

THE " PARNELL " BRIDGE, CORK.
ENGINEER'S DELAY IN CERTIFYING.

AT a recent meeting of the Corporation the Town Clerk read a letter from the secretary of the Harbour Board acknowledging receipt of the Town Clerk's communication applying for the payment of the Harbour Board's installment of £4,815 4s. 8d., due in respect of the cost of the construction of "Parnell" Bridge, and forwarded copies of the engineer's report on the bridge and the opinion of Mr. Naish, Q.C., as to the board's liability, which have already been published.

Alderman Keller—If it had been called "Clifford Lloyd" Bridge instead of "Parnell" Bridge, the money would have been paid long ago.

The Town Clerk said that Mr. Naish's opinion, as far as he could see, quite bore out the opinion given by Mr. Jellett, Q.C.

Mr. O'Sullivan—Yes, and your own opinion, before you got Mr. Jellett's.

The Town Clerk, referring to Mr. Barry's report, which stated that it was premature to call on him to certify that the entire work had been completed to his satisfaction, and that before giving such certificate it would be necessary that the bridge should be subject for some months to the strains of ordinary traffic and changes of temperature, said that he was quite unable to understand the meaning of Mr. Barry's objections to giving the certificate. He wrote to Mr. Barry that morning asking for some more information, but the letter did not reach him. He then wrote to Mr. Walker, C.E., who was the engineer's representative in Cork, and Mr. Walker wrote stating that the various matters objected to by Mr. Barry had been submitted to the decision of Mr. Stoney, C.K., Dublin, who had reported that in so far as the work deviated from the original design it was an improvement. He (Town Clerk) maintained that, as a matter of law, Mr. Barry was now bound to give his certificate. He would advise, however, that nothing should be said there against the Harbour Board, or its members individually, because the two bodies had now a common enemy to meet in the Queenstown Commissioners, who were promoting a Bill which, if passed, would seriously affect the rights and franchises of the Corporation.

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