

NEWS FROM IRELAND.

Dublin. The Royal Irish Constabulary contributions to the Father Burke National Memorial amount now to more than £400.

It transpired at a meeting of the Dublin Board of Guardians, on May 7th, that a certain clergyman whenever it came to his turn to baptize foundlings called them after members of the Irish Parliamentary Party.

Westford. Alexander Kickham, brother of the late Charles J. Kickham, committed suicide in New Ross, on May 3rd, by cutting his throat. Deceased was a commercial traveler, and on the previous day, in the ordinary course of his business, went round to his customers soliciting orders.

A remarkable notice of motion was given by a laborer, at the monthly meeting of the Athy branch of the League, held on Sunday, May 4. It proposes that each laborer in the branch shall subscribe sixpence per month towards the payment of two Nationalist Members of Parliament for the county of Wick.

Louth. At Drogheda, on May 7, a licensed spirit dealer was fined 40s. for displaying banners, &c., from his premises on the occasion of the recent visit of Mr. Parnell, M. P., to that town.

Monaghan. The Rev. Edward Heaney, P. P., Faughart, died on May 7th, at the residence of his sister at Bellichill, at the age of 77 years. Deceased was for a long time in delicate health. He was over fifty years in the priesthood, and officiated in St. Peter's, Drogheda, as curate in the year 1856.

The Drogheda Independent Club is indefatigable. In the work of crippling the local power of Whigs and Tories, and in its mission of advancing the National cause in the ancient borough by the Boyne, its members seem never to know fatigue. They are now about to apply themselves to the registration question. A beginning will be made on June 1, when a public meeting is to be held in the town, for the purpose of instructing the people how to proceed about getting their names on the register.

Cork. Captain Plunkett, special Resident Magistrate, has written to the Cork Corporation, inviting their opinion as to the contemplated meeting in the Derry Town Hall, when Lord Mayor Dawson visited the city, see the light. The Lord Chancellor expresses surprise that the men who had experience in the magistracy "could have exhibited such a want of discretion."

Limerick looked on May 3d as if it were in a state of siege. Special sentries armed with rifles were seen in some places, constables provided with loaded revolvers were to be met with in other directions. Vigilant watches were kept throughout the whole night for an enemy who was credited with an intention of blowing up the town. The dynamite scare, in short, had developed into a regular panic.

Advertising Cheats!!! "It has become so common to write the beginning of an article, in an elegant, interesting manner. "Then run into some advertisement that we avoid all such."

On Sunday, May 4, a public meeting of the people of Carlow was held in the Chapel-yard, for the purpose of forming a new branch of the Irish National League. Rev. J. Bourke, P. P., addressed the meeting in a very eloquent speech, explaining at great length the duties of the people in supporting the National cause, and advised them to join hand in hand with the other patriotic Irishmen through the country who were endeavoring to advance the interests of the people of Ireland.

Waterford. At a special court, held in Dungarvan, on May 3d, under the Crimes Act, Thomas O'Brien, Killanouring, was charged with having taken forcible possession of a farm from which he had been evicted on the 17th of April last. Defendant pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to be confined in Dungarvan Bridewell for one week, and, if possession were not given up, that the sentence be increased to one month in Waterford Jail with hard labor.

Autism. It is said that Mr. Parnell will contest an important constituency in Ulster at the next election. The little schemes of the Orange landlords are such as to clearly show that they are now a crushed and shivering faction. Cavan is lost to them; Monaghan they utterly despise; Donegal is nearly as hopeless; and Tyrone is a source of deep anxiety to them. In the absence of a household franchise, however, they would hope to retain at least one seat in the latter county. In view of an election contingency, and perhaps as

the commencement of an educational movement that may extend over the province, the landlord leaders are now circulating an address on the franchise Bill. To the Protestant classes, lurid pictures are drawn of their future condition, should household suffrage become the law. The Ulster "loyalists" would be swamped, the measure would prove disastrous, and treason as well as Popery would stalk triumphant over the land! So say the intrepid Orange leaders of Tyrone.

Arragh. The first of the "fine arts" is little appreciated in Ulster just now, as the following case will testify:—Seven members of the local Orange band were charged at the Armagh Petty Sessions, with obstructing the thoroughfares by their rather frequent musical parades. The Magistrate decided to adjourn the case for three months, and if the local drummers in the meantime appear on the streets, severe penalties must inevitably ensue.

Down. It has been practically decided to contest Newry at the next election in the National interest. No candidate has yet been fixed upon, but it is very probable that the gentleman selected will be a member of the Irish Parliamentary Party.

