

carefully safeguarded in his hands.

THE REV DR WILSON AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND.

The *Witness*, referring to those ministers unavoidably absent from the last meeting of the General Assembly, has the following:—"Among the absentees in the ministerial ranks were several prominent and potent factors in ecclesiastical life. Dr Wilson (Limerick), tall and commanding in stature, as straight in mental and moral build as in physical form—a man with an innate capacity for Church work, whether of the deliberative or spiritual kind, for years a kind of continuous Moderator, whether in the chair or on the floor of the Assembly—was, to the regret of all, not able to be present; and though the illness which detained him at home is not, we are glad to hear, of a serious kind, all were sorry for the absence of one so wise in counsel, so able in debate, and so mentally and spiritually clear-sighted; and if the part he played in the deliberations of the Church was practically in commission, and was as well done as a Commission usually does such things, all missed the genial Nestor to whom leaders, authorised and unauthorised, used to listen with the reverential respect due to commanding personal influence." The *Witness* has not, in the opinion of Limerick people, said a word too much in favour of Dr Wilson, and they are glad to know that a due sense of his worth is not confined to those amongst whom he has dwelt for close on half a century. Dr Wilson has now completely recovered from the illness which detained him at home.

THE SAD DROWNING FATALITY AT THE KING'S ISLAND.

The remains of the late Private Miller, Royal Highlanders (Black Watch), who was accidentally drowned while bathing last Friday morning, were interred yesterday afternoon, with full military honours. The cortege left the New Barracks at two o'clock, and on its way to the King's Island burial place, passed through the Military Road, George-street, and Patrick-street, at slow march, the brass band and the pipers playing the dead marches alternately. The firing party, consisting of thirteen men with arms reversed, headed the procession, after which followed the band, and next the gun carriage, which bore the coffin draped with the Union Jack, and bearing a number of wreaths. Two brothers of the deceased followed the coffin, and then some companies in double file, after which came a number of hussars, also in double file, three officers bringing up the rear—viz., Adjutant the Hon A. Murray in command, and First Lieutenants MacFarlane and Eykyns. An immense crowd attended, even as far as the King's Island, upon nearing which the pipers played the "Adeste Fideles." The Service was performed by the Rev Dr Wilson, and the Army Chaplain, the Rev Mr Chapman.

The body of Sergeant Todd was recovered yesterday afternoon near where the drowning fatality took place. It was conveyed to the New Barracks, where an inquest was held to-day at one o'clock, and a verdict of accidental death returned. The funeral left the Barracks about two o'clock for the King's Island Cemetery, where the remains were interred with the customary honours. They were followed to their last resting place by the men of the regiment, a body of Hussars, and a detachment of the Munster Fusiliers, under Lieutenant Kimmet. A brother-in-law of the deceased acted as chief mourner. The officer in command, Major Coode, was accompanied by Adjutant the Hon A. Murray, First-Lieutenants Eykyns and Stewart, and Second-Lieutenants Hamilton and Ewart. The Rev Dr. Wilson officiated. A very large number of the general public accompanied the funeral through the streets.

worked for the profit of somebody else—whether that is to say, they should do their own business or pay someone to do it for them—is at first sight almost a foolish one to ask (hear, hear). And yet when we began to advocate "Co-operative Dairying" we were told by all our candid friends, more particularly by those who prided themselves on a special knowledge of the Irish character, that we were wasting our time, that we should never get the farmers to join together as they would have no confidence in us, and that if they did not combine their societies would fly to pieces as they would have no confidence in each other. Well, there was some reason in these fears, especially if we look back and never look forward. I am not sorry that our friends should exercise great caution in distinguishing between false friends and true. For when we have earned each others confidence we shall work with a greater zeal, because we shall know that that confidence will last. Some people were always reminding us of the conduct of certain boards of guardians which, perhaps, without exaggeration, may be called unbusinesslike (hear, hear). I have great confidence in the feeling that men are dealing solely with their own property and their own affairs as a potent agency to enforce the observance of business principles. Besides there is a general determination among the new societies to exclude political and religious affairs in the conduct of their business (hear, hear). The most serious difficulty we have to encounter is technical ignorance. It is this alone which seems for the time to bar our further progress. It is this which enables the proprietor with his better opportunities of going about and obtaining knowledge, with his larger capital available for the employment of skilled labour—his commercial instinct which shows itself in readiness to work at a loss rather than close his factory when a future profit is in sight (hear, hear)—all these advantages enable him to laugh at the attempts of ignorant farmers to get back the management and the profits of a business which from time immemorial had belonged to the tiller of the soil. Now, we who are met here to-day are determined to work out this problem—how to combine the advantages of community of interest, which are inherent in popular control, with the greater efficiency of the one man management (hear, hear). We are confident that our system, with its equitable division of profits, its spirit of mutual help, its government of the people for the people by the people, must ultimately prevail (applause). But we recognise the advantage which the proprietor has in his greater knowledge, and this we must obtain and circulate amongst ourselves. As a first instalment of this educational movement we have set before us, as you see, a very elaborate list of subjects for discussion. But the great principle to grasp is this—that if we want our movement to have the one-man advantages, we must, whenever circumstances admit, act as one man (hear, hear). You will see that the subjects for discussion comprise several suggestions by which these societies can and ought to act in co-operation with each other. And if this conference results in a step forward—I think it will, and a long one, too—let not the benefit of this friendly exchange of ideas be limited to us who are present. Let us each act as missionaries to all with whom we would work, and let not the extreme difficulty of the subjects we have to discuss—the feeling how little we know, how much there is to learn which grows upon all honest learners—damp our ardour. Depend upon it that the work will bring its reward to those who are struggling thereby to improve their mutual position in greater comfort and a manlier independence; to those who are not themselves pecuniarily concerned in the sense that they have helped to build up a brighter and happier future for our disheartened country. And may I conclude with a word upon my own position with regard to this movement. The Government have done me the honour of asking

The (afford to agency, to the b depende they co underta agency butter e sider v agency support Mr E the opin the sub; them so Mr I started butter t the app away w be fair; an Eng would t country tion was they wo Mr O butter t to Lime sent to Engl Mr R spirit o approve the pro to get : was the they go he wou far as b put his; his foot and he no mat produce one our Perish the cou He hon work a did not co-oper Mr I thing a anythin man th case it to find Arisi Mr Stol agents, Mr 8 to come After mously seconde printed panies should represe consid Mr A a Boar he stat compl admissi ferred, for the those y profitat gallons lished i porters if they their n

render it the more English appetites d un-coal-sprinkled Brittany may have sh industries are as mple as this treat- t a public meeting. he part of ignorant negligent public depress everything ent with or without n this country, and ss. The delegates re connected with t only, and met to hich have arisen as Papers were read, n them which were -like manner that pon the delegates. akett, read an able e taken in order to airy societies to the he members content by which an agent producer and the re an agent of their o be said on both was decided to print amongst the members ortant matter might cussed before a final The division of pro- question arising out e taken all the risks ation of the factory, ss is secured others ving had a share in l the advantages of This was referred to for decision. Again considered in order eameries competing a second factory nvenient term, the occupied by a kindred O'Callaghan read a actical paper on sting of milk and quality were also and papers by Hibson dealt with t importance to . The discussions l in the best possible tion to the purposes d met. Mr Plunkett and exhibited great meeting as well as all the details con-