

sand, of whom six thousand have been in almost extreme want since March last. Their suffering has increased exceedingly from September, by reason of the suspension of the public works for six weeks, the increased dearth and scarcity of food, and their want of clothing. Several to my own knowledge have since died of starvation. I reported to the Lord Lieutenant six of these deaths, as having occurred in November, and I have reason to think the chief of police, who has been deputed to inquire into the fact, has confirmed my statement. There was an inquest held a few days ago on two of those creatures, beggars, who had no friends to prevent it, which satisfied the physician, Dr. Fitzgibbon, and a respectable jury, that want of food was the immediate cause of their death. A family named Kennedy, and extremely destitute, got fever, and lay all together on the same litter. The head of the family died, and was two days dead amidst his living bedfellows, before they or their next door neighbours perceived it. My assistant and I are administering the last rites of religion, both day and night, and are called upon to attend several who have no apparent sickness of any kind—save exhaustion for want of food—and upon these occasions we find many almost literally naked, even modest females, who were obliged to pawn everything they had in the shape of dress to prolong existence.

A correspondent of the Ballyshannon Herald, writing from Ballydehob says: 'deaths are fearfully on the increase here. Four persons have died in the immediate vicinity of this village within the last few days. On yesterday, a man was discovered half concealed in a pig sty, in such a revolting condition that humanity could shrink at a description of the body. It was rapidly decomposing; but no neighbour has yet offered his services to cover the loathsome remains. Poor Coughlan, of the Board of Works, was crawling home a few nights ago, when hunger and exhaustion seized him within a few yards of his house, where he was found the following morning a frightful example of road mortality. I have just learned that in the neighbourhood of Crookhaven they are buried within the walls of their huts. They have, in most cases, forgotten the usual ceremony of interment. The living are so consumed by famine they are unable to remove the dead.— On the 13th January, Richard O'Grady, Esq., Coroner in Mayo, held inquests on the bodies of

four persons, who died from starvation. In one case it is stated, while holding an inquest on the body of one of a family of ten, who had been living for three weeks on boiled water crosses and salt, two of the children were dying!

Another Coroner in the same county, but a different district, gives the names of two other persons who died from starvation, one of them a female, who was found on the roadside.

Another Coroner, for Tyrally districts, held inquests on eleven persons, in each case of which the jury returned a verdict of 'Death from starvation.'

The poor victims are frequently buried unclothed in their rags, or with nothing round them but a coarse sheet.

A correspondent of the Cork Examiner, writing from Skibereen on the 11th January, gave the following horrible details:

"On yesterday, Joseph Driscoll, of Skull, poor-rate collector, went to the lands of Risbrine, in the parish of East Skoll, to collect poor rates, and on coming to the house of a man named Regan, the door was shut, when he repeatedly knocked at it to no effect. He then pushed in the door, and what was his astonishment to find three men dead in the house, and no other person in it but the three lifeless corpses.

"He also told me that at a place called Drishane, in the same parish, there is a woman named Neill dead since the 6th instant, and not buried, as yet; and on Tuesday three children of her's died, one boy and two girls, and that he thought the father was a corpse before this, as he was lying sick at the time.

"In the parish of Kilmoro a man was found dead in a field, and a great part of his body eaten by the dogs; he remained so long there before he was seen, that he was not identified by any person, and was buried without a coffin, which is the common practice in that parish.

"A man dropped on Tuesday last at the west end of the town, returning from one of those roads; he was taken into the backhouse of the police barrack, to afford him some relief, but life was extinct.

The papers furnish numerous other statements which might be given, were it necessary to shew the awful extent of the famine and consequent suffering,—but we grow sick on the details.