

rest assured, the Allies are prepared. Already his attacks at certain points have been frustrated by the intensity of our artillery fire, and the enemy continues to sustain heavy losses, which cannot have otherwise than a depressing effect on the morale of his troops. A special correspondent at British Headquarters points out that the great thrust by the enemy, begun on the 21st March, was a supreme effort to fulfill a pledge to "victoriously end the war in three months." That has not come to pass, and the Huns know full well by now that their time table is sadly out of joint. But that they will make another tremendous effort cannot be doubted, though with what degree of success, judging by their previous efforts, and in what particular area of the widely flung battle front, remain to be seen. The special correspondent of the "Times" says that the enemy would like "very much to take Ypres, or the remains of Ypres, if he could, not so much on account of the strategical value of the ground as because it is Ypres. The name would look well in German communiques." Tuesday's official reports showed that the French beat back German attacks north of Kemmel. The enemy attacked on a front of nearly a mile south-west of Morlancourt, and succeeded at one point in entering our positions, but at all others the attack was repulsed with heavy loss. Whether these and other local engagements portend an immediate renewal of the offensive is not quite certain, but there is no doubt that there has during the past few days been a steady increase in the artillery duel which on the Allies side "often swells to terrific proportions. The roar of the guns never subsides, day or night," and the result is that the Germans have as little opportunity as possible for entrenching themselves against our unceasing and withering fire. The longer the general attack by the enemy is deferred, the more favourable will the position of affairs be for the Allies. The enemy's comparative inaction of late has doubtless, been due to the heavy losses he sustained in the great attempt that he made a fortnight ago, or so, to crush in the Ypres salient, an attempt which, as said, he now seems bent on repeating. It is evident, the "Times" special correspondent says, "that the fighting between Mount Kemmel and La Clytte may be intended by the Germans as a preliminary to a possible attempt on Ypres. If that was so, the way in which their effort to strike west along the back of the line of hills has been met and foiled is not very encouraging for the prospects of the major proposition, since the design of trying to approach Ypres from the south would involve the dangerous hazard of exposing their assaulting forces to a flank attack by the Allies. In any case, the Allies are prepared for them, and they are confident that the Franco-British combination is too hard a nut for the Germans to crack." Besides a probable big stroke on the Western front, there are already signs of liveliness on the

general manager of the Listowel and Ballybunion (Lartigue) Railway, on the occasion of his departure from that town.

The Commissioners of National Education have notified the Neas Rural School Attendance Committee of the appointment to their Committee of Rev Canon J O Hannay ("George Bermingham"), in succession, to the Rev Canon Bomerville Cargie.

It will be seen by advertisement that a general meeting of the Limerick Citizens' and Ratepayers' Society will be held in the Chamber of Commerce to-morrow (Friday) at 4.30 p.m. to discuss important matters. Those desirous of joining the Society, are invited to attend.

It is announced that Mr R J Sheehy, Professor of Law in the University College, Galway, has so far recovered from his illness as to be able to accept a Government offer to take up an important post in the Leeward Islands. Mr Sheehy practised in the Limerick Courts, and is married to a Newcastle West lady.

We regret (says the "Clonmel Chronicle") to announce the death of Mr Robert G Hassett, eldest son of the late Mr Thomas Hassett, Clonmel, which took place on Tuesday morning, after a brief illness, at his residence, Newtown, Waterford. The deceased was cashier in the Clyde Shipping Company, and was very popular.

FATAL ACCIDENT.

On Tuesday evening, while getting some hay from a loft in a yard at Cathedral Place, Thomas McKnight, an elderly man, accidentally slipped off a ladder, sustaining injuries which proved fatal. He fell on his head from a height of some few feet, and when medical assistance promptly arrived, Dr McGrath pronounced life extinct. The deceased was married, with a family. His age was stated at the inquest held last evening at Carey's Road to be about 70. The jury having heard the evidence, found that death was due in effect to concussion of the brain and shock, and that same was the result of the accident which had occurred.

BANK HOLIDAY.

An Order in Council was published in Tuesday night's "Dublin Gazette" appointing Saturday, the 18th day of May, as a special day to be observed as a Bank Holiday throughout Ireland. This decision relates to banks only, and has not the effect of declaring the day a general public holiday. It is not intended that the day shall be observed as such.

CASTLECONNELL.

The beauties of Castleconnell are always an attraction to pleasure-seekers during the summer season, and many have already patronised this very popular resort this year. At the Shannon Hotel, visitors, whether for the week-end or for the day, find their requirements admirably catered for, and at reasonable rates. It will be seen by advertisement that luncheons, dinners, teas, and refreshments may be had at the Shannon, and at short notice.

VISCOUNTY FOR LORD WIMBORNE.

It is understood, says the "Daily Telegraph," that Lord Wimborne will be created a Viscount in recognition of his services as Viceroy of Ireland.

CHARGE OF HOARDING FLOUR.

John Sheehy, a small farmer, of Labordean, Ballybunion, was fined £1 and costs at Listowel Petty Sessions for purchasing a quantity of flour in excess of that allowed by the new order—viz., two stones. The policeman stated that on the

Ostend, has proved that she and a cargo of cement, and that she was captured by the English, but that she was the property of the German batteries. The fact adds that the German claim is a

Germany's En

19 Countries at War will have Severed Rel

In Parliament, Mr Balfour following countries have declared war on Germany:—Russia, France, Belgium, Serbia, Montenegro, Japan, Rumania, United States, Cuba, Liberia, Greece, China, Brazil, and the United States. The following countries have severed relations with Germany:—Nicaragua, Hayti, Santo Domingo, Peru, Uruguay, and Ecuador.

German Time

The special correspondent of the wires from the Hague—I can give authority that the German declaration of Calais was until noon (next Sunday). This date was that in certain circles it is still an effort must be made this Germans must at least attempt promises."

POWERS OF IRISH

Statement by Mr E

In the House of Commons yesterday Mr Bonar Law said no change in the constitutional position of Ireland, but in view of the new position in Ireland, the Viceroy would extend, the full responsibility of office.

In reply to another question, Mr Bonar Law said the Vice Secretary would both have what Cabinet rank.

Mr Lough—Will the Chief principally in this country or in

Mr Bonar Law—That depends dictated by his office; but I hope as far as possible for the work of

Mr Samuel—What is the office of a Minister who has Cabinet rank, but is not a Cabinet?

Mr Bonar Law—Cabinet rank is a rational position. The constitution depends on the office. (Laughter.)

THE GENERAL

The General Synod of the returned its sittings yesterday at Synod Hall, Christchurch place. Primate presided.

ADDRESS TO THE LORD

The Archbishop of Down, and others, brought up and read directed to be prepared for Viscount French on his appointment of Ireland.

The draft was approved of rising.

PRAYER BOOK RE

The Synod resumed the report of the Prayer Book Commission, various amendments of the r. mented.

The recommendations were and either adopted or referred to the committee for further consideration.

UNION OF PARLI