

the fact. One most important matter regarding which many complaints have from time to time arisen is the transit of butter—the loose and careless manner in which firkins are knocked about from post to pillar being most detrimental to the industry in every respect. The railway companies are giving additional attention to the subject at the present moment, and it would appear from Mr Stokes's statement on yesterday that special vans are being made for the transit of butter. So far so good, but still the meeting deemed it advisable to direct the special attention of the railway companies to the subject, and in the interests alike of butter producers, merchants, and the companies themselves, we think they were quite right in keeping the matter to the front and backing up the steps already taken by the Co-operative Dairying Society. On the motion of Mr Stokes, seconded by Mr Slattery, a resolution was passed impressing "most strongly on all railway companies over whose system the butter traffic is carried, the absolute necessity of providing suitable waggons for its transit, and not have it loaded in the dirty manner which at present exists, and we also wish to point out to them the constant complaints, arising from careless handling and the dirty manner in which butters are delivered to our customers, and how very unfavourably this compares with foreign butters, which have to be carried over a much larger distance." The Waterford and Limerick Railway naturally formed the subject of discussion at the same meeting, and the opinion of the merchants was unanimous in opposing amalgamation with either the Midland or Great Southern and Western. The resolutions speak so fully for themselves that there is no necessity for enlarging on them, except to point to the fact that the merchants join with the other bodies in Limerick—such as the Harbour Board and Corporation—in urging on the Waterford and Limerick Directors the extreme importance of appointing on the Board "some of our leading Limerick merchants whose business capabilities would ensure a more satisfactory working of the line than has been the case in the past." The resolutions were ordered to be sent to the Directors before their meeting on the 23rd instant, when, in all probability, the two vacancies on the Board will be filled up with it is to be hoped, due regard to the wishes of the traders and citizens of Limerick.

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Mr J. B. Irwin, R. M., and Mr O'Donnell, presided at the City Police Court this morning and had only one case, a charge of drunkenness, on which to adjudicate.

COUNTY LIMERICK HUNT.—Owing to the lamented death of Robert M. Hunt, Esq., J.P., Inchourrke, the County Foxhounds will not meet at Castle Hewson on Friday, the 10th inst.

A joint meeting of the committees, appointed by the Limerick Corporation, the Harbour Board, and the Chamber of Commerce, in reference to the Waterford and Limerick Railway, will be held at the Chamber of Commerce on to-morrow (Friday) at half-past twelve o'clock.

Mr Emma Holmes has received the thanks of the Princess Mary of Teck for his pathetic poem addressed to her and recently published in our columns. In acknowledging the verses, her Secretary adds:—"Her Serene Highness was deeply touched, and is very grateful."

IRISH BILLS.—The Irish Bills which were brought in and read a first time on yesterday, include the following:—Mr O'Keefe—Bill for Making Better Provision for the Housing of the Working Classes in Irish Cities and Towns. Mr Wm. Abraham—Bill for the Better Development of Fisheries in Ireland. Mr Finucane—Bill for

bishops, bishops, and ecclesiastics; influential personages in the old and new world; but to Mr O'Hart no literary pension has yet come. Mr O'Hart is better entitled than many now on the list to a substantial literary pension which would have him free from the cares and anxieties of old age, while prosecuting his "labour of love"—his ethnological and genealogical researches, the outcome of which, up to the present time, is contained in the latest voluminous editions of his "Irish Pedigrees," and "Irish Landed Gentry when Cromwell came to Ireland," now published by the eminent firm of James Duffy and Co. Dublin, and which we hope soon to notice in our literature columns.—National Press.

FINDING OF A DEAD BODY IN THE DOCKS.

This afternoon Mr Coroner DeCoursey and a jury, of which Mr Michael Waters was foreman, held an inquest at the City Courthouse touching the death of a man named Edward Walsh, whose body was found in the Shannon at Mountkenett Quay on the previous day.

Sergeant Flynn watched the case on behalf of the police.

Michael Sheahan identified the body as that of Edward Walsh, whom he had known for several years. Deceased was a labourer, and was also in the City Militia, and lodged in witness's house some time ago. He was a man of quiet disposition, and witness had no reason to believe that there was any ill-feeling towards him.

Sergeant Flynn deposed to having received information on yesterday morning that a body was floating in the water at Mount Kennett Quay; he had the body removed to the morgue, and on deceased's clothes being searched, a threepenny bit, four halfpence, a small purse, a beads, and two pawn tickets, the writing on which was obliterated, were found in them; the body presented the appearance of having been for some time in the water; he had ascertained that deceased belonged to Rathcannon, near Bruff, and his friends were communicated with.

Dr Shanahan stated that he examined the body, the upper portion of which and the head were becoming decomposed, and from the external appearance of the general organs, he was of opinion that death resulted from drowning. There were no visible marks of violence, and he should say that the body had been in the water for the last twelve or thirteen days.

