

for Oaths. At the same time Alderman Prendergast, redeclared as Under Sheriff. The High Sheriff has appointed Mr. Charles Ebrill, solicitor, O'Connell-street, as his Returning Officer.

The Religious Life

LOCAL LADIES RECEIVED

The religious receptions have taken place at the Ursuline Convent, Waterford of Miss Nano Mulcahy, B.A. (Sister Otteran), daughter of Mr. Mulcahy, Postmaster, Ennis; and Miss D. Ryan (Sister Monice), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ryan, Limerick. The Most Rev. Dr. Sheehan, Bishop of Waterford and Lismore, officiated. In addition to the relatives and friends of the ladies received, the following clergy were present—Rev. J. Coffey, Chaplain, Ursuline Convent; Rev. M. Crotty, Bishop's secretary; Rev. M. F. Walsh, C.C., Ballybricken; Rev. P. Doocey, C.C., do; Rev. P. Ward, C.C., Carrick-on-Suir; and Rev. Father Chambers, O.F.M.

Floods in the County

RIVERS OVERFLOW THEIR BANKS

The incessant rains of the past ten days have caused heavy floods in several parts of the county. The low-lying lands adjoining the city are inundated to the depth, in some places, of from 10 to 18 inches. At Groody, about a mile and a half from the city, the district resembles a vast lake. The Shannon has so much swollen that it has overflowed its banks at Plassy. The river Mulcaire, which passes through Newport, is a raging torrent, and for the past few days it has brought down in its rush to join the Shannon large portions of its banks, stumps of trees, and other debris generally collected by a heavy flood. From all parts of the county come reports of the damage caused by the floods. In the West Limerick districts a similar state of affairs exists. The Deel has overflowed its banks at Rathkeale, with the result that the lands in the immediate vicinity are heavily flooded. It may be mentioned that sips are being taken to deepen the bed of this river—a work that is very badly needed. The Maigue is also in a state of high flood. In some parts of the county the road water tables are unable to take off the water, and the result is that the roads are flooded, and are in some cases impassable to pedestrians.

LIMERICK RACE CO.

Annual Meeting To-Day

BIG DIVIDEND DECLARED

The annual general ordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Limerick Race Company was held this evening at the offices of the Company, 45, O'Connell-street. Mr. James O'G. Delmege, J. P., Chairman, presided, and there was a large attendance of shareholders.

The Secretary, having read the notice convening the meeting, submitted the auditor's report on the working of the Company for the past year. This report showed that the total receipts amounted to £4,585 17s. 8d., and the expenditure £3,735 7s. 9d., leaving a balance of £850 9s. 11d.

The directors, in their report to the shareholders, recommended a dividend at the rate of 20 per cent. free of income tax, and this was unanimously adopted.

The retiring directors, Messrs J. Clune, Jas. Flynn, Bryan O'Donnell, J. P.; Timothy M'Grath, and E. J. Long, J. P., were unanimously re-elected.

Mr. Charles W. Metcalfe was unanimously re-elected auditor.

WINTER SUITINGS IN VARIETY,
Newest Shades, Hand-made,
At O'CALLAGHAN'S, THOMAS ST.

Mr. M. F. Riordan, secretary, read the minutes of last meeting, and they were agreed to.

With reference to the new local pig fairs recently established,

Mrs. Nix asked if the pigs were sold by hand or by live weight.

Mr. Riordan understood they were bought by hand.

The Chairman—Have we any returns of the pigs that were at the fairs?

Mr. Riordan answered in the negative.

The Chairman said he did not think the returns were necessary. He heard there was a very good beginning at the fairs.

Mr. M'Namara—There could not be a big supply owing to the foot and mouth disease scare.

Mr. Browne—I think the pigbuyers themselves are quite pleased with the start they made.

The Chairman—One thing is certain, that the Association did the best they could for them.

Mr. Browne said he was told that several sellers got very good prices, and that they were able to sell heavy pigs which they could not dispose of to the merchants. He was also told that every pig bought at the fairs was shipped.

The Chairman—Shipped?

Mr. M'Namara—Yes; the trade is a different one altogether.

It was agreed that the new fairs should receive the continued support of the Association.

The meeting considered the arrangements to be made in connection with the lecture of Father Finlay, Vice-president I.A.O.S., on "Co-operation," and which is to be delivered in the hotel at 3.30 p.m. on the 16th prox., and the supper which is to follow at 7.30 p.m. It was agreed that the cost of tickets for the supper should be 4s.

The other business was routine.

