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## Current Comments

The following malicious life was published in the London "Daily Mail" on Tuesday last. The "Daily Mail" learns that, following the Government's definite refusal on Friday to release the Lord Mayor of Cork, Alderman Terence MacSwiney, at present on his 26th day of hunger-strike in Brixton Jail, his friends in London addressed an urgent petition to the "Republican" Government in Ireland asking that Alderman MacSwiney be released from his oath and permission given him to take food.

While Lord Northcliffe has been loudly professing his desire for the Lord Mayor of Cork's release, his "Daily Mail" publishes this mean life about a dying man—a life calculated to increase him additional pain and distress his relatives. Similarly when the Lord Mayor of Cork's predecessor was murdered, the "Daily Mail" was used to distress his relatives by publishing the infamous statement that Lord Mayor MacSwiney was "murdered by Sinn Féiners." Perhaps Lord Northcliffe will investigate the "murdered" if so, he will discover, we opine, the sources to be one.

On Friday last the London "Morning Post"—the organ of Dyerism and Dublin Castle—published a statement that the bulk of the R.I.C. had threatened to resign if the Lord Mayor of Cork and the political prisoners in the R.I.C. were released. As a matter of fact, the R.I.C. to say that that statement—like practically all the statements about Ireland that appear in the newspaper mentioned—was a cowardly falsehood. Members of the R.I.C. have written the Irish press repudiating it, and the United Dublin "Evening Mail" wrote on Monday evening that the R.I.C. both at the Depot and elsewhere denied and strongly resented it. The persons who inspired and the newspapers that printed the infamous falsehood are the persons and the newspapers who profess admiration for the force they thus libelled. The people of Ireland understand fully that it is not the members of the R.I.C. who are responsible for the decision to do the Lord Mayor of Cork to death.

Mr. Christensen, the U.S. Presidential candidate of the Labourers' and Farmers' Party, is reported to have sent the following cable to Mr. Lloyd George:

"You have appalled the world by your callous indifference to the death throes of the heroic Lord Mayor of Cork."

"The slayers of Joan of Arc had enemies such as yours; so, too, the executioners of Robert Emmet, and the hangman of Nathan Hale."

"If the Lloyd George Government is not tyrannical, prove it by freeing Terence MacSwiney and withdrawing your army of occupation from the soil of the Irish Republic."

The following is a translation of a telegram sent last week by Sena T. O'Connell, T.D., to Signor Giolitti, the Italian Premier:

"Your Excellency—I take the liberty of calling your attention to a matter about which it would seem impossible that you, your Government, and the Italian people can remain indifferent. I refer to the case of the Lord Mayor of Cork, who at this moment is suffering death in an English prison for his patriotic principles."

"I beseech you to add your powerful voices and that of your Government and people to the voices of the whole civilised world, who in the name of humanity, demands that this man be saved."

"The only crime of which Terence MacSwiney, Lord Mayor of Cork, is guilty is that he loves his country."

proclaims her independence, and fights for the recognition of the Irish Republic.

"The people of Ireland and their Legislature and Government will be eternally grateful to your Excellency for the prompt action in view of the fact that the Lord Mayor is on the point of death."

(Signed)  
SEAN T. O'CONNELL, T.D.,  
"Delegate at Home of the Irish Republic."

An English correspondent of "Il Popolo d'Italia," a Milanese journal, has been making statements on the "Irish question," which have been ably refuted by Mr. D. M. Hales. The English propagandist hides his falsehood behind the pen-name of "Cassiniensis." He commences by stating that there are in Ireland two parties nearly equal in numbers. This, of course, is easily disposed of by citing the figures of the various elections which have been held, and which prove that four-fifths of the people are on one side.

The second statement is that Ulster is the richest province in Ireland. Figures of valuation and taxation are quoted to show that Leinster is the richest province.

The third statement is that Ireland, left to herself, would be the victim of massacres and episodes of civil war which would horrify the whole world. Ireland is in no need to reply. Ireland is not in need of any foreign occupation withdrawn, would put her own house in order. It does not need the acute intelligence of the Italian race to perceive that "massacres and episodes of civil war" occur under the inspiration and active instigation of the foreign agents, and that the policy of an invader must be to stir up strife amongst the inhabitants. The inhabitants of Milan, the people of Lombardy know better even than most Italians what foreign occupation means. It is as futile to argue in favour of English rule in Ireland as it would be to argue in favour of the re-annexation of Austria to the Lombardy.

No nation has been the prey of disunion and dissension to the same extent as Italy. The numerous divisions which formerly existed enabled invaders to see the country piece-meal. Now, nobody knows her better than the Italian that the unity of his country is the best guarantee of its independence, and that any proposal to divide his country into separate states could only come from those who wanted to weaken and perhaps subjugate his country again. Invaders have never promoted unity amongst their subject peoples and they never will. To divide and govern is their motto, the old Roman adage of *Divide et Impera*. Partition is their principle.

"La Liguria del Popolo" of Genoa contains a copy of the correspondence to which we have alluded. This journal, publishing the reply on the subject of Ulster (La difficulta dell'Ulster), refers to "our distinguished friend and collaborator, D. M. Hales, Consul Agent in Genoa for Irish Commerce." The incident is important, as it shows how much English propaganda rests on "Ulster," or rather how the Italians will be further enlightened by the burnings and shootings which have taken place and the proofs of "these massacres and episodes of civil war" which have occurred there recently in the presence of the army of occupation.

English propaganda in Italy and the countries abroad strives to impress on foreign public opinion that the wealth of Ireland is in Ulster. The truth is quite the reverse. The wealth of Ireland is by no means confined to Ulster. The bank accounts prove this. But it is a fact that the wealth of Ireland is diverted northwards, as a result of the

financial policy of the banks. The money which makes the Ulster man go comes from the South. Now the Ulster branch banks at the South are lasing their customers. It is stated by an English newspaper that in one day in a small West of Ireland town the large sum of forty thousand pounds was withdrawn from current accounts in Ulster banks and transferred to the branches of Southern banks. In the town of Clones, in Monaghan, three Northern banks have received notice that huge accounts will be withdrawn on September 8. This money will be transferred to Southern banks. Thus it is clear at all events that Belfast employs a great deal of cash from other parts of Ireland and that its alleged wealth is by no means self-acquired, but that it depends financially on Southern support. The Belfast boycott is a defensive movement prompted to stop the siphon of the people, but it is also having a very important economic effect in proving that it depends largely for its funds on the South.

The Irish Journalists' Association has declined to permit its members to further submit to the indignity of attending twice daily at Dublin Castle to receive from the Chief of the English Propaganda a daily string of lies on Ireland. Not one correction of any of the falsehoods issued from Dublin Castle has been made, even though persons have been referred to have denied and repudiated that they should have, even for a brief period, gone to Dublin Castle to receive this disgraceful propaganda was humiliating.

Last week that institution issued a falsified return of casualties in Belfast, but this was as water unto wine to its issue of another "official return" in which it declared that the number of civilians killed in Ireland from January 1st, 1919, to August 21st, 1919, was 18, and the number wounded 49. The number of civilians slain in that period by the English armed forces in Ireland—exclusive of those slain in the Orange riots and in encounters with armed men—was 51, and the number wounded 562. Here are the names of the men, women and children thus done to death, and the date of their slaying.

- 1919.
- February 12—Patrick Gavin, Maddingtown, Co. Kildare.
- April 6—Robert Byrne, Limerick City.
- April 25—Michael Walsh, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.
- June 5—Mathew Murphy, Dundalk, Co. Louth.
- June 29—Patrick Studdert, Killee, Co. Clare.
- August 14—Francis Murphy (aged 15), Glan, Co. Clare.
- December 28th—Lawrence Kennedy, Lucan, Co. Dublin.

- 1920.
- January 20—Michael Darcy, Coonclare, Co. Clare.
- February 4—Robert O'Dwyer, Limerick City.
- February 4—Miss Helena Johnston, Limerick City.
- February 14—James O'Brien, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow.
- March 20—Alderman Thomas MacCurran, Cork City.
- March 22—Miss Ellen Hendrick, Dublin.
- March 22—Michael Cullen, Dublin.
- March 29—James MacCarthy, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.
- March 30—Thomas Dwyer, Boulduff, Co. Tipperary.
- April 14—James O'Loughlin, Miltown-Malbay, Co. Clare.
- April 14—Patrick Hennessy, Miltown-Malbay, Co. Clare.
- April 14—Thomas O'Leary, Miltown-Malbay, Co. Clare.
- April 17—Thomas Mulholland, Dundalk, Co. Louth.
- April 24—Patrick Dowling, Arklow, Co. Wicklow.
- May 18—James Saunders, Limerick City.

- June 8th—Michael Walsh, Cappaquin, Co. Waterford.
- June 8—Thomas Brett, Drogheda, Co. Tipperary.
- June 25—Cornelius Crowley, Bantry, Co. Cork.
- July 1—Miss M. Coughlane, Limerick City.
- July 4—Richard Lumley (aged 60), Rearcross, Co. Tipperary.
- July 4—Michael Small, Uppercumb, Co. Tipperary.
- July 5—James Dunne, Ferns, County Wexford.
- July 8—Thomas Feery (aged 70), Ballycommon, King's Co.
- July 18—James Burke, Cork City.
- July 18—William McGrath, Cork City.
- July 19—John O'Brien, Cork City.
- July 21—Daniel McGrath, Carracuna Cross, Co. Cork.
- July 21—James Cogan, Oldcastle, Co. Meath.
- July 29—Patrick Duggan (aged 10), Bruce, Co. Limerick.
- July 29—Thomas Harris, Bruce, Co. Limerick.
- July 30—John O'Sullivan, Limerick City.
- July 31—James Mulcahy, Nicker, Co. Limerick.
- August 8—William Hartnett, Enily, Co. Limerick.
- August 10—Thomas Farrelly, Dublin.
- August 14—Patrick Lynch, Hospital, Co. Limerick.
- August 15—Edward Paget, Limerick City.
- August 16—John O'Connell, Derrigallon, Co. Cork.
- August 17—Patrick Clancy, Derrigallon, Co. Cork.
- August 17—Andrew Hayes, Tipperary Town.
- August 20—Patrick Kennedy, Annesaul, Co. Kerry.

