

The Thomondgate Dispute

LETTER FROM MR W. J. RONAYNE TO THE EDITOR OF THE LIMERICK LEADER.

DEAR SIR—In reply to Mr Bowles re the dispute between himself and Miss Meany, I now quote for the information of the public the following extract taken from the Rental (Lot 222, page 286, No. on map 15322)—Patrick Coffey, head rent, £1 6s 5½d, lease dated 12th July, 1794, for three lives, renewable for ever on a fine of £1 8s 8s, Irish, made between Lord Viscount Kerry of the one part and Patrick Coffey of the other part. The premises are described in the lease as "all the lands and those, a plot of ground on No. 10 Priors' land, containing in front 43ft 6 and a depth, 33ft, as described in a map hereunto annexed, as also a garden containing 13 perches and 7, plantation, measure, be the same more or less, bounding on the west by Patrick Canny's garden, on the north by the Quarry road, on the west by Widow Moloney's garden, on the south by Patrick Canny's holding." The lease covenants, to keep in repair the premises and all improvements. The lease was renewed on the 10th Jan., 1826, for the lives of Pat. Coffey, Michael Bolds, and James Bolds. This rent is paid by Joseph Bowles, New Road, Thomondgate, Limerick. Mr. Bowles referred to Mr. Thomas Meany as having a copy of the rental. I have interviewed Mr. T. Meany, who stated Mr. Bowles held one portion of the plot in dispute, and Mr. Stapleton, deceased, brother-in-law to Miss Meany, held the other portion, the whole rent being paid by Mr. Bowles which included, John Stapleton, 10s head rent, out of his (Stapleton's) part. This clearly shows that it was a joint taking and there was only one receipt issued from the Earl of Limerick for same head rent. Now as to the receipts held by Miss Meany, Mr. Bowles states in his letter that such were rank nonsense. Mr. Bowles appeared before a large meeting of the Town Tenants' League and the receipts were read by myself and Councillor Davern. Copies of same have already appeared in the Press, and Mr. Bowles admitted that those receipts were in his handwriting, given annually for the past 35 years. This is a copy of the actual receipts now before me and written by Joseph Bowles, and acknowledged by him at meeting. "Received from John Stapleton the sum of ten shillings sterling, being a portion of head rent due to the Earl of Limerick from the representative Patrick Coffey, ending 1st May 1879. Dated 10th May, 1879. Joseph Bowles, Master Bowles." This receipt shows that Stapleton was the joint representative of Patrick Coffey. The following is a copy of another receipt 20 years later—"Received from John Stapleton the sum of ten shillings and two pence rent due to the Earl of Limerick out of his holding paid, Joseph Bowles." The above receipts speak for themselves, and as to the documents which are in possession of Miss Meany, it was not necessary to produce them in court, when he insisted on an increase of rent from 10s to £2—an increase of 300 per cent.—although he collected the 10s head rent for three years after the death of Miss Meany was perfectly within her jurisdiction in refusing to pay this enormous increase of 300 per cent., and the Town Tenants' League is there to fight such a case of hardship. Although Mr. Bowles was asked to produce the title deeds or an evidence that could be produced on his part that he was the right owner, he failed to do so. Mr. T. Meany has explained already how the place was handed over to him; and Mr. Meany made an offer of 30 years' purchase on Miss Meany's behalf, although he only bought it for 17½ years' purchase. He also offered to make good every penny expended in regard to repairs of the premises. This offer Mr. Bowles refused, and is now in occupation of the house himself when he could not get a tenant to remain in it. The members of the Town Tenants' League were out to do their Christian duty, to try and help one another when occasion demands. The foregoing statement is sufficient to enable the public to judge who is in the right.—I am, dear Editor, yours respectfully,
W. J. RONAYNE, Hon. General Secretary.

Vaughan, principal teacher of that school, discharges her duties, they have been pleased to order that she be specially promoted to the Second Grade from the 1st April, 1913. Miss Vaughan has been principal teacher of Monaleen Girls' School since the 1st April, 1912. She had been assistant in the same school for two years previously. Her promotion does her the greatest credit.

Case of Mr Benton

An unofficial report, says a Central News wire, has reached Washington, to the effect that General Villa has admitted that Mr. Benton was shot without courtmartial. It is likely Mr. Percival, British Consul, will conduct his investigations from the American side of the border.

Irish Land Bill

Mr. Asquith, replying to Mr. Newman in the House of Commons yesterday, said the Government were anxious to proceed with the Irish Land Bill, and were not without hope that some general measure of agreement may be attained in regard to it. He could not say more at present.

Leith Burghs Election

By the narrow majority of 16 the Unionist candidate has won the Leith Burghs election. The result was declared last night as follows:

G W Currie (U)	5,159
M Smith (L)	5,143
J N Bell (Lab)	3,346

Anglo-American Relations

The consensus of opinion here, says a Central News despatch from New York, is that Anglo-American friendship has immensely benefited by the King's visit to a baseball match. King George is described in the Press as a "fine sport."

