

and "coals" of £54 2s. 4d. Nothing more evident, that apart from severe rain, a large proportion of the half-cits have resulted solely from the character of the times: fewer people sold, and the merchandise passing on along the line has been also less. It is gratifying to hope with some kind of assurance that the Waterford and Railway Company has at last passed its turning-point, and that better days are in store for the proprietors of the line. It is the subject of every possible standard—a most venture to prophecy that the present paying period has come to an end, from a Stock Exchange point of view it is based upon a new existence. The appointment in the Directory of the EARL OF BESHAM, representing the Great Western Company of England, will be certain advantageous fruit. We also learn with assurance that the Clyde Shipping Company, for a considerable time past has not been in unison with the Waterford and Railway Company, has, since the appointment of the present Chairman, in a great measure, overcome its antagonism, and it is to be hoped before long it will prove a valuable source of business and profit to our local Company.

In consequence of extreme pressure on our space we are obliged to hold over several important matters till our next issue.

Sale of the lands of Lisduff advertised to be by Mr Hartigan's sales rooms on 7th March, is postponed to 28th March.

J. S. Harris, Scots Greys, and Mr. A. H. Fitzwayte, Grenadier Guards, have left the 10th Hotel, Castleconnell, for London.

Killaloe Slate Company has declared a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent per annum (instead of 4 per cent), last year carrying forward to next account.

We are glad to announce that, at the Competition held last week, in London, for the Medical Staff, Dr. Samuel Richard Wills, son of Canon Wills, Rector of Rathkeale, was a successful candidate.

The usual fortnightly sale at Hartigan's pad will be held on Saturday next, 28th February. The catalogue numbers up to 80 head of heifers, among which are some first-class. Our advertising columns contain parti-

cular notice of the diminution of the Army Medical Staff in this city, consequent on the departure of Colonel Major Patterson for the Soudan, the promotion of the Major-General of the Army Medical Department has appointed Dr. Nolan of the Crescent to Surgeon to the troops in the garrison.

An altogether unexpected boisterous gale blew up in the city this morning, attended with a heavy downpour of rain. The squall was extremely sudden, the glass up to last night rising to 50°. We have not heard of any serious damage being occasioned by the extremely strong

subscriptions to the Masonic Male and Female Orphan Schools, having become due, subscribers are requested to pay their donations in as possible to the Local Treasurer, the Rev. N. F. Seymour, Abington Rectory, Murroe. Contributions in his name will also be received at the Limerick Chronicle office.

to-night, and our general patrons during the week, not forgetting those kind friends who have presented me with this beautiful wreath, and with a word of hearty acknowledgment to the Limerick press, I beg most reluctantly to bid you farewell, and I do not think I can do so better than in the words of Shakespeare's Juliet, when she so naively remarks, "Stay but a little, I will come again!" We should not omit to add that the "Violet Gresham" of Miss Virginia Bateman (Mrs Compton) was all that could be desired, and that the other parts, especially those executed by Mr Lewis Ball and Mr William Calvert, were capitally enacted.

DEATH THROUGH EXCESSIVE DRINKING.

A good deal of excitement was caused yesterday amongst the poorer classes in consequence of a rumour being circulated that a prisoner in the William-street Police Barrack, a man named John Neiland, aged 23, had died from injuries inflicted by the constables while in custody. At the inquest, however, into the death of the man it was found that there was no grounds whatsoever for the unwarranted rumour. The inquest was held before Coroner DeCoursey, and a respectable jury, of which Mr Wm Herbert was the foreman, and the Mayor was also in attendance, Mr Doyle, sol, appearing for the friends of the deceased. Constables Sullivan and Maxwell deposed that on Thursday night they arrested the deceased in a lane near the railway station, he being drunk. They carried him to the William-street barrack where he was put into the strong-room. Sergeant Kelly deposed to having assisted the previous witness to carry Neiland to the barrack. Sergeant Conroy stated that he visited the deceased several times during the night; he was fast asleep on each occasion. He was lying in the corner of the room where the heat of a fire in an adjoining room penetrated. Not being able to wake him at 5 o'clock in the morning he took him into another room and placed him before the fire. He sent for medical assistance, but in spite of the efforts of Dr Holmes, Neiland died at 11 o'clock. Doctors Holmes and O'Connor gave evidence to the effect that the deceased died from inflammation of the lungs and congestion of the brain. The latter would be increased by alcohol. There were no marks of violence on the body. A companion of the deceased deposed that he was with Neiland when they rinsed out an empty whiskey barrel, and drank the liquor. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence, adding a rider to the effect that prisoners should be afforded clothing whilst in the cells during severe weather.

