

TERRIBLE MACHINERY ACCIDENT.—An old man named James, aged about 55 years, was admitted to Barrington's Hospital to-day under circumstances peculiarly distressing. It appears that the poor man had been employed as a machine-man by the firm of Messrs Bannatyne & Sons, and whilst engaged in oiling the wheels of one of the machines his left leg was caught in one of the trap-holes and being caught by one of the wheels was dreadfully mutilated. He was instantly carried to the hospital where amputation of the leg was performed successfully by Doctors Holmes, Mitchell, and Graham. He is, however, progressing favourably.

THE RECENT DISTURBANCES IN LIMERICK.—At a meeting of the Corporation held a short time since a resolution was passed calling on the Government to institute an inquiry into the disturbances which took place in Limerick on Sunday, 27th November, the occasion of the proclaimed Allen, Larkin, and O'Brien meeting. The following reply has been received by the Mayor—“Chief Secretary's Office, Dublin Castle, 2nd January, 1888. Sir—I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ult, and with reference to its concluding paragraph and to your letter of the 2nd ult, on the same subject, I have to inform you that His Excellency sees no occasion to direct the inquiry which the Corporation demand into the conduct of the police at Limerick on the 26th and 27th November last.—I am, sir, your obedient servant.—WEST RIDGEWAY.”

INSURANCE COMPANIES.—About fifty long years ago a few benevolent Quakers bethought of establishing a provision for widows and orphans—to be supported by the contributions of those who wished to join it, and free from shareholders to absorb the profit. An office was secured, these gentlemen gave their time and labour free, and at the end of a year found they had received a £9,000—while but one claim for £150 had fallen in. From this tiny sum and this obscure beginning gigantic proportions and unrivalled success has sprung, until it is a fact admitted by all parties who are not interested in rival companies, and who are capable of judging, that any person who effects an insurance on his life in any other company, does so at a cost that disgusts him when, in after years, he discovers the heavy penalty his imprudence has led him into. They have just divided a profit, the largest ever divided by any company, whereby many in this county and city will have nothing further to pay on their policies, and some will receive an annual sum instead. We have shown a local case where the premium for £1,000 was reduced to 14s per annum. Surely none who claim any credit for prudence and foresight will long be without joining the ever fortunate ranks of this Assurance Company. Nearly 50,000 persons have availed themselves of its unequalled privileges. Information on the subject may be obtained from Mr J F Bennis, 30, George street.

LIMERICK PROTESTANT ORPHAN SOCIETY.
The usual monthly meeting of the Committee of this Society was held on Tuesday, 3rd inst, Rev Chancellor Gubbins, chairman.
APPRENTICE AND GENERAL BUSINESS.
Applications relative to servants and apprentices were considered.
The Secretary stated that the girls in the Female Orphan Training School were examined recently by Rev J Dowd, Diocesan Examiner, who reported favourably of their progress and of the efficiency of the school.
Rev Chancellor Gubbins and the Very Rev Dean of Limerick were unanimously re-elected chairman and vice-chairman of committee for the ensuing year.
The following members of committee were elected to represent the Protestant Orphan Society in the Council of the Female Orphan Training School:—Very Rev the Dean of Limerick, Ven the Archdeacon of Limerick, Rev Chancellor Gubbins, Rev Precentor Meredith, Rev Canon O'Brien, Rev G M Luther, and E C D Bell, Esq.
The quarterly location returns were examined. It is requested that outstanding collections from Branch Associations may be forwarded without delay to the Secretary
Jan 4, 1888.

one from “A Friend” of £30, and another from Mr Wm Lloyd of 20 guineas. In all £107 was subscribed on the spot.

The High Sheriff having being voted to the second chair, a cordial vote of thanks was, on the motion of Mr F W M'Carthy, seconded by Mr J O'Mara, passed to the Mayor for presiding. His Worship briefly and suitably acknowledged the compliment, and the proceedings terminated.