In addition, Mr. Pierce McCann, T.D., died from the effects of his imprisonment, and two civilians were killed by English military motor lorries.

An institution that pays out of the public purse to conceal these facts—to minimise 51 to 18 and 562 to 49—is a self-confessed criminal. Since the last date mentioned, other civilians have been slain. Here is how an Irish newspaper describes the latest killings of the mere Irish:

"On Sunday afternoon, according to facts ascertained by our Macroom correspondent, three large motor lorries passed through Macroom at top speed. The first and last each carried eight or ten armed uniformed men, and the middle lorry was completely covered in with canvas. They went towards Ballyvourney, and near the Cross, a quarter of a mile from the village, and not very far from the scene of the recent fatal attack on the military patrol, the middle lorry pulled up on the side of the road and the others passed on, taking with them the driver of the covered wagon."

"As the motor lay on the side of the road, it is said, children from the village gathered round it, curious to know what was inside."

"As the crowd grew larger one lad had the temerity to lift the canvas and look in. Immediately a volley rang out, and the terrified crowd fled in all directions."

"Wm. Hegarty, a native of Ballymacraha, who had come along on a bicycle and dismounted, was wounded on the shoulder. He dropped his bicycle and ran along the fence, but he received two more bullets, which killed him."

"Close by was the house of Michael Lynch, two of whose sons are in the R.I.C. force, and one of whom served through the late war. The only boy at home, Michael, was having tea when he heard the firing, and rushed out to the gate leading to the road. He was shot once, and he died from the wounds inflicted in three hours."

"It is alleged that the firing was from a machine-gun, and that the road was torn up with bullets."

"Rev J. Shinnick, C.C., who came

on the scene, inquired for the wounded but would get no information from those in the lorry."

Hegarty, who was aged 30, was a Volunteer, but Lynch, who was 22, was not a follower of Sinn Féin."

And here is "the account supplied from General Headquarters" of the British Army of Occupation:—  
"A military lorry containing an armed escort broke down yesterday near Ballymacraha, Co. Cork, and was attacked by a large party of men. The escort drove the attackers off, one of whom was killed and four wounded. One of the wounded has since died. There were no military casualties."

The recent verdicts of murder recorded by Coroners' Juries in Ireland have been followed by a ukase from the English Government prohibiting inquests in ten Irish counties. The sinister significance of the fact will be apparent to a scandalised world.

The nocturnal raiding of private houses throughout Ireland by the English armed forces which has been carried on for two years past has developed one new feature. Hitherto the houses of clergymen were respected, at least at night. Now these houses are being raided also. The houses of several Catholic clergymen throughout Ireland were raided last week—among them being the house of the venerable Canon Pettit, Parish Priest of Fairview, Dublin, formerly Secretary to His Grace the Archbishop. The object of such raids is to get out of the "Morning Post"—"We want another Cromwell!" But Cromwell, we fancy, was built of different timber to the malignant who order their soldiers to break into Catholic clergymen's houses during the midnight hours.

The gentlemen-in-waiting on Sir Edward Carson are now imposing the religious test on newspaper men. Even Dublin Castle, which has not gone so far in its "war" on the journalists' profession, The "Ulster Herald," on Saturday last, gives the following account of the "testers' activities":—

"An enterprising American journalist, named John P. Wright, representing 'The Chicago Tribune,' had quite an adventure in the Newtownards Road area. He erected his camera, facing Clonallon Street on the Newtownards Road, and was preparing to focus when a man, P. W. Jones, hitherto been watching the operation, suddenly conceived the idea that he might be a 'Papist,' and to assure themselves a member of the mob approached and bluntly asked him to state his religion. The American, coming from a free country, was naturally nonplussed at the inquiry— which would not be heard in any part of the world outside the 'North-East Corner,' certainly not in any other place in Ireland, and he failed to grasp the situation, and nonchalantly replied, 'I guess I've no religion; I'm an American.' His interrogators were not to be put off. He is an American—and why not Christian, too?"

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friendliest, and most amicable relationships have always existed between the Protestant and Catholic community here, and that such a thing as religious intolerance is unknown amongst us."

The following gentlemen assembled under the "Union Jack" in the Court-house, Bandon, on Wednesday week: the Earl of Bandon, K.P., Lt.-Colonel Stopped, Messrs. P. S. Brady and J. M. Dickson, R.M.s., for the purpose of dispensing English "Justice," but as there was no business being transacted in the "Court" was abandoned. The "common people" in Bandon, as in other places in Ireland, prefer to have justice dealt out to them by the "common people."

"I am very glad to leave my case to this Court," observed a Protestant clergyman, who summoned three men at a Tuam Court for attempting to prevent him cutting timber on his farm, which he had let to them for 11 months. The Court decreed the defendants the right of property of the complainant, and ordered the defendants to pay £20 expenses. When the clergyman thanked the Court, the President told him it was only a question of doing justice.

Last week a young man charged, with breaking windows in Protestant and Catholic houses was, at a Republican Court held at Templeport, Co. Cavan, sentenced to seven days' imprisonment. As he had been ten days in confinement, he was liberated after being severely caned.

The Oughterd Republican Court, which sat last week, dispensed of many cases, including two at the instance of the Republic for slander. At the same Court, at the instance of the School Attendance Officer, thirteen parents were fined from 2/6 to 5/- each for not complying with the School Attendance Order.

At a Republican Court held in Killybeg last week a number of cases were heard. In a land dispute between T. Connell and Mrs. Connolly, Ower, the Court decided that, as a question of title was involved, the case would have to go before the District Court, as the Parish Court had no jurisdiction in the matter, except in cases of trespass. The case was accordingly adjourned. Martin Donnellan, Nallhill, Galway, was granted £1 compensation for the destruction of his turf at Ower. In the trespass case of Mrs. Connor v. T. Connor, an order was made that both parties erect their fences, and have no more quarrelling. James Connor summoned a number of persons from Doon for destroying his turf. Mr. Connor, solicitor, appeared for Connor. The Court made an order that Connor cut no more turf in his turlough, but that he be allowed to take home what he has saved this year; both parties to hear their own costs. John Walsh was granted £6 against the tenants of Ower for the destruction of his turf by cutting it.

At the suit of the School Attendance Officer, sixteen parents were, at the same Court, fined sums ranging from 2/6 to 5/- for failing to send their children regularly to school.

Before a Republican Court held last week in Killybeg, four men were charged with taking part in a drunken brawl on their way from a mission. The prisoners were prosecuted at the suit of an Irish Volunteer. After hearing evidence, the court fined the ring-leader 20/-, and the other three defendants 10/- each. The President of the Court strongly condemned the scandalous conduct of young men going home from the mission, and said that in future if such cases were brought up, the witnesses be more severely dealt with. He commended the action of the Volunteer who brought the case before the Court.

At the same Court an order was made in the case of a grazing farm held by tenants on the Lewin estate, that those having extra stock in the pasture would withdraw them at once.

A remarkable story of how Volunteers successfully traced and brought to justice men who stole two bicycles over seven months ago, was told at a "Special" Republican Court held last week in Athenry. The prisoners, who admitted their guilt, were ordered to pay £9 each (value of the stolen bicycles), and costs amounting to 22/6, to be borne equally by the defendants.

The defendants were then severely cautioned, and warned that such an offence would be more severely dealt

with in future. The gentlemen who lost the bicycles thanked the Court and the Volunteers for the clever manner in which the bicycles had been traced, while the prisoners told the President they had no complaint to make of their treatment while in custody.

At the Republican Sessions held in Tuam on the 26th and 27th August, many cases were disposed of, the most serious being one in which Mrs. Mary Kearney, Knocknashannagh, Mich., was charged with assault. Mr. F. B. McDonagh, solicitor, represented the complainant, and the defendant was defended by Mr. P. J. Concannon, solicitor. Mrs. Kearney said that on the 5th July defendant accused her of having killed his geese, and severely beat and kicked her. Dr. Costello said he attended Mrs. Kearney, who seemed to have been knocked about a good deal. There was a cut about 1 1/2 inches long on the back of her head. To Mr. Concannon—A fall on stones would not cause her injury. Kearney said she asked Mrs. Kearney if she killed his geese, and she said she would kill himself as well, and began to throw stones at him. He struck her a blow with a resper he had in his hand, and she fell over a small fence. Kearney said his first died. James Lyons, son of defendant, said he saw Mrs. Kearney kill two of the geese. A man named Mannion was also looking on. The Court adjourned the case for the attendance of Mannion to give evidence.

On Tuesday week the first Republican Court was held in the Temperance Hall, Loughrea. Amongst the cases listed was one in which Mr. James Mulcair, solicitor, was prosecuted by the Republic for, as alleged, taking a bicycle, the property of a man named Mr. Mulcair, trying to retain same, and using threatening and abusive language towards Republican Police while discharging their duties. The police officer in charge gave evidence to the effect that when he approached Mr. Mulcair in connection with the matter he threatened to sue him. Subsequently the bicycle was taken from Mr. Mulcair's house by the officer, and returned to the owner. The magistrates said that if Mr. Mulcair had come before the Court and defended his case it would probably have been a house dispute at High Street. Mr. Mulcair thought himself justified in taking another man's bicycle because his own had been taken away by someone else. The Court decided to impose a fine of £1 17s. 6d. and costs.

