accumulated principally as the result of International matches. The chief object which the Union has is to develop football in Ireland, and there is no reason to think that the claim of Munster for an International Match will be rejected. In every branch of athletics Munster has as large a share of champions as any other provinces. In football also, when the material, which, unquestionably, exists, has obtained the means of development, Munster would be able to produce as good International representatives as any other part of Ireland. This opportunity can be given by having an International match played in the South, and should the present difference which exists as regards Wales be satisfactorily ended it is hoped that the match with Ireland will be played in Limerick. In view of this arrangement the County Cricket Ground, which would be found one of the most suitable places in the kingdom, could be obtained, and properly equipped with all the conveniences necessary for the purpose. By acceding to the wish which Munster has expressed, the Irish Rugby Union will be fulfilling an obligation which is only one of the objects for which it was constituted.

The 5th and 9th Field Batteries are timed to arrive in Ireland from India immediately. The 5th Battery will take over quarters at Fermoy, and the 9th Battery will go to Limerick, where it will be stationed.

At Adare Petty Sessions on Tuesday before Mr Wm Barry, J P, a few summonses for drunkenness which occurred during the Xmas Holidays were the only cases before the court. The parties were allowed off with small fines.

Before the members of the Cork Church of Ireland Young Men's Association, on Tuesday night, a very interesting lecture, entitled "The Early Persecutions of the Christian Church," was delivered by the Rev Canon Aylmer Hackett, D D, rector of Kilmallock.

BARONY OF CONILLEA PRE-ENTMENT SESSIONS.—These sessions were held at Kilfinane yesterday. Mr J J Franks, J P, presiding. The other magistrates present were—The Hon Wm C Trench, Mr C E Vandeleur, Mr P Raleigh, Mr Wm O'Dwyer, Mr W R Gubbins, Major General Ryan, Mr W H M Bennett. The cesspayers were—Messrs George Hartigan, Daniel O'Connell, John Sullivan, Robert Harding, and John P Carroll. It was decided that a claim by Catherine Cronin for £10 compensation for a large quantity of poultry, destroyed by poison or otherwise, at Millmount, on separate dates in the month of June, 1897, did not come within the meaning of the Act. In another malicious injury case notice was not served, and in two others it was decided by a majority that the injury was not malicious.

INTERESTING CONCERT AT ADARE.

On Tuesday night a Concert supplemented by a waxworks display, was given in the Church Schoolhouse, Adare, the entertainment being under the patronage of the Countess of Dunraven. The audience was large and appreciative, and for the greater part fashionable, large numbers of the *élite* of the county being in attendance. The programme was nicely arranged and most successfully carried out. Each number was enthusiastically encored, which perhaps was the most convincing proof of how much the performance was appreciated by the audience. The names of several well-known and most popular amateurs were associated with the entertainment, and these ladies and gentlemen fully sustained the high reputation which they have acquired. The evening was most enjoyable, and nothing more would be acceptable to the people of Adare than to have an opportunity of partaking in such performances more frequently. Mr M Enright, who is always a special attraction wherever he appears, opened the performance with a mandoline solo, which was executed with his well-known ability, and he was obliged to re-appear, the audience having accorded him an imperative encore. Miss Roche-Kelly, who received an ovation on appearing, was in her happiest form. Her rendering of the song, "Yesterday, To-day, and Forever," was most pleasing, and, of course, the talented young lady could not refuse the unanimous encore which came with such enthusiasm from the house. The greatest regret was felt that Mrs Fornell, whom the programme announced to appear next, was unable to attend on account of a cold. The vacancy was supplied by Mr M J Buckley, of Limerick, whose clever interpretation of seriocomic songs evoked the greatest enthusiasm, and a warm encore awaited him at the conclusion of his performance. Mr Enright again appeared and kept the house in continuous laughter during his rendering of the comic song 'Mad,' and he was compelled to re-appear and repeat the latter portion. Miss Gavin, who received a really warm reception, sang 'Say Yes' with great taste and expression, and in compliance with a hearty *encore* [illegible] The first part

DEATH OF COLONEL GEORGE C. SPAIGHT J.P.

