

and manufactures for which the metropolis was once celebrated, it says:—

The letterpress printing has never recovered the effects of the memorable strike, some two years ago, and the business has flown never to return, perhaps, across the Channel to Scotland, Wales, and England, where the same work can be done for less money. When we come to know the amount of work which has absolutely ceased in the County Dublin during the past three years, we can appreciate the present state of trade in Dublin more fully. One of the most important factories in Dublin county and city was the paper business. Paper mills used to be numerous. They have not only not increased, but in 1877 a large paper mill at Inchicore, employing a large number of hands, ceased, and two more mills of the same kind have stopped work altogether during the last twelve months. Two large flax mills at Celbridge are now idle. The one, employing 357 hands, has stopped since 1877-8; the other, twelve months ago employed 347 hands; now it is silent, and in three years no less than 744 hands in the county of Dublin have thus been thrown out of work in one trade. Three weeks ago a wool mill at Chapelizod was burnt down and forty hands put out of work. There is an old-established wool mill at Rathfarnham now idle. For eight months a pin factory close to Glasnevin has not put out a single row of pins, and besides we find either idle or bankrupt in the city a distillery, a brush factory, and a dye work—all during the past twelve months.

The story told of Dublin by the *Mail* may be reiterated in every city, town, and hamlet throughout the country if we only measured their growing decrepitude by the same line and rule. What Irish city save, possibly, Belfast and a few northern towns, is improving with the same strides that English and Scotch cities are? Will this demon of discord which has produced such terrible results, whose fatal harvest of misery must be reaped not alone by those who planted and watered, but by those also who are responsible for the fruit, ever be exercised? We are indebted to the present irresolute, ever-shifting Government for much that we have to deplore, and until a more emphatic policy is adopted towards those who are making shipwreck of the country, we can never look forward to anything like success in trade.

Major-General John Singleton, formerly of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, who died after a long illness and much suffering at his residence, Quinville Abbey, Clare, a few days ago, in his 65th year, obtained his commission as second lieutenant in 1845. He served in the Eastern campaign of 1854-5, including the affairs of Bulganac and M'Kenzie's Farm, the battles of Alma, Balaklava, and Inkerman, the siege and fall of Sebastopol, and the repulse of the sortie on October 26, 1854; and for his services was rewarded with the brevet of major, the medal with four clasps, Knighthood of the Legion of Honour, the fifth class of the Medjidie and the Turkish medal. He served in India in 1858, and commanded the Artillery in the repulse of the mutinous Sepoy's at Mooltan on the 31st of March in that year.

The visitors to St Mary's Cathedral throughout the past week were Rev John Low, Bansha; Charles Grandison and Henry Maclure, Dublin; Rev Mr and Mrs Boodle, West Malling, Kent; Rev T E Guntrip, Basingstoke, Hants; Rev H Twiste, St Michael's Derby; Mrs Hardinge, Mr Charles Bartlett, Loughborough, Leicester; Rev Robert Drysdale, Dublin; Rev C Fouhy, R.C.C.; Rev Peter Haversmans, St Mary's, Troy, N.Y.;

accompanied by some lay gentlemen. The Rev John S McDade was re-appointed district chapel secretary, and Rev Robert Jamison district educational secretary. Arrangements were made for holding meetings in the circuits in aid of the thanksgiving fund, so as to carry out the direction of Conference, and raise a sum of £20,000. It was thought the month of January would be the most suitable time for holding the meetings. It was decided to hold the May district meeting in Limerick. The chairman gave an interesting address on the nature and methods of the work on which as ministers they were engaged, and the session closed. In the evening, the Rev George R Wedgwood preached, by special request, in the chapel to a large congregation. On Tuesday evening an interesting meeting in connection with the Band of Hope was held in the chapel. The Revs William Nelson, R Jamison, William Lutton, and others delivered addresses, and the choir, under the leadership of Miss Elliott, sang some suitable pieces, which were warmly applauded.

