

AT THE HUNTS. A further reminder of the gentleman present, large and fashionable, duty and city being a programme, arranged by the very priority of "Softened Splendour" effectively harmonised by Mr W Herwood, and death of Nelson, by Mr ...

THE ROUSBEY OPERA COMPANY. On Thursday evening Wagner's great work, Tannhauser, was produced by the Rousbey Opera Company at the Theatre Royal before a crowded house. The staging was excellent, and the costumes and other accessories were of a most brilliant description. The opera is a heavy one to produce, and certainly it was a most ambitious effort of the company, on which they are entitled to congratulate themselves in every sense of the word. The music, largely of a pathetic strain, is of a very sublime nature, and the numerous recitatives and arias, all of them distinguishing features, were sung with great taste and expression. The most familiar number in the opera, 'Hail Bright Abode,' sung by the full chorus with orchestral accompaniment, was a truly grand performance and evoked rounds of applause. Undoubtedly the opera requires to be seen more than once to be thoroughly appreciated, and we are glad to note that as the company, owing to their success of the past week, have decided to extend their engagement over the entire of next week, another opportunity of seeing this masterpiece will be afforded the public on Saturday next at a Matinee. Too much credit cannot be given to the orchestra who, under the conductorship of Signor Egardo Levi, did full justice to the beautiful music, and in which the delicate notes of the harp played a distinctive part. The casts was admirably sustained, and we regret that pressure on our space does not enable us to particularise the individual performances, all of which were of the highest merit. When a first class company appears at the Theatre Royal in an opera like *Maritana* a large audience is always brought together, and this was the case last night, the house being filled, in some parts to inconvenience. The universally popular work of Wallace was presented with great success by the casts which appeared last night. Mr W H Stephens, in the part of 'Don Cesar,' sang and acted well. His rendering of 'Let me like a soldier fall' was vigorous and well sustained, and he responded to a well deserved recall. His singing of 'There is a flower that bloometh' was also appreciated. Mr W Burton as 'Don Jose,' further enhanced his reputation. His fine rendering of 'In happy moments,' and 'No! my courage,' evoked enthusiastic encores. Madame Marie D'Alcourt's 'Maritana' was delightful. She acted gracefully, and sang with sweetness and expression. Miss Theresa Gilbert as 'Lazarillo' was most successful. Her rendering of 'Alas, those chimes,' was warmly encored. Mr E Griffin as the 'King of Spain,' was also excellent, and the interpretation of the other parts left nothing to be desired. This afternoon before a large and fashionable audience, the charming opera *Martha*, was produced, the performance being up to the highest standard. The Yorkshire Owl writing of Mrs Rousbey's bright career says:—"Mrs Arthur Rousbey, whose name is one of the brightest stars in the realm of English song, was born at Genoa, Italy, of English parentage. With this advantage Mrs. Rousbey has a perfect command over the mellifluous language of the land of her birth, as well as the more robust and expressive speech of her parents. Of these fortunate professional circumstances the fullest advantage was wisely taken. She was put to study singing under Undine Landi, an erstwhile famous soprano at present living at Florence. Coming to England upon a visit to her relatives, the young aspirant was introduced to the celebrated composer and conductor Mr F H Cowen, upon whose recommendation an engagement was obtained from Mr D'Oyly Carte for the Savoy Theatre. At this time she was introduced to Mr Rousbey by Signor Bisaccia, then coaching her in her repertoire. Professional engagement resulted, which in time assumed the rosier shades of romance, for Mr Rousbey discovered that the sweetness of the demoiselle did not consist solely in her notes, but had such other power of captivation as to enslave him, so it happened that the impressario accepted the tenderest of dooms. Mrs Rousbey has since made rapid advances in her profession, having added such roles as *Marguerite (Faust)*, *Martha (Martha)*, *Eily (Lily of Killarney)*, *Arline (Bohemian Girl)*, *Maritana*, &c., in all of which she has obtained conspicuous success. So marked has been her advance in art that her position in the caste bears equal importance with that of her husband; the public being as eager as the management for her every appearance at the different theatres visited. Mrs Rousbey's voice is what is known as a light high soprano of bird-like quality, flexible, and capable of great expression. These excellent qualities, together with perfect distinctness of utterance, make her performances always intelligible, and consequently agreeable. To these art excellencies nature has lavishly added, by giving Mrs Rousbey a presence which holds sensational command of the stage. Quite young and girl-like in appearance, her pleasing personality at once makes her a great favourite."

