

in cities and certain Urban districts during the week-ended 10th December and each of the preceding three weeks as furnished by the respective Sanitary Authorities. In the City of Limerick 6 cases of scarlet fever were reported for week-ending November 19th, none for the two following weeks, and but 2 for the week-ending December 10th. Cases of diphtheria (including membranous group) are given as follow—Week-ending November 19th, 7; 26th, 8; December 3rd 7; 10th, 6.

DEATH OF MR LEWIS MORLEY.

We announce with feelings of deep and sincere regret the death of Mr Lewis Morley, which took place at his residence, Quinsborough, Parteen, at 2 o'clock yesterday morning, in the forty-seventh year of his age. The deceased gentleman had been ailing three weeks, and up to Friday last his condition was considered hopeful. On Saturday, however, he took a change for the worse, and it became necessary to call in a specialist. During the evening Dr T G Moorehead arrived from Dublin, and saw the patient, of whom he held out no hope. A day on Sunday Mr Morley was in a very grave condition, and the end came on Monday morning at the hour stated. He was eldest son of the late Mr Cornelius Morley, J.P., D.L., Milfort, Portlaw, Managing Director of the old Waterford Steamship Company for many years. More than 25 years ago Mr Morley came to Limerick, from which period his connection with the Limerick Steamship Company commenced. He was managing director of the Company, and it was due to his great initiative and energy that the firm occupies the prominent position it holds to-day in the shipping world. He added materially to the Company's fleet of vessels, and expanded its sea-borne trade; and early in the present year the Company became general passenger agents for Ireland for the United States lines whose steamers have since made Cobh (Queenstown) a port of call. Mr Morley was a great authority on mercantile marine, and in that respect he was well known on both sides of the Irish Channel. He was a member of the Shipping Federation, and during the war he served the port of Limerick in a manner that earned the thanks of the citizens of every class. The late Mr Morley, during that strenuous period, frequently visited London on deputations in connection with the shipping at the port, and it was due to his intimacy with the position, that Limerick was able to be served by sea with her requirements. He was for many years a member of the Limerick Harbour Board, where his counsel was always sought, and given with that courtesy and independence of view so characteristic of him in his dealings with the affairs of the Board, as, indeed, with everyone with whom he came in contact in business or private life. He was at the time of his death President of the Limerick Chamber of Commerce, and here again his knowledge of the diurnal affairs associated with such a body was ever at the disposal of the members. In everything appertaining to Limerick, its industries, commerce, and trade he took a keen and lively interest, never sparing himself where work was to be done for the well-being of the city of his adoption. In the adjustment of trade and labour disputes he gave his invaluable aid and assistance, and always with a sense of justice and equity. He was a man, too, whose sympathies with the cause of the poor were a trait in his character, for as one who knew him well has said, the extent of his unostentatious charity will never be known. A gentleman of outstanding ability and integrity, and of most progressive ideas, his loss to Limerick is incalculable, and his death leaves a void in commercial circles here that it will be difficult to fill. He was a member of the County Club, and a keen sportsman, particularly in racing, and up to recently he had a few horses in training. He was married to a daughter of the late Mr John Roche-Kelly, J.P., D.L., Islandmore, Cronin, and leaves her and one son to mourn his loss. To them and to the other members of the family the deepest sympathy of the citizens of every class and creed is extended in the irreparable loss that they have sustained.

The flags on the shipping at the Docks were at half-mast yesterday and to-day.

The funeral will take place from Quinsborough at 12 o'clock sharp to-morrow for St. Mary's Cathedral.

LOCAL CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS.

acceptance or rejection of the Peace Treaty negotiated by its Plenipotentiaries in London exactly a fortnight ago.

The fateful debate was opened by Mr Arthur Griffith, Chairman of the Delegation, who moved that the Treaty be ratified. Pointing out that the differences of opinion were a mere quibble of words, he asked was the pact, for that, to be thrown away and the country to go back to war. Mr Griffith showed that the Treaty was the first since 1172 that Ireland and England had signed on an equal footing, and that its acceptance would effect the greatest revolution in the history of the world.

Commandant Sean MacKeon, in seconding, held that the agreement supplied what Ireland wanted—the substance, not the shadow. It gave, he said, what he and his comrades fought for.

Not to approve of the Treaty was the appeal which Mr de Valera made to the Dail. He vigorously attacked the agreement, declaring it would not end the conflict between the two countries. He asserted it was signed under duress, and described it as a surrender such as was not heard of since the days of Henry II. Nevertheless, Mr de Valera paid remarkable tribute to the delegates, saying they had to do something a mighty army or a mighty navy would not be able to do.

"It is too serious a time to play with phrases," was the solemn declaration made by Mr Collins. "If we choose to risk the substance for sentiment, we may be left with nothing but the sentiment." He warned the Assembly that the natural policy consequent on rejection was war.

Mr Stack's position was that he could not accept full Canadian powers. He stood, he said, for full independence.

The Dail adjourned till this morning. According to information in well-informed circles in Dublin last night, there is, the "Independent" says, grave danger that the result of the debate may not be ratification. It is stated that a few members who are not satisfied with the terms of the Treaty, and at the same time consider that they cannot in honour repudiate their plenipotentiaries, will probably abstain from voting.

