

Irish News.

Antrim.—Owing to the severe weather the potato crop in the Antrim district is in a very backward condition. Wheat looks well. Upland hay is behind its condition in former seasons, and meadow hay is somewhat better. There is a pretty large yield of flax. Turnips will not be a good crop unless we get some warm weather.

Armagh.—The crops have been seriously affected by the late heavy rains. Hay, which promised well in the early part of the season, is almost lost. At the Armagh grass seed market, which usually opens on the first Wednesday in August, there were only a few bags in one cart offered for sale. Flax, of which there was but a limited quantity sown, is short, and gives but poor promise, both as to quantity and quality. Potatoes are very plentiful in the Armagh district, but in quality they are very soft and watery, and if the rain continues great fears are entertained of their becoming an entire failure. Turnips are backward, but fruit and garden crops of all kinds have quite a healthy appearance. If the weather improves the damage done will scarcely be felt, but if the rain continues disastrous effects are anticipated.

Carlow.—The regular monthly meeting of the Bathvilly I.N.L. was held on August 19. Rev. P. Phelan presided, and the following resolution was passed:—That we strongly condemn the action of any person working for, or having any dealings with, land-grabbers or exterminators, as it is a practice getting rather too frequent in this district, and we call on all members to have no further dealings with those parties.

The late rain has left the crops in the whole of the County in a pitiable condition. The barley crop is, in many places, far from being ripe, and where it was slowly ripening the recent rains have broken down the straw, thereby injuring the grain. Turnips and potatoes look middling, but otherwise what promised to be a most bountiful harvest, will certainly if the weather does not immediately and permanently improve, become a most disastrous one.

Cavan.—The regular meeting of Sherlock I.N.L. was held on August 19, Rev. Charles Collins presiding. The following resolution was adopted:—That we admire the heroic conduct displayed by evicted tenants during the recent eviction campaign, and especially congratulate Thomas Somers on having defeated the battering-ram at New Ross. James Trainor is secretary of this branch.

There was a large meeting of the Killeshandra branch of the League on August 13. Philip Reilly presided, and the following resolution was adopted:—That we tender the Vandeleur evicted tenants our sympathy, and suggest that they should present Mr. Balfour with a battering-ram as a token of their gratitude for the deep interest he has taken in their welfare.

On August 19, the most important match ever played by Ulstermen came off at Drogheda. This match was between the MacFins of Cavan, and the Grattans of Monaghan for the championship of Ulster. The Grattans turned up at Drogheda with only fifteen players, the MacFins having 21. The MacFins protested against this, but sooner than return home, tackled their opponents with an equal number. The match was well contested all through, and resulted in a draw, the score being 2 points on each side. The weather was most unfavourable and the attendance large. P. J. Cox, Dublin, acted as referee, and J. J. Callan as field manager.

Clare.—Coroner Sexton held an inquest at Moyarta, Kilrush, on the body of Bride McGrath, aged 60, who was recently evicted on the Vandeleur estate. After listening to the depositions of several witnesses and the medical report of Dr. Hickey, Kilkee, the jury returned a verdict that Mrs. MacGrath died from excitement produced by the eviction. How many thousands of Irish deaths may be traced to the same cause?

The crops in the Ennis district are very promising. Hay has been cut and saved. Some of it, however, suffered from the recent rains in the low-lying districts. Potatoes are yet soft from the rainfall. Corn a good yield, and wheat and barley looking well and nearly ripened. Turnips are growing well. The grass on the limestone crags is very lengthy and promises well. On the whole the crops are superior to last year's yield, and a good spell of dry weather is all that is required to make the harvest a successful one.

Three Miltown-Malbay shopkeepers, William Hynes, Patrick Collins, and Thaddeus Flanagan, undergoing a Coercion Act sentence of six months' imprisonment in Limerick Gaol for refusing to supply goods to boycotted land-robbers, were offered their discharge on condition of abstaining from similar proceedings in future. The prisoners indignantly refused to sign any such agreement, electing to undergo the full term of their sentence rather than do so. This is the second or third unavailing attempt made by the Government to get Miltown men to put their signatures to such papers.

Cork.—The eviction of a poor man 85 years of age occurred at Watergrasshill recently. The landlord is Mary Dunworth, a near relative of the evicted man, Daniel Murphy, who has been living on 2s a week out-door relief. The Sheriff's bailiff, Harding, accompanied by a posse of police, attacked his cabin and burst open the door, the old man being in bed for some days. They dragged him from his bed, broke his little furniture, and cast him out into the street in a dying condition. He was so weak that Father Sexton thought it right to prepare him for death.

