

The appearance of the sacred edifice has been improved to an extent that would have at first seemed scarcely possible without an actual structural alteration. The brilliant colouring of the classic ornamentation has had a really wonderful effect in giving a lightness and warmth to the church, and the somewhat daring experiment of placing an "eye" in the summit of the dome has been quite justified by the result. Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by his Grace the Archbishop, assisted by the Dean and Chapter of Dublin, the assistant priest being Archdeacon McMahon; the Very Rev. Canon Horgan and Canon Dillon, assistant canons; Father Gowan, C.C., deacon; Father Coyle, C.C., sub-deacon. The Rev. Canon Fitzpatrick and Rev. Charles Ridgeway had charge of the ceremonies. The following members of the Hierarchy were present:—Archbishop McEvilly, Archbishop Croke, Dr. Carr, Archbishop Designate, of Melbourne; Dr. Donnelly, Bishop of Clogher; Dr. Donnelly, Bishop of Canea; Dr. Woodlock, Bishop of Ardagh; Dr. McCormack, Bishop of Achonry; Dr. Logue, Bishop of Raphoe; Dr. Gillooly, Bishop of Elphin; Dr. Conway, Bishop of Killala; and Dr. Dwyer, Bishop of Limerick. The attendance of the clergy was very large, representatives from nearly all the Orders having houses in this country being present. The following members of the Corporation attended in their robes:—The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, M.P.; Peter McDonald, M.P., High Sheriff; Rev. Robert Conlan, Chaplain; W. F. Dennehy, Secretary; Aldermen—Joseph Meade, J.P.; Peter Byrne, Laurence Mulligan, John Nagle; Councillors—John L. Robinson, C.E.; George Perry, Phillip Little, James J. Kennedy, Denis J. Cogan, Richard Toole, Henry J. Gill, M.P.; Edward McMahon, Henry Holahan, Patrick Cummins, and the civil officers.

FERMANAGH.—At the Kesh Petty Sessions on December 8, a summons at the suit of James Anderson against Charles McElrone for possession of a dwelling-house came up for hearing. It appeared from the evidence that McElrone, who is a labourer, was tenant to the plaintiff of a house in Gortachan at a rent of one shilling a week under a written agreement until about a month before last Revision Sessions for North Fermanagh, when plaintiff, who is a tenant of Captain Barton, made McElrone and his wife, under threat of eviction, sign an agreement by which McElrone declared he gave up possession of a dwelling-house to the plaintiff Anderson, and that his wife became tenant in his place. This was admittedly done by Anderson for the purpose of disfranchising McElrone who is a Nationalist. The Revising Barrister, however, refused to disfranchise him, inasmuch as the document was prepared in order to defeat the Franchise Acts. Accordingly Anderson served McElrone with a notice to quit, upon which he brought the present summons for possession. Mr. Wray contended that according to plaintiff's own showing McElrone's wife and not himself was tenant, and as she had been served with neither summons nor notice to quit, the plaintiff should fail. The Court ruled accordingly, and dismissed the case. The case excited great interest, and the defeat of the nefarious attempt to dishouse a Nationalist who had a vote was received with approval.

GALWAY.—On November 26, Hamilton Smith, agent on the property of Mr. Young, J.P., accompanied by some bailiffs and a small force of police, proceeded to Donula, a village on the seashore, for the purpose of evicting a man named McDonagh for the non-payment of rent. The ringing of the chapel bell gathered some hundreds of persons, armed with spades, scythes, etc., to the scene. They surrounded McDonagh's house and refused the bailiff admittance. Loud cheers were given for the Rev. Father Heaney, who was present, and groans were given for the agent, who left without carrying out the eviction.

The Bishop of Galway, has written to Prof. Townsend, J.P., hon. sec., of the committee appointed to prepare evidence to be given before the Industries Commission on behalf of the Galway and Clifden Railway, suggesting that the Government should be asked to undertake either directly or indirectly this most necessary work, and, if they refused, to abandon the project for the present and wait until a native Government will take it in hand. The Bishop describes the condition of the tenants in this vast district as miserable and abandoned. Combined flood, and fire, fever and passing famine, his lordship says, could not equal the chronic desolation produced.

A violent storm accompanied by heavy rain, commenced in Ballinasloe on the night of December 8, about 11 o'clock, increased in magnitude until morning, and blew all next day with unabated vigour. No storm that has visited Galway for a number of years has continued so long, and though the great storm of October, 1882, was more destructive to property in a short time the destruction caused by this storm will be more general. Slates, timber, branches of trees, and chimney-pots strewn the streets, rendering any kind of traffic impossible. The top of the scaffolding containing machinery for hauling up material of the new tower of St. Michael's Church, Ballinasloe, was entirely swept away into the Suck, but fortunately the other part of the scaffolding and the tower escaped uninjured. A portion of the wooden bridge across the River Suck, at River street, was damaged, and carpenters had to be employed to set it right. In the country trees have fallen across the roads, and most miraculous escapes are told of. Michael Hannon, agent, Canal Company, Harbour House, Ballinasloe, was out at the back of the house at about 10 o'clock, a.m., with one of his children, who followed him looking at the ravages of the storm. In the vicinity there is a rookery, 85 feet high, containing some thousand tons of stones, and which have been there for seventy years. On the top there is a bell, which was used in former times for the starting of packet boats. He had only been a few seconds in the place when he heard the bell commence ringing, and immediately it came tottering down, the whole place having given way. The debris flew in all directions, and Mr. Hannon having seized the child in his arms made good his escape, though stones fell on every side of him. In the City of the Tribes itself all the dock gates were smashed, and much damage done to the shipping in the quay.

