

Perish the thought. Of course Sir Ralph could not be expected to consult the interests of his rival. It is not a way competitors have. But Sir Ralph thinks a big balance and a five per cent dividend before the object of his attentions, and the natural result follows as a matter of course. The wealthy suitor is accepted and is happy, but now Sir James has his little proposal to make, and perhaps the situation may be reversed.

In the House of Commons last night, Mr Gladstone referred to the Irish proposals of the Government in a pacific—almost a friendly—spirit, which, of course, may not be inconsistent with strong antagonism later on. He admitted the improved state of the country, though he did not enter into the question how far this satisfactory state of things is due to the action of coercive measures or to the influence of hope and the advantages of better agricultural returns. He expressed himself as having heard with satisfaction of a Bill for the establishment of local government, and desired that it would be conceived in a liberal spirit, which, if calculated to effect good, he hoped would be accepted; but at the same time he anticipated that its main effect would be to produce agitation. The right hon gentleman then proceeded to refer to the second great remedial measure, namely, the Land Purchase Bill. He pronounced that if this be carried out "under due financial control" he would be disposed to give "fair and reasonable consideration" to any proposals to that effect. This is not exactly the attitude which it was expected the Opposition, or at least that portion led by Mr Gladstone, would have assumed towards the Irish proposals of the Government. It was expected Mr Gladstone would have joined the Parnellites and extreme Radicals in opposing every measure for improving the condition of this country on the plea that Home Rule must come first, and that all else be left to a local parliament to arrange at its own sweet will. How far Mr Gladstone's remarks lead to the suggestion of a difference of policy between the extreme wings of the party yet remains to be seen.

28 men from the Depot of the Worcestershire Regiment, have been ordered to join the 2nd Batt. at Limerick on the 20th inst.

The Ladies' Cooking Lecture at the Athenæum will not be held on Monday next, 17th inst, as the hall will otherwise be engaged. The Tuesday lecture as usual.

REVOCATION OF ARMS LICENSES.—The Lord Lieutenant has revoked the arms licences of Wm Murphy, of Camas, in the parish of Killeedy; Martin Foley, of Ballinvallig, in the parish of Monagay; James Mahony, of Cullenagh, in the parish of Monagay, and John Murphy, of Camas, in the parish of Killeedy, all in the county of Limerick.

THE LIMERICK ASYLUM BOARD.—We learn that the Privy Council have appointed Captain Edward Croker, D.L., The Grange, and Mr James Green Barry, J.P., George-street, Limerick, to be Governors of the District Lunatic Asylum. These vacancies have been created by the resignation of Lord Emly and Captain Mark Maunsell, J.P., who relinquished office since the list of 1890 was published. We are glad the authorities have made so good a selection—the gentlemen appointed being old Governors of the Asylum, and intimately acquainted with the details of its working.

M'CARNEY'S CATTLE SALES.—On Saturday next,

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR. ARTHUR RUSSELL.

The remains of the late Mr. Arthur Russell, senior surviving member of the firm of Messrs John Norris Russell & Son's, and the oldest of our city merchants, were interred to-day in the family vault, St. John's Church-yard. The morning was very inclement, there being a heavy fall of sleet, which rendered everything out of doors most unpleasant, but notwithstanding the funeral was very large and most representative, citizens and country people being present to a very considerable number. The cortege left Lemonfield, Kilpeacon, the residence of the deceased, shortly after eleven o'clock. The chief mourners were—Messrs John and William Russell, sons, John N. Russell, Edmund M. Russell, and Norris Russell, J.P., nephews; and Mr Vere Hunt, son-in-law. The following members of the office staff were present—Messrs Frederick T. Finch, Thomas Fitzgerald, Thomas Grubb, J. H. Thompson, John M'Donnell, Edward Meade, A. Switzer, P. Corbett, R. Williams, J. Kidd and Wm. Owens.

