

covered by Professor Mason, who separated it from an African poison plant by means of ether and alcohol. As little as one-thousand-millionth part of an ounce of crystallised strophanthidin produces a distinctly injurious effect upon the heart, and a very small quantity is fatal. There are also several others which put strychnine in the shade as regards their powers of killing.

#### HOW LONG ARE THE ELECTRIC WAVES.

"Morse"—As measured by Hertz, and named after him, electric waves were found to be 150 feet from the top of one wave to the top of the next. The waves used by Marconi in telegraphing across the Atlantic are much longer. They are said to be 600 feet or more. They travel at the same speed as light, 184,000 miles a second. But the light wave measures only a few millionths of an inch, if you can imagine such an infinitesimal "measure."

#### WHERE IS LABOUR CHEAPEST?

"George Carnot"—China and India, where the wages of the labouring classes average something like three-halfpence a day. A fairly skilled journeyman can earn about twelve shillings a month, and a good mechanic about sixteen shillings, or twice the pay of a native soldier. Domestic servants may be had so cheaply both as regards food and wages that a family which here could only keep one or two servants, could in India keep a whole retinue. In many parts of South America, Indian labour is to be had for about twopence a day; but after all the lowest level would appear to be reached in China. There are large districts in China where labour is so cheap that it can hardly be reckoned on a money standard. Thousands of Chinese labourers live on a little more than a handful of rice or so a day, and yet even then there are thousands of unemployed practically starving. Hence the wage value of the labourer who just manages to live is practically infinitesimal. Of labour that may be fairly called skilled the Japanese is probably the cheapest, for a worker in lacquer or inlaying and mosaic work will employ skill and knowledge that has been inherited and handed down for generations in return for a wage that a common bricklayer's labourer would refuse with contemptuous disgust.

#### WHAT'S A BLUE STOCKING.

"Tim"—A studious young lady is sometimes ironically called a "blue stocking." The Society of Blue Stockings was formed in Venice, 1400, and consisted of studious ladies and gentlemen who wore blue stockings as a badge. The movement travelled to Paris, but did not reach Great Britain until 1780. A certain Miss Monckton was the last of the elect, and she died in 1840.

#### LAWN TENNIS.

Can you tell me when the first game of Lawn Tennis was played and where? asks 'Hole.' Tennis was played in London in the sixteenth century in covered courts erected for the purpose. Both Henry VII. and Henry VIII. were fond of the game, and the latter added to the palace of Whitehall "tennis courts." Charles the Second was an accomplished tennis player, and had particular dresses for playing in. I can find no record with regard to Ireland.

#### SMOKING IN THE STREET.

Was there ever a penalty imposed for smoking in the street? asks "Inquirer."

Yes; the earliest instance known is recorded in the Court books of the Mayor of Methwold. The following entry is on record of the Court held on October 14, 1695—"We argee that any person that is taken smoking tobacco in the street shall forfeit one shilling every time so taken, and it shall be lawful for the petty constable to distraine for the same, for to be putt to the uses above said, i.e. to the use of the town. We present Nicholas for smoking in the street, and doo amerce him one shilling." This rule was repeated at Courts in the years 1696 and 1699, but no other fine is mentioned

Aldington street, Westminster, London, S.W., for the necessary forms to complete registration.

HAMISH—Can't say. What novel was it? Then, maybe, I can tell you.

#### NORAH'S AID.

SAD.—An excellent cold cream. Four ounces of oil of almonds to one ounce of pure white wax melted over a slow fire. Gradually add a quarter pint of distilled rose water, stirring until cold.

M.—A home made baking powder is composed of a teaspoonful of bicarbonate of soda, a teaspoonful of cornflour to two teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar.

O.S.—If plaster of paris is used for stopping cracks, mix it with vinegar, and it will not set too quickly.

HOUSEWIFE.—A painted bath will never discolour if a little ordinary care is taken with it. Every time it is used it should be wiped out afterwards with an old rough towel. This will effectually preserve it.

PAIN.—The skin of a boiled egg is a most efficacious remedy that can be applied to a boil. Peel it carefully, wet, and apply to the part affected. It will draw out the matter and relieve the soreness in a few hours.

#### STROLLER.

### FUNERAL OF MR. GEORGE N. QU Aid.

(From our own Correspondent.)

The remains of the above estimable and widely respected gentleman, whose demise occurred on Thursday last at Ballykenedy House, Ballingarry, at the age of 76 years, and whose remains lay enclosed in a massive oak coffin on a catafalque in front of the high altar in Cloncagh R.C. Church, were on Thursday last removed for interment in the old family vault close by. The deceased gentleman, who was a member of a very old and influential County Limerick family, was the respected father of Sister Mary Agnes, Mount St. Vincent Convent, Limerick; Messrs John Joseph Quaid, Accountant, Limerick County Council; George Quaid, Petty Sessions Clerk, Drumcolloher; David George Quaid; William Quaid, and James Quaid, Ballykenedy House; and uncle of Rev. George Quaid, P.P., Athea, to whom we offer our sincerest sympathy in their sad bereavement. He was brother of the late Rev. David Quaid, P.P., Dromin, and Rev. Edward Quaid, Dublin. The unusually large number of friends and sympathisers that assembled in and round the sacred edifice on Thursday to pay a final tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Quaid was thoroughly representative of city and county. The public feeling manifested fully demonstrated the widespread popularity and esteem which the bereaved family and numerous relatives deservedly enjoy.

The clergymen present were—Rev. J. O'Shaughnessy, P.P., Knockaderry; Rev. Fr. Foley, C.C., do.; Rev. Stephen Culhane, C.C., Ballingarry; Rev. Jeremiah Murphy, C.C., Rathkeale, and others.

### OPERA AT NEWCASTLE WEST.

(From our own Correspondent.)

On Monday next, and during the week, the great treat enjoyed last year will be repeated by the Elster-Grime Opera Co. at Newcastle West, and the seating accommodation at Latchford's Theatre is tested to its fullest capacity. Until the visit of this talented company to Newcastle twelve months ago, the majority, as in all country towns, had only a vague idea of what opera was, but once the people heard and saw any of the operas, nothing could restrain their desire for attending every other night. The

Eileen Clancy was posing for sale, at he milk devoid of some

Patrick Slattery High Constable for p for hire without a lice A fine of 40s, th imposed, and costs.

CHARGE OF PERMI LICENS.

Thomas Hannan, summoned for pern premises on the 8th Constable Portobee woman named Mary She was in the 'st and staggered out of Mr. Stephen Ha dant, said the con and when that man The woman showed did, witness would put her out of the s constable.

Mr. Ffrench—Wit shop if she was not Witness—By the Mr. Ffrench—Bt say?

Witness—I thou constable ordered h for scolding the con Mary Nash was e drunk. She was v but two drinks, one treat and said it w see witness.

Sergeant Rogar twenty-five minute was under the influ Mr. Counihan, so if the woman was r when he saw her?

Sergeant Rogan-hand and imagined Mr. Counihan—"You are drunk." Sergeant Regan—Mr. Counihan s prosecution had w saw her in the "sn conclusion she was practically the san Mr. Ffrench ask the house.

Sergeant Rogan—Mr. Ffrench con exercise more care. caused through t publicans. How magistrates decide

John Gavin, a remand with the property of the Li Mr. Counihan sa make was that Ga the occasion. He spilled some of it, a he did not know.

The accused, e elected to be tried sentenced to three Two other men tion with the case, no evidence again The Court adjou