

The Happenings of a Week in the Old Land

ENGLAND

The late Sir Elliott Lees, Bart., of Poole, left an estate valued at \$2,475,000.

Two of the London tube stations are to be linked up by a moving platform. Ten million turkeys were fattened for the Christmas market in London alone.

Thirty-three of the heroic charge of the Light Brigade at Balaklava are still alive.

The late Mr. Frank Hardcastle, who was at one time M. P. for Southampton, has left over \$750,000. There were 2,804 admissions to Dr. Barnardo's homes last year, and the total admissions to date number 67,417.

Women doctors have petitioned the premier in favor of the franchise, 538 having declared for it and only 15 against.

Thirty Mormons, missionaries from Salt Lake City, have reached Liverpool, and have begun a campaign of conversion.

The British insurance companies will settle for \$3,000,000 the claims arising from the Kingston, Jamaica, earthquake.

During a balloon trip to Germany, three London aeronauts covered 60 miles in the remarkably short time of 66 minutes.

A fortune of \$2,342,430 was left by the late Mr. Standen Paine, chairman and managing director of Benger's Food, Limited.

A pear tree bearing a third crop of fruit was seen at Epping, and blackbirds, thrushes and chaffinches were in full song in the district.

Magnetic compasses are to be supplied in future to all British and native cavalry regiments in India at the rate of four to each squadron.

A ton of water from the Atlantic Ocean, when evaporated, will yield 81 pounds of salt. A ton from the Pacific will yield 73 pounds, and a ton from the Dead Sea 157 pounds.

During the past eleven months the total launches on the Tyne have been 99, a decrease of one-fourth compared with the same period of 1907.

The late Earl of Rosse left personal estate valued at \$400,590. The disposal of the famous Rosse telescope and other scientific instruments is intimately connected.

Penny dinners for the poor, at which the menu includes mutton broth, rabbit pie, potato hot-pot, Irish stew and hot pies, have been started at South Shields.

The fifteen Caxtons, part of the famous library of Lord Amherst of Hackney, recently disposed of by auction sale, are said to have been bought by Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan for \$120,000.

The extensive shipwrecking works of H. Reynolds & Son at Lowestoft were destroyed by fire on Dec. 11, together with a yacht-builder's place. The damage is estimated at \$100,000.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie, in a recent letter about Ian MacLaren, says: "When we pass through Liverpool now it seems as if it were a dead place—the one I knew and loved there departed."

The journey of a balloon from South London to Cratcliffe, in South Wurttemberg, is a remarkable achievement. The 500 miles were accomplished in thirteen hours, at the rate of almost a mile a minute.

The industry of London's scholars absorbs 12,000 gallons of ink, 20,000 reams of foolscap paper, 65,000 gross of pens, and 5,000,000 copybooks. Slates and slate-pencils, it is interesting to note, are things of the past.

A country lady, who was recently in London, encountered a female pickpocket, who, in an omnibus, had thrust her hand into the lady's pocket, by turning and coolly inquired: "Why do you put your hand in my pocket when I have my hand here in my hand?"

The Princess Royal, the Duke of Eife, with their daughters, spent Christmas in Egypt, and will stay there for the greater part of the winter. The Princess Royal, unhappily, has not inherited the robust health enjoyed by the Queen, but her two daughters look as well and strong as any of her majesty's grandchildren.

Lord Justice Mathew will dispose of estate of the gross value of \$301,310. Blackburn Parish Church men's Bibles class has now 1,062 enrolled members.

The King has honored the Officers' Training Corps by becoming its colonel-in-chief. There is an unusually plentiful supply of mistletoe on many of the trees at Hampton Court.

Ald. Becher Tidd Pratt, who died at Newark, aged 78 years, was seven times mayor of Newark.

Mr. Thomas Williams, of St. Stephen's, Cornwall, who has claimed an old age pension, is over 100.

There are over 60,000 motor cycles at present in use in Britain, and the number is increasing rapidly. Arlington Street, Wesleyan Chapel, Grimsby, was entered, and the whole of the communion plate stolen.

