

compelled to do so by law. I told him that I did not know to give up possession.

James Starkie, examined by Mr Gamble—house in which Pat Dillon lived is my property. I put him in as a caretaker, and he worked as a labourer. How long was he living in it? He was living there about twelve months, and not quite sure. Who was residing in it? Pat Dillon? Connors, the defendant, was living in it, and from which I ejected him by a legal process through the sheriff. Were you at this place since? No. Did Connors ask you permission to take possession of the house? No; nor did he ask it. French leave is the order of the day now for taking possession of the properties. Is he residing there now? No consent? I have not taken any part in it, for good or bad. When you spoke to me on the subject I said I did not know what to do. I would take my time about that, but that I do not like to take any steps at present, as my health being so bad I could not do anything at present.

Mr Hewson—You don't seem to understand the question that is put to you. That is no answer to the question put to you, which is this—Did you give your consent to Connors taking possession of the house? Did you authorise him to take possession?

Witness—I would not like any man to take possession of my place without my consent or against my will.

Mr Hewson—Had he your consent to take possession?

Mr Starkie—He had not.

Mr Hewson—Is he there, with your consent now?

Mr Starkie—He is not.

Mr Hewson—Did you authorise the persons who put Dillon out to go there and put him out and take possession to Connors?

Mr Starkie—No, I never authorised any one to do so.

Mr Hewson asked the defendant what answer he had to give to the charge? Was he willing to give up possession of the house since? Connors lied that he did not know. He was forcibly put into the place, and was willing to pay a rent for the house if permitted to remain in it.

Mr Hewson—The law does not recognise the right of an armed party of men to go to put a man into forcible possession of a place, nor his right to remain there. If an armed party came there and forcibly put you in you could not prevent them, but you might have left the next morning when the law does not recognise the right of an armed party to put a man into a house; but you ought to have walked out of the house after they went away. Even if you, after you got this summons, had walked out of the house, and came down here and said that you were out of it, that would be showing good cause by you should not be sent for trial to the quarter Sessions.

Connors here said he did not want to retain possession of the house if he could get time to give it up.

Mr Hewson advised him to leave the house at once.

Connors—It was Mr Starkey's own fault the first day for putting me out when the rent was not paid up.

Mr Hewson replied that the Bench could not go into those matters. The law did not recognize the right of any person to go back and take forcible possession of a house from which he had been legally evicted.

Connors said that if Mr Starkey were willing to leave him in the place, he was willing to pay him a rent for it.

Mr Starkie—The matter has come into the hands of the authorities now; they have taken it up, and I have nothing more to do with it. It is not their business, and I will not interfere as between them and you.

Mr Hewson—Connors, I am giving you a friendly advice; and that is that if you will still walk out of the house the probability is that Mr Leahy, who has the conduct of the prosecution, will not go on with it.

Connors—Why, the house I left was a great deal better, and there was not a perch of ground taken with this one.

Mr Hewson—My advice to you is to go back to the house you left.

Connors—I don't know but that I may not get it back.

Mr Hewson—My advice is that if you can get the house you left and leave this one, for if not

Miss Ellard at once drew her revolver and taking aim at this miscreant fired three shots at him in rapid succession, but whether any of them took effect or not Miss Ellard cannot say, but the fellow continued his run as if nothing had occurred to him. Miss Ellard at once returned to the constabulary barrack and reported the outrage to the police, who proceeded to the place in company with Miss Ellard, and with the aid of lighted lanterns examined the place for foot-prints or any clue that might lead to the discovery of the would-be assassin but without any effect, and the probabilities are that no clue will ever be found to his identity. Too much praise cannot be given to Miss Ellard for her great coolness and presence of mind on the occasion, and it is only to be regretted that one or either of the shots from her revolver did not take effect on the ruffian who made such a dastardly attempt on the young lady's life. Had the bullet struck the carriage one-eighth of an inch above or below the bar Miss Ellard would not have been able to tell the story of this foul outrage, as the bullet would have passed through her body. The place was to-day visited by Mr Turner, sub-inspector at Newpallas. We have been informed that for a very lengthened period no eviction for non-payment of rent or otherwise has taken place on Miss Ellard's property, and no reason can be assigned for the outrage but that it was for the purpose of intimidation and frightening her into accepting Griffith's valuation.

DEATH OF THE REV. FRANCIS P. STUDDERT.

A few weeks since, our columns contained the announcement of a presentation and address given by the parishioners of St Patrick's, together with other friends, to their late esteemed Rector, the Rev Francis P. Studdert, who since his removal from among them has been residing in Dublin. Among our obituary notices this evening will be found the record of the death of this truly Christian clergyman, who on the afternoon of Friday last passed peacefully away to his eternal rest. The Rev Mr Studdert who was in his 71st year, was ordained in 1835, and was appointed to the incumbency of St Patrick's in 1872. Both in the pulpit and out of it the deceased was thoroughly acceptable to those with whom he was brought in contact; his ministerial career being characterised by that high standard of principle, the inflexibility of which nothing human could warp. Thoroughly evangelical in his views, he never possessed a sympathy with high church opinions and seldom allowed an opportunity to pass without recording his own. In private life—the late rector of St Patrick's was pre-eminently distinguished by a Christianlike simplicity of manner which ingratiated him with rich and poor alike, while his unostentatious benevolence flowed like water whenever an opportunity for its display presented itself. It had long been the Rev Mr Studdert's desire to die like a sentinel at his post. Providence, however, ordered it otherwise. A complication of painful diseases set in during his later years which thoroughly broke down his health, making it imperative upon him to forego all duty. He knew however his end could not be far distant and in reply to those who were constantly asking after his welfare, he was wont to characterize his condition as "Resting on the Promises." As the end approached this "rest" appeared intensified, and though suffering acutely, nothing could cloud the prospect which lay beyond the "dark valley." The remains of the lamented gentleman were laid in their last resting place at St Jerome's this morning.

