

Owing to the frost the meeting of the Co. Limerick Hounds will be at Curraghmore on Thursday instead of Wednesday.

KILRUSH PETTY SESSIONS—These sessions were held yesterday before Mr A. M. Harpur, B.M. (Chairman); Mr John Culligan, Mr W. V. Sandour Reeves, Mr W. J. Glynn. The cases were unimportant.

THE BACON TRADE—The price of pigs continues to advance. The quotation to-day was 11s per cwt, which is about 8s over that of a month ago. The total killings during the past week in Limerick, Waterford, and Cork numbered 9,147, those of the previous week being about the same.

FIRE—A fire broke out last night after the premises had been locked up, in the office of the Whitehaven Coal Company, Mount Kennett. It was caused by the wood work adjoining the grate taking fire, but fortunately the flame was quickly noticed by Mr P. Kavanagh, who resides close by, and also by some employees, and it was quickly extinguished before much damage was done. The Fire Brigade were speedily on the scene, but found their presence was not needed.

ALLEGED MALICIOUS INJURY TO A STALLION—A claim for £250 compensation has been lodged with the Secretary of the County Limerick Grand Jury by Mr Thomas Beary, publican, of Ballyneety, near Limerick Junction, for the loss of the stallion Boonakie, which is alleged to have been maliciously injured, and as a result of the injuries had to be destroyed. The horse was found lying helplessly in the stable, and Mr Power, V.S. of Tipperary, being summoned, found the horse's shoulder broken, and as the poor animal was suffering great pain he was shot by the police. District Inspector Toppin, Neygallas, and Sergeant McAree, Oola, are investigating the case.

THE ROUSBEY OPERA COMPANY.

This company, which is delighting crowded houses in Dublin, will commence a visit to the Theatre Royal, Limerick, on Monday next. It is to be regretted the visit is so short, it being for three nights with a matinee on Wednesday. The works to be produced are *La Sonnambula*, *The Lily of Kilburney*, *Tannhauser*, and *Maritana*, each of which is certain to attract a crowded house. *Tannhauser* will be looked forward to with special interest.

The *Irish Times* says—"There can be no doubt that this brilliant opera has taken an immense hold on the popular fancy in Dublin, as was shown by the earnest attention with which the various numbers were listened to, and by the warm appreciation which followed their rendering. Mr E. Goossens, jun., conducted with masterly skill, and the overture which is a delightful orchestral performance and one of the features of the work, was given with splendid accuracy and finish. Mr Henry Beaumont and Miss Adelaide Mullen, old Dublin favourites, were, as before, the *Tannhauser* and *Venus* of the opera, and both being in perfect voice sang the parts allotted to them in a charming manner, the gentleman giving the 'Love' song with excellent effect. Mrs Arthur Rousbey is a thorough *triste*, who appeared in the role of a Shepherd boy, and she sang her part in a finished way, the lovely air to the pipe obligato being most attractively rendered. The 'Pilgrims Chorus,' a voice *morceau* in the opera, was given with grand effect, and Mr Rousbey excelled his previous efforts in this direction in Vulfram's invocation to *Tannhauser*. The such praise cannot be given to Miss Gues Molteno, who appeared as Elizabeth, and as accorded a hearty reception. To say that she sang and acted with consummate ability scarcely realises the excellence of her efforts.

DEATH OF G. JOHN COOTE, ESQ., J.P.

On Wednesday last Mr G. John Coote, of Mount Coote, Kilmallock, died rather suddenly at the age of 85. He was a highly honorable country gentleman, and a most generous and unostentatious benefactor of the Church of Ireland. Though he lived to such a patriarchal age, he retained his mental vigour to the last. He was a highly cultured gentleman and had a large store of knowledge. The Rev Canon Hackett, D.D., preaching on Sunday last on the text "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them," paid a well-merited tribute to the deceased as a true friend, and generous supporter of his parish, as well as a truly honorable and upright gentleman. He stated that he had endowed the parish of Kilmallock with £3,000, and had also contributed otherwise about £1,000, thus securing a liberal income for the incumbent. He had also given £250 towards the building of the Rectory, and £120 towards building the school, and one of his last acts was to endow the school with £1,000 and to leave £1,000 to the Episcopal Fund. Besides these generous gifts, he had also given many smaller ones, and in all Dr Hackett computed he has given about £7,000 to the church. He had a sincere love for the church, and often expressed his opinion that churchmen should stand by their church more liberally than they did. "Faeta non verba" seemed to be his motto and we wish there were more of our country gentlemen who gave the same generous support to their Church. The preacher exhorted his hearers to follow his noble example of generosity, knowing that when the final day came men would be judged according to their works, and hoped that when God called them hence they would be as ready to obey that call as he who had now passed away to "where beyond these busy voices there is peace."

DEATH OF A COUNTY LIMERICK MAN IN THE STATES.

