

Mr. O'Donnell—Surely everybody who has read that letter or who has heard it read knows that it is a threatening letter, and we admit it to be such and to come within the meaning of the act of parliament.

Mr. Hewston on his further examination said—I do not know the young man who is charged with the writing of this letter; his father, and his uncle, and his cousins occupy the lands of Scragg; they originally held at 40s. per acre, but when the old man died Mr. Fry desired me to advance the rent to 50s. per acre, and I did so; it is very prime land; the former tenant paid £3 5s. per acre; these lands are near Emly, and are, as I have said, very prime; there was no dispute about raising the rent, and the tenants did not object much to the advancing of the rent; when I received this letter I showed it to Mr. Howley, the Resident Magistrate; I did not place any mark on it for identification before I showed it to Mr. Howley.

Mr. O'Donnell—I will not cross-examine Mr. Hewston as I have no questions to ask him.

Mr. Timothy Ryan (Grocer, William-street) was next examined by Mr. Fegan, and said—The young man charged with this offence is in my employment here in Limerick, and was so on the 25th of May, the date of that letter; he is about 2½ years in my employment, and makes entries in my books; (Mr. Ryan's day, or rough order book was here produced); after the 25th of May Mr. Hamilton (Sub-Inspector) looked over that book, which is a book kept or written in, by all parties—that is, by myself, by my young man (the prisoner), and my wife.

The witness here pointed out some entries made by the prisoner in this book.

Mr. Fegan—Mr. Ryan, you very naturally and very properly take an interest in this young man's defence, so I'll not ask you any more questions.

Mr. Doyle—How do you know he takes an interest in it either naturally or properly? It is very unfair to be thus throwing out groundless insinuations.

Mr. Fegan (holding up two portions of sealing, or bottling, wax of yellow and brown colours)—Were these the descriptions of sealing wax that you used in your establishment before and on the 25th of May?

Witness—No other kinds of wax have been used in my establishment.

Mr. Hamilton—Have you any portion of the stick of wax that I was looking at the other day in your establishment?

Witness—Yes, that is it (brown stick), but it has become much darker since in consequence of use and the smoke.

These two pieces of wax were then handed by Mr. Fegan to the Sub-Inspector, the former observing as he did so, "keep these two pieces of wax if they can be of any use to you, for I do not much rely upon them."

Mr. Fegan (handing to Mr. Ryan the bottle seal used in his establishment) was that seal used in your shop, and had the prisoner access to it?

Witness—Yes; it was used in my establishment, and Hanly had access to it.

Mr. Fegan—That is all I have to ask you.

Mr. O'Donnell—And I have nothing to ask you, Mr. Ryan, so you may go down.

Thomas Hamilton, Esq., Sub-Inspector of constabulary for the city of Limerick, was next examined by Mr. Fegan, and said—In consequence of information which I received I went on the 27th of May to the establishment of Mr. Ryan, and two days after the posting of that letter; I searched the prisoner's box, but did not find anything in it; I told the young man that he was suspected of writing that letter, and I cautioned him against saying anything in reply that would criminate, or tend to criminate himself; I examined the wax in Mr. Ryan's shop, and compared it with that on the envelope, and they appeared to correspond with each other.

Mr. O'Donnell—Recollect that the young man here is charged with a most serious crime, which must not be eked out by appearances. We want strict evidence, and will have nothing else.

Mr. Hamilton—I have examined this stamp and I have reason to believe that this letter was stamped with it; I find the wax in the shop corresponding with that on the letter, but that sealing wax is not identical with those two portions of wax now produced by Mr. Ryan; I got the entry book from Mr. Ryan, in which there are many entries made by the prisoner; I compared the direction on the letter with those entries in the book, and it does not appear to me that the direction was in the least disguised; I have looked with care at the writing in the letter and at that on the envelope, and I have only found that the latter is written in a free hand and not disguised; the character of all this letter corresponds with the word "Tipperary" on the envelope; the colour of the ink in the same—the letter "T." in Tipperary, and the "T." in Tuesday, correspond, and I believe that the letter was written by the person who made the entries in this book as they were pointed out to me by Mr.

strong to warrant the magistrates in sending the prisoner forward for trial.

