

On Saturday the second day of the sheep fair, opened most unpropitiously. Heavy showers continued without cessation, and a more disagreeable spectacle than the fair presented has seldom been witnessed at Ballinasloe. Pinioned in groups adjacent to each other, many lots of sheep awaited their inspection and probable disposal by numerous buyers who for a time appeared to look indifferently on the scene. Matters changed, however, as the morning advanced, and the apparent determination on the part of the sellers not to yield had the effect of not only making business somewhat brisk, but of enforcing an increase on the prices of the previous day. The exhibition of sheep on Friday morning comprised not only those unsold yesterday, but also considerable numbers which had been held back in anticipation of an advance in rates. There was a demand for widders, and the supply being shorter than on Friday, the prices rose accordingly. There was an advance of from half-a-crown to four shillings per head on Friday's prices. Ewes were also in fair request, and were bought up briskly at a slight advance. Towards ten o'clock nearly all the flocks, with the exception of a few very inferior ones, were driven off. It is curious to observe that although there has been a large increase of sheep throughout Ireland during the past year, a less number has been exhibited for sale at Ballinasloe than in 1866. Moreover, at the fair held in Garbally Park, on Tuesday, there was an increase in the sales of over six thousand, as compared with last year. The falling-off is, consequently, explained. In 1866 there were sold on the two days 72,649 sheep; unsold, 12,293; and the total exhibition amounted to 84,942. During the present fair only 64,936 sheep have been disposed of, and the number remaining unsold amounts to 4,492. There is a great deal to be deduced from these calculations, and perhaps not the least important is the fact that the great increase of sheep is scarcely perceptible, and that the fall of prices at Ballinasloe on Friday last cannot by any means be attributable to the greater supply. The principle feature of the day was the business in horses. When the sheep were got rid of, the green was studded with anxious equestrians, who galloped, and raced their animals, in order to show off their points, which, in very many instances, were not extraordinary, or unusually attractive. The Main-street of Ballinasloe was almost impassable, but the promenade was not inviting; for bad, low-priced horses (with exceptions), mud, rain, and crushing were the order of the day. Notwithstanding all the efforts of the horsemen, they for the most part failed for a considerable period to attract any attention; and, as in the sheep fair on Friday, both buyers and sellers seemed determined to be idle, the unfavourable character of the weather had a most baneful effect. It is right to mention that this was not the day appointed for the horse fair, but in nearly every instance the rules are to some extent deviated from. Of the horse fair itself, there is little to be said in its favour, whether in regard to number or quality. As in all such cases, there are exceptions, but, speaking generally, the fair was far inferior to that of last year. Few transactions took place before ten or eleven o'clock; nor is that surprising, considering the prices demanded for animals that certainly could not be classed as otherwise than third-rate. There were certainly some fine hunters exhibited, but these were few in number, and brought in many cases better prices than their merits deserved. Competition was out of the question. As the day advanced business assumed a somewhat more brisk appearance, but the arrival of several Continental buyers, including those for the French, Russian, and Austrian Governments, created some stir. To these gentlemen the largest number of animals were disposed of. Considering the dullness of the day, and the great apathy as to business which was displayed by all, considerable transactions took place towards the afternoon, and good sums changed hands. The Continental buyers bought up everything they could obtain at fair prices, and did not hesitate to take indifferent-looking animals, provided they presented the slightest symptom of future good qualities. Good strong chargers appeared to be what they most eagerly sought for, and in some instances were successful in finding. A very few good weight-carrying hunters were exhibited, and where really good qualities were shown buyers did not resist the prices. Number of inferior animals were disposed of. The Registrar General's returns show a great decrease in the number of horses during the present year throughout Ireland, which, perhaps, may in some measure account for the limited number on the Green to-day. The following are a few of the quotations:—Alderman L Reynolds purchased a very fine chestnut horse for £150, from Mr Thompson, of the Junction. Mr Hartigan, of Limerick, sold a weight carrying hunter to Mr Addy for £200. Mr O'Reilly purchased a brown horse from Mr Dyas for £100; and a chestnut for £100. Alderman L Reynolds bought a bay hunter from Mr Allen, of Mullingar, for £120; and a brown hunter from Mr Wyburn for £110. Mr McGrane bought several high priced horses for one of which he paid £300.—Mr Salmon sold a hunter for £160. Mr Atkinson sold a filly at 75 guineas. Mr Manly purchased a large number of horses, the average price being £120. Mr Gavacan bought a weight carrying hunter, by

