

## COUNTY COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION.

### The Sheriff and Decees.

#### An Explanation.

### Sworn Inquiry Concludes.

Mr. Sean McGrath, Local Government Inspector, resumed and concluded the sworn inquiry into the administration of the Limerick County Council at Limerick to-day.

The appearances were:—Mr. P. J. O'Sullivan, solr., for the Co. Council; Mr. Tynan, solr., for Mr. Jas. Gleeson, a local farmer, and Mr. E. Leahy, solr., for the Farmers' Union.

At the sitting of the inquiry Mr. B. K. O'Sullivan, County Limerick Sheriff, stated it was reported in the newspapers yesterday that one of the rate collectors giving evidence had stated that he, as Sheriff, had 1,500 decrees in his hands for rates.

The Inspector—I recollect him stating a very large number.

Mr. Lucas—Yes. He said there were 1,000 decrees generally for rates.

The Inspector—I got the impression from the collector that it was very hard to get the rate to levy decrees on account of the surplus he had on hands.

The Sheriff—I do not see any reason for the collector making the statement he made.

The Inspector—How many decrees have you for rates at the present time?

The Sheriff—At present about 25. I do not know where the collector got his decrees, but there was no reason for his making the statement at this inquiry.

The Inspector—Generally speaking have you had to return rate decrees nulla bona?

The Sheriff—Yes. In a great many cases they were on labourers cottages.

The Inspector—Have you received any warrants from the Ministry under the new section of Rates Act?

The witness—None were applied for, as far as I know.

The Inspector—You got none?

The Sheriff—No.

In answering Mr. Tynan, the witness said in the last 6 or 7 years over a thousand decrees passed through his hands, but such a large number never passed through him previously.

The Inspector—Did you get a very large number of decrees for rates in years past?

## SHANNON DROWNING FATALITY.

A sad drowning accident occurred on the Shannon at O'Brien's Bridge last evening, the victim being Christopher Heffernan, aged 24 years, and unmarried. The deceased, who was employed as a worker on the Shannon power scheme, was engaged in a small boat at the site of the head race of the canal, when the craft was struck by a squall and overturned. Heffernan was thrown into the river, which is considerably swollen owing to the heavy floods. He was taken down stream and disappeared. The body has not yet been recovered. The deceased is stated to have belonged to the district of Patrickswell.

## DOCK EXTENSION PROJECT.

Mr. P. H. McCarthy, C.E., consulting engineer to the Harbour Board, visited the city yesterday and was engaged in taking measurements at the docks in connection with the extension scheme which is to cost £150,000.

## COUNCIL OF DUBLIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At an election for ten members of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, Mr. J. J. Halpin, P.C., eldest son of Mr. Joseph J. Halpin, 5 Alexandra Terrace, Limerick, was returned at the head of the poll. His many friends here will congratulate Mr. Halpin on his success.

## CATTLE FAIR.

The cattle fair held yesterday was well supplied, and there was a strong demand all round for suitable cattle. Buyers were well represented, and quotation as a rule were something like ten shillings a head in advance of the Christmas fair. Best beef realized 45s per cwt (live weight); three years old bullocks and heifers, £18 to £24 apiece; two years old bullocks and heifers, £14 10s to £16 10s, and yearlings, £8 10s to £11 10s each. Milch cows, £26 to £28, and mutton one and a penny per lb. on foot.

## THE CHURCH.

### Sunday Services.

## LATEST NEWS

### TODAY'S TELEGRAMS

Special to the "Chronicle"

## TROOPS FOR CHINA

The First Battalion Middlesex Regiment paraded in a snowstorm early at Catterick Camp, Yorkshire, en route for China.

No news of importance was received from competent circles in London.

The Second Coldstream Guards departed London to-day en route for China.

## DEATH OF BISHOP O'SULLIVAN

Most Rev. Dr. O'Sullivan, Bishop of Kerry, died at Killarney on Monday, after a brief illness.

## THE GALE

### Fierce Snowstorm in Derbyshire

A Press Association message from Derbyshire says the gale had practically blown this morning.

Glasgow this morning expected to be hit by a snowstorm, and snow also fell in Derbyshire.

### Heavy Death Roll in Scotland

It was reported to-day that a heavy death roll in Scotland from gale winds.

### 9 Persons Killed and Injured in Glasgow

In Glasgow nine persons were killed and nearly three hundred injured by the City police as having