

Irish News

ARMAGH—A Popular Postmaster

Much regret is felt at many points throughout the North of Ireland at the death of Mr. Matthew Creighton, the popular postmaster of Portadown. Mr. Creighton took suddenly ill early on Sunday morning, January 29, and passed away within a couple of hours, fortified by the last rites of the Church. He had been 43 years in the postal service, first joining it in Monaghan—his native town—going afterwards to Belfast, and later being transferred to various important stations in the north, including Dunganon, Armagh, Strabane, Omagh, and last of all Portadown.

The Expelled Portuguese Nuns

His Eminence Cardinal Logue has sent a contribution of £5 to the fund being raised for the Irish nuns who were lately exiled from Portugal, robbed of their property and patrimony, by the Portuguese Republican Government.

Cardinal Logue and the Protestant Primate

In Armagh Courthouse on January 26, a meeting was held under the presidency of Mr. McCrum, D.L., for the purpose of organising a presentation to Miss Alexander, daughter of the retiring Protestant Primate, Archbishop Alexander, on the occasion of her leaving Armagh. The attendance, which was representative of all creeds and classes in the primatial city, included his Eminence Cardinal Logue, who in the course of a speech said he had an opportunity of knowing what Miss Alexander had done. Her work was done with great efficiency and without ostentation. She went among the people like a sunbeam, bringing light into their lives, and she was a prime mover in the most useful work of the city, the Nursing Association. She was a very pleasant neighbor, and it was but right they should give her a testimonial of their esteem, showing how much they valued her and her illustrious father. He, too, was a delightful neighbor, always agreeable. He occupied a considerable place in literature, and it was an honor to their city to have him among them; as, indeed, it also was to have Miss Alexander, who had written a charming book on Armagh, showing that she inherited the distinguished talent of her distinguished father, and no less distinguished mother.

ANTRIM—Candid Testimony

Under the auspices of the Irish Patriotic Union a lecture was delivered recently by Mr. Rollins in the Central Hall, Rosemary street, Belfast. Mr. W. Mayes, Lisburn, who presided, said he was a Protestant Irishman, and he had not the slightest doubt that a measure of self-government would tend to develop the country's resources and advance its material interests. It was his good fortune to have lived for some time in Australia, and he did not think there was a solitary Australian in that vast continent who would exchange his place with any resident in Ireland who was governed from outside. The vast majority of the people of Australia were English, though Irishmen formed a very large percentage of the population. In his time several Catholic Irishmen were at the head of affairs, but there was not the slightest question about their religion. He thought it was a great insult to the oldest Christian Church to say that because men belonged to it they were not fit for self-government. The whole thing was absurd on the face of it.—Mr. Rollins, who was cordially received, said the London *Daily Mail* had to a large extent saved him the trouble of unmasking the Ulster hogey about which they had heard so much. That journal had satisfied a great number of the English people that the whole thing was pure bluff; and, in addition to publishing their correspondent's article on the so-called Ulster revolution, they had published a splendid contribution from Professor Kettle, dealing with the economic aspect of Home Rule, in which the professor proved conclusively that Ireland was well able to pay her way under self-government. Ireland was going to get Home Rule surely, and almost everyone was satisfied as to that. She was a much more important country than either the Isle of Man or the Isle of Wight.

DERRY—Papal Distinction

A most interesting and historic function took place in the Bishop's Rooms, St. Columb's College, Derry, recently, when Bishop McHugh bestowed on Mr. Bernard Hannigan, a well known and respected Derry citizen, the Cross of the Order of St. Gregory the Great. At the same time he handed Mr. Hannigan—henceforth Chevalier Hannigan—the parchments signed by his Holiness the Pope and his secretary, Cardinal Merry del Val, constituting him a Knight of the Order of St. Gregory the Great. Derry Catholics highly appreciate the honor paid Mr. Hannigan, as representative of the Catholic community, by his Holiness.