THE LATE LIEUTENANT-COLONEL HOWLEY, D.L.

We record with much regret the death of Lieut-Colonel John Howley, D.L., Rich Hill, Co. Limerick, which took place on the 1st inst, at 8 Upper Gardiner-street, Dublin. The deceased gentleman had been for twelve months past in failing health, and his death was therefore not unexpected, but still the sad news was received with unfeigned sorrow in this city and district, where he was so long and favourably known. For the last three years Colonel Howley had been from home—he resided in Germany, up to a year ago, when he removed to London, and four months since he returned to Ireland, residing continuously in Dublin up to the time of his demise. Colonel Howley was a gentleman widely esteemed by a wide circle of friends for his most amiable, courteous, and charitable disposition. He possessed extensive landed estates in the Counties of Limerick, Clare and Tipperary, and was also the owner of considerable house property in the city of Limerick; was Hon Lieutenant-Colonel of the 5th Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers; a Deputy Lieutenant for the city, a county magistrate, and an *ex-officio* guardian of the Limerick Union.

Yesterday the remains arrived by the 1-15 train from Dublin for interment in the family vault Cahinarry. They were enclosed in a suite of coffins, the inner one being of mahogany and the outer of polished oak, richly mounted in brass, while the inscription was the simple one—“John Howley, died 1st January, 1888, aged 60 years. R.I.P.” Notwithstanding the very severe weather which prevailed, a very large number of city and county residents assembled at the terminus to receive the remains, while a considerable number of carriages were in waiting. The coffin was borne from the train to the house by a party of the Royal Munster Fusiliers, and the funeral at once started for the place of interment, the Fusiliers immediately succeeding the hearse. The chief mourners were—Mr William J Howley, Mr Jasper Howley, Mr B Howley, sons; Colonel Wm White, 15th King's Hussars, and Mr John White, D.L., Nantenan, brothers-in-law; and Colonel Thaddeus R Ryan, B.A., Dr Vincent Ryan, Emly, Mr Clement Ryan, Scarteen; Mr Wm Ryan, Solr, Tipperary, Very Rev Arthur Ryan, President Thurles College, first cousins. The general public included:—Father Shanahan, P.P., Ballingarry; Father O'Connell, Redemptorist Church; Father Halpin, P.P. Donoghmore; Dr Hammond, P.P. Newcastle West; Father Gleeson, P.P., Castleconnell; Father M O'Kelly, CC; Father O'Connell, CSSR; Father Daly; Mr Fitzjames Kelly, J.P., Masters White, Mr F Finch, Mr Richard Power, J.P.; Dr Ryan, Dr Shanahan, Dr O'Shaughnessy, J.P.; Mr James Frost, J.P.; Major Mawe, 5th Batt Royal Munster Fusiliers; Mr James F Bannatyne, Mr Alexander Bannatyne, Mr Robert Hunt J.P.; Captain Vanderkiste, Mr John Vanderkiste, J.P.; Dr E M Courtenay, Surgeon-Major Browne, Mr John Nolan, Kilbane; Mr Montiford Gavin, Mr T A Funnell, Mr James Shine, J.P.; Mr Richard J Gabbett, J.P.; Mr James Nash, J.P.; Mr O Wallace, J.P.; Mr James Quin, J.P.; Mr Leonard, Mr Prendergast, ex-Quarter Master, Mr O'Dell, ex-Sergeant Major Munster Fusiliers; Mr Sellors, Mr William O'Connell, Thomas street; Mr William Ryan, Tipperary. Several residents of the Castleconnell district were also present.