THE LIMERICK LYING-IN HOSPITAL.

The seventy-third Annual Report of the Limerick Lying-in Hospital, for the year ending 31st December, 1884, has just been issued, and is undeniably a most satisfactory one. The income of this valuable institution for the year has been £327 14s. 5d., and the gross expenditure £312 11s. 4d. The number of patients received into the hospital was 130, all of whom, it is most gratifying to learn, were discharged "in health and safety." We perceive with considerable pleasure that the Governesses have allocated the sum of £90 to repurchase, paint, and otherwise improve the hospital, and also to increase the number of beds from seven to sixteen, in two divisions—one for lying-in cases, and the other for the treatment of diseases peculiar to women and children. A dispensary for extern patients, where the poor will get medical treatment and medicines free, has also been opened. The ladies who constitute the Managing and Visiting Committees must be congratulated upon the admirable and effective condition of this most useful of our local institutions. If we were to select from among their number one, to whose assiduity and careful management is due a great deal of the success which has been attained, we should say that no commonplace commendation is due to the lady Treasurer, Mrs. T. E. O'Brien, whose interest in the welfare of the institution

general ratepayers of the city. The majority in favour of the constabulary, but if there was a poll taken it would not be a very large one; he was not in favour of having the constabulary to do duty.

Mr Connolly—If there were £500 saved to the city by the substitution of police for night-watchmen, which do you think the opinion of your constituents in the Castle Ward would be in favour of?

Mr M'Sweeney said he believed the ratepayer who sent him into the council would now vote with him in favour of the night-watch, although there might be a loss of 2d in a pound.

Ald. Counihan, J.P., deposed that he was years a member of the Council; was Mayor of Limerick for two years, and is a magistrate from his experience as a corporator and citizen he considered the night-watch inefficient, did not think there was any chance of successfully carrying out the resolution proposed by Mr Bernal to reform the night-watch; with him he believed that the night-watch could be dispersed with and the city preserved day and night by 80 men at present in the city, that is if they were left to their proper duties, and not placed on protective or office duty; with the exception of parliamentary elections or proceedings of that kind a necessity would not arise, he believed, for employment of more than 80 police for day night duty; a policeman instead of every watchman would very effectively do the night watching, but he was not to be taken as meaning that these police were to be added to the 80 men; the police for day duty should be reduced to about 50 men he believed employers and men having a say in the city would prefer the change even if there was no saving in money; the night-watch made Limerick a bye-word in the United Kingdom and beyond it, and it had been saved further discredit by the members of the Corporation being excluded in the interest of the city and the interest of the Corporation attending the meetings of the V.C. Committee in order that they should not report the disclosures that have been made there and that have been continued made up to this very hour. An effort had been made to get a better class of men as night watchmen, but it failed completely. He considered that there should be a disinterested tribunal that the citizens would have confidence in before which they could make any complaint they might consider necessary regarding the performance of the duty by the police court constituted by the Mayor, Resident Magistrate, and High Sheriff, would he consider quite competent to hear complaints against police.

To the Mayor—He would give that to the power of dismissal, and empower them to make suggestions, or more than suggestions regarding the regulating of beats, &c. There are certain members of the community and some abiding citizens who were against giving up watching of the city at night to the police.

To Mr Hall—He did not think the system of any improvement could be administered with credit to the city, and it ought to have been done away with years ago.

To Mr Fitzgerald—He believed that the Mayor could do all the day duty (including night and detective duty) in the city.

In answer to the Mayor, he entirely denied the necessity of the proclamation; it was unjustifiable, and was very detrimental to the interests of the city; the city was proclaimed the day that he was presenting with a deputation from the Corporation an address of welcome to the Lord Lieutenant; only that the state of the city was misrepresented to the Executive Council; he believed the proclamation would never have been issued; if Mr. M'Carthy (one of the corporators), in whom the people of Limerick had confidence, remained here instead of Mr. Lloyd, the proclamation would not have been issued; the extra police in Limerick were required, as he stated on many occasions.

The inquiry was then adjourned.