

Last Edition.

THE TITANIC DISASTER.

The findings of Senator Smith and the Sub-Committee that sat at New York, and inquired into the circumstances surrounding the disaster to the steamship Titanic, will not meet with the approval of most people in this country. The Government of the United States, it is conceded, were within their rights strictly in ordering the holding of such an inquiry, and compelling the attendance of witnesses to give evidence, but from the outset of the proceedings it became apparent that Senator Smith was not quite the man to preside at such an investigation, his want of judicial calm, his tendency to bias, even with the best intentions to act impartially, taking entirely too much weight from the deductions which he seems to draw on the evidence given from day to day at the hearing. Then, too, his admitted lack of nautical knowledge or experience largely discounts the conclusions which he arrives at as the result of the inquiry, and which, it is to be remembered do not agree on many vital points with the findings of the Committee which have also sent in their report to the United States Senate. That report throws no very clear or very satisfactory light on what definitely led up to the cause of the appalling fate of the great steamship, why it was she was going at a speed so high as that at which the vessel was proved to be moving through the ice pack, of the presence of which warning had been received, how it came about the iceberg was not visible to those on the look-out in time to avoid the fatal impact, the sad details of what took place until the end—all these are told by Senator Smith, and in the report of the Committee, but with varying degrees of blamefulness on the officers of the Titanic and others held up to censure over the work of rescue. None the less the report of the Committee is interesting reading, moving and depressing though it be, and recalling so vividly, as every narrative of the harrowing scene must recall, that fearful time, from the collision with the berg until the Titanic faded out of the vision of the survivors. Here in Ireland, in our own City and County of Limerick, life-long mourners have been made by the disaster, and by the havoc of human beings that it wrought, wrought, too, by an iceberg, a castaway of Nature, a thing almost of no account in the calculations of nautical science, easily observed, and easily avoidable. Known to ride the deep for a brief, vagabond career, but its potentialities for danger or peril made light of in the sitting up of a great ship like the Titanic, the output of man's craft, and skill, and genius in the art of ship-building, the *ne plus ultra* of maritime construction. A vessel without a compeer in size, with every possible convenience, every luxury that man could need or covet, a floating palace, fashioned on lines to brave the stress and peril of the ocean, to turn to a pean the moanings of the deep, and yet to insignificantly perish on what was but her maiden voyage. There was no skill wanting in her officers, no absence of precaution that could be taken to ensure the safety of the Titanic, and still with all her strength and finish and adaptation to the most modern requirements, up-to-date in every detail of what a Transatlantic liner should be, or the very latest scientific knowledge could make her, she perished as if drawn out in matchwood. The story of the Titanic's sad ending will last for generations, but not, we may take it, on the *dixit* of Senator Smith, nor on the much more impartial statements furnished in the report from the Senate Committee. It is a pitiable and sorrow-laden tale, even when divested of the fanciful surroundings woven into that report which happily will be well forgotten in the one to result from the sitting here at home of the Commission presided over by Lord Mersey. While there is so much of sorrow and of sadness in the mournful story of the Titanic it is due to the memory of the captain, the officers, and the crew who went down with her, that their action all through the enactment of that awful tragedy which closed with their lives should be impartially, if not sympathetically, told. The United States quasi-judicial court can hardly be said to have done so in the report submitted to the Senate. The defence, the justification, and from that defence and justification, the tribute to the heroism, calm and enduring, of the gallant seamen who are gone will come speedily, and from those who will not see the memory of their fellow-wronged. How the officers stood steadfast and devoted to their terrible duty, how they awaited their fate, how they tended the affrighted women and children, has been told by more than one witness, notably by the second officer of the Titanic, and, in their action, under circumstances which should make stout hearts quail, one may take hope and courage and conviction for the belief that death had no terrors for those heroic seamen. Their end came all too suddenly for men who did not shrink duty, whose bravery will be a theme and an inspiration for all time, and who, we may repeat, will have full justice done to the manliness, which was theirs, in an ennobling degree, while life was left them to prove that it was so. In view of the mass of evidence already published, and the finding of the American Commission, the public here will await the result of Lord Mersey's judicial inquiry at home with added interest, with judgment in reserve so far, and sympathetically anticipating a free, full, and impartial finding by the eminent judge occupied in the hearing of evidence and the careful sifting and marshalling of facts on which he will rest what must, in all the circumstances, be an historical decision.

