

The County Convention called to arrange matters in connection with the Tenants' Defence Association, met in the Christian Brothers' Schools, Monaghan, recently, and was largely attended by the clergy and laity of the County. Jos. G. Biggar, M.P., presided, and Messrs. Patrick O'Brien and Conway, M.P.'s were also present. The meeting resolved to establish the Association and assist the National cause in every possible way. A letter was read from Right Rev. Doctor Donnelly, Bishop of Clogher, expressing his approval and support of the Association.

**Tipperary.**—The police authorities of Carrick had the audacity to post a proclamation forbidding the Martyrs' celebration on the Town Hall.

The Bansa prisoners in Clonmel gaol under the "Crimes Act" were recently liberated. Mr. Oullinane and his imprisoned brethren were met by a rejoicing multitude at Bansa on their arrival.

Father Power presided at a recent meeting in Tipperary, and a resolution was passed calling upon the tenants of Smith-Barry in Clonakilly and elsewhere to throw themselves into the struggle with the men of Tipperary. A resolution condemning the murders of Allen, Larkin, and O'Brien was passed.

The investigation into the circumstances surrounding the murder of the boy Heffernan by the police in Tipperary has just concluded, and the chairman refused to accept information against the police on the ground that they did not exceed their duty. Poor satisfaction this for the murdered boy's relatives.

**Tyrone.**—The managers of the Vernon estate, Ballygawley, resolved to burn the houses of evicted tenants to prevent them from retaking possession.

The people of Dungannon were bursting their sides at the police who were busily engaged posting proclamations about the Manchester Martyrs' celebration. There was no intention to hold any meeting, and the people enjoyed the sport afforded by the police—proclaiming nothing.

There is at present living in Beragh an old man named John Cassidy, who took the pledge from Father Mathew at Fort chapel in 1847, and kept it faithfully through all these years—close upon half a century. It is to be hoped that he may live to see the centenary of the great apostle of temperance celebrated.

At a recent meeting of the Cookstown Board of Guardians an exciting scene was witnessed. The chairman, the Earl of Castlestewart, refused to put a resolution approving of a compulsory land purchase scheme, when he was asked to leave the chair. Mr. Lowery, an ex-officer, jumped into it, from which he was quickly ejected.—Mr. Woods then presided and the resolution was carried.

**Waterford.**—The authorities never intended to allow Mr. C. P. Redmond, *Waterford News*, to escape their petty vengeance, and he has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for his manful advocacy of Ireland's rights. They will follow him even farther than this; but their action will surely raise Mr. Redmond higher in the estimation of his countrymen.

It is alleged that an Kmergencyman in charge of an evicted farm at Kilmacthomas disappeared some time ago. Every effort failed to discover him. At last some bloodhounds were obtained from Lord Waterford and set to work, with the result that the body of the missing man was found in a ditch partly buried. How he came by his death is a mystery as yet.

**Wexford.**—The anniversary of the death of Allen, Larkin, and O'Brien, was celebrated at the Redmond Monument. The meeting had been proclaimed, but the men at Wexford set the proclamation at defiance.

The New Ross Manchester Martyrs' meeting was proclaimed. Yet from the old cross on St. Mary's Abbey a black flag floated. The police got ladders and tore it down.

Captain Hamilton set about evicting the people of the Brooke estate. The first holding taken possession of was that of Daniel Garvey, near Coolgreany village. In the village of Coolgreany, Michael Hughes, his wife, and three children; Wm. Doyle, an old man over eighty years of age, and his two sisters, were turned out of their comfortable houses. The evicting party then proceeded to Glenogue, where two farmers named James Kenny and Mark Kearns were evicted. Croghan, which is about four miles from Coolgreany, was next visited, and the farm of Garrett Tallon, an industrious farmer, was taken possession of. After the eviction of Tallon the bailiff and his escort retraced their steps to Bathpierce and evicted the Widow Kearns and her daughter and son-in-law.

**Wicklow.**—A young lad named Edward Delaney, of Grangebeg, Dunlavin, was recently admitted into the Nass Union suffering from the bite of a mad dog. The dog was the property of Mr. Winders, the Malthouse, Kilculien, who will be called upon to pay the child's expenses to and from Paris, where he went for treatment.

His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin recently performed the ceremony of blessing a new bell in St. Patrick's Church, Wicklow. The beautiful services were witnessed by an immense congregation. Father Nicholas Walsh, of the Society of Jesus, Milltown, preached an eloquent sermon. Archbishop Walsh also addressed the people on the great and good results accruing from temperance.

Dr. Barnardo has been declaring that he will hold mass meetings in all the great centres of population, to denounce "the Roman Catholic conspiracy." Are the non-Catholic journalists also in the conspiracy with the judges? The well-known journalist "Verax" (a Protestant) examines Dr. Barnardo's conduct, with a judicial temper, in the *Manchester Guardian*. And what is his verdict? It is this. "It is painful to have to say or to think anything to the disadvantage of a man like Dr. Barnardo, but it is time he understood that philanthropic intentions cannot excuse a violation of the first principle of equity, as well as of right feeling and good faith." The truth is that Dr. Barnardo is a bigot of the first water, and has now decided to rely upon bigots for the support of his institutions.—*Liverpool Catholic Times*.

