

GRAND MILITARY BALL AT THE THEATRE ROYAL.

On last night Lieutenant-Colonel M'Leod and the Officers of the 74th Highlanders gave a grand ball to their friends in Limerick and the surrounding country, which came off in the Theatre Royal, with great splendour. The interior of the building was decorated with that peculiar taste which makes military balls so remarkable and attractive. The decorations consisted of the placing of a number of naval flags and devices, formed of bayonets, swords, and ramrods, into stars, and rows of muskets, tipped with steel, which, when reflecting the light of the numerous gazaliers, gave a great brilliancy to the tableau, seldom witnessed in this city. The gallery was partitioned off, as it were, by a screen formed of muskets, with fixed bayonets, festooned with green plaid scarfs of the regiment, which hung like drapery behind them, and in front of the tier of boxes were placed a number of handsome stars, formed of bayonets and ramrods, fastened in the centre of each was a plaid buckle. In the centre facing the stage, between the gallery and the boxes, was erected a large and truly magnificent star, formed of claymores, Zouave swords, bayonets, and ramrods, likewise fastened in the centre with sash plates and scarf brooches of the regiment, the polished steel and brass, throwing back the light of the numerous lamps cast upon it, had a brilliant appearance. On either side of this star were draped the flags of the gallant 85th, when commanded by General Mansell. The columns of the stage boxes were ornamented with muskets, tipped with bayonets, and the mirrors were shrouded with plaid scarfs, exquisitely draped. The front of the stage was ornamented with a row of bayonets, fixed with muskets, *en chevaux de frise*, behind which were arranged a trophy of drums and the colours of the 74th Highlanders hanging in graceful folds at either side, between piles of arms, the Assaye colour being conspicuous from its position, overhanging the drums, while overhead were gas devices, comprising the number of the regiment in Roman characters, surmounted by the Royal diadem, and supported on either side by the letters V.R., which when lighted up added very much to the splendour of the scene. At the front of the stage were also arranged some splendid greenhouse plants, that gave a variety to this part of the decorations. The stage, which was set apart as a supper room, was likewise exquisitely decorated, being hung on every side with flags procured from the Frederick William, which were very appropriately arranged, while on the rere wall was hung another beautiful star, formed of bayonets, dirks, and ramrods, of polished steel, and joined in the centre by scarf shoulder buckles. From the ceiling, which was draped over like an awning, were suspended two handsome gasaliers, with a jet star in the centre to give increased light. The supper tables were arranged with great convenience for the company, and besides containing a plentiful supply of viands and liqueurs, were ornamented with a profusion of hothouse and greenhouse plants and exotics, lent for the occasion by the Mayor, which gave a delightfully refreshing appearance to this part of the building. The entrance to the Theatre was through a porch, ornamented with evergreens, and lighted up with a gas device, from which the company passed through the vestibule, similarly ornamented, into the ball-room. Altogether the decorations, which were fitted up by some non-commissioned officers and privates of the regiment, were admirable; and when the company had assembled, the scene presented was one of extreme grandeur. The refreshments and supper were supplied by Mr. Lucas, the mess master; and the music of the evening was performed by the splendid band of the regiment, under the conduct of Herr Kossel.

The company amounted to about three hundred, and included the following, who were invited:—Mr, Mrs and Miss Bourke; Mr Ulick Bourke, Mr Richd. Bourke, Mr and Miss Bannatyne, Mr James Bannatyne, Col. Beatty, Sir William and Lady Barrington and Miss Barrington; Mr and Mrs R Croker; Mr and Miss Croker, and Captain Croker; Mr Mrs and Miss Cooper; Mr and Miss Cox; Captain and Mrs Dea

DEATH OF E. J. COLLINS, Esq., R.M.

It is with extreme regret we announce the death of this esteemed gentleman, which took place this morning at his residence, Churchfield, in this city, aged 60 years. He was appointed a magistrate for the county of Cork in August, 1838; a Resident Magistrate in August, 1850, and stationed at Rathkeale, in this county, where he continued until removed to Limerick on the retirement of Mr. Barron in 1863. He was a most amiable and worthy man, thoroughly honest in all his decisions, endeavouring in all cases to vindicate the law without oppression. Yet, firm in his decisions, he knew no party while on the Bench, and made a due distinction in the nature of the offences which came before him. His remains will be removed on Saturday morning to Cork for interment in the family vault at St. Finbar's Cathedral.

The public will be pleased to be informed that Mr. Moriarty, R.M., who was doing duty here during the illness of the lamented Mr. Collins, R.M., is to be permanently stationed in this city. He is a gentleman with the most courteous deportment, while at the same time, in the discharge of his duty on the bench, he exhibits considerable legal knowledge and ability; and if he be distinguished for anything more than another it is for carrying out the law with that impartiality exhibited in leaning towards the side of mercy, and giving the accused the benefit of a rational doubt. To use a hackneyed yet a true expression, he is "the right man in the right place," and it is highly creditable to the discrimination of the Irish executive to have made so judicious a selection as that of Mr. Moriarty for this city.

Sub-Inspector Kelly, Clonmel, has been ordered to Limerick, in room of Sub-Inspector Channer deceased, and will enter on his duties immediately.

On Saturday, at half-past two o'clock, the Judges named on the Special Commission for Munster will arrive in this city, to open the Commission on Monday morning.

On yesterday a labouring man, named James O'Brien, hung himself from a beam in his cabin, at Castleconnell. He has been for some time past in rather a strange state of mind, and, in the absence of his wife, committed the above act. An inquest was held same day by Mr. Costello, coroner, and a verdict returned "that James O'Brien hung himself while in a state of temporary insanity." This is the second attempt, unfortunately with success, which the unfortunate man made upon his life.