that two hundred and fifty-two years ago, this day, his Graceless Majesty Charles II. was restored to the throne of his fathers. We call him graceless on a familiar principle; because he was really not nearly so graceless as he is generally made to appear. For this very reason—in more justice to a rather distorted memory—Oak-apple day might be revived. That it will be, is hardly likely; though there is no valid excuse for the neglect in an age which goes out of its way to celebrate anniversaries and centenaries nothing like so important as the Restoration. It is worth recording that the Midlands kept up the old festival years after it had been forgotten in other parts of the country. For all we know, some Staffordshire children may be reminded even to-day of how King Charles hid at Boscobel, in their neighbourhood, and after spending anxious hours in the oak tree effected his romantic escape. Perhaps one or two will wear oak leaves, as their elders used to wear them till a comparatively few years ago.

OUT AND ABOUT.

Mr. P. J. Kelly, R.M., attended at the City Police Court this morning, when there was no case for hearing.

It was suggested at the last meeting of the Rathkeale Town Commissioners that the local shopkeepers give a half-holiday to their assistants every Thursday.

At the meeting of the Corporation Committee last night, the Mayor presiding, the following was proposed by Mr. Lynch, and adopted:—That we have heard with regret of the death of the Most Rev. Dr. Corbett, Bishop of Sale, who was a citizen, and a Freeman of this city. We desire to tender our condolences to his relatives on their bereavement.

The new dredger, "Curragower," which was built by the Dublin Shipbuilding Co. to the order of the Limerick Harbour Commissioners, arrived in port to-day, in charge of Captain Charles (Carlo) Haurahan, of this city. Capt. Haurahan was selected, because of his qualifications, from amongst the other local candidates for bringing round the vessel to Limerick. Captain Haurahan, it is understood, is a candidate for the permanent membership of this vessel, which appointment will be made by the Harbour Commissioners next week.

DEATH OF THE BISHOP OF SALE.

A telegram from Melbourne was received in the city yesterday announcing the death of the Most Rev. Dr. Corbett, Roman Catholic Bishop of Sale, Victoria. The deceased prelate was born in Limerick in the year 1840, and after ministering for some years as curate in the diocese he left for Australia, quite half a century ago, and became one of the most prominent clergymen in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. In the year 1887, when the Diocese of Sale was created, he was elected Bishop. He visited his native city two years later in 1889, when he was presented with its freedom by the Corporation. Two years ago Bishop Corbett again visited Ireland, but even then he was in very indifferent health.

CITY ACCIDENT.

While engaged cleaning the windows of the City Technical Institute last evening, Michael O'Connell, 2 Taylor street, fell from a considerable height and sustained severe internal injuries. He was taken to Barrington's Hospital, where, on examination, it was deemed advisable to detain him.

CAHIRMAYLE FEIS.

The Feis to be held in the grounds of Cahirmayle House, once the residence of William Smith O'Brien, on Sunday, 16th June, promises to mark a red-letter day in the history of the Irish revival movement in Limerick County. For some time past Miss Nellie O'Brien, Foyne, and Mr. Thos. O'Conna have been busy arranging the details. Dr. Douglas Hyde, President of the Gaelic League, has signified his intention to attend. Visitors will be given an opportunity of seeing the interior of Cahirmayle House. The chair presented to William Smith O'Brien by his American admirers is one of the interesting relics that may be seen. A portrait painted by his grandson, Mr. Dermot O'Brien, will be another attraction. In the event of the weather not being propitious excellent shelter may be obtained, and tea will be served on the grounds. A proportion of the proceeds of the festival will be given in aid of the Carrigrohilly College, with which Miss Nellie O'Brien is so prominently identified. A provisional committee has been formed to make the necessary arrangements. The grounds of Cahirmayle have been kindly placed at the disposal of the Committee by Mr. Dermot O'Brien, President of the Royal Hibernian Academy.

THE HIBERNIANS AND FUNERALS.

