

Queenstown owing to the competition of the Hamburg-American and other German lines. In 1891 there were landed at Queenstown 2,450 saloon, 2,333 second-class, and 7,530 steerage passengers; in 1909 the numbers were 1,839, 4,458, and 10,773 respectively, and in 1914, 925, 3,255, and 8,982 respectively. Since 1914 no vessels from America had called at Queenstown. That represented to this country a very serious shortage in the spending of money.

### RAID AT CASTLECONNELL.

On Wednesday morning a large party of military and constabulary in charge of District Inspector Craig, proceeded from Limerick to Castleconnell by early morning train. A protracted search was made for arms and explosives, but without result, nothing being found.

### CHARGE OF ILLEGAL DRILLING.

At Bruce Petty Sessions on Tuesday, three men named Horgan, O'Keefe, and Morrissey were charged under the Realism Act with illegal drilling before Mr P. J. Kelly, R.M., and Mr H. R. Jones, R.M. The accused were convicted and ordered six months' imprisonment each, having refused to give nominal bail. They were committed to Limerick Prison.

### LIMERICK TRADE DISPUTE.

Mr Baillie, Arbitrator under the Minister of Labour, has awarded the stationary engine drivers and firemen employed at some of the Limerick milling establishments an increase of 7s 6d per week, as war bonus, on their wages of 44s per week.

### CITY SHRIEVALTY.

The Town Clerk, Mr Wm M. Nolan, J.P., received official notification from Dublin Castle this morning that Mr James H. Roche, J.P., outgoing High Sheriff for the city, has been appointed thereto for the coming year. Mr Roche's name was placed first on the list at the meeting of the Borough Council on the 23rd January. His numerous friends will wish him a happy year of office.

### DEATH OF CANON M. IRWIN, P.P.

The death took place this morning at the parochial residence of the Very Rev Canon M. Irwin, P.P., of Castlemahon, after a somewhat prolonged illness. The deceased clergyman, who had reached his eighty-fourth year, was Parish Priest of Castlemahon for a long number of years, 40, it appears, and he was greatly respected and esteemed by his parishioners. In his early years he took an active part in the settlement of the land question. Office and High Mass is to take place at 11 a.m. on Saturday morning, the interment following.

Many Grimsby homes are without fires owing to coal shortage. Mothers are sending children to the pictures because the sinners at least are warm.

A Ball will be held in Limerick on above date with the view of raising funds to assist the memorial in honour of the Royal Munster Fusiliers

### THEATRE ROYAL.

At the Theatre Royal last night the entertaining play, "A Fool's Paradise," was produced by the Leonard Laurence Dorothy West-Symes Co. The audience was somewhat disappointing, the attendance being sparse, nevertheless, those that were present were amply repaid by a first-class presentation of this work of Mr Sydney Grundy. All the principals were capital, particularly Miss Dorothy West-Symes, who gave a finished portrayal of "Kate Derwent." Miss Lydia Donovan as "Beatrice Selwyn" was clever and resourceful, while Mr Leonard Laurence as "St. Peter Land, M.D." supplied a convincing study of an exacting part. In the role of "Philip Selwyn" Mr David McFarlane displayed ability and plenty of artistic effect. The minor roles were capably sustained. To-night "Alias Jimmy Valentine" will be repeated, and to-morrow night the engagement will conclude with the intensely dramatic play "Leah Kleopatra."

### DO IT NOW.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE.

Sir.—The report of speeches at the Mayoral banquet, and the consideration of a "Report on the Harbours of Ireland" at the last meeting of the Harbour Board, are, no doubt, very interesting. They all show that there is an immense amount of work to be done some time—in the near future, it is sincerely to be hoped; in the distant, it is greatly to be feared. I have read and re-read them all, but there is not one line, not one word, about something that should be done now. I mean the completion of the Swivel Bridge. This work was held up owing to the outbreak of the war; the Treasury would not part with the money. The vast bulk of the material is on the ground. Surely it is time something practical was done, now that the war is virtually over, to get on with this job. I venture to say more money has been littered away in unemployment benefits for the last six weeks in this city than would pay, or nearly pay, the wages bill for completing this bridge. And all the time we have speeches and meetings and talk, but no action. What is the Corporation doing; the Harbour Board, the Chamber of Commerce, the Ratepayers' Association, the Trades' Council? Are they collectively or individually able to do anything constructive? If they are, let them get to work and begin by the Corporation calling a meeting of all interests, and present a joint demand by a deputation of five, one from each of the bodies mentioned above, to the Treasury or Board of Trade, or whoever it is, and insist that the money be released for this most necessary work. The long summer days are before us; the workers want work, not charity; the material is on the ground. What is wanted is action, not talk.

Yours faithfully,

"Do It Now."

Limerick, 23/1/19.