

amounted to a demonstration of the *Freeman*. But more remains to be done. We walked into the Tory lobby—not in the time we believe—and voted against the Tory party on a Home Rule question. That eminent statesman, Mr. Parnell, the gentleman with the barrelled appellation was not to be written with the whole Irish party. As first mentioned some witty members of the party said he had a name which was of sliding down stairs. Sir John was charmed by the eminent Scotch orator did he hearken to the somewhat comical efforts of those who tried to explain to him that he was wrong. “He shook off the dust of the *Freeman*,” and went on, “and went wrong, and flouted, in the face of the party and all his North Kilkenny friends had been telling the electors of that that, if they did not return Sir John Rule was lost.” The Baronet is still. He dined on Saturday last, with Lord Ashbourne, “the great equalised coercion in Ireland,” and his company was Lord Morris, “the peer.” The *Freeman* chuckles very little ex-Governor of Hong Kong, retaining “the two sneering pals,” and of the work the ex-convict did as a stiletcomer, and ask would he flout of Mr Parnell as airily as he Mr McCarthy.”

At meetings of residents of Ennis and contiguous to it have recently been held at that town for the purpose of protesting against the rumoured intention of the Board to close Ennis College. It would appear to have arisen in a somewhat excited manner. The master (Dr. O’Connell) on promotion to another post shortly afterwards it was reported, with some authority, that the Board had declined on withdrawing its support from this important educational establishment was at once taken by several of the gentlemen, and a deputation was sent to interview the Board in Dublin. The interview was communicated to a meeting of the Board on Saturday last.

CONCERT AT NENAGH.—A very successful concert in aid of the Christian Brothers Schools was held on a few evenings since at Nenagh. Mr Kendall Irwin, organist of St. John’s Cathedral, Limerick, was conductor, and the following well-known vocalists from this city contributed to the programme—Mrs Casack, Mr Peter Cronin, and Mr Hewson, each of whom were very warmly applauded. Mr P. F. Reddy, and Mr J. P. Gaffney, were unable to sing owing to a cold.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—APPEAL IN AID OF MISSIONS.—On Sunday last the annual Sermon in aid of Foreign Missions was preached in the Presbyterian Church, Glentworth street, by the Rev. Dr. Wilson, D.D., Minister. In response to the appeal a sum of over £47 was laid on the collection plates, and this was further increased by contributions from those who were absent. Considering the number of members of the Presbyterian Church in Limerick and the many appeals which have been recently made, the collection at the Service on Sunday morning is surprising from its magnitude.

HARTIGAN’S HORSE REPOSITORY. SALES DURING THE FAIR.—In our advertising columns we publish programme of sales to be held at this Repository by Mr Wm. B. Fitt. The list includes some well-bred stallions, particularly “Puzzler,” by Old Victor, a very promising country sire, and Shanid-a-Boo by the Rover, dam East Lancashire, fashionable blood and should tell at the stud, and a two year old by “Hillingdon.” The special auction takes place on Thursday at two o’clock. The catalogues number some very useful lots. The great quarterly auction on Friday at one o’clock. Several horse vans, float, &c., are entered for this day’s sale.

SHOCKING FATALITY.—A very sad fatality occurred this evening at the docks. A vessel called the “Garryreoghan” is undergoing repairs in the dry dock, and this afternoon a sailor named Robert Petrie was walking along the gangway to the ship, when the planks gave way, and the ill-fated man fell a distance of about 30 feet, sustaining shocking injuries. He was immediately conveyed to his house, in the Windmill, where he was attended by Father Ryan, O.P., but the poor fellow succumbed to his injuries in a short time. Four other men were about following him on the plank, and they seemed to have had a marvellous escape, one of them falling and severely injuring his wrist. Deceased was about 47 years of age, and had intended signing articles previous to his joining the crew of the vessel. He was a widower and a native of Limerick.

PRESENTATION TO MR F. MUSPRATT.

We are pleased to learn that the members of St Mary’s Cathedral choir last evening presented the talented organist, Mr Frank Muspratt, on the occasion of his marriage, with a very handsome marble clock, together with an address, of which the following is a copy. The clock was supplied by Mr Cromer, of 18, George-street. Limerick, January 26, 1891. To Francis Muspratt, Esq, A.C.O, Organist, St

THE RAILWAY STRIKE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE.
 DEAR SIR.—If the interview had been reported which was given by Sir James Spaight to a deputation, consisting of the Right Worshipful Mayor, the ex-Mayor, Messrs Shaw, the warden and others, on behalf of the late employee Saturday, January 10th, at the Chamber of Commerce, there would have been no occasion for the letter of Sir James Spaight, nor for your lead last Saturday’s *Chronicle*, for the business of 10th inst. went in very substance over the ground. And as to the refusal of Sir J. Spaight to receive a deputation (?) I question the propriety of any one reported to have charged with the absence of sympathy for the men, and the discourtesy to any of his fellow-citizens.

After having ascertained the views of the deputation, he expressed his willingness as far as his personal influence was concerned to be in favour of the men. He said the men had thrown up their employment at a very critical time, when the passenger, parcel, and goods traffic was at its maximum, and when even skilled men were scarcely able to work out the traffic, without confusion. That the directors had issued no offer of constant employment to good men would apply for work. That numbers had resigned. That some were good, some bad, some very bad. And as the unsuitability of many became apparent, the directors would give proper consideration to, and for those who had inconsiderately thrown up their employment. Asked if he would recommend the board to order that whenever a vacancy occurred it should be filled by their servants? He replied it would give him no pleasure to do so. Asked if the men gave expression to their regret for having left the company’s service would he take them all back? He replied that it was impossible. The directors were bound in honour to maintain and support the contract they had made in good faith with the deserving men who had served when left helpless by the parties represented by the deputation; and that the good and deserving men employed to meet the emergency were much entitled to the consideration of the Board as were their late misled servants. It was presented to Sir James Spaight that the men were willing to return; that they regretted the precipitate course they had taken; and more that they were some of the most respectable and oldest servants of the Company. Reply:—It was the more unfortunate that they should have placed themselves and the directors of the Company in such false positions with the public. My recollection serves me, that the meeting was of one mind, anxious and desirous of placing the men in the best possible position, and they were in every way encouraged by the representation of Sir James Spaight, to whom I had the honour of proposing the thanks of the meeting.

Judge my astonishment when reporting the result of our mediation to the men, that they would not or could not go back, under the entire number now out, were reinstated. If this to be unreasonable, and I ask any one who may take a different view from me, to devise the directors some plan by which they can take faith with the men who came to them at a time of emergency, and who are giving daily proof of good conduct. Of course they cannot be expected to work as well as the old hands.