

SERIOUS FIRE AT THE COUNTY CLUB.

Considerable excitement prevailed in the city last evening when about six o'clock it was reported that the County Club was on fire. Some of the servants of the club noticed smoke issuing from the lamp room at the back of the premises on the basement storey, and it was found that the apartment was ablaze. The flames spread with great rapidity, and word was sent with all speed to the Royal Artillery Brigade in Mulgrave street, and the Corporation fire Station in Roche's street. Both engines were on the scene in the space of twenty minutes, the Artillery being under command of Major Burton, Lieut. Spedding, and Quarter-Master Vigors, and the Corporation were in charge of Captain Wyde. The Artillery hose was placed in Augustinian Lane, and then conveyed through the back entrance to the club and on to the burning apartment. The Corporation engine worked from George street, and thence through the lower storey. Both engines were considerably facilitated in their work by the fact that right outside the lamp room is a passage and beyond that a small garden, so that they had adequate room at their disposal. Besides this, the spacious passages in the Club were thrown open, and admitted the breeze, which sent out the flame towards the back. If it had gone inwards, the result would have been far more serious, but as it is, a great amount of damage has been done. The room where the fire originated has been completely gutted, nothing whatever was saved, and it was rather a marvel that a barrel of oil stored therein did not explode. The only explanation is, that it was not quite full, and the air having got into it, the petroleum gradually burnt itself out. Right above the lamp room is the smoking room of the Club, and the floor of this apartment was completely charred and in some places burnt to a cinder. Valuable carpets were also destroyed, together with the furniture, and the window sashes in this storey as well as those in the storey above it were almost burnt out. In fact the back of the house presents a very wrecked appearance. As a result of the fire a great deal of new flooring will have to be put down and the house re-painted and papered, most of the apartments upstairs having been more or less injured by the smoke. The damage is estimated at fully £400, but it is covered by insurance. Mr Taylor, steward of the Club, was most energetic in facilitating the work of the brigade men, while a force of police under command of District Inspector Heffred, and a number of the Artillery formed a cordon in George street and Thomas street, and thus kept the public at a respectful distance from the scene of operations. Before seven o'clock the fire had been completely got under.

THE APPROACHING FASHIONABLE MARRIAGES IN WEST CLARE.

A special meeting of the Kilrush Town Commissioners was held in the Market House Assembly Rooms, on Monday night, to vote the congratulations of the board to Mr and Mrs Reeves, Beasborough House, on the approaching marriages of their amiable and highly accomplished daughters. Mr John C Mahony, (Chairman of the Board), presided, and said this compliment of the board to Mr Reeves and his family was well deserved. He had given them all his influence and presence in every movement for improving the town, and as a Grand Juror, guardian, magistrate, or landlord, the people of West Clare found in Mr Reeves always a true friend. It was a compliment that was well deserved, and they now offered it to Mr Reeves, on behalf of the inhabitants of Kilrush (applause). Mr T Kelly, solr, T.C., endorsed the Chairman's sentiments in regard to Mr Reeves and his respected family. He cordially supported a vote of congratulation being passed by the Town Commissioners. Mr Joseph Finucane, T.C., said Mr Reeves was at all times found to be a true friend of the people, and no one would go further to promote the interests of the inhabitants of Kilrush, while there were no more charitable or benevolent ladies than the Misses Reeves (hear, hear). Mr Luke O'Brien, T.C., said too much could not be said of Mr Reeves's goodness. He co-operated with the Town Commissioners in their efforts to improve the Port of Kilrush, and was always ready to do anything that would tend to improve the condition of the people. There was no better landlord in all Ireland. It was not trotting round the globe Mr Reeves was, but always at home spending his income amongst the people. Whatever his income was—and he wished it was twenty times more—it remained with the people and served business all round (applause). Mr J Reidy also supported the proposition. After some further complimentary speeches, on the motion of Mr Kelly, seconded by Mr O'Brien, a resolution was unanimously passed offering the congratulations of the Town Commissioners to Mr and Mrs Reeves, on the occasion of the marriage of their daughters. The board then adjourned.

MR MAGUIRE'S MARRIAGE.

The marriage of Mr Maguire, M.P., and Miss...

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MRS MASSY.

