

NENAGH ASSIZES CONCLUDED.

Richard, James and Mary Connelly were indicted or having been present, aiding and abetting in the murder of Thomas Dillon of Kilmakill, on the 21st of May 1847. At the last assizes two of the Connollys were found guilty of having committed the murder and for which they suffered the extreme penalty of the law.

The old woman, the mother of the male prisoners, and who was about 80 years of age, being unable to stand, sat down near the side of the dock.

Mr. Scott, Q.C., said—Oh, is it not truly melancholy to contemplate that a woman of her years, being on the verge of eternity should stand at the bar, charged with being privy to the murder, with having held a basin to receive the blood which flowed from a gash in the throat of the victim, and which had been inflicted by her sons (sensation.) He then proceeded to state the case according to the evidence.

The old woman stood up, and grasped the rail of the dock with her shrivelled hands. Her grey hair hung closely about her head, and her appearance was that of a maniac; she screamed loudly and extended her attenuated arms, and repeatedly clapped her hands, at the same time exclaiming wildly, and oscillating her head and shoulders—Oh, Gentlemen look at me—look at me. My two boys hanged, and myself and my other two boys here. "Och hone! Ochhone."

Thomas Loobey an approver having been called upon ascended the witness table.

Richard Connolly cried out—Oh, Looby! Looby! you hanged our brother, and now you are going to hang our poor mother and ourselves. I declare to God I will follow you either dead or alive until I have satisfaction from you. You took our land from us and—

The old woman—Oh, Looby, Looby, Looby.

Bridget Dillon, daughter of Thomas Dillon, who was murdered, was next examined.

Mr. Rolleston addressed the jury for the prisoners. The jury then brought in a verdict of Guilty against all the prisoners.

The Foreman (Mr. Thomas Sadleir) addressing the Court, said—My Lord, the jury unanimously recommend the prisoners to mercy. We are under the impression that they were not the principals in the murder, and two of the family having suffered the extreme penalty of the law for that murder, we recommend these persons to mercy.

Court—Very well, gentlemen.

SENTENCE OF DEATH.

Martin Ryan, convicted of shooting at Mr. Robert Lloyd, was brought into court. On making his appearance a death-like silence was observed. The prisoner, who is about 27 years of age, looked deadly pale.

The Clerk of the Crown read the indictment against the prisoner, and also the finding of the jury, and asked the prisoner why sentence of execution should not be pronounced against him.

The prisoner here exclaimed—Oh, my lord, a long day!

Baron Pennefather—Prisoner at the bar, it would be improper for me to hold out any hope to you, for it is not in my power to pronounce any sentence upon you but that of death. You have been found guilty of a crime not less than that of murder, and it was owing to the Providence of the Almighty that the life of your intended victim had been saved. The jury were called on by the learned counsel who defended you, to consider whether you fired at Mr. Lloyd with intent to disable, and not to kill, as laid in the indictment, but they came to the conclusion—and I do not think they conscientiously could have arrived at any other—that you did intend to deprive Mr. Lloyd of life. Whether you were tempted with the hope of money and acted the part of a hired assassin, or whether you were influenced by other motives, because Mr. Lloyd had exercised his rights as a landlord, is now of little matter. To commit a deadly act like this is as guilty an offence as can be. You watched Mr. Lloyd—you waited for him, and you followed him until he was off his guard; and, therefore, your purpose was not a hasty one—you then approached his person, and when within a few yards of him you fired your deadly weapon, and but for the mercy of God you would have deprived him of life.—The law, therefore, says, that you are as guilty as if death had followed, and that you are not less so because the Almighty prevented your intentions from being carried into effect. It therefore becomes my painful duty to pronounce the sentence which the law awards for your crime.

Prisoner (in a loud voice)—Oh, my lord, my lord, transport me, but don't take away my life.

Judge—The sentence is not mine, neither is it in my power to alter it—make, therefore, I beseech you, peace with your offended God. The law has fixed your sentence, and I have not the power to change it. Do not entertain a hope, for I have not any reason to believe that the Government will make a remission of your sentence. Let me then conjure you to endeavour to reconcile yourself to your offended God, and obtain that mercy which a human tribunal cannot give you. The learned Baron here put on the black cap, and in the usual form sentenced the prisoner to be hanged. The 16th September is the day named for the execution.

Prisoner (with clasped hands and eyes turned up) May the Lord Jesus Christ, who died upon the Cross for us all, have mercy on my soul.