## A ROMAN IMPOSTOR.

A BAD affair, says our (*Catholic Review*) Roman correspondent, has just taken place. A handsome young man of aristocratic appearance and bearing, announcing himself as Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, Domestic Prelate of his Holiness, clad in the most approved ecclesiastical garb, arrived and registered at the Minerva Hotel, the general headquarters of foreign prelates and clergy visiting Rome.—He was received with the courtesy due to his apparent ecclesiastical and social rank. Of finished address and manners, impeccable as to prelatial costume, he readily made friends, among them two bishops from Australia, guests at the Minerva, with whom, and in company likewise of two young priests, alumni of one of the foreign national colleges, he made the journey to Loreto. On the return of the party to the Hotel Minerva the police were awaiting the *pseudo* prince and prelate, whom they immediately arrested on a mandate of requisition from the police authorities of France and Belgium on the charge of swindling and robbery committed in the Trappist monastery of Westermael, near Antwerp, where he had entered as a seminarian, and had fled thence, taking with him 2,600 florins and the gold watch of the Father Prior. Closely pressed by the chief of police, he was forced to own himself a mere adventurer, by name Michael John Hallais, twenty-one years of age, son of a small farmer of Monville, France. He was conveyed to the prison in Via Giulia, known as *Carcere Nuovo*, still wearing his full prelatial attire. The arrest took place Saturday morning, November 9, and that night the unfortunate youth struggled himself with his purple stock and was discovered by the roundsman about daybreak cold in death, his eyes starting from their sockets and his face a deep violet colour. It is openly surmised that his conscience must have been burdened with some far more heinous crime than that of which he was accused to have induced suicide rather than the extradition which would have been his ultimate fate. A judicial perquisition in his rooms at the Minerva resulted in the recovery of 1,300 florins and the gold watch robbed from the Trappist Monastery. After the autopsy the remains were placed in deposit in the cemetery of S. Lorenzo fuori le mura. A strange feature in connection with the mournful occurrence:—During the journey to Loreto the *pseudo*-prelate related to his fellow-travellers that "he was not a priest, not even in minor orders;" in fact, it was noted he displayed no tonsure, "but that in his family,"—naturally Tour d'Auvergne—"there was a prelate which had fallen to his lot." To one of the young priests above mentioned he further observed in conversation: "I do not know how to explain it, but something tells me I shall die in Rome." The matter passed uncommented, but the night of the suicide the priest to whom the remark had been made and who was wholly unaware of what had befallen his quondam companion, was suddenly awakened in his bed at his college home, in the dead of night and heard distinctly a voice which he immediately recognised as that of the supposed prelate, his fellow-traveller of the day previous, which voice said audibly: "*C'est vrai!*" The next morning he learned of the death by suicide of the phantom speaker. This is no mere hearsay tale, but comes from an authorised source.

Letters from Belgium furnish further tidings relative to the unfortunate adventurer. August 6th, a young ecclesiastic, untoussured, presented himself a guest at the celebrated Cistercian Abbey of Westermael, near Antwerp. He spoke French and Latin, and announced himself as Michael John Le Hallais, son of the Marquis of that name, born at Muneville sur Mer, near Normandy. Prior Aerts courteously ceded his own room to the visitor, who remained at the abbey till October 15, passing his time between prayer and study, generous, affable and a general favourite. On his departure, he promised a speedy return visit, but immediately he had left, Prior Aerts, resuming his cell, discovered he had been robbed by the clever adventurer, who had drawn from the wall a heavy wardrobe, broken the rear planks, and appropriated some 5,500 francs in money and bank-bills, together with a gold watch found therein, and replaced the piece of furniture. The police of Antwerp were at once informed of the robbery, and they, in their turn, applied to the police of Rome, who had meantime been warned from the Vatican that the list of domestic prelates included no one of the name of de la Tour d'Auvergne, which family, furthermore, numbered no ecclesiastic among its members. Consequently, the *pseudo* Prince-prelate must be a suspicious character. The result is already known.

We hear, says the *Times of India*, that 400 Portuguese troops quartered at Goa, are now being embarked for Mozambique. This is not a very "large order," but gives us, none the less, a fair measure of the impending "crisis." And now Goa is left defenceless.

It is noteworthy that St. Andrew is held in great veneration in Russia as well as in Scotland, having been, according to tradition, the first preacher of the Gospel in that region; and there are Orders bearing his name in both countries. That of Scotland, with the national emblem of the thistle, and the characteristic motto, "*Nemo me impune lacessit*," is of very ancient origin. The Abbot Justinian states that it was instituted by Achaius I., of Scotland, in the year 809, when this monarch entered into an alliance with Charlemagne, and then took for his device the thistle. It is said that King Hanguis, the Pict, had a dream that St. Andrew made a midnight visit, and promised him a sure victory over his foes, the Northumbrians; that on the next day St. Andrew's cross appeared in the air, and that, sure enough, the Northumbrians were defeated. On this story, it is added, Achaius framed the Order more than 700 years before James V., to whom alternatively, has been awarded the honour of having founded the Order in 1640. It then consisted of himself as sovereign, and twelve knights, in imitation of Christ and His twelve apostles. In 1542 James died, and the Order was discontinued about the time of the Reformation. It was renewed by James VII. of Scotland, and II. of England by making eight knights in 1687. The number was increased to twelve by Queen Anne in 1703, and to sixteen by George IV. in 1828.—*Liverpool Catholic Times*.