

## NEWS FROM IRELAND.

## DUBLIN.

On January 26th, a man named Denis Gilligan, a laborer, died at Mercer's Hospital, Dublin, from the effects of a kick received from a horse on the 19th inst., at the stables in Fownes' street, belonging to Mr. Hogg.

The Lord Lieutenant refused to dine with the Lord Mayor of Dublin at the inaugural banquet, in consequence of his residing at the meeting of the Irish Parliamentary party which adopted sympathetic resolutions with the tenants in Connaught who refuse to pay rents. The *Freeman's Journal*, commenting upon the letter of the Viceroy, says that one conclusion must occur to everyone who reads his letter—that it is incredible that the reasons which have induced the Lord Lieutenant to take the course he has taken are those which appear on the face of his note. The *Freeman* believes that the true reason of his action is that he shrunk from the speech he would have to deliver at the banquet, that while, of course, he could not denounce the Government he belongs to, he could not, on the other hand, defend their cruel policy with regard to the crisis in the country, which, in his heart, he must abhor.

The cable announces that the Theatre Royal, Dublin, was completely destroyed by fire on Feb. 9. The fire began about two in the afternoon, and several adjoining houses were threatened with destruction. There was to have been a day performance of pantomime at the theatre in the afternoon, at which the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough were expected to be present. The fire was occasioned by the ignition of the curtains in their state box. It was at a late hour disclosed that the manager, the property man, and six assistants perished in the flames. Thirteen other people were injured during the fire. The Fire Brigade succeeded in preventing the spread of the flames to the adjoining houses. The loss by the destruction of the theatre and contents is estimated at \$200,000. The Theatre Royal also known as the Hawkins Street Theatre, was the third largest theatre in the United Kingdom. It had a varied and a remarkable history, having witnessed the triumphs of Mario, Grisi, Piccolomini, Tietjens, Gustavus V. Brook, and Barry Sullivan. Its galleries were rendered historical by the presence of the Trinity College students, who there sang choruses, cracked jokes and otherwise enlivened the waits between the acts. It had been for many years an integral part of the city, bound to it by a thousand associations.

On Friday, Feb. 13, a large meeting of unemployed workmen was held at Harold's Cross Green, Dublin. The deepest interest was manifested. Addresses were made by prominent citizens setting forth the causes and facts of the situation, and resolutions were adopted urging the Government not to delay taking action upon the case, and stating that the workmen do not ask charity, but work. The meeting was perfectly orderly throughout; and, on separating, several of the men expressed to representatives of the press the hope that the public works promised by the Government would at once be begun, thus enabling thousands of able-bodied men to gain their bread without the humiliation and disgrace of beggary.

## KILKENNY.

In Thomastown, a man who had been missing for over two days was found, on January 25th, by a neighbor, lying in his cabin in a state of starvation. The death of the Earl of Bessborough, which had been expected for some time, took place, on Jan. 25th, at Bessborough House, county Kilkenny. The Earl was in his 71st year, having been born in 1809. In 1847 he succeeded his father, who died when Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. He was twice married; first, in 1835, to the eldest daughter of the first Earl of Durland; and again, in 1849, to the eldest daughter of the fifth Duke of Richmond. The deceased was in the House of Commons from 1831 to the date of his accession to the peerage, sitting first for Bletchingley, next for Higham Ferris, and lastly for Derby. He was afterwards Master of the Buckhounds, and Lord Steward of her Majesty's Household. He is succeeded in the title by his brother, the Hon. Frederick George Brabazon Ponsonby, M.A., Barrister-at-Law, who was born in 1851.

