

of 20 per cent. The Sisters of Mercy, Bantry, have given their tenants reductions of 40 and 50 per cent. Captain Townsend, agent for the estate of the representatives of the late John Hyde, attended on November 20, at his office to receive rents from the Derryvillona, Oahirrin, Tara-raunt, Beunealt, Billiarrough, Ballynahin, and Gactaahauna tenants. Reductions were granted in the case of every tenant holding under judicial rents or otherwise. A permanent reduction was further made for waste lands amounting from 15 to 20 per cent. A uniform temporary reduction of from 20 to 25 per cent. was given the other tenants who paid up the rents just called, whilst in the cases of those at present not in a position to pay ample time was allowed. Mr. La Touche, of Dublin, has given his Island tenants at Killyvullen an abatement of 20 per cent. The tenants of the Balliarober property have been given a like abatement.

Now let us (*United Ireland*, December 21) see what has been going on down at Cork, in the court presided over by that brilliant judicial luminary, Chief Justice Morris. Passing over the fact that the Crown resorted in the most unblushing manner to its old dodge of packing the jury box by the familiar process of the exclusion of Catholics, we find a jury of eight Protestants and four Catholics trying the case in which a couple of Kerymen were charged with "moonlighting" at Feale Bridge. The case rested on the evidence of a police constable named Power. This man with another head-constable and six sub-constables, had been drinking in the public-house of a man named Mangan, and a lot of young men rapped at the door, whereupon the police rushed out and a series of fustillades took place, with the result that one of the newcomers was wounded. On their own showing the policemen were drinking in the house at the time, and on the evidence of the publican they had drunk a good deal—as much as must have made most men intoxicated—and they were playing cards for drink for a considerable time. The publican stated that the men who knocked at the door wanted to get drink only, and the evidence of his family corroborated this version of the affair. No candid man, after the perusal of the evidence, could fail to see that the policemen were drunk, and that they fired on a lot of young men who were only engaged on an errand similar to their own—namely, looking for drink. Yet the jury had no hesitation in accepting the policeman's version of the story and convicting the prisoners. Had these same prisoners been arraigned before the Orange jury in Omagh, these could not have settled the business one whit more neatly or expeditiously.

DERRY.—At Maghera Petty Sessions on November 17, before Major Clark, J.P., Garret Nagle, B.M., and Robert W. Forrester, J.P., four young farmers named William McQuade, Francis McKeffrey, Dominick Bradley, and Joseph Convery, were charged with having assembled on the public road in the townlands of Swateragh and Laragh to disturb the public peace; and they were further charged at the same time and place with discharging firearms. The evidence was very contradictory. During the cross-examination of the Crown witnesses the solicitor for the prisoners, James Brown, Magherafelt, was called to order by the Chairman and ordered to resume his seat, which he declined to do, and was, by direction of the magistrates, removed from the court. Shortly afterwards Mr. Brown's clerk came into court and served the magistrates with a notice threatening proceedings for unlawful arrest, claiming £1,000 damages. The defence was an *alibi*, and several witnesses were examined for the accused. The Bench decided on returning William McQuade, Francis McKeffrey, and Dominick Bradley for trial, and refused informations in the other case.

DOWN.—The following advertisement recently appeared in the Belfast *News Letter*:—"An appeal to Conservatives.—A respectable farmer in County Down, who owes £30—two years' rent—is noticed to be put out if it be not paid at once. He has expended time, labour, and expense in furthering the interests of the Conservative cause, and he, therefore, makes this appeal to Loyalists to help him out of his difficulty. Particulars of case given by applying to H., 20859, *News Letter Office*." It would have been better for this "respectable farmer" to have cast his lot with his fellows, instead of giving his time and money to the cause of the land lords, one of whom is about to evict him for his pains.

DUBLIN.—Typhoid fever has broken out among the 4th Dragoon Guards, on account of the unsanitary state of the Royal Barracks.

A special meeting of the Dublin Corporation was held on December 3, for the purpose of considering the recent action of the Government with reference to the National League meetings and the prosecution of Mr. Dillon. None of the Conservative members of the Council were present. Mr. Sexton proposed a resolution offering an emphatic protest against the conduct of the Government in its "illegal and wanton attack on the people of Sligo," in its suppression of the Sligo meeting, in its employment of an ancient disused statute to institute legal proceedings against Mr. Dillon, and declaring that the provocative cause must be strongly condemned as tending to public peril and confusion. The resolution added that the Council trusted that the British people would observe how the Government were fulfilling the pledge of the Chief Secretary at Bristol, on November 13, in saying they would deal with Ireland by the quiet, steady, and constitutional administration of the ordinary law. Mr. Sexton said the constitutional administration of the law with which they were familiar meant the rope, the baton, and the bayonet. The resolution was carried unanimously, and ordered to be forwarded to the Chief Secretary, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. Morley.

