

small farming class and cottiers are the result. In the moorlands lying between Banagher and Shannon Bridge, on the Galway side of the Shannon, the tenants have been obliged to move their stock and crops to higher levels in order to escape the floods, while at the confluence of the Suak and Shannon it is feared a few cottiers may have to quit their little homes—a very disagreeable thing at any time, but especially so at Christmastide. From the North of Ireland reports have also come to hand of the abnormal flooding of low-lying lands and roadways. In South Wales matters are far graver, as it is to be regretted that, through the collapse of a bridge, two lives were lost. At Glyncoiwg, a mountainous region in Glamorganshire, five cottages were swept away, and the inmates had a narrow escape. Traffic in the Swansea Valley has been stopped in many directions, due in one instance to a big landslide. Altogether it is evident that the floods all over the country are of extraordinary magnitude. It is to be hoped that a spell of hard, dry weather is in store for us round the Yuletide holidays. A disappearance of the rainy element would be welcomed by everyone in town and country.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Miners and Cost of Living.

Mr. A. D. Thomas, the well-known mine owner, points out the cost of living has not increased since the last agreement was signed. The coal output, he says, is a million and a quarter tons less, whilst 23,000 more colliers are employed than last year. If the cost of living, he adds, has increased 20 per cent since 1897, the cost of labour has increased 75 per cent. The collier's average wage above and below ground in 1909 was from 32s. to 33s., and at the coal-face two guineas to 45s. a week. Many earned a guinea a day. The minimum wages means considerably over a shilling a ton, which would more than extinguish the profits on the ordinary shares of the collieries in which he is concerned.

Old Time Limerick.

The appointment of his Worship the Mayor to the office of German Vice-Consul for Limerick and some of the western maritime counties helps to recall the days when the Continental trade with the port of Limerick was a most important one, and afforded employment to hundreds of people engaged in callings which are now mere names. There are people still in the city that can well remember the days when seventy vessels sailed up the Shannon on the flowing tide, and quite as large a number sailed for near or far on its ebb. These were the days, and not so far off, since there was quite a small army of interpreters in Limerick, and all along the great estuary of the Shannon, as it broadens seaward—men who could speak the language of every foreigner that sailed up to Limerick, Frenchman, Greek, Turk, Spaniard, Norwegian, Italian, German—let his nationality be what it might. The big steamers, however, did away with the interpreters, as with the

MILITARY MEMS.

Lieut. Dickinson, of the 3rd Reserve Battalion Royal Irish Regiment, at Clonmel, has been appointed second-lieutenant in the Leicestershire Regiment. Mr. Dickinson was appointed to his first commission in the 3rd Reserve Battalion Royal Irish Regiment in September, 1909.

Second-Lieut. Holmes, of the 3rd Battalion Dorset Regiment, who has been appointed to a commission in the regular service, joins the 2nd Batt. York and Lancaster Regiment at Limerick.

Lieut. Harold Howard, of the 5th Reserve Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers at Limerick, has been appointed to a commission as second-lieutenant in the Army Service Corps. He joined the old Limerick County Battalion in May, 1909.

DEATH OF MR. ROBERT NIX, D.C.

We regret extremely to record the death of Mr. Robert Nix, D.C., which took place last night at his residence, Meelick, Co. Clare, in the 65th year of his age. Mr. Nix had been ill for the past fortnight or so. His demise will be heard of with sincere regret by a host of friends in Clare and Limerick, where he was extremely popular by reason of his genial and kindly manner and unostentatious charity. Mr. Nix, who farmed very extensively, was one of the oldest surviving members of the Limerick Board of Guardians, with which he had been connected for a quarter of a century or more. He took a keen concern in Poor Law affairs, and while mindful of the interests of the ratepayers, had those of the poor also at heart. The sympathy of all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance will go forth to his widow and relatives in their sorrow. The funeral takes place from Meelick R.C. Church on Thursday next, at one o'clock.

GERMAN VICE-CONSULATE.