## MEATH.

On Jan. 27th, the little village of Wilkinstown was the scene of great rejoicing. A huge bonfire was lighted in the evening by the workmen of the neighborhood in honor of Samuel Garnet, Esq., J.P., Arch. Hall, who is Chairman of the Kavanagh Board of Guardians, for having established relief works on his large and extensive property, with a view of mitigating to some extent the prevailing distress. On the night of Jan. 27th, about half-past ten o'clock, the residence of Mr. McEvoy, of Tubinstown, county Meath, was attacked by an armed party, and several shots were fired through the upper windows of the house. Mr. McEvoy was at home at the time. The police were notified and coming up shortly after saw some men running away, and called upon them to surrender. No attention having been paid to them, they fired several shots, and pursued the men. The night being dark, no arrests were made. At five o'clock next morning Head-constable Ryan found a new English rifle, recently discharged, in the lawn, not far from the house, which must have been dropped by the attacking party.

## WESTMEATH.

On Jan. 25th, the two brothers named McDonald, charged with a violent assault upon Martha Greale, at Killybeggan, Westmeath, were committed for trial at the Assizes. Grennan is unable to leave his bed, and as his life has been threatened, an iron hut has been erected near his house and occupied by five policemen, at the expense of the residents in the town-land.

## KING'S COUNTY.

Owing to the want of employment among the laboring classes caused by the discharging of men from the distillery and other works, there is at present a considerable amount of destitution in Tullamore. The inhabitants have inaugurated a relief fund, and to this end have been already subscribed, but this

sum has proved no more than sufficient to give a prospect of relieving, for some weeks, the poor who are unable to work. On January 27th, the board of guardians decided on taking what steps the law enabled them towards giving employment to the laborers. They decided on engaging twenty men to work on the work-house farm, and make it tillage instead of pasture. Ten men are to be employed in forming a sewer. These works will last three weeks at least. The relief committee allocated £20, to be used in improving an unpaved road, and authorized an overseer to hire twenty men, but when the work commenced, sixty-five came to the place, and, refusing to leave, worked all day, stating they would take anything rather than be idle in the street. The wages allowed is 1s. 6d. per day. Mr. John Pierce has engaged twenty men to carry out improvements on his farm. Many are still idle.

A man named John Fecheny died at Parnstown, on January 24th, of destitution and want.

## LONGFORD.

The distress in the Longford district has become so widespread and intense that a meeting was held at Killashee (the Rev. M. C. O'Connell, P.P., in the chair), on Jan. 24th, for the purpose of urging on the authorities and others the necessity of immediate steps being taken to relieve it. It is lamentable fact that there are strong, stalwart men starving in a district in which there are 10,000 acres of bog and waste land. Resolutions were adopted suggesting that certain works should be at once commenced to give employment so as to prevent approaching famine.

## CORK.

The Rev. Charles Davis, C.C., Roscavery, has been promoted by the Right Rev. Dr. Fitzgerald, to the position of parish priest of Rath, rendered vacant by the death of the late Rev. Daniel Collins.

On the 27th ult., Mr. Bryan Galloway, Coroner, Cork, held an inquest on the body of a child named Mary Leary. It appeared that the deceased was allowed by her parents to remain in a room unaccompanied by any person, and, having gone too close to the fire, her clothes ignited. The poor child died on the following day. Verdict—Death by accidental burning.

## KERRY.

The Very Rev. John Mawle, P.P., V. G., Dean of the diocese of Kerry, died on Jan. 26th. Dean Mawle was one of the ablest and most distinguished of the clergy of the South. He held strong political opinions, and in the Fenian times he came into constant collision with the party of action. The memory of these trying times has, however, long been softened over, and only the many virtues of the Dean will now be recollected by his flock.

A letter from Castleisland, county Kerry, reports that 1,300 persons, in that district are in want, and that they are the poorest and most miserable persons, in the civilized world, having no food or covering by day or night.

## LIMERICK.

On Jan. 29th, a fire broke out in the distillery of Messrs. Alchibald, Walker & Co., the extensive Scotch distillery, Thomondgate, Limerick. As some of the men were returning to the distillery from the machine-room, close to the main shaft, by a narrow building, and the principal entrance to the premises, work was immediately sent to the different fire-engine offices, and at about half-past eight o'clock the fire was extinguished. Property to the extent of close on £2,000 was destroyed, but is covered by insurance.