The Very Rev. Monsignor Hallinan, P.P., V.G. Newcastle West, writes to a contemporary, with reference to a statement respecting a funeral in his parish, and at which it was alleged that the Ancient Order of Hibernians, in accordance with universal principle, attended. The partial and incomplete nature of this statement, Dr. Hallinan writes, makes it imperative on him to supply further important details. He had told the County President of the Order, a prominent member of the writer's flock, that the members would not be allowed to repeat what they did a few months ago—go to Communion as a body and bearing their insignia, and that, without his permission or any reference to him, he could not allow in future any procession of members at funerals and that if any such were attempted, the obsequy would not attend the funeral. Four days after the interview he received a letter from the President of the Order, stating he had no authority to act in the matter, as it appeared what was done was one of the obligations of the Order. He regretted he could not take any action in the matter to meet Dr. Hallinan's wishes. The members of the Order, Dr. Hallinan continues, attended the funeral respecting which he writes and formed themselves into procession. The priest who was present protested, and informed them that if they persisted he could not attend the funeral. They did persist and he left. Dr. Hallinan asks, in the circumstances, as "principles of high and far-reaching consequences are involved," is there an "obligation" binding the members of the Order to go to Communion in a body in their parish church, or any other church; is it an obligation to form processions of their members at the funerals of members deceased, or their deceased relatives, and does the "obligation" hold even when the local clergy object? He submits the questions are fair and reasonable to be asked in the circumstances.

THE WEEKLY HALF HOLIDAY.

The local banks in deference to the general wish of the city traders are to keep the weekly half holiday on and from Thursday, 4th July next, on the Thursday of each week, instead of Saturday as at present.

The following is the summary of cases:—Number of cases, 1911—May, 32; June, 14; July, 32; August, 22; September, 18; October, 20; November, 33; December, 24; 1912—January, 31; February, 39; March, 32; April, 27. Total, 324.

Visits paid as follows:—1911—May, 475; June, 341; July, 385; August, 457; September, 462; October, 435; November, 478; December, 479. 1912—January, 582; February, 504; March, 633; April, 490. Total, 5,721.

Results of treatment:—Convalescent, 237; died, 19; transferred to hospital, 11; removed from books, 47; remaining on books, 34.

Cases sent by medical men, 33; clergy, 1; applied, 278; committee, 4; other friends, 8.

There were two inspections during the year, one on May 1st, 1911, by Miss White, the other on November 18th by Miss Chisholm. Both gained special notice as being satisfactory in every detail, and stated that Nurse Halliday was educational in her methods.

Nurse Barrows acted as Queen's Nurse during August, when our own nurse took her month's holiday, and everything went on most satisfactorily.

The Committee meetings were regularly held every month, and well attended. Miss Ina Kennedy and Miss Hamilton kindly acted as hon. secretaries when Miss Russell was away from home.

Miss Ina Kennedy acknowledged gifts of clothing to her Guild for the poorer patients from Mrs. J. Ellis Goodbody, Miss Hamilton, Mrs. O'Brien, Mrs. P. W. Kennedy, Mrs. J. B. Barrington, Miss Betty Russell, Miss Murray, Miss Kennedy, Miss Barrington.

Nurse Halliday received the following articles with many thanks:—Dublin and All-Ireland Needlework Guild (per Miss Barrington), parcel of clothing; Miss Lamont, parcel of clothing; Mrs. Weston-Armstrong, clothing; Mrs. Cooper O'Donoghue, clothing; Miss Gore, flannel jacket and pair of boots; Miss Cole, toys; Mrs. E. Bennis, toys and clothes; Miss Hanna, books and old linen; Miss E. Russell, virol, milk, and beetles, for special cases. The following gifts in money:—Miss Ina Kennedy, 2s. for Xmas presents; 'A Friend,' 5s. for Christmas presents.

We gratefully thank all those who have helped us in so many ways, and we appeal for their continual support to carry on this necessary and valuable work among the sick poor of Limerick.

As will be seen, from the very large number of visits paid during the year, our nurse's services have been in great request, and have been the means of lessening an enormous amount of suffering and misery in most cases. We have seen the patients completely restored to health, and able to continue to earn their living. The nurse has proved herself a true friend in need, and her care has met with heartfelt gratitude.

For Committee of Management, BETTY RUSSELL, Hon. Sec.

"May, 1912."

