

years, a very striking result is shown. The average expenditure for '82 to '86, under the contract system, was £1,986, whilst the average under the Corporation system is about double that amount. What cost under contract in 1882 the sum of £1,793, costs in 1897 the sum of £3,526 even after Mr Forrest's saving, or about double the cost of fifteen years before. The most significant figures are those which compare the average cost per mile of four Irish cities. Waterford can cleanse its streets at an average cost of £40 per mile, Londonderry at £38, Cork at £39, whilst the streets of Limerick, as we see them, cost £106 per mile. Even this huge sum does not represent the whole cost to the ratepayers. The report gives other telling items. Owing to the system of cleansing adopted in Waterford, Derry and Cork, there is no expenditure on forage and Depot maintenance, such as that incurred in the Carr street establishment, which cost the City of Limerick for the year 1896, £1,056, is made up as follows:—Forage, £600; Farrier and V. S., £35; Harness, £21; Repairs, £144; Rents, £74; Sundries, £26; Wages, £156. While Military horses are maintained at an average cost of 7s per week, the cost per week of a Limerick Corporation horse for forage is 14s; to this amount must be added 3s 6d per week for Veterinary Farrier and Harness expenses; and 2s 4d per week for wear and tear of carts; total, 16s 10d, which added to the wages of a carter, 19s, makes an average weekly expenditure in Limerick on carter and horse of 38s 10d, which is considerably higher than that spent under the same head in the municipalities quoted. In Londonderry carters are paid 4s 6d per day, for man and horse; in Waterford 30s per week, for man and horse; in Cork, 33s per week, for man and horse. In Limerick the total cost of a man and horse amounts to 38s 10d per week. These figures and statements have been published before, and no novel statement is made now. The citizens have not realized the lavish expenditure of this department. They have the evidence of their own eyes to show how little they get for it.

The Ennis Petty Sessions were held yesterday before Mr A N Brady, R M (in the chair); and Mr H B Harris. Some licensing cases comprised the principal business of the court.

The Annual Exhibition and Sale of Work, under the auspices of the Irish Industries Association (Limerick Branch), will be held in the Athenaeum on Friday and Saturday, 9th and 10th December. The Sale will be opened by Lady Mayo, Vice President of the Irish Industries Association.

ASTRONOMICAL PHENOMENON—All students of

who appeared to be less diurnal, was sentenced to a fortnight's imprisonment.

IRISH FINANCIAL REFORM LEAGUE—A meeting of the County Clare Committee was held yesterday at Ennis, Mr J H Harvey, T C, presiding. There were also present:—Rev R H Little, P P, Six-mile-bridge; Rev P Barry, Adm, Ennis; Messrs A M Scanlan, D L Nono, and Mr S Honan, Hon Sec. The meeting had been specially convened to consider a circular from the Central Committee, asking for financial support, and pointing out that if the work of the League is to be continued and the movement carried to a successful issue, funds should be supplied by the country. Subscriptions were received, and it was ordered to send £5 to the Central Executive with a hope of a supplementary sum at the end of the year. By the way, what are the city and county of Limerick doing in regard to this important question? No meetings in relation to the subject have been held here for a very considerable time.

CHOKED BY A PIECE OF MEAT—A man named Patrick Cleary, an inmate of the lunatic ward of the Kilmallock Workhouse, met his death under peculiar circumstances on Thursday. He was at dinner, and after four or five minutes he was noticed to have dropped off the stool. Two wardsmen immediately went to his assistance, but the poor man was dead. A piece of meat, said to have been four inches long and two inches wide was found in his mouth. Dr McNamara was at once on the scene; but anything he could do was of no avail. The endeavour to swallow the piece of meat would have caused death. The meat, said the doctor, had been so coarsely cut that it should not have been sent to irresponsible people. At the female side it was cut finely. A knife and fork should be given to some persons in charge who would cut the meat into small pieces. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased died from asphyxia.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS CONCERTS.

The annual concerts in support of the St Joseph's Industrial Schools will be held in the Theatre Royal on Thursday and Friday, the 17th and 18th instant. The invaluable work this institution is doing in training up orphan boys to trades which will enable them to become useful members of society, has always been recognised by the public, and we feel certain that, as usual, the concerts will be heartily supported by the citizens. The programme of the first evening's entertainment will be found in our advertising columns this evening, and the second will follow immediately. Miss Agnes Treacy, Sch and Gold Medallist, R I A M, Mr Willie Lee (of Cork) and Mr Michael Enright—two stars in the humorous line—have been specially engaged. Several prominent amateurs have kindly promised to take part in a most interesting programme. A dramatic cantata, entitled "King Cole and his Trades," will be presented by the Boys of the Orphanage. During the evening they will also go through Musical Club Drill and other exercises, and there will be a further attraction in Irish Jigs and Hornpipes, in costume. The public will enjoy an excellent orchestra which, by permission of the Colonel and Officers, will be composed of members of the string band of the Cheshire Regiment.

THE COMING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

A meeting of the Burgesses of the Market Ward, under the auspices of the Ratepayers' Association, was held on Thursday night in connection with the coming municipal elections, under the new Local Government Bill.

undertaking.

GUY'S PRIVATE

As usual the firm the front with a beat Their books show the designs that we have being reproductions Tokema, R A; Marcou man, Bertha Maguir black and white (p numerous, novelty, b chief characteristics. mention each kind, b be satisfied by an ins tion of Irish cards fo view.

FASHIONABLE

Under the auspices a most enjoyable dan Town Hall on Wed at 9.30, and continu o'clock the followi which on its recon tended by Mr Towns Agent), to be made a room, was tasteful palms, art drapery, its peculiarly excell as a mirror to the "I music of piano an Messrs Bernard and supper room on the arranged, and every ball a most enjoyable present—Major Gene Ward, Major and Grant-town Hall; Miss Longfield, Cor Chadwick and Miss C junr, Galtee Castle; O'Heeny, Ballinard Townsend, Mr Penn Mrs Heuston, Mrs Ballykisteen; Mrs Miss White Bell, Ardmoyle; Mr and M Ryan and Mrs Ryan, O'Brien, Mr and Nadin, Miss Hanan, Eaton and party, S Holmes, The Manse; Cashel; Mr Mulcahy, Mr McNamara, Mr Croker, the Officers of ment, etc, etc.

ST JOHN'S

The monthly meeti John's Hospital took Dr O'Dwyer presiding —Very Rev T R Munchin's; Rev C C Rev T Lee, Adm, St J Dr Graham, Dr Ho Wm Lloyd, Mr Nash, T McSwiney, sec.

A report was read reference to the sanit committee was appoin arrange for having th extent of an outlay of the debt due to the b

THE FREE LI

At the meeting of