

sympathy is felt with the Captain, who has a wife and a large young family depending on him. It is stated that some time since he applied to the Corporation to provide a brake for the engine but that the matter was deferred. If that is so it is another instance of the penny wise and pound foolish policy. The engine has been severely strained, the funnel is bent, a valve broken, and in fact until she is closely examined it is impossible to say what the extent of the injuries is or what the repairs will cost. During the evening she was taken back to the fire station. With the exception of the Captain and Moloney the other men have been enabled to resume work. We may add that the men speak in the highest terms of the police for their prompt and kindly assistance. On inquiry at the hospital to-day we learned that Captain Wyld's condition was somewhat improved.

MEETING OF THE FIRE BRIGADE COMMITTEE.

A special meeting of the Fire Brigade Committee was held to-day in connection with the accident on Tuesday evening. The Mayor presided, and there were also present—Mr James O'Mara, Mr P E Bourke, Mr Richard Gleeson, Mr Thomas McMahon Cregan, Mr Michael Donnelly, Mr Patrick McDonnell, Mr Joseph P Gaffney, with Mr M J DeCourcy, Secretary, and Mr Wm E Corbett, City Surveyor.

The Mayor said in consequence of the accident that arose, and which they regretted very much, he thought it better to summon a special meeting of the committee. He deplored what had occurred, but it was an accident and that was how they had to look at it. He sympathised with Captain Wyld, who is suffering severely. The engine is broken—it is twisted and practically useless at present, and he directed the foreman to call on Mr Lee to examine it, so that it might be repaired. Mr Lee had sent a letter on the subject setting forth what is wrong with the engine. It is necessary that something practical should be done immediately.

Mr Cregan said he was sorry to see it stated in a newspaper that this man asked for a brake and it was refused. He should like to know was that true?

The Mayor—He did.

Mr Bourke—He did several times.

Mr Cregan—He ought have got it. It is a simple thing to get a brake.

Mr Bourke—Well it stood this way. It was a pretty expensive thing, and the expenses of the Fire Brigade were running so high, many members thought it time to put a stop to the expenses.

The Mayor—My opinion is that the brake he asked for, even if he got it, would not have prevented the accident. There was a great deal of imprudence in the matter. They had a man driving two horses who was not able to drive them. They drove at a tremendous pace down Osmington terrace, and it was an utter impossibility to avoid being turned.

Mr Bourke—I have it from an eye-witness that they came down the New Road at a rapid rate, and it was simply miraculous how the children escaped up there. The women were exclaiming against such fast driving. Had they continued on to the Strand, where a lot of children were playing, some of them would not have escaped. I dare say that account of the driving is exaggerated; but I am glad to know that there was no question of drink.

The Mayor—I went into the matter minutely on the night of the accident. I sent for the man who was driving, I scrutinised him closely, and I could not detect a sign of drink.

Mr Cregan—Was he in the habit of driving?

The Mayor—Yes.

Mr Cregan—Was he competent?

The Mayor—I can't say whether he was competent or not, but he had two horses that were not at it before. They were new horses—or, at least, they had not been many times at it, and it is a question if they were before in double harness at all. I spoke to them repeatedly about driving so fast, and it appears it was Captain Wyld's wish to go quick, so as to go on the same lines as they did in England. I could not see the necessity of driving so fast.

Mr Cregan—They ought not have gone so quick round a corner.

The Mayor—I am sorry to say Wyld is the sufferer.

Mr James O'Mara—What action are you going to take with regard to the injured men?

The Mayor—There is no one injured but

After further discussion, it was decided that Mr Storey, the mechanical engineer of the water-works, should take the fire engine asunder, and that tenders should be invited from Messrs Harrison Lee and McNamara to put it in order, and that Leo should be given charge of the fire station pending Captain Wyld's illness.

LIMERICK CORPORATION AND THE LATE MR P S CONNOLLY, SOLICITOR.

At the meeting of the Corporation to-day, as soon as the minutes had been read and the correspondence disposed of,

The Mayor said that owing to the sad and lamented death of Mr Connolly, solicitor, which occurred since they last met, they would now adjourn as a mark of respect to his memory (hear, hear). He was sure some gentleman would propose a vote of condolence with Mrs Connolly and her family.

Alderman Gaffney said he had a melancholy pleasure in doing so. There was nothing that pressed more on his mind than how to adequately deal with this subject. Mr Connolly was a man who attended to his business, not alone in his ordinary capacity, but in all that related to the city and the corporate property (hear, hear). His demise was sad and deplorable, and it came upon them all by surprise. It was a great loss to his family and to the community at large to have such a man carried away in the prime of life. But God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven. He proposed that a vote of condolence be sent by the Corporation to Mrs Connolly (hear, hear).

