

AT a meeting of the Limerick County Committee of Agriculture on Saturday, Mr. P. Fitzsimon Co. Co., Chairman, presiding.

The Chairman, at the outset announced that the first business of the meeting was to appoint a honorary instructor in Agriculture.

The C.A.O. (Mr. Martin Glee) reported that twelve applications had been received for the position.

The applicants were—Chas. Allen, Waterford; John J. Coe, Kilkenny; John Cronin, Kerry; A. Dalton, Tipperary; Patrick J. Phelan, Kerry; George Frost, Ch. Patrick Gannon, Galway; Miel Kenny, O'Leary; Eamon J. J. Tipperary; Liam McNamara, F. common; Eamon O'Connor, K. common; Richard O'Connor, K. common.

Mr. P. Maguire said that if he were in order he would ask the C.A.O. to read the qualifications of the candidates. In view of the fact that they had a wealth of material in the position.

The C.A.O., in reply to the Chairman, said that he had received letters from the Department of Agriculture, to which the names were submitted, stating that all applicants before the meeting were qualified for the position.

Mr. D. J. Madden—So that all twelve applications before us are ordered.

Mr. Maguire pointed out that the names in asking to have the qualifications read out for the information of the members was to ensure that the best qualified of the candidates would be appointed to the position.

Mr. D. P. Quish—According to the letter from the Department all candidates before us are qualified. That being so I propose that the Committee proceed to make the appointment.

THE BEST QUALIFIED Mr. Maguire—I propose that we appoint the candidate best qualified for the position, irrespective of party or other affiliation. We sent here by the ratepayers to get the best material and the best service and I think the members of the Committee are entitled to the name of the candidate with the best qualifications, no matter who he may be. If there is any objection I will propose the names of the 12 candidates in block and the C.A.O. or anybody else pick the man with the best qualification for us.

Mr. D. McAuliffe agreed and said there should be no objection to having the qualifications of the candidates read out.

Mr. P. Lillis seconded Mr. Maguire's proposition which, he believed, would help the Committee in securing the best qualified candidates. The position was created vacant by the recent resignation of Dr. H. J. Spain, as a result of which the county had the services of one of the best officials they could have, and that reason they should do everything possible to ensure that it would be replaced by the most competent instructor available.

necessary a small committee should be set up to help in the selection of the best qualified candidate. They were not, Mr. Lillis added, going to assess the capacity of any of the candidates by the colour of the shirt he wore or the party he belonged to.

Mr. T. O'Connell intervened.

Things That Matter

BRITAIN has often been held up to the world as an instance of how a country can grow great under free trade. This example is entirely bogus since it is based on a complete fallacy. All during the time when she was building up her economy she was in a real sense the most effectively protected nation in the whole world. She was free trade in theory; it is true, but in practice she was enjoying the highest form of protection.

When England was engaged in building up her industries and getting markets abroad she was able to get raw materials at little cost from all quarters of the globe. She had the ships and a plentiful supply of coal, iron and cheap labour. Through these and other advantages—which were in reality the highest form of protection—she got a good start of all the other countries in laying foundations and building up a powerful manufacturing structure.

She did not then need special legislative free trade as it is understood to-day, for she had hardly any competitors, and what she was getting from abroad were the cheap raw materials she required for her industrial expansion. She was all the time able to get these at the cheapest rate and she had the transport of them in her own hands. In addition, she was in a position to buy at her own price and to sell to the same countries afterwards the finished products, also at her own price, and, as a result, at a substantial profit.

To suggest that this was free trade in operation is an utter absurdity. England had plenty ships and an abundance of coal, iron and cheap labour at a time when no other country had these advantages to anything like the same extent. She thus had effective protection and it was under that sheltering influence, and in the absence of competition, she was so well able to build up her greatness as an industrial nation and a world power.

Britain had thus an early and very favourable start in the race for world trade and she was in no way hampered by an over-scrupulous regard for the rights and interests of the people with whom she dealt or whom she physically and economically dominated. She virtually ruled mankind and was not very squeamish about violating the moral law in doing so. It is a strange irony, and possibly something of a just retribution, that the success she built up in those

THE ANCIENT SHOP-SIGNS OF LIMERICK

(By ROBERT HERBERT)

THE custom of putting signs over shops is so ancient that, at the excavation of the lava-covered city of Pompeii, many ancient shop-signs were uncovered—a mule turning a corn-mill was the sign of a baker; a school was indicated by a teacher birching a boy, and a tavern by a bush, with the motto "Good wine needs no bush."

