

JOLLY OLD FRIENDS AT THE IRISH FAIR. They Meet After Many Years on the Soil of the Emerald Isle.

A HANDFUL OF EARTH. Young Man Pleads for Such a Memento of Kerry for His Brother's Grave.

THE VOICE OF "SHAMROCK." Ancient Order of Hibernians Received with Military Honors—Special Features and Special Days Arranged For.

JUST a little handful of the blessed soil of old Kerry—just so much as will go in this envelope—give it to me 'n' may the saints bless you! That was the earnest plea of a tall, ruddy-faced lad of twenty years to the guard at the gate of the enclosure in which Ireland's counties have been reproduced in their original soil. The doors of the Grand Central Palace had opened upon the third day of the great Irish Palace Fair, but a few minutes when the young man bought a ticket and ran briskly up the stairs. He lost no time in seeking out the immense earth-made map of the land of his birth, and came over on purpose to see if I couldn't get just one little handful of the soil of old Kerry to sprinkle on poor Tom's coffin as we lay him to rest. Kelly is my name—James Kelly. There was only Tom and me left, and now he's gone, poor boy. I'd give most anything to think that I'd been able to carry out his last wish, in part at least.

The young man's plea was not in vain, and the happiness his granting gave him would have justified a graver infraction of the rules than that committed at by the watchman.

Kissed Irish Soil.

Surely patriotism is the strongest sentiment in the human breast after family affection. The emotion shown by hundreds and thousands of Irish men and women when they are permitted to stand once again upon the soil of their native land is a silent proof of that assertion. Many are moved to tears and some to more extravagant demonstrations. Such a one was Mrs. Ann O'Hagan, an elderly lady of Long Island City. Mrs. O'Hagan came to the fair especially to see "old Ireland reproduced." She bought a ticket at the gate, entered, and struck a direct course across the map to the old Kerry soil. She knelt, she kissed the soil, she stood and gazed about her, then, manifold of the surrounding crowds, she stooped quickly and pressed her lips to a bit of withered soil from the land of her birth.

"It does my heart good," she said, as she arose with tear-dimmed eyes. "Now where is the Shigo County booth? I may find old friends there."

This meeting of old friends at the various county headquarters is one of the most enjoyable features of the fair. Sometimes the meetings are pathetic. Often they are jolly to the point of hilarity.

Two ancient Irishmen met at the Waterford booth last night. One of them had a peculiar scar across his cheek. The other regarded the scar for a few moments in silence. Then he clasped the other old fellow on the shoulder.

"If it aint Patsy Casey I'm a Dutchman!" he exclaimed. "An' that's the scar he got when he fell off a horse in front of the parish school twenty years ago. Where have ye been these years, me lad?"

Blarney Castle a Mecca.

If there had ever been a moment's doubt as to the surpassing success of the big fair, that doubt was dispelled by the nearly doubled attendance of yesterday. The special admission of 10 cents charged the first two days was reduced yesterday to 25 cents, at which figure it will remain. Despite the threatening weather twice as many people have passed the gates by 6 o'clock in the evening as had gone in that time in any previous day, and when the splendid band of the Volunteer Guards struck up the first march of the evening there were easily 100 people in the immense building and the staircases were crowded with streams of late-comers.

Blarney Castle was the Mecca of all comers. The Blarney Stone which the Journal's commissioner brought over may be worn to a wafer before the fair is over if last night's reports are correct. What Colonel Moran's intention of occupation is kept up. The Whisting Cross of Glendalough and St. Kivan's Whisting Cross claimed the merry attention of the younger men and maidens, and a number of men and women stopped to gaze reverently at the baptismal font of the good Saint in the historical museum.

The delayed exhibits which arrived on the Cunarders Umbria and Leona are being got into place, and by Saturday the most interesting section of the fair will be nearly complete, furnishing an epitome of Irish history and geography.

