

OLDEST PRIEST IN THE UNITED STATES DEAD

The Rev. Patrick Cuddihy, the pastor of St. Mary's Church at Milford, died on Thursday last, where for forty years he has attended to the spiritual wants of his people. He was the oldest priest in America.

The following sketch of the venerable priest appears in the Boston Post:

He was born in Clonmel, Tipperary, Ireland, March 17th, 1809. From youth he was devoted to the service of the church, and to the day of his death he has never been lacking in abundance of zeal, piety and enthusiasm.

He was educated in preparatory schools and colleges in Ireland and then went to Rome, where he received full ordination to the priesthood Dec. 25, 1831, at the hands of Cardinal Zucchi, the vicar of Pope Gregory XVI. His education in Rome was completed at the college of St. Isidore and at the college Sapienza, of the Roman University. Shortly after ordination he returned to his native land, and was assigned to parishes in and about Waterford, and there he labored effectively for twenty years, where he built a magnificent cathedral.

He was especially active in all the great movements for the social and political advancement of his fellow-countrymen; was a personal friend and collaborer of Daniel O'Connell, with whom he stood shoulder to shoulder for the great reforms advocated by that leader of men—the repeal of the union, emancipation of the West Indian slaves, disestablishment of the Irish (English) church, repeal of the Jewish and dissenters' political disabilities, repeal of the corn laws and kindred measures of political and social reform so needed in Ireland then and since.

He was frank, outspoken and eloquent in his championship of the O'Connell measures, and as such naturally shared in the disappointment at the failure to fully incorporate with them into parliamentary legislation, of Ireland's benefit. His great capacity, mental and physical, for the most arduous labor for the church especially adapted him for work in America, whither so many of his countrymen were just coming, and it was but natural that his ardent spirit sought a wider field here.

He came to this country early in 1852, and was placed in charge of the great missionary field of western Massachusetts, with headquarters at Pittsfield. Here his industry, mental and physical, was great and untiring, but most productive. Few places among the Berkshire hills had found some of his faith laboring, and none, even of the smallest in numbers, but were sought out diligently and ministered to.

Churches and parishes rose into being through his assiduity. A large church was built at Pittsfield, and a fine cemetery was located. An excellent church was built at Great Barrington, still another in North Adams, and another in North Lee. His life of the years in this field was one of excessive labor, great responsibilities and even greater success.

He was in the vigor of a splendid manhood when he was assigned on Aug. 15, 1857, to the rectory of the Milford parish, on the death of the Rev. Father Farrelly. The parish as then constituted extended from Clinton and Marlboro to the Rhode Island line, and from Worcester more than half way to Boston.

The now large parishes of Grafton, Uxbridge, Westboro, Medway, Hopkin-

ton, Holliston, Ashland and Upton were then in his charge, and the scene of as earnest devotion as was manifested in Berkshire hills. One by one separate parishes were created until eleven prosperous and thriving parishes aside from Milford testify to the incessant spiritual toll of this venerable priest.

With a physique at once commanding and athletic, he combined talents of organization and learning unusual and easily obtained, and kept an influence from the first not only over those in his spiritual care, but over others in his parishes as well. He had business ability of the highest, as the fine granite edifices connected with the Milford parish will testify.

In 1896 he began the now completed great granite church of Milford, 165 feet long, 70 feet wide, and terminating in a massive tower 135 feet high. He laid out two great parish cemeteries for the use of St. Mary's parish and erected in the one newly located a beautiful fac-simile of the noted "round towers" of the vale of Glendalough, Ireland.

His latest work, completed since his 87th birthday, was the erection of a large granite parochial school building amply and even luxuriously fitted for the adequate instruction of the youth of the parish in religion, morals and learning.

In all his building enterprises he has sought to add beauty and dignity to the town as well as to the parish, and has succeeded admirably.

In the past decade he has not hesitated to oppose vigorously any public movement or society that seemed to him detrimental to the community or the Church, and his utterances were always as fearless as they were unmistakable. He has especially opposed questionable amusements among his people, secret societies, and, in general, habits of extravagance, notably in funeral expenses.