Mr. George Herbert Brown, one of the best-known linen manufacturers in Belfast, died suddenly recently.

In a fall of earth at the new railway tunnel works, near Swansea, one man was killed and two others injured.

One hundred and thirteen members in Parliament are utilized for all purposes by the peers, 29 by the Commons, and 25 by the press.

Birmingham tram committee has decided to reduce tramway men's weekly hours from 60 to 54.

Five catches of herrings are being made off the north coast of Cornwall. Thirteen boats landed 260,000 at Padstow.

Some thirty cypriotes on the Thames were being fattened for the tables of various members of the royal family at Christmas.

At Swansea assizes David and Evan Jones, colliers, were sentenced to 18 months' hard labor for manslaughter.

The clock at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, has a record pendulum, its length being two feet and the weight of the ball 200 pounds.

A large number of the 'busmen in London have received a brace of partridges or pheasants from Lord Roths-

child, in accordance with his annual custom at Christmas.

It was stated at the Bolton Guardians' meeting that the funeral procession of a woman who died recently in the workhouse and was buried in a public grave consisted of a hearse drawn by four horses and three coaches drawn by two horses each. The explanation given was that the woman's son had insured her for \$200 and had defrayed the funeral expenses.

In London George Bodell (27), bootmaker, and Richard Vickary (38), laborer, were committed for trial charged with burglariously breaking and entering warehouses and stealing rolls of silk, a bottle of whiskey, and other goods. The police found the accused on the top floor behind the lift. Bodell said they had entered by the street door and had come up by the lift, but being unacquainted with the mechanism could not get down again. A safe in the top warehouse had been broken by the fatherless, and books and documents scattered all over the place.

Giving evidence at St. Pancras at the inquest on her six-weeks-old daughter, Mary Horrod, wife of a Steyne laborer, said she was attending to the baby a safety pin dropped from her blouse into the infant's mouth. They could not extract it, nor were the authorities at Shadwell Hospital any the less successful. At the University Hospital, the X-rays showed the pin in the throat. An operation was performed and the pin was removed, but the baby died.

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Hospital, where he was found to be dead.

Thomas Barton, a blacksmith, of Fairfield, Buxton, who was treasurer of the Fairfield Friendly Society, and the oldest bellringer in Fairfield, had a heart seizure, and died soon after.

An Ardleigh (Suffolk) laborer named William Gardner, who had been accepted for an old-age pension of 4s per week, was found on Tuesday hanging from a beam in his cottage. In one pocket was \$200 in gold, and in another some gold and silver, while it was discovered that he had \$1,100 deposited in a bank. He earned 7s a week.

A Darwen quarryman named Samuel Payne visited the house of his son-in-law, and, asking for a soft pillow, lay down on the sofa, saying, "I will go to sleep." Half an hour later he was found to be dead. He had written on his white shirtfront a message, commencing, "Dear Friends," and directing that his son should have his pianoforte made up for him, and that his son should make other dispositions of his goods.

Mr. F. Wood, of Sunderland, who has a poultry yard, on killing a pullet the other day found in the bird's gizzard a gold ring broken into four pieces. This was made known to the police. At Lambeth Mr. J. Troutbeck held an inquest upon the body of Elsie Maude Ellis, aged two and a half years, whose parents live at Broadwalk, Blackheath, and who was fatally burned. The evidence showed that the child had always shown a great fondness for fire, and while left for a few moments at noon in an upper room she pulled away the fender, removed the fire, and let herself alight. She was found under a bed, where she had crawled.

The Duke of Devonshire has presented to the Lancashire villages of Flookburgh, and Holker a new club containing billiard and reading rooms, which has been built at a cost of \$12,500.

Mr. Harris, the stationmaster at Bradford, Shropshire, has for the third year in succession won the first prize for the best station guard in the northern division of the Great Western Railway.

The death is reported of Mr. William Parslow, who for nearly 40 years was master of the town hall, keeper to the corporation of Kingston-on-Thames. He kept his own steam launch and was an ardent fisherman.

