

Starving by the Wayside.

AN INCIDENT IN THE IRISH FAMINE.

By Patrick Scully, County.

"The first case I remember was that of an old woman who sat on the moorland threshold of her hut as we went by, lifting up her hands as if in supplication for pity."

"Nothing has passed my lips in twenty-four hours. I never knew the value of a loaf of bread until that moment. When we gave her half a loaf, she took it with the eagerness of a famished dog. She trembled with age and weakness, for she was over seventy years of age, and hunger had reduced her to the likeness of a skeleton. There was a glare in her eye that told of famine. She stood up in the middle of the road and thanked us."

"But Americans had not forgotten Ireland. Official reports, made March 16, by the Rev. George Heppner, B. D. D."

"She sat by the bank wayside. At her feet, a wretched, shivering dog. Aged and wasted and gaunt, she cried, 'With the hunger of a dog, I am here.'"

"Mereiful God, the giver of all. The beautiful pallor of the earth contains. My heart is wrung up in hunger's pain. My limbs are palsied with hunger's pangs."

"Mother and grandmother I have been. Where are my children?—gone from me. Ah, some are laid in the churchyard green, and some are lying in the sea. Oh, and alone and nothing to eat. The faintness of famine enfolding age—God of mercy, how my heart is sweet. It would this terrible famine assuage!"

"Gnawing and gnawing and gnawing again. Gnawing this poor old heart away. Gnawing by night and gnawing by day. Famine and feeble and nothing to eat. No blood in my veins. My heart is sweet. God of mercy, but death were sweet!"

"Herd through life have I toiled and toiled. And though there was want I was cheerful still. But now old age has broken and spoiled the will. The health and strength that supported the old."

"I'm faint—ah, soon I will need no dole—But, ah! the pain of this poor old head; God of heaven, receive my prayer. What's that you say, 'loaf of bread!'"

"And you're from America, far away. She raised her head and tottered up. On her feeble feet, while the famine ray gleamed out from her eyes' deep hollowed cup!"

"I thank Thee, God! and a feeble arm. And Ireland's name, 'the cheerless sky.' America hears our wail's alarm. And Ireland's name, 'the cheerless sky.'"

"And she was an emblem of Erin there. Sitting alone by the roadside. Of the millions, plundered and famished and gay. Her life ebbed out upon famine's tide. But see! there's a strong and a succoring hand."

"The God of the Nations directs it well—Strengthened out to the fertile but famished land. The steel-sworded hand of the brave Parrel!"

New York, March 13, 1880.

NEWS FROM IRELAND.

ANTRIM.

A boat containing a number of workmen were swamped while crossing the river at Belfast on Wednesday, March 2d. Several were rescued, but it is feared many were drowned, the strong current rendering the work of rescue one of great difficulty.

CORK.

Canon McSwiney, P. P., communicated to the Band of Guardians on Wednesday, March 3d, a resolution passed by the clergy of the Deanery of Bandon, stating that deep and widespread distress prevail in each and every parish of the union, and asking the Board to exercise their powers of granting outdoor relief in a liberal spirit.

The numerous friends and admirers of the Rev. John O'Hea, C. C., Clonakilty, have learned that this estimable young priest is about to leave for America in a few weeks, for the purpose of collecting funds for the completion of the new church of the Immaculate Conception, Clonakilty. This beautiful building, when finished, will be one of the finest ecclesiastical structures in the South of Ireland, and worthily rank among the grand cathedrals of our country. The huge altars are erected, the fine stained glass windows are fixed in, and men are employed at the tiling, so that in a short time it will be fit for dedication; but owing to the adverse and depressed times, the funds are now exhausted, and there is a great debt owing. Father O'Hea is a nephew of the late lamented and illustrious Dr. O'Hea, late Bishop of Ross.

The late Dr. Donovan, SKIBBEREEN.—The loss of this gentleman is described to us as another heavy blow given to the Catholic community in that district, as well as a loss to the whole population in respect of medical skill. To the family of the deceased the affliction is one of the heaviest kind. The only way in which it can be alleviated is by the appointment of Dr. John Donovan, now of Ballinacorney, to the post rendered vacant by the death of his lamented brother. No question of competency can arise. Dr. John Donovan possesses in a high degree the professional ability which has been so conspicuous in his family, while his appointment would be not only a great benefit to the poor of the neighborhood, but would be a solace to the popular feeling of sorrow.—Cork Examiner.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of Kanturk on Monday, March 1st, some dissatisfaction was expressed at the cost of the proposed waterworks, but it was decided that the scheme might be proceeded with on condition that the guardians get the work done by contract so as to ensure that the outlay shall not exceed the engineer's estimate of £2,000.

