

KING LEOPOLD'S NEW TRAIN.

King Leopold of Belgium will soon have his special train to take him over Europe. The train will be self-contained. His Majesty can sit with him a chef, who can operate in, for a dining vehicle, a wonderfully large kitchen. There will be dining room, drawing room, bedrooms, and a bed and dressing room for Princess Clementine, his favourite child, and a page in tall stature, profile, and facial features.

AN AMERICAN "JOKE."

George Dimling, a young Pittsburg miller, had a habit of playing jokes on newly-wed couples. His own turn has just come. At his marriage some of his ex-victims surprised him and his wife as they were about to step in marriage, clapped them in an iron cage, and dragged them through the streets to the sound of brass music and the explosion of crackers. The miller is in a state of nervous prostration as the result of this joke.

THE CHINESE NATIONAL ANTHEM.

An Eastern paper tells an amusing story of the Prince's recent visit to Europe. While at the Prince's side he was annoyed by a monotonous tune followed him everywhere, and at last inquired what it was. "The Chinese National Anthem, of course," was the surprised reply. "But we have no National Anthem," said the Prince, "certainly no tune like that was ever played in China." It appears that a wily musician composed the tune—a weird affair with a tom-tom accompaniment—some years ago, and sold the rights of playing it on the occasion of distinguished Chinese visits. He made a good deal of the hoax.

RAILWAY MEN'S LONG HOURS.

The "Railway Review," which analysed the returns of the official railway returns, points out in a single month (December, 1901) there were in the British Isles 216,219 cases in which drivers, conductors, guards, signalmen, or examiners were employed for more than twelve hours at a stretch.

HIS TWELFTH WIFE.

Henry VIII., the professional widower as he is called by a schoolgirl, will assuredly (says a writer in the *Liverpool Post*) have to take a very hard seat in the presence of Mr. Zerard Pomeroy, of Middlefield, Connecticut, who has just at the age of 89, married his twelfth wife. He began his matrimonial career in 1833, when he was twenty years old, so that it is improbable that he is a record-holder in the nursery maxim that "When a man marries his trouble begins." In the early part of his career he had not only married frequently, but idly. He had only been a husband a year when his first wife died, and in a few months he married again, when that wife died at sea, his eye was suddenly attracted to another, and a third marriage soon followed. In New York where he resided for a time, he had six spouses, four of whom have disappeared, and one he divorced. His present wife is a granddaughter of Mr. Pomeroy's first wife.

ANNOR, CARVER & GILDER, CATHERINE-ST

The election of representatives of importers and exporters of sea-borne merchandise on the Harbour Board for the coming year will be held on the 12th, and the election of Harbour Rate-payers representatives on the 14th instant. Already one or two probable contests are spoken of.

The Treasurer of Barrington's thankfully acknowledges the following subscriptions and donations:—Coronation Celebration Committee (per Mr. J. E. Goodbody), £16; The Co-operative Wholesale Society (per Mr. W. L. Stokes), £5 5s.; Mr. W. R. Le Fanu, £3 3s.; Employés of the Clyde Shipping Company, Ltd., £1; Captain Bell, 10s.

The funeral of the late Mr. John Rea, station-master, at Ballindine, who died from a shocking injury accidentally received at that station some ten days ago, took place from St. Michael's Church, Limerick, on Sunday for St. Munchin's. The various local departments of the G. S. W. R. Co. were represented, and also the staffs of several business houses in town, sincere sympathy being expressed with the deceased's family and relatives in their keen sorrow. The Rev. G. L. Swain officiated. The chief mourners were—Mr. Isaac Rea, father; Mr. Tom Rea, brother, and Messrs Dukiew (2), brothers-in-law of the deceased.

The fishing season at Castleconnell closed on Friday evening. Very few salmon of large size have been taken, possibly owing to the very low water, but the river was full of fish large and small. Since the 17th inst. the following is the return: On Doonass Mr. H. Hodges killed six peal, 2½, 4½, 5½, 5, 6, 7lbs, and one salmon 11½lbs. On Prospect the fishermen killed five peal 3, 4½, 4½, 8, 9lbs. On Newgarden the fishermen killed one salmon, 21lbs, and five peal, 3, 4, 6, 7½, 8½lbs. On Hermitage Major Money killed two salmon, 8 and 9lbs. On Woodlands Mr. J. Enright killed one peal, 7½lbs. On the Castle fishery Major Ballard killed one peal 6½lbs; Mrs. Ballard, two peal, 4½, 7lbs. On the Worldsend Mr. C. Vansittart killed one peal 5lbs, and the fishermen one salmon, 39lbs.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT NEWCASTLE WEST.

