

# From the Irish Mail.

The death is announced of Mrs. Mary Foley, mother of the Bishop of Killarney and Leighlin, which sad event took place on Good Friday at Old Leighton House, County Carlow. The venerable lady had reached the advanced age of 81 years.

The exodus which at this season in former years would be very marked at Queenstown, is now very much reduced. The first big departure marked the sailing of the Saxonia of the Cunard Line, when 420 passengers for Boston joined her, and if one wanted a tribute to the great good health of the departing Gael, it was to be found in the fact that after a strict examination there was only one medical rejection out of the entire. Another and regrettable feature was that of those who so left consisted of more young men than girls, which is the contrary of what hitherto has been the custom. Nevertheless there is a surprising drop in emigration.

The painfully sad coincidence of the deaths on the same day, in places so far apart as New York and Killarney of a brother and sister—the one a priest, the other a religious of the Order of Mercy—was chronicled in the following announcement in the obituary columns of the Cork Examiner: Father William F. Sheehan died at Watervliet, N. Y., while his sister, Sister Mary Teresa, died at the Mercy Convent, Killarney.

Mr. J. P. Farrell, M.P., was tendered an enthusiastic welcome at Longford on April 11, the occasion being the first visit of the member for North Longford to his constituency since his release from Kilmallock Jail, where he had been imprisoned for three months on charges of intimidation in connection with the grazing system, brought under the Statute of Edward III. He was accorded a most enthusiastic reception by the Nationalists of Longford, Leitrim, Westmeath, and Roscommon, on arriving in his native town.

The Daily Mail announces: The absence of the Squire, Mr. William G. C. Gladstone, the grandson of the late W. E. Gladstone, from the vestry meeting at Hawarden was explained by the Record by the fact that he had left to undertake an interesting little office under the Earl of Aberdeen, and he had to start work that morning. It was afterwards ascertained that Mr. Gladstone has been appointed Assistant Private Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant.

A Carrick-on-Suir lad named Patrick Lyons, aged 11 years, performed an act of great courage for which he deserves the greatest possible praise and recognition. On hearing the screams of children coming from the direction of the Mill Stream, at Mill street, where he resides, he ran quickly to the spot and found that a child named Healy, aged 5 years, had fallen into the stream which at the time was very swollen as a result of the recent heavy rains. Young Lyons jumped into the water and with a considerable amount of difficulty he succeeded in bringing the child safely to the bank.

Michael Deighan, the famous County Monaghan centenarian, whose age and photo went the rounds of the Press some months ago as having applied personally for an Old Age pension at Lattinard Post Office, Newbliss, died on April 9 at the remarkable age of 102 years. Deceased resided at Drumhilla, County Monaghan, at a place locally known as Deighan's Cross, which took the name from the fact of the family having lived there for ages. But for a slight deafness deceased was hale and hearty up to a short period before his death. Deceased's father also lived to be a centenarian.

The Standing Committee of the United Irish League has issued a manifesto inviting suggestions from members of the National Directory as to how, in their opinion, the organization of the League might be improved and extended, so as to command the active and sustained support of the largest possible number of the people of Ireland. The circular includes a review of the work done by the Irish Party during the past year, mentioning the Irish Universities Act, the Laborers Acts, the Town Tenants Acts, the Housing of the Working Classes Act, and such other matters as have received the attention of the parliamentary representatives.

A meeting of the Claremorris Branch of the United Irish League, Mr. Conor O'Kelly, M.P., reminded them that this was the first meeting they had held since Mr. O'Brien retired from Irish public life. It was sad news for them that a man whose great energy, talents, and wealth, were devoted to the cause of the Irish people, should suddenly disappear from the fighting line of the Irish ranks. They could only hope that after the lapse of a year or two that great man might see his way to rejoin the ranks of the Party, and devote the remaining years of his life to the cause to which he had given his best years. It was not for them to make any comments upon the reasons which had urged him to the course he had taken; but now that he had gone, it was for all of them to close up the ranks by unity.

Recently public inquiries, conducted by Mr. Holt, of the Fisheries

Branch of the Department of Agriculture, were held at Athlone and Longford into an application of the rod anglers on these stretches of the Shannon to prohibit net fishing, or, alternatively, to shorten the lengths of the existing nets, which vary from 40 yards. The absence of salmon was attributed to the nets, and the killing of spawning fish in them. This the fishermen denied, giving evidence to show they caught less fish now than for the last forty years; that the fishing was so bad that some of them did not this year and other years recently take out licenses, and that the scarcity of fish was due to the unlimited netting at the mouth of the river and the working of the Lax Weir outside Limerick.

The Department state they see no reason to interfere with the netting as at present carried on in the river Shannon in the neighborhood of Athlone and Tarmoharry. Should, however, any development of it take place, the Department would be prepared to review the matter. "The Department," the finding continues, "are of opinion that any future inquiry should cover the question of netting in all the fresh water portions of the District (Limerick Fisheries District.)"

