THE MURDER OF THE EMERGENCY MAN NEAR KILTEELY.

(FROM OUR REPORTER.)

Murders and outrages of the most brutal character have lately been too frequent in this unfortunate country, but brutality, coolness in perpetration, or horrible ness in details, never had equalled the barbarous and cold-blooded murder of the unfortunate Emergency man, Richard Roache, on Monday evening last at Cloverfield, a townland situate between Drumkeen Railway Station, and the village of Kilteely, in this county. Kilteely as our readers are aware, has the unenviable notoriety of being the foot-bed of the faction-fighting clans of the "three years' old" and the "four-years'-old," and records of fractured skulls and broken limbs have been numerous, the results of fighting between these people, but for a number of years murder has not stained the character of the district. Colonel Colwell is the owner of an estate at Coolashamrogue, near Cloverfield, and a man named Carroll held a rather extensive farm from him at a very fair rent, which, up to the introduction of the teachings of the Land League, Carroll paid regularly and well, but, being in terror of the visits of the miscreants known as "Moonlighters," he had for some time refused to pay any rent, and, consequently, early in the month of March last, Carroll was evicted by Col. Colwell from his holding, and four Emergency men were placed in possession as caretakers. Richard Roache, the murdered man, was in charge, and was designated by the men under him as the "Captain." The other Emergency men's names are Albert Edwards, John Warren, and James Mitchell. The unfortunate man Roache was an army pensioner, and appears to have been a strict disciplinarian, keeping his men well-in-hand, insisting on regularity of hours and habits, and was not, on the whole, in good odour with the men under him. He was a man of retiring habits, aged 61 years, but was fearless, active, and diligent in his duty regarding the premises in which he was in charge. On Monday morning, about half-past eight o'clock, he left Coolashamrogue for the purpose of going to Limerick to purchase provisions for the ensuing week, and on the previous Sunday morning had received by post from his superiors in Dublin a cheque for £2 with which to make these necessary purchases. He executed his commissions in Limerick, returning by the four o'clock train leaving this city, and arrived at Drumkeen at half-past four o'clock. He was then perfectly sober, and had in his possession two parcels, one large and the other smaller. Warren left Coolashamrogue at three o'clock for the purpose of meeting Roache at the railway station, and called into the public-house of Mrs M'Elligott, at Drumkeen, where he met the other Emergency man, Edwards, who had left Coolashamrogue at 11 o'clock that morning, and had not, as was stated in evidence yesterday, either informed his comrades where he was going to or what business he had in hands. Warren and Edwards had some drink together in Mrs McElligott's, when the former proceeded to Drumkeen railway station, where he met poor Roache on his arrival by the train. Warren took the larger parcel and Roache carried the smaller one, which was tied up in a red cotton handkerchief. Roache also had in his possession a six-chambered revolver of the ordinary pattern, which since his arrival at Carroll's farm he always carried fully loaded in his pocket for his protection. Warren and Roche proceeded along the road to Drumkeen until they arrived at the village, which is about a mile from the railway station, when they called into Mrs McElligott's house, where they found Edwards. Roache "stood treat," Edwards and Warren drinking porter, while Roache took a bottle of porter and then a glass of hot punch. He then left, Warren and Edwards remaining behind. Why these men allowed the old man to return to Coolshamrogue alone is to every reasonable mind inexplicable, and, to put it mildly, highly reprehensible, but nevertheless these men, who are active, stalwart fellows, in the prime of life, permitted old Roache to proceed along the lonely road to the house they were residing in. The porter and punch seem to have had an effect on Roache, who was seen to stagger occasionally and lean on the stick which he carried for support. The unfortunate man was alive and well at Cloverfield cross, at which place a "borheen," or, more strictly speaking, a car passage leads to the farm in which the Emergency men were in possession. Roache proceeded up this "borheen" toward the house. About half way down this passage there is a steep decline and then again a sharp incline. On each side of the hollow formed by the two latter, trees are growing. The road here is very bad, and the trenches filled with mud and water, and it was at this place that poor old Roache was "done to death." About a quarter of an hour after Roache had left Mrs McElligott's, Warren and Edwards took their departure and walked quickly towards Coolashamrogue, but they state that instead of proceeding along the public road they went a short way across the fields and arrived at the house at which they were in charge