

Irish News

ANTRIM—Belfast and the Parliamentary Fund

Mr. David McCloskey, J.P., treasurer of the Belfast National Fund, has forwarded to the treasurers of the Irish National and Parliamentary Fund a cheque for £555, the subscriptions of the Nationalists of Belfast to the fund for the present year. In a covering letter Mr. McCloskey says:—‘We have trusted the Irish Party in the past, and have been more than justified by the results, and so long as it requires our help, whether moral or material, that help will be forthcoming promptly and generously.’

Generous Benefactors

The Right Rev. Dr. Tohill, Bishop of Down and Connor, solemnly dedicated on Sunday, October 15, the Church of St. Teresa, Hannahstown, Belfast, which has been built and equipped at a cost of £30,000 by Miss Hannah Hamill and her sister, Miss Teresa Hamill, whose family for generations have been associated with the maintenance of the Catholic Faith in the district. His Lordship, in the course of a sermon, expressed the hope that the Church of St. Teresa, the presbytery and schools, would endure for many and many a year, and be spoken of in a spirit of gratitude as the princely gift of the Misses Hamill, of French House, and that those who used the church would never fail to pray for the ladies who built it.

Lord Pirrie's Indictment

Of the gravest kind was the indictment of the Belfast Unionists on the ground of their narrowness and intolerance by Lord Pirrie in the speech which he delivered at the luncheon given in honor of the Postmaster-General at the Grand Central Hotel, Belfast. Lord Pirrie is the head of the firm of Harland and Wolff, and the benefits which Belfast has derived from the work of that firm it would not be easy to estimate. Yet so blind to the interests of the citizens did the Harbor Board become through political prejudice that it stood in the way of the extension of Harland and Wolff's premises. Time after time, said Lord Pirrie, the operations of the firm had been restricted simply because he, its chairman, did not happen to agree in politics with the gentlemen in whose hands rested the government of harbor affairs. If the application made to the Harbor Board had been agreed to the firm would have widely extended its ramifications, and would perhaps be a hundred per cent larger than it was in Belfast. When Unionists of this type come forward and object to Home Rule as men interested in commerce, of what value is their opinion? Their views as business men are deeply colored by political partisanship. No man in Ireland has a greater interest in the country's finance than Lord Pirrie, and he has no fear that the material welfare of the people will be affected adversely by Home Rule.

ARMAGH—A Centenarian

The death is announced of William Reed, of Faulkland, Middletown, County Armagh, at the great age of 102 years. He spent over fifty years in Scotland, but being blessed with a robust constitution he scarcely ever suffered a day's illness. He retained all his faculties unimpaired to the last, and his last sickness was of only a few days' duration.

DERRY—Nationalists in a Majority

On behalf of the Derry Nationalist Registration Committee, a statement has been made declaring that whereas at the close of the revision of the roll in 1910 the Nationalists were in a minority to the number of 159, at the close of the revision just concluded the Nationalists are in a majority of 21, this being a net Nationalist gain of 180 votes. This is naturally regarded as a triumph of substance and consequence by the National party in Derry.

DUBLIN—Immunity from Serious Crime

Addressing the Grand Jury at the opening of the County Dublin Sessions, the Recorder said that the metropolitan county retained its normal character for

peace and order, and when its extent was considered, from Little Bray to Balbriggan, almost thirty miles, with its coast towns of Kingstown, Dalkey, Howth, and Skerries, and its large population, the almost complete immunity from crime and the absolute immunity of the county from the grosser and more serious forms of crime, was justly a source of pride to all concerned.

The Late Cardinal Moran

His Eminence Cardinal Logue presided at the Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the late Cardinal Moran, in the pro-Cathedral, Dublin, on October 12. The Mass was celebrated by his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin. The majority of the Irish hierarchy were present, as well as 200 priests from all parts of the country, the Lord Mayor and Corporation of Dublin in State, and numerous representatives of the Parliamentary Party.

Catholic Truth Society

His Eminence Cardinal Logue, who presided at the Annual Conference of the Catholic Truth Society, which was held in Dublin on October 11 and 12, said he had occupied the chair at these meetings for many years, and would continue to do so as long as he was able to move a limb. He read a telegram from his Holiness the Pope bestowing the Apostolic Benediction upon all taking part in the Conference. The inaugural lecture was delivered by Very Rev. Canon Barry, D.D., who ably dwelt upon the perils of modern literature. The Most Rev. Dr. Healy, President of the Catholic Truth Society, said every parish priest in Ireland should have a library for the benefit of his people, and all parents should watch over their own families, for if the father and mother were indifferent the priest could do little. If the precautions he suggested were taken to meet the evils spoken of by Dr. Barry, the land of St. Patrick would continue to be the nursing ground of holy men and women, as it had been in the past. At the reception held at the Gresham Hotel at night, his Eminence Cardinal Logue said somebody had remarked that something should be done for the students attending the National University. Well, he might announce that the Bishops had resolved to establish a Faculty of Catholic Theology in connection with the University. This faculty could not be in the University, but it would be side by side with the University. As far as the clergy were concerned they had a splendid opportunity for a grand general education in Maynooth, so that they did not want this new faculty so much for the priests. But if they had a Faculty of Theology in connection with the University, and men to give lectures in a popular way, it would furnish an opportunity to the students, to the young men and ladies who frequented the University, to get a more solid and more intelligent knowledge of Holy Faith and ecclesiastical history, and other things, without which a Catholic was not educated at the present day. This announcement has given great satisfaction to Catholics throughout the whole country.

Valuable Papers and Suggestions

At the close of the proceedings of the Catholic Conference in Dublin, his Eminence Cardinal Logue remarked that they had been a great success from beginning to end, and the Most Rev. Dr. Healy, President of the Society, expressed the conviction that its prospects were never better than they are to-day. The interest taken in the Conference was undoubtedly deep and widespread, and so long as the subjects discussed are of such importance as those dealt with on this occasion it may be safely predicted that these annual meetings will continue to bring together large and representative gatherings. Papers and discussions on questions affecting the moral and material welfare of the country are valuable not only because they are instructive, but also because they are inspiring. They move to action and at the same time afford guidance. It would be impossible for any Catholic to hear or read the suggestive thoughts thrown out by his Eminence Cardinal Logue, his Grace Archbishop Healy, and others in their speeches, by Canon Barry in his paper on the dangers of pernicious literature, by the Rev. A. Murphy, P.P., in his contribution on democracy, by Sir Henry Bellingham in his exposition of the ideal of Catholic social duty, and by the Rev. Father Dowling,