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## LIMERICK CHRONICLE

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FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 15, 1895

Chancellor of the Exchequer, it is generally expected, will find himself at the end of the financial year with a substantial surplus at his disposal. The phenomenal success achieved by his Democratic Budget will now be followed up with a less than three millions, which will be at his disposal. Fortune so far has favoured Sir William Harcourt, and he finds himself in the possession of a sum unexpected, and the only question is as to its disposal. And it is here the difficulties begin.

Two courses open to this adventurous statesman. He may still further endeavour to endear himself to the Democracy by a reduction of taxation, so as to give the people only a free breakfast table, but a free table of tobacco afterwards. Should this course be pursued it would be possible for a statesman within the four seas of Great Britain to pay nothing towards the defence of the Empire. The taxes for national defence fall on the artisans and are payable on spirits, tea and tobacco. As many of the people are total abstainers, the only contribution these are payable by means of the tobacco.

But should the Chancellor of the Exchequer present these also with free tea and tobacco, he will be in a position of great advantage towards the defence of the Empire to which they belong. This result is a very curious one, and would place the English artisan in a position strongly contrasted with those of all other European countries where not only must they contribute to national defence by the payment of taxes but join very directly in the protection of the country by passing through the ranks, every man of them from the ranks of the lowest, capable on occasion of arms and marching to repel the

### FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR. WILLIAM BARRINGTON, C.E.

The remains of the late Mr William Barrington, C.E., who died at his residence, "The Ferns," Castleconnell, on Saturday, were removed for interment at the family burial place, Rathkeale, on yesterday morning. The weather was very inclement, but a large number of the residents of Castleconnell were present, and accompanied the funeral a considerable distance, while at other parts of the journey it was joined by several leading county residents. The chief mourners were—Mr B Barrington, solr, Mr W Barrington, C.E. (nephews), Mr N Palmer (grandnephew). Amongst the general public we noticed—Mr J Matterson, J.P.; Mr Plumstead, Secretary to Lord Dunraven; Mr R Hunt, J.P.; Mr H Blackall, solr; Mr J B Barrington, J.P.; Capt Verachoye, Mr M G Slade, C.E.; Mr Wm M Beauchamp, solr; Mr John Morton, Manager of the Provincial Bank; Mr James Frost, J.P.; Colonel Maunsell, J.P.; Mr C Heaton-Armstrong, Mr W H Fogerty, solr; Dr Gelston, Dr Myles, Dr Fogerty, Mr Andrew Murray, Mr R Fogerty, C.E.; Mr Sullivan, Manager West Clare Railway; Mr William Christy, General Lloyd, County High Sheriff; Mr R J Gabbett, J.P.; Surgeon Major Ward and sons, Dr Ryan, Castleconnell, Mr S O'Grady, Mr A Mackay, Mr J M'Mahon, C.E.; Lieut-Colonel Gloster, Mr T M'Mahon Cregan, C.E., J.P.; Mr J C Martin, Mr H Christy, Mr R Hewson, Ennis-corish, Mr R Gelston, C.E.; Mr F Myles, etc.

The following sent carriages—Messrs B Barrington, Wm Barrington, Sir Charles B Barrington, Bart, D.L.; Mr R J Gabbett, Mrs Dwyer, Mrs Enright, Mr Michael Walsh, Foynes; Mr A Murray, General Lloyd, Mr J McMahon, C.E.; Lieutenant-Colonel Gloster, Mr R Hewson, Dr Myles, Mr M G Slade, C.E.

The Rev Canon Wills officiated at Rathkeale, and gave a short address at the grave.

### DEATH OF MR. JAMES S. BENNETT.

The above named gentleman died on the 14th instant, after a protracted illness, at his residence, Tullabrackey. For many years Mr Bennett was a member of the County Fox Hounds, and was passionately fond of hunting. During the latter portion of the forties and beginning of the fifties he was one of the few who sat in the "pig-skin" in the covert side in this county. He was a forward rider, a keen sportsman, a genial companion, and doubtless those who knew him at his best will, with a sigh of regret, wish that the turf may rest light on his coffin. Mr Bennett was a graduate of T.C.D., an upright and fearless magistrate, and for a long time an *ex-officio* guardian of Kilmallock Union, where he was much respected. His remains will leave Tullabrackey on Wednesday morning at 10 a.m. for interment at Doonass.

### DEATH OF THE REV CANON LLOYD.

We regret to observe in our obituary columns the announcement of the death of the Rev Edward Lloyd, A.M., Canon of Clondegad, which took place at Broadford, County Clare, yesterday, after a short illness. Deceased clergy-

### MR. F. R. BENSON'S COMPANY AT THEATRE ROYAL

Mr F.R. Benson, the renowned actor, and his excellent company their annual six night's engagement at Theatre Royal last evening before the house. *Hamlet* was the drama, a more powerful or realistic representation of an immortal work could not have been given by Benson as "Hamlet" was perfect. It is evidently his masterpiece, his study of the hapless Prince being so life-like that you would imagine he was looking at you in the episode in real life. Mr Benson put himself heart and soul into the character, and the actor, as it were, was not more by the audience by than the part gave him scope for a full display of his wonderful histrionic abilities. Revelling and exceeding pathos were exquisitely presented, and in short his gestures were so exquisitely natural that you were lost in admiration. At times a sob was heard fall, so carried away were you and in fact Mr Benson had been on the stage when his beautiful performance, and his acting which combined the highest refinement and grace of a house with wonder and delight. Mr Benson appeared before the lights *entre actes* he was looked at from all parts of the house. It is in this scene he appeared at the ghost scene, where he struggled and Marcellus, and declares, "I will make a ghost of him that lets me see this. There is a fierce gust of human rage then the towering rage which he suppresses while the ghost relates the King was a splendid piece of striking contrast to this was his tenderness, even in his frenzy, when he looks towards Ophelia, who exclaims "O, what a noble mind is here! It is in the grave scene, Mr Benson also capital, especially where he looks at her face with "Lærtus," and needs no words for a final scene—the most pathetic in the play. We cannot speak too highly of Mr Benson's "Ophelia," a more graceful or touching interpretation of which we have never seen. She completely fascinated the house where the poor, witless girl appeared dressed and straying around her father and ivy. Mrs Benson was heartily applauded during the various intervals during the evening. Doubtless she thoroughly deserved the distinction that could be conferred on her by E. Lyall Swete as the meddling aunt. She was quite at home, and Mr W. Graham Brown displayed the ability the strength of character and fidelity of "Hamlet's" friend. As "Claudius, King of Denmark," he was careful, and indeed clever, representing a villain-monarch. Mr Frank Rodden was a capable "Lærtus." The humorist found full scope in the admirable