

Dublin Notes.

(Weekly Freeman, December 3.)

WE understand that the new election in South Meath cannot take place until next year. The judges will report to the Speaker of the House of Commons, who will issue a writ as soon as Parliament meets. Parliament will meet on January 31st. The next election will be fought on the register which comes into force on January 1st next. The recent revision was stiffly contested and the Nationalists claim to have largely improved their position. So far there will be three contests—Walsall, Hexham, and South Meath—owing to election petitions. East Clare and North Meath are still pending in Ireland and several are pending in England.

The anniversary of the execution of the Manchester Martyrs was celebrated in Tipperary by an imposing demonstration organised by the William O'Brien and the Sarsfield Fife and Drum Bands. The people marched in procession to St John's Cemetery, where Mr Hendel E. O'Brien, P.L.G., delivered an eloquent oration. The people then returned to Dillon street, New Tipperary, where a magnificent meeting was held. The chair was occupied by the Rev Dr Humphreys, who delivered an eloquent and spirited, stirring speech. After referring to the heroism of the brave Manchester Martyrs, he said the time had come to erect a suitable memorial to their memory. He would start a fund to raise such a memorial and would himself give a contribution of £3. Mr Wm London, of Kiltelly, a '67 man, having also addressed the meeting, a committee to carry out Father Humphrey's suggestion was appointed with Mr J. V. Burke, O.E., as secretary.

A splendid Nationalist meeting was held on Sunday at Balcarra, four miles from Castlebar. The principal business of the meeting was to discuss the impending evictions on the property of Miss Pringle and other landlords of the county. Father Colleran, O.C., Balla, presided. Mr Orilly, M.P., attended and delivered a stirring speech. Mr Deasy, M.P., was announced to attend, but a telegram

void. It was a case of Primrose teas. Notwithstanding that whisky was thrown in with the "high tea," Mr Clayton's majority was only 82. Hexham was one of those constituencies that Home Rule did not frighten in 1886. In that year the Home Rule majority was 957—enough for anything. It probably led to the Liberals treating the tea party with contempt. Now that six months have gone by since the feasting, the way is clear for the advocates of progress and reform again. A majority of 82, with its foundation laid on currant cake, should not be difficult to demolish. Now that the cake has been paid for, conscience may receive its due.

The usual weekly meeting of the council of the Society for the Preservation of the Irish Language took place on Tuesday, 29th November, Count Plunket, B.L., M.B.I.A., in the chair. Miss Ellen Hoban, assistant-teacher of Leitir Female National School, Glenamaddy, Galway, wrote:—"I beg to inform you that, as a result of the annual examination held last July in special subjects, I have obtained a certificate for teaching the Irish language, and, as this is an Irish-speaking locality, I purpose to be able to bring up about twenty pupils in Irish for whom I expect to obtain results." Mr Michael Keating, of Kiltaba National School, Carrigaholt, County Clare wrote stating that he also had obtained a certificate to teach Irish. Mr James O'Sullivan, of Lisgoold National School, Middleton, County Cork, and Mr D. O'Sullivan, of Shelbourne National School, Kenmare, County Kerry, wrote concerning the National Board's programme in Irish and Irish publications. Mr Charles McCarthy, of Killeagh, County Cork, forwarded a communication in Irish and a copy of a poem in Irish which he found in an old MSS. Interesting letters, dealing with the study of Irish and the promotion of Celtic literature, were read.

A correspondent writes:—On Thursday evening when they had their day's work concluded as on the previous days at 5 o'clock, the officials of the parties working the Achill line lighted torches and asked the men to work till 7 o'clock, or if not that they would be liable to dismissal. They should work 70 hours per week at the same rate of pay. The men ceased working then and said they were willing to work 60 hours at 2s 6d per day, or else work by the hour as in

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was received from him announcing that he was unable to do so owing to the illness of his mother. Mr Wm O'Brien, M.P., wrote regretting his inability to attend. Resolutions were passed requesting the Congested Districts Board to purchase either voluntarily or by compulsion the large grass farms in the county and migrate to them the occupiers of the congested districts, calling on the landlords to recognise the depression of the times by granting substantial abatements and abolishing arrears, and expressing the willingness of the tenants on the Pringle estate to leave their case to arbitrators, one arbitrator to be selected by Miss Pringle and the other by the tenants.

