

# Irish News.

(From Contemporaries.)

**Cork.**—UNPRECEDENTED FLOODS.—Never within living memory did Clonakilly suffer so much from floods as early this year. The heavy and continuous rain overflowed the streams and rivers and the low-lying lands are covered with water in some places to the depth of four feet. The river flowing through the centre of the town flooded the streets to the depth of several feet. Thursday the town was deserted, as nobody could venture forth, owing to the depth of the water, and the majority of the people were engaged in trying to rid their houses of it. No serious damage has been reported, but in the country districts a good deal of hay, straw and farm produce was destroyed. Pedestrianism was rendered impossible, and all sorts of vehicles were resorted to by those who ventured abroad.

**SEIZURES FOR RENT NEAR MITCHELSTON.**—The sheriff's officer at Fermoy, accompanied by several bailiffs and protected by police, unexpectedly visited the Aragon district and made two seizures for rent. The seizures were made at an early hour in the morning. The landlord in both cases is Captain Cooke-Collis, of Kiltworth. The first farm visited was that belonging to Mr Joyce, where three horses, one cow, and four heifers were seized on foot of a claim by Captain Collis for rent amounting to £51 15s. The holding of Mr Stragman on the same property was next visited, and four cows and two horses seized to satisfy a claim for £61 rent due.

**Clare.**—A LIVELY TIME FOR THE EVICTORS.—While executing decrees for non-payment of rent in East Clare, Mr A. R. Martin, special bailiff, Ennis, and his staff met with resistance, sticks and pitchforks being freely used against them. One of the first houses visited was that of Thady Walsh, Caherhurlley, Bodyke. The holding is on the estate of Sir George Bentinck, and the tenant owed £45. As soon as the party were seen approaching Walsh and two sons drove the stock across the mountain, Martin and his party following at a rapid pace. When Martin overtook them a fierce struggle took place, the Walshes endeavouring to keep the stock. In the end, in order to stop the fight, the police drew their batons, and then the cattle were seized. Martin then proceeded to the holding of Simon Walsh, who owed £39 odd. Here Martin seized more cattle. Meanwhile Thady Walsh's sons had again provided themselves with more pitchforks, and when Martin and his bailiff's attempted to drive away the cattle they made another attempt to rescue them. The police again drew their batons and used them freely, and it was only after a sharp struggle that Martin was able to drive away the cattle to Tulla Pound.

**COLONEL O'CALLAGHAN'S AGENT FIRED AT.**—Mr Ernest Browne, the to Colonel John O'Callaghan, Maryfort, was fired at at Bodyke. It seems that a number of cattle were found on one of Colonel O'Callaghan's evicted farms at Clonmoher, the scene of some of the most exciting incidents during the famous Bodyke eviction campaign, presenting symptoms of poisoning. Mr Browne, with Mr E. C. Winter, V.S., Limerick, drove from Limerick to Bodyke. On their return journey, at a point about half way between Bodyke and Broadford, a volley of shots was discharged from a grove some distance from the road. The bullets passed above Mr Browne and his companion. Mr Browne returned the fire, but it is not known whether his shots have had any effect.

**Cavan.**—A HANDSOME NEW ALTAR.—In Cootehill Catholic church is to be erected a side altar in Caen stone and different coloured marbles. The altar, which is to be dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, is in the Gothic style, in keeping with the church. The Very Rev Thomas Brady selected the design.

**REDUCTION OF RENTS.**—The agent for the estate of William Young, attended as usual at Bailieborough, to receive rents. An all round reduction of 20 per cent was allowed. On the Armstrong property, adjacent to Bailieborough, the tenants have been allowed a reduction of fifteen per cent, and the tenants on the estate of Mr Lynch, Land Commissioner, in Drung, near Cootehill, a reduction of 10 per cent on judicial rents.

**Carlow.**—MR REDMOND ON UNITY.—"Mr Redmond made a very remarkable speech at Carlow. Its importance writes the *Freeman's Journal*, lies not so much in the expression of his personal view as in the expression of the overpowering opinion of the Nationalists of his party. It is not worth while commenting on Mr Redmond's vapouring over the success that had attended the party under his leadership. The party has advanced backwards from thirty members to eleven since Mr Redmond assumed the management. It would be impossible for him to point to a single service it rendered to Ireland, to a single disaster it averted. He will not, we assume, claim credit for having thwarted the Nationalist party in their exertions for the national cause. The substantial thing in Mr Redmond's speech is the great advance towards unity since he addressed a meeting of his supporters in Roscommon. He no longer declares the extirpation of the Nationalist members as false traitors to be the indispensable condition of unity. He is now for immediate