A phenomenal issue of the semi-occult publication known to the searchers after hidden literature as the *Dublin Gazette*, was produced on Saturday night intimating that Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and the Lord Chancellor of Ireland regarded the Plan of Campaign as "a criminal and unlawful conspiracy" (says *United Ireland*, December 24), and warning all persons against taking any part in carrying it out. This proceeding is quite of a piece with all Castle doings. Seeing that the defendants in the several summons cases have to answer for their action in this matter, and that the chief point juries will have to try is whether they were or were not engaged in a "criminal and unlawful conspiracy," to use the graceful and concise

language of his Serene Highness of Saxe-Weimar and his lordship the Lord Chancellor, these exalted functionaries take it on them to decide the question once and forever offhand and beforehand. This has been the Castle way ever since the Castle was set up on Cork-hill. It declares what is lawful and what is unlawful with as cool an assumption of authority as if it were an infallible oracle and fountain of virtue and wisdom, and altogether independent of the facts that laws are made by Parliament and that there is such a function as that of a jury. Were an individual or a newspaper to prejudge a case in this coolly insolent way, he or it would soon be made to remember that there is such a thing as contempt of court and such defenders of public liberty as her Majesty's judges. But the Castle is as much above the law as the Roman Emperor was above grammar.

FERMANAGH.—On November 23 a splendid demonstration took place at Rosslea in honour of the memory of the Manchester Martyrs. Fully 5,000 persons were present. A delegation attended from the Monaghan Young Ireland Society, accompanied by the Brass Band of the Society. They were met at the border of the County Monaghan by John Toal, Patrick Flynn, Michael Cox, and Patrick Cox, accompanied by the Rosslea Flute Band and seventy torch bearers. A banner, on which were inscribed the words, "In memory of the Manchester Martyrs, Allen, Larkin, and O'Brien," and on the other side, "God Save Ireland," headed the procession. First came the banner, next the Young Ireland delegation, next the Young Ireland Band, Rosslea Flute Band, Elligesh Band, and Stonebridge Band. The procession halted opposite the residence of Edward Madden, Lakesfield, and the Young Ireland Band played a selection, finishing with "God Save Ireland." No halt was made until they reached the Catholic Church, where a Requiem Mass had been celebrated that morning by the Rev. P. McKean, P.P., for the happy repose of the souls of Ireland's martyred dead. Here the procession again halted; the order slow march was given, and the MacManus Band commenced the "Dead March." The windows of the town were illuminated. On reaching Keenan's hotel "God Save Ireland" was neatly performed by the four bands consecutively. By this time the procession had assumed vast proportions. Four clergymen were present. A Government reporter named McCoy, from Monaghan, with two detectives, was present, but was compelled to write his stenography inconveniently, as he would not be allowed a seat on the platform.

GALWAY.—On November 22 the prosecution of Dr. Francis Tully for using threatening language at a meeting of Mrs. Lewis' and Sir H. Burke's tenants, held at Capacon, near Ballinagar, attracted crowds to the Woodford court-house. After a lengthened hearing Dr. Tully was ordered to find bail in £50, and two sureties of £25 each, or in default to be committed to Galway gaol for three calendar months. Dr. Tully, amid great cheers, declared he would follow Father Fahy's example. When he was being removed from the court-house on a car in the direction of the road leading to Galway prison a scene of the wildest nature took place. The force of constables was not so great as usual. Only for the strenuous exertions of the popular leader, who were appealed to by the police, there would have been serious trouble.

KERRY.—On December 1, on the Great Southern and Western Railway line of railway between Castlemaine and Molahiffe, a man named Michael Cullatty was struck by the train while opening the gates and killed on the spot.

In Dublin on November 29 a solicitor named Kennedy, practising at Dingle, sued Mrs. Benner, proprietress of a hotel at Tralee, for damages in consequence of having been refused accommodation. Plaintiff had been engaged in negotiating with Lord Cork's tenantry, and the local branches of the National League had issued notices against him. The jury found for the plaintiff £3 damages without costs.

Just before dawn on the morning of November 23, a staff of six bailiffs, accompanied by about twenty constables, proceeded on side-cars to the property of which Charles Morphy, solicitor, Tralee, is agent, for the purpose of seizing stock for rent. The train of cars was very large, there being no less than eight of them occupied, and so was easily distinguished coming along the road. Before they were half the way horns were sounding in all directions. At the time the bailiffs reached their destination they could not find a beast on any farm. They were all driven off to the holdings adjoining those on which the seizures were to take place. This is about the sixth time the bailiffs were disappointed in a like manner in this quarter.

An imposing celebration to honour the memory of Allen, Larkin, and O'Brien, came off at Tralee on November 28. Twelve months ago the Nationalists of Tralee had unveiled in Rath churchyard a splendid memorial cross on the occasion of which Mr. Davitt, who performed the ceremony, delivered a powerful address. The cross was now tastefully decorated with flowers and wreaths, and the entrance to the churchyard was hung with becoming drapery. A procession was formed near the Dominican church, to which place thousands of people, from different parts of the County, thronged. Long before the hour fixed for starting the contingents arrived and took the places assigned to them. There could not be less than eight thousand persons present in all. The following bands were present:—Tralee Young Ireland Society Band, Tralee Fife-and-drum band, Listowel Brass Band, and Causeway Brass Band.

KILDARE.—At the meeting of the Guardians of the Naas Union on November 24, a notice of eviction was read from Sir Erasmus D. Burrowes against Thomas Lee, of Greaybby.

Very Rev. Dr. Murphy, P.P., on November 28, was installed as Chairman of the Kildare Branch of the League in the place of the late lamented Dr. Kavanagh, his predecessor in the pastorate of the parish. In accepting the position his reverence said:—"I am by sentiment and by conviction an Irish Nationalist. I stand on every plank of the National platform."

KILKENNY.—The Ballyragget tenants of Arthur McMurrugh; Kavanagh having refused to pay any rent unless they get a reduction of 50 per cent. that amiable land-thief has placed the collection of his imposts in the hands of the Lord Lieutenant.