

CHARGE AGAINST A BANK OFFICIAL.

Mr. P. J. Kelly, R.M., sat specially to-day at the City Court-house, and resumed the hearing of the charge against Mr. George C. L. Norris, late first cashier of the Limerick Branch of the Bank of Ireland, of embezzling the sum of £1,000, the property of the Bank. The evidence of Mr. William Henry Jeffares, Exchange Clerk, was taken on Friday last, and the case adjourned until 11 o'clock this morning.

Mr. F. K. Kearney, J.L.D., solicitor, appeared for the Bank of Ireland, and Mr. P. E. O'Donnell, solicitor, for the defendant.

Evidence was given. Mr. Joseph George Farlonge said he had already made an information, and a deposition on the 3rd inst. in the case. Witness was an inspector to the Bank, and he arrived in Limerick on the 30th April last on his ordinary duty. He inspected the defendant's cash the following day, the first of the present month. The balance he then inspected was to the 30th ult. He produced the daily cash book of the defendant, page 92, having found that the cash balance of £3,825 11s. 3d. was correct. When he found that was correct he called for the balance of the second cashier, in order to add the two balances together for the 30th April.

Mr. Kearney—What occurred then? The witness—Mr. Norris then said, "The cash is £1,000 short."

Mr. Kelly—To you. The witness—He was in the room, and the agent, Mr. Twigg, who asked him, "What do you mean?" The defendant then came over to the agent's table, where the main cash-book now produced was lying open. He (defendant) took up a pencil and drew a pencil-mark through the figure "1" of the deposit account paid column.

Mr. Kearney—Before that alteration was made what did the figures stand at?

The witness—£1,885 15s. 7d. The alteration then made it £585 15s. 7d. He next turned to the total transactions, on the same page and the same column, for the 30th April. The defendant altered the figure "8."

Mr. Kearney—What did he place over it?

The witness—The figure "4." The figures then read for total £44,840 1s. 4d. Prior to that pencil alteration the figures read £45,840 1s. 4d. The defendant next turned to the balance for the 30th April, and on the same page and date he altered a figure "0" placing over it a figure "1," making the figures then read £21,050 1s. 4d. At each pencil alteration he made use of the words "That is wrong." Witness then asked defendant, did he mean to say that his cash was £1,000 wrong, and the defendant replied "yes." Witness asked him, did he make the alterations in the figures of the main cash book, and the defendant said "yes."

Mr. Kearney—Did he say that he did in on any occasion other than the 30th April last?

The witness—Yes, he also said that he had made other alterations on previous occasions.

Mr. Kearney—And in other books under his control.

The witness—Yes, he said that he had altered his books generally. The books under the control of the defendant's first cashier were—The Teller's Daily Blister, The Teller's Daily Balance. The Main Cash Book was not under his control. Witness now produced also the Daily Balance Book. At the interview with defendant on the 1st May the defendant pointed out to witness some alterations he made in the book, the Main Cash Book.

Mr. Kearney—What did the alterations consist of?

The witness—The alteration was made so as to show the £1,000 was less. One item, £17,989 15s. 8d., defendant told witness was altered into sixteen thousand, and that subsequently he altered the figure "16" back again to seventeen thousand.

Mr. Kearney—That was on the 1st May. What did you then do?

The witness said he questioned the defendant generally, and then suspended him.

Mr. Kearney—And then by direction of the complainants (The Bank Proprietary) a warrant to arrest was issued.

The witness—Yes.

Mr. Kearney said he now proposed to give evidence by defendant's books.

The witness, in reply to the solicitor, said that since the 1st May he had made an exhaustive examination of the books under defendant's control. He produced the defendant's daily cash book of the 11th November last. At page 321 witness found an apparent addition of £1,000 to the "detail" of the ten-pound notes. On the previous day he had only £300. On this day the notes increased apparently £1,000. Witness also found that the total of the large notes showed an alteration of £1,000. The figure "1" of thousands was altered to "2." Further, the figure "4" of the total balance had been altered to "5." On the 12th November in the daily cash book of the defendant, page 223, witness also found an apparent addition of £1,000 to the detailed ten-pound notes, and the total of large notes showed an anomalous

TITANIC DISASTER.

MORE BODIES RECOVERED.

Hull, Monday.

The steamer Montgomery reports by wireless telegraphy that she has picked up the bodies of four victims of the Titanic disaster.

THE BRITISH INQUIRY.

Sir Rufus Isaacs and other counsel engaged in the Titanic inquiry, together with representatives of various unions concerned, visited Southampton yesterday, and inspected the White Star liner Olympic. It is understood the proceedings followed the lines of those on the occasion of the inspection by Lord Mersey and the other commissioners a week ago. The watertight compartments were examined, and wooden and collapsible lifeboats were lowered and tested. Sir Robert Finlay, who represented the White Star Line before the Commissioners, and other gentlemen visited the Olympic on Saturday.

SCATTERING FLOWERS.