The remains of this universally respected and widely lamented lady were deposited in the family burial place in Rathkeale churchyard on Tuesday morning last, followed to their resting-place by an exceedingly large gathering of people of all classes, creeds and conditions. The funeral procession left Stensville at 10.30 o'clock. The coffin, which was of polished oak, with massive brass mountings, covered with floral tributes, was borne on willing shoulders from the house to the hearse which awaited it on the main avenue. The chief mourners were Major Ingoldby Massey and Mr William Massey, sons, who walked after the hearse, and were followed by a line of carriages nearly a mile in length. Amongst the clergy present were—The Revs Canon Wills, Rector of Rathkeale; Canon Haydn, LL.D., Rector of Nantawan; Canon Vance, and W M Foley; the Very Rev Dr Moloney, P.P., Rathkeale; Rev Father Halligan, P.P., Cappagh; Revs Fatheliston and Murphy, C.C., Rathkeale. During the passage of the procession through Rathkeale, every conceivable mark of respect was shown, in shutters closed shops, and reverent spectators. The funeral was met on its arrival at the Parish Church by Canons Wills and Haydn. The latter clergyman read the service in the Church, and on the removal of the remains thence to the family vault, Handel's Dead March was played on the organ by Miss Gertrude Wills. Canon Wills completed the service at the vault, and delivered a short but very eloquent and touching address, his words eliciting on all sides visible signs of emotion and appreciation from the large assembly. The rev gentleman began by emphasising and enforcing the extremely solemn nature of the occasion. We may read or hear of the deeds of great men, patriots, soldiers, statesmen, but while we admire, the element of personal application is absent. We may not look to occupy such places. But the stern and silent eloquence of the wretched coffin, and the yawning grave is calculated to appeal to all without exception. He had known the deceased lady for twenty-two years, and could say, over her cold remains, that he never heard one depreciatory word of anyone fall from her lips. She sought her happiness in the domestic circle of her most attached and loving family, and found it there. Our sympathies should go out to those members of her family who are unavoidably absent in far distant lands. The deceased lady, as could be abundantly testified by all who knew her, possessed a subtle charm of manner, a truly womanly sweetness, and a grace of temper and language that will never be forgotten by her friends. The rev gentleman's address was listened to with profound attention and deep emotion. Amongst the general attendance and those who sent carriages were the following—General Lloyd, Beechmount, Rathkeale; Mr J B Massey, J.P.; Mr W Blennerhassett, Glin; Capt FitzJohn Fitzgerald, The Knight of Glin, D.L.; Mr E W O'Brien, D.L.; Mr P Griffin, J.P.; Mr J B Hewson, J.P.; Mr W Waller, D.L.; Capt A Caulfield, Mr R C Langford, J.P.; Mr T S Deane, Manager National Bank; Mr J McKernan, Manager Munster and Limerick Bank; Mr Cosgrave, solr; Mr A Studdert, Arlesman; Mr Brown, Dromard; Dr Moloney, Ballygarry; Drs T and J Hayes, Rathkeale; Mr Jasper White, B.L., Nantawan; Mr R Howson, Innagoogh; Mr G Fosbery, J.P., Middleton Park; Col Gloster, Rockfield; Mr T D Atkinson, Glenwilliam; the Misses Boyse, Ballinivrick; Mrs Hunt, Inchrouke; Mr G Hunt, Askeaton; Mr P Hartigan, J.P.; the Misses Morgan, Old Abbey; Mr Webster, D.P.; Miss Condon, Wellmount; Mr Johnstone, Castlematrix; Mr J Magner, Mr P Murray, J.P., Ballystone; Mr J M O'Grady, Mr Couvres, Castletown Conyers; Mr Reeves, Mr J Norman, Mr M Ryan, Mr G Baker, Mr A Mick, Mr N Sparling, Major Rolleston, R.M.; Mr Lyons, V.S.; Mr J Enright, Mr F Walsh, Mr W O'Grady, Mr J Sheehy, Mr J Moroney, Odeville, Capt Kiggell, Messrs J and C Rolleston, Mr G Taylor, Hollypark; Col White, The Abbey; Mr F Hartigan, C.E.; Mr O'Shaughnessy, Mr E A Whelan, Major J Furlong, Mr W Moylan, Mr B Boyle, Mr C Curling, J.P., Newcastle West; Mr John Hayes, Mr M Madigan, Mr H Doupe, Mr M Reidy, &c., &c. The following sent carriages—Mrs White, Nantawan; Mrs Vesey Browne, Dromard; Miss Nugent Humble, New Park; Miss Royse, Ballinivrick; Rev J T Waller, Castletown Manor; Knight of Glin, Glin Castle; Major Kiggell, Cahara. The numerous beautiful floral crosses and wreaths bore the following inscriptions—"From Lucy and Ingoldby"; "To My Darling Mother, from Anna"; "My Darling Mother, from Mary"; "From her loving granddaughter, May"; "From her loving grandsons Willie, Jasper, Henry, and Derek"; "To my dear mistress, from Mrs Savage"; "With sincere regret from Captain and Mrs Arlington, Chichester"; "With sincere sympathy from Colonel Justice"; "With deep regret, from Mrs White, Nantawan"; "In affectionate memory, from F Royse"; "With sincere regret, from Miss Nugent Humble"; "In affectionate remembrance, from Miss Lloyd-Apjohn"; "In affectionate remembrance, with deepest sympathy, from Mrs Vesey Browne"; "Mrs Moroney and Mrs Moloney's kindest sympathy"; "With deep regret, from Mrs Lloyd, Beechmount"; "With sincere regret, from Mr and Mrs Griffin. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Messrs Todd & Co, Limerick.

