

OUR IRISH LETTER.

His Lordship Bishop McHenry Refers to the University Question.

The Last of the National Club—The Anniversary of the Closing of the Gates of Derry—Irish Coast Defences—Many Notes of the Happenings in Religious and Other Circles.

DUBLIN, Jan. 1st, 1898.—Some sad fatalities have marked the close of the year in Ireland. There has been a burning fatality at Fermoy, where a child, aged six, named Kate Roche, was burnt to death while playing before a grate.

He Promised to Marry.

There was a rather interesting breach of promise case before a special jury of six in which the defendant was a policeman named John Dunne, of the Irish Constabulary, who for some years was stationed in County Cavan.

The Last of the National Club.

The National Club, for years one of the institutions of Dublin, has been ordered to be wound up by the Master of the Rolls. The action was based upon an application by the Corporation to recover £23 for taxes.

The University Question.

During the course of a recent meeting to hear a lecture on the "Origin and growth of Universities," His Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. Henry, who was in the chair, touched lightly on the University question.

The Bigots of Derry.

The anniversary of the shutting of the gates of Derry was celebrated with the usual Orange ceremonies last week.

The "Prentice Boys" Hall, which overlooks the Bogside, a Catholic working class locality, and some alarming results followed. The rocket tubes were fired on iron rods, and one of these penetrated a roof in the Bogside.

Irish Coast Defences.

From a military point of view, Ballykenlar near Dundrum, County Down, promises to become shortly a place of considerable importance. It is learned on good authority that a scheme is being proposed for the better protection of some of the more important Irish seaports and naval rendezvous.

Ordinations in Carlow Cathedral.

The following ordinations took place Christmas week in the Catholic Cathedral in Carlow, the Most Rev. Dr. Foley celebrating.

To Deaconship—Rev. John Cantillon, San Francisco; Rev. Michael Hayden, Vicar of Wales.

To Sub Deaconship—Rev. James O'Reilly, Gibraltar; Rev. Michael Cliff, San Francisco; Rev. Patrick Coffey, Dubuque; Rev. Laurence Hayes, Dubuque; Rev. Patrick Flynn, Dubuque; Rev. Patrick Lyons, St. Louis; Rev. Andrew Killian, Wilcania.

Death of Wexford's Oldest Priest.

There passed away in the person of Rev. Denis Doyle, Catholic curate of Cam, the oldest priest in the County of Wexford. The deceased was ordained as far back as 1833, and held many curacies in the Diocese of Ferns.

Distress in North Kerry.

Advices from North Kerry tell appalling tales of the prevalence of distress there. To realise fully, or at any rate as fully as a mere spectator can, the sufferings of the people, it is necessary to stand in the semi-darkness of their cabins, to sink ankle-deep in the sloppy clay of their earthen floors, to see the rain pour down remorselessly through the opening in the thatched roofs, which serves at once as chimney and window, and trickle in tiny rivulets into the deeper ruts, there to form tiny pools.

A Bad Fire at Newtownstewart.

A destructive fire occurred on Monday last at Newtownstewart, involving the loss of property to the amount of £6,000. A hot noon the fire broke out in the premises of Mr. M'Hugh, draper, Main street, by the accidental upsetting of a basin of gravy on the kitchen range.

Sad Death of a Simpleton.

On Friday night, shortly before eleven o'clock, intimation was received at the Central Fire Station, Chatham street, of the outbreak of a fire in East Arran street. Captain Purcell, with his men and also the section from Winetavern street, arrived promptly on the scene.

Fatal Occurrence in Sligo Insane Asylum.

On Sunday night last a girl named Anne Gallagher died under peculiar circumstances in Sligo Insane Asylum. She was 26 years of age and deaf and dumb besides being insane.

circumstances in Sligo Insane Asylum. She was 26 years of age and deaf and dumb besides being insane. At about four o'clock Dr. Peat, Resident Medical Superintendent of the Institution, was called from his private apartments by the senior female night nurse.

NEW YORK LETTER.

The Proceedings of the Child Study Congress

Recently Held Under the Auspices of the Paulist Fathers—An Interesting Series of Papers and Addresses—The Effects of Catholic Education.

