

self as this petition eloquently proves. It is with observing that the Home Secretary was to receive a deputation from the women of land but declined to do so, preferring that the memorial should be sent on to him in the ordinary way. The Minister explained this attitude by evening by stating in answer to Mr Ross, that it would be contrary to practice were he to give a deputation on the occasion of the presentation of a political address to the Queen. The petition will at all events be presented to Majesty, and so one of the objects of the petitioners has been attained. The memorial contains a most respectful but firm expression of opposition to the Bill, and, in the event of its being law, the petitioners believe "that throughout the whole country distress and insecurity would take the place of safety and increasing prosperity which we have hitherto enjoyed under a united Parliament." The discussions on the original clauses have already established this beyond doubt, and few who have thoroughly studied the question will attempt to argue that the Bill means anything but ruin to the best interests of this country. Even in the National Parks there is, as we have seen quite recently, a strong doubt as to its utility or value, and the same is discussed throughout the United Kingdom, and explained to the constituencies the other day will the opposition to it become.

Some of our weather prophets who predicted a dry August, and we believe a similar summer, have up to the present at all events been grievously disappointed in their calculations. Early last week the atmosphere was a bit damp, and wiseacres considered the end of summer had come, and that we might soon be prepared for the autumn weather. A reaction then and unexpectedly set in, and instead of weather becoming colder, it became so oppressive that it was, or more strictly speaking most unendurable. It is the warmest that we have experienced during the entire summer, and people are now donning the lightest costumes that are at all possible to be had. The heat in Limerick on Thursday registered 77 degrees, and since it has been increasing. Yesterday it registered 81 degrees in the shade, while in many of the other Irish counties the figure was 80. In Limerick for the past few days the temperature was even higher, it having registered at Messrs. Kew's Observatory yesterday 84 in the shade, 10 in the sun, and to-day 87 and 114 respectively. This is much above summer heat, and yet there is no sign of a fall setting in. Such an unusual state of things is awfully oppressive, especially out of doors, and at the sea side the heat of the sun's rays can better be imagined than described. The presence of such extraordinary atmosphere is, it appears, due to the

FUNERAL OF MR. GEORGE MASSY POWER.

The funeral of this estimable gentleman, who died on Friday last, took place yesterday morning. Deceased was formerly an officer of the National Bank, and for a considerable time had been stationed in Limerick, where he made a host of friends. For some time past he had been in failing health, and his death was, therefore, not unexpected. The remains were removed from his late residence, Summerville terrace, yesterday morning at 10.30 and conveyed by road to Nenagh for interment at Monroe cemetery. The high esteem in which deceased was held in his business connections, as well as in social circles, was forcibly shown by the large and representative cortege that assembled to pay a last tribute of respect to his memory, and express sympathy with his family in their bereavement. Deceased was son of Mr Richard Pierce Power, Ballinakill House, Co Limerick, and grandson of Mr Samuel Dixon Power, Monroe, Co Tipperary.

The chief mourners were Mr Richard Power, Mr Samuel Power, and Mr Hamo Power, brothers of deceased.

The attendance of the general public included Ven. Archdeacon Hamilton, Rev Father O'Flanagan, P.P. Adare; Rev F R Carr, Colonel the Hon L Butler Massy, Mr F G M Kennedy, J.P.; Mr J Haran, J.P. Manager National Bank; Mr J Morton, Manager Provincial Bank; Captain O'Callaghan, Mr J A Place, Mr J DeCourcy, Mr F St Clair Hobson, County Sub-Sheriff; Mr R Nash, Solicitor; Mr James Quin, J.P.; Major Plummer, Mr J Guinane, J.P.; Mr C H Fitt, City Sub-Sheriff; Mr Ed Whelan, Mr R W Switzer, Mr L R Switzer, Mr R Harris, Colonel O'Donnell, Mr G Belshaw, Mr B Blummer, Mr Corneille, Adare; Mr Johnstone, Munster and Leinster Bank; Dr Barry, Mr F W M'Carthy, Mr R Maguire, Mr W Hollowell, Mr Wutzell, Mr James Gaffney, solicitor; Mr R F Walker, Alderman Gaffney, J.P.; Mr R J Kane, Whitehall; Mr W DeCourcy, Mr J F Power, Mr J P Hall, solicitor; Dr Gelston, Dr T Gelston, Mr G Gelston, Mr Cantillon, Mr Peter Griffin, J.P.; Mr W Newman, Mr W L Hunt, J.P.; Mr Poole Gabbett, Mr W Fitzgerald, Captain Hunt, Mr R E Studdert, Mr Ed Morony, Odelville, Croom; Mr H V Morony, C.E.; Mr J Cooper, Mr J Shine, J.P.; Mr Arthur White, Mr W Leahy, solicitor; Mr R R Studdert, Mr Popo Hayes, Upper Catherine-street.

