

assisted in the ceremonial of laying the foundation stone of St. John's Cathedral. On the death of Richard Russell, of Plassey, Spaight was elected to succeed him as president of the Chamber of Commerce.

In 1867 Spaight succeeded in influencing the Conservative Government to wipe out the debt on the harbour which amounted to £175,000, a staggering sum, which had long oppressed the trade of the port.

Though the family has died out in the city, the name is still preserved close to the scene of their early activities.

#### \* JOSEPH PHELPS NEWSOM\*

Another name still preserved on the spot in which it was first noticed is Newsom's. Joseph Phelps Newsom, a Quaker, started his business selling Smith's coal and bar-iron in a yard in what is now known as Upper Denmark Street, but which was known during Newsom's tenure as "Newsom's Lane." Like all other members of his faith, Newsom was strictly honest and upright. He is recorded as having continually assisted the poor impoverished nail makers by giving them the iron they required and accepting some of the nails (clouts) as payment. In those days nails were made by hand in the cellars of old town, where the monotonous hammering caused the least annoyance to the families living overhead.

Newsom's business prospered and in due course his

premises were extended to William Street. The integrity of the firm is, and has been, a bye-word down through the years. Though the original proprietor has long since passed on, his name is much in evidence over the grand new premises in William Street and the yard where he sat beside his heaps of coal and iron is now a car park for the firm's customers.

#### THE ROCHES

The better known member of this family was Philip Roche (John), who left us the famous granary,

## GIVE BLOOD FESTIVE SEAS

The Blood Tranfusion  
will be holding Blood  
Limerick C

ST. JOHN'S PAVIL

WEDNESDAY, DECEN

WEDNESDAY, DECEN

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WEDNESDAY, JANUA

TIME: 3.30 - 5.00 pm a

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"IT COULD BE THE GIF

Wishing all our Donors

Very Happy Christmas

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