

## Irish News.

**ANTRIM.**—On December 6 in the offices of the Local Marine Board Belfast, a young sailor named Hugh Sampson was presented with a silver medal and diploma, awarded him by the French Government in recognition for his gallant services in rescuing the shipwrecked crew of the French schooner, Santa Anna, of Paimpol, off the coast of Portugal, on January 20 last.

At a late meeting of the Belfast Corporation the estimates for the ensuing year were submitted, and amongst them was one for a late special rate for malicious injuries sustained by parties during the riots. The claims which have been allowed by the Corporation for such injuries during the year, in excess of the £1,000 payable out of the General Purposes Rate, amounted to £1,730 10s 5d; and other claims have been made, amounting to £5,416 8s, but have not yet been adjudicated upon. It was agreed to strike a special rate of 2d in the pound on all rateable property within the lighted and watched districts, and 1d on all other rateable property within the borough.

Great excitement was caused in Belfast on November 27 by the arrest of two of the leading members of the Ulster Land, Building, and Investment Company, whose affairs have been for some time rather prominently before the public. The Vice Chancellor made the order for the arrest of Mr. Thompson, chairman of the Company, and his son-in-law, Mr. Moncrieff, an ex-director, on the affidavit of the liquidator that they were about to leave the country to avoid examination and payment of calls; further, that they were disposing of their furniture and about to take their departure. An order was also made to seize their goods and chattels. The warrants were duly issued and despatched to Belfast, and no time was lost in executing them. The prisoners remained in gaol under remand.

**ARMAGH.**—All the tenants on the estates of Ferdinand Loughran, in this County, have purchased their holdings under Lord Ashbourne's Act at the rather high rate of nineteen years' rental.

At the Ulster Winter Assizes on December 6, James Hart was charged with the murder of Thomas Gallagher during the riots in Lurgan on the 8th June. After hearing evidence the jury found the prisoner not guilty and he was discharged. On the following day, Arthur Donnelly, a merchant of Lurgan, was tried for firing a revolver in the street on the day that Gallagher was killed. In this case the jury disagreed, nine being for acquittal. Both verdicts were regarded as Nationalist triumphs, and there were popular demonstrations which led to disturbances. The house of Mr. Sloane, a prominent citizen, was wrecked, and the windows of several houses were broken. Bonfires were lighted in the streets, and the opposing crowds became so disorderly that the police authorities requisitioned for military assistance, and two troops of dragoons were sent to the town. Extra constables were also drafted into the town.

**CAVAN.**—On November 28 a meeting of tenants on the estate of the Marquis of Headfort was held in the Market House, Virginia, in order to contradict a statement made by M. W. O'Connor, the agent, that the bulk of the tenants were paying the rents and checks were coming in regularly. Out of the 317 tenants on the estate 185 attended. Fifty were unable through physical inability to be present, and a good many others had not heard of the intention to hold a meeting, and therefore did not attend. Those who did attend stated positively that they had not paid, and would not as long as the landlord maintained his present attitude.

**CLARE.**—On December 4, the body of a private named Hobarty, belonging to the detachment of the Enniskillen Fusiliers stationed at Clara Castle, was found floating in the River Fergus near the Clare Slob Reclamation Works.

All the tenants on Whitby's West Clare estate farm Carrigholt, Rahona, Moyarta, and Killober have been allowed from 20 to 40 per cent on their judicial rents. Where a tenant or his wife died during the year a gale's rent was forgiven to the husband or wife. Where cattle died on the tenants similar concessions were given, and very poor tenants were given money to tide them over the winter as well as receiving clear receipts for all arrears to start on anew. Marcus Keane's tenants have been allowed from 30 to 40 per cent on the old judicial rents, according to the exigencies or condition of the tenants.

In fifty years a more terrific storm has not been experienced in Kilrush and Kilkee than the one that raged from midnight on December 7, to noon the following day. The damage sustained by the houses in town is incalculable, while the Kilrush Workhouse especially the hospital and infirmaries, are almost completely wrecked, and the damage done to the Kilrush Convent is very great. Several of the largest trees in Mr. Vandeleur's demesne around Kilrush House were torn up by the roots. The steamers plying to Limerick ceased to ply, and two large vessels passed in the Shannon in a completely disabled state. Such a day and night have not been experienced in half a century. A number of accidents have been reported of persons whose business compelled them to go out. The tide at one o'clock rose unusually high, and went over the Revenue Pier at Cappa, access to the steamer offices being almost impossible and extremely perilous.

**CORK.**—On December 1, a party of voluntary laborers on the farm of John Griffin, Ballyratry, ceased work on learning that Griffin had paid his rent.

At Newmarket Petty Sessions on December 3, an Emergencyman named Nunan was prosecuted for having assaulted a policeman named Lynch in the hut where they are stationed at Scarteen. The offence having been proved the defendant was fined 20s and costs.

Cork defence Union held their monthly meeting on December 4. The report read by the Secretary stated the Union was still rendering efficient aid to boycotted farmers. About 50 men were in the employment of the Union at present, and about 35 employed in working for boycotted farmers.

Such a gale as has not been experienced on this coast for over a quarter of a century swept the harbor of Queenstown for over 24 hours on December 8 and 9. Several vessels were seriously damaged;

all telegraphic communication was broken, and the Cross-Channel and Trans-Atlantic steamers were delayed for hours.