The Court confirmed the fines suggested by the Volunteers in licensing cases, viz., 2s. 6d. first offence, 5s. second offence, and in the case of parties who refuse to accept summonses or pay fines, the matter was left in the hands of the Volunteers.

The Ballygarrett Republican Arbitration Court held its first sitting last week. The Court, which was open to the public, was attended by a very large number of local residents. There was only one case listed, which was that of a long-standing dispute between two neighbours. The decision of the Court was received with great joy of satisfaction by both parties concerned, and the proceedings were considerably facilitated by the people present, who unmistakably signified their approval of the decision. At the conclusion the President of the Court delivered an address, in which he exhorted the people to live in peace and harmony, and not be wasting their energy in petty quarrels when such big issues were at stake in the country, and especially when the fruition of all their hopes was so near at hand. He declared that the social law should be obeyed, and that if people would do unto others as they wished to be done by there would be no quarrels.

On Thursday week a Republican County Court was held in the New Ross district, and disposed of many cases. Six Justices occupied the bench, and the proceedings were opened in Irish.

A Republican Arbitration Court was held in the Carnegie Library, Cahersiveen, on Tuesday week. As on previous occasions, the many litigants present were profoundly interested. Minute and careful investigation was made into each case by the Judges, and the litigants in general expressed their approval of the decision arrived at by the Court.

The case of Michael Sullivan, Cappamore, v. Patrick Kennedy, jun., was the first one dealt with by the Court. This was a summons for assault

on the 30th August, in which complainant claimed £10 damages for such assault. There was also a cross case by Kavanagh against Sullivan for assault with a stone on the same day. There was also a summons by Sullivan against Kavanagh for breaking down a boundary fence at the mountain between Gurtafolia and Kells. There was a question of title raised in this case by defendant, and same was referred to the President of a Higher Court. With reference to the assault case Sullivan deposed he was on Cappamore mountain looking after stock. Defendant approached and assaulted him with a stick on the head, inflicting some wounds. Defendant told him to go home and clean the blood off himself. There was no argument. Complainant then went to Cahersiveen, where he got his wounds dressed by Mr. O'Connor, chemist. Defendant used threats previously to his mother about the complainant. It appears the whole trouble arose in connection with trespass of a horse, Kavanagh's property, on Sullivan's mountain. Defendant claimed the right to have his horse there. After careful consideration of all the evidence produced the Court imposed on Patrick Kavanagh a fine of 3s., in addition to costs and solicitors' fees, and bound both parties to the peace for twelve months.

Among the other cases dealt with by the Court were the following: Cahersiveen R.D.C. v. Eugene Ring, M. W. O'Neill, John Sullivan, and Mrs. John A. O'Sullivan. These were summonses issued at the suit of plaintiffs for failure to remove manure from their premises, situated at Round Lane, Cahersiveen, already notified to do so. It was stated that Notices were duly served on the defendants and inspections carried out. In three cases the manure was removed, except in the case of Eugene Ring, who did not comply with the order. The defendants were fined and ordered to pay costs.

Mrs. John A. O'Sullivan, Cahersiveen, issued a summons against Nora O'Sullivan, High Street, for possession of a house situate at High Street. It appears Mrs. O'Sullivan let the premises at the weekly rent of 3s. Defendant only paid six weeks' rent while in possession of the house for the past six months. A weekly notice to remove was served on the defendant, but she refused to do so. Defendant stated she had no money as it was stolen from her. A decree for possession of premises within a fortnight was granted.

John Bruton summoned Patrick Bruton for cutting hay and turf and trespassing on plaintiff's lands, and for an order to make up the boundary fence. It appears that a partition of said lands was decreed by an English Co. Court Judge some years ago, and final orders made, but defendant was not satisfied with the partition. After reading and perusing the orders for partition and correspondence the Justices decided that they had no jurisdiction to hear the case. It was, they said, a case for the District Court.

Matthew O'Neill, Deelis, summoned J. J. Morris, auctioneer, Cahersiveen, for four days' horse work (moving) performed by plaintiff for defendant at the rate of 30/- per day, but appeared from the evidence that Mr. Morris paid Mr. O'Neill's son, Eugene O'Neill, £3 for the services claimed. Plaintiff stated he made no bargain with the defendant. The Court decided to dismiss the claim without prejudice and allowed 10s. expenses.

Cahersiveen R.D.C. v. John Houlihan, Killorglin. This was a summons at the suit of the plaintiffs for that defendant had caused damage to the evening of the 5th August contrary to the Regulations of the Council. It appeared that defendant was duly cautioned by the Volunteers but he disregarded and ignored their instructions, and questioned their right to obstruct him. The Court decided to impose a fine of 30s. and costs for the infringement of the order and for defendant's disrespect to the Volunteers. Before leaving Court defendant paid the fine.

Deniel Moriarty, Killorgreen, v. Patrick Coffey, Doonbeg. This was an action for breach of warranty in the sale of a cow, purchased by plaintiff on 8th February, 1920. It appeared that defendant gave a warranty to be free and fair, and all right in her papers whereas one of the papers proved to be defective. A hole was discovered to be on the side of same, the milk spouting out through hole when she was being milked, thereby rendering the milk on the milk. Defendant deposed as to sale of cow. He said

her papers were free and fair. Cross-examined—Do you think the more holes in papers the faster the milk would come out?—No. The Court decided to give a decree for £4, and 10s. solicitor's fees, also costs of Court. This concluded the business, and the Court then adjourned.

A District Court under the authority of Dall Eireann was held in the New Hall, Ballyhaunis, on Monday week, the presiding arbitrators being Messrs. James Morris, M.C.C. (in the chair) and Patrick Healy. There was a large attendance of the general public. Mr. John Morris, solicitor, Ballyhaunis (landlord), plaintiff; Mr. and Mrs. John Purry, Knox Street, Ballyhaunis, tenants and defendants. In this case, which was adjourned from a previous Court, the plaintiff sought possession of a house, his property, held by the defendant at a weekly rent of 1s. Mr. W. D. Coyne appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. F. Moles for the defendants. After a very lengthy hearing of the case, the Court retired to consider its decision. When the Court resumed the President gave the decision as follows:—For the reasons stated we have agreed that Mrs. Purry is to retain possession of the house, and we have also agreed that, under the altered conditions in the times, that Mr. Coyne, the landlord, is entitled to a 10% increase in the rent of 2s. a week, and that he is to be allowed the freedom and exercise to that portion of the premises held by Mrs. O'Brien. Mr. Arbitrator Healy expressed the hope that there would be no further annoyance between the parties. The application of Mr. Moles for costs was refused. The increase of rent would take place on next gala day, 31st August. The decision was received with loud applause.

Two young girls were recently deported from Gorey by Volunteers. It appears that some time ago the mother of the girls had removed her home to Wexford, but the girls, who are stated to be between 14 and 17 years of age, refused to accompany her. Upon representation being made to the Volunteer authority in Wexford, an escort was sent who apprehended the girls and brought them to their mother.

The Volunteers in Nenagh have recovered and restored to its owner, Mr. J. McDonnell, Clonacanny, practically the whole of the large sum of money taken from him on Monday week when he was attacked by masked men while returning from Comestara. When the matter was brought to the notice of the Volunteers, they made inquiries, with the result that suspicion fell on a man whom they had already taken into custody in connection with the larceny of watches. He denied the charge, but on being carefully searched the sum of £190, in £10 and £20 bank notes, was found in the lining of his coat. The balance of the money stolen from Mr. McDonnell was in cheques, and these the prisoner admitted having been employed. Pending the trial the prisoner is detained by the Volunteers.

A number of Volunteers, while patrolling a certain district in Co. Wexford on Tuesday week, were called upon to deal with a man who was reported to be setting fire to his house. On arrival the patrol found that the man, who was under the influence of drink, had already set fire to the mattress of the bed. The patrol quenched the fire and cautioned the man. They then withdrew. In a few minutes, however, they were again urgently called. This time the occupant had locked himself in, and much of the furniture was already on fire. The man himself being in grave danger of being burned alive. The patrol promptly broke into the house, and after considerable difficulty and danger the fire was extinguished. The man was then placed under restraint.

Many cases were disposed of by the Republican Petty Sessions which sat in the New Hall, Ballyhaunis, on Wednesday week. The presiding arbitrators were: Messrs. John T. Ruane (in the chair) and Patrick McDonnell. There was a large attendance of the general public and order was kept by the Volunteers, many of whom were on duty within the hall and its approaches.

After the ordinary cases had been heard an application was made to the Court for an order committing Wm. Fitzmaurice of Leor, to the Castlebar Lunatic Asylum, he having been certified insane by Dr. A. Smith, M.O., Ballyhaunis district. Dr. A. Smith, who submitted the certificate for the signatures of their worship,

stated that under the old regime the person about to be committed should have committed or attempted to commit some act of violence to himself or to some other body before being committed. This man had done nothing wrong so far, but it would be better for himself if he were put under restraint. The President said that the practice under the old regime of not committing an insane person until some act of violence had first been committed was a mistake of the first magnitude. The Court made the order sought and allowed the doctor the usual fee of £1 ls.

Waterford's first Republican District Court was held on Tuesday week, and, says the "Evening News" (Waterford), "it was businesslike and painstaking. It delved far and gripped nothing but facts. It was not concerned with hoary, unconventional old stereotypes and 'Acts of Parliament' that did everything but command justice. What it sought to dispense, and did dispense, was Justice, not 'Law.'"