ment took place, followed by a crowd of spectators. Such a display was never witnessed in Limerick, but we rejoice to state that the processionists belonged to the lowest classes in the city, very few, if any, respectable mechanics being amongst them. Of course if it had been known to the parties that Kelly had, in the county gaol, offered to become an informer, they would have treated the remains differently. Head-Constables O'Connor and Robinson, with a large force of police followed after the procession, but no breach of the peace was committed, nor did they deem it necessary to make any arrests.

#### INQUEST.

On yesterday, John Gleeson, Esq., city coroner, held an inquest on Catharine Daly, who resided at Doherty's-lane, Broad-street. Deceased was 75 years old, and was a roomkeeper, but earned a livelihood by picking feathers, which avocation she filled up to Saturday last. She went to mass on Sunday, partook of dinner, and went to bed at half-past seven o'clock without complaining. She slept very soundly, awoke at ten, when she coughed once, and thereupon discharged a quantity of blood. She expired in less than five minutes, and though a clergyman was promptly in attendance, life was extinct before his arrival.

The Mayor left Limerick yesterday for London. Sir Matthew Sausse, Lady Sausse, and suite have arrived at Moore's Hotel, Kilkee.

Mr. John Dillon, manager of the Hibernian Bank Kilkenny, has been appointed manager of the Munster Bank, in this City.

Mrs. Hunt, 3, Lower Mallow-street, begs most thankfully to acknowledge £1 from the Mayor of Limerick for Mrs. E. L. Hunt's fruit, flower, vegetable, and stall for wild fowl to be held at the Limerick Protestant Orphan Bazaar, in the Orphan Hall, last day of October, 1st and 2nd of November. Mrs. Hunt earnestly begs for more gifts of money from her friends as well as for other contributions.

The Rev. J. F. Greig thankfully acknowledges the receipt of the following contributions:—

For Limerick Asylum for Blind Females—George A. Dartnell, Esq., £1.

For Limerick Ragged Schools—Lady Fitzgerald, £1.

For Protestant Orphan Society—Lady Fitzgerald, £1.

#### THE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON GOOLD.

(FROM OUR LISTOWEL CORRESPONDENT.)

During the recent visit of the Ven. Archdeacon to Athes, where his extensive property is situate, one of those cases illustrative of the kindness of heart and generosity of disposition which are the leading characteristics of his nature, occurred.

A man named John Guinane, a labourer on the Archdeacon's property, had been suffering for a length of time from the effects of a sore leg, the medical gentleman who attended him, fearing mortification would ensue, said nothing remained but to amputate the diseased limb. Accordingly, by the Ven. Archdeacon's directions, a comfortable and commodious stretcher was prepared with bedding, soft pillows, and all appliances necessary, the patient being placed upon this, and the tenantry having assembled, he was borne by hand into the Listowel Workhouse Infirmary, a distance of eight miles, the tenantry relieving each other at stated intervals. The Archdeacon accompanied the sad procession on foot to within one mile of its destination, consoling the poor sufferer, and cheering by his presence and example the labours of his tenantry.

In a few days after amputation was performed most successfully by Dr. Thorpe, assisted by Drs. Kenny, Roche, and Fitzgerald, and the patient is in a fair way of recovery. The Ven. Archdeacon visited him on several occasions, and left some substantial proofs of his commiseration.

It affords me much pleasure to CHRONICLE such Samaritan acts, and though personally unacquainted with the Ven. Archdeacon still it is no less a duty to give "honour where honour is due."

Of the Ven. Archdeacon as a good, kind, and considerate landlord, the united and loud spoken voice of his tenantry, prove their happy condition, and the comfortable appearance of their homesteads evince that a paternal care overlooks them, and I can only say that I trust he will be long spared to both his presence, and even in his absence, to a grateful and happy tenantry.