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A number of new exhibits arrived, and were installed in the various booths yesterday. The most interesting, from an historical standpoint, is a faded, red-embroidered green flag, bearing the legend:

INDEPENDENT CAVALRY.

Presented by Miss Mary Kenney, on Behalf of the Ladies of Troy, N. Y., May 15, 1866.

That blue-stained banner was carried border a into Canada by the

IS PLATT AFTER SURFACE ROADS? Rumored That He Is Working with the Third Avenue Company.

TO PURCHASE FRANCHISES. Possible Scheme for That Company to Get the Sixth and Eighth Avenue Lines.

Are the influences of Thomas C. Platt and the Third Avenue Railroad Company behind the offer of Henry J. Braker to purchase the franchises of the Sixth and Eighth avenue lines?

This is a question that is being asked by many people interested in the matter and which they would like to have answered. That the Third Avenue Company would give encouragement to any plan to injure the Metropolitan Traction Company there can be no doubt.

M'KINLEY HOPES TO GIVE CUBA AID. Tells Senators That He Only Awaits His Commissioner's Report.

ASKS MORE INFORMATION. Consular Agents in the Island Instructed to Furnish the Latest Information.

Washington, May 12.—A conference between the President and Chairman Davis and Senators Foraker and Morgan, of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, was held this afternoon. The conference lasted almost three-quarters of an hour, and was so important that the President abandoned his lunch.

The latter expressed the liveliest sympathy for the people of that island now fighting for their life and liberty and declared that he expects to act in such a way

THIRTEEN BURIED; BUT ONE MOURNED. Funeral of the Men, Women and Children Burned on the Leona.

NO SERVICES FOR TWELVE. Albert Long, Identified by His Brother, Was Interred with Ceremony.

Five men, calloused in the presence of death from long association with bodies, placed what was left of the remains of the slain victims of the Leona disaster in plain coffins yesterday afternoon and buried them.

It was a cold blooded funeral, from a place where sentiment is subservient to necessity—the Morgue. There were no services, no flowers. Two black, closed wagons carried the twelve corpses out the gate and up Twenty-sixth street and swiftly down First avenue on the way to Mount Olivet Cemetery in Masspet, L. I.

SUICIDE FOR SORE FOOT. It Prevented Him from Working, and Charles Murphy Ended His Life with a Rope.

Mourners for One. Charles Lang, of No. 72 Washington Street, Hoboken, Had Identified One of the Bodies Tuesday Night as That of His Brother, Albert.

Charles Lang, of No. 72 Washington street, Hoboken, had identified one of the bodies Tuesday night as that of his brother, Albert. The identification saved the Mallory the expense of burying one of the victims of the fire, for Lang ordered the body removed to the establishment of an undertaker.

There were no ceremonies at the cemetery. Each body was given a separate grave, and at the head of each mound was placed a wooden stake, numbered according to the list of the lost passengers on file at the office of the Mallory Steamship Company.

W. G. WOOD AS PLAINTIFF. His Stepmother's Attorney Wants the Complaint of the Aged Spendthrift Dismissed.

NEEDS A NEW BUILDING. Efforts Being Made to Raise Money for a Home for the School of Design.

An application was made to Justice Andrews yesterday to dismiss the complaint in an action brought by William G. Wood to recover \$35,000 from his stepmother, Elizabeth Wood, the widow of James Wood.

William G. Wood became notorious through forging his wife's name and his lavish gifts of money to Mary Kellard. He is now in an insane asylum. In the suit in question, Wood claims that when there was a division of his father's estate he allowed his stepmother a half interest in property valued at \$75,000.

MARITIME NEWS. OUTGOING STEAMSHIPS. SAIL TO-DAY.

INCOMING STEAMSHIPS. DUE TO-MORROW.

ALMANAC FOR THURSDAY, MAY 13. Sun rises... 4:40 a. m. Moon sets... 2:28 a. m. HIGH AND LOW WATER TO-DAY.

