

10 Earthquake Horror.

Among all the changes and chances of a rigorous world there is no event more terrifying in an earthquake, which in a moment of time founds man with the sense of his utter helplessness, and paralyzes him with the pretension that there may be worse to follow. So it must have been at Messina and other Sicilian towns, as well as at Reggio across the Straits, which have been devastated by one of the most terrible of these convulsions—the most awful, in fact, that has been recorded even in a district which, as we have frequently been reminded, is in the heart of the earthquake zone and at the same time exposed to the danger of volcanic eruptions. As frequently happens on such occasions, it was by the sea-wave that the most dreadful havoc was wrought, and when it had done its work, Messina and Reggio were almost destroyed. In such circumstances it is not an idle thought that these countries should have been among the first to tender not only sympathy but practical help. The feeling of the whole Kingdom has been fittingly expressed by the King and Queen, who sent contributions to the fund which was opened by the Lord Mayor of London, and the handsome sum which has been raised in response to the appeal from the Mansion House is in itself an emphatic witness to the fact that the hearts of the people have been touched by the calamity which has overtaken a nation that has never been slow to testify its friendliness for the United Kingdom.

NEWS-NOTES AND NOTIONS.

OVER FIFTY YEARS IN HOSPITAL.

Miss Sarah Jones has just celebrated her seventieth birthday at the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Turney Heath, where she has been an inmate for over fifty years. Before going to the Royal Hospital for Incurables Miss Jones was discharged from several London general hospitals as a case for which nothing more could be possibly done. The aged lady's time is now passed away pleasantly in doing needlework, when the state of her health permits. Visitors to the Royal Hospital for Incurables will usually find her placidly engaged in the Assembly Room.

ENGLAND'S OLDEST FARMER.

The death is announced of Mr. William Hensman, F.R.S., reported to be the oldest farmer in England. He had reached the age of 98 years, and was Mayor of Northampton just fifty years ago. He owned and farmed about 300 acres at Flint Hill, Warwick, near Rugby, and superintended it to within a short time of his death. His farm was regarded as a model. His memory of the past remained wonderfully clear. He attributed his longevity to open air work and abstinence from anything which he knew could disagree with him.

local questions.

CORPORATION EMPLOYEE FOUND DROWNED.

The body of the man William Nicholson, who disappeared on St. Stephen's Day, was recovered from the Shannon yesterday close to Barrington's Pier. When taken out of the water it was in a decomposed state, and was removed in a boat to the Morgue. The deceased, who was on the cleansing staff of the Corporation, was about sixty years of age, and is supposed to have fallen into the receding tide while washing his brush at the North Strand, where he was working at the time.

The Inquest.

An inquest was held to-day in the City Court-house, by Mr. M. J. De Courcy, City Coroner, and a jury of which Mr. M. McDonnell was foreman, into the circumstances surrounding the death of the deceased.

District Inspector White conducted the inquiry.

Mr. P. J. O'Sullivan, solicitor, represented the next-of-kin.

Evidence of identification was given by the deceased's son, a boy named Stephen Nicholson.

John Smyth, a Corporation employe, deposed to having a conversation with the deceased at about nine o'clock on St. Stephen's morning. He was then in his usual health and after leaving him he went towards the slip leading down to the river opposite St. Munchin's Roman Catholic Church. He did not see him alive since.

Morgan Costelloe, a Corporation steward, stated that the deceased was employed in the capacity of sweeper, and his duty was to sweep the channel courses north of the river, as well as the slips leading thereto.

James Grimes, a fisherman, deposed to finding the body of Nicholson in the river about three hundred yards from Barrington's Pier. He had it conveyed in his boat to the Pier, whence it was taken to the Morgue in the Corporation ambulance.

Sergeant Keatings stated he knew the slip where the deceased was supposed to have fallen in. In winter time a great volume of water rushed past this place, and at the time that Nicholson was seen going towards the slip the tide was fully in. Deceased was always a sober, hard-working man.

By Mr. O'Sullivan—He had never seen him cleaning these steps.

Dr. Shanahan stated he examined the body of the deceased. There were no marks of violence and the body presented all the appearance of having been drowned.

The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony—namely, that death was caused by accidental drowning.

COUNTY LIMERICK CENTENARIAN.

There has just died at a place called Farnane, Cappanore, a woman named Johanna Leonard, whose age has been returned by the medical officer of the district as 118 years. The deceased, who was a widow for a remarkably long span enjoyed fairly good health, and was in full possession of her faculties up to a year or two ago. Her daughter in law, who lived in the same house, is close on 95 years, and is drawing an old age pension, while her grand son, who is well in the sixties, is a farmer. Mrs. Leonard, had she lived would like her daughter in law, be in enjoyment of an old age pension, as her claim was admitted by the committee and pension officer.

XIII, wrecked off the Quay by the crew of the Frigate February last.

The Clonmel Horse Show Society appointed Mr. T. B. Montgomery, room of Mr. D. J. Higgins, who to whom the hearty thanks of the tendered.

Sergeant Heffernan, Kilmurry Sergeant Wickham (who retired at the Dock Station, and Sergeant Wickham has replaced Sergeant Heffernan.

CLARE WOMAN CHARGED WITH FORGERY.

Sad Case in Dublin.

Dublin.

At the City Sessions to-day Recorder, Mary Fay, a young woman who had been arrested on her pleaded guilty to an indictment with having committed a series of forgeries in order to obtain money.

Mr. J. V. Murphy, solicitor, who the prisoner, said there were six forgeries in all, that she had had an irreproachable character. She had not benefited the extent of her acts; and the third was that she had been in the employment of Mr. Burton, a hatter, Co. Clare, and had married to Mr. Burton's butler. She presented to her husband on their marriage she was likely to come in for some money, he also held out the hope to her to be in an independent position short order to keep up that pretence though she had committed the offence, to which she pleaded guilty.

Mr. Bushe, K.C., said it was true that she had committed the offence, but this was a very extraordinary criminality and of a very uncharacteristic character. After her marriage with Mr. Burton she, on the 1st of July, came to Dublin, and the butler, who had been in the man behind until the 30th. In Dublin she sent it down to the Bank to get a cheque in the name of the Knight saying it was for a Mrs. O'Hara staying at the Gresham Hotel. The butler cashed at the bank, and she took the cheque off on Mr. Cagion, a mechanic in the city. He told her that the cheque was such a way that nobody would cash it in a position to steal and from Mr. Burton, but she was very clever. She wrote a letter to Mr. Burton to the manager of the bank asking for a cheque book to be sent to him at the Hamman Hotel. The manager saw that the thing was not right, and sending the cheque book he sent a parcel. When the prisoner called on a hotel a detective who was in waiting for her. The prisoner then admitted stopping at the Clew Bay Hotel, and the presence of her husband, and the fact that the cheque book was found in her box. The Recorder said he did not like to see such a young girl to a term of imprisonment and he would put her back until she was communicated with, with the hope that they would take her home, and from a downward course.

MR. F. P. HOOG

Takes Holy Orders