Entering his diningroom on Monday, a Suffolk butcher was horrified to find his servant girl screaming with fright. A ferocious black rat was gripping her clothes with its teeth, and only released its hold when the butcher delivered the death blow.

Kingston Guardian Home for Children at New Malden is proving something in the nature of a horticultural college. The children have, from an expenditure of \$47 on seeds, raised garden produce to the value of \$250.

Katie Webber, aged 11, a school girl, of Mr. John Webber, of Llaner, a Cornish village, left her home one evening and did not return. Next morning she was found at the bottom of a well 40 feet deep, which she had been standing with the water past her knees for fifteen hours.

In Taunton, which has a population of 23,000, only four deaths were registered last week. These were two men and two women. This year has been 85, 86 and 88 years, giving the average of nearly 85 years. One of them was an inmate of the workhouse.

With 370 questions in Parliament to ministers, Mr. J. B. Donaldu, M. P. for Mid-Armagh, has this year broken his last year's record of 331. There were 463 divisions in the House of Commons during the past session.

Another serious fall of cliff has taken place near St. Margaret's Bay, Dover. The fall is about three hundred yards east of the lower South Foreland Lighthouse, and it is estimated that several hundred tons of chalk have fallen on to the foreshore.

Outside the choir of the Winchester Cathedral has been found a depth of 10 feet a block of stone 2 feet high, believed by some to be a Druidical altar and by others a Saxon font. It is worked into a circle, with a shallow cavity in the top.

Two girls at Nottingham school, one stone-blind and the other partially blind, have been recommended by the managing committee of the Elm Court Residential School for older blind girls, Norwood, to the London County Council as typists for the chief office.

At Liverpool John Henry Graham, 44 years old, cashier to a Liverpool firm of sack merchants, who had pleaded guilty to embezzlement, was sentenced to prison for nine months. He admitted that his defalcations had been going on for eight years, and the total amount involved was nearly \$10,000. Domestic sickness and an extravagant wife were the excuses put forward by his counsel.

The installation of foghorns in the London county council schools as fire alarms is to be extended to the training colleges and secondary schools under the council's control. A special maintenance estimate of \$200 for this purpose was passed at a meeting of the education committee.

A fine of \$50 and cost was imposed at Preston upon a local news agent, named James Dickinson, for loitering for the purpose of betting and receiving bets. He told the police that he received a weekly wage from a bookmaker to receive bets.

A reformatory boy named Arthur Edward Moore has had an exciting fortnight since he broke out of the Fyde farm workhouse. He reached the ground by means of the fire escape and making his way to the railway boarder's goods train, which took him to Darwen. One morning a woman before getting up noticed a smell of cooking coming from the kitchen, and saw Moore trying himself some bacon. He is elaborately carved. The guardians are delighted with the work, and are placing in the pulpit an inscription reading: "A horse ridden by Mr. George Walters, of Leth Mansions, Maiden Vale, bolted in Rotten Row. The rider was thrown and seriously injured. He was taken on an ambulance to St. George's

IRELAND

Relieving Officer Duffin reported to the Ballymena guardians that he had great difficulty in procuring a shroud at the usual price, 3s 6d.

At a meeting of the senate of the New University, Dublin, the Very Rev. James H. Walsh, archbishop of Dublin, was elected chancellor.

Viscount Powerscourt's fine library is to be dispersed by sale in Dublin this month.

A potato has been granted to Mr. J. Foley, of Ballymurtagh, Ovoca, county Wicklow, for an automatic fire alarm and extinguishing apparatus.

James Pollard, 57, a well-known farmer and horse dealer, living at Ballysallagh, near Hacketstown, county Carlow, was found dead recently in an outhouse.

The congested district board of Roscommon have purchased the farm of Fortwilliam, Ballinabur, containing 200 acres from Dr. Holmes, Stockport, England.

Thirteen men were arrested at Carrowlagh, near Ballinasloe, recently, and charged with cattle-driving. They were bound over for twelve months and gave bail.