DEATH OF DR. RINGROSE ATKINS, M.A., WATERFORD. We deeply regret to record the unexpected death of a very eminent gentleman in his profession, Dr. Ringrose Atkins, M.A., Resident Medical Superintendent of Waterford Lunatic Asylum, who passed away on the 4th instant, after a very short illness. Dr. Atkins, who was nephew of Dr. Gelston, of Limerick, was well known in this city, where he frequently lectured before the Young Men's Association and other institutions on certain scientific subjects, on which he was an undoubted authority. He was one of the ablest Psychologists in Ireland and some of his most important lectures were on the Brain in connection with intemperance, for he was a very earnest advocate of the temperance cause. Dr. Atkins, who was only in his 50th year, had a very brilliant career, and its premature close has caused the deepest regret to all who valued him for his undoubted talents, his unceasing energy in the performance of his professional duties, and for his kindly and unassuming manner to all, rich and poor alike. We take the following details from the *Cork Constitution* of to-day:— On last Tuesday evening, as was his custom, he started from the District Lunatic Asylum, Waterford, of which he was Resident Medical Superintendent, for a long walk, but he had not proceeded far when he felt indisposed, and returned to his residence. He was not able to leave his bed the following morning, and was attended by Dr Mackesy and Dr Friel for intestinal trouble of a serious form. His condition, unfortunately, becoming worse during Wednesday, his brothers—Dr T. Gelston Atkins, and Mr W R Atkins, J.P.—were telegraphed for. The former gentleman reached Waterford on Thursday evening, and joined the physicians already mentioned in assiduous care of the patient, but despite all that they could do, he passed away soon after six o'clock yesterday morning. Mr W R Atkins reached Waterford yesterday, and, needless to add, the relatives of the deceased gentleman are nearly prostrated at his untimely demise, for he has been cut down in the midst of a busy, a useful, and a markedly distinguished life. Two years ago Dr Atkins suffered from a similar malady, and he nearly succumbed. He was born in Cork in the year 1848, and seldom have we had occasion to refer to a more brilliant career. Entering Cork Queen's College at an early age, he passed through the various preliminary examinations with much credit. In 1871 he proceeded to the degree of Master of Arts of the Q U I, and two years later he became a M D, prizeman and gold medallist of the same University. He was a member of the British Medical Association of the Medico-Psychological Association, and ex-President of the South of Ireland Branch of the former body, and secretary for a time of the Cork Medical and Surgical Society. On obtaining his medical diploma in 1878, he was appointed to the position of a assistant resident medical superintendent of the Cork District Lunatic Asylum to Dr Eames; here he laboured with great acceptance and success until '78, when he went to the Waterford District Lunatic Asylum as resident medical superintendent by order of the Lord Lieutenant, and from that time down to the present he discharged the onerous duties of his office with great ability and invariable gentleness and solicitude for the unhappy people who were committed to his care. He was undoubtedly one of the greatest authorities on his day on all forms of mental disease, such work as "Arterio-capillary fibrosis," "On morbid changes in blood vessels and the nerve elements of brain of the insane," "Pathological illustrations of localisation of motor functions of the brain," "The history of the spinal chord in insanity," and so forth, giving him a deservedly high place in the estimation of the medical profession. Eminently studious and keenly observant, he devoted himself to his high calling with great devotion, and, being fond of travel, he spent his holidays each year in foreign lands. He was an amateur photographer of exceptional merit, and he always returned from his journeyings on the Continent with snapshots of the various places he visited, and vivid impressions of the habits and customs of the people that in the form of lectures was highly appreciated in the South of Ireland and elsewhere. It is little over a fortnight since he was in the city and delivered a deeply interesting lecture to the members of the Cork Literary Scientific Society, entitled "Holy Moscow," and later still he contributed to the temperance mission which was held in Cork last week, a remarkable letter on the deleterious effects of the intemperate use of alcohol. The remains will be brought to Cork on Monday for interment, the funeral being arranged to start from the Glanmire terminus at 2.15 p.m. for St Fin Barre's Cemetery.