about six o'clock, p.m. Mitchell, who was in charge of the premises, at once enquired where the "captain" was, meaning Roache, when it was stated in reply that he had left before them, and should have arrived at the house. Dinner was then prepared and partaken of, and with the exception of a casual remark from Mitchell, no observations were made by Warren or Edwards regarding the strange absence of Roache. The hours passed by and night set in, still no search was made by these men for poor Roache, nor, as Major Rollestone at the inquiry yesterday remarked, did they care whether he was murdered or not. Nay, more, they coolly ate their dinners, and subsequently Warren and Edwards went to bed, and did not make the slightest endeavour to become acquainted with the fate of their comrade. This gross misconduct on their part was commented and animadverted upon yesterday by several gentlemen residing in the neighbourhood, who were of opinion that some explanation regarding it should be required of these men; and their superiors, if the authorities do not, should insist upon a full and satisfactory explanation being given. About ten o'clock, a police patrol arrived, knocked, and were admitted by Mitchell, who was on "watch," when they were informed of the absence of Roache; but it then being very dark, it was useless to commence to search for him, and at about half-past twelve o'clock the patrol left. But at five o'clock the following morning another police patrol arrived and inquired if Roache had returned. They were answered in the negative, when Warren and Edwards were aroused from their quiet slumbers for the purpose of assisting the police in the search. From the moment the constables heard of the non-return of Roache they knew that he was murdered. Search was made by the police in detached parties through all the fields, but it never struck Warren or Edwards to take them through the borheen where the mangled body of Roache at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 18th was found by Sub-constable Kane, of Kilteely station, in a sitting posture, with three bullet-wounds in his left temple and one on his lower jaw, while the left portion of his chin was completely cut away by some sharp instrument. In front of the body and on the centre of the road was a large pool of blood, and near it were lying the small parcel before mentioned and the stick which the old man carried. The description of the sub-constable of the finding of the body was most graphic and the details of a harrowing and heart-rending character—indeed hardened would be the heart of the most callous listener if it would not be affected by the description. The body was at once removed to the house in which the Emergency men reside, and which is more than half a mile from where the murder was committed. Yesterday morning as we approached this house we found a force of about twenty constables in front, with Major Rolleston, taking a photographic view of the premises in which the mangled body of poor Roache then lay. And now we must endeavour to give a description of the condition of the body and the place in which it was as presented to our view. The house is a most wretched looking hovel, devoid of any furniture, with the exception of a small unpainted table and two small "forms" or stools, presenting a most cheerless and comfortless appearance. On the ground floor are two rooms—a kitchen and a room, or rather an apartment which some years ago was a room, but from which part of the wall has been taken away; it is bereft of windows, and is full of filth of a most disgusting character, and in this place, without a bit of hay or straw under it, or a bit of covering over it, lay the murdered remains of the poor old Emergency man. What age are we living in? Have the Christian charity and humanity for which the people of this country were at one time remarkable departed, if not why was the body of poor old Roache allowed to remain in the miserable and disgusting position in which it was lying on the cold, filthy earthen floor, with the rain and wind of yesterday beating in unchecked and unmitigated upon it, while the lake-some men were enjoying in the next apartment a good fire and good substantial food. The thought is enough to make the blood in the heart of man to cold, but it is not to be compared with the reality when one gazes upon the mangled remains of poor Roache. No, far from it, words fail to adequate to attempt a description of the subject, and we leave it to our readers to imagine what we fail to impart. In consequence of the illness of the Coroner Costello the inquestion the body was not held yesterday, but Major Rolleston held an inquiry and took the following informations regarding the murder. Amongst those present were Mr Bruce, J.P., Mr Laffan, J.P., Mr Henry, County Inspector, who has since the finding of the body, been on the spot, making the most diligent enquiries relative to the circumstances in connection with the murder, and endeavouring to unravel the mystery in which it is wrapped. Sub-inspectors Carter, of Newpallas, and McGuire, of Bruff, were also in attendance.