Owing to the fact that 120 or 130 tramps visit Sligo each week, weekly, the guardians have decided to prosecute all other than genuine casuals who come in.

Three persons summoned at Belfast for exposing for sale cockles which were subsequently condemned as unfit for human consumption, pleaded poverty as an excuse.

The carters' strike in Dublin shows no signs of termination, negotiations for a settlement having fallen through. A partial settlement of the malmen's strike is announced.

At Munster winter assizes Patrick Reane, who was convicted of firing at John Hennessy, was sentenced to five years' penal servitude. Hennessy lost the sight of both eyes.

Five members of one family, all living in one house, near Gurteen, county Sligo, Ireland, have been passed for the full sum of five shillings a week under the old Scottish poor law.

An important addition has been made to the public institutions of Monaghan by the new building which has just been completed and opened in Mill street, to serve as the post-office.

The celebrations in connection with the jubilee of St. Colman's College, Ferns, which took place on Nov. 24, were of a most impressive and interesting character, and largely attended.

The Lurgan guardians spent \$7 on the wedding outfit of a female inmate, who, with her fiancé, left the house to get married, for their starting housekeeping in a Lanarkshire village.

Three policemen had an exciting time with a well-armed lunatic near Liscolsey. The cause of their adventure was a woman, who, having escaped from the Letterkenny asylum twelve months ago.

The Nationalists of Castletown celebrated the 41st anniversary of the martyrdom of Robert Emmet recently. The public demonstration took the form of a torchlight procession, which was headed by the Temperance Society and drum band.

The death of Thomas Murphy, Kilmore, occurred recently at the advanced age of 90. Deceased was one of the best-known and most popular men in county Roscommon, and for many years was a general merchant in the village of Kilmore.

"His majesty's subject" is now an inmate of Carlow workhouse infirmary. The man's name is Foley and he is a native of Tullow. He is over 70 years of age and had for many years been exhibited in various parts of Europe under the above title.

James Murphy, a county Carlow man of birth, formerly collector of inland revenue of Limerick, and Cork, and later promoted first-class inspector of the chief of police, London, has been appointed collector of the first class at Burton-on-Trent, the center of the English brewery trade.

At a largely attended meeting of the branch of the United Irish League a resolution was unanimously adopted congratulating the Irish envoys on their successful mission to America on behalf of the national cause, and expressing confidence in the Irish League.

Returned furnished in connection with the working of the old age pensions act in county Mayo show that in 29 districts for which figures are available, the number of claims received last year was 1,410, and the total annual expenditure under the act up to the present of \$46,727.

Mr. Joseph Devlin, M. P., secretary of the United Irish League, declared at Queenstown on his return from a mission in America to beg party funds that America had guaranteed \$100,000 to the Nationalist parliamentary exchequer, that \$20,000 had been sent already, and that \$10,000 was following.

After a honeymoon spent in London Mr. William Duffy, M. P., and his bride received a hearty welcome home to Loughrea. Met at the railway station by a large crowd Mr. and Mrs. Duffy entered a trap drawn by a pony and surrounded by torch-bearers. During the homeward journey the pony took fright, but it was quickly secured. A hand should have been at the railway station, but shortly before Mr. Duffy's arrival the moustache belonging to the instruments mysteriously disappeared from the band room.

When the hearing was resumed of the charges against Oliver Curran, a tramp of Killybegs, Londonderry, a recluse of Killybegs Lodge, Armagh, it was stated that on the day following the tragedy the accused of Mr. Lindsay's gold watch for sale the reclus was found beaten and stabbed to death. The police produced a piece of carton, bearing writing, which was found on the sole of Mr. Curran's boot when he was arrested; a similar piece was found on a butler named Edward Fay and his wife until recently housemaid at Dublin, were remanded at Dublin

police court on charges of forgery in the name of the Knight of Glin and others. The accused were arrested on their homestead, one of the prosecutors, Carrigrohilly Castle, where the male prisoner was formerly employed.

The grazing trouble in Kilmalme is at an end.

The only Irish crop that shows any increase over last year is hay.

