

Boroughs. Other towns will be Urban s under the Bill. Urban District s shall be the rating authority for districts; for that purpose there be transferred to them, where already id not conduct it, the business of l Presentment Sessions and also of the Juries in relation to public works, such works as are chargeable on the at large. The Urban District s will also levy and collect the rates their various districts. *Ex-officio* guar- will be abolished. In rural districts ill be no election of guardians as such, the Rural Councils will be the guar- In any urban area the guardians will ed triennially at the time of the election Rural and District Councils. Dispensary tices will be abolished, and their func- transferred to the guardians, but both of Guardians and Rural District ls will be empowered to appoint com- , and delegate to them certain of their ns. These are the chief provisions of al Government Bill, which, if it passes, ome into operation after the Spring of next year. With regard to the of the measure, it is intended that Cess and Poor Rate be made into one ich is to be levied on the occupier; rease goes to the occupier, but an in- ver the "standard year" 1896-97, will uch to his disadvantage. There is to on rating, and the charges on an elec- vision are to be made on a common There is to be an "agricultural grant" .000, local licenses estimated to produce 0 are to be appropriated to the purpose rant in aid of £244,000, and the balance 00 is to be made up from the Imperial er, with £35,000 added for a margin ain specific employment, and allowed mulate so far as any unexpended is concerned. The new scheme of will relieve towns to the extent of 26,000 a year, but agricultural land ear about one-half of that, receiving or £12,000 for the purpose.

and Lady Duboyne, who have been re- Knoppogue Castle, County Clare, since of the Dowager Lady Duboyne, intend aving for their residence in Devonshire, is stated, they will reside permanently.

WEATHER.—For the first time this year ade its appearance in this district on There was a slight fall over night in but in the country districts it was much and the Clare hills were capped with the

THE NEIL O'DONOVAN CONCERT.

The concert in aid of the widow and family of the late Mr Neil O'Donovan, whose death occurred rather suddenly in Limerick at the termination of the visit of the Arthur Rousbey Opera Company, of which he was a member, was given in the Theatre Royal last night before a very large and appreciative audience. It must be a source of great gratification to the gentlemen who organised the concert to find that their efforts in behalf of so highly deserving an object met with such success. Several local amateurs readily offered to assist in the programme, and some members of the Rousbey Company travelled specially from Cork for a similar purpose. Mr Kendal Irwin, and Mr F Muspratt, kindly conducted, and the orchestra, which was most effective and well balanced, was composed as follows:—Violins—Mrs O'Brien, Miss E Cromer, Mrs Hodgson, Miss Harty, Miss Mannix, Mr P Bernard, Mr E T B-lanaw, Mr B Cromer, Mr J Cusack, Dr McDonough, Mr T McSwiney, Mr H E South. Viola—Mr B H Croker. Cello—Messrs F P Hook and R Lee. Pianoforte—Miss A Swin. Mandolins—Miss Cusack, Spain, and Halpin, and Mr P Bernard. The programme opened with the overture 'La Sir-en,' which was played with the utmost precision by the orchestra, under the baton of Mr Muspratt. Mr Wm Kenny rendered with much expression 'Ora Pro Nobis.' Miss M'Carthy sang 'Neath Skies of Spain' with great taste and sweetness. Mr F Clendon (Rousbey Opera Company), who met with a very warm welcome, sang 'The King's Minstrel' with power and artistic skill, and he gave a capital interpretation of 'The Boys of the Old Brigade' in response to a hearty encore. His fine baritone was also heard to great advantage in the 'Bedlam Love Song.' An idylle, by Labitzky, in which the violin predominates in some pretty passages, was played in really excellent style by—Miss Olive Cleave and little Miss M'Carthy (violins), Mr H Croker (viola), Mr F P Hook (cello), and Mrs O'Brien (piano). The remarkably abrupt termination to the piece gives it a singular charm. Miss Cleave exhibited rare ability as a violinist, her style being artistic and graceful, and indeed Miss M'Carthy's performance was astonishing, considering her tender years. 'I dreamt I dwelt in Marble Hall' was sung in the most expressive fashion by Miss Crombie (Rousbey Opera Company), and the last verse was repeated for an encore, which came from all parts of the house. Mr Stephens, one of the principal tenors in Mr Rousbey's Company, was accorded a particularly hearty reception on making his appearance. He sang one of the airs from Mascagni's *Cavallera Rusticana* in finished style, and then favoured the audience with a delightful rendering of 'Songs of a Soldier.' The popular tenor was also heard with splendid effect in 'Let me like a soldier fall,' and 'There is a flower that bloometh.' Mrs Fogarty's pathetic rendering of the sacred song 'There is a Green Isle,' the music being by Gounod, was a most admirable feature in the programme. Mr Gildea sang 'Silly Mavarsheen,' from the *Lily of Killarney*, with great taste, and in response to an encore gave a pleasing rendering of 'Oh, chide not my heart.' A selection by Mr Kendal Irwin, entitled 'Lous les Lilacs' for mandolins and strings was beautifully played. The pieces played by the orchestra included a composition by Handel, in which the violin solo was played most skilfully by Mrs O'Brien. A highly interesting and enjoyable programme concluded with a march played in fine style by the orchestra.

COST OF WATER CONNEC SMALL TENEMEN

A special meeting of the Water held to-day, to hear a representation Nash and Sons' House and La reference to the cost which the seeking to impose for putting wat house. The Mayor presided. There w—Mr D B Gley, Mr P O'Malley, Mr Thomas Donnellan, Mr Peter John O'Donnell, Mr M Donnelly. Mr M J DeCourcy, Secretary, an Superintendent, were also present. Mr Hastings, solicitor, who appeared Nash and Sons, stated they were agents in Limerick for house pr something about £4,000 a year therefore they were largely in charge which the Corporation make for putting water into hou owners had not done so. He now number of small houses in Bennet Gerald's lane, Flag lane, Nelson st places. The total of the claims connections in these small house case £6 2s 6d, and in another for one a small portion of the claim ultimately be made, and at t wished to call attention to it. H that the Corporation had no in interest of the ratepayers, and h on their ability to do what wou fair between the owners of prop ertation. It appears that for 50 establishment of the water works i has been the universal practice t ing for connections but to give to water consumers. For the first Corporation seek to adopt a new was not there to say t took the proper legal proo they were not legally entitled to were seeking to do, but he desired them that it was inequitable an owners of these small properties owners of these properties, the h were valued at about £1 or so, wh as much for connections as £10 in George street, which were valu the committee came to the conclu were bound to charge for these e suggested that they should do w Parliament gave them power to that the payment of the money sh over a number of years just as t itself was paying back the loans. After a good deal of discussion, t out that the Corporation was mak connections by order of the Local Gov- The cost of the pipes to the hou- was 12s 6d, and 6s for putting the house. Mr Hastings, after a calculation 6s 6d was only the cost of what the ing 12s 6d for. The Mayor—It is done by order Government Board. Mr Donnellan considered that charge only the actual cost. He u in Thomondgate an extra threep put on in consequence of these cha Mr Hastings—I am not instructe been done, but if the Corporation these charges, every owner will self-defence to put on these cha properties could not afford to be them. Mr DeCourcy stated that up it was customary to lay the services from the main to the boundary of