Of late years he has annually visited Ireland in summer, the time he has been much to rest his overworked physique, subject to no disease, however, further than a bronchial trouble. For one so advanced in years, his mental and physical vigor have excited wonder.

For several months his health has gradually failed, not from any special disease, but a gradual collapse of his physical system through the weight of ninety years, a collapse slow but steadily visible to those about him and as steadily ignored by them.

A few weeks ago he was thought to be dying. The Right Rev. Bishop Beavan of Springfield was summoned and preparations made for his death, but he unexpectedly rallied and was able to drive out within twenty-four hours of his expected death. By sheer force of intellect he has prolonged his life months longer than would a less vigorous nature. At the time of his death he was the oldest Catholic priest in years, and probably in service, in the United States.

Physically he was erect, very tall, of athletic proportions and commanding in appearance, masterful in his dealing with men and opportunities.

Mentally, he was able, indefatigable and learned, an eager and untiring toiler, not easily discouraged at arduous labor or difficulties, and an especially vigorous defender and exponent of Catholic faith and discipline. His death removes one of the most able divines that ever resided in this part of the State.

and Sahley, concentrate your powers on the formidable enemy that confronts you now. Do not scatter your forces by striving at the same time to encounter an enemy yet afar off and who may never approach you. Hope in the Lord and do good, and He will give you the desires of your heart."

O'CONNELL AND DERRYANE

Continued From Page One.

He had innumerable relatives, for relatives counted in Kerry to the thirtieth generation, and, with his two horses and his twelve dogs, he quartered himself impartially on them, turn about during the year. Cousin Kane considered himself a person of a peaceful and law-abiding disposition, if people would only let him alone, but unfortunately people would not let him alone, and, during one of his periodic visits to Derrynane, there were seventy-six acts of assault and battery pending against him at the Tralee assizes. "Cousin Kane's" mingled disgust and sorrow at the degeneracy of his young kinsman in the matter of the key was materially increased by another incident. Danle, on a certain occasion, gave him whiskey instead of sherry by mistake. "And you have dared to offer the drinks of peasants and shopkeepers to a gentleman like me?" exclaimed "Cousin Kane," in fury, after he had finished the cup at a draught. "Sir, you are a disgrace to your race; but—fill it up again, sir!" he concluded in a voice of thunder.

O'Connell began the practice of his profession in 1788, making Derrynane his centre from which he rode to the neighboring towns and cities. Almost from the first circuit he developed those extraordinary powers in cross-examination which rendered him the terror of the most hardened and cunning witness, and saved hundreds of innocent men from the clutches of the government informer. It was at the assizes of Tralee that he first gave evidence of his wonderful skill in coaxing, cajoling, bewildering witnesses, until finally they were thrown off their guard and could keep nothing from this mild-mannered gentleman, who, until the final question, had shown himself so agreeable and good-natured. It was essential to the success of his client's cause in the present trial that O'Connell should prove a certain witness intoxicated at the time to which his evidence related. But the man before him was an adept at twisting and turning. All he could get him to admit was that he had his "share of a pewter pint of whiskey." At last O'Connell had him reduced to a state in which he did not know exactly where he was, and then out flashed the question: "By the virtue of your oath, was not your share of the whiskey all except the pewter? The unhappy victim had to admit that it was, and the case was won.

In time the most cross-examined informer trembled as soon as O'Connell rose to question him. "Aye, thin, and it's little I thought I'd have to meet ye here, Counselor O'Connell," howled the principal informer in the Donnell conspiracy, in despair, when he saw the Liberator take his seat in the court room. And well might he despair, for the wonderful cross-examination of O'Connell saved some of the most respectable Catholics of the district from the scaffold, to which a hideous conspiracy entered into by the Castle and the Orange gentry of the county would have consigned them.

