

LOSS TO DIOCESE

Great Churchman Dead

VERY REV. DEAN CANTY PASSES AWAY

The Diocese of Limerick has lost a prominent and popular churchman in the person of Very Rev. Michael Dean Canty, P.P., Dromin and Athlacca, who passed away shortly after ten o'clock on Saturday night last.

Dean Canty, who was in his ninety-sixth year, was the oldest priest in the Diocese of Limerick. He was ordained in Rome sixty-nine years ago last September.

Despite his great age, Dean Canty was extraordinarily active, both mentally and physically, and it was sincerely hoped, even recently, that he would live to celebrate his hundredth year. On Christmas Day the deceased priest celebrated Mass in Dromin Church. He took ill immediately afterwards and since then was confined to bed. For a time it was thought that his wonderful resilient powers would pull him through. It was, however, to be his last illness, and it was borne with patience and Christian fortitude, so characteristic of this saintly pastor.

ORDAINED IN ROME.

Dean Canty was a member of a well-known County Limerick family, of farming stock, being son of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Canty, of Gormanstown, Kilmallock. He early displayed a vocation for the priesthood and as a young man proceeded to Rome, where he completed his studies and was ordained in 1866. His return to Ireland as a young curate coincided with a troublous period in Irish history, and, naturally, it had a certain effect on his outlook. He served as curate at Kilmeeady, Rathkeale, Dromin and Kilfinane before being appointed Parish Priest of Ardpatrik, where he ministered with much success for seven years.

In about the year 1889, Rev. D. Quaid, Parish Priest of Dromin and Athlacca, became seriously ill and Father Canty was appointed Administrator to assist him. After a short time, Father Quaid died, and to the joy of the parishioners of Dromin and Athlacca, Father Canty was appointed Parish Priest. The appointment proved equally popular in the adjoining parishes, for one of these was his own native parish, and thus the new Parish Priest found himself in the midst of his dearest friends, ever willing to assist him just as he, their priest, yearned to help them.

MODEL PARISH CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS.

How successful Dean Canty's labours were, can be seen to-day in the model parish churches and schools he has left behind. His piety and saintliness of character have left an abiding influence for good, and to-day there are many heavy hearts not only in the parishes of Dromin and Athlacca, but over the greater part of Limerick, where he was so well known. In about the year 1912 Father Canty was raised to the dignity of Canon of the Cathedral Chapter of Limerick Diocese, and some fourteen years later Canon Canty was promoted Dean. Both these appointments were received with joyful satisfaction by his many friends.

Dean Canty lived through a critical period in the history of Ireland. Having sprung from farming stock, he knew and understood the problems peculiar to the countryside. He was a constant visitor to the houses of the people under his charge, and he never failed to keep in touch with both their temporal as well as their spiritual difficulties. Following the passing of the Land Acts, Father Canty took an active part in the negotiations for the purchase of land within his parish, and his sound and expert advice was most helpful—freely given and accepted with gratitude, and aided in smoothing over many a delicate situation.

WHOLEHEARTED SYMPATHY.

To the Bishop and priests of the Diocese of Limerick, and in particular to Rev. Father Leahy, C.C., Dromin a nephew of deceased, and to the other relatives, the sympathy of the public will be extended in a whole-hearted manner in the great loss they have sustained by the death of this venerable pastor.

IMPRESSIVE FUNERAL OBSEQUIES.

Impressive scenes were witnessed at the obsequies on Tuesday, when interment took place in a plot on the east side of Dromin Church, on Tuesday.

The Bishop of Limerick (Most Rev. Dr. Keane) presided, and there was a very large attendance of clergy and laity.

Very Rev. Chancellor Cornelius Mulcahy, P.P., Kilmallock, was celebrant of the Mass; Rev. N. Cooke, President, St. Patrick's College, Thurles, deacon; Rev. D. Leahy, C.C., Grenagh (grand-nephew of deceased), sub-deacon; Rev. J. Bras-sil, C.C., St. John's, Limerick, master of ceremonies.

In the choir were—Ven. Archdeacon Begley, P.P., Bruff; Very Rev. Canon M. Ryan, P.P., Knocklong; Very Rev. Canon Hannon, P.P., Bruree; Very Rev. Canon Brennan, P.P., St. Mary's; Rev. J. Wall, P.P., Bulgaden; Rev. S. Con-nolly, P.P., Adare; Rev. C. Mangan, P.P., Kildimo; Rev. P. J. Casey, P.P., Ballyahill; Rev. T. Murphy, P.P., Crough; Rev. T. J. Macnamara, P.P., Patrickswell; Rev. P. Carroll, P.P., Ash-ford; Rev. C. Halpin, P.P., Glenroe; Rev. D. J. Fitzpatrick, P.P., Banogue; Rev. D. Riordan, P.P., Manister; Rev. S. O'Dea, P.P., Fedamore; Rev. T. Hogan, P.P., Ballingary; Rev. J. Car-roll, P.P., Ardpatrik; Rev. D. O'Brien, P.P., Effin; Rev. T. Wall, P.P., Stone-hall; Rev. G. Cussen, Tournafulla; Very Rev. P. O'Neill, Maynooth College; Very Rev. J. Gubbins, S.J.; Rev. R. M. Quinn, C.S.S.R., Limerick; Rev. J. Gormley, C.S.S.R., Mount St. Alphonsus, Limerick; Rev. R. Ryan, O.M.I., Caher-moyle; Rev. M. O'Muineachain, S.O.; Rev. W. Harty, Adm., St. Michael's; Rev. D. Fitzgerald, C.C., Bruff; Rev. C. O'Sullivan, C.C., do.; Rev. E. Condon, C.C., Kilmallock; Rev. H. O'Connor, C.C., do.; Rev. C. Godfrey, do.; Rev. N. J. McCarthy, C.C., Effin; Rev. P. C. Lynch, C.C., Kilfinane; Rev. T. Kennedy, C.C., Knocklong; Rev. J. Kennedy, C.C., Glenroe; Rev. T. Kirby, C.C., Bal-lingary; Rev. J. Kelly, C.C., do.; Rev. T. O'Sullivan, C.C., Croom; Rev. J. Culhane, C.C., Adare; Rev. R. Dun-woorth, C.C., Dromcollogher; Rev. J. Leonard, C.C., Feenagh; Rev. W. Boyce, C.C., Knockaderry; Rev. E. R. MacCar-thy, C.C., St. Mary's, Limerick; Rev. E. Punch, Q.D., Colmanswell; Rev. J. Bluett, C.C., Patrickswell; Rev. M. Quinn, C.C., Newcastle West; Rev. M.