About 7 o'clock last night a shoemaker named Jerry McCarthy, residing at Maiden-street, was sitting on the bridge at the end of Bridge-street, when he fell into the river, a depth of about 15 feet. There was little water in the river at the time, and he must have fallen on the rocks. He was immediately conveyed in a car by the police to the Workhouse hospital, accompanied by the Rev. Father O'Leary, who attended to his spiritual wants. He died at 6.30 this morning. It is believed the poor fellow, who was a member of an old and respected family, in a fit of weakness fell off the bridge.

GRUESOME DISCOVERY NEAR RATHKEALE.

Our Rathkeale correspondent writes:—

This morning a gruesome discovery was made at a place named Ballinlina, some two miles from Rathkeale. Acting-sergeant O'Callaghan, of Rathkeale, proceeded to the locality named, and there found buried in an orchard the bodies of two children, a male and a female. From inquiries made the acting-sergeant proceeded to Glensharrold, Ardagh, and there arrested a young girl, who was conveyed to Rathkeale, and remains in custody awaiting the inquest.

able on and after the 8th day of December prox.

The question of the arrears of the last year rate was discussed, and the collector was ordered to instruct Mr. Hilliard, solicitor to the Commissioners, to institute legal proceedings for recovery of same.

KILLEE SANITATION.

After some discussion the following resolution was unanimously adopted, to be forwarded to the Local Government Board:—"Resolved—That, once more protest against the attitude of the Kiltrush District Council in having taken no action on the last communication of the Local Government Board on the Killee sanitary question, a repeat demand for a sworn inquiry."

THE EMPIRE AND THE COLONIES.

RECENT LONDON CONFERENCE.

A Blue Book was issued last night containing the text of the resolutions adopted at the recent conference between the Colonial Secretary and the Premier of the Self-Governing Colonies together with a summary of the proceedings and a number of appendices. The resolutions, among other matters, recommended—(1) Periodical conferences, (2) communication with the Colonies prior to the conclusion of treaties, (3) preferential treatment to the products and manufactures of the United Kingdom, a general system of free trade between the Mother Country and Colonies not being practicable in the present circumstances of the Colonies; (4) a preference for products of the Empire.

CASTLECONNELL PETTY SESSIONS.

These Sessions were held yesterday before Mr. S. C. Vansittart presiding, Mr. E. F. Hick R.M., and Mr. J. C. Howley. A farmer named John Ryan, Loughtane, summoned Margaret R. for trespass and assault, arising out of a right-of-way dispute. Mr. Moran appeared for the complainant. Mr. P. E. O'Donnell raised the question of title, and the bench consequently decided that they had no jurisdiction.

LOCAL STUDENTS OF LAW.

Amongst the gentlemen who have applied to be admitted as Students of Law are the following: Joseph O'Connor, Undergraduate, Royal University, fourth son of Terence O'Connor, Ashfield, County of Limerick, and Richard Patrick Carroll, Undergraduate, Royal University, only son of Patrick Carroll, of Style Park, County Limerick.

"KIND" HEARTS MORE THAN CORONE

Dark clouds of life's evening at last you have fled,

And now in the gloaming new sunshine is shed,
Oh, welcome were sorrow true friends to reveal
In trouble we find out the hearts that can feel
To seaward the tempest but tranquil the shore
Stormy waves of the past are remembered no more.

In furnace of pain 'tis provided by God,
The souls of His servants must yield to His rod
Not in vain He chastises, though scoffers deride
Till morning hath changed to a blest eventide
For we know when our days on this planet are done,

We need not the candle or light of the sun,
Lone days of the winter return not again,
And springtide and summer for aye shall remain
May we meet in that land where all parting is o'er.

By the Saviour Redeemer on eternity's shore.

R. S. R.

There were no cases at the police court morning.