A special meeting of the Mallow Relief Committee was summoned on March 3d by Archbishop O'Regan to consider Mr. Coope's recent statements in respect to the amount of the distress in Mallow. After hearing the Archbishop and Mr. Coope the committee decided that the controversy was one into which they had better not enter lest it should give rise to discussions injurious to the interests of the poor.

DONEGAL.

The Bill in reference to the Ulster tenant right, which recently received a second reading with the assent of the Government, enacts that all holdings within the district where the tenant right exists shall be presumed to be subject to it, unless the contrary can be shown by the landlord, that the compensation shall no longer be limited to the amount fixed by the rules of the estate, and that tenants under leases shall be entitled to claim compensation on the expiration of their terms. The anxiety shown by the Marquis of Hamilton and Lord Castlereagh for the passage of the Bill shows that a pro-

has made among the Ulster Tories, and the serious apprehensions with which they are looking forward to the general election.

Speaking of the memoir just published of the late Bishop of Raphoe—Right Rev. Dr. McDevitt—Cardinal Newman says: "The Irish Church has some great losses lately, which were beyond all expectation. It is a high gratification to me to find that the deceased prelate took so much interest in what I have written. I am now close on eighty, and have brought my writings to an end. It is a serious thing to have written so much, and therefore the more valuable is the favorable judgment of men of name."

We are very glad to be able to record this high testimony in reference to a book which has been truly described as "interesting alike to the pastor of souls, the statesman, the patriot, the printer, the teacher and the pious Christian. The life of the great prelate's life is told with a fascinating grace, and with a deep-felt veneration for the subject of it—a circumstance which makes it difficult to decide which to admire most—the pre-eminence merits of the deceased prelate, or, unconsciously to himself, his left his 'footprints on the sands of time,' or the 'grace and modesty in which that exemplary and holy life is, as it were, photographed in the pages before us."

GALWAY.

On Saturday, the 6th of March, the Archbishop of Tuam entered on the twentieth year of his age, in the enjoyment of wonderful vigor of mind and body. As evidence of his energy we need only mention the fact that on last Christmas morning his Grace, as usual, celebrated his three Masses without leaving the altar. Fervent prayers, we have no doubt, will be universally offered upon Saturday morning for the prolongation of a life devoted from the day on which the first letter of Hierophilus was written—viz., the 24th of January, 1829, in good report and excellent health, without any of the usual ailments of old age, and without any of the usual ailments of old age, and without any of the usual ailments of old age.

LIMERICK.

The Grand Jury of Limerick county were sworn in on Wednesday, March 3d, Mr. J. B. Massey being foreman, and the High Sheriff announced that the commission would be opened on Thursday. At the instance of the Limerick Corporation the Grand Jury consented to enter into a contract with the Limerick Industrial School for the reception of twenty-five boys in addition to the number already sanctioned.

LONDONDERRY.

THE DISTRESS AT CULDADE.—The picture, "Entrance to Lough Swilly," given by Miss Harvey, Queen street, Derry, in aid of the Cuddeledge Relief Fund, was raffled on Thursday, Feb. 26th, and won by B. J. Dorens. A small drawing, added in a few minutes, fell to the lot of Captain Elphinstone, R. N., Exmouth. The proceeds of £10s. have been forwarded to the treasurer of the relief fund at Cuddeledge.

MONAGHAN.

The Guardians of the Carrickmacross Union in Monaghan were on Thursday, March 4th, besieged by deputation from the ratepayers, who wanted to present memorials against out-door relief. The memorialists were greatly excited at the prospect of having their works which had been attacked by the Master and the relieving officer, who had to lock themselves up. Ultimately the Guardians called to the police.

TIPPERARY.

A crowd of laborers rushed into the Tipperary Board room on Wednesday, March 3d, while the Guardians were sitting, and declared that they would not starve. A boisterous scene ensued, the men refusing to allow the Guardians to leave until they had ordered them out of the room. They were pacified with great difficulty, and an assistant relieving officer appointed.

