People and Events

JOHN GEORGE O'BRIEN.
Mr. John George O'Brien, whose death occurred at the week-end, was a man of many parts, a citizen who made an appreciable contribution to the civic, social and sporting life of Limerick. He filled the Mayoral office, and entertained Captain Fitzmaurice and his German co-aviators on their return to this country after making the first crossing of the Atlantic from East to West. That was a memorable visit.
A life-long and oldest member of Shannon Rowing Club and Catholic Institute, he evinced a deep interest in yachting, and for many years sailed his own craft. Athletics, too, made a claim on his time, and he was a foundation member of the first Limerick Cycling Club.

THE PENNY-FARTHING BIKE.
That was at the time of the “penny-farthing,”—the high bicycle—when the late Coleman O'Connell, who was Hen. Sec., used to entertain a select coterie at his exclusive saloon bar, Lower Cecil Street. O'Connell, a very genial soul and accomplished raconteur, removed to Dublin, where he, in collaboration with Macready, the well-known cyclist, founded “The Irish Cyclist.” The Limerick Club introduced the safety bicycle to this city, but only the fewest could afford the