

"Pagan" O'Leary.

American papers bring intelligence of the death of a once famous Fenian worker—"Pagan" O'Leary. He died in one of the Homes for Veteran Soldiers which the patriotism of the American has provided to shelter in their old age the brave men who risked their lives to sustain the national honor abroad or to defend the Union at home. Mr. O'Leary was a very old soldier of the Republic, having fought in the Mexican campaign, in which the Irish-American officer, General Shields (a native of Tyrone) won such lasting renown. That is nearly fifty years ago, and O'Leary was even then well into manhood's years, so that he had attained to a very ripe old age at his death; he must have been an octogenarian for several years.

The deceased was a native of Macroom, in the Co. Cork, where several of his relatives still reside. He was old enough to remember the lawless times of the Whiteboys, and the terrible reprisals on the country people taken by the scarcely less lawless authorities of that day for the operations of three desperate men. There is no more ghastly chapter in the history of that time than that which records the spiking of alleged Whiteboys' heads on the market square of Macroom—a spectacle which men still living remember with horror. O'Leary left home at an early age; when he reached America it was still a country of wild adventure in vast regions on the frontier. He led an adventurous life, and was in one of the earliest battalions that crossed the frontier into Mexico on war breaking out with that Republic. Fifteen years afterwards when the Fenian movement was in full activity, and when he himself might be said to be verging on old age, he plunged into the vortex of the conspiracy. He was a daring and an active agent, and ran great risks as a missionary among Irishmen in the British army. His white hair and his remarkable war record in the romantic lands of Spanish America exercised a curious fascination over the young Irish soldiers, among whom he freely moved in barrack and camp, and they took the oath to the Irish Republic in thousands. It was long, indeed, before the British military authorities came to recognize the dangerous bearings of the new movement on the army. It is doubtful, in fact, whether they had a real appreciation of the danger to which they were exposed until after that danger had passed away as the result of repeated court-martials and the removal of Irish regiments to foreign stations. In producing that dangerous situation probably no one had a larger share than the white-headed veteran O'Leary. He was a man of desperate determination, in whom most of the traces of those softer influences that the religiously-nurtured Irishman usually takes with him to a foreign land were for long obliterated by the influences of a wild Western life. This fact developed traits in his character which his companions, in the true spirit of caricature, exaggerated in the sobriquet prefixed above to his name, and which attached to him to his dying day. He had his faults, but he had at least one greatly redeeming virtue—a love of native land that knew no fear, and braved very many dangers.—Dublin Freeman's Journal.

The Paulists have suffered a severe loss by the death of Rev. E. B. Brady, who was chosen to establish the new house of the congregation recently opened in San Francisco by the request of Archbishop Riordan, but who died in that city soon after his arrival there. Father Brady was one of the oldest priests of his order, with which he had been long connected; and he was also one of its most useful members.



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