Throughout all the stormy vicissitudes of all his marvellous career, O'Connell ever turned with affection to the home of his childhood. Its purple skies and rugged hillsides, its mountain lakes and deep, majestic estuaries whose shimmering waters reflected the tufted forests that came down to their margin, its gorges and precipices with their attendant torrents and cascades, all haunted him in the midst of the most agitated scenes of his checkered existence. Those who really love nature, love her in all her forms, and around his mountain home her manifestations in so many contrasted and varied shapes and perspectives of softness and terror, brightness and gloom, elevated the soul and soothed the heart of O'Connell. He was

"Fond of each gentle and each dreary scene."

He returned to Derrynane with delight and left it with sadness. Sad indeed must have been his final parting with it in 1845, for he left it when the awful shadow of the famine was brooding over Ireland, left it with the man, which he knew to be almost hopeless, of touching the cruel hearts of his country's tyrants. In two years he was to close his eyes on a foreign soil, his own heart broken by the desolation he was powerless to alleviate, dying amid the wrecks of his ruined hopes and shattered aspirations.—Donoghue's Magazine, Christmas Number.

THE RESULTS FROM VACCINATION.

In a recent lecture delivered at Rome, and reported in the London Lancet, Dr. Bizzozzeri made a deep impression by his summing up of the argument for vaccination. He said: Germany stands alone in fulfilling in great measure the demands of hy-

giene, having in consequence of the calamitous smallpox epidemic of 1870-71 enacted the law of 1874 which makes vaccination obligatory in the first year of life and revaccination also obligatory at the tenth year." What was the result? With a population of 50,000,000, having in 1871 lost 143,000 lives by smallpox, she found by her law of 1871 the mortality diminished so rapidly that to-day the disease numbers only 116 victims a year. These cases moreover, occur almost exclusively in towns on her frontier. If it were true, continued Prof. Bizzozzeri, that a good vaccination does not protect from smallpox we ought to find in smallpox epidemics that the disease diffuses itself in the well-vaccinated countries no less than in the non-vaccinated countries. What it is not so. In 1870-71, during the Franco-German war, the two people interpenetrated each other, the German having its civil population vaccinated optically, but its army completely revaccinated, while the French (population and army alike) were vaccinated perfunctorily. Both were attacked by smallpox; but the French army numbered 23,700 deaths by it, while the German army had only 278; and in the same time, breathing the same air, the French wounded were heavily visited by the disease, while the German wounded, having been revaccinated, had not a single case.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH IN ROME SOLD.

(Roman Correspondent Catholic Standard and Times.)

St. Patrick's is to go! It is just a little more than a year since the arrival of an Irish pilgrimage, which was organized from and associated therewith, advanced for the last time the work of the National Church of St. Patrick's in Rome. The same pleasant month of October has been with us again and there were English and French pilgrimages, but no Irish pilgrimage, just as there was no American pilgrimage. Where was to have stood the Church of St. Patrick, national for Irishmen and for the children of the saint coming from every land and over every sea, with national pride and annex of dignified national institutions, there is a wide pit in the ground set with deep foundations of stone, and by the side of the building, which could serve all the purposes of a monastery and hospice adjoining a national church.

The place has been long for sale and as such might be to be sold. There have been offers of purchase for a year, but the place and property had to be got rid of for cash down. Any one could see that unless some chance came quickly, St. Patrick's would have ceased to exist with the centenary year of '98.

The magnificent pile of buildings erected by those who were to have had care of the Church of Ireland in Rome would suffice any day for the housing of the national institutions. The foundations of the church would have had to be made in any case. They are there, and their immense depth is filled with massive masonry. Much more than a beginning was made.

The clergy who were to serve the church had no choice, and they expended to the last shilling all the compensation given them by the Roman municipality for the expropriation of their former residence. They, too, must live when Ireland is to lose St. Patrick's.

The digging of foundations is one of the most expensive parts of building in Rome. It is always long before the bed rock is an ancient Roman foundation can be reached. The Pantheon is filled with water during great rains and what lies in a hollow was formerly reached by an imposing flight of forty steps. This was the initial difficulty at St. Patrick's after the great price of ground had been paid. It was the period of the building craze and of fabulous prices.

