

mechanically registered in the lobbies, and a true opinion of the people." Mr. Smith maintains that the country is behind the Home Rule Bill, and that a general election is therefore unnecessary. He holds that the Bill represents the considered judgment of the House of Commons, and that there is no evidence worth consideration to show that the verdict of the House on the Bill has been approved by the mass of the electorate that he so, and if the Government really believe they have the country behind them, why not go to the people on the issue? It is their contention that the recent by-elections, which dealt so severe a blow to the present Administration, were un-
 influenced by the Home Rule Bill. Yet we have Mr. Hamilton, the victor at Rineham, informing the House on Tuesday evening, in very emphatic terms that the principal issue before the electors was the question of Home Rule. "He had asked," he continued, "for a verdict on Home Rule, Welsh Disestablishment, and the electors given their verdict against the Government on both heads." Other constituencies, such as Newmarket, where they have been afforded an opportunity of expressing their views through the medium of the ballot, have registered their verdict against the policy of the Government, and these particular instances in themselves are convincing evidence of the trend of public opinion in Great Britain just now. Withal the Ministerialists profess to believe that the country is still at their back. But as the "Morning Post" points out, "At present the Opposition refuse to admit that the House of Commons has any shred of authority to deal with so vital a question as the Irish question," and the journal goes on to remark, "The truth is that the Government dare not put the matter to the test of an appeal to the country. They know they would be immediately defeated." So far as the votes on the Bill in the House of Commons are concerned, the absurd position which has been very clearly established by Mr. Bonar Law. "We are bringing this Bill to-day under conditions which are not only new in our Parliamentary history, but which have never been heard

more than three days in the past five months. The defendant promised not to repeat the offence and she was fined 1s and 2s costs. Thomas McInerney, stated to be an old age pensioner, was summoned by Acting Sergeant Crowley for begging at Ballinacurra. Mr. Doyle, solr., stated he knew the man who lost his son by drowning and who had become mentally affected through that and other domestic trials. Sergeant Crowley, in the circumstances stated by Mr. Doyle, withdrew the charge, and the case was dismissed with a caution. Patrick Nevin who did not appear was summoned for a similar offence at Ballinacurra. Acting Sergeant Crowley, stating that the accused had been in gaol already for begging, and stealing a latch key. Nevin who is from the city was ordered 14 days imprisonment. Katie Morris, a young girl, was remanded to Saturday on the charge of stealing £10 from one Patrick Naughton of Bruff. Some other cases were disposed of, and the court adjourned.

DEATH OF MRS. MARY HANNAN

The death occurred on Tuesday morning of Mrs. Mary Hannan, at the residence of her son Mr. Daniel Hannan, B.C., Mount Kennett House. The deceased, who had attained her eighty-first year, belonged to an old and highly-respected Limerick family. She was held in the greatest esteem by all who know her, and her demise at a ripe age is regretted by a wide circle of friends.

The funeral took place at 3 o'clock yesterday from St. Michael's R.C. Church for interment in Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery, and was of very large proportions.

The chief mourners were — Messrs. Daniel Hannan, Joseph Hannan (Dublin), and M. Hannan (sons), John Hannan, and Daniel Hannan (grandsons), J. F. Dilworth (son-in-law), and W. J. Griffiths.