NEWCASTLE WEST PETTY SESSIONS—YESTERDAY. (FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.) Before Messrs. E W O'Brien, D L (presiding), George L Sheehy, Patrick O'Shaughnessy, Michael G Barry. The Chairman read a letter from Major Rolleston, R M, which referred to his retirement from the position and tendering his thanks to the magistrates for the kind assistance he always received from them in the discharge of his duties as Resident Magistrate. THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT. Sergeant Patrick Murphy, Inspector under this Act, charged Bridget Sheehy and Ellen Healy with using unstamped measures in the sale of milk for trade purposes, contrary to the Statute. Mr John Condon, solicitor, defended. Sergeant Murphy stated that he on Sunday last found the defendants with those measures; Mrs Sheehy repeated on being questioned the measure was a pint, but answered hesitatingly; he found the measures unstamped—without any denomination, and they were used in the dealing out of milk for sale; Mrs Sheehy stated six of the measures would make a gallon, which would be, the Sergeant said, defrauding the public of two measures in the gallon. He read the 19th Section of the Act, which stated the measure should be a multiple or sub-multiple of the gallon, and those measures not being either, he contended the Act was violated. Mr Condon said those measures were never used nor the milk sold by the gallon, but by the quantity they contained—so many measures for a half-penny or a penny, and this custom prevailed here in the sale of sour milk. A rather "breezy" dialogue arose between Mr Condon and the sergeant as to the interpretation of the 19th section of the Act. Mr Condon said they might as well prosecute a woman selling periwinkles. Mrs Sheehy, examined, corroborated Mr Condon's statement. The Bench dismissed the case. Viscount Gaillmore v Mary Maum and Kate Maum. Mr Blackall said this was a summons for maliciously breaking and injuring a fence and for trespass of cattle and assault on a caretaker, a man named Martin Cremin. Mary Maum was tenant on the Gaillmore estate, holding 6a 2r 10p statute, and there was a wood containing 18a 2r 9p, with a small fence between. She had been paid a salary of £22 10s per year for cart-taking the wood, but after it had been discovered she was breaking the fence and allowing her cattle to trespass on the wood grounds, she was cautioned, but still persevered in the trespass. Mr French, the agent, wrote on the 29th September dismissing her, enclosing a cheque for £1, balance due, and £22 10s salary, in lieu of six months' notice, and Cremin, the present caretaker, was employed. Cremin made up the fence, but defendant broke it down and drove in her cattle to trespass. She and her daughter Kate threw mud and "acrawa" at Cremin, called him informer, and acted in the most high handed manner. Martin Cremin, examined, corroborated the statement of Mr Blackall, and said he was afraid of those people, and from their demeanour it would not be safe for him to keep on minding the place. Mr Liston, for the defendants, submitted that there was no case against his clients. The defendant, and her family before her, were caretakers for a number of years. She was receiving a salary as caretaker, and allowed the grazing of her cattle in the wood. The letter was not a legal termination of the caretaking, and the proper legal steps, or proceedings to remove her as caretaker, were not taken. She was in occupation still of the position, and therefore no action could lie for trespass. Mary Maum, examined, stated she was 65 years in occupation of the wood as caretaker, and never gave it up, she had the grass of the place. Mr O'Shaughnessy—What do you mean by the grass? Had you the right of grazing on the place? Witness—I mean nothing; I was never dismissed, and am still caretaker. The bench considered the case proved, and fined 6d per head trespass of the cattle, and 1d compensation. Mary Maum was bound to the peace for six months, in £1 and two sureties of 10s each; and the charge against Kate Maum was adjourned for a month, in consideration of her youth. Same plaintiff v Edward Kuffe. Mr Blackall said this was a summons against the defendant for cutting down a number of trees (24) in the same wood (Grange) referred to in the previous case. Defendant's wife wrote apologising, and offering to pay £1 compensation, and if she did that now he was instructed to accept it. There was no appearance for defendant, and £2s compensation, 1s fine, and 10s solicitor's costs were imposed. Mr Blackall returned to the court, and complained to the bench that while he was

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