

OUR IRISH LETTER.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE CATHOLIC REGISTER.

Dublin Dec. 22.—Dublin this week has lost its most venerated priest in the Right Rev. Monsignor Kennedy, P.P. V.G., Dean of the Chapter of Dublin. His death took place in the Presbytery of James's street Church where he had lived and worked for thirty nine years. He was close on ninety years of age, fifty-nine of which had passed in the sacred ministry. His was truly a hidden life. He abhorred notoriety. Even in this age of publicity he succeeded in keeping the "specials" at arm's length; and it was only on very rare occasions that his name crept into the newspapers. His mission was to the poor. Amongst them he lived and laboured incessantly. His charity was boundless, his sympathy with suffering and want inexhaustible. The struggling working class who strive to hide destitution under a decent exterior found in him a generous and loyal friend, who stood between them and dire want and whose bounty savoured not at all of alms giving. Dean Kennedy realized that above all things the honest pride of the artisan must be fostered, for his safe guard of his moral rectitude. The Dean himself gave more than tithe of all he possessed. His house was destitute of luxury, and the cassock that draped his poor, stooping figure was green and threadbare from age. In the hidden corner of the modest of Guinness's Brewery and overlooks Grand Canal Harbour—he led a life austere, ascetic, as little concerned about the world as any of the Fathers of the desert. As a practical advocate of education he was unsurpassed. He established schools in every corner of his struggling parish, and built two chapels of ease one at Golden Bridge and the other at Dolphin's Barn. He was never heard of in politics although as chaplain to Kilmainham prison he enjoyed the highest and esteem of a long and illustrious career. He attended the Inventions implicated in the Phoenix Park murders. Everybody, even the who differed from him in religion, trusted him, and many Protestants availed themselves of his kindly discrimination in the distribution of their bounty to the poor. The funds which passed through the Dean's hands to relieve so much secret suffering, came from many sources. In his zeal to spread the light of religion and civilization in the city he established a community of the Little Sisters of the Assumption in James's street. These nuns nurse the sick poor in their own homes. He will be missed by many, but most of all by the Little Sisters. He was father, benefactor and friend to the poor of the community. In his work of the spiritual and temporal matters he was their guardian, and his example of piety, patience and industry kept daily before their eyes a living, breathing realization of the highest ideal of charity as well as love and worship of God, and the love and service of man. Dublin is much the poorer by his loss. Sullins are few.

The death is announced of the Very Rev. T. J. Smith, O.P., at St. Saviour's, Lower Dominick street, in his 64th year. Father Smith was one of the best known of Irish Dominicans owing to the number of missions which he gave through the country. He possessed keen insight into human nature; and his advice was much sought after in the settlement of family disputes.

The popular Irish tenor, Mr. Joseph O'Mara, has been singing in Dublin at the third of the popular concerts and again at the promenade concert this week. He is a native of Limerick. His father, Mr. James O'Mara, is one of the most esteemed citizens of that historic city. Limerick in his day has been famous for many fully dressed and beautiful women of the day. There are no gloves made there now, and a friend who was at the last Limerick races, told me there was hardly a pretty girl to be seen on the course. Cork is taking the beauty prize presented by Limerick lace still takes out a struggling existence. In the curing of bacon alone is the city of the Treaty Stone keeping up-to-date. Limerick hams take the lead. Messrs. O'Mara & Sons is one of the oldest and most respected firms in the bacon trade. The O'Mara family is thoroughly Irish, especially in point of number. It is doubtful if the old man himself knows how many children, grandchildren, great grandchildren he possesses. He is one of the few who cling to all the old fashioned traditions of Christmas. It is an established custom that all his descendants dine with him on Christmas day. There is scarcely such another family gathering in Ireland. The tenor is the Benjamin of the flock who is the first flush of the sun, and a star of the Royal Italian Opera Company, he came home to spend his summer holidays with his father in Lisdoonvarna and Kilkree. Every July and August the O'Mara family is one of the attractions of the health resorts. In many of the rising generation of the promise of considerable musical talent. Before he went to Italy for training, Mr. Joseph O'Mara was in very great demand for charity concerts. People who heard him sing as an amateur, took his professional success as a matter of course. He is an amazingly sympathetic, his notes full and clear. On dit that he has accepted an engagement from Sir Augustus Harris for the coming opera season.

What with hand contests and occupation competitions, the Arts and Crafts had a number of Sir military bands engaged, the judges were Mr. Van Wagoner, Mr. Douglas and Herr Werner, and the first prize, twenty guineas, presented by the Society, and Messrs. Bosson & Co.'s valuable saxophone, silver plated, and richly ornamented, was carried off by the Laureate. Finally, who came all the way from Athlone. The Society presented Mr.

Rogers, their bandmaster, with a silver mounted baton as a memento of the occasion. The Athlone band, Beggar's Irish barracks, took second prize, an Armada cup, the gift of Mr. Walter Sexton. Third prize, Messrs. Pigott's silver plated concert piano to the Curragh in custody of the East Yorkshire. The three honorary contest evoked much interest. The entries were very numerous. The judges were the Rev. Chancellor Tisdell, D.D., Mr. T. W. Ralston, Very Rev. Father Lyons, O.P., Miss Cleather, Mr. F. W. Crossley and Captain Woodfield. So high did they rate the Athlone band that they decided to present two additional prizes. The awards took the form of money orders and books, and in addition Messrs. Hopkins & Hopkins gave a valuable watch to the competitor securing first honors in each class.