Archdeacon Hackett proposed the adoption of the report and financial statement. He had not time to investigate them, or perhaps he might have to pass criticism on them. He had heard from Mrs. Goodbody that they were something like £13 as a loss on the year's working, but he (Archdeacon) stated that year they would not be so circumstanced. Being a clergyman in the city he had an opportunity of seeing the benefits bestowed on the sick poor by the Association, and he should say from his knowledge of it that it was doing good work. The nurse was most attentive and sympathetic, and carried out her duties excellently. He had great pleasure in proposing the adoption of the report and statement of accounts.

Miss Russell seconded the proposition, which was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Goodbody mentioned that during the year they had received a circular from the parent society asking for payment of an application fee of £1 which the Ladies' Committee recommended, and consequently it would be necessary to propose that it be adopted.

Miss Russell observed that it would be fatal to separate from the parent body, and that was the reason the Committee recommended payment of the affiliation fee.

On the motion of Mr. Goodbody, seconded by Mrs. Kennedy, the Committee's recommendation was ratified.

On the proposition of Archdeacon Hackett, seconded by Mrs. O'Donoghue, the President, Vice-President, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, with the members of the Ladies' Committee were re-elected.

The proceedings then terminated.

THEATRE ROYAL.

There was a good house at the Theatre Royal last night, when Mr. Alexander March presented, "Julius Caesar." The play was beautifully staged, and the effects well reproduced. A scholarly reading of the play was given by the distinguished actor and his clever company, who portrayed the roles very capably. In the character of "Brutus" Mr. March was brilliant, and imparted a freshness to the noblest Roman, all his own. He was in fine form, and his acting was always characterised by rare judgment. Mr. Gunning fitted the role of Cassius with proverbial ease, while as "Julius Caesar" Mr. Walker acquitted himself creditably. Miss Grimshaw made a delightful "Calpurnia," and Miss Carrie Baillie's study of "Portia" was above caviar. The minor roles were well sustained. To-night "A Midsummer Night's Dream" will be given.

ORDER OF ODDFELLOWS.

The Grand United Order of Oddfellows assembled in conference at Cory Hall, Cardiff, under the presidency of the Grand Master, Mr. A. Shaw, of Runcorn, yesterday. The board of directors' report placed before the delegates referred to the passing into law of the Insurance Act, and stated that they had made application to become an approved society, which had been temporarily granted by the Insurance Commissioners. Tables had been drawn up for contributions from the ages of 16 to 65 to enable persons to pay for sickness and death benefits in addition to what they might insure under the Act. The directors urged every member of the order to take the opportunity presented by the Act and enter into propaganda work with whole-hearted enthusiasm, as never was the time so ripe for them as an order to extend their membership. The Grand Secretary (Mr. George Wilde, Manchester), in his report to the conference, said that during the latter part of last year a large number of societies had joined the Grand United Order, which had increased the membership by about ten thousand. (Applause). A Parliamentary agent was appointed to watch the interests of the order in the House of Commons, and report from time to time when the occasion arises.

RINK PALACE.

This week's programme is very attractive. It includes Miss Mona Garrick, the clever impersonator, also Miss Ethel Bourne, the gifted contralto vocalist, both of whom are winning a very hearty reception each evening from large audiences. The pictures as usual are excellently good and interesting, and embrace the grand feature drama "A Mother's Love," "The Educational Film," "Wild Birds at Home," which is beautifully coloured, and an excellent comic in "Dupin and Photographer," in all making a splendid programme, and well worth a visit.

CITY OF CORK STEAM PACKET CO.

Owing to the strike the City of Cork Steam Packet Company desire to draw attention to changes in sailings.

of age, as wardmaid in the workhouse, Government Board wrote stating in regard to Article 2 (c) of the Order of July, 1901, it was contrary to their sanction the appointment of persons under 21 in a workhouse infirmary or fever who had not reached the age of 21; they did not consider the reasons put forward by the Guardians in the present instance sufficient to justify them in departing from practice in this case. They requested the Guardians to be good as to put new election. The Board had to ask remembrance paid to Miss Duffy for 1s. as wardmaid would be liable to surcharge auditor.

The Guardians requested the Local G Board to reconsider their decision, as it was an exceptional one, and to sanction M appointment.

INMATE'S APPLICATION GRANTED.

