

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—YESTERDAY. The petition of the Corporation of London against the Home Rule Bill was presented in the House of Commons yesterday. Mr Gladstone stated that the Whiteoutside cess would extend from the 19th to the 20th. Mr Chamberlain asked if the Government will adhere to the 9th Clause of the Home Rule Bill, as to the retention of Irish members Westminster. Mr Gladstone replied that the present is not the proper time for making a statement on the subject, but the Government had intention of making a change. Mr Morley stated that he had no intention to add to the published accounts of a Four Courts explosion, except that the dice were not without hope of being more successful than in previous cases. Mr Morley so brought in a Bill to amend the Irish Education Act with respect to the acquisition sites for schools, and it was read a first time. The Speaker ruled out of order the intensions proposed to be moved by Lord Randolph Churchill, General Goldsworthy, and Mr Davling to the Committee on the Home Rule Bill. The House having gone into Committee on a Bill, Mr Chamberlain moved to postpone Clause until Clause 9 had been dealt with. In the discussion a scene of some excitement was caused by Mr T. M. Healy's interruptions of Mr Parker Smith with cries of 'Divide, divide.' On a division, the motion was negatived by 215 votes to 215. Mr Darling moved an amendment to provide specially for the supremacy of a British Legislature. A long debate followed, in the course of which Mr Bonfield moved to amend the amendment by way of making it more emphatic. Mr Morley carried the clause by 48 votes, Mr Bonfield's amendment being defeated by 54, and Mr Darling's by 52. Lord Randolph Churchill moved to port progress. In the debate Mr Chamberlain said the Irish nationalist members had been 'squared.' Mr Bylles asked how much would it take to un-square himself. Unparliamentary disorder followed, which lasted some time. The motion to report progress was feated by a majority of 42. Mr Balfove moved that the Chairman should leave the chair. Mr Gladstone resisted this, as he had no other proposals, and it was rejected by a majority of 47. It was then midnight and progress was reported in accordance with Standing Orders.

HIS DAY'S PARLIAMENT.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.] HOUSE OF COMMONS—TUESDAY. There was again a large attendance of members when the Speaker took the chair at five minutes past three. Only 28 questions appeared on the order paper. Before the commencement of public business some time was occupied discussing where the London County Council (General Powers) Bill should be recommitted. THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE ordered Mr Dodd that he had not yet received evidence on which the report of the Commission on Swine Fever was based. It was, therefore, not possible for him to say at present whether he would legislate on the subject. JAMES SPENCER BALFOUR. Sir Edward Grey, in answer to Mr Hanbury, stated that the Argentine Republic declined to render James Spenser Balfour assistance in consequence he being the only extradition treaty between the two countries. THE REGISTRATION BILL. In reply to Sir John Kinloch, Mr Gladstone stated that the Government intended to use every effort in their power to pass English and Scottish Registration Bills this session, but he did not think anything would be done in the present state of public business by sifting the procedure, and when the second readings of those measures could be taken. VOTE ON ACCOUNT. Mr Gladstone, in answer to Mr Bartley, said would not be necessary to take another vote on account before Whiteoutside. NEW BILLS. The following new Bills were brought in and read a first time: Sir Henry James—Bill to amend the Factory Act, 1891. Sir Thomas Spencer Balfour—Bill to amend the Fisheries (Ireland) Act so as to include fishery. Mr Alphonso Morton—Bill to repeal the law respecting the qualifications of Justices of the Peace. Mr Dodd—Bill to amend the law relating to a qualification and appointment of Justices of the Peace in counties. THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND. Dr Cameron asked leave to introduce a Bill put an end to the establishment of the Church of Scotland, and to deal with the public endowments thereof on the occurrence of vacancies. Mr Mark Stewart opposed the motion. On a division the motion for leave was carried—246 votes to 180, the result being received throughout cheers. The Bill was read a first time. THE HOME RULE BILL. The House then went into Committee on the amendment of Ireland Bill. The first amendment on the paper stood in the name of Mr Brierley, and sought to insert in the seven of the first clause the words, 'Subject to the powers hereinafter reserved to the Imperial Parliament and all existing powers.' The Chairman ruled the amendment out of order as having been disposed of by the discussion on the previous evening.

THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE

[ESTABLISHED 1768.] TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 9, 1898. MORE than ordinary attention is at present centred in our Dairy Industry. The reason why is obvious enough. A great revolution has quietly been going on, and is now actually effected. The old-fashioned system of 'firkin butter,' though still carried on in many places, may be looked upon as effete. This is not palatable to many, but it is nevertheless a fact. It was good in its way—in its own time—but then that time is past. In dairying, as in commercial pursuits, the course of business has been completely changed, and what was remunerative twenty years ago is now entirely 'knocked out of time.' We have, therefore, to face the matter as it stands, and before enlarging upon this topic, it will be no harm to direct attention to an article from the Farmer's Gazette, which we reproduce in our fourth page this evening. It is full of strong reasoning, abounding in truths which cannot be gainsaid, and very many of them apply to our own system. We ask earnest consideration to the article. It must be conceded that 'The Creamery' has supplanted 'The Dairyman,' and is getting each year a firmer hold upon the country. This is speaking generally. The returns at any of our butter markets, when compared with years gone by, will at once demonstrate this fact. When we say 'Creamery' we refer to the recent process of separating the milk in contravention to the old plan of 'setting,' it is not to any particular method, and whether the dairy-farmer sends his milk to a factory or separates at home; it does not matter. The point we wish to emphasize is that customs have changed. Having then an altered system, what we have to do is to keep pace with it. We are not specially advocating the Creamery system, but desire to call attention to what actually exists. With the establishment of a new system it stands to reason there must be a changed *modus operandi*, of which we must avail ourselves if we are to compete successfully with foreign competition. The foreigner negotiates our prices, and it is simply a matter with the consumer who can supply the best article at market price. We depend almost entirely on England, where we have to meet the producer of any country who cares to avail himself of that market, and this competition is not to be despised. The foreigner has a firm foothold in our best markets, and we need not say he makes the most of it. He was before us to 'catch on' to the new style, and eventually worked it on the market. That being the case, it will not do for the Irish farmer to stand still—backward or forward we must go—why not the latter? The changed system in dairying has had its deleterious effects. The most striking, and one to which our attention has lately been called, is that dairy farmers are not paying sufficient attention to calf-rearing, and still worse, do not give the required importance to the standard of breeding. The all-absorbing idea is to get as large a return of milk as possible; and that it is only necessary to get the cow 'on milk,'—the notion being very prevalent that calves cannot be reared when the farmer sends his milk to the factory. Now this appears to be a ruinous course to adopt. Where is the herd to be renewed from? How can farmers expect to raise the class of cattle for which our country has been noted? Too much attention cannot be bestowed on the rearing of young stock; if this be gradually allowed to deteriorate, and by their deteriorating the means of producing what should be 'first of firsts' in any market, are lost. Foreign-producers have found it to pay to supply English markets and ester for the trade; they are keen opponents, and once let them beat us, it may take years to get back lost ground, which they will dispute inch by inch. The country generally wants waking up,—country Limerick with the rest,—and if we do not bestir ourselves, we must assuredly reap the consequences of letting the golden opportunity go by when we still have it in our power to remedy the evil. You say—'Well, what's your proposal?' We do not offer a way out of the difficulty, our duty being to call public observation to the facts, but those who are closely identified and deeply interested in the matter can best formulate a scheme. No better or worthier reform can be entered upon than the improving and raising

TRAGIC OCCURRENCE AT KILFINANE.