Limerick Gaelic Convention

FURTHER APPEAL BY MR. HOLLAND. A fresh development has followed the recent rejection by the Munster Council of the G.A.A. of Mr. Holland's objection to the constitution of the annual Convention of the Limerick County Board. Mr. Holland has now lodged with the Central Council of the Organisation an appeal from the Munster Council's decision.

Electric Light Works

Report from Engineer

NO LOSS THIS YEAR

The statements contained in the report submitted by the Borough Electrical Engineer to a meeting of the City Electricity Committee last night will, no doubt, be pleasant news for the citizens. The report stated there would be no loss in the working of the concern this year ending March, 1914. The loss since the inception of the concern averaged about £1,600 per annum. The report also mentioned that there would be a substantial profit on this year's trade. As a result the Electrical Engineer proposes increasing the abatements to large consumers. The committee approved of the action of the Engineer, and expressed themselves delighted with the past year's working. The increase in the abatements is to take place from the 31st March next.

Newcastle West Sessions

WORKHOUSE MASTER AND INMATES.

SERIOUS CHARGE.

(FROM OUR REPORTER.)

At the Newcastle West Petty Sessions today, before Messrs. P. D. Sullivan, R.M. (presiding), William Phelan, Patrick Condon, M H Woulfe, John M'Donnell, R J Murnane, and M P O'Shaughnessy, an important case at the suit of Mr. Thomas Ambrose, Master of the Newcastle Workhouse, against Michael Foran, a workhouse inmate, for refusing to work, and for reviling the complainant was heard. In the result,

attending the cattle fair, expired rather suddenly. At 5.30 a.m. Sergeant Kelly, of the Blackboy Barracks was called by J. McCarthy nephew of the deceased, who informed him that his uncle was dying. Sergeant Kelly at once despatched his men for medical and clerical assistance, but before Rev. Father Fitzgerald, C.C., St. John's, and Dr. Roberts had arrived the deceased had passed away. Word of the sad occurrence having been conveyed to Coroner Clery, the latter wired stating that an inquest was unnecessary. The remains, which lay in the publichouse of Mr. J. Hayes, licensed publican, Blackboy, were removed at 2 p.m. to deceased's residence.

Death of Mr. Wm. Nunan

It is with feelings of regret we announce the death of the above esteemed citizen, which sad event occurred on Saturday, after a rather protracted illness. Deceased was in his early manhood an ardent lover of music, being a prominent figure in some of the city bands, and later, when an effort was made to re-start some of the bands at the time of the late Pope's Jubilee, Mr. Nunan was one of the first to offer his services in the laudable work, and his action in again taking to his instrument, after a lapse of nearly twenty years, had the effect of bringing others into line. Always of a quiet and gentle disposition, he was a great favourite with his numerous friends and acquaintances, a fact which was amply testified to by the large number that attended the funeral, which took place on Monday last to Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery.

Good Literature Barrow

Again last Sunday, the bad weather prevailing, curtailed the appearance of the Barrow, it being only out for half its usual time. All winners in the third draw in the Book Club turned up for their books, and all the prizes in the usual weekly prize scheme were claimed with the exception of the third. John Crotty, 68, Pennywell, won the first prize; J. Gribbon, 3, Church-street, the second prize, and T. Kelly, Garvey's Range, the special prize. Next Sunday an extra prize will be offered, viz, a free copy of "The Irish Monthly." A free copy is being kindly presented monthly towards the prize scheme by the editor. For the succeeding draws in the Book Club attached to the Barrow, and as a further incentive to membership, the winners will each have their choice of three books. The subscription is only one penny weekly, and the larger the membership the more frequent the draws. The scheme is so arranged that every member is bound to draw a book in one or other of the draws, such book becoming his or her own property. A meeting of the Vigilance Committee will be held on Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock, when, amongst other business, the suggestion as to the formation of a Ladies Branch, and also, the question of converting the Committee into an Association, with a view to extending its influence, will come up for further discussion.

LATE MR. HISHON, CRAGGARD

SYMPATHY FROM WEST LIMERICK EXECUTIVE

(FROM OUR REPORTER.)

At the monthly meeting of the West Limerick Executive of the United Irish League held at Rathkeale on Wednesday last, the Chairman (Rev. E. Fitzgerald, C.C., Knockaderry), presiding, the Secretary (Mr. J. J. O'Shaughnessy) said before the meeting separated he thought they should pass a vote of sympathy with the family of the late Mr. Hishon, Craggard. The late Mr. Hishon had been all his life in the national cause, and he (Mr. O'Shaughnessy) proposed that the sympathy of the Executive be tendered to Mr. Hishon's family.

Mr Madden seconded the resolution. The Rev Chairman in putting the resolution, which was carried in silence, said he knew the late Mr. Hishon to be a staunch Nationalist, and in Father Casey's time he did not think their deceased pastor had a stronger supporter than Mr. Hishon. Mr. Hishon was an intelligent man, and above all, a thorough Irishman. It was a pity they had not more men of Mr. Hishon kind in the country.

The Secretary was directed to convey the Executive's condolence to Mr. Hishon's family.

DROMIN HARRIERS

Caherconlish Hibernians

At a meeting of the Caherconlish A. O. held on Friday night, Bro. J. McGrath proposed, and Bro. J. Wash seconded, the following vote of sympathy, which was passed: