

117 YEARS OLD.

letcher, of Pomeroy Co. Tyrone, who on his 117th year, is probably the oldest man in the United Kingdom. The patriarch is in a small cot tage in which he was born, and is still hale and hearty.

TO FRIENDS AT SEA.

Telegrams in the United Kingdom became available for Marconigrams for the first time on the 1st of the month. A large number of people availed themselves of the facility to send messages to their friends at sea. The cost is 6½d a word, with 6s 6d in charge.

PHILOSOPHY OF THE CANE.

Man gets much more benefit from his cane when his limbs are swinging free. To carry a cane leads to a lazy method of walking, and if unconsciously leaning on the stick, one will find oneself decrepit. On the other hand, as far as experience goes, is an excellent finish which would otherwise be wanting.

THE CITY DEATH RATE.

The death rate of the city for the four weeks ending December 31st was 23.9, the rates for the corresponding weeks of the previous year—December 10th, 13.7; 17th, 45.1; 24th, 17.8. The average death rate for the 22 town districts registered the highest death rates were at Armagh, 27.2, the lowest death rates at 14.6 and 14.5.

COURSE AS A MEMORIAL.

A course has been developed for laying down a Memorial March next, on Ellerbeck Common, in memory of John Peel, the famous statesman, the jubilee of whose death was recently celebrated.

BURIAL OF THE GROUSE.

A writer in the "Humane Review," says that how man came to adopt what he calls "meat"—i.e.—meat—but says that he himself was forced to it during the Glacial period, when he disappeared beneath the snow which hid his sources of food supply. "It is," says the writer, "to bury the dead in a coffin." A vegetarian friend of mine received a package of grouse one August from an acquaintance. In his letter of thanks he mentioned the donor that he had interred them in his back yard, and this course seems very natural.

STRANGE—BUT TRUE.

Reports are to stop the practice of soliciting alms at houses where a death has taken place. This has become very prevalent in Liverpool. At one house two parrots, and one goat were the only creatures left on board the Drumelzier, which was unfortunately overlooked in the

May Merrick, Violet; Ethel Merrick, Wild Rose; Peter McCarthy, evening dress; F. Magee, Joe McCarthy, Eton boy; Patrick Moloney, evening dress; Fan. Moloney, evening dress; Grace O'Malley, Gitana; Katie O'Sullivan, Japanese lady; May O'Grady, Forget-me-Not; D. O'Neill, Eton; Pauline O'Malley, period King Charles II; Brian O'Brien, Jack Tar; Jack O'Brien, Jack Tar; Violet Spillane, Forget-me-Not; Miss J. Spillane, Olive Spillane, evening dress; Jack Spillane, an Irishman; Basil Spillane, a Courtier; Lily Tidmarsh, Maureen Tidmarsh.

## DEATH OF MAJOR-GENERAL T. RYAN, KNOCKLONG.

We regret to announce the death of the above gentleman, which occurred at his residence, Scarteen House, Knocklong, yesterday morning. The deceased was a brother to the Very Rev. Canon A. Ryan, P.P., V.G., the respected Parish Priest of Tipperary, who was for a long period President of Thurles College. He was also a brother to Dr. C. E. Ryan, J.P., of Glenlara, Tipperary, and of Clement J. Ryan, J.P., Scarteen, Master of the Emly Stag hounds, and of the late Mr. William Ryan, solicitor, Tipperary, and also of the late Father Hugh Ryan, S.J., who died in India. Another brother of the deceased, the late Mr. Jahn Ryan, was Sub-Sheriff of Limerick City in 1874. The deceased had attained the ripe old age of about 70 years, and had only been ailing for about six months. Choosing the army as a profession, he obtained a commission in his early manhood from Woolwich Academy, and served as a lieutenant in the Royal Artillery during the Indian Mutiny before Delhi in the early part of '57. He served about ten years in India, and in '74 was appointed Major of No. 2 Battery 22nd Brigade Garrison Artillery, then stationed at Castle Barracks, Limerick, and subsequently at Spike Island Queenstown. He rose by several grades at Portsmouth, and Limerick, and in June '93, as lieutenant colonel, commanded the Royal Artillery in Cork Harbour. In '86 he was appointed to Singapore, Straits Settlement. After completing five years service in Halifax, he subsequently obtained the rank of colonel, and on retirement was granted the rank of major-general. He was a member of the County Limerick Grand Jury. Much sympathy is felt with his relatives in their bereavement, especially with his brothers, Canon Ryan and Dr. C. E. Ryan, J.P., the latter of whom served with distinction in the Internatiogal Red Cross Society during the Franco-Prussian War.

## THE LATE MR. J. B. MOLONY.

The funeral of the late Mr. J. Barry Molony, solr., took place on Tuesday, when the remains were removed from Ennis for interment in the family burial place at Tulla. The attendance was most representative, and showed the esteem in which the deceased gentleman was held by all classes in the county.

The chief mourners were:—J. G. Molony, solr.; Capt. Godfrey Massy Molony; Alfred Molony, Manager, National Bank, Charing Cross, London (brothers); F. C. Pilkington, solr.; Dr. G. M. McNamara, Corofin.

The clergymen present were:—Very Rev. Dr. Griffith, and Rev. T. A. Beckett, Ennis.

At the Kurush Petty Sessions of a respectable-looking woman named Mahon charged her son Timothy, on the 20th December, at Brisha, as being guilty of striking her on the chest. Mr. deposed that on the day in question Timothy, who does no work, entered and took a partly burned sod of turf and laid a blow on the chest, he also sisters who was at home on vacant defendant, who did not appear, and was imprisoned for one month without trial for a fine.

## COUNTY HOUNDS

The meet of the County Limerick to-morrow will not take place on account of the death of General Ryan.

## ENNIS COTTAGE PLOT

(From Our Own Correspondent)

There was a complaint at Ennis Rural Council yesterday about the absence of the Engineer and the delay in the preparation of cottage plots. After a long discussion the Engineer was ordered to lay out the half acre plots and sites for cottages within a few weeks or send in his resignation, and also ordered that the designs and specifications be sent to the Engineer of the Local Government Board for his opinion as to the propriety of the same.

## CATHOLIC LITERARY INST.

A most enjoyable treat was provided at the Catholic Institute last evening by a recital given by Mr. J. B. McHardy-Flint, the well-known actor from Dublin. They gave a dramatic and musical recital which was favourably received by a large audience. The selection included the quarrel scene (Sir Peter and Lady) from Sheridan's "School for Scandal," an amusing character sketch entitled "The Maid" by Mrs. McHardy Flint, a "Shemus O'Brien" powerfully recited by Mr. Flint. There were also selections from "Caesar," Mr. Flint taking the role of the Emperor and Mrs. Flint that of Calpurnia. He listened to a splendid exposition of the times pathetic, of scenes 1 and 2, which were well performed and were much applauded. The concluding drama was an extremely droll comedy treating of a husband, and entitled "A Pair of Boots." It created roars of laughter. It included a most enjoyable evening of musical items included:—"The Lass of Summer" and "Angus McDonald" by Mr. Flint, "My Mary of the Curlin' Hair" by Mr. Flint, "Red, Red Rose" by Mr. Flint, and "Friendship." Mr. O'Callaghan, who kindly contributed some bright selections for the piano-forte for which he was much applauded.

## CLARE CASTLE RAILWAY B.

At the monthly meeting of the Clontarf Harbour Board on Tuesday, Lord de Ros presided, and there were also present Edward O'Brien, J.P., C. L. Rynne, Honan, J. Harris, and P. Power.

The Chairman read a letter from