O'Brien, C.C., Rathkeale; Rev. W. O'Grady, C.C., St. John's; Rev. P. J. Coleman, C.C., do.; Rev. T. Morteli, C.C., St. Munchin's; Rev. J. O'Byrne, C.C., Kilfinny; Rev. P. Enright, C.C., Crecora; Rev. M. Quinlan, C.C., Pallas-kenry; Rev. W. Rea, C.C., Templeglan-tine; Rev. J. McCarthy, C.C., Athca; Rev. J. Carroll, C.C., St. Michael's; Rev. P. J. Thornhill, Mungret; Rev. P. J. Lee, St. Munchin's College; Rev. J. Liston, do.; Rev. M. Breen, do.; Rev. M. Purtil, do.; Rev. D. Costello, D.I., and Rev. P. Moloney, Australia.

Following the Office and Requiem High Mass, a procession of the clergy was formed and, amidst intence solemnity, the remains were borne from the Church to the grave, where the Bishop officiated and gave the absolution.

The chief mourners were:—Rev. M. Leahy, C.C., Dromin; Messrs. John Canty, Co.C., and Michael Canty, Dr. Canty, Messrs Patrick and William Canty, Michael Canty-Burke solicitor, Limerick; P. Burke, John and Denis Leahy (nephews); Mrs. J. O'Donnell, Kildimo; Mrs. J. O'Donnell, Sunville; Mrs. M. J. Gleeson, Limerick; Mrs. J. P. Hogan, Greenpark; Mrs. R. Moloney, Knocklong; Mrs. Cashman, Watergrass-hill; Miss McCarthy, Glenfield, Kilmal-lock (nieces); Rev. D. Leahy, C.C., Gren-agh, Blarney, and Mr. C. McCarthy (grand-nephews); Messrs. J. P. Hogan, M. J. Gleeson, Limerick; Mr. J. J. and Mrs. Hennessy, Cork; B. O'Donnell, Limerick.

Amongst the general public were:—Senator T. W. W. Bennett, Chairman of Senate; Mr. G. Bennett, T.D.; Messrs. T. B. Bennett, T. E. Bennett, solicitor; Messrs. D. B. O'Donnell, Croora; W. F. Power, P. J. Power (junr.), P. J. Power, J. Roche (Limerick), P. Roche, J. P. Rogan (junr.), H. Hogan, P. Coll, O. Coll, T. Cranley, T. Barry, P. Regan, J. Regan, R. Barry, J. Barry, J. Butler, P. Duhig, R. Cleary, Co.C.; E. J. Mitchell, Co.C.; Dr. Burns, Bruree; Dr. Cleary, Kilmallock; Dr. Cleary, Hospital; Messrs. Roger Fox, solicitor; M. Car-roll, E. Walsh, T. O'Brien, Mitchelstown; Michael, Cecil, Patrick and Thomas Meade, R. Geary, solr., D. Mc-Donnell, P.C.; J. O'Rourke, Kilmallock, W. O'Rourke, J. Ryan, T. Purcell, T. Carroll, John and M. Mullins, W O'Don-nell, D. O'Donnell, J. Liston (Bulgaden), Mr. Scott, manager, Munster and Lein-ster Bank, Kilmallock; Mr. Vaughan, manager, Munster and Leinster Bank; Mr. M. Woulfe, manager, National Bank, Bruff; Messrs. J. Liston, solr., Charleville; M. Cleary, auctioneer; D. Walsh, auctioneer; J. McEniry, J. Moloney, Supt. Keyes, Bruff; Supt. Hic-land, Messrs. R. Moloney, Oldtown, Hos-pital; Mr. and Mrs. Costello, Messrs. P. Cleary, D. Moloney, J. Devane, R. Moss, the Misses Quinlan, Mr. and Mrs. P. Ryan, Mrs. Carroll, M. Patrick Ken-nedy, Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy, etc., etc.

VOTE OF SYMPATHY.

At a specially convened meeting of the Athlacca Fianna Fail Club the following vote of sympathy was unani-mously adopted in respectful silence and with much regret:—"That we, the members of the Athlacca Fianna Fail Club, tender to Most Rev. Dr. Keane, Bishop of Limerick, and to the priests of the Diocese our heartfelt sympathy in the great loss they have sustained through the death of our beloved and saintly parish priest, the Right Rev. Dean Canty."

Copies of this resolution were ordered to be sent to his Lordship the Bishop, to Rev. Father Leahy, C.C., Athlacca, nephew, and to the other relatives of the late Dean through his nephew, Mr. John Canty, Co.C.