

DAY. THE POPE'S REPLY TO FRANCE

CATHOLIC POWERS TO BE ARBITRATORS. (By Telegraph To-day.)

Rome, Tuesday.

It is stated that the Pope's reply to France's Ultimatum has been drawn up on the lines that his Holiness cannot accede to the demand in a question of ecclesiastical discipline, but intends no offence to the Concordat. When the Note reaches Paris an explanatory circular will be sent to the Catholic Powers, making them arbitrators in the dispute.

KILRUSH PETTY SESSIONS.

FIGHTING IN THE STREETS.

At the weekly Court at Kilrush yesterday, a labourer named Cahill was charged with riotous conduct in the streets of the town by fighting and punching another man named Coughlan. The latter was also summoned, but failed to appear, so a warrant was ordered to be issued for his arrest. The defendant pleaded guilty, but made a strong plea to the bench for forgiveness, promising immediate reformation. Cahill was however, put under a rule of bail, and given a week to complete the bail bonds.

MINERS' DISPUTE.

IMPORTANT JUDGMENT.

(By Telegraph To-day.)

In the King's Bench to-day, in the case of the Glamorgan Coal Company versus the South Wales Miners' Federation, on the question of damages sustained by the coal owners by the men declaring stop days, counsel stated the Federation had written saying they would offer no opposition to the assessment of damages on the same basis as two claims already decided, though not agreeing that a proper principle had been adopted. His Lordship entered judgment for five-sevenths of the various amounts claimed by seventy-one plaintiffs. Counsel asked how many should be brought into Court pending appeal on the question of principle on which damages were assessed. His lordship granted a stay of ten days. He ordered the amount, £57,000 odd to be paid into the Court, and costs to be taken.

DISTURBANCES IN ARMAGH.

(By Telegraph To-day.)

The Press Association's Armagh correspondent telegraphs:—Serious disturbances again took place last night, the Protestant Rectory being attacked.

DESTROYED BY LIGHTNING.

(By Telegraph To-day.)

Some farm buildings at Overwallop, near Andover, were destroyed last night through being fired by lightning.

A BIGAMOUS TRIO.

(By Telegraph To-day.)

At Staffordshire Assizes to-day, Alexander Brogden Parsons (43) was sentenced to five years' penal servitude for bigamy. The prosecution stated that prisoner had contracted two bigamous marriages. Alexander Skelton, jeweller, was sentenced to three years' penal servitude for bigamy at Walsall; and Charles Barker, the clerk, also arraigned for bigamy, received twelve months' hard labour.

DEATH OF LORD SANDYS.

(By Telegraph To-day.)

Lord Augustus Sandys, fourth Baron, died to-day at his seat in Worcestershire.

FOYNES FLOWER SHOW.

A Flower Show and Regatta will be held at Foynes on Monday next, which in favourable weather ought to be a great holiday attraction. The Flower Show, it is stated, will be opened by Sir Horace Planket.

MILTOWN MALBAY RACES.

The above will take place on Tuesday, 9th August. The stakes will be as follows, £60; £40; £30; £30; and £25; in all £185. We have no doubt that this meeting will be the most successful held on the picturesque course at Spanish Point.

RESIGNATION OF A LAND COMMISSIONER.

THE WAR.

ANOTHER JAPANESE SUCCESS.

RUSSIANS EVACUATE NIEUCHWANG.

Tientsin, Monday.

By General Kuropatkin's orders the Russians began the evacuation of Nieuchwang yesterday. This morning the Russian railway station there was in flames. The Russians are evidently destroying the property previous to leaving the place.

Nieuchwang, Monday.

Yesterday's battle was fought east of Tashichia (?). The Russians were driven back, and it is believed that they will have to retire to Liaoyang. The battle lasted all day.

Paris, Monday.

A telegram to the "Journal" from Liaoyang says:—There is no doubt that the Japanese are uniting all their forces in the direction of the south-east of Liaoyang, and are preparing for a grand attack. Fierce fighting has already been going on for four days at Hsihoyeng, 60 kilometres from Liaoyang. The Japanese, it is thought, intend to try to cut communication between Liaoyang and Mukden. Battles of a more serious character than recent fights now appear to be inevitable, and their results will be of the very first importance. The Japanese no longer display any activity against the southern army.

Tientsin, Monday.

I am informed that the Japanese have not entered Nieuchwang. The Russian Civil administration left last night, and the destruction of Russian property commenced this morning at the instance of the administration. The fighting reported yesterday took place between Nieuchwang and Tashichiao. The Japanese troops from Kaiping been engaged. There was no engagement at Tashichiao.

Washington, Monday.

A cablegram has been received from Mr. Conger, United States Minister at Peking, stating that he is informed that the Russians have evacuated Nieuchwang, and also the sinking by the Vladivostok squadron of a British steamer with a cargo for the American Trading Company.

Tokio, Monday.

The Vladivostok squadron was seen eastward of Kazusa at two o'clock to-day, steaming eastward.

VLADIVOSTOK FLEET.

BRITISH STEAMER SUNK.

GERMAN SHIP SEIZED.

The Vladivostok squadron are reported to have sunk the British ship Knight Commander, the crew of which were saved. The Russians have also captured the German steamer, Arabia. The German ship Scandia, taken by the volunteer cruisers in the Red Sea, has been released, and the British ship Ardora has also been released.