With deep regret we announce this evening the death of the last surviving male member of an old Limerick family, a gentleman whose name is so well and popularly known throughout Munster, and indeed all over Ireland, we allude to Colonel George C. Spaight, J.P., who passed away at his residence, Derry Castle, Killaloe, on Monday night, in the 67th year of his age. Though the gallant Colonel had been in feeble health for some time past, his death was rather sudden and most unexpected, and it may be remarked that a friend of his in this city had a letter from him so late as Monday last. An acute attack of pneumonia was the cause of death, and it has removed from the people of Killaloe a striking personality, a gentleman whose suavity of manner, kindness of heart, and philanthropic qualities, won for him the warmest esteem and regard of the people of the districts surrounding his beautiful demesne, which fringes the Tipperary shore of Lough Derg. Colonel Spaight was the younger son of the late Mr Francis Spaight, founder of the extensive Sawing Mills of Francis Spaight and Sons, Limited. Choosing the Army as a profession, he entered the 91st Highlanders as Ensign in 1850, becoming Lieutenant in 1852, he became Captain in the 31st (The Huntingdonshire) Regiment in September, '55, and he next appears in official records as Captain of the 9th Foot (East Norfolk) in 1858. He retired from the Army in 1864, and during this comparatively short service had gained considerable experience and honors in the field. He served in the Crimea including the siege of Sebastopol and attack on the 18th June, '55, and was awarded the Medal and Clasp and Turkish Medal for distinguished services. He also served some time in Greece, and his intimate knowledge of that country and its people prompted him to take a warm interest in the movement started in the United Kingdom for the relief of the Greeks after the late disastrous war. Returning to Ireland, the gallant soldier took up his residence in his native city for several years. He joined the Limerick City Artillery Militia in the month of April, 1873, as Captain; became Major on the 5th November, 1881; Lieutenant-Colonel on the 16th June, 1884, in succession to Viscount Gort, and he retired at the end of 1893, being succeeded by Lieutenant-Colonel Maunsell. He was Honorary Colonel of the regiment up to the time of his death. By all ranks of the *corps* he was held in the highest esteem, and he ever took the greatest interest in the welfare of the rank and file. Colonel Spaight was for many years a Poor Law Inspector under the Local Government Board, and his duties brought him into contact with the West of Ireland, as well as Cork and Kerry, where he proved himself a most efficient officer, and a kind and sympathetic friend of the poor. That sympathy lived in him long after his retirement from office, for a few months ago he wrote important letters to the Press on the subject of the potato failure, and pointing out how the Government might come to the assistance of the sufferers. Again writing in our columns recently on the scarcity of fuel for the poor which prevails at present, owing to the difficulty of saving turf, because of inclement weather, he observed that a merchant in Liverpool to whom he had sold a number of large trees had left him the branches. "I have by this means been happily able to give nearly all my people a supply of timber for firewood, which has cheered their homes, and enabled them to make use of and burn what turf they could." He hoped that the owners of woods might in similar circumstances do the same. His dealings with his tenantry and labourers have always been conducted on such lines as these. He provided considerable employment on his property, and up to the last moment, so to speak, he had in hands a scheme for developing the slate quarries at Derry Castle, with a view to giving additional means of livelihood to his people, as he fondly called them. Colonel Spaight's two brothers have pre-deceased him for some years—firstly, Mr William Spaight, D L, of Derry, and next Sir James Spaight, D L, Limerick, who passed away in March, 1892. On the death of the latter gentleman, Colonel Spaight took up his residence at Derry Castle, where he has since constantly resided. His interest in Poor Law affairs continued, and as an *ex-officio* Guardian of Nenagh Union he was a frequent attendant at the meetings of the Board while his health permitted. He was also a member of the Grand Jury of the North Riding of Tipperary, and a magistrate for the counties of Tipperary and Clare, from which latter county his family originally moved to Limerick. As a magistrate, while firmly upholding the law, he was on the side of mercy to all who were likely to repent of their misdoings. A country gentleman in every sense of the word, his presence in the community was invaluable, and it is no wonder that a gloom hangs over picturesque Killaloe and district by his death. It should have been stated that he took a great interest in sport, having kept a pack of hounds, of which he was master, and which have hunted the district regularly for the past few seasons. We deeply sympathise with Mrs Spaight, Captain and Mrs Gartside Tipping (his daughter and heiress) in their bereavement.

The funeral will leave Derry Castle to-morrow (Friday) at one o'clock.