The Mayor (Councillor T. Ryan) has been notified of his provisional appointment to the post of German Vice-Consul for the Counties of Limerick, Clare, Galway, Sligo, and Leitrim.

CHINESE REVOLT.

Peace Plenipotentiary at Shanghai.

Tang-Shao-Yi, the Peace Plenipotentiary of Yuan-Shih-Kai, has arrived at Shanghai, and been received by a large gathering, including the British, Turkish, Russian, and American Consuls. Wu-Tung-Fang has formally complained that Yuan-Shih-Kai has committed a breach of the armistice. In many parts of the country the economic situation is described as desperate, and millions are reported as starving. Reuter's Agency is informed that the rumours of intervention published in the Japanese Press are without foundation. Letters received at Hankow from Chung-King state that Tuan-Fang, formerly Director-General of the Hu-Kuang Railway, who was recently appointed Acting Viceroy of Szechuan, has been killed at Tre-Chow by his own soldiers.

ACCIDENT AT THE MARKETS.

Fatal Termination.

A man named John Hennessy, 27, unmarried in the employment of the Hobby Horse Company, met with an accident by falling from some of the machinery. He sustained rather serious injuries to the head and body, and was admitted to Barrington's Hospital, where he was under treatment from the date of the occurrence, the 21st ult., receiving every care. His injuries had, however, a fatal termination, the death of the injured man taking place last night in the institution.

salmon weighing 30lb. or more we the rod, and five that reached 40lb. mark, a record that cannot elsewhere in the Kingdom. And season that proved so disastrous the Shannon well maintained its week in October yielding 45 sal scaling up to 42lb. The Galway admirably managed, and although up to its usual standard this year, rule, first rate sport throughout t

ANCIENT ORDER OF FO

Court Sarsfield Br

The fortnightly meeting of A.O.F., was held at their room Street, on Saturday, 16th Decemb a very large attendance of member was presided over by Bro. John Ranger; Bro. Thomas O'Donn Ranger; Bro. Patrick McIner Bros. J. Desmond, and M. Hickey Bro. J. Malone, and P. Buggy Bro. Michael Bourke, P.C.R., S Woodwards reported 7 members s declared off the funds, and 1 mem the sick list.

The Secretary read the quarterly from 30th June to 30th Septembe was considered very satisfactor mously adopted. The amount paid for the three months was : for mortality, for medical aid an purposes, £19 4s 7d. The gross three months was £65 19s 6d, an ture was £54 4s 7d, showing a gai months of the sum of £11 14s 11d, 1 to the credit of the branch of the sun

A resolution was proposed by P.C.R., and seconded by O'Neill, P.C.R., to the effect:— members of Court Sarsfield No. meeting assembled, do hereby c worthy Secretary Bro. Michael B on his speedy recovery from dent, and welcome to take over his office of the position which he has filled years to the entire satisfaction of the Order."

The Chief Ranger put the pr meeting, which was past unanimo

The Secretary returned thanks he never could forget the many visits to him made by the officers the court during his illness.

RINK PALACE

On Saturday afternoon a large audience thoroughly enjoyed the sociability provided at the Rink I on Saturday night, when the final match, Palace v. Gondoliers, was resulted in a win for Palace by tw and they being the winners of th afterwards presented with five medals. To-night: Ladies' Pota Race; the Pathe's Gazette will "Freak Football," "Oxford v. Cross-country Banning," "A moon," "The Great Gale at Penz Wednesday night a challenge hoc take place. A great Xmas progr prepared for next week; Dubl Waterford rinkers will visit Lime will also be a grand fancy-dress we, hope will be a bumper success.

Rink Hockey.

The following are the teams to r rink for Xmas hockey:— Limerick v. Cork, at Limeri Hynes; back, P. McCormack; h forwards, J. McNamara, C. Slaws Limerick v. Waterford, at Wat S. Mansfield; back, C. Prender Moseley; forwards, D. McCormack