The jury found a verdict that death was due to drowning.

DISGRACEFUL CONDITION OF THE MORGUE.

The foreman said he desired to draw the Coroner's attention to the state of the morgue, which he described as inhuman. The clothes of several dead persons which had been laid there were allowed to remain, and the place generally was in a disgraceful condition. He thought that the attention of the Corporation should be called to the state of the place, with the view of having it put in a proper condition and suitable for its intended purpose. There was no provision made for washing a doctor's hands after he examined a body.

The Coroner said he thought something had been done to improve the place since attention was previously called to its condition.

Mr Waters said nothing appeared to have been done.

The Coroner said he would have the recommendation of the jury brought under the notice of the proper authorities.

Dr Shanahan said the morgue was really in a scandalous state. Old clothes were allowed to remain there, and it was simply a desecration of the dead to bring a corpse into the place. Nothing had been done towards its improvement, and it was time that the matter should be brought under notice.

COUNTY PETTY SESSIONS.

Mr J. B. Irwin, R. M., presided at these sessions to-day.

PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE CRUELTY TO ANIMALS ACT.

Constable Curran summoned Denis Keefe for having, at Rhebogue meadows, on the 26th January, worked a horse which was in an unfit state. The constable gave evidence as to the condition of the animal, and said it could not have been worked without causing pain. Sergeant Hutchinson gave corroborative evidence. The defendant's father said there was only a slight case on the horse, and that he had padded it as

crease on year, 25. Children, two to five decrease on year, 14. Infants under two, 41 crease, 3. Women nursing latter classes increase on year, 0. Total healthy, 9 6. Ge hospital, 571; increase on year, 9. Fever pital, 33; increase on year, 29. Lun (male), 63; increase on year, 2. Do. (fen 57; increase on year, 5. Total sick, 714. sick and healthy, 1,680.

Cost of provisions and stimulants consumed the house—

Cost present week—Provisions, £242 16 stimulants, £9 5s 9d.

Corresponding week last year—Provisions 15s 5d; stimulants, £7 18s 6d.

General average weekly cost, 2s 11d.

Number on outdoor relief, 1,468; cost, £28 13s 6d. Corresponding week last year, 1,532; cost of do., £31 0.

The minutes of the last meeting were res confirmed.

THE MASTER'S REPORT.

The Master reported that the hall-port returned from hospital and resumed duty he thought that his health was broken down that he could not form the duties satisfactorily, although was doing his best.

Mr Fitzgerald—I consider that he is the duty very well.

Mr O'Farrell asked Doctor Nolan's opinion and in reply, Doctor Nolan said that he had been suffering from bronchitis, but was recovered, and was capable of performing duties, if he attended to them.

Hartigan was called before the Board stated that he felt in very good health.

The Chairman said his position was important one and if the duties devolved on him were not properly performed it was the duty of the Guardians to take steps to the office properly filled.

THE CONSUMPTION OF EGGS.

The Chairman called attention to the fact the consumption of eggs in the house was enormous. There were 120 dozen of eggs which they had to pay £25, and that was one week's consumption, which would, at the rate of consumption, amount to £250 a year. was certainly an enormous expenditure.

Mr O'Farrell—That consumption would continue for a year round.

Dr Nolan assigned the cause for such consumption of eggs to the fact that the house was crowded, and some of the patients preferred eggs instead of meat.

Mr Bourke—Do you substitute eggs for Dr Nolan—Certainly, and a great many take eggs and have no meat.

The Chairman said they should impress medical officers the necessity of economy in the administration of the hospital.

Lord Clarina—Are eggs used in any part of the hospital?

Dr Nolan—No. Eggs are only used in fever and general hospitals.

The Clerk—With the exception of what officers get as rations.

THE RATE COLLECTORS.

The Clerk said he wished to draw the attention of the guardians to the fact that the rate collectors were lagging behind in their collection (hear, hear). There were almost £5 standing in the Union, and if the board would direct the Clerk to have the estimate prepared the 25th of March it would be necessary, as small amount of the rates outstanding, and he suggested that some resolution be adopted with regard to the matter.

Mr Gabbett—Has the second period of months expired?

The Clerk—No, sir. They have got 5th of May to complete their collection.

Mr Gabbett—After that any rates collected are arrears?

The Clerk—They are, sir.

The Chairman—It is right to mention there has been no lodgments from the rate collectors during the past week; nor, the previous week.

The Clerk—There were some the week: Mr Lane lodged £29 1s 3d. lodgment this week is from Mr Harris.

The Chairman—We ought to call on the rate collectors to be more active.

The Clerk—Because I want all the rates to get.

In reply to the Guardians, The Clerk said the amount outstanding