Mr Patrick J. Ryan, superintendent of the Great Northern Railway, Montana, eldest son of James and Hannah Ryan, Anoka, Minn. (formerly of Kiltelly, Co Limerick), and nephew of Mrs J. Considine, Clogheen, died at his home, Kalispell, Montana, on 3rd December, 1896, of pneumonia. The following extract from a notice which appeared in the *Irish Standard*, Minneapolis, Minn., December 12th, testifies to the great respect in which Mr Ryan was held by all classes: "during the severe cold weather the snow blockades which prevailed in Montana and the Dakotas a few weeks since, the mountain division of the Great Northern system was completely paralysed. To Superintendent Ryan was entrusted the work of seeing the tracks cleared. Exposed to cold winter blasts, and looking not to his own welfare, but to the welfare of hundreds of suffering travellers, endeavouring to reach their destination, Mr Ryan contracted a severe cold, which developed into pneumonia, which caused his death. He was 37 years of age, and leaves a wife and two children. The funeral services were held at the Church of St Anthony, of Padua, on Wednesday morning, where High Requiem Mass was celebrated by Rev Father Van, of Kalispell. The floral offerings were numerous and exceedingly handsome in design, coming from rail road officials of all sections, and friends of the family. The funeral sermon of the Rev James O'Rielly was very impressive. Father O'Rielly paid a warm tribute to the memory of Mr Ryan. He showed that his life was a success. He left behind him an example that any young man might imitate with profit. His private life was as pure as his official life was successful. He was trusted and respected by all classes."

THE FIRE BRIGADE.

At the Fire Brigade Committee to-day, the

IRISH DAIRY ASSOCIATION.

A Committee meeting of the Irish Dairy Association was held at the Station Hotel, Limerick Junction, on Saturday, to discuss the arrangements for holding a Dairy conference in Cork during the month of February. Besides President, Count Moore, there were present Prof. Carroll, and Mr A. P. Wilson, Board Secretary of Dublin; Mr C. Walsh, of Ballyhay; Mr C. Bevington; Mr T. W. Hamner, Limerick Junction; The late Hon Sec. Mr M. A. O'Callaghan and Mr Walter Thorp, acting secretary.

It was decided to hold a Conference in Cork Tuesday, February 16th, to commence with annual general meeting at 9.30 p.m. Count Moore will deliver an address on Swiss Dairy at 10.30 a.m., and will be followed by Prof. Carroll and Mr A. P. Wilson, who will read papers on the Pasturisation of Milk to be illustrated lantern slides, and if possible, by practical demonstrations. The afternoon will be given up to a lecture and demonstration on Profitable Poultry Rearing by Mr Parton, a colleague of Mr Edw. Brown, F.L.S., of Reading, Berks. It is intended that Mr Parton shall deliver similar lectures under the auspices of the Irish Dairy Association at Pilltown, Clonmel, Cahir, Tipperary, and Glasnevin. A charge will be made for admission but free tickets may be had on applying to Hon. Sec. of the association at 57 George street, Limerick.

The President (Count Moore) was requested continue negotiations with the Royal Agricultural Society of England, with regard to Exhibition of Irish Creamery Butter at the annual shows. Prof. Carroll was also requested to negotiate with the Royal Dublin Society some share in the working of the Butter Department of the Ballsbridge Shows, to be taken the Irish Dairy Association.

When the Irish Dairy Association undertook the management of the dairy section at Ballsbridge, December, 1895, they had over exhibits, but when the Royal Dublin Society ran the section themselves in December, 1896, the exhibits fell to half that number.

PRESENTATION TO MR M. A. O'CALLAGHAN.

After other business, the hon sec brought forward a large number of letters expressing regret at the resignation of Mr M. A. O'Callaghan on occasion of his appointment as dairy expert to the Government of New South Wales.

The President said—"We have very great pleasure, Mr O'Callaghan, in handing you this souvenir (a silver-fitted suit case) of our regard on the occasion of your leaving us. I assure you that we grudge your services very much to New South Wales. The Colonies are always getting the best of us, and to-day we are losing one of the most intelligent and most earnest workers we have ever had in this country. (hear, hear) The Irish Dairy Association will long continue to regret your absence. You have been of the greatest assistance to us. Your business capacity and your promptitude in your business relations with us have helped to bring the Irish Dairy Association to its present proud position. We have met with extraordinary success, and it is brought together the largest butter shows held in the whole world, mainly owing to your exertions, to your uniform courtesy, and to your promptness in the discharge of business; only true to say that when any new suggestion has been tried, they have generally come from you. We regret and deplore very much to see that you are leaving us, and hope it will not long before we see you back again in our country. I have only to repeat the pleasure I have in presenting you with this souvenir to-day, and the address accompanying it, and wish you health and God-speed upon your journey."

Mr W. Thorp then proposed the health of Mr O'Callaghan, which was drunk with enthusiasm. Mr O'Callaghan made a suitable reply, and the meeting terminated.

KILRUSH BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)