co-operation in pressing on the Government the reforms which Ireland so urgently needs and demands. He says that on material questions—such as the amnesty question, the land question, the evicted tenants question, and the industrial development of the country—they could all co-operate, and he would again ask for co-operation. Let them on these material questions present a united demand to the Government, and if they did, then the demand would be stronger than if it came from any one section. Let them have reunion on these questions, but on the broader questions of high National policy union could only come by the people once more uniting on the lines of the independent policy. Assuming that by an 'independent' policy Mr Redmond means merely a policy independent of English parties, in all this there is nothing to which the faintest exception can be taken. We are not disposed to criticise Mr Redmond's change of tone, of which we so heartily approve."

**Derry.**—ORANGE BIGOTRY.—Lord Lieutenant of Ireland paid a visit to Derry, accompanied by the Duke of Abercorn, Lord Rosmore and Mr John Ross, the defeated Unionist candidate for Derry City. He was met by the members of the corporation, an exclusively Protestant body. The party drove through the city and during the day visited a large number of Protestant institutions. So great a respect had this official for the feelings of Catholics that neither himself nor any member of his party condescended to soil their feet by entering one Catholic institution. The carriage in which the party was seated was surrounded by a howling mob, who groaned the member for the city. Mr Knox, continuously, and indulged in this gentle amusement when any house in which a Catholic resided was passed. The Lord Lieutenant and party was entertained by the corporation, the members of which are elected by 400 voters in a city populated by thousands.

**Fermanagh.**—DEATH OF PEGGY MCQUAID AGED 113. There has just died in Coe Ballinamaliard, near Enniskillen, Peggy McQuaid who was born on Old May Day, 1773. Deceased and the late Peggy Elliot, or "Orange Peggy," as she was called, who lived on Trasna Island, Lough Erne, and was popularly known as the "Queen" of the island, were born in the same year and month, and their parents lived in the same townland. On Peggy McQuaid's wedding day the "Queen of Trasna" was bridesmaid. They were always great friends and are now interred beside each other in Magheracross graveyard. Edward McQuaid, the husband of Peggy, died two years ago, aged 107 years.

**Galway.**—A VENERABLE LADY.—Mrs Mary Walsh of Castebar, died Christmas eve at the residence of her son, Rev Thomas Walsh, P.P., Glenamaddy, having reached the fine age of 86 years. She was mother of the late Rev John Walsh, C.O., Athenry.

**CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAYS.**—The general belief in well-informed circles, is that Mr Gerald Balfour, the Chief Secretary, will carry out the policy of his brother, Mr Arthur Balfour, of the construction and extension of light railways in the congested districts of the West and Northwest of Ireland. The people of Dunmore and Glennamaddy are alive to the interest, and every movement now made regarding railway construction in Ireland is carefully watched. A line to Dunmore would be a paying concern, and its extension to Castlereagh would bring vast material benefits to the districts. A baronial guarantee on Dunmore, Clare and Ballymoe, with the Treasury grant of 2 per cent, would make the project a success.

**MURTY MULLEN, 108 years old.**—There resides at Merchant's Road, Galway, Murty Mullen who has attained the age of 108 years, according to the *Galway Express*. It is only a short time since that he saw the grave close over the remains of his wife, who died at the age of 94 years, and at whose funeral there attended two of the husband's contemporaries of the last century, but those have since gone to their long rest, and there remains none but himself of those who associated with him in boyhood "one hundred years ago." The subject of this paragraph is now very feeble, but wonderful to relate he still retains all his faculties, and can tell tales of the rebellion in Ireland which took place when he was eleven years old, all of which are still fresh in his memory. He is living with his daughter, a married woman, who contributes to his comfort as well as her circumstances afford, and he is allowed two shillings a week by the Board of Guardians.

**King's County.**—A FEMALE MISER.—A prosecution brought by the Tullamore local sanitary authority against Bridget Carroll, residing at Aughafin, Lomonaghan, has brought forth disclosures of a miser's life. Dr Hubert K. Costello, medical officer of the district, deposed that he had found the house in a shocking state. The roof, walls and windows were all bad, and the interior of the dwelling contained heaps of ashes and other refuse. Mr James Cloonan, sub-sanitary officer, informed the court that the woman was well off, but lived in this wretched habitation by herself. The room of the house was roofless, and there was no bed on the premises, the tenant being in the habit of sleeping beside the embers on the hearth. The dwelling was a freehold, and the woman's sister had died there in an awful condition a short time ago. The object of the