In opening the Court the President said:—"These Courts, as you are aware, have been set up in order to administer absolute justice between man and man. The formation of these Courts has been the outcome of conviction which has been borne in upon Derry men that justice could not be obtained in the ordinary British courts operating in this country. You have 'law' enough, for which you pay dearly, but our bitter experience has been that you do not get any justice—that 'law' and justice as administered in the British Courts are operative not even the greatest enemy of the Republican Government has been able to find fault with the way in which justice has been administered. It has been administered impartially, the Courts have not been trammelled by any of the old restrictions or usages or precedents that largely control, and in many cases defeat, justice in the British Courts. You are likely to be thrown out of your legitimate rights through the discovery of some dusty old statute which was never made for people like us, under conditions entirely different from the conditions that obtain to-day. In these Courts, here and elsewhere, we simply profess to regulate our justice by one simple standard—that is, the standard of Justice and Fair Dealing as between man and man. We are not versed in the technicalities of 'law' as it is understood in this country, and we will not allow any of those technicalities to warp our judgment or interfere in any way with the issues which will be raised here."

The only case listed was one in which John Roughan, Ennisismom, Co. Clare, proceeded against Simon Foley, Mullinavar, Co. Kilkenny, for the recovery of £18 damages for alleged breach of contract in connection with the sale of Balata bridge, Mr. D. D. McDonald, Solicitor, Waterford, appeared for the complainant, and the defendant was represented by Mr. P. R. Buggy, Solicitor, Waterford. After evidence had been taken the Court adjourned in order that the President and other Justices might inspect the belting. Later in the week the Court, having inspected the belting, awarded the plaintiffs the £18 claimed.

Before a Republican Court held last week in Castlehaven, Mrs. Bridget McCarthy, Licknowen, summoned her husband for assault. There was a cross-case. Mr. Kingston, solicitor, appeared for complainant, and Mr. Kennedy, solicitor, for the defendant. After hearing evidence at considerable length, husband and wife were each fined 6s. and costs, and bound to the peace for twelve months, two Volunteers being told off to see that they behave themselves in an orderly manner.

A gentleman who is taking up residence in Derry has just had an experience of Orange "kultur." He arranged to have his furniture sent from England to Derry via Belfast. The other day a crate, in which he had previously packed an overmantel and an unframed picture of souvenir photographs of some Catholic priests, was delivered to him. To outside appearances the box seemed quite in order, but when he opened it he found that the overmantel had disappeared and the valuable picture had been badly



ley had been killed in an attack on Holyrood's Police Barracks. Evidence produced at the inquest showed there had been no attack on the barracks. Even the officer in charge of the troops who shot at the inquest admitted under cross-examination that he only "thought" there was an attack on the barracks. The evidence of independent witnesses at the inquest proved that Lumley was deliberately shot by police and military as they drove through the town. The jury's verdict was—

"We find that Richard Lumley was wilfully murdered by members of the police and military forces. We express our greatest horror and indignation at the dastardly outrage; also at the conduct of the police and military in firing into a house, without any provocation, where a respectable woman was being waked. And we strongly condemn the Dublin Castle officials report of the occurrence as a baseless lie, having for its object to give an excuse for a foul and cowardly murder."

**Militarism.**—Collectors for the Suseance Fund instituted for Irish railwaymen who were being dismissed for refusing to convey munitions for the British Army of Occupation, were held up at Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, by armed British policemen.

British police in Cork have commanded a large tenement house in the city.

Soldiers of the Northamptonshire Regiment seized the village hall and Protestant Church buildings at Templetooth, Co. Tipperary.

Dublin city mail van drivers have decided not to work during Curfew hours. The drivers hold permits to be abroad, but this has not secured their safety, as some of the drivers have had narrow escapes when fired upon by military patrols.

The Master informed Youghal Guardians, Co. Cork, that four soldiers pulled down the Sinn Féin flag put up by the Board. When the porter was putting up another soldiers again took forcible possession of it, pointing rifles at him, and taking a lock and chain off a gate.

A similar incident was reported to Mallow Guardians, where four soldiers presented revolvers at the porter and an inmate, and broke slates in removing the flag.

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 14th.

**Raid:** At Ennly, Co. Tipperary, British police and military raided upwards of twenty residences.

A large force of British military raided the Enniscaulthy Sinn Féin Club premises, Co. Wexford. The military searched those on the premises and removed books and club fittings. Later they raided the houses of five prominent Republicans.

In Cloughjordan, Offaly, British police raided for arms upwards of twenty residences.

British military and police raided at midnight the houses of Messrs. M. Dwyer, Templetooth; J. Kennedy and J. Hynes, Ballinroe, Co. Tipperary. The raiders stole ten fowls from Mr. Hynes.

### "A SERIOUS THING."

(Continued from page 3).

me that. What are you thinking of? Answer me that.

Second Roman:—I'm thinking it's an extraordinary thing that every country we occupy seems to be inhabited exclusively by rebels.

First Roman (producing paper, contemptuously):—It's a pity that you were not with Varus. Perhaps you'd like to hear Caesar's speech in the official report. (Declains):—

"Sedition has been kindled from the Forum, corruption from the Campus Martius and discord from the Senate House. Justice, equity and industry have been revived in the state; authority has been given to the magistrates, majesty to the Senate, and solemnity to the Courts of Justice. Virtuous acts are honoured, wicked deeds are punished, the humble respects the powerful without dreading him; the powerful takes precedence of the humble without contemning him. When we provisions more moderate in price? What was the blessing of peace more abundant? Augustan peace diffused over all the regions of the East and West, and all that lies between South and North preserves every corner of the world free from all dread of predatory molestation. Asia has been repaired; the provinces have been blessed by the humanity and consideration of their Governors. And this province in particular by having Pontius Pilate

and the Lady Claudia to assist him in promoting the peace and welfare of the district of his administration."

Perhaps you'd like me to read you another little extract from the public orator for the day—(Reads):—"Our responsibility is enormous. In the absence of agreement on any matter of political or social reform, the Roman Government is directly responsible for the shaping and conduct of Galilean affairs, and its policy must be guided by the welfare of Galilee and the safety of the rest of Imperial Rome and of the whole Empire. Under no pressure, external or internal, can it consent to father or promote any policy that might impair the one or imperil the other. The welfare of Galilee depends on good government—which means equal justice and opportunity for all, firm administration of the law, protection for life and property and the free development of the country's intellectual, material and spiritual resources, moral education, in fact." Are ye listening?

"At the present time Galilee's condition is such that any political experiment must involve the greatest danger. If it should satisfy disaffection, the Empire would be betrayed; if it should fail to satisfy disaffection, no good and much harm would be done. There remains, then, the course which duty and interest alike dictate—firm and honest government under the existing Constitution. With that responsibility of the Roman Government neither Persia nor Africa has any right or, as we believe, any desire to interfere."

[A Voice without calls, Lazarus arises and passes from the tomb, despite the attempt of the First Roman to stop him.]

Second Roman (amazed):—And he was dead and hurried three days.

... I think I'll go away (rising). I'll go away out of this.

First Roman:—And join the movement, will you? Ah, man, have sense, take up yer musket and try and have some self-respect. It's only a dead Jew.

Second Roman (takes up musket and looks at it):—I'll ask the officer what's the use of a thing like this when it can't stop the movement. (Throws it against wall again.)

First Roman (looking at it):—What! You refuse to shoulder the burden of civilisation.

Second Roman:—What has your civilisation ever produced to equal this movement, one from death?

First Roman (after a Pause, suddenly):—What! Is that the movement he was referring to? The movement in the limbs of the corpse? Rising from the dead?

Second Roman:—The dead has risen! First Roman:—Well, if this thing spreads I'll send in my resignation.

Second Roman (slowly):—And join the movement with me?

First Roman (scornfully):—Certainly not! But I'll send in my resignation, because where any Jew can rise from the dead is no place for a decent Roman. What's the use of all my service? If there is to be no more death, there can be no more valour. What's the use of discipline? What's the good of bravery?

What becomes of fortitude and manhood and even common decency?

Second Roman:—But it is splendid, splendid, no more death, hurrah! I will not be afraid now. I will have valour, hurrah, hurrah.

First Roman:—I'll see Pilate about it. It's a damned serious thing.

(A murmur of amazement and applause is heard from the distance.)

Second Roman:—Oh, please, please, do not see Pilate, he might spoil it. He would stamp out the movement. (Dancing):—No more death!

(Enter Centurion).

Centurion:—What's all this about? What has happened here?

Second Roman:—No more death! Centurion (ignoring him and turning to First):—Well?

First Roman (pointing to tomb):—He came out and went down to join the meeting, Sir.

Centurion:—Who came out?

First Roman:—Lazarus, Sir.

Centurion:—Why was he not challenged?

First Roman:—He was, but he refused to stop.

Centurion:—Why was he not killed?

First Roman:—Because he was already dead.

Second Roman (exultingly):—There is no more death!

Centurion (puzzled and incredulous):—Do you mean to say (pointing to open tomb) that the corpse rose, broke open that tomb and defied you sentries?

First Roman:—That's it, Sir. A very serious affair, Sir, under the regulations, Sir, I must report the matter directly to the Governor.

Second Roman:—He wants to restore death. Don't let him, Sir.

First Roman:—It may not be serious, Sir, but you see, if this kind of thing is allowed to go on it will put an end to warfare.

Centurion:—Now, now, I really can't see how the abolition of death would put an end to warfare.

First Roman:—Well, Sir, speaking as a plain soldier, Sir, I would object to working overtime or fighting after death.

Centurion:—Aw, of course, by Jove, yes, so it would!

First Roman:—They are an upsetting, unruly lot in these parts.

Centurion:—What the country wants is firm administration of the law and protection of (looking at open tomb) death and private property, and "free development of the country's intellectual resources, moral education, in fact."

First Roman:—Yes, sir.

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## The Attempt to Degrade

(Mr. Wm. O'Brien, in his recently published "Evening Memories," tells the story, which we quote in part, of the attempt of the English Government to degrade Irish political prisoners in his day. Mr. O'Brien's account will have a special interest for Irishmen to-day.)

