

## Irish News

### ANTRIM—Christian Brothers in Belfast

At the annual distribution of prizes in the Christian Brothers' Trades Preparatory Schools, Belfast, on June 25, Mr. Joseph Devlin, M.P., delivered an interesting address. He said Belfast owed a great debt of gratitude to the Christian Brothers for their labors in promoting the education of the children of the people. But the establishment of that institution for the technical education of the youth of the city had largely increased the debt. The schools had only been a few years in existence, yet during that short time they had obtained the practical approval and support of the Corporation and of the Board of Agriculture and Technical Instruction. They had been instrumental in placing over two hundred boys in good situations, and in opening up for them honorable and useful and profitable careers in the city of their birth.

### CARLOW—Destruction of a fine Residence

Ballyellen House, the fine residence of Mr. P. J. Maher, was totally destroyed by fire during the last week in June. Although many willing hands lent assistance in the attempt to stay the progress of the flames, their efforts were unavailing, but fortunately some of the furniture was safely removed and no personal injuries were sustained.

### CLARE—A Venerable Pastor

After thirty-nine years' service as pastor, the Very Rev. Canon McMahon has retired from the parish of Kilmihill, County Clare. It is the intention of his many friends to commemorate his diamond jubilee in a befitting manner.

### CORK—American Visitors

The central figure of the seventeen hundred passengers on board the Cunard ss. Franconia, on her arrival at Queenstown on July 4, was the Hon. John F. Fitzgerald, Mayor of Boston. He intended landing at Queenstown, but the pressure put on him to join the Boston Chamber of Commerce delegates at Brussels was such that he had to give way to their wishes. He was disappointed beyond expression at his inability to come ashore there. He received a Marconi message from Sir Thomas Lipton at sea, extending a welcome to him, and asking him to become his guest. He spoke at the American Independence celebration on board, and his speech at the Independence Day celebration, in which he touched with effect on the salient points of American history, called forth rapturous applause. The chairman, Town Clerk, and members of the Queenstown U.D.C. awaited his arrival to welcome him at Queenstown, and a big demonstration was being arranged in his honor in Cork City. The numbers of tourists from America landing at Queenstown continue to increase by every ship, and the numbers landed there from the Franconia, viz., 85 saloon, 92 second cabin, and 327 thirds, constitutes a record from any single ship from Boston.

### DONEGAL—Blessing a New Monastery

His Eminence Cardinal Logue, on June 28, blessed a new monastery which has been provided in Letterkenny for the Presentation Brothers by the Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell, Bishop of Raphoe. After the ceremony a delightful entertainment, Gaelic in every respect, was given in the schools by the boys who are being educated by the Brothers. At the conclusion of the performance Rev. Brother Justinian O'Sullivan, Superior of the monastery delivered an eloquent address of welcome to his Eminence. An address was also read by one of the pupils, bidding his Eminence a hearty 'Cead mile failte.' The Cardinal, in reply, delivered a most interesting speech, in the course of which he eulogised the zeal and energy of the Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell, the good and learned Bishop who rules the See of St. Eunan and St. Columba. He criticised the National Board severely and contrasted its methods with those of the Brothers.

### DUBLIN—An Important Appointment

Mr. R. G. L. Maunsell, who has been appointed locomotive superintendent of the Great Southern and Western Railway Works at Inchicore, is a son of the late John Maunsell, of Edenmore, Raheny, a distinguished figure in legal circles for many years in Dublin. The new superintendent was educated at Armagh Royal School, and served his time as a pupil at the Inchicore Works from 1888, when he also studied in his spare time and graduated at Trinity College, Dublin. Amongst locomotive engineers of any eminence this performance is probably unique. When his course was completed at Inchicore, Mr. Maunsell went over to Harwich, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire railway, and after a few months' experience was placed in charge of the Running Department at Fleetwood. In 1894 he was the selected candidate for the post of Assistant District Superintendent of the East Indian Railway, and, after two years of successful administration, his appointment as Works Manager at Inchicore brought him home again to his native land. Besides mastering his profession in every detail, Mr. Maunsell is widely read in other directions, and the Great Southern Railway have in their new Superintendent an Irishman who is one of the most brilliant and progressive minds in modern engineering.

### GALWAY—Death of Captain Shawe-Taylor

Captain Shawe-Taylor passed away in London on July 3, after a brief illness. The deceased, whose father was a land agent in the West of Ireland, early in life joined the army, and as an officer in the Cheshire Regiment, was for a number of years quartered in different parts of India. His entrance into public life in Ireland was first as a temperance reformer and a promoter of the Irish industrial movement. In his temperance propaganda he was a strong advocate of the necessity of restricting the increase in the number of licenses granted in Ireland, a view, which some years afterwards, met with legislative adoption. He first came prominently in public notice, when, in the early years of the last decade, he proposed the nomination of a number of representatives of landlords and tenants to confer, with a view to arriving at a settlement of the land question. His proposals, at the first, met with strong hostility from the landowning class, the members of it, who were nominated, refusing to attend a conference on the subject. Captain Shawe-Taylor, however, persisted in his original idea. Other landlords saw its advantages, and finally the Land Conference, with Captain Shawe-Taylor as its secretary, became a reality. As a member of the Irish Reform Association, which was formed soon after, Captain Shawe-Taylor was the candidate nominated by it for the representation of Galway City in opposition to Mr. Stephen Gwynn. The contest was an exciting one, and resulted in an over-whelming majority for the Nationalist. Since then Captain Shawe-Taylor ceased to concern himself publicly in political affairs, but continued to take an active part in social, industrial, and temperance work in Galway County, where among all sections of the community he was held in the highest esteem. He was to a large extent responsible for the success of the All-Ireland Industrial Exhibition held in Galway City in 1907. To Mrs. Shawe-Taylor, who like her husband, has shown a lively interest in industrial and social undertakings, the Galway County Council is indebted for the site of a Consumption Sanatorium. For several weeks past Captain Shawe-Taylor has been in declining health, for which he had gone to London for medical treatment.

### KILKENNY—Death of a Soldier in the Boer Army

The Irish papers announce the death at Kilkenny of Captain James J. Laracy, who was a captain in the Boer Army during the Boer War. Mr. Laracy was resident in the Transvaal when the war broke out, and, joining the Boer forces, he fought as a member of the Irish Brigade. At the close of the war he was deported as a British prisoner to Ceylon, and there his imprisonment implanted the seeds of disease which eventually caused his death.

### LIMERICK—The National Insurance Bill

At the annual Convention of the Irish Land and Labor Association at Limerick, Mr. Thomas Landon,