

The Standard.

OR RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL RECORD.

No 42

SAINT ANDREWS, N. B., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1848.

[Vol. 15]

European Intelligence.

From papers to the 5th August.

IMPORTANT FROM IRELAND! FIRST ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN THE AUTHORITIES AND THE REBELS.

KILKENNY, July 30.—I suppose you have already received some account of the affray which took place yesterday near Ballingarry, on the borders of this county, between the police and the rebels. I now send you the details, which, so far as I have been able to learn them, I have reason to believe to be correct. Proclamations having been posted up yesterday morning, offering a reward of £300 for the apprehension of Meagher, Doherty, and Dillon, and of £500 for that of Smith O'Brien, Sub-inspector Trant proceeded from Callan, with a police force of between 40 and 50 men, in the hope of capturing some of the proclaimed rebels. When they had arrived within a short distance of Ballingarry, they were encountered by Smith O'Brien, at the head of a body of insurgents, which is estimated variously as consisting of from 400 to 1,000 men. The police then took possession of a house close at hand, when the rebel leader addressing one of the police, summoned the party to surrender. The policeman instead of showing Mr. O'Brien, which he might easily have done, went to the part of the building where Mr. Trant was at the time, to report the matter to his commander. Mr. Trant immediately hastened to the spot, but Mr. O'Brien had taken his departure. Mr. Trant forthwith directed his men to fire; the engagement then commenced, and speedily terminated with the defeat of the rebels, of whom about eight or ten were killed and several wounded. During the conflict two shots were fired at O'Brien, but neither took effect. One of the shots hit a rebel who was standing by O'Brien's side brandishing a pike. He was killed on the spot. Another party of police, under the command of Mr. Cox, and accompanied by Mr. French, the stipendiary magistrate, came up at the instant, and fired at the rebels with considerable effect—after which the insurgents fled in the greatest disorder. Eighteen were killed altogether, and a vast number wounded. The police ultimately retired upon Callan, without suffering any loss whatever.

Information reached this town about ten o'clock last night of the collision, upon which a large detachment of the 83rd, and about 150 police, with Inspector Blake, repaired to the scene of action, supposing that the Callan police were still beset by the rebels. These troops remained out all night without meeting either the enemy or, of course, the Callan police, who had previously reached their barracks; they have since returned here sufficiently jaded, and in very bad humour with the insurgents. I have ascertained that a sergeant of the police from this town, had been previously in the rebel camp yesterday, having been caught by them in coloured clothes, when they were about to kill him, believing that he was one of the detectives; however, by the interference of O'Brien he was spared, but his horse was taken from him, on which O'Brien mounted, and rode about amongst his troops, in a general's uniform—the horse was ultimately returned to the man, who has since arrived here in safety. He describes the state and appearance of O'Brien to be very miserable, but it is said he expressed his determination never to surrender, as he feels his fate would then be certain. I had forgotten to say that Mr. Blake did not return here with the troops this morning, nor is it known where he now is. Probably, as he is a resolute and adventurous fellow, and well armed, he is on the trail of the traitor, in the hope of capturing him, and winning the reward. This is a perilous service, and which anxiety is felt about him. All with whom I have spoken concur in the necessity of a simultaneous and speedy movement of the troops from the various posts which sur-

rounded the districts of Slievenamon and the colleries, about which all the traitors are lurking. If this be done, a collision will be forced on, and the affair terminated. It is said that Devin Reilly passed through this town last night. Everything here is as yet tranquil, but you can easily perceive by the groups of people of all classes which you meet in every street, and the anxious inquisitiveness apparent on every face, that much excitement, not unminged with alarm, pervades the town. It is thought, and I think not without reason, that this city, or its immediate vicinity is likely to be the point on which the rebels will make their first attempt—if, indeed, they will at all dare the fortune of an open outbreak—as it is rumoured that they have many friends within the walls, as well as in the country from this to the borders of Tipperary. I shall leave my letter open to the last moment, and communicate anything further which I may hear upon these all-engrossing topics.

P.S. O'Brien is in the colliery district, near Slievenamon, and General Macdonald close at his heels.—Correspondence of the Dublin Evening Mail.

THE ESCAPE OF SMITH O'BRIEN.

The following is from a gentleman resident near the place where the late escapade with Mr. Smith O'Brien and the police party took place:

"You will have heard of our little 'skrimmage,' with Smith O'Brien and his followers, at Ballingarry, on Saturday night. Trant and his men behaved famously, and I consider it has put down the rebellion—for, though insignificant, as to the loss the rebels sustained, its moral effect will be great—they had conceived, that from their numbers all the troops in Ireland could not stand before them and now to be worsted by 'forty peelers' has crushed all their presumptuous hopes. Contrary to expectation, Smith O'Brien behaved like a great poltroon.—Having summoned the police to give up their arms, he said to his people, 'Now, boys, blaze away at them,' and then crept on his hands and knees round a wall, and ran away. I should hardly be surprised if they gave him up to the authorities. One of the leaders has been badly wounded." It was generally rumoured; that O'Brien, Meagher, and Reilly, had succeeded in embarking on board a vessel, in Galway, which was on the point of sailing for America.

