

of August is now swiftly passed with it the most popular year from the tourist's point of view. September with its shortened season is not without its attractions and is favoured with bright and bracing weather. The atmospheric conditions now closing have been none better for the holiday-maker, for rain is absent and the temperature is in a period of prolonged drought was and indeed suggestive of late summer rather than another warm spell, another "mer" as it is termed, is still to be seen, but the year remains to be seen, but is not concerned with at the moment of the conditions that have so far shown on harvest prospects and on operations generally. It will be seen that over most of the country the conditions set in about the 15th of August, slight rains that fell about that time were not sufficient to thoroughly water the soil or to refill the dried up watering places. In the last month, however, a marked change occurred, and for some time heavy rains came as a great relief to the crops and pastures, though it is quite late to be of service to grain crops, but farmers could, however, have done much more if the rains that fell during the past few weeks and could have well wished for more sunshine to mature the cereals and to bring in the golden ear, but all things considered the harvest prospects are far more promising just now than they could have been regarded a couple of months ago, when the drought occasioned much anxiety, not alone as regards the crops, but also pastures which were parched and burnt. The "Farmers' Review" in its issue of Saturday last contains an important review of the crops and in an introductory note

was held up from midnight on Sunday until yesterday afternoon, when the men were ordered back to work by Mr Thomas. The strike was unofficial, and was not in any way countenanced by the men's Executive Committee.

A Belfast Strike.

All the engine-drivers, firemen, and cleaners of the Great Northern Railway at Belfast came out on strike at midnight last night, and there will be no trains running to or from the city to-day, says a Belfast correspondent, wiring early this morning. The strike is contrary to the instructions of the officials of the Union, and it is understood that the men will not receive strike pay.

IRISH RAILWAY ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL.

Case for the Men Opened

Mr J H Thomas, M.P., opened the case for the men at the Irish Railway Arbitration Tribunal in the Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin, yesterday. He referred to the greater issue now pending in Ireland, and took full responsibility for urging the railwaymen to go to arbitration. He stood for conciliation, believing it would be better to reason things than to fight it out.

DEATH OF MR M FORDE.

The death, which we announce with regret, took place in St John's Hospital on Sunday night of Mr Michael Forde, Church-street, in his forty-seventh year. The deceased had been ailing for some time past, and his death was not unexpected. For some years past the late Mr Forde was a departmental foreman at Lansdowne Condensed Milk Factory, and prior to that he was on the clerical staff of the Limerick Steamship Co. He was of a kindly and genial disposition, a general favourite with all who knew him, and his early demise is greatly regretted by a number of friends and acquaintances, who extend sympathy to his family in their bereavement.

The remains were removed to St John's Cathedral last evening at seven o'clock.

At 3 o'clock to-day the funeral left the Cathedral for Mount St Laurence Cemetery, where the interment took place. There was a large and representative attendance in the cortege, which was a fitting testimony to the esteem in which the deceased was held, and the sympathy felt for his relatives in their sorrow. The chief mourners were—Messrs James and William Forde (brothers), Mr J Doyle (brother-in-law), and other relatives. The clergy present were—Rev Fr McNamara, O.C, St John's; Rev Fr Rice, C.C, and Rev Fr Kelly, C.C; and Rev Fr Bonaventure, O.F.M. Rev Fr McNamara officiated at the grave.

CORPORATION AND RETRENCHMENT.

A meeting of a Whole House Committee of the Corporation, Ald J. Casey, *locum tenens*, presiding, was held last night at the Town Hall to consider the question of possible retrenchments of ex-

ration, then, I fear, all hope must be abandoned." "In spite of all to the contrary, in spite of all I believe that the Irish perception of freedom is their freedom is theirs—that real thing."

Speech of Mr A.

Speaking at Carlisle on 8 Henderson said that advantage of the tremendous yearning for Great Britain, and he suggested a round-table conference between both countries.

Dail Eireann and George's L

The Press Association says that an informal meeting of the Cabinet was held yesterday, the final details to the reply to Mr Lloyd George are under consideration. The correspondent says, is expected to be sent to London by special courier to Mr Lloyd George. It is said that the correspondent, that has now dispersed, has invested plenary powers to confer with and find a basis upon which an usefully proceed.

Mr Desmond Fitzgerald, the Minister, described all the details and intentions of the Dail as a "guess work."

The "Irish Bulletin" criticises Mr Lloyd George of August 1914, it says, disregard of proposals pre-suppose a deal. But his speech at Barnsley, to "Southern Ireland," shows that still the policy of his Cabinet can accept the dismemberment of the Irish Unionists do so as Mr Craig himself describes Ulster as a "Northern Parliament" and leaders from whose speech were quoted regarded the national question. It remains a question of Irish leaders of to-day.

Mr J J Walsh, T.D., speaking yesterday, says:—"We are prepared to be consistent with the peace. But it must be a peace absolute, full, and entire, and led the movement which I present truce."

SPEECH BY FATHER

The Rev M O'Flanagan, parish priest in Tourmakeady, said that in the past twenty-five years great progress in many directions had been made in the country, and that the Irish people had every reason to be satisfied with confidence, because they had had leaders whom they loved who had again and again sacrificed themselves for the people, and they must love them again. (Hear, hear)