NEW YORK, Jan. 14.—One of the most interesting educational events that ever took place here was the "Child-Study Congress," which has just been held under the auspices of the Paulist Fathers.

The Rev. Thomas McMillian, C.S.P., presided at the opening session. He made a brief address of welcome, in which he spoke of its inception at the Summer School, where there was not time to discuss all the subjects that were brought up.

The Rev. Morgan Sheedy, of Altoona, Pa., delivered an excellent address on "Spiritual Development versus Socialism." He declared that the lack of religious training in public schools was largely responsible for the criminal and socialistic tendencies of the present age.

The appreciation of moral responsibility of the individual regulates the well-being of society, and the sense of moral obligation of the individual is due to the character and extent of his education. There are two distinct theories of education—one which declares that the spiritual development is as essential as the material development, and the other that man is not immortal, and therefore his education should be material to the last degree, and should not be hindered by religious interference.

The advocates of the second theory have labored to expel Christianity from education. Hence they have claimed for education that it must be universal, secular and compulsory. Men of progress in all countries declare that religion, that is to say, the development and training of the soul of the child, must be separated from politics, from philosophy, and from science.

The speaker spoke of the growth of Socialism in this country and its extreme manifestation—namely, of Lombroso's statistics of the growth of crime in America, especially of homicide; of the growth of divorce, of the number of young men tramps or in penal institutions, and quoted the declaration of Gen. Brinkerhoff before the National Prison Congress: "First and foremost, what is essential is to revolutionize our educational system from top to bottom."

And this in the interest of good morals, good citizenship, and the ability to earn an honest living.

"It is a significant fact," he added, "that not a single Socialist of note can be named who came out of a Christian school or a Catholic educational institution."

Father Sheedy further said that the failure of many Catholics to uphold the ideals of the Church after leaving school was not the fault of Catholic teaching, but was entirely due to the contamination of environment in the outside world.

The Rev. Daniel J. O'Sullivan of St.

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Albans, Vt., spoke on "Incentives to Patriotism," and a large number of papers were read by teachers.

The Catholic Child and the Parish School" was the important topic treated by Rev. James P. Kiernan of Rochester, who said in substance:

The proper training and education of the youth who are to constitute the Church and propagate the faith should be of paramount interest to the Catholic. Child study, nature study, and many other branches of science that seem to have been lying dormant for a long time are occupying the attention of thousands of the educators of the country.

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and build up the blood, and strengthen the nerves, thus driving disease from the system. Avoid imitations by insisting that every box you purchase is enclosed in a wrapping bearing the full trade mark, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. A copy of the London Dispatch, in which appeared a paragraph to the effect that the Inniskilling Dragoons at Dundalk had netted an Irish recruit standing 6 feet 9 inches, having been sent by a gentleman in Edinburgh to a member of the regiment in a position to ascertain the true facts regarding the question. The following reply has been received: "The recruit about whom so much has been made has nothing to do with us (Inniskilling Dragoons). He was enlisted by a color sergeant of the militia permanent staff, and was brought into our barracks to pass the doctor, as they all have to do here. His name is McCullagh; height rather over 6 feet 6 inches, and about 41 inches round the chest. He was enlisted for and has joined the Grenadier Guards. He belongs to the Belfast district. There is no doubt he is a mighty big man. His weight is between 16 and 17 stones, and only about 23 years of age." A few years ago, it may be remembered, a recruit from Falkirk was enlisted at Edinburgh for the Scots Guards, whose height and other measurements were almost equal to those of the recruit now declared to be the tallest man in the army.

A woman never really knows the meaning of happiness and content until she is the mother of a healthy, happy child. The health of the child depends on the health of the mother, both before and after birth. Most all of woman's weakness and particularly for weakness that most strongly influences the health of children, comes from some derangement or disease of the distinctly feminine organs. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription will cure troubles of this nature. It should be taken regularly by every woman during the entire period of gestation. It gives strength to all the organs involved, lessens the pains of childbirth and insures the health of both mother and child. Send 31 one cent stamps to cover cost of mailing only, and receive free a copy of Dr. Pierce's Medical Adviser. Address, World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N.Y.