THE FUEL FUND COMMITTEE.

A meeting of this Committee was held on yesterday afternoon in the Town Hall, the Mayor presiding.

Doctor O'Shaughnessy, Hon. Sec., read the minutes of the previous meeting which were signed by the Mayor. The doctor handed in a sum of £5 2s received from the following persons:—£2 2s from the Chairman of the County and Judge of the County Court (Mr Purcell, QC); and £1 each from Mr W. Roche, Crown Solicitor, Mrs and Miss Green; and also £1 received from Mrs Vandeleur, widow of Major George Vandeleur, late of Bellefield, which she sent from Cork this year.

The committee then adjourned.

LIMERICK HARBOUR BOARD.

The fortnightly meeting of the members of this Board was held on yesterday afternoon; there were present—Mr W Boyd, JP (presiding); Aldermen Phillips, JP, Myles, and Cronin; Messrs James Harris, Richard Power, and Luke Mullock.

Mr Harris referred to the death of Mr Thompson Russell, the head of a great local firm, and for many years a member of the Board. He moved—“That in consideration of the lamented death of Mr Thompson Russell, and as a mark of our great respect for his memory, this Board do now adjourn without transacting any ordinary business, and that we desire to express to his respected firm and family our sincere condolence with them in the loss of one so long, so largely, and so honourably identified with the commerce of our port, and so much respected for his personal qualities.”

Mr Power seconded the proposition, which was agreed to.

Alderman Phillips called attention to the fact that that would be the last meeting of the Board held during the Mayoralty of Mr O'Gorman, to whom he paid a deserved tribute of praise for the courtesy he had always exhibited, and the dignity he displayed during his official connection with the Board, and he moved the following resolution:—“Resolved—That as this is the last meeting in 1880, and the present Mayor, Michael O'Gorman, Esq., will have retired from his official connection with the Board before we have another meeting, we wish to place on record our cordial approval of the manner in which he assisted the Board in transacting the Harbour business during his two years' Mayoralty, and his uniform courtesy to all the members of our Board.”

Mr Harris said he had much pleasure in seconding the proposition, which was agreed to.

The Board then adjourned.

LIMERICK RACES.

These steeplechase races were held on yesterday, but notwithstanding the unfavourable character of the weather, were very successful, and gave much satisfaction to the lovers of such sports. The attendance was considerable, and the band of the Industrial School added much to the pleasures of the day.

The following are details:—

THE CITIZENS' PLATE of 25 Sovs., out of which the second horse receives 5 sovs. About two miles. Weight for age, 4 years old, 11st; 5 yrs, 11st 12lb; 6 years and aged, 12st 5lb. The winner of a steeplechase or hurdle, value 20 sovs, 5lbs extra; 30 sovs, or collectively value 40 sovs, 10lbs; 40 sovs, or collectively value 80 sovs, 16lbs. The winner of a race value 50 sovs excluded, Maiden 4 years old allowed 5lb; 5 yrs 8lbs; 6 yrs and aged, 12lb. Entrance, 1 sov.

Mr Bryan O'Donnell's b m Minerva, 10st 10lb (Harty) 1
Mr V. Ryan's b m Matilda, 11st 4lb (J. Harty) 2
Mr Solomon Frost's b g Baltard, aged, 12st 10lb (Healy) 3
Mr Carmody's b m Queen of Scots, 11st 5lb (Curran) 0
Mr J. McNamara's Maid of Erin, 11st 11lb (Garvey) 0
Mr Owen Donegan's ch Buffon 11st 7lb (T. Kelly) 0
Mr E. Ryan's c g Lord Edward, aged 14st 3lb (Gavin) 0

Betting—Evens on Minerva, 5 to 2 on Queen of Scots.

Minerva started a hot favourite for this event, and her running fully bore out the anticipations of her backers. Buffon, Maid of Erin, and Baltard made play alternately, and for a time Lord Edward, with great "go" in him, raced gamely at the head of the field. His old tricks were, however, too much for him, and so before the first round was run, he bolted, and he was accordingly thrown out of the race. The account of what followed is briefly told. Minerva drew to the front and held the lead to the finish, winning in a canter. Matilda and Baltard, a bad third. The others were simply nowhere.

MILITARY RACE 20 SOVS. Given by the Race Committee, added to a Sweep Stake of 2 sovs for starters; 1 sov forfeit to the fund, for bona fide hunters, the property of Officers quartered in Munster. About 2 1/2 miles. Weights, 4 yrs, 11st; 5 yrs 11st 9lb; 6 yrs and aged, 12st;