Mr. O'Donnell—On the part of this young man, who stands here charged with this very serious offence, I respectfully submit that the Crown has not made out a sufficient *prima facie* case to warrant your Worships in placing him on trial—that is on the evidence as it stands before you. Mr. Hewston has been produced, and the receipt, by him, of a threatening letter, has been established beyond a doubt. The application of the language contained in that document to him has been proved, but the *prima facie* link in the evidence is missing altogether, I do here assert, fearless of even contradiction, that there is not a single phrase in it from beginning to end which connects it with the prisoner Hanley, and what is the evidence of Mr. Hewston himself on this point? why, it is this, that the Hanly's have no connection whatever with that letter, because he has said that the Hanley's did not object when he raised the rent on them. When he was asked; did they object to the advanced rent? he said no. What then is the fair inference to be drawn from the evidence? is it not that they were satisfied with their tenure, on the estate, and had no reason or desire to send any letter to Mr. Hewston, and therefore so that gentleman's evidence goes it is entirely in our favor; who is the next witness?

Mr. Ryan, the young man's master; what was he brought up to prove? I thought that the Crown would have put the threatening letter into his hand and have asked him was it in the handwriting of the prisoner, but to my surprise they did not venture to ask him that, but he proves that Mr. Hamilton asked him to produce to him entries made in his books by the prisoner Hanley; what did Mr. Hamilton do that for? The reason was obvious to enable the latter gentleman to institute a comparison between the handwriting in the letter and in the book, and now let me ask if Mr. Hamilton was so good a judge of handwriting would he not have said, when he got the book in one hand, and the letter in the other, there is the prisoner's handwriting in the book, and here it is in this letter, that he did not do, and therefore it is clear that he would not have known anything at all about the handwriting were it not for the assistance which he received from Mr. Ryan, who pointed out the prisoner's handwriting to him, and surely it is not on secondary evidence of that kind as to the handwriting of any party that you will send this young man to trial; and then I say that so far as regards the evidence of these two witnesses, it forms no ground on which the Court will be warranted in sending this case for trial. We now come to the other witness in the case, Mr. Hamilton, who is, I am bound to say, a man of high honour, and who would not permit his zeal in the public service to compel him to bring a case forward on frivolous, or untenable grounds; but he has admitted that he made a mistake about the identity of the letter in the police office. After some further observations on the evidence of Mr. Hamilton, Mr. O'Donnell submitted that there were no grounds on which to send the prisoner for trial, and thereby casting a stigma on a young man which could never be wiped off even by a verdict of acquittal by a jury of his country.

Mayor—As I understand you, Mr. O'Donnell, you contend that there is not a sufficient *prima facie* case to warrant us in receiving informations.

Mr. O'Donnell—That is what I say; let the young man stand out on his own recognizance, and when the crown mend their hands by giving better evidence, then he will be amenable.

The magistrates here retired to their private room to consider the important question submitted to them, and, after the absence of about half an hour, they re-appeared on the bench, when the Mayor said—William Hanley, the bench has given the most patient and very best attention they could to your case, and they have unanimously come to the opinion that the evidence before them is quite strong enough to warrant them in sending you for trial before a jury of your country to determine your guilt or innocence. They express no further opinion on your case, but direct that informations be received against you.

After some further discussion the court said that the prisoner would be admitted to bail, himself in £100 and two sureties in £50 each.

Two men, named Quilligan and Macnamara, were fined, the former 1s. and costs or 48 hours' imprisonment for trespass on the Limerick and Ennis Railway, and the latter 10s. or a month's imprisonment with hard labour, for a similar offence, with the addition of using threatening language towards Molony, the care-taker at Park.