Mr. F. Marion Crawford has narrated how richer institutions than St. Patrick's have buried all their wealth in excavations.

St. Patrick's, then, being long for sale, has gone to the English nuns of St. Benedict's, Rome, between whose superior, the Lady Abbess Pynsent, and Very Rev. Dr. Ryan, O.S.A., of St. Patrick's, a deed of sale had been signed. The foundations of the church may be utilized for that of a splendid abbey, and St. Benedict's is wealthy, so it may build. The adjoining buildings, which contain the temporary Church of St. Patrick and the Augustinian hermitage, may serve temporarily as an abbey. If it is a good building, the site is one of the most beautiful in Rome.

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY FOR IRELAND.

In Great Britain itself educational questions are occupying a large space in the public mind, says the London correspondent of the New York Post. One of the leading items in the government programme for next session is a bill to organize secondary education, while the movement for a Catholic University in Ireland is eliciting so much public sympathy that, despite the opposition of the Ulster Conservatives, Mr. Balfour expects to be able to carry the proposal next session. Sir Charles Gavan Duffy, writing from Nice, puts the case thus in the "Spectator" of to-day: "There are two Pro-

testant Universities in England, two Presbyterian universities in Scotland, one essentially Protestant university for the minority in Ireland. In the name of common sense and common justice why not an essentially Roman Catholic university for the majority?"

A GOOD WORD FOR NEWFOUNDLAND.

Of all the countries in or around the American Continent it is probable that up to the present time, none has been less before the public mind of this country than Newfoundland. Of late years, it has however, received a goodly share of advertisement, and from a variety of causes. Its mishaps in the form of a fire, and a financial crisis; its literary products, such as Judge Prowse's History and other notable works; and especially the completion this season of the Great Cross Country Railway system (over 500 miles long) have all contributed to give Newfoundland a greater prominence than it has had hitherto.

Historically the island goes back just four hundred years, having been discovered by John Cabot on the 24th June, 1497, and is thus the very earliest part of the North American Continent to become a European discovery.

Of course, Columbus preceded Cabot by six years, but his course lay farther south. The great fact that Newfoundland having been the first land sighted by John Cabot, was duly recognized in the summer of 1897, the 4th centenary of the event, when United States, France and England sent each a ship of war to St. John's Harbor, to participate in the grand pageant. On that occasion his Lordship Bishop Howley, of St. John's, solemnly laid the foundation stone of a Cabot memorial signal station on Signal Hill, at the entrance of St. John's Harbor.

The discovery of Newfoundland by Cabot was a veritable piscatorial Klondike. To Europe, the Cod fishery being such an afterwards to be pronounced by Lord Bess more valuable than the mines of Peru.

Permanent settlement was rigidly forbidden by the home country, but settlement went on all the same. With the Irish settler came the Scurvy and the result is to-day a splendidly organized Church, two bishops and a vicar apostolic, schools, Catholic halls and convents, and a cathedral, a glorious monument overlooking St. John's, a perpetual proof of the faith of the people.

Materially, Newfoundland is full of resource, and her mines (coal, iron, silver, lead, etc.), are beginning now to develop, and will help to verify a distinguished Bishop of St. John's (Bishop Mullock's) saying, that Newfoundland would become the very paradise of the working man. Besides it is in point of scenery, hunting, etc., a "sportsman's paradise."

AN EXTRAORDINARY CASE BEFORE ENGLISH COURTS.

Dr. Tristram, at a special sitting of the Consistory Court yesterday, granted a faculty for the opening of the Druce vault in Highgate Cemetery. He did not think it necessary to insert in his order a clause making the faculty conditional on the Home Secretary's license being obtained—a point, it will be remembered, which formed the subject of considerable argument both in the Queen's Bench Division and before the Chancellor himself in some of the earlier stages of this extraordinary case. Some little time may probably have to elapse before the novel experiment which has now received judicial sanction can be carried into effect. There is a right of appeal, which may be exercised; and arrangements, foreshadowed in the Chancellor's judgment yesterday, will have to be made with a view to securing that the examination in the vault shall be made under conditions of the utmost decency and order. The public will, undoubtedly, await the result with very great interest.