DUBLIN—Refuting Calumnies

The quarterly meeting of the Council of the Catholic Truth Society of Ireland was held on January 27 at Upper O'Connell street, Dublin, Very Rev. Father Thomas,

O.S.F.C., presiding. The report, which was read by the secretary, stated that on the 10th of October a letter was received from the Right Rev. Dr. Cleary, Bishop of Auckland, New Zealand, saying that he had been commissioned by the Catholic Truth Society of Australia to establish agencies, with the co-operation of the ecclesiastical authorities, in various countries, to which they might appeal by letter or by cable for correct information whenever anything appeared in the columns of their secular press reflecting gravely on Catholic persons and Catholic institutions. His Lordship stated that he had succeeded in establishing such agencies in most of the Spanish-speaking countries of Central and South America, and in the United States, and asked that the Catholic Truth Society should undertake similar work in Ireland. The Council informed his Lordship, in reply, that they would be most happy to comply with his request. Needless to say, no more useful or necessary work could be undertaken by the Irish Catholic Truth Society.

Christian Brothers' Past Pupils' Union

The first annual meeting of the Christian Brothers' Past Pupils' Union was held in the Mansion House, Dublin, on Thursday night, January 26. Mr. E. H. Kearney, B.L., who was unanimously selected president for the coming year, delivered a most humorous address, which was enjoyed by the audience and punctuated throughout with cheers. He concluded by saying that an attractive programme of social events would be arranged as soon as possible. The chairman announced that the vice-presidents were Right Rev. Dr. O'Callaghan, Bishop of Cork; Mr. T. F. Molony, K.C.; Right Rev. Mgr. Mannix, President Maynooth College; Dr. Denis J. Coffey, President University College; Messrs. J. P. Nammetti, J.P., M.P., T.C.; R. J. Kelly, B.L.; Cahill; S. Murphy, LL.B.; Rev. Terence J. Cullen; Mr. Thomas Sexton; the hon. treasurer, Mr. A. J. Keogh; the trustees, Messrs. Hugh Kennedy and Charles Dawson; the hon. sec., Mr. J. H. D. Molony.

The Royal Visit

Though the Royal stay in Ireland next July will be very brief, the King and Queen will hold a Court and Levee in Dublin (writes the London correspondent of the *Irish News*). They will not travel outside that city, however, according to present arrangements. It is stated on good authority that the Irish 'loyalists' and their aiders and abettors on this side are straining all their forces to secure the removal of Lord Aberdeen from Dublin Castle before the Royal visit. They are operating at Windsor after their own fashion; and the signal has been given to make matters so unpleasant in Ireland for the Lord Lieutenant and Lady Aberdeen during the next three months that their Excellencies may be ragged into resignation. On the other hand, several shrewd Tories are endeavoring to moderate the efforts of their more energetic brethren—and sisters—by dwelling on the bad effect on the minds of the Irish people which would be inevitably produced by the departure of Lord and Lady Aberdeen under circumstances readily appreciated by the populace. This consideration has not abated the zeal of the conspirators; and if the Scottish nobleman and his lady continue in their places, it can be understood that they remain at the head of affairs in the Castle of Dublin in defiance of the most resolute and unscrupulous attempts to dislodge them that the Conservative Party, politically and socially, are able to make in the way of dislodging them.

KING'S COUNTY—Damages and Costs

A settlement was intimated in the King's Bench in a case in which Rev. Michael J. Crowe, Birr, King's County, sought damages from the Great Southern and Western Railway Company for injuries sustained in the Roscrea accident. Mr. Justice Gibson made an order that plaintiff be paid out £200 lodged in Court, being part of a total sum of £815 to be paid to him, with costs.

MAYO—Death of a Well-known Citizen

Widespread regret is expressed at the death of Mr. Michael Gilmartin, father of the Right Rev. Dr. Gilmartin, Bishop of Clonfert, which occurred in Castlebar on January 27. Mr. Gilmartin was very highly respected, and was in his 79th year.

WATERFORD—Bishop Sheehan and Savings Bank

At a recent meeting of the trustees of the Waterford Savings Bank, a letter was read from the Right Rev. Dr. Sheehan, Bishop of Waterford, tendering his resignation as a trustee, in accordance with the decree recently issued by the Holy See forbidding ecclesiastics to retain any position having a pecuniary responsibility. His Lordship expressed his regret at having to sever his connection with the bank—a connection which the successive holders of the See of Waterford and Lismore had cheerfully maintained since its very opening day, 94 years ago. On the motion of Mr. A. Nelson, D.L., J.P., seconded by Mr. J. N. White, J.P., the trustees passed a resolution expressing profound regret at his Lordship's resignation.

WEXFORD—Spread of Temperance

Proofs of the remarkable progress of the Temperance Movement in the County Wexford are manifesting themselves very convincingly. The records of the New Ross, Arthurstown, and other Petty Sessions Courts districts