TO-DAY'S OFFICIAL TELEGRAMS

SEVERE FIGHTING NEAR TASHICHIAO.

STUBBORN RUSSIAN RESISTANCE.

A Lloyd's message received from Tientsin states that very severe fighting has taken place close to Tashichiao. There was heavy cannonading for fourteen hours. The Russians are making a stubborn resistance.

The Japanese are within five miles of Tashichiao.

JAPS OCCUPY NIEUCHWANG.

Lloyd's Nieuchwang agent telegraphs: Fifty Japanese cavalry entered. French flags flying on all Russian buildings. Advance guard arriving this morning.

CABINET MEETING.

RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.

The Cabinet met to-day under the presidency of Mr. Balfour. Count Benckendorff, the Russian Ambassador, drove to the Foreign Office

TRAGIC AFFAIR IN LIMERICK

TWO GIRLS DROWNED.

A melancholy drowning fatality involving the loss of two young lives, occurred in the Shannon last evening. From the slender particulars gleaned it appears that at 3 o'clock of the hereabouts, some little girls were returning with milk from the Condensed Milk Factory, when two of them, Catherine Goodwin, Arthur's Quay, 16, and Mary McMahon, Rutland street, 9, went down to the water's edge above the Ferry Slip, and took off their boots to bathe their feet. The tide was coming in at the time, and while indulging in this amusement it is assumed that one of them must have accidentally fallen in, and the other in endeavouring to rescue her from drowning met with a similar fate herself. The accident does not appear to have been witnessed by anyone, and some time after a man passing observed lying on the bank two pairs of stockings, a shawl and a tin can. He reported the matter to the police at Thomondgate, and Sergeant Keating at once organised a search party, and eventually, when the tide had considerably fallen the two lifeless bodies were recovered in culvert leading from the river to the factory, near where the girls were supposed to have fallen in. The first body recovered was that of the girl Goodwin, who was picked up at 7 o'clock, and the other half an hour or so later. The said occurrence caused great excitement, the recovery of the bodies being witnessed by thousands of people. Having established identity, Sergeant Keating handed over the remains to their grief-stricken parents, and communicated to the Coroner the circumstances of the distressing case.

THE INQUEST.

Mr. Coroner DeCourcy and a jury, of which Mr. J. M. Guinane was foreman, was held this afternoon at the City Courthouse.

Head Constable Webster and Sergeant Keating conducted the proceedings.

Mr. C. O'Donnell, solicitor, appeared on behalf of Mr. P. Molloy, grandfather of the little girl McMahon.

Evidence of identification of the body of Mary McMahon was given by her aunt, Ellen Molloy. The child was nine years of age last May. She saw her last between 10.30 and 11 yesterday morning.

Mary Goodwin identified the body of the deceased, Kate Goodwin, as that of her sister, she was 16 years of age; saw her last alive at three yesterday, at which hour she was sent to Messrs. Cleve's Factory for milk.

Julia Brady deposed that she is employed at Lansdowne in the office receiving money at the gate for cream, butter, and butter milk. She remembered seeing two young girls whose attire answered the description of the deceased girls, between 2.30 and a quarter to 3 yesterday.

Constable Holmes deposed to two boys having reported to him, finding a bucket of milk, a shawl, a pair of boots and stockings, on the bank.

Sergeant Keating described the search which had been made for the bodies. He asked a ferryman to take him round from the slip to the passage between the river and Messrs. Cleve's factory, and he refused. Two gentlemen in a boat came up, oars and grappling irons were put into the sewer, and after some time the bodies were recovered—Kate Goodwin's being the first. This would be about 6.30 o'clock. The other body was immediately afterwards pulled out. At the time the first body was found it must be nearly high water, or on the ebb. There was a whirlpool over the place. Somebody remarked to him that a dog was sucked in there before, and that was the reason he turned his attention to the place at all. There was a grating in seven or eight feet from the mouth of the sewer.

To a Juror—There was no grating at the entrance.

In answer to Mr. O'Donnell, he said it was a dangerous place for anybody to fall into. If the mouth of the pipe or gullet were taken further out it would mitigate the danger.

Mr. O'Donnell said he was instructed that a dog was sucked into the place. Mr. Molloy's real desire in appearing in the matter was to try to prevent similar accidents to the children of his fellow citizens.

Mr. Molloy said the Harbour Engineer or the City Surveyor ought to see the place.

Dr. Muicahy deposed that death was due to drowning.

The Coroner summed up. The jury retired, and the foreman on returning to Court verbally announced their findings.

A verdict was then returned to the effect that the deceased died on the 25th July instant, that their death was caused by drowning, and that same was accidental. We are of opinion that the drain leading to Messrs. Cleve's Factory in which the bodies were found is a death trap, and should be altered or protection made against such an accident occurring, and we express our disapprobation of the conduct of the ferryman in not giving assistance when asked, which we wish to bring under the notice of the Harbour Board. And recommended the relatives of the deceased to the kind consideration of the Messrs. Cleve, and express our sympathy with Mr. Molloy and the other relatives of the deceased in their affliction.

Mr. Molloy feelingly returned thanks, and the Coroner said they all sympathised with him in his sorrow.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(By Telegraph To-day.)

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