

hardship threatened by the new licensing Bill, that we form a branch of the Vintners' Association, whereupon the following Committee were elected—Chairman, Mr. D. McMahon; vice-chairman, Mr. D. Brennan; treasurer, Mr. P. Quilligan; hon. secretary, Mr. J. P. Rahilly. The remainder present were formed into a working committee.

The Chairman said the disastrous licensing Bill, without doing any good, would remove their means of living by about 50 per cent., and would necessarily oblige them to look for substantial compensation. For the country's sake they did not mean to impede the progress of temperance, but increasing the limit to six miles would not decrease the consumption of drink, while it would remove facilities from themselves, as well as the general public, of going a few miles from home on Sundays.

Mr. Mullins said the extension of the limit would be a hardship on respectable traders and their customers while it would not deal with the inebriate.

Mr. Rahilly said almost everybody seemed to agree that the six mile limit would be a hardship on them, severely injuring their only means of living. He would oppose the Bill, and in the unexpected event of it becoming law, he would demand compensation. Alderman Joyce, M.P., while prepared to help this Bill was not prepared to support the six miles limit clause, which he considered unreasonable.

Mr. Quilligan said their action was simply putting their grievances before the public, and in the hands of their representatives. He agreed that they were not antagonistic to temperance, but quite the reverse.

The ladies, who desired not to have their speeches published, alluded to the threatened hardship in a very striking manner.

After the others present had given their views,

Mr. Rahilly proposed the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:—"That we, the suburban licensed traders, call on our representative Alderman Joyce, M.P., to immediately put down an amendment to the extension clause of the Bill, and as a proof to all interested of our determination to help rather than hamper the grand work taken up by temperance reformers of all denominations, we will not open our public-houses before 11 a.m. nor after 8 p.m. on Sundays under any circumstances, being certain that our action in doing so will remove the abuses arising out of the existing law."

A fund was then opened, and substantially responded to.

MAKING AN EXAMPLE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

There was an array of prosecutions at the Kilrush Petty Sessions.—Mr. A. Harper, R.M., (Chairman) and Mr. B. Culligan—by the Kilrush Board of Guardians, against vaccination defaulters. High, low, and middle "class" folk had to pay down 1s. 6d., and the cases to be withdrawn as most of the parties had vaccinated their children since receiving the "Whereas."

MURRAY'S MOTTLED FLAKE

One pipeful will induce you to smoke it always.

Pipe-smokers should try an ounce. In tin only; of all tobacconists. Manufactured solely by Murray Sons and Co., Limited, Belfast. Established 1810.

DEAR SIR—As the majority of teachers of music are not aware that a bill under the heading, Teachers of Music Registration Bill, No. 252, has been introduced into Parliament, which, if passed, would seriously effect their interests, I should esteem it a favour if you would permit me to state, as the Honorary Secretary of the National Society of Musicians, which has for its main object the protection of the interests of musicians, that I shall be pleased to forward on receipt of a stamped envelope, full particulars of the Registration Bill.

I am, dear sir, yours etc.,

ALEXANDER PHILLIPS, Mus. Bac.,
Conservatoire of Music, 5 Hardman Street,
Liverpool.

THE PUZZLES OF PLANT LIFE.

The extraordinary movements which are exhibited by climbing plants is a matter of everyday knowledge. If the young shoot of a bean be allowed to entwine itself round an upright support, the spiral movement is very evident. But the circular motion of the bean is slow in comparison with that of some other species. Darwin experimented with a plant called *Ceropegia gardenii*, and he says that he allowed the top of the climbing plant to grow out thirty-one inches, which it did in horizontal fashion from the summit of the support. The shoot swept round the great circle in an average time of about six hours; the tip of the shoot then travelling round the circumference of sixteen feet at the pace of about thirty-two inches per hour. The case of the so-called sensitive plant (*mimosa pudica*) stands out as one of the most remarkable instances of vegetable irritability which is known. The immediate effect of a touch is that the water passes from the cells on the lower side of the pinnules into the upper side, and the under side, losing its turgency, becomes flabby and allows the stalk to drop down. Ask any biologist of what the nerves of a man are composed; he will tell you that they are of a specialised form of protoplasm, the same life basis which is at present in the leaves of the plant. The telegraph plant (*desmodium gyrans*) is a native of India, and is possessed of a number of lateral leaves in addition to the large terminal ones. The former under certain conditions twist in an elliptical fashion. This movement is performed in each instance does not last more than a few minutes. The speed of the movement is greatest of all in the sun, and least in the shade. It is altogether in a low temperature. The part about the Venus's Fly Trap is that it is only sensitive in the upper part, which are on each blade in contact with any part of the leaf does not produce the same effect. With almost uncanny accuracy, too, the plant is able to distinguish between what is for its purpose and what is not. Place a small piece of stone between the leaves of the Fly Trap, and the leaf under the stone will have a useful effect. After a few hours later the leaf will be found to have the stone permitted to roll away. This is the case of a fly, for until it begins to decompose the blades keep close together and do not open wide for some days.—Leonard S. Bastian, in the July July "Pall Mall Magazine."

DEATH OF MRS. BEAUMONT.

The death took place on Tuesday of Mrs. Beaumont, relict of Mr. John Beaumont, who was for a number of years connected with the clerical staff of Archibald Walker, Limerick Distillery. Mrs. Beaumont had since the death of her husband been staying at Mrs. Downes's, Thomondgate, and there the end came peacefully on Tuesday. The deceased lady had attained a ripe age, and was beloved for her kindness heart.

which had introduced the... By-and-by he seems to have given contest in despair, for he lay down and bending up his abdomen, pushed thrice into his body and then died menter; allowed his scientific interest his humanity so far as to repeat it with three wasps, only to find that two did like wise. He is, therefore that wasps, under desperate circumstances mit suicide.

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