The Special Correspondent of the "Irish Times," remarking that only a few speeches were delivered, says:—"At yesterday's rate the Session may continue for several days, and until the final division is taken nobody can tell how the voting will go. But so far as could be judged from the general attitude of the various deputies the supporters of ratification may secure a majority. More than that it would be unsafe to say in the light of yesterday's proceedings at Earsfort Terrace."

The Debate in Brief.

Some Outstanding Points from Speeches

The "Independent" says:—Among outstanding points in the speeches in the momentous debate yesterday were the following:—

MR ARTHUR GRIFFITH.—It is for the Irish people to say whether it (the Treaty) is good enough. I hold that it is and that 95 p.c. of the Irish people believe it to be good enough. The gentlemen on the other side are prepared to recognise the King of England as the head of the British Commonwealth. They are prepared to go half in the Empire and half out. Does all this quibble of words mean that Ireland is asked to throw away this Treaty and to go back to war. So far as my voice extends not one young Irishman's life should be lost in that quibble. It is the first Treaty between the representatives of the Irish Government and the representatives of the English Government since 1172 signed on an equal footing. It is the first Treaty that admits the equality of Ireland. We have brought back the flag. We have brought back the evacuation of Ireland after 700 years by British troops, and the formation of an Irish Army. Let us stand as free partners, equal with England, and make, after 700 years, the greatest revolution that has ever been made in the history of the world.

COMMANDANT SEAN MCKEON.—What he wanted—what the people of Ireland wanted was not shadow, but substance. He held this Treaty gave Ireland the real substance. To him this Treaty gave what he and his comrades fought for. It brought the freedom that was necessary—the freedom for which they all were ready to die.

MR EAMON DE VALERA.—I am against this Treaty because it does not reconcile Irish national aspirations with association with the British Government. I am against this Treaty, not because I am a man of war, but because

to confirm the Articles of Agreement signed by my Ministers and the Irish Delegation, and I pray that this agreement may speedily accomplish the complete reconciliation of the peoples of Great Britain and Ireland."

DEATH OF MR WM J GRAHAM.

We announce with regret the death of Mr William Joseph Graham, which took place at 72 O'Connell-street this morning at an early age, and after an illness of comparatively brief duration. The deceased young gentleman was youngest son of our respected and esteemed fellow-citizen, Dr P F Graham, with whom and the members of his family sorrow will be felt in their bereavement. The remains will be removed to St Michael's Church at 7 o'clock to-morrow evening, and the funeral after Mass at 10.30 o'clock on Thursday morning.

TROOPS LEAVING IRELAND.

It was learned on good authority at Cork yesterday that already arrangements have been made for the withdrawal of troops from Ireland. Drafts of various regiments have already departed, or are about to leave.

The steamship Ekatorinoslav left Milford Haven yesterday afternoon for Queenstown for the purpose of bringing over from Ireland a battalion of soldiers now stationed there. On landing at Milford the troops will be sent to their respective depots.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON.

So far the indications of a busy Christmastide are far from reassuring. Although shopkeepers and traders in general have made every arrangement to cater for the wants of customers, there does not appear to be any great anxiety on the part of the public to sport their fancy on anything like lavish Yuletide presents. The fact is that business people are painfully conscious of the slackness of trade leading up to the observance of the great Festival, and complain of the prevailing stagnation in business. Country people are not coming into the city so far in anything like the numbers that have been the custom in previous years. At the present time the shops look bright and well provided with all the customary seasonal stock. In the windows there is the usual display of goods intended for Christmas gifts, but, as stated, business is so far slow and it is hoped there will be an appreciable stir during the next few days.

DEATH OF THE COUNTESS OF ROSSE

The death has occurred of the Countess of Rosse, at Womersley Park, Yorkshire, in her 71st year, from acute bronchitis. She married the fourth Earl of Rosse, and resided at Birr Castle until the death of her husband, when she took up permanent residence at Womersley. During her connection with Birr she evinced a most exemplary interest in local charities. Her husband was the famous astronomer.

IRISH BUTTER TRADE.

Losses on Cold-stored Stocks.

Mr J Cunningham, Limerick, presided at a conference of delegates representing Co-operative and proprietary Creameries, the Cork Butter Trade, and leading dairy farmers, when it was decided that the I.D.A., in conjunction with the I.A.O.S. and other bodies, should take steps to save the butter producers who placed butter in cold storage for the Irish trade from a portion of the heavy losses which had occurred. It was stated that last year's not less than half a million, "in addition to an equal sum which the producers agreed to sacrifice to provide butter at a reasonable price for Irish consumers."

The butter was cold stored for this season when prices were £50 per ton higher than they are now, and the market is still falling. Producers expect the Irish consumers to give a preference to the home product, of which there is an ample supply at a reasonable price.

If wholesalers continue to import foreign butter, while there is plenty of Irish available, nobody will cold store for future winters, and the country for four months of the year will be almost dependent on foreign supplies.