

boats, and at present has got as the Piræus. Germany is battleships, and the United States cruisers is being strengthened by The Russian fleet is in the Black particulars of its strength have obtained. In addition to this possesses a squadron in the most remarkable vessel of which is cruiser "Rurik," which attracted attention at the Kiel festivities. It is by this enumeration that Great Britain holds her own in this class of the warships of all nations. The battleships form a most imposing array, others together number but four or six when the full French comes upon the scene. It is to be expected that services will not be required, and they will disperse to their several quarters when they arrived. If there is to be a display of Great Britain is well represented of action.

and Crafts Exhibition, the first of which was opened in Dublin last Tuesday by the Government. Our native products are side by side with those of the sister States, and the labours of the present time can be compared with those of a former period of our history. We would carry on the work of our forefathers, if there be losses of certain forms of skill, we would seek to recover what we have in harmony with the best spirit of the times. The Exhibition has been organized for the purpose of fostering an interest and an artistic feeling on the part of the handicrafts-men of this country. At the present time, as was observed by Lord Curzon, we can turn out a larger quantity of work in a given time than was possible in former days. Our artisans now have all the tools of machinery and the improvements and appliances that their forefathers did not possess. They can consequently do more work, but it does not necessarily follow that they have improved the quality and merit of the products. There is a want of neatness and incompleteness which is not observed in the work of the older generation of artists. The products of Irish handicrafts of former days are unapproachable now by the work of our men, as anyone can see who takes a walk through the hall of our National Museum in the Merrion-street. It was a bold experiment to place before our artisans the work of the same time with that of a previous period, to place it in comparison with that which is done in Great Britain. Our native talent

remarks, spoke of the nature and operations of the Bible Society, and referring judiciously and touchingly to the desire for a closer union among the churches, at the present time so widespread and far-reaching in its teaching, gave expression to sentiments which were heartily endorsed by the subsequent speakers. Resolutions, expressive of thankfulness to God, for the good work which the various societies, especially the British and Foreign Bible Society, had been instrumental in doing in the marvellous circulation of the Scriptures in so many lands and so many tongues, and pledging the audience to a deeper interest in the local work of the Hibernian Bible Society, were earnestly spoken to by the Rev T B Robertson, Rev Andrew Armstrong, Rev Thomas Greer, and Rev D Tilsley, after which the deputation secretary, the Rev T E Rudd, B.A, in an interesting and lengthy address, explained the objects, operations, and methods of the Society, and earnestly urged on his audience its claims to their hearty sympathy and support. In order that the work of the Society might be carried out locally, an honorary secretary and treasurer were appointed, with power to form a committee. A collection was then taken up in aid of the funds, after which the meeting—which was not as largely attended as it ought to have been, considering the pains that were taken to make it public, and the importance of the work—was closed with singing and the Benediction. Besides the speakers there were on the platform the Rev R H Sempie, M A, and the Rev Mr Abbott, B A.

SAD DROWNING ACCIDENT IN LIMERICK.

This afternoon a very sad drowning fatality occurred in Thomondgate, the victim being a young farmer named John Hanrahan living at Meelick Pass, some few miles from the city. It would appear that the deceased, who was on his way home with a horse and cart, proceeded to water the animal from a slip above Thomond Bridge, and when on the brink of the river tipped the horse with a stick, with the result that the animal plunged forward, and in an instant was in deep water. Hanrahan, however, remained in the cart till it sank, and then jumping out sank almost immediately. A man named Con Costello, at great risk to his own life, swam to the spot where Hanrahan disappeared, but finding no trace of him made for the shore, which he regained with much difficulty. The horse was rescued by a number of fishermen in boats. The body has not yet been discovered.

SHOOTING AFFRAY AT NEWPALLAS.

A serious shooting affray is reported from Newpallas. It seems that on Tuesday last a dispute occurred between Morgan Power, a farmer, and a man named Timothy Flynn, of Newpallas, in reference to a bull which had got injured. Power blamed John Flynn, son of the man mentioned, for allowing the injury to occur, and the upshot of the matter was that Power is alleged to have fired two shots at Flynn, senior, two pellets entering his body. They were abstracted by a doctor and the man is progressing favourably. Power has not been arrested.

SERIOUS AFFRAY NEAR NENAGH.

A serious encounter has taken place between two men of the farming class, named John Bonfield and Patrick Slattery, belonging, respectively, to Gurtmore and Ballyiskey, as they were returning home from Nenagh on Tuesday night. It would seem that both parties were drinking rather freely in town during the day, and when they had gone about half a mile on their journey they got into a dispute, out of which arose a desperate struggle. Bonfield's

Captain's back were too much for the others, at the finish they were mainly responsible for the large score by which his side won by 2 goals and 2 tries to 1 goal. Some very pretty bit passing took place between R Lynch, T O'Connell, King and Noonan, all of whom played to another in splendid style. Of the forwards M'Mahon was in good form. His running, tackling and all round play were really tip top, and he continues so, his name will be heard in all quarters this season. Egan and Kelly made some fine bursts but are not in proper condition yet and with a little more flesh off will be better than ever. Shine, Bourke, and Nash also played a hard game and are much improving in their play. For the Captain's side, Crowe and Lyons were the pick of the backs. Though there were 30 playing several of the best were absent amongst them being J O'Connor, J Egan, J Murphy, and M Fitzgerald. The return match will be played on Saturday next at 3.30 p m.

HOCKEY.

The County Limerick Club journeyed to Charleville this morning to try conclusions with the local team. The chances of the Charleville were considered favourable, it having a few weeks ago beaten a strong team of the County Cork. The match took place in the demesne of Sandes Park, and after a most enjoyable game Limerick left off victors by 5 goals to 3. Goals for Limerick were made by Stokes (2), Egan, Blood-Smyth, and Matterson one. After the match the visitors were most hospitably entertained by the home Club. The following were the Limerick eleven:—Goal—R. Fulls—J Goodbody, R Gelston. Halves—Hunt, J Egan, W Slade. Forwards—S. Matt, A Blood-Smyth, M Egan, E Stokes, J Oakes.

COUNTY PETTY SESSIONS—THIS MORNING.

Before Mr Greene Barry (in the chair) were W F O'Grady, and Mr B O'Donnell. Edward Slattery was prosecuted by the Revenue Department for carrying a gun out a license. Constable O'Sullivan gave evidence that he saw the defendant carrying a gun on the 18th inst; witness asked Mr Purcell on the 18th inst; witness asked to produce his license, and he said that he left it at home, and on searching his home (witness) could not find any license. Mr Moran, solr, who appeared for the defendant, said that his client was in the habit of taking out a license for the last ten years, was merely by a mistake he had not taken a license on this occasion. Mr Comysi, of the Inland Revenue, who was prosecuted, said that the maximum penalty for the offence was £10, but under the circumstances did not press the case, and would only ask the magistrates to inflict the minimum penalty of £2 10s. After some consideration the bench decided to inflict a penalty of £2 10s. Mr Hetreed, D I, prosecuted John Mc "Kilmurry Hurler's," for having sold tickets last Sunday to non-bona fide travellers. Constable Price deposed that on last Sunday about half-past three o'clock, he visited the defendant's public house, and found two men drinking stout. Mr Coffey, solr, who appeared for the defendant, argued that the men who were found on the premises represented themselves as bona fide travellers, and his client supplied the liquor thinking they had come from Ireland. The house had a good character, and no objection had been entered against it. Mr Hetreed said that under the circumstances he did not wish to press the case. The magistrates decided on dismissing the case.