At the annual meeting of the South Westmeath Executive of the United Irish League, held at Horseleaf, Sir Walter Nugent, M.P., and the local representative said, it was a proud thing for him to say there was not a better organized county in Ireland at the present time than Westmeath. They got more settlements, and more lands had been bought up by the Estates Commissioners, and more ranches were split up for distribution amongst the people, proportionately speaking, in Westmeath than in any other part of Ireland. Anyone who showed the slightest inclination to meet the people, found the people ready and willing to make settlements; and it was not their fault if that settlement were not effected. He would not be afraid to say an unpopular thing, even if it were hurtful to himself, and he was not speaking to flatter them when he complimented them on the splendid state of the Executive. Whilst there was no sacrifice he would not make for peace, nevertheless, the poorest man amongst them with a just cause, felt assured that he would have the full force of the Organisation behind him. Referring to the work of the Irish Party, he honestly believed the work that had been done was nothing to the work that would be done now that they were all united. Although Mr. O'Brien was in a minority, he believed that Mr. O'Brien considered he was right; but they might depend upon it, that the views of the majority of the people were always right.

At the forty-second annual congress of the Irish National Teacher's Organizations which took place in Galway, the retiring president, Mr. Elliott, declared that Ireland can never attain that position which the intellect of her people entitles her to occupy till all grades of Education are fashioned into one harmonious system, from the Primary School to the University. We, therefore, hope that something may yet be done to link the Primary School teacher with the life and culture of the University. According to a speech of the Lord Advocate of Scotland, by the recent Act of Scotland would be twenty years in advance of Ireland. According to this lawyer and statesman, we in Ireland are 40 years behind England, and 60 years behind Scotland in Education. The Lord Advocate was then an important member of his Majesty's Government, and while he may be legitimately proud of the state of Education in his own country, he ought to be ashamed of the statement he makes regarding Ireland. His Majesty's Government is entirely responsible for the condition of education in this County. They, and they alone, have power to improve it, and it is evident from this speech that its condition is perfectly well known to them. The Imperial Grant for Irish Primary Education is frequently compared with that for Scotland, and the former is greater for the present year by £525,620. The exact figures taken from the Estimates issued by Parliament, are £2,147,521 for Scotland, and £1,621,921 for Ireland. This latter includes the £114,000 granted last year as a supplementary Estimate, and which, after labours from which even Hercules would have recoiled, was wrung from Treasury. The disparity between the two Estimates is sufficiently glaring, but it by no means tells the whole truth about how Education is starved in Ireland. It appears from the last Report of the Scotch Education Department that during the year 1907-8 the sum of £1,318,583 was raised by rates for Parliament, are £2,147,521 for Scotland, and £1,621,921 for Ireland. It is not my business to say whether too much or too little is spent on education, but I think it will be admitted that a country where as much is spent on police as on Education cannot be prosperous, nor can the Government pride itself on its success in carrying out the duties for which it exists. The results of this starvation are only such as might be expected. The schools in general are poor and badly equipped. Many of them are wretched buildings, without the sanitary con-

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venience considered necessary in every civilized country.

The "Irish Year Book" just issued gives some remarkable statistics as to the progress made in the revival of the Gaelic language.

The following figures as to the number of students of the common schools in Ireland examined in Gaelic and Latin by the Intermediate Board in the years 1902, 1907 and 1908 is given.

In 1902—Latin, 4,101; Gaelic, 1,851. In 1907—Latin, 4,687; Gaelic, 4,543. In 1908—Latin, 4,726; Gaelic, 5,103.

The above figures represent those who were successful in the examinations. The steady increase in the number of students of Gaelic in the schools of the old land speaks volumes for the work of the Gaelic League under the direction of Dr. Hyde and his associates.

Some hundreds of acres of bog lying between Domadea and Carbury have been stripped of cover by a fire which broke out on the estate of A. E. Dobbis, Esq., on Thursday, of last week. The fire, which was accidental, had its origin in a tenant's garden which adjoins the bog. The owner, it is said, in order to clear the place of furze, had set them alight, with the result that the surrounding heather caught on, and the flames were soon beyond his control. The efforts of a number of neighbors who afterwards arrived were also futile in checking the progress of the fire, which had now grown to alarming dimensions. After burning for several hours the fire reached a boundary drain, which it crossed, and continued on its course on the estate of a gentleman named Wilson, till it spun itself out on meeting green heather grown where a previous fire had occurred, having lasted for three days. Viewed from a distance in the night-time the long line of flame extending over two miles in length, presented a most unusual spectacle. This being the hatching season the destruction of wild fowl must have been enormous.

A Pill that is Prized.—There have been many pills put upon the market and pressed upon public attention, but none have endured so long or met with so much favor as Par-melee's Vegetable Pills. Widespread use of them has attested their great value, and they need no further advertisement than this. Having firmly established themselves in public esteem, they now rank without a peer in the list of standard vegetable preparations.

## The Grimani Breviary.

A Beautiful Manuscript Which is One of Venice's Art Treasures.

A Modern Reproduction.