At the meeting of the Armagh Board of Guardians on Tuesday—Major Stronge, J.P., presiding—Mr Robt Dobbs, Unionist, mentioned that at the last meeting of the Board a resolution from the Mountmellick Union was adopted, but by an oversight no directions were given to have it sent anywhere. He now moved that copies of the resolution be sent to Mr W. E. Gladstone, Mr Herbert Gladstone, Mr John Morley, Mr E. M'Hugh, M.P.; Mr T. W. Russell, Mr Barton, and Col Saunderson, M.P.'s. Mr Henry Williamson, Unionist, seconded the resolution, and in doing so said that if the rents were not reduced the farmers would have to resort to combination. The resolution was adopted.

This (Tuesday) afternoon a public meeting of tenant farmers was held in the Temperance Hall, Banbridge, "for the purpose of asking the landlords for a reduction of rents for the present year owing to the wet season, failure of crops, and low prices of cattle." Rev J. D. Martin, Presbyterian minister, of Moynalty, was called to the chair, and there also present, Rev James Scott, Rev Joseph Dempster, and Rev J. M'Key, who all spoke in support of the resolutions. A letter was read from Rev John Barnett explaining his absence and expressing sympathy with the objects of the meeting. The resolutions urged upon the Government the necessity of reducing the judicial rents on a scale proportionate to present prices, as in the Act of 1887, with the addition that the amount of produce be taken into consideration as well as prices.

Another Tory has been unseated for corrupt practices. On Tuesday Mr Clayton, the member *pro tem* for Hexham, was declared guilty through this agent, and accordingly his election declared

England and Scotland. The officials refused this, and the working-men went on the waggons as usual to be carried homeward as far as the locomotive was going, but they were refused this privilege and had to walk home. Some of them had to go twelve Irish miles. The men working on the above railway are all the poor tenants of the place, and have no other way to support themselves but on the railway, as there are no prices for cattle and they had such bad harvests and potato crops.

The calculating cruelty and greed of the conspiracy of extermination in which the Irish landlords are at present engaged is indignantly exposed in letters from Mr William O'Brien and Mr John Dillon regarding the evictors' campaign in Mayo. In the history of landlordism there is nothing more infamous than this last performance. It is a piece of cold-blooded inhumanity in which stupidity is but the secondary motive. From the moment the Coercion Government was driven from office at the command of the people of the Three Kingdoms, the Irish landlords at once made it plain that their game was exaction and disturbance. As it is well put by Mr William O'Brien in his letter, their calculation seems to be this: Either the tenants will submit and the landlords will gather in their undiminished rackrents in what is almost a famine season, or human nature will rebel and the Home Rule Government will be overwhelmed with taunts of disorder in Ireland. Even while he is writing comes proof how justly he appreciates the situation. Mr Goschen gloats over the evictions in Ireland, and taunts the Government with being compelled to grant protection to the landlords' inhuman campaign. In very truth the Irish landlords are the arbiters of outrage and disturbance in Ireland. Now, crime and disturbance are wanted by the Coercionists in Ireland, and, though not expressed in words—hardly, perhaps, acknowledged in thought—the landlords are expected to create disturbances in Ireland and the expelled Coercion Ministers are to exploit themselves in England. Lord Sligo, by the heartless evictions in Mayo, supplies the material for the lurid periods of Mr Goschen in London. The conspiracy is stupid as it is brutal, it gives the English people credit for too much dullness and insensibility. Mr William O'Brien and Mr John Dillon are big in their belief that the facts of the latest campaign have but to