Amongst the general public were — Dr. C. M. Donnell, J.P. (High Sheriff), Alderman D. McNeice (Mayor *locum tenens*); B. O'Donnell, J.P., J. Kerr, J.P., M. Leahy, J.P., J. Flynn, B. T. Hartigan, E. Collopy, J. Cunningham, A. Quillman, J. A. Quirke, P. Kenny, B.C., A. Killeen, E. O'Toole, E. Duggan, Alderman Prendergast, Alderman McDonogh, J. Davern, T. Savage, C. O'Sullivan, P. Walsh, B.C., P. Gleeson, W. South, P. Kavanagh, M. Griffin, B.C., M. McInerney, B.C., E. Bourke, R. Frost, B.C., J. Kirby, T. S. Lawlor, M. Cahill, E. Dondan, J. Dalton, B.C., T. Bourke, B.C., E. B. Duggan, M. Griffin, C. O'Neill, D.C., F. J. Lalor, P. Mulqueen, D.C.; P. Shiels, H. J. Guinane (junr), P. Forrest, E. O'Connell, J. P. Lynch, B.C.; W. Holliday, J.P., J. F. Halvey, T. McGrath, J. J. Peacocke, C.E.; J. Kelly, E. Kennedy, F. Patterson, Alderman O'Brien, P. F. McNamara, B.C., J. Dixon, M. Foley, B.C., J. Hassett, B.C., J. South, G. Gleeson, B.C., E. J. Riordan, V.S., M. F. Donnellan, J. Slattery, B.C., C. Johnson, B.C., D. Coffey, D. Cantrell, B.C., L. O'Donnell, B.C., E. Daly, J. Lawlor, S. Johnson, J. M. Guinane, M. J. Hanahan, B.C., S. O' Rielly, A. Lawlor, B.C. etc.

The officiating clergy were the Rev. Fr. Duane, C.C., and Rev. Fr. Thornhill, C.C. At the meeting of the Corporation Committees last night, Alderman McNeice presiding, a vote of condolence with Councillor Hannan and the relatives of the deceased was passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Finance Bill.

The Finance Bill was read a second time in the House of Commons yesterday by a Government majority of 97, but in the prior division of the Labour amendment

to leave the bridge in its then position was closed to heavy traffic, and motor traffic. In the same year Trade sent one of their Inspectors and as a result of his report they closing of the bridge for twelve continuing. Mr. Fitzgerald said that Harbour Commissioners decided upon the present Bill providing for a fixed replace the swivel.

Replying to the Chairman, counsel fixed bridge would cost £3,450, while swivel bridge would entail an expenditure of roughly £9,000, and this the Commission consider themselves justified in effect of the comparatively small revenues.

The first witness examined was Power, Secretary to the Limerick Harbour Commissioners, who said that having occupied his present position, and years done business in the harbour in capacity, he was, by reason of his former experience, thoroughly conversant with the condition of affairs. He traced the history of the bridge from its erection and the necessity for the Swivel Bridge Limerick side, in order that vessels to harbour might pass beyond it. This had now ceased, he said, as the to vessels had now largely increased, replaced the small vessels which used the other hand the export of wheat and the land on the north side of the had been developed into residential property and the increase of heavy rendered it necessary that the swivel should now be replaced by a permanent structure.

The Committee adjourned till to-day. The Bill is being opposed by the Corporation, for whom Mr. C. C. K.C., and Mr. Campbell (instructed by Dundon, Law Agent), appear.

To-day's Proceedings

(Special Telegram.)

HOUSE OF LORDS, TH

A Select Committee of the House presided over by Lord Clinton, to-day the consideration of a Bill being promoted by Limerick Harbour Commissioners to authorize construction of a new fixed bridge for the replacement of the swivel bridge, leading on to the Wellesboro.

Mr. J. D. Fitzgerald, K.C., Mr. J. Ernest Phelps (instructed by Messrs. Fitt and Co.), appeared for the Harbour Commissioners; and

Mr. C. C. Hutchinson, K.C., and Mr. (instructed by Mr. John Dundon) representing Limerick Corporation, who had lodged against the Bill.

MR. J. F. POWER.

Mr. John F. Power, Secretary to the Commissioners, who was under examination yesterday, gave further evidence in support of the Bill to-day. He said that the Commission had an outstanding debt of £16,000, and also a sum of £9,000 being spent in re-constructing a new dredger, so that with this £25,000 over them they did not feel justified in the expense of putting up another swivel bridge. Witness in his evidence