

The recognisances of Messrs. O'Brien and Dillon were estreated by the Removables at Tipperary last week. The crown will proceed to collect the bail money, £2000, but it will be about the smallest modicum of gratification which Mr. Balfour will extract from the theatrical display in Tipperary.

John, Ryan, Joseph English, and Tobias English, of Tipperary, were served with notice that Mr. Smith-Barry will move for writs of attachment against them for their contempt in refusing to bring into Court certain moneys in reference to house property on the Smith-Barry estate, which they hold in trust for a charity in Tipperary.

A largely-attended meeting of the Tipperary National League was held last week, 400 members, including all the leading Nationalists, being present. W. F. Dalton commented strongly on the fact that, although Father Humphreys had been shadowed and his steps dogged for months by police spies, even a Coercion court could not find him guilty of any crime. A resolution of renewed confidence in Mr. Parnell was also passed.

**Tyrone.**—The recent heavy floods have been destructive to life and property in more than one district of the County Tyrone. A melancholy drowning case occurred in Clogher village, whereby a respectable farmer named Griffin lost his life in the River Blackwater between Augher and Clogher.

The attendance of buyers and sellers at recent fair was large. A keen demand existed for good young springers. Best beef sold at 47s 6d to 58s per cwt. Milch cows of first-class quality realised from £18 to £22; second-class from £11 to £13, and inferior from £7 to £9. Good springers from £13 to £20, and second-class, £9 to £11. Three-year-old heifers and bullocks, £10 to £12 10s; two-year-olds, £7 10s to £9 10s; one-year-olds, £6 10s to £7 15s. Mutton sold from 6d to 8d per lb. Dry cattle from £6 to £10.

**Waterford.**—Father Flynn presided at recent Killea National League meeting. The business was of a routine nature, as the district was not blessed with grabbers or emergency men.

An emergencyman named Brennan was last week sentenced at Carrickbeg to imprisonment for one month for breaking into the house of a labouring man named Kearney, threatening to shoot him and wilfully smashing his delph. Kearney was a tenant on the Langley estate.

Last week the seamen in the employ of the Waterford Steamship Company gave seven days' notice of their intention to strike work because of the dismissal of one of the hands—a union man—but on the arrival of the steamer in Liverpool the captain anticipated the strike, and, dismissing the hands, shipped a crew of "blacklegs," and additional crews for the other steamers. The men on the steamship Reginald, in port at Waterford, on hearing of the above, quit work.

Lismore monthly fair was held week before last, and though there was a fall in the price of cattle in comparison to some recent fairs, still there was a good demand for stock. Three-year-old heifers and bullocks fetched from £12 to £13 10s; two-year-old do, £9 10s to £11; one and a-half-year old, from £7 10s to £8; strippers, £9 to £10 10s; milch cows, £14 to £17 10s. First quality beef fetched 60s per cwt., but second quality could easily be bought for 5s or 56s per cwt.; fat sheep, £3 to £3 5s each; hogget ewes, £2 7s 6d to £2 12s 6d.

At a Kilrossenty and Fews League committee meeting held recently Father Quigley presided. The conduct of William Walsh, Leomybrien, in treating with W. M. Ardagh regarding an evicted farm in the parish of Garrahone, formed the principal topic of conversation. Mr. Walsh appeared, and promised not to waste any more time in treating with a customer of so shifty a nature as Ardagh. It was decided to submit the case of Pat Power, Glendalligan, and Edmond Walsh, Bohnthea, to the people's tribunal, the Court of Arbitration.

**Westmeath.**—The death has been announced of Captain Ralph Smyth, Gaybrook. The deceased was one of the most popular landlords in the County. He was a resident, a large employer of labour, and a kind and charitable man.

The proposal to bring Waterford into direct communication with Mullingar is about to have a further trial, owing to an arrangement by a powerful syndicate in London agreeing to construct the line if the land can be procured free of cost.

## THE ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN INTERVIEWED.

HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN, interviewed by the Dublin representative of the *Central News*, on Saturday, November 29th, expressed his opinion on the crisis in the following terms:—

Would your Grace have any objection to answer a few questions about your letter to the *Irish Catholic*, communicated to the Press through the *Central News* on Friday night?

None whatever. I am told that in some respects the letter is looked upon as ambiguous. A gentleman of some prominence in Irish public life, a Nationalist, wrote to me yesterday, telling me that it is being twisted this way and that, and asking me to put a stop to the twisting process by writing or speaking some few more words to clear the matter up. I do not see that there is much to be cleared up. Whatever there may be is the result of my having written the letter under the strongest possible feeling of the necessity of reserve as to one of the central facts of the case.

Why reserve?

