

Erecting Sentry-boxes for Evicted Tenants.—The National Leagues of East Clare, the Thradaree Branch particularly, may well feel proud of the great gathering of the Leagues that assembled at Newmarket-on-Fergus to assist the people of Newmarket, Carrigerry, and the Wells parishes in building sentry-boxes at Kilulla, on the property of Mr. T. G. S. Mahon, for three evicted tenants. At 10 A.M. contingents from the several districts in the local branch assembled, and from that hour to 11.30 contingents from the following branches arrived:—Ennis, Doora, Kilkishen, Clare Castle, Ballyea, Quin, forming a splendid body of men, with their beautiful flags. Crusheen was represented by its patriotic band and a very large following of the gallant men of Upper Bunratty, Barefield, Cluna, Carrahan, Kilraughtish, and Spencil Hill, with the well-known Stars and Stripes that led them to many a Land League meeting in years gone by. The classic hill of Tulla was represented by its National band and patriotic sons, who feared not Forster's buckshot nor Clifford Lloyd's bloodhounds in the days of coercion. The men of Sixmile-bridge, followed by the Cratloe boys with their neatly-designed banners and honest J. Hardgrove leading them, were much admired. When all were assembled at Kilulla cross-roads, they were about 3,000 persons and about 300 horses and cars. The great majority of the cars carried stones to build the sentry-boxes; some cars brought timber for the roofs, some had straw and reed for thatch, some had sand and lime. The Ballyea cars had lime, and the Kilkishen cars had turf from Clonlough bog, a distance of 10 miles from Kilulla. At Kilulla Cross, Rev. J. Loughnane, Adm., addressing the people, said that he had received a letter that morning from Mr. Thomas Frost, with a request to read it for the meeting. The letter stated that Mr. Thomas Frost, P.L.G., objected to have a sentry-box erected on his farm for one of the evicted tenants, as he was getting £35

per year abatement from Mr. Richard Stackpoole, and it might injure him to let the people erect the house for the poor tenants, who had all his sympathy, and that he would give said evicted tenants all the support in his power.

A VOICE.—Frost is in the same position and boat as his fellow-tenants, and he ought not to object.

Father LOUGHNANE.—I have read the letter for you, and I leave it to you to do what you think is right.

A VOICE.—All who are for building one sentry-box on Frost's farm let them hold up their hands. (Immediately every hand was raised up amid cheers.)

Father LOUGHNANE.—We will go on to Mr. Hannan's land. Go on, men.

The procession re-formed and marched to Mr. Hannan's land, the bands playing and the people cheering. A portion of the procession went to Mr. Frost's farm. Operations commenced at once on Mr. Hannan's land, and the building progressed rapidly. A messenger arrived and stated that Mr. Frost was on his land and would not allow any person to enter on it to build the house. There was great excitement at this, and some person said, "Let the people, with the exception of those who are at work here, take the flags and one band and proceed across the fields to Mr. Frost's land and commence operations." This order was immediately obeyed. The scene would remind one of an army advancing by battalions, with skirmishers in front, the band playing "God save Ireland" in the centre, and each battalion carrying its flags. It was an animated scene, those hundreds of athletic Claremen bounding over walls, leaping the river, marching quickly on, and forming into a solid body as they ascended the hill to Mr. Frost's farm. District-Inspector M'Donald and a large posse of the Royal Irish Constabulary were with Frost, but that did not deter the people. Frost

again said he would not allow the people to build the house, but the people did not mind him; they opened a gap in the wall and let the horses and cars go in with the stones, &c., and the work proceeded at once. The district inspector, instructed by Mr. Frost, wrote down the names of those they knew, and it is believed that they will be prosecuted. The people divided into three large bodies, and the three sentry-boxes were building at the same time. The bands continued playing all day, and everything passed off to the satisfaction of the people. It was gratifying to see how warmly the beloved priests were received when they appeared at each of the houses. Father Loughnane, who is known and respected for his manly, straightforward, and just disposition, without the slightest inclination to vindictiveness or selfishness, was cheered at each of the sentry-boxes when he went to see how the building progressed. The people of Thradaree showed how they love and respect their true-hearted minister. There were priests from outside parishes present also, who were warmly cheered. When the sentry-boxes, which are 22 feet long by 14 feet wide in the clear inside, were finished by 6 P.M., Mrs. O'Donnell and her helpless family were put into possession of one of the houses, Mrs. Hickie and family into another, and the widow Mulconry into the third. I may say that O'Donnell is undergoing a fortnight and Hickie three weeks' imprisonment in Limerick Gaol for taking shelter in the inclement weather in the out-houses which they erected themselves. It is the second term of imprisonment with them. When possession was given the people gave cheers for their priests, for the National League, and groans for bad landlordism and tenants who would not be with the people and their fellow tenants. The Newmarket band then headed the procession and marched back into the village amid scenes of joyous cheering.