THE MAGISTERIAL INQUIRY.

Alfred Edwards deposed—I left this house at 12 o'clock on Monday last, the 17th instant. I went to the post office at Drumkeen to see if there were any letters. I went into Mrs McElligott's public house to wait there until Roache came back from Limerick with provisions. Richard Roache left Drumkeen railway station at 9 o'clock that morning for Limerick. He did not go for any pay. Roache came back to McElligott's house about 5 o'clock, accompanied by an Emergency man named John Warren. Roach had one parcels and Warren had a large one. I had three bottle of porter before Roache arrived. Roache took a bottle of porter. I don't know what Warren took. Roache was not drunk. None of us were under the influence of drink. Roache was 61 years of age, and was very feeble. Roache left McElligott's about half-past 5 o'clock. He took the small parcel with him. He left without us. He always objected to walk with us for the reason that he was a bad walker, and being in company with us, would throw a doubt on the good nature of the people. I never saw him alive afterwards. About 20 minutes after Roache left Warren and I started for home. Warren walked about 100 yards before me. We met Heffernan the Postmaster on the road home between the cross-roads and Mrs McElligots—I mean the cross-roads near the schoolhouse at Cloverfield. He passed on and said nothing. I overtook Warren at the cross-roads and we both came home together across the fields. We arrived at this house about half past 6 o'clock. When we arrived we found Mitchell at home. A remark was made either by Warren or Mitchell asking where was the "Captain," or the "old man." I will not swear which. It was also asked "Has'nt he come home yet." I said he left Drumkeen before I did, and I wonder we did not overtake him. Mitchell said he must have forgotton something, and was gone back to Limerick. Warren said I think I know where he is, he has called at John Hayes' to see about some potatoes as he said on Sunday he should do so. I did not feel the least uneasy about Roache. We were under the belief that the people were particularly friendly towards us, and we used often have a game of cards. None of us ever stopped out, but we would not be afraid to stop out.

Major Rolleston—Did you ever get any annoyance?

Witness—No.

Did any one come in or out to you?

Witness—On Sunday a young man came and knocked at the door and Roache answered it and asked him what he wanted, he said to light his pipe. Roache alowed him to do so and he then left.

Major Rolleston—Who was the man?

Witness—I don't know.

Did you ever see him before?

Witness—Yes. I think I did, and I thought I recognised the voice of the same man yesterday in the borheen. I think I would recognise the man again if I saw him.

Major Rolleston—Were you ever prevented from getting milk?

Witness—Yes, but not me, Roache was.

When did you see Roache next?

Witness—On the morning of the 18th.

Was he alive then?

Witness—No, he was dead.

Did he appear to die a natural death?

Witness—No, he was brutally murdered.

Did he carry a revolver?

Witness—Yes.

Did you see the body searched?

Witness—Yes.

Was the revolver found on him?

Witness—No.

What kind of a revolver was it?

Witness—A six-chambered one.

Would you know it again?

Witness—I don't know, revolvers are all very much alike, but I would know the pattern.

Were you boycotted?

Witness—No, except what Roache said, that the woman who was in the habit of giving milk and butter told him she would be afraid to supply us with any more. There was a "bough" placed across the borheen to prevent persons passing. Roache warned us never to go by the borheen. He was not in the habit of coming home by the borheen. He always avoided it.

Mr McGuire, S.I.—Could Mitchell or Warren have left the house to search for Roache unknown to you?

Witness—Yes, I was on watch between 8 and 12 o'clock, and I was asleep previously. I asked for no money from Roache in Mrs McElligott's house. There was no altercation took place between Roache and us. Mrs McElligott was in Limerick with Roache and returned by the same train.

Wm. Condon, coachman to Mr Laffan, J.P., was then examined. He deposed—I recollect Monday evening. Mr Laffan sent me on horseback about 10 minutes past six o'clock to Newpallas. I met the deceased man Roache about 20 yards at this side of the Cloverfield National School. I knew the deceased. He had a stick in one hand and a parcel in the other. He seemed to be under the influence of drink. He was not staggering. I saw no more. I met the postmaster at Drumkeen immediately afterwards. Roache was walking steadily and easily.

John Warren was then examined. He said I recollect Monday, the 17th inst. I went down to Drumkeen station shortly before 3 o'clock in the evening to meet Roache, who went to Limerick that morning for the week's provisions. I met him at the railway station. He returned by the half-past four o'clock train, and I took a parcel from him. He called into Mrs McElligott's public-house. We found Alfred Edwards in the public-house. I had a pint of porter with Roache, and the others had bottles of porter each. I was in McElligott's before I went to the railway station. I had then a pint of porter. Roache left the public-house first, being old and feeble he said he would walk on and we would overtake him. He had left about a quarter of an hour when we left the public-house for home. I came out of the house first, Edwards closely following me. We walked separately until we came to the cross at the school. We joined each other there, and came across the fields. He did not see deceased, nor did we sight him on our way home. On reaching the house we found one of our men, Mitchell, in it. We asked Mitchell if Roache had returned. Mitchell made some reply which I forget. He said he might have forgotten something and returned to Limerick.

