

NEWS OF THE DAY.

The half-yearly meeting of the Perth Working Men's Institute will be held in the Working Men's Hall on Monday evening next, October 10, at 8 o'clock.

The Railway department notifies that a special train, conveying passengers and their luggage alongside the s. Rob Roy at the south jetty, Fremantle, will leave the Perth station at 10.10 a.m. next Sunday, returning at noon.

Mails for Europe and the East, etc., for transmission from Albany per R.M.S. Rome, will be closed on Saturday next, the 8th inst. The hours for closing these mails and other particulars will be found in the usual notices in another column.

We are requested to state that the Art Gallery in connection with the Wesleyan bazaar now being held in the Town Hall will be opened to the public this evening, at 7 o'clock. To the curious, and more especially to those who appreciate the Fine Arts, this opportunity of inspecting a unique collection, both ancient and modern, should prove of much interest.

A correspondent writes:—"The paragraph in Monday's *Daily News* with reference to the unfortunate attempt at suicide by Richard Battley is a little misleading. It states that the rash act was brought about by a family quarrel. This is not strictly correct, as I have reason to know that poor Battley, with very few exceptions, lived upon the most affectionate terms with his wife and family. With reference to his being a "man of a desperate turn of mind"—well, this is also very misleading, for a more quiet, inoffensive man you could not find in the city. I have known Battley intimately since 1863, when we arrived in the colony together in the ship Clyde. The poor old fellow fought in the Indian Mutiny; there he was shot in the head, and in order to extract the bullet the delicate surgical operation known as "trepanning" had to be resorted to. He never quite recovered the effects of this mishap, and from the nature of his wound it is only natural that he would occasionally suffer from mental aberration. Unhappily this is the second time he has injured himself, but it is from the causes I have stated; and it is not true, as stated by a

contemporary, that he was tried at the Supreme Court when he first attempted to injure himself. Battley was a good specimen of the British soldier, and in his present unfortunate circumstances his family I am sure has the sympathy of the whole community." We regret to have to add that Battley expired at his residence this morning, at about half-past nine o'clock.

Another popular entertainment, under influential patronage, including that of the local Volunteer corps, is announced to be given in the Literary Institute, Fremantle, to-morrow (Friday) evening. All the best talent has been secured for rendering the musical portion—both vocal and instrumental. The programme includes a sparkling operatta by Offenbach, entitled "My New Maid."

Up to yesterday there had been a very enjoyable change of fine dry weather for some days, which had become really welcome after a long spell, broken so frequently by heavy falls of rain and strong gales. A decided change, however, occurred this morning. The barometer commenced to fall rapidly, registering as low as 29.60 at noon; at the same time the wind backed dead into the north-western quarter, blowing stiffly through the day. The probability is that there may be a considerable downfall of rain during the night.

At the City Police Court this morning, before the Acting Police Magistrate (Mr. J. C. H. James), Elizabeth Dogherty and Fanny Taylor, whose abode is in the "wilds of Murray-street," appeared charged with creating a disturbance in that thoroughfare on Monday evening last. At the time both were apparently under the influence of drink and were fighting and making use of very bad language. Both made promises of better behaviour for the future and begged to be given "another chance." This, however, the magistrate refused to do, explaining that their conduct could not be overlooked. They were each fined 1s. and sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment. On hearing this both were a little surprised, and as they left the dock one of them, who wore a dress-improver of brobdignagian proportions, gave a specimen of her airs and graces which caused a titter to run through the Court. After being removed to the cells these viragoes amused

... through the court...
moved to the cells these viragoes amused themselves by decisively whistling, "Are you there, Moriarity?" A case in which Mr. N. Armstrong summoned a Mrs. James, with whom he had been lodging, for detaining some of his goods, was postponed till to-morrow.