The inn or tavern sign has always been the most prominent and has lasted the longest. It usually either refers to the trade of the innkeeper, as "The Golden Bottle," "The Three Golden Tunns," or is quasi-heraldic. In the latter category are included all the variously-coloured lions, harts, swans, etc. A third type, more

John O'Keefe, the eighteenth century dramatist, who married the daughter of Limerick's flat theatre manager, John Heaphy:—"During the Limerick Assizes I saw a stuffed glove, about four feet long, hanging out from the top of the Exchange nearly across the main street; this was the accustomed token that for a week or a fortnight while the Courts were sitting, no debtor could be arrested."

There was a Golden Lion and a Green Dragon, a White Hart and a Yellow Bottle, and for Royalty we had two "King's Head" inns, a Queen's Head, a Royal Garter; and, of course the "Royal Munster," now known as Cruise's; not to mention the Stadholder's Head for King Billy of Orange, a "Turk's Head" for God knows who, an appropriate "Punch Bowl," and an inappropriate "Gridiron."

BY SATIN Work, and SILVER MUSLINS at ELEVEN GUINEAS the Gown, beautiful CURTAINS for BONNETS at Three and Four Guineas each, brocaded and plain Canterbury MUSLINS, a vast Variety of elegant new BRUSSELS LACES, striped, figured and plain SARRISNETS and VEILINGS, NEW CALICOES from 6s. to 10s. 10d. per Yard, English and Irish RIBBONS and RIBBON SASHES, Royal Patent HATS, &c. &c. &c. arrived at the

MUSLIN WAREHOUSE. RYAN informs the LADIES of his Return to LIMERICK, and that all his new Goods, chosen for this present Season, are arrived. June 19, 1751

CRUICKSHANK'S IRON-MONGERY WAREHOUSE, supported by the Public, for thirty Years and upwards. It is now Extensively Revived at the CROSS-KEYS, opposite Mr. Norris's, Irish-town, Limerick, and as he has Purchased from the Principal Manufacturers in England, he is Enabled to Sell at and UNDER DUBLIN PRICES; SCYTHES, REAPING HOOKS, Multiplying Jacks, with almost every Article in the Building Way. June 29, 1735.

Mercury, The Pope's Head (Alexander, not the Roman one), The Shakespeare, and earliest of all The Duke of Marlborough's Head where Thomas Brangan printed Limerick's first newspaper, "The Limerick Newsletter." The local news consisted solely of the following delectable items:—"Yesterday the Honourable Capt. Brown of the Royal Scotch (sic) Battalion, set out from hence to Rose-Gray to the great regret of the ladies of this City."

common in villages than in cities, was formed by adopting the arms of the local ruling family, and by calling the inn after the family, as "The Dunraven Arms."

been damaging my sign at night." "The Anchor," whence the Mary Snow of London departed with sails for Newfoundland in 1750. "The Bear," which still stands in Broad Street; the "Black Bull," the "Brazen Head," re-built in 1791, and its sign recently resurrected. There were three "Cock Inns" and at one, Alexander Feron, a native of Italy, made thermometers, barometers, spy-glasses, spectacles, etc., in 1755. There were three "Crown and Anchor" Inns also and from one in 1752 "an handsome jaunting car was run twice daily to Enright's Inn at Castleconnell. There was a "Globe" Inn and a "Globe" coffee-house and at a debate at the latter in 1774, for the benefit of a poor widow, the following entertaining subjects were debated:

Other appropriate signs to the trades of their owners were "The Copper Globes" for a pewterer; "The Cross Keys" for an iron-monger; the "Funeral Board" for an undertaker; the "Widow Mgt. happily (as far as in the power of Scymour) with her delightful art through all the accidents that offer to supply "all necessaries for precede, accompany and follow

Ball, was his serious rival with "Irish hollands, cambricks, muslins, dyapers, north country linens of most sorts, tickens, chequers and cherry-tickeys, stockings, pills, velvet and velvet caps, etc."