Mr Carter, S.I.—Did you see Roache at any time from the time he left McElligott's house until you saw him dead the next morning?

Witness—No.

Major Rolleston—Did you say at any time that you knew where he was?

Witness—Yes. I said he might have gone up to Tom Hayes. We could not get anything to buy anywhere. We were boycotted all over the whole country. The people were very friendly towards us.

Were you in the habit of going out at night?

Witness—There was never one of us out after sunset.

Major Rolleston—How long are you here?

Witness—It is four weeks to-day since we came from Dublin.

Mr M'Carthy—During the conversation about Roache's absence did any person remark that he might have gone to play cards somewhere?

Witness—No.

Were you uneasy about him?

Witness—Well no, but we kept watch for him until dusk.

Did you think at any time that anything had happened him?

Witness—No.

Mr Carter—Did you think he had met with foul play?

Witness—No.

Major Rolleston—Why?

Witness—If I thought so, I would have gone out and ventured my life to save him.

Major Rolleston—What time did you go to bed?

Witness—Early.

Who was on watch between eight and twelve o'clock?

Witness—Mitchell.

Do you keep a record of your watches?

Witness—No.

Major Rolleston said that it was most extraordinary that not one of these men appeared the least anxiety about the fate of this unfortunate man. You say that none of you were never out after dark. It is a most inexplicable thing. It appears to me that you did not care a [illegible] what became of the man, whether he was murdered or not.

Mr Carter—Did the police call that night?

Witness—Yes.

Did you tell them the man was missing?

Witness—No. They came about 12 o'clock, in the middle of the night. They searched everywhere. I did not tell them the man was missing. I did not assist them in their search for the deceased, but subsequently I went with them to look for Roache. Two of the police found him in the borheen. When he was found I went to see him.

Was he dead when you saw him?

Witness—Yes, he had the appearance of having been murdered.

Mr Carter—What hour was it when deceased was found?

Witness—About half-past seven.

Was there a revolver found on him?

Witness—No.

Did he carry a revolver?

Witness—Yes.

Was money found on him?

Witness—Yes.

When did he get the money?

Witness—On Sunday. He got £2.

Did he pay you any of it?

Witness—No; that was for provisions.

Was Roache in the habit of going through this borheen?

Witness—No; we never went through the borheen; we always took the fields.

Was there any altercation between you and Roache in the public-house?

Witness—No.

Did you ask him for any money?

Witness—No.

Mr M'Guire—Did you ever get a "lift" from the country people on your way to Drumkeen Station?

Witness—Yes; once.

Mr M'Guire—Who paid for the drink in the public-house?

Witness—Mr Roache.

James M'Carthy, of Drumkeen, deposed—I recollect the 17th instant. I am the nephew of Mrs M'Elligott, and am doing business for her. Three Emergency men were in the public-house on that day.

Did they go there together?

Witness—No.

Who came first?

Witness—Edwards. It was then about eleven o'clock. He remained there until about half-past five o'clock, when Roache and Warren returned. He supplied them with drink. Mr Roache had a bottle of porter and a glass of punch. Warren had two pints of stout and Edwards two bottles of porter.

Are you able to state what drink Edwards had taken from 11 oclock until Roache arrived?

Witness—No, but to the best of my belief 5 or 6 bottles of porter.

Did the deceased leave the house before Warren?

Witness—He did, about a quarter of an hour.

Did you ever hear that any one of them was insulted, or that they received any annoyance?

Witness—No.

Mr Carter—Had any of these men a dispute in the shop?

Witness—I did not see it.

Did you hear it?

Witness—No.

Were they in a room to themselves or were they in the shop?

Witness—They were in the kitchen. They had no appearance of drink.

