

alleged that at the meeting at which Mr. O'Brien was arrested, the constable struck him on the head. Imputations had been made that he tried to incite the people to riot but, having the assurance of the authorities that that was not so, he withdrew the summons.

Killadoon National League held an important meeting under the presidency of Thomas Gaffney. The business of the meeting was confined to the consideration of correspondence submitted by the secretary on the McHugh testimonial. In recognition of the great services rendered to the National cause by Mr. McHugh, all the members present pledged themselves to give the testimonial their heartiest support. It was decided to open a subscription list at once and proceed on a house-to-house canvass. It is hoped the people of Killadoon will prove as spirited on this as on former occasions, and that they will testify in a becoming manner their gratitude to one so self-sacrificing as the patriotic ex-Mayor of Sligo.

Limerick.—Mr. Gladstone, acknowledging the receipt from Wm. Shaw, a Limerick magistrate, of a copy of that gentleman's work of Irish trade, writes:—"I thank you for your address on Irish trade, which I have read with great interest and advantage. I appreciate your wisdom in avoiding the thorny and stormy ground of politics, but I feel that the tendency of your work is to show how much there is to be done in Ireland that will never be done except by or under a native Government."

Father Merriman, of Castleconnell, was sentenced to five weeks' imprisonment under the Coercion Act for inciting to boycotting.

John McInerney was sentenced to one month's imprisonment at Castleconnell Quercion Court for inciting to the boycotting of a land-grabber at Ballyneety.

William Reeves, reporter, Limerick, was arrested by the sub-sheriff, under an attachment issued by Judge Boyd on January 14 for contempt of court. Mr. Reeves had been summoned to Dublin for that date to give evidence of the speech delivered by Pierce Mahony, M.P., at a meeting held on the Glensharrold estate. He declined to give evidence as a matter of professional principle.

Longford.—A large demonstration was held in the Market Square, Longford, for the purpose of protesting against the brutal treatment of Wm. O'Brien in Clonmel Gaol. Peter Flood presided. Joseph Wilson moved the following resolutions:—"That we have heard with the deepest feeling of indignation of the outrageous ill-treatment to which Mr. O'Brien was subjected in Clonmel Gaol; that we believe that by insulting and torturing their leaders the Government hope to terrify the people, that, by abandoning the course of open and moderate action and by adopting retaliatory measures, they may afford an excuse for the continuance of the present system of lawless misgovernment."

Mayo.—Believing Officer Lavelle, of Achill, has received 50 eviction notices to be served on tenants on the estate of Major Pike, an absentee landlord.

Monaghan.—A well-attended meeting of the Clontibret branch of the League was held on February 3, under the presidency of Rev. A. McLerney. The resolution of the Castleblaney League was carefully considered, and it was unanimously agreed not to call on Messrs. Eudden and Connolly, the Guardians for Cromartin Division, to resign, as their conduct at the late election of master and matron for the workhouse was not anti-National, Hunter and McBirney, between whom the choice lay, being Tories.

The Nationalists of Carrickmacross held a public meeting to protest against the brutal treatment of William O'Brien, M.P., in Clonmel Gaol. The following resolution was unanimously adopted: "That we record our emphatic protest against the barbarous treatment of our distinguished fellow-countryman, William O'Brien, in Clonmel Gaol; and we venture to warn all concerned that should anything serious happen to this deservedly-popular leader, lamentable results to the peace of the country will inevitably follow."

Queen's County.—Five dogs belonging to the Arles Harriers have been poisoned. As the Harriers' Club is supported principally by Nationalists, it is likely that the poisoning was done by the Tories.

The people of Mountrath held a public meeting to protest against the barbarities to which Wm. O'Brien is being subjected in Clonmel Gaol. Rev. Edward Brennan presided. The following resolution was proposed by Rev. J. Donovan, seconded by Daniel J. Treacy, and unanimously adopted:—"That we indignantly protest against the barbarous and cruel treatment to which William O'Brien is being subjected in Clonmel Gaol, and that we hereby declare our determination to aid more strenuously than ever the noble cause for which he suffers."

Roscommon.—It is reported on good authority that Lord De Freyne has offered the tenants on his Frenchpark estate a reduction of 33½ per cent. on non-judicial and 15 per cent. on judicial rents and agrees to pay all costs. The tenants have agreed to accept these conditions.

The prosecution of J. B. Cox, M.P., and Jasper Tully, editor of the *Roscommon Herald*, at Carrick-in-Shaonin was concluded February 2. Sergeant Scanton, police notetaker, having read the speech Mr. Cox delivered at Strokestown, the magistrates found the defendants guilty of conspiracy and sentenced them to four months' imprisonment. An appeal was entered.

Tipperary.—An exceedingly large meeting was held in the National Institute, Nenagh, to protest against the prison treatment of William O'Brien. William Foley presided. Michael Gleeson proposed the following resolution:—"That we declare that no mere words can express the indignation which we felt on hearing of the barbarous atrocities perpetrated on William O'Brien, M.P., in Clonmel Gaol; that it is a Government of brutality and despotism, deserving unlimited contempt, which directs such cruel outrages on a political opponent. We tender Mr. O'Brien our whole-hearted sympathy for the struggle he is making on behalf of liberty and justice, and we solemnly resolve now more than ever to support the principles for which he has suffered so much. P. J. O'Brien, M. P., seconded the resolution, which was unanimously carried."