An application from an inmate for money to enable him to visit his child Glin District School was granted.

Mr. Coleman, J.P., suggested that if money be granted to inmates who visit their children in Glin, and this was agreed.

CROOM DISPENSARY.

Mr. G. E. Farmer, rate collector, wrote for a sum of £1 2s. one year's poor rate of the Croom Dispensary, the property of the Guardians.

The Clerk said the Dispensary had the property of the Board of Guardians thought they might write to Mr. F. request him to have the name struck. There were no rates charged on the premises.

Mr. Coleman—And what is charged? The Clerk—The Croom Dispensary. Mr. Coleman—It is robbing Peter to the Chairman—All rates must be paid to Mr. McCarthy. But it is usual to pay the Workhouse premises.

The Clerk—No. Mr. Coleman—He can take you into compel you to pay.

The Chairman—Of course he can. Mr. Coleman suggested that the rate this time, and that the Clerk in the meantime to have the name of the Dispensary books.

This course was agreed to.

INSURANCE ACT.

In accordance with an order made meeting directing the Clerk to furnish showing how the Board would stand under the proposed exemption of off the Insurance Act, the Clerk supplied which showed that under the Insurance amount paid by the Board for office practically amount to the sum paid for sick leave, etc.

After some observations, it was applied to the Insurance Commissioners officials exempted.

Mr. Carroll, Master, on behalf of the Guardians for their kindness.

District Council.

Mr. John Coleman, J.P., Co.C., presided at a meeting of the District held subsequently.

COMPLAINT.

A complaint from Thomas O'Brien, relative to his cottage plot, was referred to the Engineer.

REPAIRING OF COTTAGES.

The Local Government Board wrote cause of the delay in the repairing of in the Townland of St. John's.

The Clerk pointed out that the C advertised for contractors but failed to factory ones.

It was decided to inform the Local G Board to this effect.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Local Government Board wrote to be furnished with particulars in relation works proposed to be executed for the improving the water supply of Derris Rural District.

An order was made that the par forwarded.

ADARE SEWERAGE.

Relative to the subject of the Adare the Chairman said that the Council was that it was incumbent on them to the work in the village. If they did they would be legally compelled. A visited Adare last Tuesday week, met by Mr. M. J. O'Brien, Engineer, Ballingall, Agent to Lord Dunraven. question was discussed, and on behalf of of Dunraven, Mr. Ballingall stated that bear portion of the expenditure in with the sewer. He (Mr. Coleman) felt that when his lordship came to deal question he would treat them with generosity as was the case when negotiating with him for the sale of houses.

The Council regarded the explanation satisfactory.

LIMERICK DIOCESAN BOARD EDUCATION.

Kilpeacon Parish.

Examiners, the Revs. Canon McClean, S. Hackett, Revs. H. Orpen and R. J. Result:—

FIRST CLASS.
First Rank—Roy Gape, Willie Lane.
SECOND CLASS.
First Rank—Isabella Lane.
THIRD CLASS (Senior Division).
First Rank—James Lane.
FOURTH CLASS.
First Rank—Eileen M. Atkinson.

THE THOMOND FEIS.

The Thomond Feis commences to evening at St. Ita's House, Thomas street, at 8 o'clock, with the written examinations of all grades in intermediate schools, competitors will be called up in turn for test. On Saturday at 11 a.m. Miss Nelli will deliver the opening address at St. I Thomas street, and for the remainder day competitions in dialogue, recitation, teaching, and singing will be held. The school competitions will commence at 11 and subsequently competitions in history, singing, demonstrations will be held. The programme will be gone through on Sunday at the Markets.

THE CHILDREN ACT.

At Kilrush Petty-Sessions, Mr. P. S. R.M., presided, Hendy-Constable Shelley a travelling man dweller named Rhoda with failing to send her three children, eleven, to school.

The Chairman did not think the intended to apply to these travelling people. The Head-Constable argued that it was for this class the law was passed.

Defendant said she would be glad to come the law, but her itinerant life made it impossible for her to do so, as he would be here to-morrow.

The magistrates held that it was a strain the law to bring the prosecution at dismissed the case.

To-day's report states Lord Stradbroke a good night, but typhoid fever as malaria has now developed.