James Mitchell deposed—I remember the 17th April. Roache left this house at a quarter past 8 o'clock for Limerick. I never saw him again alive. Edwards left to go to the post-office early. Warren left about 3 o'clock on his own private affairs. He did not tell me where he was going to. Warren and Edwards returned together between 5 and 6 o'clock. They made no remark. I asked them where they left the "Captain." They said that he should have been here before them, as he left previously to them. There was no remark after that until dinner time, when we wondered what became of Roache.

What time was dinner?

Witness—4 o'clock.

Major Rolleston—Why, you said they did not return till 6 o'clock.

What was the remark at dinner?

Witness—We wondered why he had not returned.

Who was upon the watch between 8 and 12 o'clock?

Witness—I was. The police called at 10 o'clock.

Major Rolleston—You all took it easy about the poor man.

Witness—I told the police Roache was missing. They stayed in the house until half-past 12 o'clock. Edwards and Warren told me Roache left the public house before them. The police called again at 5 o'clock in the morning. Edwards and Warren went to look for Roache with the constables. I stopped here to take charge of the place. He was in a couple of hours afterwards brought in dead.

Constable Keeffe—You saw him in the borheen dead.

Witness—Yes, I did see him in the borheen dead.

Sub-Constable John Kane, of Kilteely deposed—I remember the morning of the 18th Inst. I left Kilteely station about 5 o'Clock, accompanied by Constable Keeffe and Sub-Constable Halloran to Coolashamrogue. We went into this house which was occupied by Emergency men. We enquired about the missing man Roache. We left immediately after accompanied by Warren and Edwards, searching all along the way to the public road leading to Drumkeen. I found the deceased in the borheen leading from Cloverfield. It was 8 o'clock and he was then dead. He was sitting on the ground with his back to the fence. He had a gunshot wound on the left left temple and left lower jaw. There was a pool of blood in the centre of the borheen opposite where he was sitting. His stick and a parcel of groceries were also on the road. His face was all covered with mud. There were three marks over the left temple and one on the left jaw. I believed them to be gunshot wounds. The body appeared as if it were dragged from the centre of the road to the ditch. I remained in charge of the body until the constable arrived. The constable seached him. There was no revolver found on him. He had 10s in his pocket.

This closed the inquiry.

On Tuesday evening three men named Thomas Hayes (dairyman), John Halloran (a farmer who has been evicted), and Maurice Fitzgerald (a militiaman), all residing at Cloverfield, were arrested on a charge of being concerned in the murder, and were conveyed to Newpallas Police Station, where they were detained until yesterday evening, when Mr Bruce, J.P., discharged Thomas Hayes, and committed the others to the county prison.

An inquest was held on the body to-day by Mr Coroner Casey.

The jury, after hearing the evidence and the testimony of the doctor who made the *post mortem* examination, found that the deceased was murdered by some person or persons unknown, and the jury added a rider to the verdict condemning the conduct of the Emergency Men in not going to look for the deceased.

Mr Henry, County Inspector, and Sub-Inspectors Carter and McGuire attended to watch the proceedings on behalf the Crown.

THE SUB-COMMISSIONERS AT KILRUSH.

(FROM OUR REPORTER).

Kilrush, Wednesday Evening.

The business of the Commission was to have been resumed in the Court-house to-day, the Sub-Land Commissioners Messrs. Reeves, O'Keeffe and McCausland taking their seats for that purpose. The court was crowded with the tenants interested in the several cases. The absence of the professional gentlemen engaged on either side prevented however the business of the court being proceded with. The Commissioners then took the alternative of inspecting the farms upon the estates of Colonel W. E. A. McDonnell, D.L., and Mr Francis Burton, D.L., which are situated in the Electoral divisions of Kilkee, Moyarta, and Fenagh. Notwithstanding the fact that the day was terribly inclement throughout, the entire afternoon was devoted to the walking of the several farms in question. The hearing of the cases listed for the Poor-law Unions of Kilrush and Kildysart will be resumed in the Courthouse here to-morrow. It is probable also that the Sub-Commissioners will also give judgment in the case of Mr Samuel Burke against Miss Rebecca Goldwyer and Mr Anthony Morgan, the farms having been visited last evening.

Mr Kay Lankester, who was a short time since appointed by the Crown to the chair of Natural History at Edinburgh University, has resigned.

