

# Irish News.

**ANTRIM.**—The fortnightly meeting of the Belfast National League was held in St. Mary's Hall on August 21, Father Convery, administrator, St. Peter's, in the chair. The meeting was one of the largest and most enthusiastic which ever has been held in connection with the branch, upwards of 3000 people being present. A number of ladies occupied seats on the platform and in the body of the hall. The chairman, in addressing the meeting, expressed his pleasure in seeing so many members present on the first meeting after the Government proclamation. It showed that it had no terror for them, but that they were determined to go on straight ahead for the achievement of the object which they all had at heart. Resolutions condemning the action of the Government in proclaiming the National League were enthusiastically adopted.

**ARMAGH.**—On August 20 Thomas W. Hewton, auctioneer, and H. Davidson, solicitor, attended at Drumconnel to sell the grass on two evicted farms in that townland. On one of the farms about eight acres of grass was put up for sale, and a sum of 9s was offered for it in a joking way by one of those in the crowd. An orchard containing an acre of good apples was next put up and a sarcastic offer of 4s was made for it. For one of the farms, containing 12 acres, the late tenant offered the liberal sum of 5s. It is needless to say that none of those offers was accepted and the sale had to be abandoned.

The tenants of the Ball Estate, Crossmaglen, are now paying their rents to Mr. Johnston, the agent, at a substantial reduction after a campaign of nearly eight months. The Plan of Campaign has succeeded in squeezing out of the trustees 10 per cent. for non-judicial and 5 per cent. for judicial tenants and 25 per cent. for the householders of Crossmaglen over and above what they determined would be their stand. During the fight civil bill processes, writs, and ejectment decrees were scattered broadcast over the estate, but with not the slightest effect upon the unanimity of the tenants. The bill of the costs during the campaign must have been a pretty nice sum.

On August 22 copies of the Government Proclamation of the National League were posted at the police barracks and at the courthouse in Armagh. A largely-attended meeting of the members of the National League was afterwards held in Ogle street, R. R. Gardner, the Nationalist candidate for mid-Armagh, at the last election, presiding. The following resolution was adopted:—Resolved: That we hail with delight the proclamation of the National League under the 6th section of the Coercion Act, as indicating on the part of the Government an inclination to come at once to the final stage of the struggle, which, according to Mr. Gladstone, can only end in one way; and we pledge ourselves to continue by every legitimate means the struggle bequeathed by our fathers for the rights and the removal of the grievances of our country.

**CAYAN.**—Reports from Bellurbet say that the state of the crops in that district is very discouraging. There has seldom been a year when there was such an entire failure of all kinds of farm produce as there is this year, owing to the great drought that existed during the latter part of May and beginning of June. The yield of potatoes, oats, and flax is absolutely not one-fourth of what it was last season. Although the potato fields are luxuriant and remarkably fine in appearance, still the tubers are small and not very numerous. The corn has ripened very quickly in high-lying districts, but it is very poor and short—so short, indeed, that it has to be pulled in many places. The small quantity of wheat grown is maturing rapidly, and appears not to have suffered so much from want of rain as other crops. Hay has nearly all been saved. The yield is much short of last year's supply, but the fine condition in which it has been saved will enable farmers to get a high price for it next spring. Turnips and mangels have improved in growth lately, but the yield will be small. Regarding other crops there is nothing favourable to be said, and it may be concluded that on the whole the prospect of the coming harvest is anything but encouraging.

**CLARE.**—On August 25, at Kilkee three young ladies were reading on the rocks, when a huge tidal wave suddenly broke over them and washed them away. One young lady saved herself by clinging to the rocks, and another was rescued, but the third was swept out to sea and drowned.

**CORK.**—Mallow Town Commissioners at a special meeting on August 23, passed a resolution strongly condemning coercion.

Emigrants from Queenstown during the week ended August 20, numbered 656, against 620 in the corresponding week of last year.

At Macroom and Youghal National League meetings on August 24, resolutions were passed condemning the proclamation, and pledging the members to still carry out the objects of the League.

Timothy O'Leary, of Prohas, near Millstreet, was marked out for eviction on the morning of August 23, for rent due to Sir George Colburn, but notwithstanding the Coercion Act and the statement of Mr. Irwin, R.M., that it was impossible to prevent the execution of legal decrees, he seems to have taken it into his head that he would not be evicted. He provided himself with a quantity of tar, some mops, and a few large-sized stones, and with this ammunition, he waged war upon eighteen policemen and five bailiffs during six hours. At the end of this period the law, very much tarred and feathered, retired. Immediately the neighbours gathered and repaired such portions of the defences as had yielded to the assault.

The sports of the Cork Young Men's Society under Gaelic Association rules came off on August 21, on the Park race track and proved very successful. The Barrack street band played a choice programme of music during the day. The ball was set rolling with the 150 yards club handicaps, which was well won by a promising athlete, J. Reid, who also secured the quarter and half mile open handicaps; O'Mahony, Antchlestown, won the shingling of the 66 pounds, and also

the throwing of the 14 pounds, while O'Sullivan, of Killiorghia, won the hop, step, and jump, with the fine performance of 47 feet 5 inches; Power, of Bullywalter, won the 220 yards flat and the 120 yards hurdle, the time in both being remarkably good. Lee, of Dublin, won the hundred yards. Noonan, of Cork, secured the pole jump, getting over 9 feet 3 inches in an exhibition jump. McSweeney, of Mounroe-abbey, won the mile, and Sheehan, of Blarney, carried off the three mile bicycle event. The Clubquarter fell to Cottrell. There was a number of tug-of-war contests, and the Emmet Football Club team proved the victors in the final tug.