My Irish prisoner, who was received with provoking honour by the people of Manchester, and lodged in the State apartments of his Royal Highness of Clarence by their Lord Mayor, was the morning after his transfer to Ireland felled to the ground by Mr. Balfour's warders in his prison of Clonmel, with every accessory of stupid barbarity, for refusing to do the very thing respecting which, after a long struggle, he had been formally justified, a few months before, in his refusal; now, as then, the Chief Secretary gloried in these not very valourous insults. It was on this time with a perceptible ingredient of spite running through his misrepresentations and jests; and now, even more decisively than then, it was to end in a capitulation on every point dictated by his prisoner, and the final disgrace of the policy of prison degradation which he had made the touchstone of his Irish Administration. If one need not dispute the Jewlike aloofness from human infirmities which was even then claimed when he told Mr. Dillon, in the House of Commons "he could assure the hon. gentleman that no articles he ever read, either in Irish or in English newspapers, had ever given him a moment's uneasiness, or the least desire to interfere," and on the Editor, "it can only be observed that his words and his official acts were chosen with an infelicitous gift for throwing suspicion upon his own house."

First let me recall the terms in which the Chief Secretary saw fit to address a festive Unionist banquetting party in Dublin at a moment while the people of Ireland, and, perhaps, a considerable portion of the people of Britain, were distressed by the unequal struggle going on within the walls of Clonmel jail. It need only be predicted that the Press was excluded from the banquet, and the names of the hilarious company suppressed, and that the "prolonged laughter," and the "rings of laughter," with which his patrician humour was rewarded, were expressly inserted in "the official report."

"I had the honour of receiving at about a quarter of one last night—(prolonged laughter)—a telegram from the Lord Mayor of Dublin—(renewed laughter)—which I allude to now because I take it, it represents the Nationalists' case with regard to Mr. William O'Brien's treatment in prison, and in this document, the original of which I have got in my hand, I read—(I won't read it all)—illegal and brutal violence—(laughter)—that isn't it—(laughter)—unexampled indignity—(laughter)—the unprovoked attacking and beating down your political adversary by torture—(laughter)—No, that is not it. Here it is—Mr. O'Brien has now been naked in his cell for thirty-six hours—(roars of laughter)—and I want to learn that he is lying speechless, and that the prison authorities, considering his condition dangerous, have applied to you for instructions. That, gentlemen, is the operative, the important part of the telegram which you will probably have all seen in the "Freeman's Journal," and which I shall have to allude to in quite another connection in a few moments. Now, I want to say to you that every single word of this statement is true, and I have read it wholly and absolutely in correct—(cheers). What has happened is this: Mr. O'Brien, after an Odyssey which I won't further dwell on, was arrested in the ordinary course, and was taken to Clonmel prison. When he got to Clonmel prison he refused to allow—he threw every obstacle in the way of—any medical examination; he declined absolutely to be weighed—(laughter)—and, as he did not permit the doctor to form any judgment, from personal examination of his case, he went through the ordinary process to which every prisoner is subject who appears against the law—(cheers). This happened on Thursday. It might surprise some of you—some of you who read, if there are such, who read only Nationalist journals—it may surprise you to learn that I have not the control and management of the Prisoners' Board in this department; the Prisoners' Board is not in my department; the questions connected with prisoners do not, as a matter of course, come through either my hands or the hands of the

Irish Office, and, therefore, it is only under exceptional circumstances that any questions connected with any prisoner in Ireland come before me. However, when I went down to the office on Friday, the facts which I have just stated were brought before me, and I immediately proceeded to write a minute in which I said that, of course, if Mr. O'Brien, having the prison clothes at his disposal, chose to stay in his shirt—(laughter)—and if he refused to submit himself to any medical examination whatever, any evil consequences to his health which might ensue, he would be responsible for, and not us—(hear, hear, and applause). But, at the same time, I said I did not think we ought to permit Mr. O'Brien to ruin his constitution for the purpose of injuring Her Majesty's Government—(laughter and applause)—and I, therefore, gave directions that, as Mr. O'Brien would not allow himself to be medically examined, the reports made by Dr. Ridley and Dr. Barr upon Mr. O'Brien when he was in Tullamore jail should be sent down at once by special message to the doctor at Clonmel, so that in the light of these reports, and having learnt what, in the opinion of the doctors who had examined Mr. O'Brien the condition of his health was, the doctor should most carefully watch Mr. O'Brien, and take care that no eccentricity of his should in any way risk his constitution—(applause). And in order that the fullest medical opinion possible should be taken on this important point, the medical member of the Prisons Board has very kindly consented to go down and see the case of Clonmel prisoner—a doctor in whom, I may say, I have every reason to believe that the State has a faithful and efficient servant—(hear, hear)."

Here it will be observed that, setting aside the absolute necessity of the most scrupulous references to the Lord Mayor (Mr. Thomas Sexton)—who, as it happened, was a greater Parliamentarian than himself—the Chief Secretary hazarded only one specific allegation, and that was, that the prisoner was to a refusal on my part to submit to medical examination, while he, not for the first time, set up the plea that "it is absurd to say that the management of Irish prisoners is in my department." Within a couple of days after the publication of my reply, he was obliged publicly to confess that his first statement was, to put it bluntly, a falsehood, and his defence of irresponsibility was proved to be so impudently at variance with the truth that he subsequently acknowledged he was personally responsible for the treatment of his prisoners in every particular.

About five minutes afterwards the chief warder returned to my cell and said, "We must force you to put on the prison clothes." I asked to see the governor, who appeared to have been waiting outside the door, for he immediately opened the door, and I asked that a doctor shall be present during any attack upon me." He said, "I cannot do that; you have passed the doctor." Then, I said, "you will have to force me by force, or words to that effect." I placed my back to the further wall of the cell; three warders immediately rushed at me with the chief warder. The four seized me, and a violent struggle took place between the governor and myself. They succeeded after a struggle in flinging me on my back on the floor, dragging my clothes away meanwhile. When I was down one man placed his knee on my chest, not, as I believe, actually to prevent me from moving, but to cause me absolute suffering. I heard someone, I think the chief warder say, "Don't hurt him." The pressure was then relaxed, and I struggled to my feet again, and renewed the struggle. My clothes were being torn off one by one. I was then flung a second time on the floor; this time on my face. I continued to struggle with all my force, while they were dragging prison clothes on me, and, from the struggle and exhaustion I became faint that they had twice to cease, in order to give me a drink of water. During this second struggle my strength was totally exhausted. I heard the governor give the order to have me taken off, and I remember the first few dashes made at me with a scissiors. After that I lost consciousness, and when I recovered found my mouth full of hairs, and was propped up on a stool between two warders who still held my arms.

"So," he had never pretended that the course he had pursued was free from doubt and difficulty, but they had not yet said anything in the debate which either convinced him that he was wrong in going so far as he had gone or convinced him that he ought to have gone further."

The governor said, "Surely you have resisted enough now; you know it has to be done." I said to him, "You know little of me if you do not know that the struggle is only beginning now." The instant my hands were free I will tug these clothes off again."

"The warders having followed Alderman Hackett to the door, I instantly threw off the prison clothes. Three of them rushed at me again, and another struggle took place. They succeeded in forcing on some of the prison clothes again, seizing and twisting my arms all the time. In consequence of my resistance the chief warder told them not to mind forcing on the coat or vest this time. I again became so faint that they again put water on my lips, but continued to hold my arm while I stood leaning against the wall for a considerable time. So far as I can estimate the scene had by this time reached its end."

The game was this time definitely lost. In my own case, the reparation was almost comically complete. The criminal of Clonmel jail, brutalized by four turnkeys, hidden scrub the flags of his cell, deprived even of his plain bed, and having learnt what, in the opinion of the doctors who had examined him, was a few days afterwards transferred to Galway in a first-class special train, like a magnifico on his travels, attended by two wandering and affectionate valets, and was thenceforward treated with an abundance of consideration far surpassing his three modest original demands, the library of the local Queen's College thrown open for his delectation, and his prison task that of writing a novel, which he so pleased as to write, it on prison foolscap. How much the transformation scene had to do with political opportunism and how little with magnanimity, may be judged by the state of mind in which the Governor of Galway jail (Mr. Michael Murphy) received the announcement of my coming. "I consulted with my wife what I was to do," he told me. "She said, 'Whatever you please, Michael, don't do anything that will disgrace your children. God will provide for us in some way of His own.' So we made up our minds that, if we had to beg the world for it, I would not lay a hand on you. It was only when the escort arrived that these boys handed me a letter directing me to treat you with every possible consideration."

The game was lost, and, with reluctance he said, Mr. Balfour, for all his engaging ways, was a bad loser. It took him nine months to make up his mind to extend his concessions to all his prisoners, proceeding in the meantime on the detestable principle of yielding first in those cases that were most likely to attract the public attention, and he strove to the last to disguise his capitulation by excuses that robbed it of all honest credit. To own that ours was a demand for the classification of prisoners according to the degree of criminality of their offences, and that it had carried the day even in Britain, would have been a procedure too plain for that intellect of many facets. He would faint argue that "for themselves and for their own good," he would make the speeches—the asked one measure of justice, and for those who were going to be the dupes of their speeches, another measure—that it was all a selfish whim for preferential treatment for the few leaders, because they were popular, or because they were gently brought up." He would make the House of Commons gape by remarking: "I am charged with having jested over the sufferings of these poor fellows, and one who could not give so much as a pin without croaking it. His prisoners were allowed to wear their own clothes, not on the ground of the distinction which civilised mankind called for, but only if their clothes were expensive enough. A distinction which favoured the rich swindler and excluded the honest poor. They were absolved from menial prison tasks, but only if they were able to pay a poor prisoner to discharge them for them, in conformity with some obsolete regulation which was suddenly resurrected to cover the retreat of those who had punished John Mandeville to the point of death for a refusal to wear his hair, and so on, and so on." Finally, the association with common-law convicts was given up, but the new regulation, it was proclaimed, must depend wholly upon help to make the government of the country by alienationists impossible. "It is not government, but politics," which is at the root of the whole matter," he exclaimed, in the tone of a scandalised archangel. As if he could make a handsomer acknowledgment of their right to be treated as political prisoners, or more innocently reveal that, if he was now compelled to abandon his own policy of degrad-

ing and defaming them for precisely the same political motives, it was because they had succeeded, and he had failed, in carrying the opinion of the civilised world, and even of his own countrymen with him. For, in his own words, "it was not in the interest of humanity, but of politics" that he now threw up the sponge. The arowal was wrung from him in one bitter-sweet interjection after another—"The truth, undoubtedly, was that, as I admit, you have produced some temporary effect among your own followers" (he was speaking of Gladstones) (February 25th, 1889), and later on: "I have been told over and over again that there is a great tide of public opinion rising on the subject. I am not at all prepared to say that the judicious efforts of the gentlemen who got up 'The National Protest' may not have produced an effect upon the public mind, and upon the people of the country. I do not doubt it at all. I quite admit there may be and very likely is something entirely justifiable in the feeling which has been aroused" (March 13th, 1889).