Giving his experience of interviews in this month, Mr. Stead says: "I remember the first public man in England who consented to be interviewed was Mr. Forster. I interviewed him immediately after his return from Bulgaria, a dozen years ago, and that astute statesman made a remark which I have never forgotten. He said: 'I have no objection to be interviewed, for I think the interview affords a public man an invaluable agency for launching his opinions without responsibility, and enabling him to feel the public pulse before formally committing himself to a public utterance.' Mr. Forster, there are two things. First, no interview should ever be published until the proof or the MS. has been submitted to the person interviewed for his correction; and secondly the fact that the interview has been published should never be revealed to the world, other than an interview which was known to have been revised by the person interviewed to him as if he had written a signed article, or made a public speech."

CHARLES DALTON.

BOOK REVIEW.

We have received a copy of the Catholic Family Annual for 1896, issued by the Catholic School Book Co., 28 Borealy street, New York. For all the purposes of information that a Catholic volume supplying such a need in the home is nothing left to desire. In addition there is a mass of appropriate interesting and varied reading matter, and the book is copiously illustrated with colored plates and photographs. This is the 28th year of publication.

Judge Treves's History of Newfoundland. I will say of the book what was said when the work of Hooker, the ecclesiastical historian, had been translated: "There is no learning that this man hath not searched into; nothing too hard for his understanding. This man, indeed, deserves the name of author; his book will get reverence by age."

It is beyond all question one of the most satisfactory histories of Newfoundland ever issued. It is superior to all other histories of the island in the amount of information about everything connected with Newfoundland, and as its usefulness becomes known few merchants, lawyers, clergymen, editors and men of letters will find themselves able to do without it. It is a work to be consulted on almost everything bearing on literature. While not aiming to be a biographical dictionary it goes pretty fully into such details in an author's life as are considered pertinent or necessary. In almost every chapter, however, the author has published a book, the dates of the issue are given in chronological order, as well as some facts about them as are likely to prove interesting. Scraps of criticism, notes, etc., interesting, useful and necessary, have all a place in the work. Almost every literary man and person of prominence receives mention here. The book is a gazetteer or encyclopedia. It is unique and fills a place peculiarly its own. It gives a full history of the Catholic Church in its island. The author is never theoretical where he can be practical. The work bristles with interesting statistics, and gives every possible item of information. It is not a mere collection of facts and figures, for it abounds with interesting anecdotes. Every detail is interesting. Those who open the book will scarcely lay it aside until they have made themselves acquainted with its contents. The only defect I notice in the book is that some parts of natural history have been slightly touched on. In the next edition it would be well to include more on zoology, entomology and botany may be given. One cannot have perfection in a work of the extent to which this one goes; but this large volume is as near perfection as possible. This famous Newfoundland history ought to win its way to the libraries of all scholars and the desks of all students. The work is embellished with numerous engravings and maps, and is mechanically a very fine specimen of the book publisher's art. I cordially recommend it to be found on the book shelves of every one who desires to become acquainted with the inexhaustible resources of Newfoundland, which is destined to play a prominent part in the history of the continent. This interesting history, has placed the public under a debt to him. We hope so reliable and valuable a work will have an extensive circulation. PHILIP TOUGHER.

Thrice unhappy he who, born to see things as they might be, is schooled by circumstances to see them as people say they are—to read God in a prose translation.—Lowell.

COLIN D. CHISHOLM.

Death of an Intrepid Glengarry Man of Col. Chisholm of the Glengarry Militia.

The death of Colin D. Chisholm was a great surprise to the whole neighborhood of the glen, as he was not known to have been ill, and had been about the village as usual until a few days before his death, which took place on Saturday, 21st inst.

His brother Angus had been very seriously ill for some time past, and Colin having made several visits to him during the recent severe weather, which was followed by an attack of congestion of the lungs and heart failure ensuing, he succumbed very suddenly. No one in the community was better known or more generally liked and esteemed, and his place will be sorely missed. He had all his life lived in this immediate vicinity, and his fund of information respecting local affairs, and for the family connections of all persons in the neighborhood, and those with whom he was related or in any way connected, was very remarkable, and frequently appealed to, and always most cheerfully given. Mr. Chisholm was born in June, 1824, and was thus in his 72nd year. His father, the late Col. Alex. Chisholm, was M.P. for Glengarry in the Parliament of Great Britain from 1824, until the union with Lower Canada in 1841. He had also served in the Rebellion of 1837-38 as Colonel of the 3rd (Locheil) Regiment of Glengarry Militia, a position for which his early training eminently fitted him, as in early youth he had been in the military service, a Lieutenant in the Royal African Regiment. Colin D. Chisholm was the second son, his elder brother being the Rev. Dr. James Chisholm, the well-known priest at Alexandria, Lindsay and Perth. He has many years been a clerk of the 2nd Division Court, and has on several occasions acted as Constable Commissioner, and Returning Officer for the county. It was mainly owing to his instrumentality, and through information supplied by him that the late Chief Justice, Sir James Chisholm, was enabled to prove his claim to the Chieftainship and his title to Erchless Castle, and the large estate in Invernesshire connected therewith, valued at over £100,000 a year. Mr. Chisholm was unmarried, and had no children, but he left several surviving him, to whom we beg to extend our sincere sympathy in their heavy affliction. The funeral took place on Tuesday to St. Finnan's Church, and the large attendance showed the high estimation in which Mr. Chisholm was held by the whole community.