Cavan. Four evictions were recently carried out in Seafin, parish of Knockbridge. The landlord is Mr. Patrick Reilly, of Greaghacrotta, and the tenants are Messrs. Peter Carolan, Charles Clarke, Thomas Reilly (the landlord's brother), and Widow Reilly. There was no rent due by any of these tenants except by the landlord's brother, who had only a receipt on account to show. The landlord is a farmer himself, holding under a headlandlord, and he was getting a profit rent from these tenants.

Monaghan. The organization of the National League would appear to be taking deep root in the "cap of the North" just now. The Monaghan Healy branch passed, at a meeting on May 4, two very important resolutions. The one declared for a county convention, for the double purpose of electing a delegate for the central council in Dublin, and choosing a suitable Parnellite candidate to stand with Mr. Healy at the next election contest. The second, which was equally important, declared that in order to obtain the services of an honest and capable representative in Parliament it is expedient to provide a fund to meet election expenses, and if necessary to compensate the representatives for their services to the nation.

Derry. At last the long-expected official correspondence relative to the conduct of the magistrates who figured in the Apprentice Boys' meeting in the Derry Town Hall, when Lord Mayor Dawson visited the city, see the light. The Lord Chancellor expresses surprise that the men who had experience in the magistracy "could have exhibited such a want of discretion."

Rosemount. Since the day that Athlone returned Billy Keogh, after he had openly broken his "so-help-me-God" pledges, that borough has been under a dark cloud, broken only for a moment when, in 1874, it elected Mr. Shiel by a majority of one. It is all the more gratifying, then, to read that the patriotic spirit has been so aroused among the electors of the town, where Sergeant Custume "died for Ireland," that four-fifths of them have sent a requisition to Mr. Justin McCarthy, junior, asking him to become their candidate at the general election. Major D'Arcy's name has also been mentioned in connection with the representation of Athlone. It is felt that either he or Mr. McCarthy will be the National candidate.

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ST. PETER'S AT ROME.

THE LARGEST AND GRANDEST TEMPLE OF DIVINE WORSHIP IN THE WORLD—ITS AMAZING DIMENSIONS.

St. Peter's Church in Rome is surely the largest and grandest temple of divine worship on the face of the earth. Gibbon, the historian, has pronounced it "the most glorious structure ever applied to the use of religion." This most conspicuous building in modern Rome stands upon the site of Nero's circus, in the northwestern part of the city. It is built in the form of a Latin cross, as are most of the great cathedrals of Europe. According to the most reliable figures, its extreme length is over 700 feet, the greatest width 500 feet, and the height to the top of the cross 448 feet. The entire building covers an area of more than five acres. But figures give only a faint idea of the vast dimensions of St. Peter's. Let us make a few comparisons. Thirty good-sized churches, such as generally seen in America, could be put inside this great church and not fill it. Over fifty thousand persons could find standing room in it at once. Three lofty steeple spires, one above the other, would scarcely reach the top of the cross that surmounts the dome. No crowd ever fills all its spaces. No human voice can reach all its aisles. You can almost lose yourself in its immensity. Day after day we roamed over the wonderful structure, almost too weary at night to make our way to a resting place.

In the early part of the fourth century the Emperor Constantine built a magnificent church on the site now occupied by St. Peter's. This church was rebuilt several times during the thousand years which followed. The foundations of the present structure were laid by Pope Nicholas V. in 1450, but more than three centuries ago, away before it was entirely completed. In 1520 the work was intrusted to the hands of that greatest of all masters, Michael Angelo, then seventy-two years of age. The dedication took place in 1626, under the pontificate of Pope Urban VIII. The colonnade was built in 1667, and the sacristy added in 1730. Forty-three Popes died in the church, and died in the sacristy building, each one lavishing great treasures upon it. What it cost, nobody on earth can fully tell. At the lowest calculation, \$50,000,000 has been expended upon it. Besides this enormous sum, it must be kept in repair at an annual expense of over \$30,000.

Let us linger a moment on the great square, or court, called by the Italians a piazza. No other building in the world has so grand an approach. An army of 100,000 men might gather in this vast inclosure. It is well paved and crossed by marble walks. In its centre stands a lofty Egyptian obelisk, which, including the pedestal, is 132 feet high. It was brought from ancient Heliopolis by the Emperor Caligula. This gigantic shaft, ten feet square at the base, is of red granite, and weighs five hundred tons. Two grand fountains, one on each side of the great obelisk, are continually throwing up their thousand jets of bright water, which turn into feathery spray, waving to and fro like plumes in the air; then fall, arched with rainbows, into the fountain. No other building in the world has so grand an approach. An army of 100,000 men might gather in this vast inclosure. It is well paved and crossed by marble walks. 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