LIMERICK BOARD OF GUARDIA[NS]

The usual weekly meeting of the La[illegible] Board of Guardians was held on yes[illegible] Mr Russell, R.V.C., in the chair. Th[illegible] guardians present were: Mr John Russell, [illegible] Mr Patrick O'Brien, Mr John McNamar[illegible] Michael Mitchell, Mr Sh. H. F. Hosford, M[illegible] T. U. Hunt, J.P., Captain Maunsell, J.P., [illegible] Hosford, Colonel Howley, D.L., J.P., C[illegible] Westropp, J.P., Dr Kane, J.P., Mr T. G[illegible] Mr Roger McEnsey, Mr John Humphrey, [illegible] John Mangan, and Mr John M'Tiernan, &c.

The minutes of the previous meeting we[illegible] confirmed, and signed.

FINANCE.

Received during the week £211[illegible] pay £455; due to the treasurer, £779 [illegible]d.

THE LATE DISTRIBUTION OF SEED POTA[illegible]

The Chairman said that the Clerk atte[illegible] the recent Quarter Sessions to prosecute [illegible] for the amount of the seed rate, and the [illegible] was of Quarter Sessions complained of th[illegible] of distribution. Mr (Ald Myles) wished [illegible] informed if the Clerk had a report [illegible] matter.

The Clerk replied he had no report [illegible] matter, and he was directed to drag up [illegible] cordingly.

THE MILK CONTRACT.

The Chairman said that the next busi[illegible] transact was to consider the tender for t[illegible] ply of pure new milk.

Mr Gaffney—I move Chairman that [illegible] sideration of the tenders be left in the h[illegible] the Milk Committee.

M. P. Moloney—I think the Board of [illegible] dians ought to deal with the matter p[illegible] (hear, hear).

Mr Gaffney—Well, the usual course is [illegible] the matter to a committee and I propo[illegible] that course be taken.

Mr Moloney—Well, I for one propose t[illegible] milk contract be dealt with by the Board.

Mr Mitchell—I second Mr Moloney's [illegible] tion.

Mr Gaffney—I propose an amendment [illegible] the tenders be referred to the Milk Comm[illegible]

Capt Maunsell seconded the amendmen[illegible]

A poll was then taken with the follow[illegible] sult.

For amendment—Messrs Hunt, W[illegible] Maunsell, W. Hosford, Gaffney, R. Host[illegible]

Against—Messrs J. Russell, Dr Kane, [illegible] J. F. Moloney, P. Joloney, J. McNama[illegible] chell, R. Moloney, John Enright—10.

The amendment was declared lost.

Mr M'Ahern, Blarney, offered to [illegible] twenty-two gallons daily at 6½d per gall[illegible] guardians paying carriage.

Dr. Kane—Some persons have been [illegible] of the inferior quality of the milk supplie[illegible] Corkman. Is it inferior in quality, maste[illegible]

Master—It is not; it is precisely the [illegible] the Limerick milk.

Mr Moloney—Had you on some occasi[illegible] to complain of the milk of the Cork con[illegible]

Master—Yes; and I had cause to comp[illegible] of the local contractors.

Mr Gaffney—That is very fair.

Mr Michael Russell, Coolraine, tender[illegible] per gallon. Bryan Hayes, Mathew [illegible] Thomas Hartigan, Thomas M'Mahon, J. [illegible] Anne M'Namara, John Boland, Adam [illegible] Thomas M'Mahon, Clonmacken, Patric[illegible] Michael Lane, and R. Knix—all tendere[illegible] per gallon.

Alderman Myles—They have been ta[illegible] together. It was the Corkman last yes[illegible] milk.

Dr. Kane—I would like to be informed [illegible] were constant complaints last year of t[illegible] milk?

Master—There were not.

Mr Gaffney—The master has stated th[illegible] no fault to find with the Cork milk.

Master—Some of the guardians were co[illegible] complaining.

Mr Gaffney—We expected that.

Mr J. F. Moloney asked if the milk, s[illegible] velling from Cork, was inferior consequen[illegible] agitation it receives.

The Master replied in the negative.

Mr Gaffney—How is Dublin supplie[illegible] hear)?

Master—I have sent the milk on [illegible] occasions for analysis, and it has been s[illegible] of.

Mr Hosford—Would not the introd[illegible] coffee lower the consumption of milk.

Master—It would only work well for [illegible]

Mr Gaffney—Suppose the use of potat[illegible] introduced, would you use new milk?