Mayor Condon of Clonmel visited the Gaol, February 2, and found Mr. O'Brien's condition very much worse. He then had the following interview with the Governor:—"The Mayor said: I will hold you and your masters responsible for Mr. O'Brien's murder unless there is some change in his treatment, and I will have this warning made public. It would be much more merciful on the part of your masters if they took him out before a platoon of infantry and shot him than to assassinate him by a process of slow and refined cruelty such as I see you are carrying out." The Governor replied:—"I have no power to alter his treatment. The doctor is the only man who can order a change in Mr. O'Brien's treatment." The Mayor then asked to have the caution he had given to be communicated, and unless a change was ordered at once he would see to it that the doctor should be held responsible. The Governor promised to communicate what the Mayor had said to the doctor. The Mayor added that Mr. O'Brien was much weaker; his hands were cold and clammy, and his breathing very hard. As a result of this interview, his clothing was returned to Mr. O'Brien."

Tyrone.—Michael McGowan occupied the chair at the recent meeting of the Stewartstown and Coalisland I.N.L. Matthew Quinn proposed and James Dunne seconded the following resolutions:—"That we extend our deepest sympathies to the evicted tenants of Falcarragh in the persecution they are undergoing for defending their homes against the crowbar brigade, and we are resolved to support the political prisoners now in Balfour's dungeons by emulating the example of our leaders."

A new industry is about to be established at Coalisland in the shape of a delf pottery manufacture, which, it is anticipated, will be worked successfully. A company has been formed and they have in course of preparation the necessary machinery, consisting of a kiln, which is of very large dimensions, for the purpose of burning earthenware, and is differently constructed from the others used for burning fireclay. It was at first thought that the clay for the purpose would have to be obtained from Corwall, but experiments have since been made with clay found on the shore of Lough Neagh, about five miles from Coalisland, which will prove more economical.

Waterford.—There was a special meeting of the Dungarvan branch of the Young Ireland Society held in the Town Hall, February 4, for the purpose of protesting against the shameful treatment to which William O'Brien has been subjected. The President, Mr. T. O'Connor, occupied the chair. Edmond McCarthy proposed the following resolution, which was seconded by John Froy:—"That we express our horror and indignation at the cowardly treatment to which W. O'Brien has been subjected by Balfour's hirelings in Clonmel Gaol, and we appeal to all Irishmen and our friends in England to cooperate with us in denouncing the despotic system of prison brutality which seeks to degrade one of Ireland's noble sons."

Westmeath.—A large public meeting was held in the Lecture Hall, Mullingar, February 3; Rev. E. O'Reilly presided. James Tufts, M.P., proposed the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:—"That we record our heartfelt sympathy with William O'Brien on account of the cruel treatment which he has undergone in Clonmel Gaol, and we censure Bloody Balfour and his hirelings for his cruel torture."

Wexford.—The Head Constable of Taghmon has sent in a claim for £500 for injuries received by him at the Co. Wick evictions. The application will be heard at the next Wexford assizes.

Eight of the defenders of Somers' Fort have been transferred from Wexford Gaol to other prisons in various parts of Ireland. Thomas Somers, Michael Morris, and Patrick Fitzgerald have been sent to Kilkenny Gaol; Thomas Power, John Hall, and Michael Caul, to Dundalk; and James Somers and W. Shiel to Kilmalnam. The cause of the removal of these prisoners has been kept a close secret by the Balfourian authorities.

Dr. O'Donnell, Bishop of Raphoe, in a letter to Archbishop Croke acknowledging receipt of £50 from his Grace as a contribution to the Donegal Evicted Tenants' Fund, writes as follows on evictions: "Eviction in Ireland has been the fruitful parent of an evil brood. It counts starvation, anguish, hatred, revenge, and crime among its progeny. It has driven the people off the land and the land out of cultivation. It has doomed multitudes of hard-working men and women to misery, despair, and death. It has blurred the image of the Creator in thousands of His creatures, whom it consigned to the most squalid quarters of large cities at home and abroad, and who, had they been permitted to remain where their fathers toiled, would have continued models of industry and uprightness. It has robbed the poor, fostered secret societies, and provoked outrage. Yet, have the wholesale evictors grown wealthier or happier for the process? They have not, as far as I know, and certainly not on the poorer lands. An unprofitable desolation broods over the clearances wherever you go. In the interest, then, of every class, this fearful power, which has been so cruelly abused, should be restricted in its operations to the rogue and the idler, and should not be available for the purpose of driving, in a bad year, a whole population off the soil for a rent the land does not produce. Such proceedings as took place at Falcarragh do not help to gather money from tenants at the present stage of Irish history, and it may be fairly doubted whether the memory of them will be a desirable inheritance hereafter. The evicted tenants have suffered heavily—but they believe their day is coming, and they are strong in the sympathy that has poured in upon them from far and near. I believe they will consider it a balm for their worst ills to be the subject of such a letter from your Grace Archbishop Croke. You need not, I'm sure, fear that they will show themselves unworthy of your esteem by any act of outrage. The many who have admired their courage will not see them in want, and they feel pretty confident of holding an honoured, if humble, place in their native land when the despotism that effected their eviction has received sentence from the voters in Great Britain and Ireland at the next election."