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public Press to-day, and will be read with interest by all classes. The letter briefly sets out what are well-known facts. The dispute has now entered on its sixteenth week. Great suffering has been inflicted upon the families of those who are directly connected with the strike and upon thousands of others who are thrown out of employment by the stoppage in the supply of coals. Now that the cold weather has set in with severity these sufferings will be largely increased, and the poor especially will feel keenly the want of fuel. The industry of the nation has also been, to a certain extent, paralysed, and there is every reason to fear that should the struggle be prolonged, lasting, if not permanent, injury may be inflicted upon the trade of the country. The negotiations which took place on the 3rd and 4th of the present month between the strikers and the coal-owners had produced no result, and in this crisis "Her Majesty's Government have felt it their duty to make an effort to bring about a resumption of negotiations between the employers and employed under conditions which may lead to a satisfactory result." They propose, therefore, a further discussion of the points at issue by delegates of both sides, with Lord Rosebery in the chair. Lord Rosebery is not to act the part of an arbitrator or umpire, or vote in the proceedings, but his action will be confined to "offering his good offices in order to assist the parties in arriving at a friendly settlement of the question in dispute." It is to be hoped this conference may result in a settlement which will be accepted by both parties in the quarrel. A better chairman than Lord Rosebery could not be discovered, for he possesses the confidence of all sections in the State. Both parties ought now to be heartily tired of the struggle, and there may be discovered some signs of an approaching settlement before Mr Gladstone's statement was made in the House. A special meeting of the Miners' Federation had been summoned to meet at Manchester to-day for receiving reports in reference to proposals for a compromise. Yesterday a similar meeting of the Lancashire and Chester Miners' Federation was held at Wigan. A proposal was laid before the meeting embodied under four heads that (1) For the time being the idea of a living wage be abandoned, (2) That the men start work at once at the old rate of wages. (3) That a board of conciliation be formed, to come into existence on the 1st of January, 1894; the constitution of such board, with its independent chairman, to be decided hereafter. (4) That the first meeting of the conciliation board be held during the month of January, and that such meeting shall fix the rate of wages for the ensuing twelve months. It was hoped by the proposer that a settlement on these lines if accepted by the Federation would also probably be agreeable to the employers. The Government have had ample time to consider the Coal Strike, and they have not moved in the matter a moment too soon. The price of coal is steadily rising, and to the poor the cost is almost prohibitive.

The 1894 Dunlop Pneumatic Racing Tyre is

not one in the audience could complain that full value was not given for the price paid. This new version of the character of the eccentric Knight is full of amusing situations, and the audience is kept continually interested and amused. The cast is an excellent one, the principal parts being in most capable hands. The most catchy and popular ballads of the day are introduced into the performance, and a topical song—in which the Corporation, Harbour Board, the officials of our local railway, and that antiquated and much-abused institution of ours, "the Night Watch," are happily introduced—is enthusiastically received by the audience. There are numerous tuneful airs in the piece, including that very popular ballad, "Daisy Bell," which was chorused in fine style by the gallery. There are acrobatic and dancing performances, and the entertainment takes various other shapes. There is also a performing dog, which executes his part in a marvellously intelligent manner. Altogether the entertainment is wonderful value, and certainly should attract crowded houses during the week.

#### DEATH OF MR. FRANK J. KELLY, J.P., TRINADERRY, CO. CLARE.

We regret to record the death of Mr F J Kelly, J.P. of Trinaderry House, near Ennis, which occurred at his residence on Sunday morning, after a few days' illness. The sad news came with painful surprise on his many friends throughout the county. Mr Kelly had been ailing some time ago, but there was no cause for alarm until a week ago, when he was seized with an acute attack of dysentery, and failure of the heart's action, which was the immediate cause of death. Mr Kelly's premature demise is universally regretted. His unostentatious manner, amiable and kindly disposition, and unaffected generosity had won for him hosts of friends throughout the county, and the feelings with which he was regarded in his immediate locality were shown when on the occasion of an outrage to which he was subjected about two years ago, by one or two evil-disposed ruffians, there was a general and spontaneous expression of indignation at a public meeting of the parishioners at Barefield, attended by all the leading residents. He was one of the most extensive graziers in Clare, farming and grazing very large tracts in various parts of the county, and was an ex-officio guardian of the Ballyvaughan and Ennis poor-law Unions. Mr Kelly, who was in his thirty-third year, married about six years ago, Miss McDonough, daughter of Mr S J McDonough, J.P. of St Mary's, Dunmore, Co Galway, and leaves two sons.