All this was but to lead up to the subterfuge of calling in a Special Committee on Prison Rules to give Mr. Balfour an escape from his quandary. The letter of instruction to Lord Aberdare's Committee lost nothing of the casual and evasive spirit which had inspired the rest of his dealings with his Irish antagonists. The one question in dispute which really mattered was whether political prisoners were to be classified as such, or for political reasons branded as criminals. In his hands, the Committee to inquire into the classification of prisoners and confined them to a farcical investigation whether it was desirable to alter the rules as to prison dress and the clipping of prisoners' hair in the interest of "cleanliness and health." Lord Aberdare's Committee in their Report rebuked in a way not to be mistaken the prohibitive nature of their commission.

"In the letter of the 11th April, 1889, defining the character of the inquiry, you stated that it was not proposed to refer to the consideration of the committee the classification of prisoners according to the degree of criminality of their offences. In this direction we have endeavoured to conform, and though we have been unable to suggest any alterations in the existing practice altogether, unconnected with the general character of the offence for which the imprisonment is inflicted, we make no suggestions or recommendations founded upon the real or supposed motives of the prisoners."

They even so far transgressed themselves against Mr. Balfour's rules as to administer a sharp reprimand for the "arbitrary and unequal treatment" accorded to Mr. Edward Harrington, M.P., in their report addressed to the following: "The vindication to the prison protests which used to appeal to the risibility of the Chief Secretary in his early manner. 'Whatever may have been its original object, the (prison) dress has too long been associated with all that is vile and contemptible to be assumed by lesser offenders without a sense of degradation and a shock to the self-respect which should never be unnecessarily injured by the prison authorities.'"

What the Chief Secretary did not leave his Committee free to do manfully in public, he had to do of his own authority in private; but such concession was made in the worst way possible, and the one who could not give so much as a pin without croaking it. His prisoners were allowed to wear their own clothes, not on the ground of the distinction which civilised mankind called for, but only if their clothes were expensive enough. A distinction which favoured the rich swindler and excluded the honest poor. They were absolved from menial prison tasks, but only if they were able to pay a poor prisoner to discharge them for them, in conformity with some obsolete regulation which was suddenly resurrected to cover the retreat of those who had punished John Mandeville to the point of death for a refusal to wear his hair, and so on, and so on. Finally, the association with common-law convicts was given up, but the new regulation, it was proclaimed, must depend wholly upon help to make the government of the country by alienationists impossible. "It is not government, but politics," which is at the root of the whole matter," he exclaimed, in the tone of a scandalised archangel. As if he could make a handsomer acknowledgment of their right to be treated as political prisoners, or more innocently reveal that, if he was now compelled to abandon his own policy of degrad-

ing "injuring the Government" the Chief Secretary had to go through the form of ordering of his own authority what had been wrung from him at the expense of grievous suffering and of human life.

The victory for his prisoners on the Three Points of their resistance was complete. Unfortunately, those tortuous methods so far succeeded that the rights of political prisoners continued to be less dependent upon the convenience of the Government of the moment and upon the amount of resistance apprehended, instead of being honestly written out in the prison code; and as the Liberal Home Rule Government, during their eight years of all but omnipotent power, neglected either to make the Prison Rules clear or to repeal the infamous Coercion Act, the resistance to which brought power within their reach, the country ten thirty years after, harrowed with ten thirty years after, stood with the same spectacle of thousands of young Irishmen brought to death's door and beyond, in the same protest against the treatment of felons and miscreants being inflicted upon men whose blood, were they struggling in any Empire except her own, would hail as the heroes of human freedom. Now, as then, the prison rules are in a state of chaos and vacillation, as the fortunes of political parties fluctuate, or the fierceness of the prisoners' resistance grows or dies down. Nor is the thought a consoling one in the year in which England is preening her wings with pride in her tremendous conquests at the guardian angel of the small nationalities, that the young generation of *Sine Féin* should be carrying on their lonely prison struggle with scarcely a trace of the British sympathy which struck down the arm of Mr. Balfour and nerved the hearts of his prisoners in the days of Gladstone.

## Conciliation

XV.

British military have barricaded the roads leading South from Armagh, and all vehicles and travellers are being searched. In some cases, the movement of travellers by troops have been reported.

**Militarism:**—In Cork there was much military activity on the 10th inst. The Courthouse was commanded by soldiers, who were ordered to fire into the air, and the removal of the Republican flag which had been hoisted there for some weeks.

British military have established themselves at Lifford, Co. Donegal, and have mounted a machine gun on the Courthouse and another on the site of the R.I.C. barracks.

TUESDAY, JULY 13th.

**Raid:**—At Swords, Co. Dublin, British military, accompanied by a policeman, raided the residence of Mr. Frank James, Republican M.P. for North Dublin. The police searched the premises, and the residence of Mr. P. Tobin, newly-elected Republican member of the Enniscomerty Urban Council.

At Killeigh, Co. Cork, British police and military raided nine houses.

**Arrest:**—Mr. R. Brown, Killeigh, Co. Cork, was arrested "on suspicion" by a British military patrol.

**Armed Assault:**—A priest on his way from Mass was held up by a British military cordon on Puckstown Road, Donaghadee, Co. Dublin. He was searched at the point of the bayonet.

Pedestrians at Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Waterford, were assaulted by a British policeman accompanying a military patrol. While their hands were held above their heads in response to the military challenge, the policeman attacked them, striking them in the faces.

South Leitrim passers by are held up, questioned, searched and maltreated by parties of British military who patrol the country.

British police fired into a charabanc on the holiday-makers at Killarney, Co. Kerry. Three ladies were wounded, one seriously.

**Murder:**—The following verdict was returned at the inquest on Richard Lumley, who was shot dead by British military on a pier without provocation or warning while coming from a wake at Holycross, Co. Tipperary, on the morning of July 4th. The Dublin Castle official report stated that Lum-



damaged, and across it was rudely sawlaid: "We want no Pops here." The railway company, with whom a complaint has been lodged, will, it is assumed, find little difficulty in locating the centre where the crate received attention.

Some weeks ago the English Government "advised" the Cunard company of the danger to the company's ships at Cobh. We commented at the time on the pretended nature of this danger. Cunard steamers bound west from Liverpool in the afternoon are able to approach the Irish coast at night, embark passengers at Cobh, and proceed west again according to the English Administration, it is only from America that there is danger. There is no danger, of course, from England. It is safe to approach to take Irish emigrants aboard, and to enter the harbour for the same reason, but it is dangerous to approach within sight of the coast to land American citizens.

Even before the war, or before the English Administration issued a notice to mariners that it could not guarantee the Irish coast, it was seriously argued by the Admiral Superintendent advising the English Post Office on maritime affairs, that it was dangerous at any time and in any weather for large liners to enter Cork Harbour. The English have never been able to guarantee Cork Harbour. England claims to be mistress of the seas, but Ireland claims to be mistress of the approach to the seas.

Alexander L. Yorke, Assistant District Attorney, New York County, writing from Paris to the American Consul at Dublin, advises him that it is customary in the State of New York to permit relatives and friends of those confined in public institutions to visit inmates during the hours prescribed, and that he knows no legal reason to prevent the wife and son of James Larkin from visiting him in New York. Mr. Yorke was the prosecuting attorney on behalf of the People v. Larkin. He mentions that he would have advised the American Consul in Dublin personally, "had I been permitted to make any contemplated visit to Ireland, but was constrained to abandon my trip to Dublin by reason of the diversion of the s.s. Baltic (in which I was a passenger) from Queens-town to Liverpool on the occasion of the enforced departure of His Grace, Dr. Mannix, and further by reason of the Governmental pressure to prevent the extension of my tour to Ireland." This throws a further light on the attitude of England's peculiar administration. Here we have an American legal officer, ranking similarly to the English director of prosecutions, prevented from visiting Ireland on official business concerning purely American institutions. The English Administration objects to Americans interfering in Ireland, even in their own affairs. The English have good reason to fear the intervention of public prosecutors in Ireland.

On September 1st the United States Mail Steamship Company is timed to commence its new European service. The s.s. Panhandle State is to make the first round trip from New York, calling at Cobh and Boulogne, with London as the terminal port.

The total shipments of live stock from Ireland this year to August 28th have reached one million and forty-two thousand, which is considerably in excess of last year.