Public Feeling in Limerick.—Since Saturday the greatest anxiety and excitement agitate the public mind. No adequate idea can be formed of the reality. A great damp is thrown on every department of business, and the thoughts of every one are engrossed with concern for the patriot sons of Ireland, and the present condition of things. Groups appear in various quarters of the city engaged in conversation, and discussing the consequences of the government's last act. At the arrival of each train, crowds attend with anxious inquiry, but various and conflicting are the accounts, as detailed elsewhere. The proclamations offering the rewards for the apprehension of Smith O'Brien and the other parties, were scarcely posted upon the various parts of the city on Saturday when they were either torn or defaced. Go where you will, meet whom you will, you hear nothing talked of but the English minister, and his conduct to this country. The pensioners who have been lately called into service, were paraded in single file, to the amount of four hundred, on Sunday afternoon, fully accoutred, to the new barracks, as if with a view to intimidate. The police in the different small detached stations throughout the country have been ordered to concentrate in various places—viz. Limerick, Castleconnell, Birrill, Newport, Rathkale, Kilfinnan, &c. **Limerick Reporter.**

Arrival of the Birkenhead Steamer with 400 Marines.—The Birkenhead war steamer arrived in Kingstown harbour yesterday from Portsmouth, having on board 400 marines.

The vessel is stationed at Kingstown for the present.

From the Tipperary Vindicator.

Were it not for the energetic exertions and the vast influence of the Catholic Clergy throughout every portion of the archdiocese of Cashel as well as in those parts of the diocese of Killaloe where disturbances have been apprehended, we have no doubt but that a sanguinary collision should have taken place between tens of thousands of the people and whatever force the government might bring against them.

NENAGH. Every thing is in a state of great tranquillity in and about Nenagh, save the plunder of sheep from the pastures of some persons since the withdrawal of the constabulary from the out stations.

SUPPRESSION OF THE REBEL NEWSPAPER.—On Friday the offices of the *Nation* and *Felon* were taken possession of by the police, and all the copies of those newspapers, together with the types, &c. employed in printing them, were seized, and conveyed into the police commissioners' office.

DISSOLUTION OF THE UNITED IRISHMAN'S CLUB.—On Monday at a special meeting of the committee a resolution to dissolve this club was adopted.—*Galway Vindicator.*

New Proclamations.—The following Proclamation was issued by the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council, on yesterday. It is founded on the act under which Frewen was convicted at the Special Commission in Limerick, for harbouring criminals. It will doubtless, supposing the above statement to be untrue, embarrass the movements of S. O'Brien and colleagues very much:—"CAUTION.—Whereas, William S. O'Brien, Thomas F. Meagher, John B. Dillon, Michael Doheny, and divers other persons, stand charged as being engaged in rebellion against her Majesty.—Now, this is to give notice to, and warn all persons, that all those who shall protect against their pursuers any of the above named persons, or others whom they shall know to be engaged in similar treasonable practices, or who shall afford them the means to escape, or who shall aid in their disguise, or who shall mislead those who are in search of them, or who shall harbour or shelter them, by receiving them into their dwellings, or otherwise, are themselves guilty of the crime of high treason, and will be dealt with accordingly. By his Excellency's command. T. N. REDINGTON, Dublin Castle, 1st August, 1848.

COMMERCIAL.

The fears which were entertained on this day week of a formidable rebellion in Ireland have, we rejoice to say, been considerably relieved within the past few days, and the danger of any outbreak in this town or in the manufacturing districts for the present, at least, are very remote.

The prospect for the approaching harvest have not varied since our last, and the weather continues only moderately favourable for ripening the crops. Nearly everything depends on the weather for a few weeks to come. With regard to the important question of the Potatoe crop it may be some time before anything of a decided character can be determined; in the mean time the general accounts of the crop are much more favourable than ten days ago, and in consequence Indian Corn has declined 2s. to 3s. per quarter; sweet Flour is worth 29s. 6d. to 30s. per barrel; sour 28s.; Indian Corn 32s. to 34s. per quarter; Indian Corn Meal 15s. 6d. to 15s. 9d. per barrel; Wheat 6s. 9d. to 8s. 3d. per 70lb. with stock.

The Manchester markets have been quiet during the week, but as manufacturers have been working to order, and as stocks have not yet been replenished, the prices of cloths have not been materially affected; yarns are however easier to purchase. Yesterday, under the influence of the news from Ireland there was a more cheerful feeling.