From a review of a volume dealing with the Grimani Breviary, in the New York Evening Post, many interesting facts relative to old-time illuminators are to be gleaned. He says that: From that invaluable note-taker called the Anonimo di Morelli, we learn that early in the sixteenth century this Breviary was treasured by the Venetian Cardinal, Domenico Grimani, who bought it from "Antonio Siciliano." Naturally, it has been assumed that this is the great painter, Antonello da Messina, but the strength of his own-ership is a few of the miniatures which shall see that there were other Sicilian Antonios, at least four contemporary painters of that name, one of whom, Antonello da Saliba, was pretty certainly in Venice towards the end of the century when Cardinal Grimani, born 1461, is likely to have bought the book. Certain of the miniatures suggest an eclectic Italian like this obscure Antonello. None are of a quality to be by his greater namesake. Besides, Antonello da Messina died when Domenico Grimani was only eighteen years old, and presumably not yet a wealthy collector.

### A COMPOSITE WORK.

The reviewer contends that no great artist worked on the Grimani Breviary. We have to do with a composite work by several accomplished journeymen illuminators, who presumably kept a shop together at Venice. Several other products of this firm exist. The most notable is a Book of Hours in the Morgan Library. Dr. Vladimir G. Simkhovitch, who discussed it about two years ago in the Bur-

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St. Anne de Bellevue (all rail), Do. (going rail, returning by boat).....	.75
St. Hyacinthe.....	1.80
St. Johns.....	1.00
Vaudreuil.....	.80
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Jington Magazine, attempted to show, unconsciously to us, that the Morgan copy is the earlier, and affords models for the Grimani Breviary. In any case, we have to do with an established business, and not with a group of masters especially recruited by a Maecenas like Pope Sixtus. The Grimani Masters drew from many sources, inventing very few of the figure compositions. The finest miniatures, those traditionally ascribed to Memling, are based in great part on the magnificent compositions of the Limbourg and on the painting of Gerard David. His influence, indeed, is strong throughout the Breviary. One need only compare the Madonna and Saints (pl. 91) and the Nativity (pl. 27) with the well-known panels by David at Rouen and Vienna. So constant is this leading that one must suppose either that Gerard David designed for this shop, or that its chief was one of his immediate followers. Still, the Grimani Masters cast a wide net. The portion of the work assigned to Livinus has a Dutch suggestion; the Adam and Eve (pl. 45) is based on a picture by Hugo van der Goes, now at Vienna; everywhere there is borrowing.

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## INTERESTING MANUSCRIPT.

The reviewer in conclusion says: There are many finer illuminations but few manuscripts on the whole more interesting. The ornamental borders, whether pictorial or decorative, are of great variety and beauty. In their profusion of flowers, architectural forms, utensils, beasts, birds, men and women at their occupations, they afford a vivacious compendium of life as it appeared to the late Flemish painters. The pictures, too, are a true repository of the painting of the fifteenth century in the Low Countries. From these illustrations, we might, were all the rest lost, divine, if not the exactness, at least the vitality and comprehensiveness of the art that began with the Limbourg and end with Mabuse. When Cardinal Grimani left this volume to his nephew in trust for the Venetian Republic, the lucky heir begged to be allowed to retain possession of it for his lifetime. And when, in 1593, it was delivered solemnly to Doge Pasquale Cicogna, in full Senate, the republic ordered that the famous sculptor Alessandro Vittoria should do the commemorative metal work for the velvet binding. No one who examines the Grimani Breviary, either in its glass case, or more advisedly in Signor Ongania's volume, will find that those enthusiasts were misplaced.

## The Great North Country.

Nimrod was a mighty hunter, but had he hunted in the "Tomagami" region he would have been a mighty one. Nimrod hunted for glory, but Tomagamians hunt for game. Those Indians who made the first canoe of birch bark long ago, were our greatest benefactors. The children of these Indians know the canoe, and they know how to use it, and if you go to Tomagami this summer they will paddle your canoe in their own superb way. They will be the best guides you ever had. Students who camp in summer along the Tomagami lakes are able to do two years' work in one. Finest of fishing and hunting. Good hotel accommodation. Easy of access by the Grand Trunk Railway System. Information and beautiful descrip-

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## Anglo-Canadian and Continental Bank.

Notice is hereby given that the Provisional Directors of the Anglo-Canadian and Continental Bank have opened stock subscription books for the subscription of the stock of said bank as required by law at the office of the undersigned, 86 Notre Dame Street West, in the City of Montreal.

CASIMIR DESSAULLES,  
Solicitor for the Provisional Directors.

Dated at Montreal, this 20th day of April, 1909.

## Priests Needed in the West.

It is estimated that three hundred more priests are needed to fairly carry on the work of the Church in Canada. The advent of the priest has the effect to renew Catholicity in communities in a way that is astonishing; erect an altar, says Cardinal Manning, and the congregation will soon be found to gather around it.

Universal experience shows that the ranks of the priesthood are filled chiefly through the influence of Christian, Catholic homes, and the reverse is quite as true, that uncatholic, modernized parents have done more than any other agency to blight religious vocations in their children. By their sceptic or even scoffing attitude.

There are Catholic communities in the West which have been barren of religious vocations for many years.—The Central Catholic.