The marriage of the Lady Anne Le Poer Trench, eldest daughter of the Earl and Countess of Clancarty, and the Hon. Frederick Trench, eldest son of that most popular nobleman, Lord Ashtown, took place on the 30th ult., in the parish church of Ballinasloe. The church was most beautifully decorated with evergreens. The ceremony was performed by the Archbishop of Dublin, assisted by the Rev. J. C. Walker, the Rector, and the Rev. Wm. Le Poer Trench, Rector of Moylough. The young and lovely bride arrived at the church at half-past eleven o'clock, and was led up the aisle by her noble father, and followed by eight bridesmaids.

The Rev. A. Nash thankfully acknowledges the receipt of 14 vols. of useful books from Mrs. Maursell, Newboro'; and 10s. from Rev. W. E. Massy, for Rathkeale Christian Young Men's Association.

At a vestry meeting held at Killeely Church, the Rev. Thomas Elmes, Rector, Edward H. Goggin, of Burton Hill, and Thomas F. Sexton, of Coonagh, Esqrs., were appointed Church Wardens for the ensuing year.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The following important circular, on the subject of Weights and Measures, has been received by the Town Clerk, from the Standard Department of the Board of Trade, and which will be submitted to the magistrates at Petty Sessions on to-morrow by Mr. Beauchamp:—

Standard Department, Board of Trade.  
7, Old Palace Yard, S.W., 10th April, 1867.  
SIR,—I am instructed by the Board of Trade to acquaint you, for the information of the Local Magistrates and Inspectors of Weights and Measures, that upon a case submitted to the Law Officers of the Crown, upon the legal construction of the "Metric Weights and Measures Act, 1864," (27 & 28 Vict. c. 117), they have given an opinion that "a person using material Metric Weights and Measures is liable to have them seized, and to conviction and forfeiture of the weights, under the 5 and 6 Will. 4. c. 63."

LIMERICK COUNTY PETTY SESSIONS—THIS DAY.

Before Alderman Mahony, Chairman; John Thos. Devitt, and O. Moriarty, R.M., Esqrs.

THE DEATH OF MR. COLLINS.

The Chairman on taking his seat on the Bench announced that the Court would only dispose of the custody cases, after which they would adjourn till that day week, in consequence of the death of Mr. E. J. Collins, R.M., which took place this morning, and who was a gentleman who had been most efficient in the discharge of his duties, and a more truthful, honourable, and upright man in the discharge of his official duties never, he believed existed; and every one felt great regret at the circumstance of his death, and he was sure that his brother Magistrates would respond to what he said (Mr. Devitt—I fully concur); and at a future period the magistrates would order the insertion of a resolution in their books as an act of condolence, to his bereaved widow on so mournful an event.

The Bench then proceeded with the disposal of some custody cases, and those of neglect in not taking out dog licenses, in which nominal penalties were imposed on the parties not taking out their licenses; but the chairman stated that after next week all parties neglecting to take out licenses would be subject to the penalty of a shilling a day, and other penalties besides.

THE LATE SUB-INSPECTOR CHANNER.

Mr. Devitt said that he regretted, which he believed was caused by the lamented death of Mr. Collins, that there was not a larger attendance to-day of his brother magistrates, as he would have been very glad the bench were more fully represented on that occasion, as it was his intention to propose a vote of condolence to the family of this late esteemed officer, Mr. Channer, a gentleman, who while doing duty in this district had gained the good opinion of every body who knew him. It was a source of deep regret that it should have pleased Almighty God to remove him from the charge of his interesting young family, and he regretted to think, and he believed it to be the general opinion, that his life had been shortened by the constant care and anxiety he underwent owing to the disturbed state of the country. He (Mr. Devitt) believed the increased duty that devolved on him, and the deprivation of his natural rest, led to the breaking down of a constitution which to all appearance was exceedingly strong and healthy. It was with great regret he felt called on to propose the resolution which he felt sure would be concurred in by every member of the bench. Mr. Channer was long known in the county of Limerick, for the efficient, zealous, and courteous discharge of his duties, and he would conclude by moving that the bench of magistrates, greatly regretted his death, and heartily condoled with his young family; and he hoped the Chairman would embody that sentiment in a resolution to be recorded in the books, and a copy of it be forwarded by the Chairman, with a letter, to the family of the lamented gentleman.

Mr. Moriarty, in seconding the resolution, regretted that some other gentleman who knew Mr. Channer longer than he did was not present to perform that duty. His acquaintance with him was but very short; but, nevertheless, it was long enough to cause him to entertain a regard for the deceased gentleman, and no one regretted his sudden death more than he did.

The Chairman said he need not state how he felt the mournful pleasure of carrying out the wishes of the Bench. He had to add that there would have been a much larger attendance of his brother magistrates, but it was believed that in consequence of the lamented death of Mr. Collins that the sessions would be adjourned; but he was authorised to state that the magistrates were most anxious to pay every compliment in a vote of condolence to be passed to the family of Mr. Channer; for he won not only the esteem and respect of the magistrates generally but of every man in the community, for the faithful, zealous, and efficient as well as active discharge of his duties; but he feared that his mind was so pressed down by the weight of anxiety and care, and attention to his official duties, producing a break up of his constitution which led to the death of so estimable a man. He would convey the resolution to the proper quarter, and he rejoiced at seeing the same feeling actuating the magistrates of the county which had been exhibited by those of the city, for they all seemed anxious to honour the memory of a man for whom they had so much regard.

The sessions were then adjourned till Thursday next.

LIMERICK UNION.

The weekly meeting of the Board of Guardians of this Union was held on yesterday, John Barrington, Esq., in the chair.