

which he hoped to reciprocate for the remainder of his life, whether it be long or short. There were numbers of friends of his in the Council who, he felt quite sure, would have voted for him had they not previously pledged themselves in another direction. During his term of office, he would endeavour to uphold the dignity of High Sheriff—he would endeavour to do his duty fearlessly and independently to the citizens at large. He could not thank them sufficiently, and he promised them he would carry out the functions of High Sheriff according to law. He wished them all a happy new year (applause).

Alderman Dundon proposed a vote of thanks to the out-going High Sheriff, Mr Bourke. He was sure he was only expressing the feelings of every member of the Council when he said the thanks of the Council were due to Mr Bourke for his dignified conduct as Sheriff during his year of office. It was unnecessary for him to say anything on behalf of their fellow citizen, Mr Bourke, who had now become a member, and he trusted would be a useful member of the Town Council. He was quite satisfied if he brought into it the capacity he had displayed in business as a citizen of Limerick that it would be of advantage to the Town Council. His conduct during his year of office merited the thanks of the Town Council and the citizens, and he had great pleasure in proposing the resolution.

Mr Kenna seconded the resolution, which he said was thoroughly deserved.

It was passed unanimously.

Mr Bourke, who was received with applause, returned thanks. He carried out the duties of the office as well as he could, and endeavoured in every respect as he had promised at the beginning of the year not to allow the dignity of the ancient office of High Sheriff to fall in his hands, and he was very proud indeed to find that it was the unanimous opinion of the Corporation that he had succeeded in doing that (hear, hear).

**THE POSTMASTERSHIP.**

A letter was read from the Pig Buyers' Association enclosing a copy of a resolution advocating the appointment of Mr Hook as Postmaster, and asking the Council to adopt same.

Mr Begley proposed the adoption of the resolution, and said they could not too strongly impress on the Government the importance they attached to their appointing Mr Hook to the office of Postmaster of the city. They all knew Mr Hook's qualifications, and they knew that in every movement which was brought forward to benefit the city Mr Hook was the leading spirit. In charitable objects, sports, &c., Mr Hook had taken a leading part, and he thought the Government would do an act which would be received with grateful feelings by all classes if they complied with the resolution of the Pig Buyers' Association.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr Spain suggested that the Corporation should pass a resolution direct from themselves asking that Mr Hook be appointed.

Mr J. O'Mara seconded the resolution, remarking that a citizen ought to get the appointment, and not import an official from London.

The resolution was adopted.

It was resolved that the representatives of the late Dr John Wilkinson be paid out of the Sinking Fund, a sum of £1,015 7s 8d in redemption of eleven of the St Michael's Parish Debentures held by them.

The Council adjourned until Thursday next.

**THE POSTMASTERSHIP OF LIMERICK. TO THE EDITOR OF THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE.**

DEAR SIR,—As we are about soon to lose the long-continued and faithful services of Mr Conway, it seems to be time for us, as citizens, to be up and doing in relation to his successor. It is said that "Heaven helps those who help them-

the act. Mr W. E. Counihan, solicitor, who defended, argued, that the case could not be proceeded with, inasmuch as the occurrence was not witnessed by the complainant. In support of his argument, Mr Counihan stated that a similar case had been before the court at the recent Petty Sessions, and the magistrates, including Mr Irwin dismissed the case, as the police who were the complainants did not witness the occurrence. Mr Irwin said that this was a totally different point from the one at present raised, and he held with Mr Lawless, D I, who prosecuted, that in order to prosecute in such a case it was only necessary that the complainant should have cognizance that the offence had been committed. The case referred to by Mr Counihan was under the Towns' Improvement Act, and the point was an entirely different one. Messrs Clery and Myles took the same view of the law as Mr Counihan, and the case was dismissed without prejudice. Alderman Gaffney stated that he was prepared to give evidence in the case, and his interference in the matter was solely in the interest of the public.

**DEATH FROM THE EFFECTS OF THE BITE OF A BEAR.**

We regret very much to announce the death, under exceptionally sad circumstances, of Master Francis Wright, aged 16, second son of Mr Wright, foreman in the George-street establishment of Messrs. J. P. Evans and Company. The circumstances, as far as we learn, are these. Mr and Mrs Wright, with three boys and a little girl, went to Dublin to spend the Christmas. On Christmas Eve Francis Wright went with his youngest brother to the Zoological Gardens. In one of the cages was a bear which was apparently very docile, and the boy gave him some sweets, as other people would appear to have done. He was about giving the animal the last sweet, and had his arm stretched out, when he unfortunately turned round his head to see where his young brother was, fearing he might go astray. The bear seized his opportunity; grabbed his right arm, and striking him on the left arm smashed it, and lacerated it down to the wrist. The bear dragged the luckless boy up to the cage and retained his right hand in his mouth for some minutes, during which the little brother ran to some men who were working in the vicinity, and informed them of what had occurred. One man came with a shovel and another took a bar out of the cage and tried to get the bear let go his hold—the animal at this time was trying to claw the boy. An official hurried up with a loaded revolver, and the moment the bear saw the weapon he let go, and the unfortunate lad was conveyed to Steeven's Hospital, having suffered a great deal from loss of blood, not to speak of his terrified condition. The poor young fellow died there this morning at one o'clock. A great deal of sympathy is felt with Mr and Mrs Wright in their peculiarly sad bereavement.

**RURAL SANITARY BOARD.**

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Rural Sanitary Board was held to-day in the Dispensary Buildings, Cornwallis-street. Mr Thomas Mitchell, presided, and there were also present—Messrs Patrick Knox, John Hayes, Jeremiah Bresnahan, John Naughton, Edmond Kirby, and John McInerney.

**AUDITOR'S REPORT.**

With reference to a resolution passed in March last, on the proposition of Mr Jeremiah Bresnahan, seconded by Mr Thomas O'Farrell, reducing the rent of a cottage to one penny, the auditor in his report stated that in his opinion the resolution was *ultra vires* and illegal. He had on former occasions, warned the guardians of the res-

Dorsetshire, and set indoor and outdoor farm. All employ are milked by labour

THE Vanity Fair says t accompanied abroa down in health, and ever suffering may l fully share it with l

THE KNIG Major Hurslem, C Windsor Castle, is s tained of his recov

A CE John Molloy, died at the age of 106 ye

NORTHUMB. A deputation o introduced by Mr G coal owners to-day the miners' willing reduction of 5 per c on Monday next.

M Mr Toole contin gress.

DOWAGER MA The Dowager Ma Muntham Court ne age of 87. She of Bath, but has be deceased had been s

A Santiago telegr written to Mr Egan ment's wish to main the United States.

The Archbishop o yesterday, and was British residents.

A Telegram from ican Government head of the rebel ch persons have been l picion of being rebe and all priests are it

**SPORTING**

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