The Central Board of the Co-operative Union at Manchester has passed a resolution "deploring the failure of the Government either to protect co-operative creameries in Ireland, or bring to justice those responsible for their destruction." This resolution may be well-intentioned, but it is a singularly ill-worded and deceptive document. These creameries have been openly destroyed by the uniformed police and soldiers of the "Government." The facts have been published, and have never been denied. To ask the "Government" to protect property which has been destroyed by their own agents is a cruel joke. One might as well ask a tiger to protect a lamb as to invite the "Black and Tans" to protect a creamery. The four million members of the Union must be very innocent if their common sense can be imposed upon by a resolution of this character. If the Central Board means to protect the creameries they should draft a resolution demanding the withdrawal of the "Government's" forces from Ireland. This would help to stop the burning of the creameries.

The tenants on the estate of Mr. H. L. King, D.L., Ballyfin, have purchased 690 acres at Coole for £24,500. The terms of sale have been arranged by the Arbitration Court, the purchasers forming a Co-operative Credit Society to raise the money in conjunction with the Land Bank.

The reply of India to Dyerism is taking the form of a non-co-operation movement. The obligations of the non-co-operators are described by the London "Times" as follows:—

- "1. The surrender of all titles of honor or honorary offices.
- "2. Suspension by lawyers of practice and settlement of civil disputes by private arbitration.
- "3. Non-participation in Government boycotts.
- "4. Boycott of Government schools by parents.
- "5. Boycott of reformed councils.
- "6. Refusal to accept any civil or military post in Mesopotamia or to refuse to offer as units for the army specially in Turkish territories now being administered in violation of pledges.
- "7. Vigorous prosecution of Swastika movement, inducing people to be satisfied with India's own productions and manufactures.
- "8. The public are asked to refrain from taking any service either civil or military and they are enjoined to avoid all violence.

The "Muslim Outlook" of August 6 says:—

"The use of Indian troops for suppression of national aspirations stands condemned on political and moral grounds. Its moral aspect is more clearly and prominently explained by two such great exponents of Indian thought and culture as Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Rabindranath Tagore."

Mahatma Gandhi, touching this point says in "Young India" of June 30:— "Whatever the fate of non-co-operation, I hope that not a single Indian will offer his services for Mesopotamia, whether for the civil or the military department. We must learn to think for ourselves and before offering any service to any foreign power, we must not make ourselves instruments of injustice. Apart from the question of Khalifat, and from the point of abstract justice the English have no right to hold Mesopotamia. It is no part of our loyalty to help the Imperial Government in what is in plain language daylight robbery. If, therefore, we seek civil or military employment in Mesopotamia we do so for the sake of earning a livelihood. It is our duty to see that that source is not tainted."

Dr. Tagore, who conceived long ago the idea of non-co-operation, when he renounced his knighthood, speaks with equal force:— "The use of mercenary troops for utilitarian purposes is degrading to all parties concerned and it grieves my heart as an Indian to see that members of a subject race which has been deprived of its right to carry arms for its own self-protection are being turned into fighting automata for the imperialistic aggrandisement of a nation whose possessions are already too burdensome for its moral integrity and physical strength."

Interviewed by a representative of the Dublin "Evening Telegraph" on Wednesday of last week in reference to the following statement of the Lucerne correspondent of the "Daily Mail":—

"Sir H. Greenwood told me today that the Government decision regarding the Lord Mayor of Cork will not be departed from. If the Sinn Feiners had been content to accept anything else than complete independence, the Premier's proposals for meeting their leaders would not have remained unanswered. The Premier is still ready to meet them should any responsible representative of Sinn Fein come forward."

Mr. Griffith said: "There is here an obvious effort to mislead foreign opinion and to excuse the horror that is being deliberately enacted in Brixton Prison. The suggestion is that the British Government proffered the Sinn Fein leaders everything, except absolute independence, and received no answer to their proposals. It is quite untrue that any proposals have been received by the elected representatives of the people of Ireland from the British Government. As I said three weeks ago, when Dail Eireann received any such proposals Dail Eireann would deal with them."

## A Serious Thing

In "A Serious Thing," produced at the Abbey Theatre, the author of "The Enchanted Trousers" interprets from sympathetic observation the Imperialist mind. We give below some extracts from the illuminating conversation of the First Roman and the Centurion. When Barry painted the Israelites crossing the Red Sea, he provided them with the habiliments and arms of his day in order to evoke the human sympathy of his generation for them. Equally the actors in "A Serious Thing" attired themselves in khaki and carried rifles in place of spears—not an anachronism, but an artistic method. When from the distance a Voice called on Lazarus to arise, and he did, the Imperialist mind acutely foresaw the awful consequences to itself if movement among the Dead were not stamped out by Order and Death restored:—

Scene: The tomb of Lazarus to the left in a wall which crosses the back of the stage obliquely. On the lintel is written "Lazarus," and on the wall typical catch-calls such as "Up the Rebels" and "Give them adarsa" are scrawled; to these graffiti a wag has added "up" before the name on the tomb. The foreground is rocky. Time: Seven hundred and eighty-five years from the Founding of the City.

First Roman Soldier enters from the left and takes up a position as sentry by the wall. After looking about he sighs and sits down on a rock.

First Roman:—Well, well, twenty years decent service and here I am! But it's a great time in the world's history anyway—even if it isn't in mine. And here's the paper they send round to tell us how great are the times we're living in—I keep it to console me (takes it from his pocket). It's well to be supplied with the world's news here in this God-forgotten part of the Empire. "The wife of Pilate had a dream." Well, I wouldn't put it past her! It doesn't say who she dreamt about.

Enter Centurion. (He is quite a boy, and he speaks in a most affected manner). Hah! Looky here now! You see now! These are your instructions. You are stationed here to prevent illegal assemblies, seditious speeches and all that kind of thing. You see? The movement must be prevented from spreading. Report to me at the change of guard. But, but, if anything serious occurs meanwhile you are to report direct to Pontius Pilate. (He points out Centurion.)

Left with his cane), on your own responsibility. Because, because, you see, the Governor takes quite a personal interest in the Government.

First Roman:—Yes, Sir. Centurion:—O by Jove, I had nearly forgotten. There should be two of you on guard. Shouldn't there? I think it is . . . who else is there?

First Roman:—Obadiah, Sir. Centurion:—Bai Jove, you are perfectly right; yes, of course, Obadiah, quite recently recruited (with reassured authority):—Now, then, where is Obadiah?

First Roman:—He's coming up the hill, Sir. Centurion:—There's no disciplining these damn local recruits. For two straws when the fellow comes I will call him "Civilian."

First Roman:—Oh, don't do that, Sir. Centurion:—Well, I don't want to be too severe. But his unpunctuality deserves it.

First Roman:—Quite right that, Sir; but he might take it that you were demobilizing him, and desert. Centurion:—You don't mean it. The unpunctual beast. There's no making these Jews soldiers.

(Enter Obadiah, the Second Roman) Second Roman (addressing First and speaking with marked Jewish accent):—It was so hot!

Centurion (turning suddenly sharply):—Why are you late? Second Roman (fumbling to salute with hand raised to forehead):—It must be the distance, Sir; I counted a thousand paces from the barracks, and lo and behold! it was longer when I got here.

Centurion:—Don't let this occur again or you will be sent on police duty to Gadara. Now, looky here! These are your instructions. I've seen you are stationed here to prevent illegal assemblies, people passing without permits, seditious speeches, and all that kind of thing, and to report to me at the end of guard. But if anything of a serious nature occurs, the Governor wishes to be informed at once. Is that clear?

Second Roman (scratching his head with the hand still raised to salute):—Will we permit the beginning of the speeches before they become seditious?

Centurion (puzzled): After a Pause, emphatically):—There must be no sedition. You two are the cordon sanitaire. There must be no sedition, either in thought, word or deed.

Second Roman:—But how will we know?

Centurion:—What! You don't know what sedition is? Then the sooner you learn the better! Do your duty and report.

Second Roman:—Av! But eef . . .

Centurion:—Now shut up. . . Report to me or to the Governor. (Exit.)

Second Roman brings his hand to his side with a slap.

First Roman (turning to Second with profound contempt):—Well, you're a nice scoundrel anyway!

Second Roman:—Vell. How vos I to know? The speeches may not begin with sedition, and he did not say there was to be no speaking. Are we to forbid every kind of speech? Is no one to utter a word? Where, then is freedom of speech?

First Roman (looking in direction in which Centurion went, and then seating himself cautiously on a rock with a sigh of content):—If there is to be no assembly, how can there be seditious speaking? Did ye ever hear a speech without an audience? And if there was itself, what kind of an idiot are ye that ye can't make a mental note of it? Didn't ye hear him telling ye that we are the cordon sanitaire?

Second Roman:—It doesn't take much discipline, does it, to guard a tomb?

First Roman:—It's not only guarding a tomb we are, but guarding the interests of the Roman Empire. D'ye think Imperial Rome is afraid of a corpse? Our great Empire fears nothing, living or dead.

Second Roman:—Vell, why are we here?

First Roman:—To preserve peace and stamp out sedition.

Second Roman:—But it is because we are here that people are seditious.

First Roman (firmly and rather sarcastically):—And because they are seditious we are here.

Second Roman (with an irritating smile):—So the effect is an excuse for the cause?

First Roman:—There's no excuse for anyone objecting to law and order. Surely you don't sympathise with illegal assemblies, seditious speeches, with blackguardism like that recent cattle-driving in Gadara and all that sort of crime? (Pointing over his shoulder.)

Second Roman:—Ah, but eef a man walks straight he is arrested for illegal drilling, and if he walks crooked, for being drunk, and if he remains still he is asked to move on. Be just before you sit in judgment.

First Roman:—Don't talk nonsense. Do you think justice could have any effect on a lot of rebels? Answer

(Continued on page 7).

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YOUNG IRELAND

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1920.