LIMERICK CORPORATION.

An adjourned meeting of the Corporation was held to-day, Alderman O'Mara, Deputy Mayor, presided. There were also present—Aldermen, A Hall, J J Cleary, L Carr, J Anglim, T Gaffney.

Councillors—Wm O'Connell, M MacDonnell, T Donnellan, John O'Donnell, P Herbert, Peter McGuire, D Begley, P Connolly, M Donnelly, P Franklin, T Dillon, J Hickey, D Lynch, D Nelson.

Mr Wm Nolan, Town Clerk; Mr Wm E Corbett, City Surveyor; Mr P Riordan, Manager Gas Works; Mr Woulfe, City Treasurer; Mr B O'Donnell, Rate Collector, were also in attendance.

THE ST JOHN'S IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

The Town Clerk read a letter from the Local Government Board stating the Improvement Scheme of the 11th of November, 1896, made by the Corporation of Limerick and confirmed by Parliament, is for the improvement of two areas mentioned, viz, the St John's and Nicholas-street areas as forming part of one scheme. The Local Government Board are advised that the "duty" defined by the 12th section of the Housing of the Working Classes Act 1890, of carrying the scheme into execution as soon as practicable, thus undertaken by the Corporation includes both areas, and that the application for the appointment of an arbitrator in pursuance of Clause 4 in the second schedule of the Act should extend to the whole scheme. It appeared, however, to the Local Government Board that the object which the Corporation of Limerick have in view can be effected as follows:—The Corporation can apply for, and the Local Government Board can appoint, an arbitrator for the whole scheme. The Corporation can then, in pursuance of clause 9 of the second schedule of the Act, request the arbitrator to make an award with respect to the John street area separately, postponing for the present any further steps with respect to the Nicholas street area. The proposed works in the John street area can then be carried out, and the arbitration with respect to the Nicholas street area can be resumed when it becomes practicable to do so. The Corporation should, however, keep in view that the compulsory powers given by the Provisional Order will expire at the expiration of three years from the 12th July, 1897, when the Confirming Act was passed.

It was proposed by Alderman Hall, and seconded by Alderman Carr, that the recommendation of the Local Government Board be adopted and it was passed unanimously.

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY DEMAND.

The Town Clerk read the following:—

"St Munchin's College,
"Limerick House, Limerick,
"January 13th, 1898.

"DEAR MR MAYOR—May we ask you to have the kindness to ask the Corporation to attend to-morrow's meeting on the Catholic University Question officially, and we shall have places specially reserved for them.

"Yours faithfully,
"ANDREW MURPHY, } Hon.
"WM. M. NOLAN, } Secs.

It was proposed by Ald Cleary and seconded by Ald Hall, "That the Mayor and Corporation, with the officers, attend the great meeting of the laity of the city and county of Limerick, to be held in the County Courthouse, on Friday next, in favour of the recognition of the right which is recognized by all fair-minded Irishmen of every persuasion, of the Catholics of Ireland to be placed on a footing of equality with their Protestant fellow-countrymen in the matter of University education."

THE SAVINGS BANK.

The Chairman said he had to draw public attention to an occurrence in the city which has met with unanimous disapprobation—he meant the reported sale of the Savings Bank to the Presbyterian Body. Without saying anything disparaging of the trustees who effected this sale, or the proposed sale, he must say that this trust is the trust of the people, and that the institution belongs to the people. These trustees are trustees for the people, and have no right in that capacity to barter this building to any private individual at any private sale. If, as they say, the institution requires money, and that it is absolutely necessary to sell it, then the proper course to adopt would be to intimate to the public that the place was for sale, and to offer it to public competition. Now the Corporation of Limerick, representing this city, could find plenty of business for that building. They want a Technical School, and a Free Library, and many other purposes in the city for which that building could be used. He disputed the right of a self appointed body as these Trustees are to barter away a public property by private sale, and he begged to propose—"That the Corporation of Limerick, as the representatives of the citizens, hereby protest, in the strongest manner, against the proposed private sale, by tender or otherwise, by the Committee of the Savings Bank premises, in Glentworth street, as said premises are merely held in trust by the Committee for the public. That we resolve to oppose any such sale by every means in our power, and request the authorities to withhold their consent to it, pending an arrangement being come to by which the Bank may be secured for the benefit of the citizens generally, for which purpose it was intended, and for which it is so much required, and that we call upon the trustees, if a sale is necessary, to have the building put up for public and open competition. That copies of this resolution be sent to the Trustees and Committee of the Savings Bank, to the Irish Loan Trust Board, and to the

seconded by Mr Begley, a[illegible] passed unanimously.