In connection with the report made to the House of Commons regarding the Mitchelstown massacre by Wellington Colomb, Assistant Inspector-General of the Royal Irish Constabulary and President of the late Departmental Inquiry, H. J. Wilson, M.P. for Wolsford Division of Yorkshire, visited this town recently and made an inspection of the police barrack and the scene of the massacre. The Inspector's report stated that Lonergan must have been killed by a ricochet shot, and that it was impossible to discharge a rifle from any of the police-barrack windows without ricocheting part of the

Market Square. Mr. Wilson placed a policeman on the marked spot where Lonergan fell and found it was quite within the line of fire from the barrack. From the window of the police barracks he was able to take a photograph of the policeman on the Square. Mr. Wilson then placed a man in the barrack window and retired to the Square, and again found that the man who fell was within the line of fire and could not have been killed by a ricochet shot. The District-Inspector at Mitchelstown, in his own report to the House of Commons, stated: "I examined the scene and find it is not possible to see a man on the spot where Lonergan fell from the barrack window without putting your head through the window." It will be remembered that Constable Doran swore that he and the other policemen leant their bodies out of the window; that he (Doran) fired at a man (Lonergan) on the Square, and saw him fall immediately. With reference to the statements in the report that it was most likely that Shinnick and Casey were killed by the ricochet shots, Mr. Wilson, on consulting the medical evidence given at the inquiry, found that these men were struck direct in the forehead with buckshot, which could not, therefore, be ricochet shots. Mr. Wilson intends to bring the matter before Parliament. In his inspection he was assisted by James G. Skinner.

Derry.—The Derry Orangemen celebrated the so-called "Relief of Derry" in their usual absurd style. The whole performance passed off quietly as the Catholic population wisely ignored the fanatics' provocations.

The people of the Derry district expected a favourable harvest, but the weather is proving disastrous. Hay has suffered severely, and the reports of the potato crop are not reassuring. Copious rains with accompanying chills are frequent and irreparable damage has been done.

J. McGlinchy, J.P., Gleneely, who recently visited Rev. James McFadden in Derry Gaol, reports him as being very pale and careworn. Besides his horrible prison experiences, of which he is forbidden to speak, Father McFadden loudly complains of the composition of the Gaol-visiting Committee, which is composed entirely of non-Catholics, and in whom he has no confidence.

Donegal.—J. G. Swift McNeill, M.P. for South Donegal, in a letter to the London *Daily News*, contrasts the treatment of John Mitchel on the convict ship, the Scourge, in 1848, with that of John Mandeville in Tullamore prison in 1888. Mitchel, he says, was entirely secluded from the criminals and ordered to be treated "as a man of education and a gentleman." What a difference between then and now!

The largest seizure of illicit materials made in Northern Donegal for the past twelve years was effected by the Barnesmore police the other day beside the lake at Clogher. Sergeant Gillespie and two policemen were not long at Clogher when they found a still, stillhead and worm, and, after a further search, discovered sixty gallons of "wash" and three gallons of spirits, which they carried to the barrack.

The wet July and August have left a disastrous mark on a large area of meadow lands in the Lifford district. Oats, which is much cultivated, is a good average crop in both straw and ear. It will be remunerative should there be favourable weather. Hay is an excellent crop, with an average quantity of seed, but the weather has been so wet during the cutting season that it had to be extended a month longer than usual. Potatoes look remarkably well. A large quantity has been grown and there is no appearance of disease. Pasture land is everything that could be desired, and on the whole things look fair for the farmer.

Down.—The Nationalists of Newry have lodged 300 claims for the approaching revision, and 100 objections to Unionists. The Nationalists confidently hope to have a majority of 800 at the close of the revision. The organising of the Nationalist forces has been principally due to Father McPolin and James Smyth, honorary secretary of the Newry National League.

In the vicinity of Newtownards spring-sown wheat promises well and with a spell of fine weather the yield will be considerably above the average. The recent rains have had a very injurious effect on the flax crop. Notwithstanding this there is the prospect of a good crop. There were slight signs of the potato disease in the neighbourhood of Newtownards and Comber in the early part of August owing to the long spell of unfavourable weather, but it is not spreading. Mangolds and turnips have not been in so good a condition for many years. Hay is a large crop, but it was considerably injured by the late rain.

Fermanagh.—The evictions on the Fermanagh estate of Hugh De F. Montgomery, at a place called Ross, four miles from Derrygonnelly, have been finished. None of the evicted tenants were reinstated save one family. A force of constabulary under the command of District Inspector P. G. Platt were present on duty, but their services were not required, though great excitement was engendered by the evictions.

Mrs. Hadden, the poor widow who was evicted over four years ago at Aughnashally, near Rosslea, has been reinstated in her holding. The land has been lying idle since. Before her eviction Mrs. Hadden was obliged to pay £24 10s for 14 acres of only medium land. Now, through the able struggle for justice of the Rosslea I.N.L., she has only to pay £14 10s per year. Union is indeed strength.

Galway.—Henry Mathews, ex-Home Ruler and present English Home Secretary, is spending the recess at Clidagh Lodge, on the shore of Lough Corrib. Doesn't Mathews contradict his own lying statements about the safety of life and property in Ireland by taking up his abode in the country even for a brief period?

The potato crop in the Clifden District is remarkably good, and the return will probably be as good as it was last year. Potatoes were selling at the market at 3d per stone. In the vicinity of Oughterard the potato crop is exceptionally good, and the return promises to be plentiful. The oat crop looks tolerably well so far, but the harvest in this humid district being so late it is hard to say how it will turn out. The yield of hay this season far exceeds that of the