William Carthy and John Ryan were placed at the bar to receive sentence, and the Clerk of the Crown

Judge Ball has arrived in Dublin after terminating the Munster circuit at Cork.

A lady passenger travelled on board the *Lansdowne* steamer, on Wednesday, and as the vessel was midway in the Lake between Portumna and Killaloe, she was taken unexpectedly ill, and gave birth to a fine baby. The awkwardness of this strange occurrence was rendered alarming in consequence of there not being any female on board, except the stewardess, a young girl. However the utmost attention that circumstances could provide for was afforded by the master of the *Lansdowne*, Mr. John Winder.

There is no better barometer of "confederate" feeling than the Savings Bank. Last week large sums were drawn out here, and notices for larger given. Yesterday a number of the notices were withdrawn, and many of the drafts re-deposited, some of the owners remarking "We'll have no war now." The arrest of O'Brien has had a very sedative effect.—*Cork Constitution*.

A substitution of the word Ten for One, has been made in the Bank of Ireland notes of the Dublin issue, so ingeniously that some of them passed on the branches here of the Bank of Ireland and the Provincial Bank. No. 71,614, dated 28th March, 1848, letter C. R. and signed P. Morgan, was recently detected.

Lord Kilmain has forgiven his tenantry in the neighbourhood of Ballinrobe, all arrears of rent due by them.

Mr. John Hilton, steward to George Gough, Esq. of Ardsallagh, was proceeding to ring the work-bell on Monday morning, when he saw a man six yards distant with a pistol presented at his face, and he made a sudden plunge at the villain, so that a desperate struggle ensued, in which the pistol was taken and re-taken, Hilton having inflicted a severe wound on the fellow's head, marched him into the stable yard, and secured his prisoner. Mr. Gough had given some gunpowder to a workman on the evening before, for the purpose of protecting his crops. The wadding found in the pistol was torn from the paper in which the powder was enclosed, and the intended murderer happened to be a cousin of the labourer.

Winifred Egan, a poor woman, was accidentally run over by the jaunting car of Rev. Mr. O'Donnell, R. C. curate, Shannon bridge, on Tuesday, and killed.

There are 400 cars daily employed drawing sea sand from Ballybunnion strand to the interior, for a distance of twenty miles, even to Abbeyfeale!

THE GOVERNMENT COLLEGES.

Copy of the letter of Lord Clarendon, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, to the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin:— (Private.) Castle, 19th March, 1848.

MY DEAR LORD—Your Grace had the goodness to promise me that you would convey to Rome, for the consideration of the Pope, the amended statutes of the Queen's Colleges in Ireland, as the British government has no official organ of communication with the Holy See.

I was happy of having the opportunity to consult your Grace before any alteration was made, because, as a Catholic Prelate, you well knew what guarantees and provisions were requisite for ensuring religious instruction to the Catholic youths who might frequent those colleges; and I was anxious that such securities should be given with the most entire good faith, and in a manner perfectly satisfactory to the Irish prelates, who, like yourself, desired to see the true interests of morality and the Catholic religion promoted by these new institutions.

I regret very much the delay that has taken place in the revision of the statutes, but I need hardly tell you that the attention of the government was last year wholly devoted to alleviating the calamity with which it was the will of Providence that this country should be visited; moreover, this delay was of no importance, as the colleges would not be ready for occupation before the end of the year 1848.

The whole of the statutes are at your disposal now, or at any future period that your grace or any other bishop may wish to see them; but as they are very voluminous, and relate entirely to the course of instruction and the duties of the different officers of the colleges, I propose at present only to trouble you with the religious portions of them.

Accordingly, I herewith send all that part of the statutes which affect, as to religious points, both professors and students, as well as an extract from the report of the board with reference to religious instruction.

The list of visitors is not yet settled, but I can have no hesitation in stating that it will include the Catholic archbishop of the province, and bishop of the diocese in which the college is situated, and that, moreover, in the council, professorships, and other posts of such college, the Catholic religion will be fully and appropriately represented; for these colleges are instituted for the education of the middle classes, and the government would fail in its object of training up the youth of Ireland to be good and loyal subjects if their religious instruction and moral conduct were not duly provided for and guarded by every precaution that the most anxious solicitude can devise.

As I entertain a profound veneration for the character of the Pope, and implicitly rely upon his upright judgment, it is with pleasure that I now ask your grace to submit these statutes to the consideration of His Holiness, believing, as I do, that they may be advanced

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