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has since been ence of the Ireland in which that ns an intro- member of a an is to-day

that the city in which he launched his Society has no branch, while the Co. of Limerick has only two—one at Rathkeale and one at Abbeyfeale. His Bishop, Most Rev. Dr. Ryan, recognising the worth and talents of Father O'Brien, sent him to Rome in 1852 to pursue a post-graduate course of Theology for the degree of Doctor of Divinity. On his return he filled important professorial positions in All Hallows, and won fame as a preacher, lecturer and author, writing at least three important historical novels. Recalled from All Hallows to his own Diocese of Limerick in 1858 he was appointed parish priest of Kilfinane that year. There he established a branch of the C.Y.M.S. with a membership of 600. In June, 1861, he was appointed P.P. of Newcastle West in succession to his great friend and benefactor, Rev. Dr. John Brahan, the priest who first taught him latin in St. Mary's parish. He was raised to the dignity of Archdeacon in 1863 and to that of Dean of Limerick in 1865, on the death of Dean Cussen.

#### ATTITUDE TO FENIANS.

Dean O'Brien was opposed to the Fenian movement but his strong views were considerably modified by the execution of Allen, Larkin and O'Brien, and he was one of the first among the clergy to show his indignation and sympathy in connection with that "judicial murder." We are told in Mr. Egan's very interesting and informative work that "he summoned the priests of the Diocese to Newcastle West, where a High Mass was celebrated for the souls of the dead patriots. Fifty-four priests were present, and shortly after the conclusion of the sacred ceremonies he read for them his famous declaration claiming legislative independence for Ireland." This, be it remembered, was before the formal launching of the Home Rule movement by Butt in 1870.

Dean O'Brien loved the Irish language and started a class for its study in Newcastle West. This, of course was long before the Gaelic League was thought of.

#### TITLE OF MONSIGNOR.

In 1881 Pope Leo XIII conferred on him the title of Monsignor, he being the first priest in the Diocese to receive such an honour. During his almost twenty-five years in Newcastle West, where he died on the 10th February, 1885, at the age of 76, he had as curates two priests who later became Bishops—Most Rev. Dr. E. T. O'Dwyer, and Most Rev. Dr. Denis Hallinan. His remains lie interred in Newcastle West Church, a cross on the floor tiles and an inscribed brass tablet on the wall indicating the place where this great and revered churchman awaits the resurrection.

Dean O'Brien, as Mr. Egan so well points out in his very informative work, "belonged to that noble band of Irish priests of the famine years whose self-sacrifice and devotion to the afflicted people during that tragic period, when the nation was sick unto death, elicited the admiration and praise of all men of good-will, and the love and gratitude of their own people."

#### SHIPPING NEWS

The s.s. "Hemsley II." has arrived in Limerick with a cargo of 1,050 tons of fuel oil for Irish Shell Ltd.

secret societies? Is it too much to expect that during the forthcoming elections in Dublin and Kerry

The re-play of the Munster Final will be in Roscrea on the 12th September. The Limerick team is in training since Wednesday night.

## WIDELY MOURNED

### LATE MR. PATRICK RONAN, MUNGRET

The unexpected death of Mr. Patrick Ronan, of Cahir, Mungret, is mourned by a large number of friends, and has left his devoted family in great grief. He is particularly missed at Mungret College, where he worked for forty eight years, and where he held the post of farm steward. He fulfilled his office with a quiet and kindly efficiency and with a fidelity and integrity beyond all praise. His deep knowledge and long experience enabled him to carry out his many and varied activities with accuracy and reliability. Many generations of both priests and boys of the College will recall with kindly memory his very courteous attention and ever patient resourcefulness. All those who knew him will feel the loss of so good a friend and neighbour.

He was active to the last morning of his life, as, no doubt, he himself would have wished. His peaceful and holy death, fortified with the rites of the Church, was the fitting reward of his dutiful life. He will be faithfully remembered in the prayers and Holy Sacrifices of the priests of the College of Mungret whom he himself served so faithfully. Ar dheas-laimh De go raibh a anam ar feadh na siorraiochta.

High Mass was celebrated for him in the Parish Church of Raheen, from which the funeral to the family burial ground in Mungret Abbey took place. The Sacred Ministers were: Celebrant, Rev. D. MacDonald, S.J.; Deacon, Rev. P. Troddyn, S.J.; Sub-Deacon, Very Rev. E. Punch, P.P.; Master of Ceremonies, Rev. J. T. Kelly, S.J.

The chief mourners were: Messrs. Thomas, John, Paddy, Martin and Michael Ronan (sons); Mrs. Alice Ryan, Mrs. Peggy Nash, Mrs. May Moloney, Mrs. D. Mullaney, Miss Kitty Ronan, Miss Teresa Ronan, Miss Esther Ronan (daughters) and many other relatives.

The clergy present included Very Rev. E. Punch, P.P.; Rev. M. Connolly, C.C.; Very Rev. B. McMahon, S.J., Rector Mungret College; Rev. J. Hughes, S.J.; Rev. M. Corbett, S.J.; Rev. Stephen Curran, S.J.; Rev. Aidan Ennis, S.J.; Rev. Edward Kilbride, S.J.; Rev. Daniel McDonald, S.J.; Rev. Michael Murphy, S.J.; Rev. Anthony Naughton, S.J.; Rev. Frederick Paye, S.J.; Rev. Edward Booth, S.J.; Rev. Edward McAsey, S.J.; Rev. John Noonan, S.J.; Br. Edward Flanagan, S.J.; Br. Thomas Murphy, S.J.; all of Mungret College; Rev. Michael McGrath, S.J., St. Ignatius, Galway; Rev. Peter Troddyn, S.J., Milltown Park, Dublin.

A very large number of relatives and friends attended the funeral. The Burial Rites were carried out by Rev. Edward Punch, P.P.

#### LEAMY'S SCHOOL

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FROM 8.30 A.M. TO 11.30 P.M., SUNDAY INCLUDED.