The building of the extension of the new barracks at Limerick, will afford employment to some three or four hundred men. This Government work has been in contemplation for a long time.

## CLARE.

On Jan. 29th, Coroner Cullinan held an inquest at the Fergus shambled, Dromington, on the body of James Numan, clerk of the Catholic church of Ballyleigh, who was accidentally killed the day before at the embankment in course of construction, leading to the new bridge over the river, who was a very old man, went upon the works merely to observe the operations, and, being deaf, a lorry laden with stones came upon him, knocking him down and rolling over his body, killing him on the spot. A verdict of accidental death was returned, without blame being attached to anyone.

## DOWN.

On Jan. 25th, a fire broke out in a small house occupied by a blind man named Graham, near Warrenpoint. The house was completely destroyed, and amongst the debris found the charred remains of the occupant.

On Jan. 27th, a lighter left Newry for Portadown in charge of James Mullan, who, with his family, lived on board. The lighter was unable to get further than Loch Eden, owing to the setting in of frost. There is a bank, close at the top with a catch, in the front part of the lighter, and in this Mullan's two sons, aged twelve and fourteen, slept. Next morning the two boys were found dead in bed, having, it is supposed, been suffocated by the fumes from a stove which had not been extinguished before they retired.

## FERMANAGH.

Great distress is reported from Belleek. Aid is being asked, for starvation to many is said to be imminent. Great distress is also reported in the Knockmore mountainous district, fifteen miles from there. Many families are reported to be starving.

## CAVAN.

The Cavan Town Commissioners have received the sanction of the Board of Works to the proposed loan of £500 for improving the Fair Green of the town, and of £150 for the construction of wooden sheds in the new egg market, and for the approval of the Local Government Board to commence these useful works. The contractor for the laborers' cottages is pushing the work forward rapidly, and giving much needed employment to a large number of laborers, who would be otherwise idle.

## MONAGHAN.

Mr. Thomas Barrett Lennard, son of Sir Thomas Lennard, an extensive landed proprietor in Ireland, is spoken of as a candidate, in the Liberal interest, for the county Monaghan, at the general election, in opposition to Sir John Leslie and Mr. S. E. Shirley.

A sad story of distress comes from Killee, the celebrated Munster watering-place. The lodge-owners, who formerly made a good deal of money out of visitors, were in comparative affluence, whereas the paucity of visitors last season, and other causes, have reduced many of them to actual starvation.

## TIPPERARY.

On Jan. 26th, a little girl named Peters went out to slide on the Lake of Loughmeade, three miles from Nenagh. A servant girl named Magrath, followed for the purpose of bringing her back, when the ice broke and both were drowned.

On Sunday, Jan. 25th, his Grace the Archbishop of Cashel, the Most Rev. Dr. Croke, preached in the Cathedral, Thurles, on behalf of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. The collection amounted to £200.

Nenagh Union has been added to the schedule of the Board of Public Works. In reply to the application of the Nenagh Town Commissioners for £1,500 to build a Town Hall, the Secretary of the Board of Works has written to say that "buildings" do not come within the scope of the recent orders. The Clerk of the Commissioners has written to ascertain on what terms a loan could be effected for the purpose.

The new Chairman of Tipperary—Mr. Wall, Q.C.—opened the Council Quarter Sessions on Jan. 24th. Addressing the Grand Jury he said there was nothing peculiar in general cases to go before them; but there were two classes of cases which appeared to be growing in that county—namely, "rescues" and "coverings" property. [The old story of "driving" times.]

The Rev. Mr. Keogh, P.P., writes from Newpoint, county Tipperary, that the potato crop has been a dead failure, and that from December, 1875, the local Relief Committee have supported 160 families by local subscriptions up to April, 1879; but in the present distressed state of the district, in which all are involved, they had given up the idea of subscriptions, and can only hope for outside aid to keep the people from actual starvation.