WATERFORD.

At a meeting of the Corporation on Tuesday, March 2nd, the Mayor said that as the city was now scheduled on the distress list, he had got Mr. R. H. Ryan to draw up a list of sanitary works which would be necessary, and which they could borrow the money at one per cent. Mr. Ryan had handed in a list, chiefly of sewerage works, which would cost £2,250. He thought they might apply for £4,000 or £5,000 to carry out approved sanitary works, which would give the desired employment. Alderman Redmond moved, and Mr. Kelly seconded—"That the Town Clerk be directed to apply for a loan of £5,000 for sanitary works, at one per cent." The resolution was carried on a division.

WATERFORD.

An application was made to the Master of the Mills on Wednesday, March 3rd, on behalf of the contractors for the Waterford, Dungarvan, and Lismore Railway for the appointment of a receiver to collect the amount of the baronial guarantee and apply it in payment of the large debt due to them. The Master of the Mills held that the guarantee was not applicable to the payment of the debts of the company, and that it was payable only to the shareholders who had advanced their money on the faith of receiving it. The application was accordingly rejected.

WATERFORD.

Padre Pio Mortara, once the Jewish boy Edgar Mortara, but now a priest in the Congregation of the Lateran Regular Canons, is at present in France engaged in the labor of preaching. His health is not at all what could be wished. He writes to a friend:—"My mother is still the same (a Jewess). This leads me to pray for her more fervently than ever. Oh, that it would please God to take my life in exchange for the soul of her from whom I received it."

IRISH VALOR.

A SPEECH FOR ENGLAND TO CONSIDER IN THIS HOUR OF IRELAND'S DISTRESS.

WITHOUT CATHOLIC BLOOD AND CATHOLIC VALOR NO VICTORY COULD HAVE BEEN OBTAINED.

The Duke of Wellington in 1829, addressing the House of Lords in favor of Catholic Emancipation, observed: "It is already well known to your grace, that the fact which our country trusts to my command at various periods during the war—a war undertaken expressly for the purpose of securing the happy institutions and independence of the country—that at least one-half were Catholic. My lord, when I call to you the fact which I have just mentioned, I do not mean to say that Catholicism is unnecessary. Your lordships are well aware of what length of period and under what difficult circumstances they maintained the empire buoyant upon the flood which overwhelmed the thrones and wrecked the institutions of every other people. How they kept alive the spark of freedom which was left unextinguished in Europe; and how by unprecedented efforts they at length placed us, not only above danger, but at an elevation of prosperity for which we had hardly dared to hope. These, my lords, are the achievements of a nation's sacred and patriotic blood. My lords, it is become quite needless for me to assure you that I have invariably found my Catholic soldiers as patient under privations, as eager for the combat, and as brave and determined in the field as any other portion of his majesty's troops; and in point of loyalty and devotion to their king and country I am quite certain they have never been surpassed. I claim no merit in admitting that others might have guided the course of the battle as skilful as myself. We have only to recur to the annals of our military achievements to be convinced that a few indeed of our commanders have not known how to direct the unconquerable spirit of their troops and to shed fresh glories round the British name. But, my lords, while we are free to acknowledge this, we must also confess that the remainder of the troops which our victory could have been obtained, and the first military talents might have been exerted in vain at the head of an army. My lords, if on the eve of any of those hard-fought days on which I had the honor to command, then I had thus addressed you, I should have said, 'I know that your country either respects your loyalty or so dislikes your religion that she has not thought proper to admit you amongst the ranks of her citizens; if on that account you deem it an act of justice on your part to withdraw, I am quite sure, my lords, that however bitter the recollections which it awakened, they would have spurred the alternative system of honor, which I had thus addressed you, I should have said, 'I know that your country either respects your loyalty or so dislikes your religion that she has not thought proper to admit you amongst the ranks of her citizens; if on that account you deem it an act of justice on your part to withdraw, I am quite sure, my lords, that however bitter the recollections which it awakened, they would have spurred the alternative system of honor, which I had thus addressed you, I should have said, 'I know that your country either respects your loyalty or so dislikes your religion that she has not thought proper to admit you amongst the ranks of her citizens; 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