hope that when the Catholics of Ireland had obtained the same facilities for university education that the more fortunate English Catholics had obtained a feature of the Irish student life would be the use of Ireland's language.

A Contrast

Mr. Balfour, in a letter to Lord Kilmaine, who challenged the accuracy of his statement that Irish landlords, unlike English landlords, have not, as a rule, expended a shilling on improvements on the holdings of their tenants, resolutely adheres to his judgment, and concludes thus:—'If on future consideration you still differ from me, and I may add, from every Commission which has ever reported on Irish land, I would gladly examine any facts you may wish to bring to my notice.' When Lord Kilmaine's letter was published the 'Freeman's Journal' reproduced a passage from the Devon Commission report which supported Mr. Balfour's statement, and similar passages could without difficulty be produced, to use Mr. Balfour's words, 'from every Commission which has ever reported on Irish land.' Here is a striking piece of evidence, given before a Select Committee to investigate the relations existing between landlord and tenant in Ireland appointed in 1825. Sir Franklin Lewis, an English landlord, who was also proprietor of estates in Ireland, said:—'In the maintenance of a farm in England all the expensive part of the capital employed upon a farm is provided by the landlord: the houses, the gates, the fences, and the drains are all provided by the landlords. Everybody knows that in Ireland that is not the practice. At the same time everybody knows that the landlord obtains in rent in Ireland a much larger proportion of the value of the produce of the land than he obtains in England; and in parts of Ireland it appears to me that the landlord sometimes obtains for rent more than is produced by the land.'

Send to MORROW, BASSETT, and Co. for descriptive catalogue of the "EXCELSIOR" farm Implements. It will pay you.—***

People We Hear About

Dr. McCarthy, of Melbourne, who proposes to produce rain by artificial means, is a nephew of Mr. Justin McCarthy, the historian and novelist, and prominent Home Ruler. Dr. McCarthy is a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin.

It is now fifty-five years since Mr. Justin McCarthy began his journalistic career on the 'Examiner,' published in his native city of 'Rebel Cork.' His sympathies were, of course, with the Young Ireland party, who, if they failed in achieving their ends, at all events succeeded 'in putting a soul into Ireland.'

The new Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr. A. R. Guinness, is, like his distinguished predecessor, Sir G. M. O'Rourke, a lawyer by profession. He was born in India, but is of Irish descent, being, we understand, closely connected with the Guinness family of Dublin. He had been for several sessions Chairman of Committees, so that he has had a good training for the responsible position he now fills.

The 'Freeman's Journal' notices that several university men and women have been appointed to the executive of the Gaelic League. Mr. John McNeill, the new vice-president, who comes of a family of Gaelic Leaguers, had a very distinguished university career, and is an official of the High Court. Miss Agnes O'Farrelly, M.A., who headed the poll, is a very distinguished lady student, who was educated at the Dominican Convent at Muckross Park. She is a sister of Mr. Alphonsus O'Farrelly, F.R.U.L., who is a Fellow in Science at the Royal University, and also an ardent Gaelic Leaguer. Dr. Dennis J. Coffey, who is Professor of Physiology at Cecilia street Medical school, had an extraordinarily brilliant career. He is perhaps the most popular professor in the Catholic University Medical School, and his influence with the students has been instrumental in spreading the Gaelic League throughout the school.

The Earl of Cork and Orrery, who completed his 74th year on April 20, is one of the very few Liberal Home Rulers amongst the peers of Ireland. There are, indeed, only two others—namely, Lord Greville and Lord Emly. The Earl of Cork was Master of the Horse in the last two Liberal Administrations, and Master of the Buckhounds under a previous Liberal regime. The Boyles rank amongst the most notable of the Anglo-Irish families. Boyle, the first or 'Great Earl of Cork,' when he arrived in Ireland in 1588 had £27 3s, a diamond ring, a bracelet, and the suit of clothes he stood in. But he had plenty of brains and abundance of energy, and in the succeeding troublous years he carved out the rich estates in Cork and Waterford, which have come down to his descendants. He bought 12,000 acres from Sir Walter Raleigh for £1000. Four of his sons were made lords, and seven of his daughters married nobles.

In reference to the suggestion recently made that Irish artists should devote more attention to Irish historical subjects, it may be well to mention that the very first work submitted to the public by the great painter Barry, in 1763, was the celebrated picture 'The baptism of the King of Cashel.' James Barry, then a poor boy, was induced to exhibit this picture at the Dublin Society's Exhibition, in 1763, and the Society—which then held its meetings in Shaw's Court, on the north side of Dame street—voted him a sum of £10 as a testimony to his merit. The picture attracted considerable attention, and was purchased by some Irish M.P.'s, who presented it to the old Parliament House in College Green, where for years it adorned the House, until 1792, when it was unhappily consumed by an accidental fire, which almost totally destroyed the House of Commons. There is a fine mezzo-tint of this world-famed academician by himself in the National Portrait Gallery, Dublin.

Sir A. J. Cadman, our latest knight, was born in Sydney about 56 years, but was brought by his parents to Auckland whilst an infant, so that he has been a New Zealand colonist for quite half a century. He received a sound primary education, after which he was finished off at a secondary school. He began the real battle of life by serving his time at the carpentry trade, and while yet in his teens removed to Coromandel, where he became connected with the timber trade. Like the Premier he began his apprenticeship to public affairs by becoming member of several local bodies, among others the County Council, of which he was chairman for a period of ten years. He was elected to represent Coromandel in the House of Representatives in 1884, and re-elected to the two succeeding Parliaments. He joined the Balance Ministry in 1891, and held the portfolios of Native Minister, Commissioner of Stamps, and Minister of Railways. Mr. Cadman continued to be a member of the Seddon Ministry until about four years ago, when he retired on account of ill-health, and was called to the Legislative Council. He became interested with Mr. E. M. Smith in the promotion of a company to utilise the Taranaki iron sand, and has twice visited England in connection with the matter. Two years ago he was made a C.M.G. Sir A. J. Cadman is a widower with one son and one daughter.

At this season everybody is liable to Coughs and Colds. Avoid all danger by taking TUSSICURA.—***