Those who sent carriages included Lord Emly, Lord Massy, Mr John White, Colonel White, Tipperary; Mr R Hunt, J.P.; Mr James Quin, J.P.; Mr S Quin, Mrs Wallace, George street; Mr James Nash, Mr J F Bannatyne, Mr Fitzjames Kelly, J.P.; Mr J Shine, J.P.; Dr Kane, J.P.; Mr A Bannatyne, Woodstown; Mr J G Barry, J.P.; Mr R J Gabbett, Mr Ryan, Scarteen.
The Rev Mr Halpin officiated at the tomb, assisted by the greater number of the clergy whose names are given above.
Messrs M'Carthy & Sons had charge of the funeral arrangements.

you so happy an occasion as this, but I could not allow the opportunity of your presence here to pass without denouncing a fastidious as injurious to you as it is offensive to me. It is much pleasanter for me to recur to this beautiful gift, which makes so glad and auspicious an opening of the New Year, and I trust that when many years have passed, the union that, thank God, to-day exists between us will be found to be consolidated and cemented by time.

Archdeacon Halpin wished to say on behalf of himself and the vicars of the various deaneries of the diocese that no such communications ever reached them. They all emphatically denied their existence, and if any such left his lordship for his priests they should come through his vicars (hear, hear).

ESSAYS, CHIEFLY ON POETRY.

By AUBREY DE VERE, LL.D.

In two volumes. London:—Macmillan.
In these two volumes Mr de Vere has collected a series of critical papers, almost all of which were originally contributed to the *Quarterly* and other Reviews. The first volume is appropriately dedicated to Chaucer, and opens with “The Characteristics of Spenser's Poetry,” which was originally written for Dr Grosart's edition of that poet's works. It also contains an essay on “Spenser as a Philosophic Poet,” followed by two others on “The Genius and Passion of Wordsworth,” and on “The Wisdom and Truth of Wordsworth's Poetry.” The Essays on Spenser are in the higher range of philosophic criticism. Whilst admitting that there is some truth in the remark that many portions of Spenser's great work are beyond the appreciation of readers who do not unite an unusual thoughtful-ness to a large imagination, Mr de Vere is at pains to point out that so far is Spenser's poetry from being deficient in human interest, that there is a sense in which he is especially a poet of the humanities. Mr de Vere emphasises the truth, which he considers essential to the proper appreciation of Spenser—that he is, more than any of his predecessors, the poet of beauty, but that he sought that beauty in the human relations rather than in the world of ideal thought. He points out that Spenser lived too near the chivalrous age of action and passion to find elsewhere than in man the grand subject of his genius, whilst at the same time the poet's energies took a deep interest in the new world opening up around him, in which activities more intense, but less nobly halcyoned, would be called into existence. He stood at a period in the world's history when old things were passing away, and when a new order was coming into existence, but “the world which as it receded kissed hands to him alone had for him more charms than the world which had proffered her ungarnered spoils to the new settlers.” He sympathised with the future, but “he kept his higher genius for the celebration of the wonder world gone by.” That the essays are graceful, thoughtful, and appreciative is what we would have expected from Mr de Vere. Mr de Vere's knowledge of this little-read author is intimate and extensive. Whether he is pointing us to the beauties of some descriptive scene, the nobility of some chivalrous sentiment, or the profound truth of some philosophic thought, we feel we are being led along by one gifted with a rare poetic insight, and the master of a style as lucid as it is charming. At the close of the second volume, which is dedicated to Scott and Southey, we meet with an essay entitled “Recollections of Wordsworth,” which was written for Dr Grosart's collection of Wordsworth's Prose Works, and which form an admirable supplement to the two papers on “The Genius and Passion of Wordsworth,” and “The Wisdom and Truth of Wordsworth's Poetry” in the first volume. In this paper we observe the remark of Wordsworth, that, speaking of Sir Aubrey de Vere, the elder poet said, “I consider his sonnets to be certainly the best English sonnets of modern times.” A little further on Mr de Vere informs us that when eighteen years of age, as he was praising Byron's poetry, his father replied, “Wordsworth is the greatest poet of modern times.” The two poets mutually appreciated each other, and Sir Aubrey's opinion converted the youthful worshipper of Byron to an ardent life-long devotion to Wordsworth. Other essays treat of Sir Henry Taylor's “Van Artevelde,” and “Edwin the

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