Bill Brothers Outfitters to Men. 279 Broadway, Near Chambers. 47 Cortlandt, Near Greenwich. 211 Sixth Av., Near 14th Street. Shoes, Hats and Furnishings.



KISSING THE BLARNEY STONE AT THE IRISH FAIR. Blarney Castle was the Mecca of the throngs of visitors yesterday to the Grand Central Palace, where the great Irish Fair is being held.

Edward Lauterbach is counsel to the Third Avenue Company, and rumor has it that both gentlemen are interested in the matter.

It will be remembered that Mr. Braker, a member of the Importing firm of H. J. Baber & Co., has made an offer to the city authorities to purchase the franchises of the Sixth and Eighth avenue lines.

The work of repairing the damages to the new dry dock at the Navy Yard began yesterday. The work will be in charge of Chief Engineer Menoel, of the Bureau of Yards and Docks.

The leak still continues to be a mystery, and although several theories have been advanced for the cause of the accident, none has been accepted by the department.

The Rev. Stoma C. Crutcher, who is called the "Negro Moody," arrived in this city last Tuesday, on his way to South Africa, where he will do mission work.

Shot Himself While His Wife Slept. Moberly, Mo., May 12.—H. L. Lee, a prominent citizen of Moberly, and a member of the City Council, killed himself last night.

Defeated Hamilton. Niagara University, N. Y., May 12.—At Hamilton, Ont., the University of Niagara defeated the Hamilton Canadian League team by the score of thirteen to ten.

Braker, prepared the papers for the injunction secured by Mayor Patrick J. Gleason, of Long Island City, restraining the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of New York from granting permission to the Sixth and Eighth avenue lines to change the motive power on those roads from horse to electricity.

REPAIRING THE DRY DOCK. Work Began Yesterday—Origin of the Leak Continues to Be a Mystery.

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as to meet the hearty approval of the people of this country, who have always been first in the expression of their sympathy for the oppressed. He said further that he was not content to accept the statements of agents of this Government as to what the conditions were several months ago.

These communications, he admitted, disputed very materially the claims made by the representatives of the Spanish Government, that the provinces had been pacified, and showed, on the contrary, that the insurrection is stronger than ever and that the Spanish troops are making less headway than they did some months ago.

The committee left, obtaining only a general idea that Mr. McKinley would recognize the insurgents after he had heard the report which will be made by Judge Callahan, if such report justifies such recognition. After leaving the White House the committee visited the State Department.

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Under no circumstances will the department make these letters public at this time, but one of the Senators who has read them intimated to-night that they corroborate the charges that have recently appeared in the Journal relative to the inhuman barbarity of the Spaniards, the massacre of innocent women and children and the murder of non-combatants.

Insurgents Are Prospering. They also show that the insurgents have an established form of government, which they have not only maintained for the past two years, but are now maintaining; and which they enforce obedience to their laws and edicts.

It is probable that Mr. Morgan will consent to permit his resolution to be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. The report of the consular agents will be available to it within a very short time. The resolution will be accompanied, when it comes back by strong letters from the committee advocating its passage, and will contain a brief giving the reasons for the belief that the insurgents have been organized, and that their forces are in better shape to resist the present revolution than at any other time since the present revolution broke out.

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NEEDS A NEW BUILDING. Efforts Being Made to Raise Money for a Home for the School of Design.

The exhibition of the New York of Applied Design for women, which is being given at No. 368 Fifth Avenue, is proving a great success. Utility as well as beauty is kept before the designers, and many of the plans for work and material were sold to manufacturers.

The school is the only one of its kind in the world, being unique in the fact that its instructors are men actually employed as designers in factories and offices. They are therefore alive to the practical side of every lesson they give and are in close touch with the conditions which call for just such work as the school supplies.

The school is self-supporting, but Mrs. Druding Hopkins, its main patron, says that if it needs a building of its own, and an effort is now being made to raise \$250,000 for that purpose.

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