

Messrs A E Bannatyne and J V Phelps will be the Masters of the County Limerick Hounds this season, which will open about the 20th instant, and promises to be a very successful one.

We have much pleasure in announcing the promotion to First Class and Matronship of Miss F G Coghlan, of the Limerick Post Office, and we heartily congratulate Miss Coghlan on such a well-deserved recognition of her services.

We are requested to correct an error that appeared in our report of the last Fishery Conservators' meeting. Mr Coplen-Langford referred to the Deel, not Feale, when he stated that a great quantity of salmon went up in January, and that if this month were included in the close season sport would be much better for anglers.

**P. Y. M. A. BIBLE CLASSES.**—The Sunday evening class will be opened on Sunday evening next, 15th inst, at 8 o'clock. It is hoped there will be a good attendance of young men.

**LITERARY CLASS P. Y. M. A.**—The opening meeting of the Literary Class of the Protestant Young Men's Association will be held on to-morrow (Friday) evening, when a paper will be read by the President, the Rev. J. Dowd, on the subject of "Scattery Island." The chair will be taken by the President, Mr Archibald Murray.

#### THE LATE MR WILLIAM RYVES POE.

The wreaths that covered the coffin at the funeral of the late lamented Wm Ryves Poe, were sent by—Mrs W R Poe, Mrs Poe, senr, Rev Dr and Mrs Wilson, Mrs Smith and Mrs Heenan, Mrs Edward Smith, Mrs Farrell, Mrs and the Misses Black, Mr and Mrs Smyth, Mr D W Wilson, Mr and Mrs Wilson, Mr Stevenson Wilson, Miss Janie Wilson, Miss Orr, Mrs Poe and the Misses Maunsell, Miss Alice Woods, Mrs Lever, Mr and Miss Croasdale, Mrs Bloomfield and Miss M Trench, Mr H B Trench, Mrs and the Misses Smith, Mrs H M Davis, St Brendon's Lodge 162, Mrs and Miss Robinson, Mrs Welply, and Mr and Mrs Jack, Miss Alton, and Mrs Farrell. When the remains were carried to the church they were met by the Revs George Trench, rector, and Andrew Graham, curate, who reading the opening sentences of the burial service preceded the sad procession into the church. Over the grave the Rev Mr Graham read the concluding prayers. The Rev Dr Wilson, Limerick, offered up prayer, and the impressive Masonic ceremonial succeeded, Br. W P H Lloyd-Vaughan, D P G M, delivering the prescribed exhortation, and the Rev Mr Graham, chaplain, officiating. The chief mourners were—J H and R Maunsell, Rev Dr Wilson, Limerick, D M Wilson, senr, D M Wilson, B L, William Smyth, J P, Archie Christie, solicitor, Stevenson Wilson, J Welply, E H P Hostford. The sorrow felt for the death of one so widely respected is (says the *Kings County Chronicle*) in no way abated, and messages of condolence have been received at Cloughmoyle Castle from friends far and near. Mrs W R Poe is deeply sensible of the kindness that prompts these tokens of sympathy with her in her great affliction, and desires us to return her grateful acknowledgements to all.

last Friday.

If it were a mere mistake of judgment in a difficult case I could understand it; but I know of my own personal knowledge that, as a rule, the magistrates are canvassed, and the Bench is packed for the trying of such cases. As soon as ever a publican is detected he and his friends can be seen, for days before the Petty Sessions, going around the houses of the magistrates to influence their judgment and get them to sit on the bench the following Friday as partisans instead of judges.

That is a scandalous and shocking state of things, and it raises the question, if we are to have any hope of dealing successfully with what is the most colossal evil amongst us, whether the right thing would not be to have every such case taken out of the hands of the unpaid magistrates and confined to officials such as the magistrates of Dublin, who would deal independently in the administration of the law.

Recently this abuse of Sunday drinking has gone so far that the Director of the Confraternity of the Holy Family felt it his duty to go before the magistrates and appeal to them to put it down. There was then for some time a display of zeal on all sides, but already they have flagged, with the result to which I have called your attention this evening.

A publican was recently fined £5, and with an independence that was most delightful, the magistrates screwed up their courage to mark the penalty on the back of his license. They furthermore, with great uprightness, refused a certificate for the renewal of this license at Petty Sessions. All this gave us great hope that a new era was going to begin, but imagine our feelings when we learned that that same license which was so justly forfeited, had been transferred by the same magistrates to the son-in-law of the man convicted, and that the trade is being carried on by the same family, who must have laughed very heartily at the very profitable farce in which they and the magistrates had played so remarkable a part,

I am, Dear Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
† EDWARD THOMAS,  
Bishop of Limerick

#### THE CESAREWITCH.

It will be of much interest to state that Red Eyes, who divided the Cesarewitch stakes, was bred by Mr Charles Wilmot Smith, J P, Ballynanty, County Limerick, and her dam, Miss Florry, is this year in foal to that good looking young sire, Scene Shifter, located at Victor Stud Paddocks, Kilmallock.

**CATHOLIC LITERARY INSTITUTE.**—The Winter Session of the Catholic Literary Institute will be opened on Friday next with a lecture by the Rev T Lee, C C, entitled, "The Danes in Ireland, and the Foundation of the Cities of Dublin, Limerick, Cork, and Waterford." The chair will be taken at 8 o'clock by the Mayor.

The Highland Railway directors have decided to recommend a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 8 per cent per annum, carrying forward £4,622. The same dividend was declared for the corresponding period of last year.