The magistrates at Kilmallock have taken very decided steps as regards the granting of certificates to publicans proved to have assisted, no matter how remotely, in the late Fenian rising. The application of James Condon postponed. Fenian meetings had been held in his house; but he said they took place without his knowledge. That of Richard Mawin was refused because a shot was fired out of his house on the morning of the 6th March, and because he opened

the Society, for their own sakes, as that of all for whom they laboured. In the first place the Society commended itself to their notice by its gentleness, the visiting of the poor and the lowly, and the distributing to them in their homes of those blessed tracts, that contained the truths of Christ's Gospel, and that through the gentle hands of Christian ladies. He next pointed out how far grander was such employment for the affluent and those born in luxury, in proclaiming Gospel truths to the poor and desolate, than in wasting their time with those fleeting pleasures and amusements of the drawing-room, or the ball-room, or other places of worldly enjoyment. He related an anecdote of the late Duke of Wellington, who had adopted the maxim to do his duty in whatever sphere of life God should place him, and the rev. gentleman, in explanation of that, pointed out to his hearers the propriety of seeking out their providential duties, and performing them zealously and fearlessly, so that when appearing before their Creator, upon the Judgment Day, they might not be charged with having spent their lives unprofitably, but that they might be able to stand forth with stars of rejoicing in their crowns of glory, as proof that they had been sharers in the great work of winning souls over to Christ.—He concluded by strongly recommending the claims of the Tract Society upon the meeting.

The Rev. Joseph Burns, a deputation from the Tract Society, next addressed the meeting, and proceeded to give an explanation of how it was worked and carried on. There was a committee composed of twelve, who managed all the affairs of the Society, who were twelve as religious gentlemen as could be found in the city of London, six of whom were members of the Established Church, the other six were members of the different Dissenting Communions, who possessed the truth, as it was in Christ Jesus. They met every Tuesday morning in London for the transaction of business; they first assembled in prayer, then breakfasted, with visitors, and after that they went through all the work of the Society, embracing its operations throughout the whole world. It was now seventy-nine, or within one of eighty years of its existence, and was established fourteen years before the Foreign Bible Society, yet its operations were far more extensive than those of the latter. Among the twelve gentlemen who performed all the work of the Society it would be difficult to tell who was the Episcopalian, who the Presbyterian, who the Wesleyan, or the Baptist, or the Non-conformist, such were the love and unity that prevailed amongst them, that they met and laboured in Christian harmony, and no one who ever applied for tracts was refused by them. The rev. gentleman next related how at the time of the opening of the French Exhibition the Society desired an opening there to exhibit specimens of their publications in all the languages in which they were printed. Prayer meetings were held, and God's assistance sought in the good work, and they were soon rewarded; their prayers were heard, for they received a communication from the highest quarter in the Government of France, informing them that a place would be set apart for their publications, the same liberty being accorded to them that was given to the French priests who applied for a place in the Exhibition. When the priests, however, heard that the Tract Society were to send their publications to the Paris Exhibition they appealed to the Emperor to withdraw his permission from the Society, or they would withdraw their works from it. The Emperor refused to comply with the demand of the priests. He said he had accorded equal liberty to all, that the priests if they chose might withdraw their books, but he would not prohibit the Tract Society from exhibiting their books there. The Committee had accordingly agreed to spend £4,000 in sending books printed in the different languages to the Exhibition; but such an object of interest did they become, such was the demand for their tracts there, that he believed it would take £8,000 to cover the expense (applause). The rev. gentleman next proceeded to give an illustration of the vast labours of the Society by explaining that no only did they print and distribute 46,000,000 publications annually in 119 different tongues, but they have since the Society's establishment distributed not less than 1,200,000,000 of publications, or one for ever inhabitant in the whole world. He explained the terms on which those, who desired to establish libraries, could obtain books; they could get, to form nucleus, £21 worth of books for one-third or £7, and whoever applied for tracts could get two or three pounds worth at the time for nothing. The rev. gentleman next related several highly interesting anecdotes of conversions in the different grades in life from noblemen and gentlemen down to soldiers, seamen, and prize-fighters, which were listened to with close attention. He informed the meeting that the Society never paid a farthing of salary to its office: that the subscriptions all went in the printing a distribution of its publications, and he said that they had sent over £6,000 worth of tracts to Ireland within the past few years. He then concluded most eloquent address by calling on the meeting support the Society cheerfully, according to their means. He stated that he had received from many friends whom he met subscriptions to the amount