INTERESTING BANK CASE.

At the Limerick Quarter Sessions to-day, before the Honor, Mr Richard Adams, Q.C., and a special jury, an action was brought by Mr Michael Connors, cattle dealer, Cash, to recover £50 from the National Bank, having a branch at Bruff, and the cashier, Mr Thomas O'Powell. Mr P Lynch, B.L. (instructed by Mr John Durdon, solr, Limerick), appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr A M Sullivan, B.L. (instructed by Mr O'Shaughnessy, solr, Charleville), represented the defendants. Mr Connors, in reply to Mr Lynch, stated that he attended at Bruff fair on the 23rd of November; he had a cheque for £300, and went to the bank to get it cashed; he saw the manager, and had a conversation with him about the manner in which the money should be paid; the amounts in which the money would be paid were marked on the back of the cheque, and he went and presented it to the cashier, Mr Powell; he was paid in two fifty pound notes, five twenties, five tens, ten in threes, and five in ones; he was given fifty in fives; he got ten in fives and twenty in one pound notes; he counted all the money in a bundle, and thought he was overpaid £100, and gave it back; he went out to buy his cattle, and produced a book containing an entry of the cattle transactions, which entries were made by his cousin; he returned to the bank and told the cashier that instead of giving him £100 too much, he got £50 too little; the cashier said he could do nothing about it, and told him to go and speak to the manager; the manager told him he could do nothing for him until the bank was closed; he remained waiting for five or six hours, and at five minutes to three he went in, and he was told to go down the street and have a glass of malt, and that the porter would be sent for him as soon as the accounts were made up. His Honor—At what time did you go back to the bank in the morning? Witness—About half-past ten; about five minutes after I got the cheque changed; when he saw the manager, Mr Hannigan, in the evening, he said there was £88 odd over the account, and probably the £11 odd would turn up; the witness added that he was leaving that night for Nenagh, but he left his address to the accountant who; the manager promised, would send him word in a few days, but he never heard from that day to this. His Honor (to Mr Sullivan)—Is that true? Mr Sullivan—Yes. Witness, continuing, stated he went into the bank at Cashel and asked if there was any money lodged to his account in Bruff, and he was told there was not. Cross-examined by Mr Sullivan, the witness stated the amount on the back of the cheque totted £300, but when he wanted to get smaller change Mr Powell did not tell him to wait until he had finished paying him; he saw Mr Powell tick off on the back of the cheque each item as paid; he counted out two fifties and five twenties and five tens; he counted out ten threes and twenty one pound notes. Witness—No, he only gave fifty in fives. Will you deny Mr Powell that he gave you £500 in bulk and then changed for you? I do. When you went back you were told if there was £50 wrong the accounts would show it? Yes. Did you think there was anything wrong until you made up the book with your payments? No. At the time of going away when you left Mr Powell were you satisfied you were all right? Yes. And was it not on making up the payments and missing money afterwards that you thought there was anything wrong? Witness—I considered when he gave me fifty pounds in fives too much that I gave him back £100. It was after paying for the cattle that I found it out. In reply to his Honor, witness stated he paid £156 12s 6d to seven or eight people in varying sums for cattle. He gave £7 to his cousin for drovers and got 17s in luck money. He had left £87 7s 6d. A young man named Connors, cousin of the last witness, stated he distinctly saw him give back two fifty pound notes, and heard him say to Mr Powell, "You gave me £100 too much." In the evening he heard the manager say, "I sympathise with you." He then told him there was £38 5s 9d, or £38 8s 9d, over his accounts, but they could not pay it until they saw where the other £11 was. He told him leave his address to Mr Powell, and that he would write to him in a few days. Mr D O'Callaghan, cattle buyer, Cork, deposed to hearing Mr O'Connor saying to the clerk, "You are paying me one hundred pounds too much." Mr Patrick Sullivan, Cork, deposed to seeing Connors handing back money, but could not say what kind. Mr O'Callaghan, on being recalled, stated in reply to his Honor, that he saw the notes when Mr Connors was handing them back, but didn't see the amount; he heard Connors say to the cashier, "You are giving £100 too much." His Honor—Did you consider that curious? Mr O'Callaghan—I never saw it happen before. Mr Connors, on being recalled, stated he did not count the money until after he had paid for the cattle. Mr Sullivan, on opening the case for the defence, stated that on that particular day £10,000 changed hands in the bank, and £8,500 were paid out in cheques. In the evening after the

