

# PAST CENTURY RECORDS.

## WRECK OF THE "EDMOND"

At Kilkee, 1850

find that some months are missing from the LIMERICK CHRONICLE of 1816. We in the interval, give extracts from past records of the CHRONICLE of various Visitors to Kilkee have often heard of the "Edmond," but, doubtless, many of the present generation are not familiar with the details of the disaster. The following extract from the CHRONICLE of November 23rd, 1850, therefore, be read with interest:—

We are grieved to record a most calamitous event which has befallen our immediate coast, and deeply grieved to note that all the victims of this country, friends, neighbours, or acquaintances, who sailed together from the port of America, buoyant in hope, confidence, and ardour for that great emporium of European nations, New York. But, alas, in four days after their departure from the quays, we beheld the gallant barque (and no craft better fitted or appointed ever left the Shannon), a ruin wrecked in the Bay of Kilkee, her timbers spars went asunder like lathwood, and her lofty human freight in the merciless grasp of ocean wave and tempest, an easy prey to the less elements. A more awful catastrophe than has not befallen that well-known locality in memory of the present generation. Hitherto confidence has been pleased to spare us the agony of such fearful sacrifice of human life, while the remote coast of America was familiar with the realities. There has been nothing like it since the "Intrinsic," from Liverpool for New York, in a desperate storm fourteen years ago, when all on board perished under a stupendous wave within a mile of Kilkee. But that was not a messenger vessel, and one hundred and twenty appalling to contemplate, when death, "at a fell swoop," is the conqueror.

First, then, for authentic facts of the ship, passengers, and crew. The "Edmond," of London, John Wilson, master, a barque of 399 tons register, was early last month chartered by John McDonnell, Esq. of this city, Alderman, to convey passengers to New York. Total number embarked, according to manifest signed at the stowhouse, was 195, distinguishing 174 stowage and 21 cabin passengers, including children. The crew consisted of the master, two mates, and 18 hands. Total number of souls on board, 236.

The following letters are descriptive:—

From Captain G H Fitzgerald, Government Migration Agent, Kilrush:

"After I wrote you this morning (Wednesday) the reported loss of the 'Edmond,' American messenger ship, I started for Kilkee. From the captain (John Wilson) I learned that the ill-fated vessel sailed from Carrigrohilly on Monday morning at 8 o'clock. After being 30 miles at sea the wind headed, and blew a terrific gale, which carried away all the ship's canvas, and she was

# DEATH OF FAMOUS LIMERICK WOMAN.

Miss Ada Rehan.

The following appears in the "Daily Chronicle"—Miss Ada Rehan, whose death is reported from America, had long retired from the stage, but her incomparable acting as Catherine in "The Taming of the Shrew," and as Lady Teazle in "The School for Scandal," will be remembered by playgoers of an earlier generation, who saw her in London in the eighties and early nineties. She was born in Limerick on April 22, 1860, and was the daughter of Thomas Crehan, a shipwright, who, when Ada (really Charlotte) was about 7 years of age, emigrated with his family to America. All Crehan's children were possessed of unusual ability, and all became connected with the stage. Ada's first appearance on it was accidental. One night in 1874 she was taken by her elder sister to Newark, New Jersey, where her brother-in-law, Byron, was playing. An actress in the company was taken ill, and in his predicament Byron asked the child, who was very precocious for her years, to read the lines. The character was that of an old hag, and Ada went through the ordeal so successfully that until the actress whose part she took recovered, Ada played the role. Within a year she had secured a position in Mrs John Drew's Company, and from that time onwards her success on the stage was rapid and dazzling. At 18 she had played "Ophelia" to Edwin Booth's "Hamlet" and "Lady Anne" to M'Cullagh's "Richard III," and when Augustus Daly built his theatre in New York she joined his company and remained with him until his death, 22 years later. Under his management Ada played some 200 parts and her splendid talents made her an actress of the most versatile entertainments. In 1834 she came to London, and her first appearance as Viola in "Twelfth Night" was hailed as a triumph which had scarcely ever been excelled. From then until 1895, when she was last seen in London, she paid us several visits, and continued to hold sway over the imagination of large and enthusiastic audiences. Miss Rehan's features were powerful and intelligent rather than beautiful, but her figure so nearly approached perfection that she was invited to be the model for the Montana statue, which, cast in silver, and representing the ideal of female loveliness, was one of the sights of the Chicago Exhibition.

The Times Dramatic Critic writes of Ada Rehan, the Irish actress:—In the closing years of the last century, when Ada Rehan was in her prime, she was without a rival in her province on the comic stage. Whatever scene she entered she dominated. In Shakespearian comedy—the full-blooded, not the dreamy, fantastic, regiment of it—she was a marvel. The bubbling, effervescent fun of her "Rosalind"! There have been more tender Rosalinds, and more refined—Ada Rehan's Rosalind was in truth a little "bouncing"—but probably none so humorous and none so full of essential womanhood. But her "Rosalind" was surpassed by her "Katherine" in "The Taming of the Shrew." You thought Shakespeare foresaw her when he wrote that part. You feel that something of Shakespeare's secret died with Ada Rehan.

ENNIS PETTY SESSIONS.

# LIMERICK NO 1 COUNCIL.

The adjourned meeting of the Council was held on Fitzgerald presiding.

Other members present: Moloney, M Hickey, M H J. P. O'Neill, M Hyland, J M O'Gorman, T Humphreys, O'Halloran, Patk. Lynch, Hassett.

Mr M D McCoy, solr, Mr and Mr H J Guinane, junr, attendance.

**LABOURERS' COTTAGE**  
Mr Hickey, seconded by M in pursuance of notice of motion for labourers' cottages be reduced to the increased cost of provisions. Mr Humphreys took exception to the resolution in view of the situation.

A warm discussion followed and various resolutions were indulged in. It was stated that the Local Board had refused to sanction a petition by the Tipperary (No 2) Diocese. The resolution was adopted.

**REPAIRS OF BRIDGE**  
The Chairman had a note from Mr Cahilly with reference to repairs, etc., and Government Board enquiry.

Mr O'Neill, seconded by M that the notice be not received and after some discussion the motion was carried.

**SEED POT**  
On the proposition of Mr M Hickey, it was agreed to of Agriculture to arrange for in the spring to such tenants as had plots prepared for the purpose.

**LANGUAGE**  
Mr O'Gorman proposed by Mr Hyland, thank Newcastle-west, and Mr T their efforts to revive the

Mr Hassett dissented. languages, and there was when that was the case.

Mr Barry—Are you an I

Mr Hassett—I am.

Mr Barry—Then it is a man say what you have said.

Mr Hassett—I would universal language, if it were.

Mr Barry—And you are Mr Hassett—Yes.

The resolution was passed. The meeting adjourned.

# DEATH OF LORD B

In the death of Lord B on Sunday at his town house loses its senior and most respected member. Lord B had shown the kindest and most generous spirit associated with him, and his career he was an exacting staff in perspicacity and was happy drawing brilliant