THE MOTHERLAND

Latest Mails from ENGLAND IRELAND and SCOTLAND

GENERAL IRISH NEWS.

CORK.

The sooner the Cork Militia and the Dorset Regiment part company the better for all concerned.

They only met on Monday last at Spike Island, Cork Harbour, for the first time, and on that night they had a row which threatened to be the cause of a serious loss of life on both sides.

There is a manifested desire to hush up the whole occurrence, consequently there is a disinclination to give the full details.

It appears that some of the men of the Dorset Regiment as well as some of the Cork Militia refreshed themselves unwisely in the military canteen attached to the Spike Barracks on Monday night and there the seeds of a row were set.

Towards half-past nine the Dorsets and Cork Militia were in hostile camps Whether the Corks offended the Dorsets first or the Dorsets the Corks it is not easy to say, but at all events, the Dorsets complain bitterly that the Cork Militiamen were calling for cheers openly for Kruger and the Boers, singing "The Boys of Wexford" and other such songs, and behaving themselves in quite a pro-Boer fashion, which, on a military barracks square in British dominions, was too much for the Dorset Regiment, who sang "Rule, Britannia," and "God Save the Queen."

The regiments appeared to be no longer comrades in arms. One song caused another and the blood of the Cork men got up so that by 10 o'clock there was open and unconcealed war declared

It is said that the Corks attacked the Dorset boys' band quarters, which raised the ire of the men of Dorset and they went to their assistance.

Black eyes, and many of them followed. The Corks were now well away from their own quarters, having driven the Dorsets to theirs. It is said the Dorsets' barrack windows were smashed in all quarters until the sound of breaking glass caused sober men to realize that the situation looked ugly.

One sergeant-major of the Dorsets is reported to have been seriously injured by a brick which struck him on the head. Another sergeant of the same regiment is reported to have been knocked down on the square and kicked. Still another Dorset man is said to have had his ear hanging off as the result of a bayonet thrust.

On the other hand, the Cork Militia are not free from some unbecoming marks, of the melee, which became so threatening that the non-commissioned officers, who left their men in barracks during the attack on their quarters, finally ordered the Dorsets to fix bayonets, and they did so.

This order, it would seem, had the effect of causing a change in the situation, and from thence the storm abated, but not sufficient to justify the Dorsets in disarming their men, and directed them to sleep on their rifles during the night.

A child named Hannah Maria Latchford, aged 4 years, came by her death by burning under shocking circumstances. The child was alone in the kitchen of her parents' house at Shandon street, both father and mother being absent in town on business, when it appears the child who was playing with some matches near the fire. Suddenly her clothes caught fire, and her whole body was almost entirely burned when a passer-by came, and with as much haste as possible quenched the flames in which she was enveloped. The unfortunate little girl was then conveyed to the North Infirmary, where she died about an hour after admission.

Cork Board of Guardians in connection with an application for outdoor relief made by the widow and six children of a soldier killed in the South African War, Councillor Cronin, in supporting the rejection of the application, said when Irishmen risked their lives for England their widows and orphans should not get any assistance. The Chairman (Alderman Fitzgerald) said they would not do anything extra for these people who went to the front to fight for the Queen. It was decided to grant 6s. a week pending the result of communications with the War Office as to this and kindred cases likely to crop up.

BELFAST LOUGH ACCIDENT.

The most serious disaster that has ever occurred in connection with the Scotland and Belfast steamship service occurred in Belfast Lough. The disaster resulted in the loss of five lives and serious injuries to upwards of fifty passengers, besides considerable damage to the two mail steamers.

It appears that the steamship Dromedary, left Belfast with nearly 800 passengers on board. The passengers were nearly all trippers who had been in the North of Ireland for the past ten days. The vessel proceeded down the lough in clear weather and all was going well until between Carrickfergus and Whitehead, the ship ran into a heavy bank of fog.

The mate Nicholson was at the bow, on the look-out, at the time, and simultaneously with striking the fog another steamer, the Alligator, owned by the same company, on her way from Androssan to Belfast, loomed up out of the darkness. Instantaneously there was a terrible collison, followed by heartrending shrieks and indescribable confusion.

Both steamers were proceeding at a good speed and the impact was terrible, the Dromedary being struck on the portside and ripped up for almost five yards from the bow. The Alligator, which was empty, was split from bow to bridge.

Many passengers on board the Dromedary were swept off the deck into the water, and boats were immediately lowered and life belts thrown out. It was at once apparent that many had been terribly injured, and one young man who had been standing at the spot where the collision occurred was lying dead with his brains scattered upon the deck

For a time it was feared that many would be drowned, but it is believed that all fatalities occurred through injuries from the collison. When the work of rescue from the water had been completed the Dromedary returned to Belfast, everything that was possible being done for the injured.

The Alligator remained on the spot for two hours in case any of the passengers might still be missing

At Belfast ambulances were procured, and the injured were conveyed to the Royal Hospital, where the house staff was specially augmented by a large number of city surgeons.

One girl had an arm amputated and two men had each one leg removed. Three deaths have occurred in the hospital—William Mason, of Gallowgate, Glasgow, Joseph Mitchell, of 156 Keppoch-hill-road, Glasgow, and a man named Cartwright.

Two bodies were subsequently found floating close to Messrs. Harland and Wolff's shipyard, a considerable distance from the scene of the disaster, and, with that of the young man who was killed on board the steamer, were conveyed to the morgue.

The former have been identified, one as Annie Wilson, Summerhill, Larkhall, Lanceashire, both of whose legs were cut completely off, and the other as James Kearns, of Forkhill, County Armagh, whose injuries were principally about the head, which is almost severed from the body.

The young man who was killed in the steamer was named Moore and lived at Donaghadee.

LIMERICK.

At a special meeting of the Limerick County Council, Mr. Anthony Mackey, Vice-Chairman, presiding, a resolution was unanimously passed on the motion of the Chairman that after twelve months all positions in the gift of the County Council and other public bodies in which the Council has representation be given preferentially to such candidates as had a knowledge of the Irish Language provided they were fully qualified in other particulars.

The Most Rev. Dr. Fitzmaurice, Bishop of Erie, United States, on his return from Rome, where he had been, to render homage to the Holy Father, broke the journey at Queenstown for the purpose of revisiting his native parish of Newtownsmandes, where he arrived a couple of days since. Dr. Fitzmaurice and Fathers Francis and Edmund Fitzmaurice, the two latter priests of the Diocese of Erie, are staying with their brother, Mr. William Fitzmaurice, Ballydonohue Cottage. At present the Bishop of Erie has three brothers Parish Priests on the American Mission.

Mr. Coroner De Courcey held an inquest on the body of a boy named William Tuohy, aged 11, who was drowned, while bathing in a quarry hole near the Dock Road on Sunday. Evidence went to show that deceased, with his brother and other boys, went to bathe in a quarry hole, which was just seven feet deep in parts. He had only just learned to swim and soon sank. A lad named Barry, one of the group, tried twice to save Tuohy, but being only a weak swimmer he failed, and the lad sank before their eyes. Sergeant M'Aree, on hearing of the affair went to the place, and a man named Featherstone dived and brought up the body.

The jury found a verdict of accidental death, commended the bravery of young Barry, and added that steps ought to be taken to prevent boys from bathing in quarry holes, which were the cause of many deaths every year.

A ghastly tragedy took place at Ballinacurra, about two miles from Limerick. Between four and five o'clock the police found the body of a man, about fifty years of age, in a field about fifty yards from the main road, and the same distance from the barracks. Proceeding to the spot, Acting-Sergeant Doherty found the body of a man about fifty years of age, fairly well dressed in a brown tweed coat, black vest, grey trousers and cap. On the right fore arm was a deep V-shaped wound severing the main artery. Death was evidently due to hemorrhage. The man has not been identified. The body was warm when found, and death had apparently taken place some short time previously. No one had seen the deceased about the place, and all efforts at identification have proved ineffective.

DUBLIN.

Detective Sergeant O'Brien and Detective Officer Lonergan made a raid on the house, 22 Lower Buckingham street, Dublin, and arrested two women and a man on a charge of making counterfeit coin. Coins representing half-crowns, florins, and shillings to the face value of about £20 were discovered on the premises. These were seized by the officers, as well as some moulds and other implments.

The Dock Laborers' Strike in Dublin has terminated unfavorably for the men, who have gone back to work on terms which, in many instances, are worse than prevailed before the dispute arose. It was a rash and ill-advised proceeding, taken without the sanction of the principal labor leaders of the city, and was doomed to failure from the start.

The introduction of a non-Union printer into a newspaper in Navs has resulted in the disemployment of a number of Society hands who objected.

A woman named Elizabeth Payne, of 40 Jervis street, died in Jervis street Hospital from injuries received, it is alleged, at the hands of her son, Martin Payne, aged 27 years. She was brought to the hospital suffering from concussion of the brain and showing signs of having been struck on the face and ears. She was in a collapsed condition at the time and died next morning at half past four o'clock. The son had been arrested and the capital charge has been made against him.