CORNWALL NEWS.

A Generous Gift.

It has been learned that the Very Rev. Dean Murray, of Truro, has graciously consented to donate to St. Columban's New Church the six altars and stations of the cross. Father Murray, as he is still affectionately called here says the Glengarry where he laboured with splendid results for so many years, had on several occasions been the architect of the church, deeming him most competent to make designs harmonizing with the style and symmetry of the sacred edifice. These plans, how ever, will be submitted to Mr. Murray, and he reserved to himself the right of finally determining the selection of a design, should such be necessary. The order for the stations of the cross was given by Father Murray as early as last July, and a beautiful series of pictures is now being painted in France. It is expected that this portion of Father Murray's splendid gift will be in Cornwall, ready to be placed in the new church, towards the end of January or early in the following month. The people of Cornwall long before his departure, had learned to recognize in the reverend gentleman a staunch and unswerving determination to make the Separate Schools of Cornwall second to none in the province, nor is his zeal in the cause of higher education any less strong and genuine. It is to be hoped that his plans are being vindicated for the welfare of our primary and intermediate schools. It will no longer, therefore, surprise Father Murray's hosts of friends here to learn that he has given another generous donation, the sum of three thousand dollars to the new College which the Archbishop of Kingston will have opened in the September of 1896. Old Kingstonsians will call to mind that this new educational institution was formerly the building occupied by the Merchants Bank, which Mr. Cleary purchased for educational purposes.

ST. COLUMBAN'S CHURCH.

The following highly satisfactory statement was read by Mr. J. Keating after service at St. Columban's Church, Cornwall, on Sunday morning last: Expenditure Account of New Church. Site, 2500 00; Plans, 1200 00; Materials, 4500 00; Labour, 18000 00; Total, 22000 00. Receipts: Envelope system, 4400 00; Pews and other Church contributions, 6300 00; Private subscriptions, bequests, collections in Church and pew money, 18000 00; Total, 28700 00. The contractors have practically completed their work and will soon be fitted to receive the drawback amounting to about \$5,000. It may be stated that \$2,000.00 has been expended for school purposes out of the money collected in the Church, making the total expenditure from that source \$9,000.00. The actual debt is now under \$21,000.00. In addition to the visits of the architect, Mr. Duane H. Macdonald has, free of charge, spent several hours every day supervising the woodwork. Mr. Duane H. Macdonald has supervised the stone work. It was announced that two new altars, designed by Mr. Toungay, had been presented at a cost of \$800 each, and also the Stations of the Cross. The woodwork of the church has been delayed until the spring or early part of the summer, in order to give the plastering time to dry thoroughly before the decorators commence their work. When finished the new St. Columban's will be one of the finest churches in the province.

Religious Ceremony at the Abbey.

Strangely different are the thoughts that at the same time fill the minds of men so widely separated in time and space as when the world was preparing and enjoying after its own fashion the festivities of Christmas in the streets and on the shores of its own coast, and nine young men were preparing to celebrate Christmas tide in a manner the world dreams not of and cannot understand.

The feast of St. John the Evangelist will be a memorable day for those whose happiness it was to participate in the religious ceremony which on last Friday morning took place in the Abbey chapel, where five young ladies made their final vows and four were clothed in the holy habit of religion. At an early hour the chapel was filled with the friends of the novices, and at half-past nine the procession entered, led by the postulants in bridal robes, wreath and veil, each accompanied by a full choir of voices, after them came the novices in their sombre religious garb. His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto with a number of his clergy followed in the rear.

When all were in their appointed places Rev. Father Ryan, Rector of the Cathedral, addressed in touching words those who were to be sworn to religious life. His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto with a number of his clergy followed in the rear. When all were in their appointed places Rev. Father Ryan, Rector of the Cathedral, addressed in touching words those who were to be sworn to religious life. His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto with a number of his clergy followed in the rear. When all were in their appointed places Rev. Father Ryan, Rector of the Cathedral, addressed in touching words those who were to be sworn to religious life. His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto with a number of his clergy followed in the rear.

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How to CURE HEADACHE—Some people suffer with a headache every day after day with intermission. There is rest neither day or night until the nerves are all unstrung. The cause is generally a disordered stomach, and a cure can be effected by using Paroleo's Vegetable Pills, containing Mandragora and Dandelion. Write to Paroleo, Lyander, P.O., writes "I find Paroleo's Pills a first-class article for Bilious Headache."

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