KERRY.—A fearful storm swept over Killarney on December 8. Business had to be suspended in the town during all the forenoon.

and the window shutters of the stores left on lest the shop fronts would be shattered.

On December 6 George O'Gorman, Kilkennedee, a farmer on the estate of H. A. Herbert, Muckross, and who is living about five miles to the west of Killarney, in the parish of Ballyar, sold out all his goods, consisting of fifty tons of prime upland hay, ten tons of straw, ten tons of potatoes, forty tons of turnips, ten tons of mangolds, as Samuel Hussey, the agent, would not give him any reasonable concessions. After the sale the removal of the crops was proceeded with, and were removed miles away at an early hour. There were about eight hundred men and four hundred horses engaged in the working. Hussey, who was contemplating a seizure of O'Gorman's stock and crops, has been completely foiled.

KILDARE.—The Athy tenants of Ellen Butler have refused to pay any rent unless they get a reduction of 20 per cent.

At the meeting of the Naas Guardians on December 1 an eviction notice was received in the case of Edward Tisdall v. Richard Flood, from the lands of Wellfield, near Ballymore-Eustace.

On November 28 a crowd of farmers and labourers assembled to carry to its destination a wooden house which had been built by the Kildare branch of the Irish National League, for James Connolly and his family. The family were evicted some few months since from the home which he had occupied for nearly half a century at Bathilla, near Kildare. This house, constructed entirely of timber, is 20 feet long by 10 feet wide, and divided into two compartments. It was placed on wheels for conveyance to the site selected, which was kindly given by John Murray, a tenant on the same property, and opposite to the farm from which this poor old man and his family were turned out. A plentiful supply of horses and hundreds of fine stalwart boys vied with each other to assist, the structure was quickly hauled the two Irish miles and placed directly opposite James Connolly's former residence—now occupied by two emergency men.

KILKENNY.—Recently the Hon. Bellew Bryan offered to sell their holdings to the tenants on the Clough estate at 18 years' purchase. The tenants considered the rate of purchase too high and declined the offer.

At a late meeting of the Thomastown Board of Guardians eviction notices at the suit of Charles Tottenham and others against E. McGrath, Patrick White, John White, Patrick Dowling, and James Dowling, all of Uppergrange, were laid before the board.

LEITRIM.—At the meeting of the Drumshambo branch of the League on November 28 a resolution was passed unanimously condemning bog-grabbing. It was also resolved to return Francis Murray his subscription, he having earned it by working for grabbers. John McManus, Drumshambo, came before the meeting, and said that in future he would in no way infringe on the League rules. All present considered his apology sufficient.

At the meeting of the Carrick-on-Shannon Guardians on December 2, Relieving Officer McManus handed in eviction notices at the suit of Thomas Fox and Charles Fox, of Aughrania, the executors of Peter Early, against Patrick McCabe and Elizabeth McCabe. Notices were also received at the suit of John Ross Mahon against Francis McGourty, William McLaughlin, Michael Gordon, Michael McGaye, and others, of Drumstrim; James McKeon, Michael Corrigan, Myles Wynn, Stephen Wynn, Francis McTague, Michael Kearney, Edward Simpson, Michael Gordon, Owen Mulvey, and others. The agent is George Mahon, of Ballydonnel, Loughrea. These evictions are only the forerunners of many others threatened in the same district.

LIMERICK.—A fearful gale was experienced in the city on December 8, Great damage was done to Barrington's Hospital, the Workhouse, Literary Institute, and the Redemptorists' Church. Eight cases of accidents resulting from the storm were treated at Barrington's Hospital. Several houses in Irishtown were wrecked and burned. One schooner, the Osilla, owned by Mr. Glynn, Kilrush, broke loose and was dashed against the quay wall with great violence. She was completely wrecked, and after a short time sunk in the river.

At the meeting of the Limerick National League, on December 3, the question was discussed as to the action of Irish Nationalists in reference to the Queen's jubilee. Mr. W. Abraham deprecated any attempt to prove that Irish Nationalists were willing for one moment to sink their demand for self-government. Mr. Stephen O'Mara, the Mayor, said the Queen during her fifty years' reign had even in the famine year shown very little kindness to Ireland, and the Irish people could not help giving tit for tat. He thought Irishmen should take no part in the celebration, and that no offer of knighthood to mayors should be accepted.

Early on the morning of December 6, the houses of several Loyalist and other farmers in the Ashford district were visited by a party of some 15 men, who demanded arms. The party were armed and disguised, and were not recognized by any of the farmers. They visited among others the houses of Bartholomew Brennan and John O'Mahony, from each of whom they obtained a gun. They also visited the house of Edward Winter, where they obtained a revolver. The party met with no resistance, as the arms were given up freely. District-Inspector Tweedy visited the scene, but no clue to the identity of the raiders was discovered. After this official visit a later report showed that the raid was not confined merely to the Ashford district. The police learned that the house of John McCarthy, Drumdevon, was first visited, from whom they took a gun. The party, it is alleged, numbered 40, and were partly disguised and armed. From McCarthy's they crossed two hills towards Ashford, where a raid was made on three farmers' houses, and two guns and a revolver taken. Retracing their steps they crossed the hills and directed their steps towards Denis Daly's of Mount Plummer. It was about two o'clock in the morning when the Dalys were startled by the demand for admittance made upon them. Edmond, brother of Denis accordingly gave them admission. Four of the moonlighters held him, as also Denis, while the others of them ransacked the place for arms. One gun and the barrel of another were found. They next visited John Enright and took his double-barreled gun.