SAD DEATH OF A BANK OFFICIAL. A very melancholy occurrence took place on Saturday last at Kilfinane, which ended in the untimely death of Mr Wilfred McKernan, son of Mr W F McKernan, the esteemed and popular manager of the Munster and Leinster Bank, Killmallock. The deceased, who was about 24 years of age, and was employed as accountant in the branch office at Kilfinane, having been recently transferred there, proceeded on Saturday to a glen close to the house, for the purpose, it was believed, of rabbit shooting. Not returning at the usual time, a search was made, with the result that the dead body of deceased was found in the glen, marks of gun shot wounds being found in the head. The circumstances surrounding the melancholy occurrence will be learned from the evidence given at the inquest. The sad event is deeply regretted by the people of the locality, and the greatest sympathy is expressed for deceased's relatives. The deceased young gentleman bore the highest possible character; he was quiet, gentle, domestic and unassuming. His disposition was entirely simple and guileless. As a bank official he was of exceptional ability, and his courtesy and kindness of manner endeared him to all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. He made hosts of friends at Waterford where he had been stationed for a few years, as well as in the district where he passed his years of boyhood. In all respects his personal character was excellent, amiable, and above reproach. The sad occurrence is surrounded with impenetrable mystery. It has come as an astounding surprise upon those who have known the deceased, and who sympathize most deeply with his family in the sad bereavement they have so unaccountably sustained. THE INQUEST. Mr J S Casey, Coroner, and a jury, of which Mr J Healy was foreman, held an inquest on the body yesterday. Mr O'Shaughnessy, solicitor, Charleville, said he represented the parents of deceased, who at present were in a very distressed condition. He stated that he had been represented the Munster and Leinster Bank. He was in a position to state that the bank officials were prepared to render all the assistance they possibly could, and to disclose every matter connected with the sad death of Mr McKernan. The usual inspection of the accounts of the bank of Kilfinane happened to be taking place during the past few days, and fearing it may be alleged there was any falsifications on Mr McKernan's part, he had allowed the inspectors to have access, who would give evidence that every matter connected with Mr McKernan's department in the bank turned out perfectly correct. Mr P E Roche, manager Munster and Leinster Bank, Killmallock, stated, in reply to District Inspector M'Kea, that the deceased was only in the branch since the 18th April; when he didn't present himself on Saturday morning witness had no idea he had been in the branch, and that he was perfectly straight, and his conduct irreproachable; he was aged 23 years and six months. James O'Connor deposed that the deceased, who lodged with him, left the house on Saturday morning between nine and ten, and was in his usual jolly mood; he took an overcoat with him, which was an unusual thing. John Curran deposed that when going up Thomastown plantation on Saturday; between nine and ten o'clock he heard the discharge of a gun, but saw no one. Sergeant Wright deposed that he saw the deceased about half-past eight going in the direction of the glen, but did not observe firearms with him; when he in company with other constables went in search of him they found him lying on his left side with a double-barrelled gun lying across his legs; one of the barrels had been recently discharged, and the other was loaded in full; on examining his pockets witness found five shillings in silver, a pencil in his pocket, a watch with some coins in the case, some letters, and two cartridges. You then lifted deceased, and what did you observe? Witness—I saw that he was dead; I saw that he had been killed by the shot. A Juror (Mr Healy), to witness—In your opinion was the shot accidental? Witness—In my opinion the muzzle of the gun was put into the mouth and the trigger was worked with the thumb. Mr O'Shaughnessy: Might it be an accident? Witness—It could occur in that way. Mr Roche, manager of the bank, here interposed, and said he examined the place and saw footmarks of a step on the ditch beside the scene of the occurrence. Dr P Lee deposed—I saw the deceased lying on his left side. Portion of his brain protruding from a wound on the head. I examined him some minutes after, and found a large wound in the upper portion of his mouth, the left portion of his face was blown away. The jury retired, and found the following verdict:—'That deceased died from a gunshot wound, self-inflicted, whilst in an unsound state of mind.' The jury passed a vote of sympathy with the parents of the deceased. The funeral took place on Sunday, the interment being in the family burying ground at Ballingarry. The cortege was extremely large and representative, giving the strongest proof of the popularity of which deceased's family are held by all classes. The attendance included—Rev T A P Hackett, R D, Killmallock, who officiated, Messrs R Bayly, J P; J H Weldon, J P; Loftus Townsend E Purcell, Manager National Bank, Charleville; J Hill, Munster and Leinster Bank, Charleville; J Roche, Manager Munster and Leinster Bank, Killmallock; M A Popham, Munster and Leinster Bank, Killmallock; Messrs H Harris, M G Harris, J W Harris, Arthur A Harris, P J MacNamara, M D; M J Carroll, V S; M J Ryan, K P Ryan, R Bayley, Esq; J H Weldon, Esq; T B O'Sullivan, J J O'Sullivan, T J O'Sullivan, T B O'Donnell, W Clery, P D Clery, M W Clery, M Heelan, S Bergin, E Dwane, all of Killmallock; J Clancy, V S, Charleville;—Mages, D I, R I C, Kilfinane; J Hurley, Kilfinane.