A letter from Nenagh states that the local committee had subscribed £200, but now their funds are exhausted. They had been relieving 600 families, and the cost of the monthly depend on such aid as they may receive, either from the Government, or the charitable of the world at large.

A private still-worm, 60 gallons of wash, vessels, &c., which had been captured by the police in a town in Monaghan, were recaptured recently in rather a clever manner. A constable and three men were enticed from the barracks by a fictitious letter informing another "distiller," and the racks were entered shortly afterwards by a number of men, who looked the sergeants wife up in the cell, bound the guard's hands and feet, and took away the articles which had been seized.

## DONEGAL.

On Jan. 29th, solemn ceremonies in commemoration of the anniversary of the death of the late Dr. McDevitt, Bishop of Raphoe, were celebrated in the pro-cathedral, Letterkenney. The Office was chanted by the Very Rev. James Stephens, P.P., V.G., and the Rev. John Doherty, A.M. The Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by the Most Rev. Dr. Legge, who was assistant priest; Rev. W. Sheridan, deacon; Rev. Wm. Drummond, sub-deacon; Rev. James Walker, master of ceremonies; and Rev. Mr. Gallagher, A.M., second master of ceremonies.

## MAYO.

On January 25th, at Carnmen, near Ballyhaunis, a crowd of about 400 men and boys congregated, and commenced rebuilding the house of a man named Rourke, from which he had been evicted some time ago. The landlord hearing it, dispatched messengers to the nearest police depots reporting the occurrence. All the Constabulary procurable proceeded at once to Carnmen, and sought to prevent the people from rebuilding the house. The completion of the house Rourke and his family were again installed in it.

A Tenants' Defence Association, in connection with the Irish National Land League, was formed at Kilmalee, on Jan. 29th.

The Castlebar Guardians, on Jan. 24th, resolved to request the Lord Lieutenant to call Baranial Sessions for opening public works at Castlebar as speedily as possible. A second resolution recommended the Government to grant a substantial subsidy out of the Church Surplus Fund to aid small farmers to seed their lands, and relieve the destitute widows and orphans unit for employment on public works.

A large and representative meeting was held on Jan. 28th, at the Hotel, Ballinrobe, for the purpose of stating a branch of the Irish National Land League, for P. J. O'Malley occupied the chair. After the rules of the League were read, the following executive was appointed:—P. J. O'Malley, president; P. J. O'Malley, treasurer; H. Monahan, secretary; Messrs. P. Curran, J. Mansergh, Miles McDermott, and Francis Fahy, assisting committee.

## GALWAY.

In anticipation to the appointment of Mr. George Morris, M.P., of Galway, to the vacancy in the Local Government Board created by the death of the late Mr. Bellew, Mr. Orrell Lever has issued an electioneering address to the electors of the City of the Tribes.

## SLIGO.

At the Sligo Quarter Sessions, on Jan. 29th, before Mr. Hamill, the County Court Judge, there were no less than twenty-eight civil bills for non-payment of rent. Miss Ellen McHugh, has remitted 50 per cent on the year's rent now due by the tenants on her property in the barony of Lefny, county Sligo.

## LEITRIM.

Mrs. Halpin, Gowran Hall, Kingstown, has made an abatement on the Willowfield Estate, county Leitrim, of 20 per cent on each tenant whose rent does not exceed £100 yearly.

## Meetings.

**CATHOLIC MUTUAL BENEFIT ASSOCIATION.**—The regular meetings of London Branch No. 1 of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association, will be held on the first and third Monday of every month, at the hour of 8 o'clock, in our rooms, Castle Hall, Albion Block, Richmond St. Members are requested to attend punctually. ALEX. WILSON, Sec.-Sec.

## Situations.

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