Chairman—Say nothing about pota[illegible] would never succeed. You would have [illegible] new officer and an apparatus for cookin[illegible] I would suggest that we accept the t[illegible] 7¼d each if the contractors agree[illegible]

Mr Gaffney—I am satisfied, but I ca[illegible] you 6d would pay them.

Mr Enright—If our local contracto[illegible] power to supply the house, I think the [illegible] be treated fairly, as they are paying ra[illegible] offer value for money, and if precedence [illegible] it should be given to a local contractor [illegible] not know anything about the Cork [illegible] what I have heard about it would deter [illegible] having anything to do with it.

The contractors declined to accept the [illegible] 7¼d, and the clerk was directed to a[illegible] afresh.

THE LATE INQUIRY.

Dr Kane asked if the Clerk had rece[illegible] report of the Local Government Board, [illegible] rence to the late inquiry, on the minutes [illegible]

The Clerk replied that he had done so.

THE TEA CONTRACT.

The Clerk informed the Board that Mr [illegible] had examined the various samples of t[illegible] mitted to him, and selected No. 44 as t[illegible] and that is Mr Rowand's sample.

Mr P. Moloney—How many samples h[illegible] test?

Mr Wilson—There were 49 samples.

Mr Moloney—What time did he tak[illegible] through them?

Mr Wilson—About three and a half h[illegible]

Mr Moloney—That surprises me, becau[illegible] testing a few samples a man's palate go[illegible] out of order.

Colonel Howley and other Guardians c[illegible] that Mr Bourke was very quick at the b[illegible] having been three years in China at it.

Major Westropp—If Mr Burke was ap[illegible] tester we must now have confidence in [illegible] cision.

Mr Rowand's contract was accepted.

THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE UNI[illegible]

The Chairman said that the present fi[illegible] position of the union was very unsatis[illegible] and that cheques issued last week had b[illegible] honoured by the banks, which is brin[illegible] Board of Guardians to a very low positio[illegible]

Mr Gaffney—I am rather surprised at [illegible] we do not owe the bank so much. Our [illegible] were honoured when we were in their de[illegible] thousands of pounds.

Alderman Myles—Yes, that is a fact, [illegible] owe them an immense sum and our chequ[illegible] honoured.

Dr Kane—It devolves upon us to take so[illegible] serious steps to recover the amount not pa[illegible]

The Chairman said that he had receiv[illegible] letters, one from Messrs. Troy, bread con[illegible] and the other from Mr Walker, of the Dis[illegible] both stating that when the cheques we[illegible] sented at the bank they were marked "no [illegible] That is our present position, and we [illegible] anxious to strike a new rate.

The Clerk read a letter from Messrs [illegible] Sons, the board contractors, stating th[illegible] cheque which the guardians had issued [illegible] National Bank, for £586 12s 1[illegible], had bee[illegible] honoured. It was returned marked "no f[illegible] The writers added—"Please say the [illegible] why." He (the clerk) could not say the [illegible] why (laughter).

Messrs Walker, distillers, wrote to say [illegible] cheque for £58 20s had been dishonored [illegible] National Bank, and they requested tha[illegible] would be supplied with funds to enable t[illegible] take it up.

Mr Gaffney—When we were in debt [illegible] amount of £9,000 our cheques were ho[illegible] (hear, hear).

Dr Kane—How much do we owe to the [illegible]

Mr Wilson—About £700.

Chairman—And in another fortnight [illegible] be drawing cheques for £2,000.

Mr Raleigh—I think, sir, it would be w[illegible] adjourn the consideration of this matter [illegible] the next meeting of the board. I wish to [illegible] how much we owed to the bank before th[illegible] rants were signed this day twelve months [illegible]

Mr Wilson—£8,297.

Mr Raleigh—There is something at the b[illegible] in this matter that does not come to the su[illegible] and the best thing to do is to adjourn th[illegible] sideration of the matter until there is a [illegible] board in attendance.

Chairman—That is the best thing to do.

Dr Kane—In some of the rural distric[illegible] money won't be got in until next harvest [illegible]

Mr Humphreys—Can the property be sold [illegible]

Mr Hosford—The guardians can be s[illegible] (laughter). No guardian has more sym[illegible] with the ratepayers than I have; but st[illegible] must look at the matter straight in the fac[illegible]