CHEAP TICKETS TO KILKEE. We understand that the Watford and

LUNATIC ASYLUM BOARD.

The monthly meeting of the Lunatic Asylum Board was held today. Mr Wyn Spillans, J P, presided, and there were also present—Very Rev Dean Bunbury, D D, Alderman D Landers, Alderman J Counihan, Mr James Harris, Lord Masey, Sir Charles Barrington, Bart, and Captain Croker, D L. Dr O'Neill, Resident Medical Superintendent; Dr O'Mara, and Mr James Bodkin, Clerk, were also in attendance. STATE OF THE HOUSE. Extent of accommodation, 250 males and 250 females; remaining on the 1st April, 278 males and 268 females; discharged to city, 1 male and 2 females; to county, 1 male; died, 1 male from city and 1 female from county; remaining at present date, 278 males, and 268 females. THE MONTHLY REPORT. Dr O'Neill read his monthly report as follows:—'I have much pleasure in reporting favourably of the general health of the patients, notwithstanding that the main sewer has been blocked for nearly three years. On discovering this serious matter, I had all the main holes and tanks opened, and found them completely choked, but the Corporation men are now working at the cleansing of the sewers, and their progress is very slow.' THE RELIGION OF AN INMATE—REMARKABLE DISCUSSION. Continuing, Dr O'Neill stated:—'During the week most of the female patients, who was admitted from Dundrum Central Asylum in 1885, became very unwell. On making inquiries to have her attended to, no entry was found of her religion. It appears after her admission she attended Mass, but of late years she attended the Protestant Service. I wrote to Dundrum asking in what religion she was registered there, and the reply was Roman Catholic. Pending the meeting of the Board, and as she was getting weaker, I forwarded full particulars to the Inspectors, and asked for information as to what should be done. The Inspectors replied they had no power to interfere with the religious conviction of any patient, but they saw no reason why her wish to be attended by a Catholic clergyman should be refused. Accordingly, she was attended by the Catholic chaplain and died next day.' Dean Bunbury—How was it that she was allowed to attend the Protestant service if she was a Roman Catholic? Dr O'Neill—On that I am not able to give information, because it was before my time. Dean Bunbury—Did she continue to attend the Protestant service? Dr O'Neill—She did. Mr Harris—Were her faculties all right. Do you think she was clear in her mind and able to judge for herself? Dr O'Neill—Well, before dying she was. Dean Bunbury—When she got ill steps were taken to ascertain her religion. Is that the thing? Dr O'Neill—When she became unwell, and sent to hospital, I was going to have her attended in the ordinary way. I was going to send for the Catholic chaplain, and then heard she was a Protestant. Dean Bunbury—Is it possible you did not know at that time that she was attending the Protestant service? Dr O'Neill—No, no. Captain Croker—Is the patient's religion not registered? Dr O'Neill—Yes, but this woman's religion was not registered. Alderman Landers—How long was she in the house? Dr O'Neill—Since '89. Dean Bunbury—How long was she attending the Protestant service? Dr O'Neill—For some years back. Mr Harris—Was she registered as a Catholic? Dr O'Neill—She was registered as nothing at all. Dean Bunbury—I think it is a most curious case. Dr O'Neill—That is the reason I have gone so fully into it. Dean Bunbury—Then you decided her religion for her by dying? Dr O'Neill—Did not. Dean Bunbury—And who did? Dr O'Neill—The inspectors. Dean Bunbury—Who are the inspectors? Dr O'Neill—Doctors Courtenay and O'Farrell. Dean Bunbury—Were they hers? Dr O'Neill—No. I wrote to them the full facts, stating that this woman (whose name we need not mention) was sent here from Dundrum in '69, and that no religion was registered for her, and as she was getting weaker, I forwarded full particulars to the Inspectors, and some years afterwards she attended the Protestant service. When she became unwell I found that she was registered in no religion at all. I wrote to Dundrum inquiring— The Chairman—Did she ask for a Catholic clergyman? Dr O'Neill—She did before she died. The Chairman—Did she send for you? Dr O'Neill—Yes, and I asked her who she wished to be attended by, and she said by a priest. Dean Bunbury—Who told you that the Roman Catholic clergyman should be sent for? Dr O'Neill—She, herself. Immediately after the letter from the inspectors I went to her and asked who she wished to be attended by and she said a priest. Dean Bunbury—It is very extraordinary that you should have asked the question at all when she was attending the Protestant service. It is very extraordinary. Dr O'Neill—It is a case in which so far as I am concerned I have fulfilled my duty, and that is the reason why I have brought it so fully under the notice of the Board. It is a very disagreeable duty to be called on in connection with a patient, but I acted in the conscientious discharge of my duty. Dean Bunbury—I am not denying that. Dr O'Neill—So far as I can make out no person knew what she came to Mass. Captain Cooke—Can a lunatic change religion? Dr O'Neill—No, and no one has power to interfere with the religion of a patient except the Board, and that is the reason pending the Board meeting that I put the matter in the hands of the Inspectors. If there was no danger of the woman dying I would have kept it for the Board. Dean Bunbury—How long was she attending