At Scene of Disaster.

New York, Sunday.

A touching ceremony was witnessed on board the Carmania, which arrived here to-day, when the liner was in the vicinity of the spot where the Titanic was lost.

Among the passengers on board was a Mrs. J. L. Loring, whose husband was one of the victims of the Titanic disaster, and when informed that the Carmania had reached the neighbourhood of the wreck, she scattered an armful of flowers into the sea in memory of her husband.

The 300 cabin passengers on board stood on the deck with heads bowed, the men being uncovered and many of the women wept with emotion. Mrs. Loring made the trip especially to be able to pay this tribute to her late husband.

ICEBERGS SIGHTED.

New York, Monday.

Both the Carmania and La Savoie report having sighted icebergs in latitude 39.9 north and 42.24 west, and in 59.13 north and 47.40 west. It is stated that those seen by the Carmania were further south than any before reported.

(By Telegraph).

Master of the Californian Examined.

His Warning to the Titanic

At the Titanic inquiry to-day, evidence was given by the Master and officers of the Californian, the vessel held up amid the ice on the night of the disaster. Stanley Lord, Master of the Californian, spoke to seeing the lights of a vessel, a medium-sized ship, not the Titanic. He had warned the Titanic of the ice earlier that day. He told that the vessel within sight had fired one rocket. He took it to be the Company's signal, and not a distress signal. The vessel was still in sight at 4.30 next morning making for the southward. He was positive the vessel was not the Titanic. The vessel, however, had not been heard of since.

James Gibbons, apprentice on the Californian, said he saw the ship five or seven miles off after midnight. The Second Officer saw her fire five rockets.

The inquiry adjourned.

TERRIBLE AVIATION ACCIDENT IN ENGLAND.

Airman and Passenger Killed.

A terrible accident overtook an aviator who was flying with a passenger at Brooklands last evening in which both men lost their lives. Mr. E. V. R. Fisher, piloting a Flanders monoplane, went short about six o'clock, accompanied by a rich American named Mason. There was very little wind at the time, and the airman had made a circuit of the aerodrome without any difficulty. Suddenly those who had been watching the flight saw the aeroplane heel over on its side and fall to the earth. A moment later it was enveloped in flames and it appeared that whereas the passenger was pinned underneath the machine the pilot was pitched out before the monoplane reached the ground. It is believed that death must have been instantaneous in both cases.

IMMERSION IN THE SHANNON.

A youth named Christopher Rea, living with his parents at George's Quay, narrowly escaped death by drowning last evening. He was playing at the river side near Barrington's Hospital, when

LIMERICK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Weekly Bank Half-Holiday.

Mr. J. Ellis Goodbody, President, occupied the chair at a general meeting of the members of the Chamber of Commerce held to-day for the purpose of discussing the Railway Bill of the President of the Board of Trade, and the weekly bank half-holiday. The other members present were—The Mayor, Sir Alexander W. Shaw, J.P., Messrs S. O'Meara, W. W. Webb, J. P. Goodbody, R. Ray, J. M. Noche, J.P., H. Coyle, B. Bennett, A. Goodwin, W. Holliday, J.P., J. F. Egan, A. Murray, F. J. Cleary, K. J. Long, S. McCarthy, M. O'Callaghan, B.C., J. Quinn, J.P., M. D. Shaw, with Mr. J. F. Power, Secretary.

The minutes of the last general meeting having been read and confirmed, the following resolution was passed at a committee meeting on the 10th instant. Resolved—"That in the opinion of this Chamber, Mr. Buxton's Railway Bill gives too great a liberty to the companies to advance rates and fares, and that it needs amendment in the direction of throwing the obligation on them to show cause for any such increase at an enquiry for the purpose to be held by the Board of Trade."

The Secretary explained that the Bill was brought in by the Government on the strength of a promise given at the time of the settlement of the railway strike. Certain propositions were made to the men and the companies, and the latter were informed that the Government would not be adverse to giving them power to get back what they gave in wages by increasing fares and rates. That understanding was doing away with the safeguards given in 1894.

The Chairman—That resolution you have read is a recommendation from a Committee of the Chamber?

The Secretary—Yes.

Mr. O'Meara proposed the adoption of the recommendation, which was seconded by Mr. Holliday, and adopted unanimously.

The Secretary said the next business was to take into consideration the question of the weekly Bank half-holiday. He said that in 1909, when the City Banks decided to establish their half-holiday on Saturdays, a letter was read at a meeting of the Chamber from Mr. Archibald Murray, to the effect that it would cause great inconvenience to the traders. He thought the Bank Managers should be requested to reconsider their decision. With that view, Mr. A. J. Barnett, on behalf of Messrs. J. McBirney and Co., acquiesced, and the Chamber, by resolution, proposed by the late Mr. W. L. Stokes, seconded by Mr. Webb, unanimously resolved that representation be made to the managers, in the interests of the traders, to change the half-holiday to some less inconvenient day in the week. A reply was read from the Manager of the Provincial Bank to the effect that he would be willing to represent to his directors to close on Thursdays if the other Banks fell into line. The Managers of the National Bank and Ulster Bank stated that having consulted their clients, they saw no objection to closing at one o'clock on Saturday. That was the history of the matter so far and then when the Statutory half-holiday came into operation at a meeting of the traders, it was decided to make Thursday the half-holiday for the city.