At the last meeting of the New Glanmire National League (Rev. Thomas Shinkwin presiding) the following public notice was adopted and signed:—We, the undersigned farmers of the united parishes of Glanmire and Knockraha, beg to give public notice to the Catholic Guardians, both *en officio* and elected, who, either by their vote or absence, assisted the election of the present Chairman of the Cork Board of Guardians, that they are neither to hunt nor shoot over our lands during the coming season:—Denis Cantillon, John Cotter, Denis Donoghue, James O'Connor, James Hart, John Connell, Charles McCarthy, John Moore, Michael Duggan, Patrick Looney, John Kenely, sr.; John Kenely, jr.; Mathias Murphy, Michael Barry, Denis Fenton, Denis Murphy, James Geary, Thomas Mulcahy, Martin Fitzgerald, Daniel O'Sullivan, Cornelius Delaney, James Ahern, John Foley, John Walsh, Daniel O'Driscoll, John Hogan, William Ahern, jr.; John Graham, Wm. Ahern, sr.; John McGrath, Daniel Hogan, William Doyle, William Cashman, Cornelius O'Neill, Thomas McAuliffe, Patrick Ahern, Nicholas O'Brien, Richard Fitzgerald, Thomas Barry, Denis Lynch, Laurence Dunley, John Healy, Daniel Gleeson; Redmond Higgins, John Geary, Thomas Sheehan, Richard Donovan, hon. sec.

**DERRY.**—On August 23, Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., M.P., Governor of the Irish Society, performed the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new Town Hall, Derry, to the construction of which the Irish Society have contributed £16,000 and a free site in Waterloo Square. The members of the Corporation and of the Visitation at present in Derry, attended by the city sergeants and sword and mace bearers, took part in the proceedings, which were witnessed by an immense crowd.

**GALWAY.**—The bodies of Messrs. Thompson, Kinkead, and Roberts, students at Queen's College, Galway, whose drowning in Lough Corrib on August 16, we reported in our last issue, were recovered by a searching party on August 20. The funeral of Thompson and Kinkead took place on August 22, and was the most imposing one witnessed for a long time in Galway. A deputation of the students of the Queen's College in academic costume, the members of the four rowing clubs, the societies, and the past and present pupils of the Grammar School, the clergymen of every denomination, and a long line of carriages and cars followed the remains to the new cemetery. The universal regret which the melancholy accident evoked found a public manifestation quite unprecedented. Many messages of sympathy and condolence reached the bereaved relatives, including a very touching and pathetic one from the students of the Queen's College, presented to Professor Darcy Thompson and Professor Kinkead, sympathising with them in their great affliction. The funeral of young Roberts also took place on August 22, at Oughterard, and was largely and influentially attended.

**KERRY.**—At a place called Gortatlea, on the property of Mr. Herbert, of Muckross, five families were evicted on Aug. 22 and 23. The townland is about sixteen miles from Killarney, and is very wild. The rents are high, and in one case where a man named Scannell was evicted the Government valuation was £19 and the rent £56.

A most daring and successful raid for arms took place at noon on August 25 near Bathmore, situate on the bounds of the Counties of Kerry and Cork. As Dr. O'Sullivan, the dispensary physician at Croom and Bathmore, was about to attend to his duties he left in the car a gun which he occasionally takes with him. In about an hour after three disguised men, two of whom were armed, entered the coach-house. One of the armed party remained at the door, with his gun presented at the people, who had, as usual on dispensary days, assembled at the place for medical relief, whilst the second armed man proceeded to the carriage and took the gun. The three men then ran across the fields. Doctor O'Sullivan pursued them a short distance, and in doing so one of them turned round and fired towards the Doctor, but with the object only of intimidating the Doctor, who is popular in the district. The Doctor proceeded no further and was unable to form the most meagre opinion as to the identity of the parties. Intimation was at once given to the police at Banard, which is close to the scene of the occurrence. Head Constable Monahan and a party of police proceeded to the place, but could procure no information whatever that would lead to even a strong suspicion of the parties.

**KILDARE.**—The most extraordinary assemblage that has ever attended a sporting event in Ireland gathered at Ballsbridge grounds, Dublin, on August 20, to witness the great international four-mile race between E. C. Carter, the champion of America and England, and T. Conneff, a Kildare youth not yet 20 years of age, and whose name was unknown in racing circles until a few months ago. An hour before the time advertised for the opening of the gates, immense crowds converged on the scene of action, a considerable element of the countryfolk (most of whom, naturally, hailed from Kildare,) being perceptible in the concourse. Long before the time set for the start the gates had to be closed. Punctuality was rigidly observed, and but for the difficulty in getting through the mass of people the rivals would have been on their mark at the time named. As it was, they were but three minutes late, and at twelve minutes before seven exactly, the race began. Fifteen thousand people felt their suspense at an end and their interest at boiling point as the two athletes sped away. Conneff having waived his claim to toss for choice of stations, Carter started next the grass, and at once going to the front, made the pace pretty lively down the enclosure. Both men from the outset ran with a grace and freedom worthy of their reputations and emblematic of the high-class and perfectly-trained athletic. Lap