reply to the chairman state that she was a C. Miss. Did you recollect her Church? Mr O'Brien—Well the I she was a Protestant, and constant service. Mr Harris—How do you also in attendance with the question Mrs O'Brien—The nurse Protestant. Mr Harris—What know? Mrs O'Brien—I don't know Dean Bunbury—Was it the nurse acted? Mrs O'Brien—I don't know Dean Bunbury—Was it that she would give way if Mrs O'Brien—Sometime was a Catholic, and at that time. The Chairman—Did you ask if she was a Protestant? Mrs O'Brien—I did not. The Chairman—Was it with her when she said she was a Protestant, or Mrs O'Brien—No, sir; others were priests that were Mr Harris—Did any person to your knowledge, or in the Dean Bunbury—No, sir. Dean Bunbury—Did you know the Protestant worship? Mrs O'Brien—I don't know Dean Bunbury—Did you for some years? Mrs O'Brien—I did. Dean Bunbury—And you that she was supposed to be Mrs O'Brien—Yes; I think Catholic. Dean Bunbury—Did you have made some remark when attending a place of worship Church? Was it not strange? The Chairman—When woman—Mrs O'Brien—was and I don't think it was attendant eighteen or nine months with the patient Dean Bunbury—Did you this—Was there not a man this was a Roman Catholic, that no person in the hospital stated with her when the another place of worship strange that no observation because a member of the Mr Harris—It seems to me that he has been influenced by the fact that she was believed to be a Protestant. Alderman Counihan—under observation? Mrs O'Brien—Yes, for Alderman Counihan—D flounce her? Mrs O'Brien—No, nor else did. Dr O'Neill—As chief of household I have a right to appeal to the Protest Meredyth, to hear me out. Dean Bunbury—How could whole house? Dr O'Neill—It would some way or other. Dean Bunbury—I think of the case is very unsatisfactory, but what then, there is but no Protestant official the store keeper. Official must be watchful. It is the complexion in this satisfactory. The Chairman—I agree but where the dissatisfaction the woman after coming investigated into attending? That is very serious. Dean Bunbury—You t that is not borne out by t was 'inveigled.' The Chairman—I can sion— Dean Bunbury—You h was 'inveigled.' That is a Alderman Counihan reming forward a very unsatisfactory and gave Mr Spillans and a fair opportunity for the County Council to do anything like this that a proselytism. It is a pro the cause of much annoyance. Dr O'Neill here read a tendent Dundrum Asylum woman was registered a action that he took was Dean Bunbury—Nobod. The discussion then entered the Board, which was ord proceeded with.

THE NEW WJ A meeting of the Wa Corporation was held to-day ing members attended—ing; Town Councillors J M Donnelly, S Hastings, Messrs M J DeCourcy, City Surveyor; and J Wat intended, were in attendance. Some discussion took the erection of guards a prevent the passage of eel works. In reply to the Chairman self-ry were getting into leaks. The Chairman thought tors would be best able to Mr Donnelly said it vators were only concern guards. The Chairman—But w decomposed eels. Mr Harris said the emptied out every evening suggested with the a