You understand my position. I happen to be placed here in Dublin in a position of special prominence before the public. But I am only one of twenty-eight or thirty bishops in Ireland. Now, we are an united body. The chief element of our strength and of our influence in the country is our unity. We stand together, and we mean to stand together. In such a case, then, as I had to deal with when writing on Friday, I felt bound to write with the strictest reserve as to the main practical issue. This, at all events, was my feeling in the matter. Up to that point, Mr. Parnell's "Manifesto"

had not been issued. He had not in any way broken silence. Until he did so, it was impossible to know what he might have to say. There still is room, then, for the possible difference of view amongst us as to the course it might be our duty to take. That was the reason of my reserve.

Your Grace, then, thinks that the publication of the Manifesto has changed the situation?

The situation has been totally changed, partly as the result of the publication of the "Manifesto," partly as the result of other matters that have come about within these two days. But I may say that all these may be set down as results of the appearance of the Manifesto. In my letter I referred, not very obscurely, to the case of the Pigott forgeries. When Mr. Parnell was arraigned before the bar of public opinion by the publication of the first of the forged letters, he lost no time in setting himself right before the public. From his place in the House of Commons he at once made a public profession of his innocence. He did not choose to defend his character by a process in the courts. But he vindicated his honour by publicly pledging his word that he stood absolutely free of the infamy with which he was charged. That was enough for him to do. He took the very first opportunity of doing it. If I remember rightly, he made his indignant denial in the House of Commons on the evening of the day on which the first forged letter was published in the *Times*. Well, some of us who trusted him looked for a similar declaration now. That was the sort of "Manifesto" that would have cleared Mr. Parnell. Now, unhappily, all hope of his being in a position to make any declaration of the kind in the present case seems at an end. So far, then, at all events as my position as a member of the Irish Episcopacy is concerned, there is no longer any room for reserve.

What is your Grace's opinion as to the political drift of the Manifesto?

I do not care to go into the political aspect of the manifesto. But there is one point that lies on the surface. I mean, of course, the breach of confidence. We had better withdraw from Parliamentary action, and give up the cause of Ireland as lost, if we have no other possible leader than one who has shown that, after accepting the confidence of an English statesman, he has no scruple in making a desperate effort to scramble out of a difficulty by abusing that confidence and betraying it. Things have come to a lamentable pass. Whatever happens, Mr. Parnell's unrivalled service to the cause of Ireland during the past ten or twelve years of storm and of depression never can be forgotten. He has done for his country what no other political leader before him had been able to do. He found our people politically dead. He put life and hope into them. He took them out of the hands of unsate guides. He brought back to them their lost trust in peaceful, lawful, constitutional methods of action. He built up for them a Parliamentary party that could at any critical moment be counted upon, if called upon, to act as one man. He has kept that party together for years, with its unity unbroken. Until a week ago the unity of that party seemed, to all appearances, unbreakable. Now all is changed. In that party of which he was the centre of unity, his position, so long as he maintains it, is one that makes the maintenance of unity impossible. It can result only in disruption and disaster.

Have you seen Mr. Davitt's statement as to assurances given by Mr. Parnell of his being able to clear himself in the divorce case?

Yes. Mr. Davitt speaks very strongly—I may say, bitterly, as I am sure he feels very bitterly, about that strange, painful, incident. It was through his strong assurances to me that I was led to believe that Mr. Parnell would come through the O'Shea divorce case as he had come through the case of the Pigott forgeries—"with out a stain." What Mr. Davitt tells about his coming to me with the assurances he had received from Mr. Parnell is perfectly accurate. He quoted the words for me—"Davitt, you may tell our friends in Ireland that I shall come through this case without a stain upon my honour"; and he told me, with emphasis, that Mr. Parnell had emphasised all this by repeating it. Very naturally, I believed that assurance. I should be able still to believe it if Mr. Parnell, in his manifesto, or in any other way, had now done what, undoubtedly, he was called upon to do, supposing him in a position to do it—that is, publicly to pledge his word as a gentleman, as he pledged it in the case of the forgeries, that, notwithstanding all appearances to the contrary, his honour is still unstained. If he cannot do that, or if he will not do it, his colleagues may rest assured that the party that takes him—or that retains him—as its leader, can no longer count upon the support, the co-operation, the confidence, of the bishops of Ireland.

I presume there is no ambiguity about that declaration?

No. The time has come when it is a duty to speak out plainly. But, as you observe, in speaking as I have spoken, I confine myself all but exclusively to the moral aspect of the case. If Mr. Parnell can set himself right as to that, I raise no question as to the probable political results of yesterday's political manifesto. That is a political matter, and I leave it to be dealt with by those who are the accredited representatives of the Irish people in the political affairs of the country. But, like everyone else in the country, I have a right to hold a personal opinion in the case, and a right also freely to express that opinion. I give my opinion for what it is worth. I cannot but look upon the issuing of the document as an act of political suicide. It is a disaster. It will bring disaster upon Ireland if those whose duty it is to guard her interests are not now faithful to their trust.

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