

THE electric lighting scheme for Limerick seems to occupy a very uncertain, if not unsatisfactory, position, and so far as the outside public are concerned they are in ignorance as to whether the project is to be carried out, and if so when. Some years ago the Corporation obtained a Provisional Order, the effect of which is to retain in their own hands the power of supplying electric light should it be sought for. A very wise precaution when it is remembered that the Gas Works are the property of the citizens, and will have discharged by 1899 the entire indebtedness for which they are responsible. Still electric light is the light of the future, and though, no doubt, it will take a long time to supersede gas, it is still gradually coming to the front, not alone by reason of its brilliancy as an illuminant but because of the neatness and cleanliness which are to be found wherever the light is used. The Corporation have exhibited an amount of procrastination in reference to this matter, which has in the end told adversely on themselves. So far back as the month of October, 1895, the Board of Trade wrote asking what steps had been taken for the carrying out of the Order. Then inquiries were instituted as to the probable number of consumers obtainable in the city and the order was renewed. An expert, Professor Kennedy, was engaged to report on the most feasible scheme, and the possibility of obtaining motive power from the Shannon. Information as to the working of electricity in other cities was also obtained, but here the matter ends. No practical commencement of the scheme has been made, and if it ever does come to anything its prospects have now largely diminished by the fact that several of the large firms and factories in the city have, of their own accord, independently of the Corporation altogether, introduced electric light into their premises, but it is right to add that the Gas Works are not as great a sufferer by the change as might be imagined, as in some instances we learn that gas engines are the motive power employed in generating electricity. The monster drapery houses are now following suit with these other firms, so that the area from which the Corporation could have hoped to obtain custom has been very considerably narrowed. And then the point arises, as it did at the last meeting of the Corporation, whether a person introducing electric light has power to supply his neighbours with an installation. "If this was allowed," said Mr Spillane, "the Corporation might as well drop their installation scheme,

had a number of persons summoned for the non-payment of County Coas. Decrees were granted in each case. The police had persons summoned for allowing their dogs to be at large on the public road. Nominal fines were imposed.

THE IRISH TRADES CONGRESS.—By authority of the Parliamentary Committee, a report has been published in pamphlet form of the proceedings of the Third Irish Trades Congress held in Limerick on the 25th, 26th, and 27th May, 1896. It has been printed in a very neat and attractive form by Messrs Guy and Company, Limerick. On the front page are the arms of the four provinces, and also the Limerick Arms, and on the first few pages of the back are photos of Mr P J Tevenan, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee; Mr John Simmons, Secretary, do; Mr James Dalton, President Limerick Trades Council, and Mr R P O'Connor, Secretary of the Limerick Trades Council. The publication will be a most interesting souvenir to all connected with the Congress.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.

Mr Henry Petre had the honour of entertaining H. E. H. the Duke of Cambridge at his residence in Park Lane last week. There were present to meet H. R. H.—The Earl of Cork, K.P., and the Countess of Cork; Lady Dorothy Neville, The Countess Howe, The Lady Inchiquin, Isabella, Countess of Wilton, Lord and Lady de L'Isle and Dudley, Mr and Mrs Adrian Hope, Sir George and Lady Julia Womburll, Colonel Brabazon, Colonel Fitzgeorge, Mr Christopher Sykes, and Count and Countess a'Ancefeldt, of the Danish Embassy.

DEATH OF A LIMERICK GENTLEMAN IN MELBOURNE.

The *Melbourne Age* of the 12th June contains the following intelligence, which will be of melancholy interest to many Limerick people:—

"**SUDDEN DEATH.**—Foster, Thursday.—William Phayer, a resident of the town, left his home at 8 yesterday morning in his usual health, returned about 1 and lay down on his bed, refusing dinner, but apparently in good health. About 3 o'clock his wife went into the room and found him dead. At a magisterial inquiry held this morning, a verdict was returned that deceased died from syncope through failure of the heart's action. The deceased, who came from Limerick to the colonies in the early days, and returned home after a time, came back about 25 years ago, taking up his residence in this town. He was 53 years of age, and leaves a wife and family for whom much sympathy is being expressed."

THE ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

The following letter was read at the Corporation to-day from the Law Adviser:—

"101 George street,
Limerick, July 23rd, 1896.

"**MY DEAR TOWN CLERK.**—I have considered the matter (electric lighting) referred to me by the Town Council on 21st inst.

"It is clear that no private person can supply "electric light" to any other person, and it seems also clear that no private persons can manufacture electric light for their purposes without the license of the Board of Trade, which license cannot be obtained without notice to the Corporation. Under the circumstances it appears to me advisable that a notice should be served on those persons who contemplate supplying others with electric light, cautioning them against doing so, and on those persons who contemplate a private supply, requesting them to obtain a license from the Board of Trade.

"I am, yours faithfully,
"JOHN DUNDON."

THE CORPORATION AND THE NATIONAL LEAGUE ROOM.

A meeting took place last evening at the

Trustees, observed that the Corporation were giving up all its rights to the Markets Trustees, agreeing £1,400 a year. That sum of £1,400 was to be paid for some years. Markets Trustees were unable to only sums varying from two to three pounds per year were paid to the lieu of the £1,400. At the present Trustees owed the Corporation on that being the case the Corporation interest in keeping the markets open, but could keep the markets open, but could keep their own hands and make a very large saving. The plan he proposed was extremely cheap now. Corporation to offer anything like the security Corporation could offer, could I from 4½ to 3½ per cent, and with money on the market he did not Limerick Corporation could not at from three to three and a half. If they got the money at 3½ per cent effect a big saving. What he proposed the Corporation should take over Trust and all its liabilities. All the present moment were £38,000 stock for that amount they annual liability of £1,300. What they have to meet that. He has of the income of the market 1890-91-92-93-94. The net income £2,295 5s 10d; 1891, £2,987; 1892, £2,200 5s 7d; 1894, £1,911; average of £2,258. Out of that interest (£1,300) on the stock to issue, which would leave a net profit that did not represent the entire for they would take over a very party. The pig market is a thin pig market will never be held the farmers are now bringing the chanta's stores, and you would the frontage in Mulgrave street, and Garryowen to let for build present it could not be touché gagees would not allow a six ground to be let. If you get it and calculate it at sixpence a foot will get a further income of £250. Mr Corbett—Did you take in turning up through the centre of the Alderman O'Mara—I did not. you will always want a haymarket think you can dispense with any markets except the pig market facing Garryowen. Along with take powers in the Bill to be purpose to bring the Munster Fair markets, for which the field could well as the hay and corn market pig market is a thing of the past not want it again. The Mayor—Except on the hold Fair. Alderman O'Mara—Well, you forty feet in depth. We would fulfil in the Bill to put a nominal charge (tankard) on all milk coming into and M'Donnell's factories. I have and by charging 4d per tankard an income of £500 a year. I have the butter and corn receipts. For a year as ground rent, making a variation from the probable receipts Fair, say £150.— Mr Gaffney—You will have to liabilities of the Munster Fair Co Alderman O'Mara—So you will leave that item out if necessary. for extra tolls, and you can see that if you can carry your bill tion you can save an income from the markets alone. These err; and we are taking calculation. So much for the fees. The Corporation owes debts on the Gas and Water Works