#### THE LATE DR WESTROPP.

The *Fermanagh Times* says:—The news of the death of Dr Cecil George Westropp, J.P., will be received in Derrylin and neighbourhood with very sincere sorrow. Dr Westropp was for some years medical officer of the district, and his kindly attention, to and sympathy with the afflicted poor was very greatly appreciated by them. He enjoyed a considerable practice and gained for himself many friends, who much regretted his removal some years ago to Monkstown, Co Dublin. The deceased, who died on Friday, was son of the late Rev Thos Westropp, Rector of Ardcanney, Co Limerick, and neither by birth nor marriage was connected with Fermanagh, though he settled down professionally in the county, and was greatly respected by all who knew him. The Doctor was an ardent Mason and was connected with Callowhill lodge. His remains were interred on Tuesday morning in Dean's Grange Cemetery.

#### POST OFFICE EXPRESS DELIVERY.

In future persons receiving letters or parcels through the ordinary mails will be allowed to have them delivered by special messenger instead of by postman, by making application to the Post Office on a form which will be supplied for the purpose, and on paying the full express fees at the rate of 3d a mile for one letter or parcel, and a fixed charge of 1d for each additional letter or parcel, or parcels not exceeding ten, and the usual weight charge (if any) on the parcel.

#### THE MARKETS BRANCH POST OFFICE.

The number of collections from the Markets Branch Office letter box have been increased from two to seven. Collections are now made at 5.30, 8.30, and 10.30 a.m. and 2.0, 4.40, 6.50, and 8.50 p.m.

LABOURERS' ACT INQUIRY AT

tion of Assistant Male Attendant. Sullivan, who has been doing temporary since October 21st, has given entire satisfaction. I therefore beg to recommend his appointment. Mr Bodkin has closed all his accounts, and given over the books to the custody of Mr. and his official connection with the As ceases to-day after a faithful and honourable service of 41 years."

A letter was read from the Board of Co acknowledging receipt of the memorandum at the recent special meeting in reference to the Roxboro' School.

Debris Sullivan was re-appointed attendant. A committee was elected to make a report regard to the laundry.

COMPLAINT AGAINST A FEMALE ATTENDANT. Dean Bunbury asked if anything had done in reference to the female attendant had been called upon to resign at last meeting. He (the Dean) was aware the nurse had sent an explanation of her absence from duty through other parties but it had miscarried, and she meant no disrespect what to the doctor.

The Chairman asked did not the resolution passed last board day prevent them going to-day. He wished to know did the nurse intend any apology to Dr O'Neill.

Dr O'Neill—None my lord, I sent for immediately after the board, and she is point blank to resign, but on more mature consideration she did so. She never made apology or asked to be reinstated.

The Chairman said the thing seemed to be a great violation of discipline. The attendant not come and ask pardon for it, and then suspended her, at the same time he discretion to deal mercifully with her, but all depended on the way she bore herself. they going to come there and put the aside and re-instate her in spite of him?

Dean Bunbury said they had only heard side of the story. The attendant was not them, nor the head nurse, to whom she sent report of her absence from duty, but it was carried.

Mr Harris thought the Dean was incorrect stating that they had only heard one side case. That remark was not fair to the do

Dean Bunbury—You are putting a wrong interpretation on it. I only say we heard of it. We did not examine her. I don't doubt on the doctor's statement. I asked the head nurse examined.

The Chairman—But it seems the board their discretion did not do so.

The Dean said that he did not want to put matter further, but he asked why steps had been taken to fill the woman's place.

Dr O'Neill said it was the custom in the institution for the Medical Superintendent to appoint the female attendants, and he was prepared to appoint a Protestant attendant in her place if the difficulty was to find one.

Dean Bunbury—I will insist most strongly on the appointment of a Protestant nurse.

The Chairman said he never heard the name of the nurse until he was going away from meeting. He acted in the matter without knowing to what religion she belonged.

Alderman Coughlin said he was not aware it until he was told by the Dean towards the end of the meeting.

The Chairman said he was glad he was aware of the attendants religion, because he would have more or less restricted the freedom which he would have discussed the subject. He presumed all the time that she was a Catholic. If it came to a question of filling up the place and if it was found some one was necessary for one would meet the Dean's proposal with perfect sympathy.

Dean Bunbury—I did not for a moment say you would act otherwise.

Mr Waller asked why it was that the Medical Superintendent had the appointment of the attendants?

Dr O'Neill—The Courtney always had the power of appointing both male and female attendants, but for some time the male attendants have been appointed by the board.

Dean Bunbury—The sooner we make it that all the attendants be appointed by the board the better.

After some further discussion, Dean Bunbury handed in a notice of a meeting as follows:—"I beg to give notice that at a monthly meeting of the board, I will in future the appointment of female attendants shall be made by the Board of Governor in the same manner as male attendants are appointed at present."