What are the principal accomplishments to render a man agreeable in the eyes of the fair sex? "Has Great Britain" already passed, or not yet arrived at its meridian greatness? "Which is more likely to attract the attention of a lady, an ugly peer or a handsome commoner?"

Francis Yeamans of the "Golden Bottle" knew the value of good advertisements and he sold "Right Genuine Sack from the Canaries," taken by an English Privateer and carried into London, wherein was cented and brought to Cork. Among his wares were Frontinac, Lisbon, Madeira, Malaga, Rum,

the decent solemnity of funerals, in city or county, viz hatchments, streamers, hearse, eutecheons, hangings, sconces, large and small velvet and cloth pallis, cloaks, plumes, stands and tapers, death's heads for chappels, chand's furniture for coffins, silvered or plain, with inscription plates, figures of time, handies, letters, etc."

labour . . . The Poor who serves gratis." To-day, apart from the broken socket of "The Brazen Head," which was left in the house in John Street when the plaque was removed, I know of only three really ancient signs the nicely painted Chinaman over O'Grady's in O'Connell Street; the handsome Indian, complete with pipe, in Raleigh's tobacco and snuff shop in Patrick Street; and, of course, the magnificent eight-foot Chinaman in Rathkeale.

TWO CHARGES

Sequel To Road Accident

CYCLIST AND PEDESTRIAN IN COURT

HOW a pedestrian was knocked down by a cyclist on the night of the 25th November last, at Bilboa, Cappamore, was told to Justice D. F. Gleeson at Pallasgreen Court, when James Flint, Bilboa, Cappamore, was charged with unlawfully and maliciously propelling a bicycle, the property of Bernard Kennedy. The latter, with an address at Bilboa, was summoned for failing to keep his bicycle as near as practicable to the left edge of the roadway.

Supt. E. O'Riordan prosecuted, and Mr. L. Walsh, solicitor (Messrs. Bennett and Walsh), appeared for Kennedy. John Moloney, Bilboa, gave evidence that he and James Flint were returning home from his master-in-law's house where they had been playing cards. It was after 10 o'clock and witness had a new flash lamp, which was lighting at the time, with him. They walked along the left-hand side of the road, and when they arrived at a point about 5 yards from Walsh's Avenue they heard an object coming from behind and he (witness) shouted to Flint to look out. The next thing he heard was a crash, with Flint knocked on the road. Mr. Kennedy was on his bicycle, which had stopped.

SHOULD BE IN CIRCUS Justice—Do you mean to say that he knocked down Flint and remained stationary on his bicycle?—I do.

Justice—Well, Kennedy should be in the circus.

Continuing, witness said that Kennedy got off his bicycle, went away and left it after him. He could not say where Kennedy went.

Mr. Walsh—You must have lost your head that night?—No, sir.

Justice—He has got it back again. Continuing in cross-examination, witness said he was not dazzled when he came out of the house, and did not see any light of any kind beyond the light he had with him. Flint was at his side of the road before the accident, but after the mishap he was on the other side. When Flint got to his feet, Kennedy went away. Witness saw Flint definitely kicking the bicycle.

Guard McGarry gave evidence of taking a statement from Bernard Kennedy, who said in it that he was coming home at about 11 p.m. and he had a lamp on his bicycle. He was about 100 yards from his own house when he saw "boxer" Moloney and James Flint in front of him. The statement continued: "Just as I was about to pass them, Flint ran across the road trying to avoid me, and my face hit Flint's shoulder and knocked him."

Kennedy said further in his statement that Flint threatened him and that he did not want to be involved in a row he went away and left his bicycle at the scene. The defendant added that he heard Flint throwing stones at the bicycle and it was badly buckled.

BICYCLE WITHOUT A LAMP Witness also took a statement from James Flint, who said in it that the bicycle struck him in the back and knocked him down. When he got to his feet Kennedy was gone. He saw Kennedy's bicycle on the road without a lamp and he admitted that he damaged it, though he did not throw stones at it. He admitted kicking the bicycle.

The Justice dismissed the case against Kennedy, as he considered that he could not possibly keep as near as practicable to the left edge of the roadway as Moloney at least was walking at that side. He found the charge against Flint proved, but he dismissed it under the Protection



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