COUNTY PETTY SESSIONS.

THE ELECTION. To-day the election of a Petty Jury for the Liberties of Limerick and district, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr Stannard MacAdam, to the Criminal Court of the County, two candidates went to the poll, and Mr Augustus Hobson—the latter having withdrawn at the last moment of Mr Hobson. A great amount manifested in the election, as it was expected to be very close. The election was conducted by his Honor, Judge A presiding at the Quarter Sessions, kindly placed the court at the disposal of the magistrates for the occasion. His seat at eleven o'clock, and a great number of magistrates whose names will be found in the list, and there were also a large number of the rival candidates in court. Mr John Ellard, Clerk of the Court, and Mr J DeCourcy, Acting Clerk, were in attendance. His Honor, addressing the jury, stated the election was no part of the Quarter Sessions; and he had not performed in connection with it, but had been named in the requisition in which the election would be held, and he would be glad to aid or assist in his power to whom they would appoint. He pointed out the lines on which the election was to be conducted, and quoted the Act on the matter of voting. Only he could vote who were resident in one of the districts, being of the county in which the district is situated, or those who though not resident in the district habit of attending at the Petty Sessions could only give one vote. Knowing that this election, on his Honor had consulted some as to whether he had a vote, it was clear he had no vote; and that he would be doing an act and his vote would be struck out by the Lord. He thought a chairman of quarter to be most careful not to do any illegal. The magistrates could amongst themselves a chairman stated, would have only one vote was any clerical work to be done would be most happy to relieve of that part of the duty take the names of the magistrates of any objections that were to be taken of this election there was a Queen's Bench Division, the validity of the election, or if vested solely in the Lord Lieutenant. Mr J O'G Delmege proposed to take the chair, and Mr Greene the proposition. Mr William Spillane said, with any disrespect to Lord Emly, as a class to which he belonged, the Lord Lieutenant of should occupy that position. He saw where the Lord Lieutenant of not called on as chairman, and he party now to giving that offence. Mr Delmege (interrupting)—I of the presence of the Lord Lieutenant. Had I known it I would posed anyone. It is quite unnecessary for Spillane to make a speech. His Honor—That is only what from a gentl man like Mr Delm Lieutenant of the county is the p reside. Mr T E O'Brien, the Lord Lie county, then took the chair on the Mr Greene-Bary said before it proceeded with, he wished to bri fore his Honor and the mag should invalidate the election, telegram from Lord Emly, sayi got official instruction from t Crown that he (Lord Emly) was vote. Mr Ellard explained that he ordinary notice to each of the nference to the election, being impression that Lord Emly was the district. He subsequently Tervoe was in the Patrickwell; sent Lord Emly intimation to ths to save unnecessary trouble. Mr Wm F O'Grady—There is Honor, but Tervoe is in the Patr The election was then proceede Mr Wm Spillane said he pose a gentleman for the he thought, they would al pre-eminently qualified by his p the position. He was not vai pose that anything he would a single vote, as he was sure a had promised his vote long ago, a pride himself with the opinion t fluence one vote directly or indire merely say for himself that if he he would go to the army, and registrar he would go to had experience in another c was exactly the case with candidate whom he proposed. considerable experience in the C