SUPPOSED CASE OF INFANTICIDE, AND ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

Acting upon information privately received, on Thursday evening last Constables McDonough and McDonald entered a house in Patrick-street, in the upper portion of which resided a Mrs Margaret Sheehy, a widow who for some time past has carried on a respectable dress-making business, giving employment to a considerable number of girls. Upon the occasion of the visit of the constabulary the woman presented every appearance of being *en famille*. She was however charged by Constable McDonough with having been recently confined, and was asked what had become of the child. Mrs Sheehy repudiated the charge, but acknowledged that such an event would, "with God's help," take place in a few days. Not satisfied with this, the constable called her into another room and warning her that he was aware of the ruse she had adopted, again put the question to her. The wretched woman wrung her hands despairingly and fainted, and on recovery brought the two constables into a lumber room where concealed in a box lay the body of a male infant. She accounted for its death, saying, "Unfortunately I neglected it." An inquest was immediately held on the body by the City Coroner, Mr M. DeCourcy. Drs. Myles and Holmes having made an inspection of the remains, deposed that the child, which was born on Monday evening, had died of suffocation; but they could not say whether suffocation was caused by a hand having been placed on the mouth of the child or whether it had accidentally lain on its face. The jury found an open verdict. In consequence of the state of the unfortunate woman's health, Mrs Sheehy was not removed to prison until this morning, but was strictly guarded by two of the constabulary in her own lodgings. The wretched woman since her arrest made two ineffectual attempts at self destruction: the first, last evening by means of a garter, with a view to strangle herself; and the second this morning by attempting to throw herself from the window. The prisoner, together with two girls who are supposed to be accomplices, was removed to-day to the city jail.

THE FORTHCOMING LIMERICK RACES

Another large meeting of the Races Committee was held last evening for the transaction of general business. The subscriptions received since last meeting were acknowledged, and the different lodgments made in the bank by the Hon Treasurer were audited. A subscription of £10 was received from the Right Worshipful Michael O'Gorman, Mayor, who has been otherwise giving the committee most valuable aid. The following letter was read from Mr John White, D.L.:—

"Nautanen, Ballinorana

the purpose of discussing the or more members of the Club fore the Agricultural Commis of holding a monster meetin the county, in Limerick, at conduct of the House of Lor Compensation for Disturbanc was taken at 2 o'clock by Mr president. The other memb Messrs J O'Brien, James S Baker Jones B.L.; M O'Hallo Thomas Walsb, William Abra John Finucane, hon. secretary The meeting was also atten Dundon, Mr John Carmody (Mr P Quaid, non-members of

Before the proceedings con tion from the Limerick Race ing Dr O'Sullivan, Mr J. C Michael O'Brien, and Mr Joh duced, when

Dr O'Sullivan said that at a Race Committee last evening ask the co-operation and assi in bringing the forthcoming issue. The expenses of the very considerable to meet, w would require a considerab and it was thought that the l it before their country friend medium of the Farmers' Club

The Chairman said that he for the proposition of his fr and felt proud of being in to the request of the day gladly open a subscription scribe a sovereign himself. It was not the first time tha with racing, as he claimed and promoter of the Banogu no doubt but that the propos a success, although he had h move having been made to th it. Although he believed th loose, it had since been dr position of the Race Comm siderably improved.

Mr Counihan—You have n in the newspapers that there for they have published our p present, which have been o character.

The Chairman admitted tl anything of the kind in the had heard of it privately.

Mr Counihan explained t feeling spread abroad that harmony or unity of ad committee, but that was a c foundation, as they were ac harmony.

Chairman—There was a s now all right.

Mr Counihan replied that t among the stewards, but tl difference between a late mer and the stewards, which was

Mr Finucane said he him scribed to the Race Fund, Dr. O'Sullivan and the de not so much monetary hel should express their wishe mers of the county, and c assist the committee (hear, l

Doctor O'Sullivan—It is sense that we come here, assist us in crushing every a made to put down the Lime will go on in spite of all opp cess. We want to revive th they were formerly held. I have a hurdle and flat cours done in a fortnight, but we be given out to your br county to support us, and we a permanent success.