THE RECENT MURDER IN DONEGAL.—After a long and protracted inquiry (three days) the coroner's jury has returned a verdict of wilful murder against Hugh Freil, who was arrested by the constabulary of the Rameilton district immediately after the crime had been committed.

use his influence with the Government to have Mr. M'Mahon's Bill passed into law. He was aware that the objections stated against that measure were that it did not confine itself to inland fisheries; but feared, unless a comprehensive bill were introduced, the subject could not be properly handled. He could assure the gentlemen present that the Government considered the question to be of vast importance; indeed, as most of the Irish members, and of the proprietors of Irish fisheries were in favour of improved legislation the Government would give its assent to the principal of Mr. M'Mahon's Bill, on the understanding that it should be referred to a Select Committee. The subject was not one of a party nature, and could, during the present session, be advanced, if a committee were selected from both sides of the House. If this were so, a practical result might be arrived at early next session.

Sir Robert Peel was asked to give a pledge that the Government would take the subject up as a Government measure.

Sir Robert Peel could not give any such pledge, as there were so many bills of vast importance to Ireland which the Government were desirous to press forward. The deputation should be satisfied with his previous assurances of sympathy.

As the press was not admitted, the report of the proceedings at this deputation must be considered as dependent on the information kindly supplied by some of the gentlemen present.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

All post-office orders and letters of credit, and communications generally, to the CHRONICLE, are to be addressed to the Administratrix, Mrs. SARAH BASSETT.

No communication whatever will be attended to unless authenticated by signature of the writer, as guarantee for accuracy, but not for publication.

Advertisements intended for publication in the LIMERICK CHRONICLE should be sent to the office before 12 o'clock on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, otherwise they will be late for insertion.

THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE.

SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 31, 1862.

This morning the remains of the late George Dartnell, Esq., solicitor, were conveyed for interment from his residence, the Crescent, to St. Munchin's Church yard. The funeral was highly respectable, the deceased gentleman having been much esteemed by all who knew him. The funeral procession moved off at half-past 8 o'clock, and comprised the leading gentry and mercantile interests of the city. The chief mourners were his two sons, George A. Dartnell, Esq., J.P., county Clare; Rev. Richard Dartnell, England; his son-in-law, Captain Charles Whyte, Major Henry Marinden, Rev. W. N. Willis, Kilpeacon; and Burdett Morony, Esq., J.P.; his nephew, Edward R. Dartnell, Esq., Newcastle; and Wm. Dartnell, Esq., Bank of Ireland; his grand-children, the sons of the Rev. W. N. Willis, and other relatives, followed by over twenty carriages of private families. The Venerable Archdeacon Peacocke read the burial service in the interior of the Church, whence the coffin was removed from the hearse, assisted in the ceremony by the Rev. Mr. Hamilton. The arrangements, which gave entire satisfaction, were entrusted to the management of Messrs Moore and Manning of George-street.

Our worthy and energetic Mayor, W. L. Joynt Esq., has published a very important letter on a bill intended to assimilate the law of Ireland regarding her inland and sea coast fisheries with those of England. The subject is handled with the ability Mr. Joynt usually displays, and in our next we will publish the very able document *in extenso*. The question is one of great local as well as general interest, and is well deserving of the most earnest attention.

In the case of Thomas W. Grady v. John Stephen Dwyer, tried in the Court of Chancery, yesterday before Master Brooke, to determine whether the respondent, Mr. Dwyer, was entitled, under the decree of last December, to take possession of a certain lot of 4 acres of the lands of Stradbally, being portion of the demesne of R. J. Goff, Esq., Shannon-Lod, Castleconnell. Master Brooke delivered judgment in favour of Mr. Dwyer.

The usual meeting of the directors of the Limerick and Ennis Railway Company was held to-day, transacting the ordinary business of the company.

THEATRE.—Last night the Officers of the Garri performed for the benefit of Miss Dyer, when house was filled by a fashionable audience. A no of the entertainment is held over until our next.