A public meeting was held in the Round Room, Rotunda, under the auspices of the Dublin branches of the Gaelic League, to protest against the failure of the Commissioners of National Education to make proper provision in their new programme for the introduction of a bi-lingual system of education in the National schools with regard to the teaching of the Irish language. The Board of Guardians of the South Dublin Union also appointed a deputation to attend the meeting. The following resolution was adopted unanimously,—"That we call upon the members of Parliament for Irish constituencies to resist to the utmost any attempt to obtain Parliamentary sanction for the Commissioners proposals inasmuch as they affect the National language until they have been amended by making provision for bi-lingual education as has been done in Wales, by including Irish among the ordinary subjects which may be taught during school hours in any part of Ireland."

NEW ROSS.

A serious quarry accident occurred here whereby two men, named William Redmond and James Murphy, were blinded and maimed while engaged in blasting operations. A powder charge ignited before the tamping had concluded, and the discharge dashed into their faces and hands almost totally blinding both and seriously wounding them in different parts. Redmond lost the finger of one hand.

At Castle Annaghs, a mile below New Ross on the banks of the River Barrow, some fishermen discovered the dead body of an old man, who appeared to have been drowned for some days. The body was identified as that of James Murphy, a laborer from the Rosbercon district, who had been missing. He had been arrested by the police for drunkenness, and liberated about midnight.

RATHKEALE.

The Sub-Sheriff of Limerick, Mr. B. K. Lucas, accompanied by several bailiffs and a force of Constabulary, opened the long threatened eviction campaign on the estate of Mrs. Louisa De Vere O'Brien, of Curragh Chase Adare. There were three tenants evicted during the day's proceedings, one of whom offered to pay two years' rent and also to give *solvent security* for a third years' rent within a month, but the offer was rejected by the agent, Mr. Donat O'Brien, who by the way is a son of the late William Smith O'Brien. One of the tenants evicted, a widow named Guerin, was admitted as a caretaker.

BALLYCUMBER.

A peculiar occurrence, resulting almost in the entire destruction of sight to a man named Ryan, occurred in the neighborhood of Ballycumber, near Clara, King's County, a few days ago. It appears that Ryan was given a pipe to have a smoke by a practical joker, and on his applying a match to kindle it an explosion occurred. The pipe was shattered to pieces, and portions struck the unfortunate man in the eyes, almost blowing them out of his head. He was immediately attended by one of the local medical men, and was subsequently removed to the Infirmary at Tullamore, where he at present lies.

BELFAST.

At the Belfast Assizes, John Boomer was sentenced to ten years' penal servitude for the murder of his wife. The accused forced a red-hot poker down his wife's throat, which resulted in her death.

ARMAGH.

A special train left Drogheda for Armagh for the purpose of giving the citizens of Drogheda an opportunity of attending the Bazar, and was availed of by a good number of our townsmen. It left Armagh on Sunday night at 10.40, and nothing unusual transpired till it was nearing Market Hill Station. The train was dashing along at a great pace when all at once the occupants of the carriages were terrified by a volley of stones thrown with great violence by some persons along the line who belonged to the gentle Orange creed.

When the news of the death of the Right Rev. Monsignor Murphy, P.P., V.G., St. Peter's, Drogheda, became known deep and sincere regret was felt in the town and district. Father Murphy, who belonged to an old and respected Louth family, was born at Knockbridge near Dundalk, in the year 1834. After pursuing his studies in the Diocesan College of St. Patrick, Armagh, and the National College of Maynooth, he was ordained priest in October 1859. His first curacy was at Dromintee, county Armagh. In 1861 he was appointed in the curacy of Cooley, county Louth, and remained there until 1869, when he was transferred to Dunleer. In the Easter of the same year he was promoted to be Administrator of the important parish of Kilsarn. The late Most Rev. Dr. M'Gettigan on the death of Archdeacon Gossan selected the deceased for the parish of St. Peter's, Drogheda appointing him at the same time Archdeacon of the Chapter of Armagh and Vicar-General of the Archdiocese. In the spring of '91 he was raised to the dignity of Monsignor and Domestic Prelate to his Holiness the Pope. The deceased, who was one of the most widely esteemed priests in Ireland, leaves behind him as a monument of his zeal and energy the magnificent new church—one of the finest in the country—devoted to the memory of the martyred Primate, Oliver Plunkett.

MELL.

An old woman named Lane sweney, over 70 years of age, of Tubber boice near Mell, dropped dead in an old lane leading from the high road and sloping into Tubberboice lane, near the well The old lane is in a very filthy and disgraceful condition, and there is a steep hill in the middle of it which is very difficult to climb, being covered with large boulders The deceased was going on a message, and had just surmounted this hill when she dropped down vomiting blood, and almost immediately expired She was afterwards, about half-past nine o'clock, found dead by her daughter and a girl named Lizzie Lyons, who happened to be returning home carrying firewood The body was conveyed on a car to the residence of the deceased, and the matter was reported to the police Dr J V Byrne, Borough Coroner, held an inquest on the remains. The jury found that deceased died from heart disease and a flow of blood from the lungs They also condemned the condition of the place and recommended that it be improved

GOUGANE BARRA.

