

CHRISTMAS BOX DECISION.

"As doubts had been expressed as to whether the giving of a Christmas box to postmen would render the giver liable under the new Prevention of Corruption Act, I communicated with the Postmaster-General," writes a correspondent. He has received the following reply:—"I am directed by the Postmaster-General to state that the gift of a Christmas box to a postman does not come within the scope of the Prevention of Corruption Act."

HE MEANT "GARNISHED."

On Thursday a judgment creditor complained to his honour Judge Griffiths at the Brentford County Court that he could not get his money from the debtor because it had been "garnished."

VICEREGAL SEASON.

The Dublin Viceregal season commences next month, which is rather earlier than usual. The first Levee takes place on January 29, and the first Drawing Room in the same week. In all probability it will be extended over a second night, in order to avoid overcrowding and to allow ladies to be accommodated with seats before entering the Presence Chamber. Lord Aberdeen has arranged that in future Drawing Rooms shall be held in St. Patrick's Hall instead of the much smaller and inconvenient Throne Room.

STREET CAROLS CONDEMNED.

An attempt is being made at Bexhill to suppress Christmas carol singing by children in the streets. Ministers have issued an appeal asking the inhabitants to stop the "evil" on account of the inconvenience and pain caused by sacred words being shouted out in an irreverent manner, and the moral harm accruing to the children themselves from the comparative ease with which, by a system of thinly disguised beggary, they collect money without any check on its disposal. Fortunately that is not an evil we suffer from here.

TO OUR READERS.

Next Tuesday being Christmas Day our Tuesday's issue will be suspended. The Office will be closed also on St. Stephen's Day.

DEATH OF MRS. P. M. CUSACK.

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Cusack, wife of Mr. P. M. Cusack (superintendent of Messrs. Guy's printing works), which took place last evening at her residence, Evelyn Lodge, Ballinacorra. The deceased lady was highly esteemed by all who had the pleasure of her acquaintance, and much sympathy is felt for her husband and family in their great bereavement. The funeral will take place to-morrow, at 2.30 p.m., from Evelyn Lodge.

CITY SHOP-LIFTER PUNISHED.

At the City Petty Sessions yesterday, Patrick Sullivan, charged for stealing boots value 7s. 2d. from Mr. Denis Glissane's shop, Wickham street, was sent to prison for two months.

MR. BALFOUR BETTER.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO-DAY.)  
To-day's bulletin says Mr. Balfour has passed a quiet night, and the symptoms are less severe.

DEAR SIR—Please allow me to of the remarks in Mr. Goodbod appeared in your issue of Tuesday. Mr. Goodbody—unintentionally omits from his letter that it fourteen or fifteen tenders for business, besides the "Car and Commercial Union."

When the subject first came I was in the chair and called for a motion which contained nothing being required for accident fortnight, and the Board with of this view. I then suggested to give an opportunity, not above named companies, but to tender on the lines required by I consider as not "high handed" course to have taken.

I did not agree or vote as letter suggests, to accept "A's" maintained from the first that fair to accept any policy under.

I hold that when a public tenders for public service of any stated conditions, it is not quit from the specified terms so as tenders and exclude others, and that the "first fortnight" is a determining this business, and expressed nor implied in the believe I would have violated principle had I accepted Mr. position.

Yours

POST OFFICE APPOINTMENT.

Mr. Patrick M'Bride, of the Limerick Post Office, with who connected for many years, has appointed an overseer in room M'Namara, resigned on the service. Mr. M'Bride is a popular official, and his well-being will be heard of by his many pleasure.

CITY PETTY SESSIONS.

Before Messrs. E. F. Hicks and W. Holliday.

SMASHING PLATE.

The deformed man, Michael remanded on a charge of breaking Messrs. McMahon and Day's.

A HUSBAND'S HALLUCINATION.

Anne Long, a respectable applied for a warrant for the arrest Edward Long, whom she said mind. On several occasions her life with a razor, and macraments to the effect that she should be killed. She was in It was shown that the man too application was refused.

OVER-MOISTENED BRIDGE.

John Walshe, Sixmile-bridge costs for exposing for sale but percent of water at the City.

FATHER AND SON'S.

James Williams, father, and son, were charged with being by fighting, in Seymour's Lane. A fine of 40s. was imposed.

great scientist, "means a full surgery for the doctors. Not much harm would be done if people limited their drinking to meal times. Food assimilates alcohol. But a great number of people, who during the best of the year seldom take stimulants, see no harm at Christmas in "nipping" all day, and very often nearly all night. Not only is this the great mistake of Christmas, but so hundreds of thousands of people it is a positive danger. Drink taken on an empty stomach has free access to the digestive organs. Very often the heart is seriously affected, the liver nearly always. People subject to brain troubles suffer acutely from Christmas hospitality." Then what about the children? This is a very grave aspect of the Christmas mistake. Many young people, influenced by their parents even, by foolish ideas of conviviality, are permitted to "taste," and this often proves sufficient to render active a latent and perhaps hereditary liking for stimulants. No sensible parent or guardian would do this in cold blood; but there are parents who are wilfully not sensible always, and others who are foolishly so, when animated, as they believe, by the "spirit of Christmas." And while we are speaking of mistakes, may we again point out the great mistake of giving postmen, policemen, and other public servants stimulants. Policemen, next to the letter-carriers, are most liable to Xmas temptation. No doubt, many otherwise excellent officers owe their loss of promotion to this indiscriminate "treating." Public servants are deserving of recognition at Christmas, but we would urge householders to give them money instead of drink. In this way good may be done instead of harm, and the avoidance of these mistakes will assuredly conduce to the real enjoyment of that which we cordially wish every one of our numerous readers:

A BRIGHT AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS

CURRENT COMMENT

CHRISTMAS BOXES—IS IT THE END?

Before another issue of the "Chronicle" appears, the customary applications for Christmas boxes will have been made by all and sundry, to be acceded to with what grace we may. But the question arises, will this year be the last on which the Christmas box can be asked for legitimately and legitimately given? Probably not, for there will be few who will take advantage of a legal quibble to get out of what is in the main a pleasing duty, for we have it on the highest authority that it is more blessed to give than to receive. Still if any choose to take advantage they can do it, for on Tuesday next there comes into force a new Act of Parliament, which, like other Acts, contains elements of doubt as to what it is intended to