The following sent carriages—Mr R De Ross, Mr J Shine, Mr J F Bannatyne, Mr James Quin, Mr P Connolly, Mr Whidden, R.N.; Mr F G M Kennedy, Mr Morony, Mrs Burright, Mr J Haran, Mr James Quin, J.P.; Dr R Barr, Mr R Hunt, Mr Corneille.

THE FIRE AT MESSRS BOYD'S.

In our last issue we gave a full description of the terrible fire which reduced the splendid establishment of Messrs J and G Boyd and Co, and the Hibernian Hall, William-street, to ashes, and created the utmost consternation in the locality where it broke out. Since then a few additional facts in connection with the attempt at extinguishing the conflagration have come to our knowledge which deserve not to go unnoticed. Associated with several acts of courage and presence of mind on the part of those who endeavoured to conquer the flames

THE LIGHTING OF ENNIS

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Ennis, E

A special meeting of the Ennis Town Commissioners was held to-day to consider the offer of the lighting of the town, and the Gas Consumers' Company's "ultimatum," which was published on Tuesday last. There were present Mr John Hill, chairman, presiding; Mr Costello, Michael McNamara, solicitor; Linnane, and Thomas Lynch, solicitor.

Messrs F O'Connor, R E, and E Minikin Clerk, were also present.

In reference to the point made by Mr Hill the last day as to their powers of compelling the Gas Company to light the town, a copy of the Towns' Improvement Act, 1854, was laid on the table, and Mr Lynch read for the information of the board the 51st section, which went against Mr O'Connor's contention as to the Gas Consumers' powers in arranging the price. It was stated that the Commissioners may contract for a period not exceeding three years at one time with the owners of any gas works, or other person for the supply of light by gas or oil, and if the Commissioners and the owners of any gas works authorised by Act of Parliament without and with whom the Commissioners shall be desirous of contracting, shall not agree on a price to be paid for such supply, then the price shall be settled by arbitration, for which the clauses of the Land Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, with respect to disputed contracts and arbitration shall be incorporated in the Towns' Improvement Act.

Mr Lynch—So that we have the power to compel them to come to terms.

Mr Minikin then read the following communication from Mr Harding, the Secretary of the Gas Company:—"In reply to yours of the 11th inst. I am instructed by the Director of the Ennis Gas Consumers' Company, Limited, that they will supply gas to the public at 1s per 1,000, burning by meter, or to supply by William Soggs No 4 burner, four feet per hour, at the rate of £4 2s per annum, the Gas Company to light and maintain according to the present scale of the gas down by the Commissioners, and keep and glaze said lamps, and the Commissioners supply glass and burners and new lamps as necessary. Either of the above rates will be exclusive to the rates than the arrangement made heretofore."

Mr O'Connor—This is practically the same as the present agreement. They are now paying seven shillings a thousand, and they are now paying 6s 6d.

Mr Lynch—They want us to get rid of the lamp-lighter.

Chairman—They are to pay him.

Mr Minikin—The present price is 6s 6d.

A doubt seemed to be entertained by the Commissioners as to whether the first part of the company's offer included the taking over of the lamp-lighter, as the second part, or at least the offer, expressly stated.

Mr Lynch said it was clear to his mind that the company meant taking over the lamp-lighter.

Mr Linnane—I must say that after consideration that letter is very ambiguous and does not reflect any credit on the