Alderman Hall—Take me[illegible] that.

The Chairman—Very well[illegible]

Alderman Cleary—It is [illegible] should understand that th[illegible] state of prosperity. There [illegible] money in the Savings Bank [illegible] have ample security from th[illegible] Government gets a report e[illegible] bank and nothing can be [illegible] backs.

Alderman Hall—And th[illegible] that the money is there [illegible]

Alderman Cleary.

Mr Herbert—There are [illegible] hind the scenes that not [illegible] about.

The Chairman—Now, the [illegible] passed. Next business.

ST GEORGE'S INDUS[illegible]

The Town Clerk read a [illegible] Superiores St George's Ind[illegible] street, thanking the Mayor [illegible] and the other gentlemen [illegible] Chief Secretary on Tuesday [illegible] claim of increased capita[illegible] school.

Mr Nelson proposed, [illegible] seconded—"That we, the [illegible] rick, hereby approve and su[illegible] being made by the Mana[illegible] School, for an increased [illegible] support of which the Mayor [illegible] citizens waited on the Chief [illegible] day last. We are aware of [illegible] community that is being [illegible] useful institution—the onl[illegible] the city and county of Lim[illegible] sent are being charitably a[illegible] by the sisters in charge, [illegible] and above the number, for [illegible] allowance is made by the G[illegible] copies of this resolution [illegible] Lord Lieutenant, the C[illegible] Treasury."

SUPPLY OF WATER FOR [illegible] RAILWA[illegible]

Mr Alex W Shaw, J P, [illegible] ford, Limerick and Wester[illegible] attended before the Counci[illegible] asking that an agreement [illegible] which the Company could b[illegible] with water by the Corpora[illegible] couple of years ago he ha[illegible] plication, but at that time [illegible] hension that in the sum[illegible] would be unable to supply [illegible] There was also a question [illegible] Since that time the Company [illegible] agreement with the Water [illegible] they were now being supp[illegible] rate of 3d per gallon for 4[illegible] if an excess over that quan[illegible] was reduced to three pence [illegible] By not accepting the offer [illegible] the Corporation had lost a[illegible] each year, and it should al[illegible] it did not cost the Corpora[illegible] the water, so that it was mo[illegible] present the Company was [illegible] their own pumps, but th[illegible] would be more suitable.

In reply to Mr Gaffne[illegible] Superintendent, stated t[illegible] scale of charge, the ordina[illegible] tion of 40,000 gallons a da[illegible] per one thousand gallons.

Mr Corbett stated that h[illegible] would be quite sufficient [illegible] to the railway company.

After some discussion [illegible] for charging according to [illegible] opposition, and it was o[illegible] ment on the same terms a[illegible] should be entered into be[illegible] and the railway company.

Mr Shaw thanked the C[illegible] cession, remarking that [illegible] effect a saving of £200 to t[illegible]

BLOCK PA[illegible]

The Chairman proposed [illegible] standing in his name, "[illegible] balance of £9,000, amou[illegible] which will be left after [illegible] street, be devoted to pavin[illegible] the corner of Roche's to t[illegible]

Mr James Gaffney secon[illegible]

Mr Donnelly proposed th[illegible] pended in block paving B[illegible] lotte's Quay. The traffic i[illegible] Canal was very heavy, an[illegible] industry, Geary's Biscuit [illegible] much traffic.

The Mayor said that Mr [illegible] prepared his plans for Nels[illegible]

Mr Donnelly's amendm[illegible] Ald Cleary, and on a divisi[illegible] votes to 9.

After disposing of som[illegible] Council adjourned.

URBAN SANIT[illegible]

In accordance with a Cor[illegible] the day of meeting of the [illegible] the Corporation from T[illegible] evenings, at seven o'clock [illegible] mittee was held at that h[illegible] Town Hall.

Mr James Gaffney, solr, [illegible] members present were Al[illegible] Councillors—M Donnelly, [illegible] T Donnellan, D Nelson, P[illegible]