In spite of the maze of legal technicalities in which the proceedings have, so far, been enveloped—and the stately attitude which the judges of the Probate Court, the Queen's Bench Division, and the Chancellor of London have maintained in dealing with each fresh aspect that the litigation assumed—it is not difficult to pick out the main allegations on either side, and to see what a curious conflict of evidence they give rise.

In the Highgate Cemetery there is a vault which contains a coffin purporting to hold the remains of Mr. Thomas Charles Druce, once the owner of a bazaar in Baker street. The inscription on the stone above the vault declares that Mr. Druce died in December, 1864, and this record is supported by the surviving executor of his will and by certain other of his descendants, who have been resisting the application to open his grave, including a son by his first marriage, Mr. Herbert Druce.

The veracity of the inscription is, however, denied by the widow of a son of Mr. Druce by his first marriage. According to this lady, Mr. Druce did not die in 1864, and the coffin in the vault, if it contains anything, is partly filled with lead, placed there, presumably, for the purpose of making it appear to hold human remains. In support of this charge, Mrs. Druce proposes to show that, after the date of

this supposed death, her father-in-law was seen and conversed with by persons who could not possibly have been mistaken as to his identity. The most striking of the alleged instances is that of the lady who gave evidence before Sir Francis Jeune when the question was discussed whether the opening of the grave was material to Mrs. Druce's suit in the Probate Court for the revocation of Mr. Druce's will. She had known Mr. Druce, she said from girlhood. Her father attended his supposed funeral in 1864. Two years later however, he called upon her father at his apartments when she was there, and in answer to the observation that he was dead, shook his head and added, "No more of that." This witness further stated that she saw Mr. Druce several times in 1875, and for the last time in 1876. Mrs. Druce maintains that, as Dr. Hermer, he was under the care of Dr. Fries Winslow as late as 1877.

Not less positive are the allegations on the other side. The interveners maintain that Mr. Druce did die at the date mentioned. They further assert that they can, and will, produce the doctor and the nurse who performed the last offices for him, and saw him nailed down in his coffin; and at the recent argument in the Consistory Court their leading Counsel stated that he could give evidence that Mrs. Druce, in certain Chancery proceedings relative to her father-in-law's estate, between 1880 and 1883, alleged that he died in December, 1864. Such is the position in which the controversy at present stands. How the issues will eventually shape themselves it is impossible to predict. But the course which the Chancellor of London has taken in the meantime appears to be fair and reasonable. Whether the coffin holds nothing, or nothing but lead, on the one hand, or is destined to add to our knowledge as to the possibility of identifying human remains after a long interval of time on the other, it ought clearly to have an opportunity of making any contribution of which it is capable to the elucidation of the real facts in one of the strangest romances of this generation.—London Standard, November 26.

ENGLAND'S LORD CHIEF JUSTICE ON COMPANY PROMOTION.

In the Court of the Lord Chief Justice a week ago, where the new Lord Mayor of London and the Corporation were received by the Lord Chief Justice and Justices Mathew, Wills, and Darling, Lord Russell of Kilbuck, in the course of the usual address to the Lord Mayor, took occasion, after the customary observations and paying a high compliment to Mr. Justice Mathews on the success of the Commercial Court, to refer to the question of company promotion in the city. His Lordship said he was glad to hear that the new Lord Mayor had taken a leading part in the promotion of legislation for the prevention of fraud in the adulteration of food. In that the Lord Mayor had been a public benefactor.

But there were other frauds which were rampant in this community, fraud which was most widespread in its operations, touching all classes and involving great pecuniary loss, especially to those members of the community least able to bear it. He was alluding to that species of fraud which was working insidiously to undermine and corrupt the high sense of public morality, which it ought to be the object of every citizen to uphold, blunting the sharp edge of honor and smirching honorable names. He referred to the fraud practised in the promotion of companies.