Amongst those also present were—The Dean of Limerick, Canon Gregg, Rev W. J. Clarke, Rev J Dowd, Rev J. W. Hudson, Mr J. F. Bahnatyne, Mr J. E. Murphy, Bank of Ireland; Mr R. Blennerhasset, Mr F. G. M. Kennedy, J.P., Mr Richd. J. Lee, Mr S. E. Lee, Mr J. G. Barry, J.P., Mr Wm Spillane, J.P., Mr Alexander, Mr A W Shaw, J.P., Mr J. Thompson Shaw, Mr J Matterson, J.P., the Mayor, the City High Sheriff, Alderman Gaffney, J.P., Mr Hogg, Mr Z. Myles, J.P., Mr P. Kenna, Mr Wm Leahy, solicitor; Mr D. Tidmarsh, Mr S. Dowling, J.P., Mr E. Kerin, J.P., Mr Gubbins Kilpeacon; Sir James Spaight, J.P., Mr H. R. Newsome, Mr James Harris, Mr J. F. Power, Mr C. H. Fitt, Mr E. G. Fitt, Mr Cunningham, Mr Wilkinson, The Crescent; Mr Charles Evans, Mr J. Morton, Manager Provincial Bank; Mr O. Wallace, J.P.; Mr J. J. Cleary, J.P.; Mr P. Cronin, Colonel Hunt, Captain Hunt, R.N.; Mr George Gloster, Mr T. E. Bunting, Mr Marcus Slade, Mr W. Roger, Colonel Finch, Mr J. T. U. Hunt, Mr Christy, Mr F. Cantillon, Mr Green, Greenmount; Mr E. Langley Hunt, Mr C. Evans, Mr Enright, Glentworth street; Mr T. W. Browning, Carass; Mr Bennett, J.P., Rathanny; Mr Raleigh, Glentworth street; Mr Thomas Fosbery, Mr George Fosbery, Mr William J. Hall, B.E.; Mr George Boyd, Mr Barnett, McBirney and Co; Mr Herriott, Mr Richard Smith, William street; Mr Johnstone, V.S.; Mr W. Bassett, Mr R. Hanna, Mr F. St C. Hobson, Messrs. John Price, and W. R. Price, Askeaton; Mr A. C. Wallace, Town Clerk; Captain Beck, Mr John Guinane, J.P.

The following sent carriages:—The Messrs Russell, Mrs Russell, Mrs Browning, Carass; Mr J. R. Kelly, J.P., Islanmore, Mr D. Tidmarsh, Mr Grubb, Mr S. Dowling, J.P.; Mr James F. Bannatyne, Mr R. Hunt, J.P.; Rev Chancellor Gubbins, Mrs O'Callaghan, Mr J. Matterson, J.P.; Mrs Wallace. Mr Maunsell, Mr R. Smith, Mr F. G. M. Kennedy, J.P.; Mr P. Johnson, V.S.; Mr Tubridy, Major Maunsell, Mr Fitzgerald (Russell and Sons), Mr James Shine, J.P.; Mr T. E. O'Brien, D.L., South-hill; Mr F.W. M'Carthy, Mr Green, Mr R. Hanna, Mr James Quin, J.P.; Mr W. S. Cox, C.E.; Mr T. Fosbery, Mr Wm. Leahy, solicitor; Mr H.V. D'Esterre, J.P.; Mr O'Brien, Mr George Boyd, Mr J. R. Tinsly, J.P.; Mr Fitzgerald, Mr Hobson, Mr James Harris, Mrs Bannatyne, Woodsdown; Mr A. W. Shaw, J.P.; Mr T. A. Ferguson, Captain Bennett, Mr Lysaght, Mr O. D. Coll, V.S., Thomas-street; Mr G. Furnell, Abbeyville, Croom; Mr Furnell, Fort George, Kilpeacon, Mr Blennerhasset.