The Chairman remarked that that last resolution had been criticised as being ultra vires with regard to the directors of the Chamber of Commerce. Some of the Bank managers had stated that before such a resolution was adopted the feelings of the members of the trade ought to have been ascertained. Before that resolution was passed, the Chamber of Commerce was distinctly in favour of a Thursday half-holiday. When the matter was raised in the first instance all the managers of the banks evaded the question—one said if the others did it they would follow. On the present occasion they had not a representative from any of the five banks present, consequently the Chamber had no official means of ascertaining what their ideas was with regard to the half-holiday. As far as he knew it was a matter of indifference to the manufacturers whether the half-holiday was Thursday or Saturday, as it did not inconvenience them, but with the traders it was a matter of great inconvenience to have it on Saturday, which was the market day.

Mr. Holliday—I think Mr. Murray could give as some information of what has been done in other towns.

Mr. Murray said so far as he knew they received a plain statement from the bank managers as to why the banks closed on Saturday at one o'clock. Certainly no reasons were given, but they were told that the juniors desired Saturday. Well, they of the Chamber and traders generally had no objection to the juniors in the Banks having such holidays as they could possibly get but then the interests of the trading community should be considered (hear, hear). Another statement made was that the traders

DROWNING ACCIDENT THE DOCKS.

The Inquest.

A very sad accident, which resulted occurred at the Docks on Sunday even would appear that John Killeen, a youth with some companions, was engaged rowing, when Killeen accidentally fell into it and was drowned, despite the efforts of his friends. The body was shortly recovered by means of grappling, when brought to shore life was four extinct.

An inquest was held at noon yesterday remains of the deceased by Mr. J. F. Ba Coroner, at Mr. J. Donovan's licensed Lower Glentworth Street. The following were on the Jury:—James Gleeson (P. J. Bourke), P. Hayes, G. V. Fogarty, C. J. Byrne, A. Stanley, J. Browne, M. D. Martin, A. Wyld, and S. Conway.

Sergeant Haffernan appeared for the deceased, and Mr. J. Daddon, solicitor, reposes Harbour Commissioners.

Michael Killeen, father of the deceased identified the body. He stated that the lived with him, and the last he saw of him 11 o'clock on Sunday. He was then in good health. He did not then see him o'clock the same day, when he was dead.

A youth named Owen Nolan was next called. He stated that he met the deceased on when he was accompanied by another boy, Patrick Hogan, of Hunt's Lane. The intended to go for a walk to the Car when the deceased suggested that they to the Docks, and witness and the deceased acquiesced. After attempting to light behind the timber deposited on the D deceased went down the slip, and the witness heard was a splash in the water. Hogan and witness went to the slip Killeen in the water. They called for two gentlemen who were passing by, to render aid, and they took no heed. He did not know these gentlemen, but he to call for help, and three others who were along rushed to the scene of the occurrence man in endeavouring to reach the fell off the raft, and the second took off and dived in. He came up after a short said that Killeen was gone.

In reply to the father of the deceased witness said he did not know how the fell into the water. He did not know not he was tripped by a chain. There were there. The Coroner—Did you see any chain boy? The witness—No. Patrick Hogan, who was with the deceased and deceased at the time of the fatal corroborative evidence. In reply to the Foreman, witness said not know the men that refused to give a Mr. Bourke—Do you know that th stood what they were called for? The witness—I don't know. To another Juror—Killeen was not swim.

Dr. P. F. Graham deposed to examine body of the deceased on Sunday evening twenty-five minutes past six. He efforts at artificial respiration were being on, and he continued them for some without success. Death in his opinion was drowning.

George Browne, who failed to get after diving in, was examined. He at while taking a walk around the Docks other men on Sunday evening, a boy on t shouted that his brother was drowning. dived himself of his boat and dived touched the boy's head, but missed him went down like a stone.

In reply to Mr. Daddon, the witness was no chain in the front as he went slip.

Mr. J. Fitzmaurice, Harbour Master to the jury, stated that the barges in where the boy sank were removed to face grappling for the body.

The jury found that the deceased met by accidental drowning, and attached to anyone.

NEWCASTLE WEST PETTY SE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

(Before Messrs. P. D. Sullivan, R.M., P. W. A. Roche, C. Curling, T. Har

SENT BACK FROM KING'S BENCH

The following was read from the King in reference to the case of the King v. A particulars of which have been published—"The Court (King's Bench) being that if the justice believe that the made the statement deposed to by th Inspector, and further believe that as