

# Irish News.

(From Contemporaries.)

**Antrim.**—The Belfast Trades Council are doing their best to make the forthcoming meeting of the Trades Union Congress in that city a success. Exceptional interest attaches to it as it will be the first time it has met in Belfast, and the second time in Ireland.

**Cork.**—The autumn mackerel fishing on the south coast has opened most auspiciously. The Bay of Dunmanus and the Berehaven waters are equally productive, and all along to Galley Head the waters are teeming with fish. Many large herrings are captured in the nets with the mackerel.

An important document has been issued to members of Parliament showing the scope that exists for still further accelerating the American mail service, *via* Queenstown, and urging on the Government to receive tenders for their carriage, so that faster boats may be built.

Among the passengers on the steamer *Arizona*, which arrived at Queenstown on the 26th ult, from New York, was Mr T. St John Gaffney, B.L., who has come to Ireland specially for the purpose of assisting in securing the release of the Irish political prisoners from British gaols. In the course of a brief interview, he said that he has been specially retained as counsel for Dr Gallagher, and is in correspondence with the State Department of the United States, with the view of obtaining the prisoner's release without further delay. He has a thorough knowledge of the case, and he is armed with full authority and under power of attorney from Dr Gallagher's family. Mr C. O'Connor Hennessy, who is vice-president of the New York Press Club, accompanies Mr Gaffney, and represents a large newspaper syndicate.

introductory chapter will deal with St Brendan's pre-Columbian voyage to the Continent. Canon O'Hanlon is, of course, an authority on the life of St Brendan. The work is now in the press, and will appear in the autumn.

At the competitive examinations held between the Old and New Borough National Schools, Swords, five out of the six prizes, valued at £20 each, awarded annually, were won by the Catholic children. This success must be most satisfactory to everyone connected with the Catholic schools.

Mr F. W. Crossley, of Dublin, is taking a prominent part in a movement to attract more tourists to Ireland. It is questionable, says a leading London paper, whether the natural attractions of Scotland are greater than those of Ireland, yet every summer and autumn Scotland is crowded while Ireland is neglected. Hundreds of thousands of pounds go to Scotland for every bank note that goes to Ireland.

It is announced in Dublin that a committee of men of all parties is being formed to promote the volunteer movement in Ireland.

On Sunday a procession of labour and trade organisations took place in Dublin, and a meeting was held in the Phoenix Park in furtherance of the interests of the builders' and brick-layers' labourers. The immediate object was to try to secure for the builders' labourers the same scale of wages during the winter months that they receive in the summer; but the meeting further petitioned for manhood suffrage for all electoral purposes and changes in Parliamentary procedure, and passed a resolution in favour of a general federation of labour, as well as demanding the immediate application of the powers obtained by the Corporation of Dublin for a main drainage scheme.

**Galway.**—John Ruane and wife were evicted from their house and holding at Killalooity, near Tuam, on June 27, by Alex.

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**Down.**—Ballymacarrett was the scene of another exhibition of rowdiness on Saturday night. One of the local bands had gone to the railway station to escort an excursion party home to Bloomfield. At Bridge-end, without the slightest provocation, some members of the crowd threw stones at the windows of a respectable Catholic publican. Two of the plate-glass windows in the shop, value for at least £8, were smashed. The crowd passed down the Newtownards road, where they attacked the windows of another Catholic publican, smashing glass of very considerable value. No arrests were made. An oyster man, who was pursuing his calling at Bridge-end when the mob was passing, says that his cart was plundered, and he was told that if he dared to call the police he would be well beaten.

**Donegal.**—The potatoes look well and are in a flourishing condition, writes a correspondent of the *Derry Journal*, referring to the crops in the eastern part of the county. The oats have improved in growth by the rain. The hay-crop is light, but on well-cultivated farms the crop in general is the best I have seen these many years. But now the low price of cattle, and the advance in the cost of labour has made the farmers feel the weight of agricultural depression, it is to be hoped some feeling of consideration will be shown by the landlords for the tenant-farmers in such a time of depression as the present.

**Dublin.**—The Rev Canon O'Hanlon, of Dublin, the erudite Irish historian and the hagiologist, whose great work on "The Lives of the Irish Saints" is gradually approaching completion, is at present engaged in a work entitled "An Irish-American History of the United States," in which he will show the extent of influence of the Irish settlers of America, says the *London Daily Chronicle*. His

under Strachan. A considerable crowd had assembled from the town and neighbouring villages who during the execution of the decree lustily cheered for Ruane and groaned the evictor. Ruane offered to pay all the rent due—or leave the matter to impartial arbitration, but in vain. Ruane had by his own hands built the house and made the few acres out of barren cutaway bog. Last January he was evicted from this holding for the first time. He then as now offered to pay down all the rent due, but the tender was declined. Under the belief that though legally dispossessed he had not, in equity, lost claim to his home, Ruane returned and took shelter beneath the roof-tree, where he remained till removed on a magistrate's warrant to Galway gaol to spend three weeks there on the plank bed. Nothing daunted by his imprisonment, he went back as soon as liberated to his evicted house and continued undisturbed till the 27th ult. Strachan proved inexorable. He would not even give compensation demanded by Ruane for improvements amounting to £9, made on the house with the evictor's own sanction. The dwelling is now occupied by a caretaker, guarded night and day by two policemen, while Ruane and his wife have taken refuge in a hut hurriedly erected on a bit of bog hard by the meadow.

Mr Timothy Clarke, one of the Clanricarde campaigners, died after a long and painful illness. Mr Clarke was the very first tenant attacked by Lord Clanricarde at the beginning of the memorable struggle seven years ago. But with such determination and ability did he oppose the proceedings in the law courts (and out of them, too) that he was not finally evicted until a little more than a year ago. In anticipation of this a hut had been built for him and his family, but it was seized during the eviction on the allegation that it was built on Mr Clark's holding. A garrison of emergency men was

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