1-9-47

APPALLING STATE OF BANTRY.

The *Cork Southern Reporter* of Thursday publishes the following picture, no less terrible than authentic, of the condition of Bantry. The communication is from a correspondent of that journal:—

BANTRY, JAN. 5.—It is my painful duty to inform you of six inquests held here this day, before Samuel Hutchins and Richard White, Esqrs., magistrates for the county.

The jury unanimously agreed, without a moment's hesitation, that the following persons came to their deaths by starvation:—

Catherine Sheehan, a child two years old, who died on the 26th December last, and had lived for several days previous to her death on seawood, part of which was produced by Doctor M'Carthy, who held a *post mortem* examination on the body. The other details in this case are most heartrending.

Michael Sullivan died at Skahana, on or about the 4th December, from the effects of eating too hearty a meal, which he had received through charity, after being previously exhausted from over long fasting.

Richard Finn was conveyed into this town on the 14th December, in a car, for the purpose of taking him to the workhouse, when, in the street, the Very Rev. Thomas Barry, P.P., was obliged to hear his confession before the public, and before he had time to complete his sacred duties the poor man expired.

John Driscoll was working on one of the public works on 29th December; on his return home he fell exhausted from want of food, and was found dead on the mountain of Glounlough on the following morning. His wife proved that he had eaten nothing for two days previous to his death, except a small quantity of boiled wheat, and that he frequeutly had a similar fast.

Jeremiah Carthy entered the shop of Mr. R. Vickery of this town, when he fell senseless and died in three hours after at the workhouse, though being kindly attended to by the Rev. Mr. Freeman, Dr. Jagoe, and the family, before his removal.

Michael Linehan was found dead on the lands of Ibane, on the 18th of December last. He was on his way home from Bantry, after purchasing some food for his mother and brother (which were all his family, who were then lying in fever); there were some turnip peels or skins found in his stomach.

Head constable Grant then stated to the magistrates that there were three other similar cases, but the bench considering it too late to proceed with hearing them, they were postponed for a future day.

While the court was sitting, the Very Rev. Thomas Barry reported another victim who had fallen on entering the workhouse before he had time to administer the sacraments to him.

I close with sending the remonstrance of the jury, as handed in by their foreman, Edward O'Sullivan, Esq.

"That we feel it our duty to state under the correction of the court, that it is our opinion that if the government of the country shall persevere in its defermination of refusing