Queenstown Town Commissioners at their meeting on December 6, were given notice of motion by Major Curry that at their next meeting notice be served on O. G. Doran that his services as manager of the waterworks would not be required after February 20, next, as they had no need for so highly-paid an official, and because Mr. Doran had several times grossly insulted members of the Board. Mr. Doran has long been identified with the National cause in Cork.

**DERRY.**—Derry Corporation at a meeting on Nov. 29 decided to build the new Town Hall of stone from Dumfries in Scotland in preference to a superior article from the neighboring quarries of Mountcharles, in the County Donegal.

At the Derry Presentment Session on December 1, Robert Forsythe, Bishop street (without) was granted £10 compensation for loss and damage inflicted on houses and buildings, his property, at Abercorn Place on July 21. Mrs. Mary Ann Roddy was allowed £5 to compensate her for a window glass and a window screen, her property being maliciously broken and destroyed at Bishop street on July 6. Thos. O'Hanlan and Co. were granted £30 to compensate them for injury sustained by reason of a number of windows, their property, being maliciously broken and destroyed at Bishop's Gate on July 12. All these claims arose out of Orange riots.

Recently the tenantry of Rev. R. W. Browne, Donaghmore, Tyrone, having holdings in the townlands of Busker, Tralee, Tam-laght, Mowilliam, and Ballinderry, in this county, feeling the pressure of the times forwarded a memorial to the reverend landlord asking for a substantial reduction in the half-years' rent now due. Amongst the other reasons suggested why such abatement should be allowed was "that the majority of the landlords of Ireland were granting large abatements, as the public prints daily testify." The tenantry have received a flat refusal of their request. The minister in's on his pound of flesh, and somewhat peevishly declares that "if the public prints would leave off encouraging discontent, and encourage industry and thrift, it might be better."

**DONEGAL.**—On December 1, a stirring scene was enacted in Inver around the temporary abode of Michael Griffen. Mr. Griffen was evicted two years ago from his farm, held under William Scaife, and it was resolved by the local branch of the National League to aid him in a manner most available as a wounded soldier in the Land War. Pursuant to a resolution of the branch convoys with large quantities of potatoes converged on his dwelling in the afternoon. The Inver fife and drum band headed the main convoy. As they neared their destination they found to approach from various other points of the compass contingents almost as imposing as their own. The evicted Michael Griffen stood in front of his sheering, and, seeing himself beset on every side with succour, could scarcely refrain from tears of gladness, and, as he said himself, that moment he felt compensated if it were the case that he had been evicted twenty times over.

On November 30, a remarkably imposing meeting was held at Dungloe to protest against a number of evictions that are pending on the island of Arranmore. From an early hour in the morning parties from the outlying districts commenced to arrive in the town, and it was evident that the demonstration would be a very large one. Shortly after 12 o'clock a procession, headed by a waggone, in which were Mr. Bernard Kelly, M.P., and Mr. M. McCartan, M.P., and other gentlemen, left the town to meet the Gweedore and other contingents the former of which numbered over 600 members. Some of the contingents travelled nearly 20 miles, and there was no distance in many miles around which was not represented. The procession was accompanied by the following bands, each of which had a most appropriate banner: Dungloe Hibernian Fife and Drum, Meenacross, Kesh, Acre, Meenmore, Glenahilt, Anaghra, Keadue, Gweedore. The bandsmen were attired in suitable uniforms. The procession was led by Mr. James Glackin, a bard, who, mounted on a horse, was attired in a uniform of green and gold, and carried a harp, the horse being led by two pages similarly attired. The horsemen—of whom there were a very large number—went two deep, and the pages went four deep. Shortly after one o'clock a meeting was held in front of the head of the town. The attendance numbered fully 5,000, and a Government official who was present estimated it at a much higher figure. It was significant to note that Lord Enniskillen was an interested auditor. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed, and the demonstration was one of the most successful yet held in the County.

**DUBLIN.**—The statue which it is intended to erect over the grave of Dr. Cahill in Glasnevin Cemetery is now approaching completion, and will soon be in a condition to be removed from the studio of Mr. Cahill, the sculptor. The statue is a most striking one, and portrays the great orator in the act of addressing a congregation, attired in surplice and stole, which the sculptor has skillfully availed of to display some delicate *repoussé* work. The material employed is Irish limestone, which is much better adapted to the humid climate than the more commonly used Carrara marble; besides, the latter allows of a very high degree of finish, and altogether presents an appearance quite in keeping with the bold, striking character of the statue.

A promising crop of Irish tobacco has been raised in this County by Laurence McCormack on his farm at Lispopple, near Swords. The seeds employed were Havanna and Kentucky varieties, somewhat less than an acre of ground being devoted to the experiment. The seed was not sown until the middle of May and the plants not put out until late in June; but although nearly a month late and handicapped by a summer of unusually low temperature, the crop prospered and was cut by the end of the first week in September, put into drying sheds, and by November 20, cured and ready for packing. The quality and condition of the crop was favourably commented on by tobacco manufacturers and others who visited Lispopple, the colour, flavour, and condition auguring well for future experiments in this direction.

Marlborough street Cathedral was re-opened on December 8, after having undergone very extensive alterations and improvements.