The solemn ceremony of blessing and laying the foundation stone of the new church to be erected in the island of Gougane Barra, so celebrated as the monastic retreat of St. Fin Barre, took place in the presence of a large congregation. Rev. Father Hurley, P.P., Inchigeela, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Father Brady, Dunmanway. The foundation stone consisted of a concrete block, in which was enclosed a leaded casket containing medals of St. Fin Barre, under whose spiritual jurisdiction the ancient monastery on the island sprung up and flourished. A parchment bearing the name of the generous donor who has provided Father Hurley with the means of erectecting the church was also placed in the casket. This gentleman, whose name has not yet been reaveled, is an Irish-American, and has promised to subscribe any further sum that might be necessary to complete the edifice.

THURLES.

A plenary Synod of the Irish Church will be held this year at Maynooth College. Fifty years have now elapsed since the first plenary Synod was held at Thurles and twenty-fivey ears since the second was celebrated at Maynooth. Of the prelates who took part in the last Synod only three survive; the Archbishops of Cashel and Tuam and the Bishop of Galway. The Synod will consist of the members of the Irish Hierarchy and the mitred Abbot of Mount Melleray. Diocesan Chapters are entitled by the laws of the Church to send representatives (technically called Procuratores) to express their views and offer suggestions. Already the Canons of the Diocese of Cork have unamiously elected Canon O'Mahony as their representative, and Canon Hutch has been similary chosen by the Chapter of Cloyne. The selection made by the Chapter of Kerry has not yet been announced. The Synod will meet under the presidency of Cardinal Logue, and is expected to last a fortnight.

MAYO.

Mr. Boland, auctioneer, Ballina, arrived in Ballyhaunis, en route for Island Farm, situated two miles from Ballyhaunis, which was surrender last May. The farm is the property of Capt. A. Knox, Ballina, "Island Farm" consists of 415 acres and is situated in the immediate neighborhood of Ballindrehed, Island, Loriganboy, and the Coague, some of the most congested villages in Mayo. The farm if split up into small holdings would be a God-send to the impoverished inhabitants of these villages. Though the farm has been vacant since May last no person could be got to take or graze it, and the object of Mr. Boland's visit was to set the meadow on com-acres. The auction was announced for twelve o'clock sharp. Previous to the hour fixed a large force of police, under the command of C.I. Milling and D.I. Carberry, arrived in the little village of Island. Last April the unfortunate people in these villages, and who are at present compelled to eke out a miserable existence on the poor land of Mayo, applied to the landlord to have this farm divided out in 15 or 20 acre holdings, but were refused. At about twelve o'clock a large number of persons assembled near the farm and the auctioneer tried all he could to induce some one to bid, but to no purpose. At 1.30 p.m. the auctioneer, followed by County Inspector Milling and District Inspector Carberry, and some half dozen police, the remainder of the police being scattered around the farm and village, entered the farm, when Mr. Boland, in his most serious manner, asked; "A bid, gentlemen, please?" but there was no response for some moments until the bailiff bid £2 for the first acre. All the other lots were put up, but not a bid could be got, and the auction of the farm proved a dismal failure. The auctioneer, Mr. Milling, and Mr. Carberry, and the force of police then left for Ballyhaunis. As they were driving away cheers were given again and again for the United Irish League and Wm. O'Brien. The Boycott of the farm is looked upon as a great victory for the United Irish League in the district.

At Mayo Assizes the Crown applied to Mr. Justice Andrews for an attachment against Mr. W. O'Brien, as editor of the "Irish People," for having published in that paper an article calculated to impede the course of justice. Mr. O'Brien put in an affidavit in answer to the charge, after considering which the Crown counsel applied for an adjournment, but, as they could not say that they could produce evidence to controvert Mr. O'Brien's statement, but only that they wanted to inquire whether they could do so or not, the Judge refused the adjournment, and the application was withdrawn.

IRISH CROPS.

The Farmers' Gazette says,—It is a good many years since it was our privilege to publish such an encouraging series of crop reports as that which we are able to present to our readers this week. Covering, as they do, every county in Ireland, these reports are of a very comprehensive and representative character, and the condition of affairs which they portray is one calculated to afford the greatest gratification to all interested in the material welfare of our country. With the single exception of turnips—which are not quite so forward or so uniformly good as could be wished—all the crops this year are of exceptional promise, and if only a month of bright summer like weather is now vouchsafed us the harvest should prove one of the best to which the country has been treated for a long series of years.

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