Veteran Nationalist's Death

MR. WILLIAM WHELAN, EX-B.C., PASSES AWAY

The death occurred at his residence, Mount Crescent Avenue, on yesterday of Mr. William Whelan, one of the best known Nationalists in Limerick. The deceased gentleman was a native of Dublin and had been always in the forefront of the National Movement. He was a well-known and trusted Fenian but he threw in his lot with Parnell in the constitutional movement. In the Land League movement Mr. Whelan was an enthusiast, and he was one of the first to join the Sarsfield Branch of the League when it was started in Limerick. He was a sincere, consistent and whole-souled Nationalist in every particular. At the passing of the L.G. Act in 1898 he was a labour candidate for the Dock Ward and he was elected by a large majority. He was a member of the Borough Council during the Mayoralty of Mr. John Daly, the Fenian veteran, and during his term of office he was respected and esteemed by his constituents. The deceased, who had been ailing for some time past, was employed as an engineer at the firm of Messrs. Denny, Bacon Merchants, where by his quiet and amiable disposition he won hosts of friends. To his sons, who it is needless to remark, are also ardent and sincere Nationalists, the sympathy of the citizens is extended in their bereavement.

Important Clerical Changes

The Most Rev. Dr. Harty has made the following changes in the Archdiocese of Cashel—Rev. T. O'Dwyer, Adm. Pallasgreen, to be Parish Priest of Cappawhite; Rev. T. Nolan, C.C. Tipperary, to be Adm. of Pallasgreen; Rev. T. M'Carthy, C.C. Fethard, to be C.C. Tipperary; Rev. R. Noonan, C.C. Holycross, to be C.C. Fethard, and Rev. T. M'Connack, called home from the American Mission, to be C.C. of Holycross.

M'Namara's Malt,
41. PATRICK-STREET. J. J. & S. kept
in Stock.

ill-considered and unreasonable treatment. The Committee had under observation during the year the closing of the smaller houses at 9 o'clock on Saturday nights. A deputation was formed with that object in view, but I regret to state that their efforts did not meet with success. They succeeded to some extent in getting some humane and well-disposed employers to close. The failure of their efforts may be attributed to the apathy and indifference and carelessness of the majority of the assistants whom this agitation was got up for. Here we see the deplorable and disastrous effect of not joining our Association, formed for no other purpose than to have grievances mitigated. It is a remarkable coincidence that this very cause I have just mentioned tended to have the original Shop Hours Act mutilated, and half of its benevolent clauses deleted, an Act which would not have been applied to Ireland were it not for our Association. It has come to my knowledge now and again, both written and verbal information, that there are young ladies engaged in some of those shops who have to work up to the early hours of Sunday morning, and, too, for the paltry wages of 5s 6d outdoor—a disgrace to civilisation, not to speak of humanity (applause). These same employers can drive out to their suburban residences, accompanied by their chauffeurs, who are 50 per cent. better paid, better fed, and better housed than the toilers to the sweat of whose brow and meagre pay they are indebted for this superfluous luxury (applause). The question of establishing a fair minimum wage in all callings has become universal, and we are glad to note made considerable progress, but in no calling is this more necessary than in the distributed trades. The miserably low wages, salaries so-called, which are paid to the bulk of shop workers calls for immediate remedy. Our Executive intend during the coming year to formulate a scheme of wages in various grades and departments. This question of minimum wage is at the very root, in fact at the very foundation of all social evils, at our strikes of the day. On it depends our very existence, and I will go further and say on it depends the very existence of the nation itself (applause). In pushing forward this vital question we are encouraged by the fact that at a recent meeting of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce, the late chairman expressed in words which cannot be misunderstood that although the employers might proclaim their victory they are not exempt from paying their employes a wage which will enable them to live in frugal comfort. This statement, ladies and gentlemen, coming from such a high authority in the commercial world is significant and worthy of your consideration. This statement coming from a man, too, that, I can bear personal testimony, always admired, appreciated and preferred a Trades Union man to a non-Union man. There is evidently no propensity here to crush the workingman. Encouraged by this statement we will pursue the settlement of this most serious and vital question with tenacity and determination, burying and subordinating our claims according to Christian principles and Christian ideals; at the same time recognising and respecting the rights and privileges of employers, at the same time demanding respect and protection for our own, adhering faithfully and loyally to the standard of unity and self-reliance, co-operating for our mutual welfare and prosperity, convinced that our cause is a just and legitimate one, and placing the realisation of our hopes, our aims, and objects under the guidance and protection of an all-wise and all-just Providence (loud applause). The infringements of the living-out system also engaged our attention, and resulted in a deputation waiting on the employers, who, I may say in justice to them, received us in a courteous manner. As this matter remains in abeyance awaiting further developments, it would not be prudent at this stage to discuss it, except to suggest that the greatest vigilance not only by the Committee,