The officiating clergy were the Rev Canon Gregg, and Rev W. J. Clarke. The former gentleman, towards the close of the service, which was of the ordinary character, delivered a very impressive address in reference to the deceased gentleman.

The coffin was covered with beautiful wreaths of lilies, violets and ferns, sent by many friends. It was a heavy mounted polished oak with massive brass mountings, and in it was enclosed a mahogany shell, nicely upholstered in satin. Messrs P.M. Carthy and Sons were the undertakers, and carried out the arrangements in their usual satisfactory manner.

THE BACON TRADE DISPUTE.

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST MESSRS DENNY AND MATTERSON.

THE QUESTION OF JURISDICTION.—COUNSEL'S OPINION.

At the usual weekly Court of Conscience yesterday, presided over by the Mayor (Mr W. J. O'Donnell), the case of Edward Cummins, pork butcher, against Messrs Denny and Sons for the recovery of £1 8s, being the amount of a week's wages in lieu of a week's notice, came before the court. On the previous court day the case was introduced before Alderman Walker, *locum tenens* for the Mayor, but his Worship's jurisdiction was questioned by the defendants' solicitor, Mr Beauchamp, and as a consequence the case was adjourned for the attendance of the Mayor. In the meantime, however, his Worship took the opinion of Mr D. B. Sullivan, Q.C., on the matter, the result being an expression of opinion that the Court of Conscience had no jurisdiction in the present case. Had an opinion been given favourable to the complainant, all the other employees of Messrs Denny and Sons and Messrs Matterson, who were dismissed under similar circumstances had decided to pursue a like course, which would have involved a sum of about £300 to the defendants. The Court was crowded.

Mr J. H. Moran, solicitor, appeared for the complainant; and Mr W. M. Beauchamp, solicitor, represented the defendants.

The complainant, Edward Cummins, having been sworn,

Mr Moran asked—What are you? A pork butcher.

In whose employment were you? Messrs Denny and Sons.

What were your weekly wages? £1 8s.

When did they discharge you? On last Saturday week at three o'clock, without a moment's notice.

Did they pay you £1 8s? No.

Mr Moran—That's my case, and I ask for a decree.

Mr Beauchamp—I appeared for Messrs Denny on the last day before your *locum tenens* and raised the question of jurisdiction, and the evidence that you have before you shows that the action is not one for wages or for the recovery of a small debt, but is an action for damages for wrongful dismissal without notice. On that I fully contended before your *locum tenens* on the last day that you had not jurisdiction. I understand that since that your Worship has taken counsel's opinion as to whether you had that jurisdiction or not, and what that opinion is it is for you to announce.

Mr Moran—Mr Mayor, I don't question your right to take the opinion of counsel; you had a perfect right to do so; but at the same time I consider it was rather unfortunate that you did so, because for generations claims similar to the one brought here by Edward Cummins have been entertained by scores of your worship's predecessors. They always considered that they had jurisdiction to entertain those claims, and I ask you now—notwithstanding the opinion of counsel which I have read; notwithstanding Mr Sullivan's opinion, and which, with all respect to him, I believe to be utterly wrong—for I say the moment these men were dismissed without notice, they were entitled to make a liquidated demand for one week's wages in lieu of notice—I ask you to exercise your jurisdiction. In my opinion you have undoubted jurisdiction to give a decree in this case, and in order that your worship may not suffer anything by the exercise of that jurisdiction, the men of the Pork Butcher's Association are prepared to guarantee or indemnify your worship in any way you think proper for anything you might suffer by the exercise of that jurisdiction.

Mr Beauchamp—In reply to the observations of Mr Moran, I must say for a professional gentleman to ask your worship to ignore the opinion of eminent counsel, and to suggest to your worship to go against that opinion is unprecedented in the annals of the profession.

Mr Moran—Oh, nonsense, unprecedented.

Mr Beauchamp—Yes, unprecedented. "That's what it is."

Mr Moran—Take care of yourself and the Times.