## The Lord Mayor of Cork

The Lord Mayor of Cork and his fellow-prisoners in Cork still live as we go to press, although before this issue reaches our readers, he or some other may have passed heroically away from earth to live for ever in the heart and memory of Ireland. The England that burned St. Joan of Arc at the stake, the England that hanged the Blessed Oliver Plunkett from Tyburn Tree, the England that chained Napoleon to the Rock, the England that—as one of its own sons said—never showed mercy to a vanquished foe, nor kept a treaty when it was its interest to—such redoubtful people believe—supplanted by a better England. It is the same pitiless England, but grown old and bereft of cunning to see that, when it slays the Lord Mayor of Cork, it will have exposed itself as the Wolf that betrays the existence of all Civilisation.

## Mesopotamia

At last, fragments of the truth about Mesopotamia are permitted to appear in the English Press. From these fragments, it appears that the English forces there are in a bad way—such a bad way that the English press is calling for the evacuation of the country.

The truth about Mesopotamia is this: The English to secure the support of the people in the war engaged—once the Turk had been driven out—to leave Mesopotamia free. The Turk was driven out. The English remained on. The people of Mesopotamia insisted on the contract—the principle of self-determination, they declared, must be applied. The English at length appeared to agree—they then set to work with bribery and cajolery to secure "a mandate" from the Mesopotamians for English rule to remain. They failed.

What followed was kept out of the English and most of the world-press. England cynically refused to keep her solemn pledge and accept the decision of Mesopotamia. She arrested, imprisoned, and deported Mesopotamian leaders—she raided and harried the people. She acted in Mesopotamia as she is acting in Ireland.

Then the Mesopotamians fell upon her, and now Mesopotamia is aflame with wrath against "the perjured English." Her armies have been impotent against the outraged people, and the story of England's hypocrisy and tyranny in Mesopotamia is banding all the Middle East against her. England's press realises the blunder that has been committed—and is calling in panic for the evacuation of the country, which has been the greatest empire before, and threatens to be the grave of the British Empire now.

To such straits have the hypocrites and incompetents who form the Government of England brought their empire, which has been the greatest empire before, and threatens to be the grave of the British Empire now. To such straits have the hypocrites and incompetents who form the Government of England brought their empire, which has been the greatest empire before, and threatens to be the grave of the British Empire now.

## O, PEOPLE OF BAGDAD!

Since the days of Halaika your city and your lands have been subject to the tyranny of strangers, your palaces have fallen into ruins, your gardens have sunk in desolation, and your forefathers and yourselves have groined in bondage. Your sons have been carried off to wars not of your seeking. Your wealth has been stripped from you by unjust men and squandered in distant places. Since the days of Midhat the Turks have talked of reforms, yet do not the ruins and wastes of today testify that reality of those promises? It is the wish not only of my King and his peoples, but it is also the wish of the great nations with whom he is in alliance, that you should prosper, even as in the past, when your lands were fertile, when your westerly gates to the world literature, science and art, and your Baghdad City was one of the wonders of the world. It is the hope of the British Government that the aspirations of your philosophers and writers shall be realised, and that once again the people of Baghdad shall flourish, enjoying their wealth and substance under institutions which are in consonance with their sacred laws and racial ideas. Many noble Arabs have perished in the cause of Arab freedom at the hands of those alien rulers, the Turks, who oppressed them. It is the determination of the Government of Great Britain and the Great Powers allied to France, that these noble Arabs should not have suffered in vain. It is the hope and desire of the British people and the nations in alliance with them that the Arab race may rise once more to greatness and renown among the peoples of the world, and that it shall bind itself together to this end in unity and concord. People of Bagdad, remember that for 26 generations you have suffered under strange tyrants who have endeavoured to set one Arab house against another in order that they might profit by their dissensions. They have not only defeated those tyrants, but they are rousing the whole Middle East of Asia against them—the fact which explains the panic in the London press and the return of the victorious desire to set Mesopotamia free.

Less than two years ago the present Premier of England declared:—"It is the hope and desire of the Government that the Arabic-speaking peoples who have suffered under Turkish rule should once more enjoy that liberty which will enable them to build the edifice of civilisation and prosperity which six centuries of tyranny and misrule have brought to ruin and desolation." And in the two years that have passed this same Premier of England's administration in Mesopotamia has treated the Mesopotamians who acted on his words to like villainies with those imposed on the people of Ireland.

And now the Middle East exclaims the name of England, and the English in Mesopotamia are defeated and exposed to the world.

No English Government has succeeded in making England so despised and hated throughout the world as the present English Government has done. No English Government has ever brought the British Empire so near the verge of destruction. It is the most incompetent as well as the basest Government England has ever produced.

## Local Taxation

## III.—RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS.

The rural districts are the units of county taxation. Their total number is two hundred and ten, comprised in thirty-three administrative counties. The ordinary expenses of a county are provided by means of a rate on each rural district, known as poor-rate, which the County Council is empowered to make once a year and collect in two equal half-yearly instalments. The sums raised by this rate form portion of the fund from which all county expenditure is defrayed, including payments of the money required to meet the demands of rural district councils for general expenses in connection with public health. The following are particulars of this expenditure:

## RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS.

Receipts from Revenue, 1919 (to March 31).

	£
Money supplied by County Councils	317,808
Rents of Labourers' Cottages	147,288
From Waterworks	12,360
Burial Fees	4,014
Grants in aid of roads, etc.	190
Sums received from other local bodies	3,969
Other Receipts	10,513
<b>Total</b>	<b>494,180</b>

The amount supplied by County Councils was more than five thousand in excess of the previous year.

## RECEIPTS FROM LOANS.

	£
Labourers Acts purposes	20,723
Water Supply	4,403
Sewerage	5,000
Burial Ground purposes	549
Under the Local Government (Allotments and Land Cultivation, Ireland, Act of 1917)	1,683
Other Receipts operating as Loans	621
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,779</b>
<b>Gross Total of All Receipts</b>	<b>524,009</b>

The gross receipts from revenue and loans in 1919 were £527,114, so that the 1919 receipts were £143,055 less. The decline in the receipts from revenue was £1,735; the receipts from loans show a drop of £141,320. The principal cause of this is that the amount lent under the Labourers Acts was less by twenty thousand; and the amount lent for Allotments and Land Cultivation is less by one hundred and twenty thousand.

The following is an account of the expenditure from revenue:

## EXPENDITURE FROM REVENUE.

	£
Salaries	64,281
Rural Grounds	5,406
Expenses under the Labourers Acts	57,821
Repairs of Cottages, etc.	44,306
Expenses for Sanitary Purposes	9,226
Superannuation	9,226
Payments in respect of borrowed money—	
Principal paid off	100,253
Interest	220,273
Payments to other local bodies	6,509
Other Expenses	30,782
<b>Total Expenditure from Revenue</b>	<b>501,595</b>

## EXPENDITURE FROM LOANS.

	£
Labourers Acts purposes	21,607
Water Supply	4,922
Sewerage	555
Burial Ground Purposes	662
Under the Local Government (Allotments and Land Cultivation)	1,928
Other Purposes	4,918
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,692</b>
<b>Gross Total of all Expenditure</b>	<b>526,472</b>

It is important to note that the item "Payments in respect of borrowed money" include the amounts paid by the Local Government Board out of the residue of the Exchequer Contribution and the Labourers Cottages Fund directly to the Commissioners of Public Works and the Irish Land Commission, respectively, and applied by these bodies towards the repayment of loans obtained by Rural District Councils under the Labourers Acts in pursuance of Section 18 (1) of the Labourers Act of 1906. The sums so applied, as shown by the accounts of the Rural District Councils, amounted to £48,262.

IV. The cost of the upkeep of the asylums has increased by a heavy sum and the amount of money required to be furnished from the rates for this purpose is making a heavy drain on the local public purse.

## COMMITTEES OF LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

Receipts for Year 1919 (to March 31).

	£
Money supplied by County and County Borough Councils	934,792
From paying patients and private sources	32,865
From Imperial taxes	15,788
Sums received from other local bodies	30,541
Other receipts	1,066,756

The total gross receipts therefore just exceeded a million a year. The County Councils and City Corporations found most of the money, some ninety-three per cent. It will be noticed that the amount contributed by the "Empire" was only eighteen thousand, being less than the very small amount contributed by paying patients and from private sources. The total gross receipts the previous year amounted to £901,887. The increased revenue, therefore, was £105,069, which has been provided by the County and County Borough Councils. The contribution from "Imperial" taxes, really from Irish taxes, amounted to £13,587. The paltry increase of five thousand from this source has been rendered non-effective because there were receipts from loans for £29,100 in 1918, but there were no loans in 1919. So that the English Treasury took away with the left hand what it gave with the right.

The following was the expenditure of the past two years compared, to mark increases in the cost of upkeep, a serious matter for the payers of local rates:

## Expenditure (Year end March 31).

	1918.	1919.
Provisions, necessaries and clothing	692,542	526,190
Meditations	4,973	4,429
Salaries and Wages	194,698	142,869
Superannuation	17,341	19,027
Paid to Guardians for maintenance of inmates in workhouses	83	7,364
Payments in respect of borrowed money—		
Principal paid off	40,837	82,332
Interest	34,822	21,235
Other Expenses	119,576	102,792
<b>Total Expenditure from revenue</b>	<b>1,014,578</b>	<b>886,121</b>
<b>Total Expenditure from loans</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>6,187</b>
<b>Gross Total</b>	<b>1,015,151</b>	<b>892,308</b>

The increased expenditure is £143,843. Provisions, necessaries, and clothing have increased during the year by £77,368. Salaries and wages have gone up £51,829. It is remarkable that the Lunatic Asylum Committees should have been able to increase their payments in respect of borrowed money for principal and interest by no less than £11,793. Other expenses are higher by £16,784. We suspect that this increase is due mainly to the cost of coal, but the report is silent on the subject of fuel. The Asylum Committees have apparently ceased to make payments to Boards of Guardians for the maintenance of lunatics in workhouses, thus saving seven or eight thousand a year at the expense of the Guardians.

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