Mr Bourke said that he begged to second the vote of condolence. He had waited to see whether some gentleman would do so who could speak more adequately of Mr Connolly's good qualities than he could. He really felt it a privilege to be allowed to second the vote of condolence. Their poor friend had gone beyond their reach, and they could not again see his cheery face and bright smile, or have the benefit of his intelligent counsel in that room. They could at least do something that they knew he would have liked them to do, and that was to endeavour in a small way to assuage the terrible grief that had fallen on his wife and family by his melancholy death (hear, hear). He (Mr Bourke) believed in his heart that no vote of condolence that had ever been passed there would be adopted more sincerely than this, because Mr Connolly was a gentleman who was of the highest value to them as an officer, while as a citizen, and a friend, his equal could not be found (hear, hear). While, as he had said, he could not adequately do justice to this motion, still, nobody was more alive to the intensity of feeling which Mr Connolly's death had created amongst all classes of the citizens.

Mr Hayes having supported the motion,

The Mayor said—Gentlemen, I assure you I cannot find words to speak in terms that I would wish of the late Mr Connolly. However, his funeral showed the respect and the esteem in which he was held, as during my time in Limerick I have never seen a more representative gathering (hear, hear). Each and every one of the citizens had nothing to say but to lament his loss. This Council has met with a very severe loss, and no matter by whom his place will be filled there will be a vacancy, I believe, as regards Mr Connolly's ability and his practical usefulness to this Council (hear, hear). As for myself, no matter how intricate the question was that cropped up I felt very little difficulty in solving it so long as I had Mr Connolly by my side. Any little tact that I have displayed during my years of office here was due to Mr Connolly's ability. He was one of the most useful public officers perhaps in Ireland, and in private life to know him was to love him and respect him (hear, hear). Both in public and private a better fellow you could not have met. I believe I am only expressing the feelings of each and every member of the Council and of every citizen of Limerick when I say we deeply sympathise with his wife and family, and we are only too sorry for the occasion that has given rise for us to do so (hear, hear).

The resolution was then put to the meeting and passed unanimously.

The Council thereupon adjourned.

At Bruff Potty Sessions, yesterday, the magistrates present being Dr Joseph M Gubbins, in

Knights of Glin—How many letters has Moloney written on the subject?

The Secretary—He has written two, which were addressed to the office of Irish Fisheries.

Mr Reeves asked the secretary how many licenses were paid before the 12th of February.

The Secretary—I could not tell you just, Mr Place, in reply to Mr Keane, said that was that their licenses should be paid before the weirs were fished.

The Knight of Glin said he was not advocating the rule that licenses should not be paid before weirs were put into operation, but he considered the action of his friend, Mr Moloney, in going on with this kind of letter writing was most called for. Mr Moloney should not be making himself a bailiff.

Mr Vansittart—You see what a mess board gets into by not carrying out the law. The same thing has occurred every year.

The Knight of Glin said it was the owners who were paying for the protection of fisheries, but so far as the taking out of licenses was concerned he would say that should be taken out—if the law insisted upon before a net was wet (hear, hear), and question was whether that board would insist that being done. He had only one weir here at present, three or four others which he had having been confiscated through errors in law.

Mr Reeves asked the Secretary how many licenses had not been paid for during the thirty years.

The Secretary—Only one, and that was Moloney (laughter).

The Chairman said that the custom prevailed there during the last forty years, and the late Mr Alton was their secretary, was the weir owners should get an opportunity of earning the money before they were asked to pay for their licenses. That custom had not injured to the board, and they had not lost penny by it. The matter had been left in the hands of their late secretary, in whom they had the utmost confidence, and the custom had been abused. One of the members of the board had passed a cheque through his hands for £390.

Knight of Glin—Name him.

The Chairman—It is not necessary.

Mr McAniff said he was the person who paid the money.

After some further remarks the matter of the Secretary being asked to acquaint the inspectors that the weir licenses had been paid.

MEMORIAL FOR REDUCTION OF LICENSES.

The Secretary read a memorial signed by a large number of Lower Shannon fishermen in that half the license duty should be remitted owing to the badness of the fishing season.

The Secretary said the matter had been all before the Fishery Inspectors, who refused to make any reduction.

The Chairman—They have already refused. Knight of Glin—I would suggest that the Government be asked to make up the deficit (laughter).

The Chairman—With every respect, gentlemen, this is a very serious matter. You have to enforce payment or not.

Knight of Glin—I think we should merit the Government, to pay half of the license. Send a memorial to Mr Morley asking the Government to pay half the licenses, and this Board of Conservators, which, I believe, is nearly bankrupt.

The Chairman—The board is not bankrupt. It is in a sound financial condition.

Knight of Glin—I am very glad to hear that.

The Chairman—If the whole Shannon paid up we would be in an exceedingly safe condition.

Mr O'Mahony suggested that the board should pass a resolution asking the Inspectors to consider their decision, giving them additional reasons why they considered that the memorial should be granted.

The Secretary said the difficulty was that this time last year they had a great many drift net licenses collected, while at the present time they had only a few, and if the matter was not decided another month would be gone before further steps could be taken.

Mr McAniff—Could not some arrangement be made by which half the license duty could be accepted?

The Chairman—We could not make such an arrangement.

Mr O'Mahony then proposed a resolution asking the Fishery Inspectors to reconsider their application of the fishing