

Irish News

CLARE—How the Minority is treated

In a letter to a Clare contemporary, Mr. H. B. Harris, J.P., a Protestant gentleman well known throughout the county, reverts to the expressions used by certain Protestant politicians of alleged intolerance displayed towards them at a recent meeting. The writer states that he has lived for fifty years in a county where the Protestants number two out of every hundred. As chairman of the Miltown-Malbay parish committee he was elected through the courtesy of the Catholic clergy and laity; when in Ennis he was elected vice-chairman of the Urban Council; he was also appointed a member of the committee of management of the Asylum, of which the Most Rev. Dr. McDermott was chairman; as a Poor Law Guardian the utmost respect was paid to him, and in no case did the question of religion disturb the harmony of these meetings. In business and social life he had been always treated with the utmost respect and consideration, and he reciprocated the best feelings of his Catholic countrymen, who had always manifested their confidence in him. In conclusion, he adds:—'I am quite certain were these Protestants who complain of intolerance to identify themselves more intimately with the people than they do, and stoop to conquer the prejudices of race and class distinction, Ireland, and especially this county, would be the better for it.'

CORK—Magnificent Specimen of Irish Lace

A Court train of Irish lace, which has been made at the Presentation Convent, Youghal, was despatched on October 27 to London. It is the Coronation gift of the ladies of Belfast to the Queen. It is of the finest needlepoint, and has taken fifty workers six months to complete. It is four yards long, and nearly two yards wide at the bottom, tapering up to the width of the shoulders at the top. The thread that was used was so fine as to be scarcely visible in the workers' hands. It is the most magnificent piece of lace of the kind ever made at Youghal, or in any other lace centre in the country, in modern times. The Irish trade mark has been very cleverly worked, as well as the name and date, 'Youghal, 1911,' in the lower left-hand corner, and the design of roses and fuchsias is very beautiful.

DUBLIN—The Bogey of Confiscation

Most Rev. Dr. Walsh, in replying to the vote of thanks accorded to him at the laying of the foundation stone of a new church at Ringsend, said he did not know if any of them had chanced to meet with a statement made by a Protestant dignitary with regard to St. Patrick's Cathedral. 'It was,' said his Grace, 'made by one who was for a number of years worthily associated with it as its Dean, and who has recently been appointed to the Protestant Bishopric of Ossory. The statement to which I refer was made in the course of

a somewhat lengthy reference to the subject of Home Rule in the address delivered by the worthy Bishop when presiding over the first meeting of the Protestant Synod of his diocese held since his appointment to the See. "No Roman Catholic Cathedral," said the speaker, "has been built in Dublin; the chief church of that communion is designated the Pro-Cathedral." In other words, our designs upon St. Patrick's are in no way concealed; they are all but openly avowed; we have not built a Cathedral, and as to our church in Marlborough street, we call it, not a Cathedral, but a Pro-Cathedral. What else can all this mean but that we have our eye upon a Cathedral in Dublin ready built, and that we mean to seize it on the very first opportunity? I may safely defy anyone to put any other construction on those words. Now I must confess my amazement that at this time of day any man of education, and of knowledge of the world in general, and of Dublin in particular, can be found to entertain apprehensions so manifestly groundless as these.'

KILDARE—Maynooth and the Irish Language

Irish Bishops and priests and Catholic educational institutions of Ireland are often blamed for not doing more for the restoration of the Irish language. On this subject Cardinal Logue said recently: 'I think I can assert, without fear of contradiction, that there is more done for the revival of Irish in Maynooth College than is done in any other part of the country. There is very little boasting here in the College about what is being done for the revival of the Irish language, but I think that any person who looks to the results of these examinations will find that, silently as you are working here, you are doing a great work for the revival of the Irish language.'

LIMERICK—Undesirable Publications

His Excellency Lord Aberdeen, writing to the secretary of the National Vigilance Association in London, says he would like to mention that a strike of the most praiseworthy sort has been instituted in Limerick. That historic old city had been troubled for some time past by the importation of objectionable papers from Great Britain, but the inhabitants had now rallied for the protection of their homes. A vigilance committee of citizens had been formed, and twenty-two newsagents in the city pledged themselves to sell no copies of the undesirable publications. The newsboys, too, had been organised, and promised that they would sell none of the objectionable prints. It was also recorded that one courageous woman (presumably a news-agent) returned unopened fifty dozen copies of a certain Sunday newspaper—a most honorable deed.

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