

documents are lodged with the Local Government Board.

Mr Macnamara said the ratepayers had not been aware of it all.

Mr Healy, in reply to Mr Macnamara, said the application sent up stated the assessable value of the town, and what its liabilities were, and the Local Government Board would know exactly what money was due by them. The petition, plans, and books of reference have been lodged with them, and with Parliament as required.

Mr Macnamara observed that every person objecting could attend at the inquiry.

A long discussion ensued, during which some of the members were opposed to the scheme on the ground of the extra taxation it would involve, and particularly if Parliamentary proceedings were necessary.

It was decided to go on with the scheme.

AMNESTY.

A resolution calling for the amnesty of the Irish political prisoners, forwarded by the Amnesty Association was adopted. There was at first some hesitation about this course, but Mr Lynch proposed its passing.

Mr Moloney said they had a very good resolution there not to touch political matters.

Mr Armstrong—You ought to adopt it.

Mr Moloney said he would object to it. Let there be a poll.

The resolution was, however, marked "adopted" without going to a poll.

Adjourned.

DEATH OF A LIMERICK MAN IN AMERICA.

A Massachusetts correspondent states that Mr Robert Bishop, a wealthy cotton waste manufacturer, died suddenly at his home in Brooklyn, Mass, on January 17th, of heart disease. Mr Bishop was born in the county Limerick in June 1838. In 1863 he engaged in the cotton waste business with a capital of barely 206 dolrs, and by arduous labour and skillful management, developed his plant, until of late years his business had considerably exceeded a million dollars a year. In 1868 and 1870 he was a member of the Boston (Mass) Common Council. Mr Bishop was widely known among business men and gained a high reputation for his upright character. He leaves a widow, four sons and one daughter.

IMPORTANT QUESTION UNDER THE LAND ACT.

Judgment was given in the Appeal Court yesterday on an important question under the Land Act. It came before the court on a case stated by the Land Commission as to whether they were bound to ascertain and record in the form of a schedule the several matters mentioned in sub-section 1 of section 1 of the Land Act of 1896 as required by the landlord on the hearing of a Land Commission appeal respecting a fair rent. The Land Commission had refused the landlord's application on the ground that in their opinion the requirement of the Act related to the court which originally fixed the judicial rent. The Court of appeal yesterday unanimously decided that the ruling of the Land Commission was wrong, and that they must ascertain and state the particulars specified by the Act.

REMARKABLE STORY OF MICE.

December 9, 1896.

"GENTLEMEN.—We have a quantity of mice at this Establishment, and of late they have found their way into our Soap Lockers. For the last three or four months I have watched their movements carefully, and strange to say they have fed exclusively off Vinolia Soap. There are

ing his duty as a member, whether in the presence or out of it, and his absence from that assembly, in whose deliberations he took an active part, will be regretted by members of all parties, especially as ill-health is assigned as the cause. We find some consolation, however, in hoping that we may now see more of that side of Sir George which showed itself in "Ladies in Parliament," and less of that which was responsible for the declaration that the Game of Law and Order was up.—Globe.

THE NIGER CAMPAIGN.

The first half of the Niger campaign is over, and well over. The Nupe army south of the river is utterly scattered, and the Foulah power destroyed. The enemy to the north are reported to be conveniently massed to defend the Bida road, and in a few days Major Arnold and his column should be able to meet and dispose of them. Reuter's special correspondent mentions incidentally that the road already covered exceeds that from the Gold Coast to Coomassie and back, and yet of 1,000 loads carried not one has been lost. The Niger Company has a right to congratulate itself on the feat, and perhaps to grow a little over the success of its method of carrying on war by private enterprise. Certainly this description of warfare has been remarkably successful of late in various parts of Africa from the Shire to the Niger, although we do not hear of many decorations, rewards, or promotions for the capable young officers who have achieved such splendid results with very inadequate material and at so little cost.

DEATH OF THE INVENTOR OF THE MARTINI RIFLE.

Zurich, Monday.

Frederick Martini, the inventor of the Martini rifle, has died at his home at Frauenfeld, in the canton of Thurgau, at the age of 64. The deceased was formerly an officer in the Austrian Engineers, and went through the Italian campaign of 1859. He afterwards returned to Switzerland and established himself in business as an engineer. His rifle was adopted by the British Government in 1871 in combination with the Henri barrel. Martini devised a number of improvements in industrial machinery and his embroidery machine is largely used in eastern Switzerland. He was extremely fond of music and poetry, and wrote a number of lyric poems.

THE AFFAIRS OF MR SIMS REEVES.

At the London Court of Bankruptcy yesterday it was reported that a receiving order had been made against Mr John Sims Reeves, professional vocalist, residing at Ridgmount-gardens, W.C. No particulars of the debtor's affairs were given.

Dr W Killech, of Johnstone, Renfrewshire, was found dead in February Park yesterday morning in a train which had arrived from Scotland. Two phials which had contained prussic acid were on the seat.

Lord Salisbury went to London yesterday from Hatfield. Before going to the House of Lords he paid a visit to the Foreign Office, and received there the Turkish Ambassador and French Minister of Plenipotentiary. The Portuguese Charge d'Affairs also visited the Foreign Office during the afternoon.

The smack Francis, belonging to Messrs Hewitt and Co, arrived in Yarmouth yesterday, with the loss of the mate, Samuel Warner, aged 30, who was washed overboard by a heavy sea during the late gales. This makes a total of thirteen lives of fishermen sailing from Yarmouth lost since the beginning of the year.

The members of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers on the Tyne, Wear, and Tees, and