Irish butter is now only a shilling under Danish butter in the market.

In 1851 Ireland grew 504,248 acres of wheat; last year only 38,143 acres. Fourteen acres of land, statute measure, were sold at Omagh for \$50.

Two hundred and ten tons of honey, worth \$600, are the yearly produce of Ireland.

The corporation of Cork City have voted to invite the American fleet to visit their port.

The death was announced from Trinidad of Rev. John H. Casey, O. P., eldest son of Mr. James Casey.

The headquarters of the Royal Engineers at Killybegs, County Cork, were destroyed by fire recently.

An auctioneer, Omagh, sold a farm of land, containing four acres, statute measure, for \$550.

The Royal National Lifeboat Association presented the institution's certificate to five men at Portlary recently.

Burglars, who, it is believed, used a motor car, broke into a spirit store at Linavady, County Londonderry, and carried off the safe.

The poor of the district of Ardara near Newtownstewart, have been left \$2,000 by the will of Mrs. Knox, who died in New Zealand.

The Rev. Father Michael Power, C. C., Kilmacow, has been appointed by the Lord Bishop of Ossory to the pastoral charge of Clough.

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About 400 millsters employed in Dublin breweries struck work on the 11th inst., for increased wages.

A well-known figure in Irish life has passed away in the person of Mr. M. A. Manning, the town clerk of Kingstown.

James P. Farrell, Irish Nationalist member of parliament, has been sent to jail for six months for advocating sedition.

Lord Dunraven can lay claim to be the first peer of the realm who has been voted the freedom of the city by the Nationalist Corporation of Limerick.

University College, Dublin, has been constituted, according to a notification in the Dublin Gazette, and a new charter has been granted to Queen's College, Galway.

By the will of a native who has died in New Zealand the Irish village of Antrim will benefit to the extent of over \$4,000, the money being left for the benefit of the poor.

An Dublin young sailor from Glasgow named Thomas Grant was found guilty of the murder of a woman on Nov. 7. The jury recommended him to mercy. He was sentenced to death.

A brass tablet has been placed in one of the walls of St. Peter's Church, Augher street, Dublin, which stands over the supposed site of the Emmet family vault, and the tablet has been placed there by Dr. Thomas Addis Emmet, of New York.

A Skibbereen telegram states that on returning home from a day's shooting a farmer named Kelleher, residing at Glosin, near Schull, laid his loaded fowling piece on the table. His son, a boy of five, happened to touch the trigger, and the gun was discharged, the father being shot through the heart. Death was instantaneous.

An English tourist in Ireland heard of the Irishman's wit, and though he could not find it in himself, so, seeing a man putting a pane of glass in a cottage window, he said: "Hi, my man, you are using too much putty to that pane of glass." The man, looking round, said: "If I come over to you I'll put a pane in your window."

At Middletown, Armagh, recently a great pike and an otter had a tremendous fight in the canal. The pair repeatedly rose to the surface, and dived again, the water being colored with blood. Finally, the otter killed the pike, and dragged it ashore, where a Mr. Hughes shot the otter. The pike weighed 33 pounds. The otter had an ear torn clean off in the fight.

SCOTLAND

In a charge of salmon poaching in the River Annan, heard at Dumfries, it was successfully pleaded that by a charter granted by Robert the Bruce the inhabitants of the royal burgh had the right to fish in the river.

Messrs. John Brown & Co., Clydebank, have received the contract for the turbine machinery for the new battleship Neptune of the Dreadnought class, to be built at Portsmouth dockyard.

Justified by a crowd at Glasgow, Mrs. Carrie Nation, the American "saloon-smasher," lost a Bible to which she attached great sentimental value.

The interior of Dumfries town hall having been destroyed by fire, a number of restoration schemes are suggested. One of these is to erect entirely new municipal buildings, at a cost roughly estimated at \$25,000.

Another plan is to erect a number of structural improvements and provide the hall with a new interior. The insurance company are to pay \$1,200 and if the latter plan were adopted only a small sum would be required from the rates. The matter will shortly come before the town council for their decision.