The law ought to aim at two objects—first, that the public should be afforded all such information as ought to enable them to form a judgment as reasonable men; and, secondly, that those in the fiduciary or quasi-fiduciary position should be bound to disclose fully and clearly any interest which they possessed differing from the interest of the other shareholders, so that all transactions should be open and above board.

To show the immense importance of this matter, the Official Receiver had informed his lordship that the loss to the community during the last seven years, which had gone into unworthy pockets, was £23,159,432, the amount of loss by the creditors being £7,096,845, and by shareholders £20,462,587. These figures he should say applied to compulsory wound-up, and excluded cases in which there had been a reduction of capital, cases in which shares had been taken up at par, and in which shares were now comparatively worthless, and other cases of reduction and value, so that the public loss was enormous. It was, therefore, of great importance that these matters should be impressed upon the public mind and conscience, in order that evil might be dealt with in an effective manner as soon as possible.

PATENT REPORTS.

Below will be found a list of patents recently granted to the inventors by the Canadian Government, through the agency of Messrs. Marion & Marion, solicitors of patents and experts, New York Life Building, Montreal. (This report is prepared especially for this paper.)

No. 617,739, George R. Chisholm, carriage, 617,814 and 61,616, E. Parent, Sault Ste-Marie, Michigan, children's Terrebonne, P. Q., shoes, 61,933, David Dalsbey, White Point, N. S., lobster trap.

SOLICITUDE IN WORLDLY AFFAIRS.

His Eminence Cardinal Gibbons, preaches the sermon at the Baltimore Cathedral on the first Sunday of each of the Winter and Spring months. His subject on the first Sunday of this month was "Solitude in Worldly Affairs."

His Eminence said in part:

"I do not pretend to read your hearts, but I venture to say there is scarcely a member of the congregation who is not agitated by some vain hope or fear. Each of you has a daily round of cares, which ebb and flow like the tide. As soon as one care subsides another rises in your heart in endless succession. Those of you who are more forward in your temporal condition may be preoccupied by the rise and fall in stocks. Those of you who are in moderate circumstances are solicitous about your future wants for the decent support of life. Others are anxious about the result of a law suit, or some impending event on the issue of which you imagine your future happiness depends. Some of you, again, are fretful and uneasy about the recovery of a sick friend or member of your household.

"Now, the Christian religion, established to prepare us for future bliss in the world to come, contributes at the same time to our happiness in this life. Let me set before you the beautiful exhortation of our Saviour on this subject in His sermon on the Mount: 'Be not solicitous for your life, what you shall eat, nor for your body, what you shall put on. Is not the life more than the food and the body more than raiment?'

"But you will say, if God has such eye to our wants, if His providence

watch over us, may we not fold our arms, sit down idly and do nothing? May we not even squander what we possess? May not the capitalist hoard up his treasure and give no employment to others? May not the son of toil frequent the tavern and read the papers all day and enjoy a perpetual holiday?

"God forbid that, while you are admonished to avoid extreme of solicitude, you should fall into the other extreme of idleness and improvidence. If our Lord points out to you the care His Heavenly Father takes of you, He expects you at the same time to cooperate with Him. God helps those who help themselves. It is true, indeed, that God feeds the birds of the air; but He does not deposit the bird's breakfast in her nest. The bird must rise early to find it. The early bird catches the worm. It is true God crowns the mountain with forest trees and enriches the bowels of the earth with coal and other mineral deposits, but it is equally true that this wood and coal cannot be of service to man without hard and patient toil. It is true God gives fecundity to the earth, so that it produces grain of all kinds for the nourishment of man; but it is equally true that before these crops can be utilized men must cultivate the soil, plant the seed, reap it and gather into barns.

"Be not solicitous for to-morrow, for to-morrow will be solicitous for itself." "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." Do not derange the order of Divine Providence by superadding to the trust of to-day the solicitude of to-morrow; which are often imaginary or magnified by the imagination. Like a skilful general, such as Dewey