Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society

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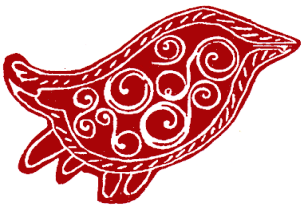

Title: Gleanings from old Cork newspapers of 1755 (*contd from Vol. 63 (1958)*)

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Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society, 1963, Vol. 68, Nos 207-208, page(s) 96-101

Published by the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society

Digital file created: May 22, 2016

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Gleanings from Old Cork Newspapers of 1755

By JOHN T. COLLINS

(continued from Vol. LXIII (1958), pp. 95-102)

THE CORKE JOURNAL

8 *April :* " The Members of the Antient and Benevolent Order of the Friendly Brothers of St. Patrick will meet at Rugg's Tavern and dine on May 1st. Signed Stern Tuckey, Secty."

The Brotherhood is believed to have been founded at Athenry, Co. Galway, *circa* 1750 and spread rapidly throughout Ireland. Its motto was " Friendship and Benevolence to all men." Convivial banquets were held on St. Patrick's Day at which the memory of the patron saint of Ireland was duly honoured. The brethren fostered an independent outlook and paved the way for the volunteers of 1782. The meetings were called "knots," and I believe the chief knot still survives in Dublin.

19 *May :* " John Mintony who kept the Nag's Head in Broad Lane, has removed to the Gibraltar Tavern at the Exchange."

22 May *:* " Samuel Hodges at his foundry in Harper's Lane makes all kinds of metal work."

" Any gentleman who desires an express to Dublin, requiring great speed will be served by Daniel Sullivan, Charge Porter, who undertakes to go to Dublin and back on foot in five days in summer and six in winter, provided the person agrees that he only have a few hours delay in Dublin."

26 *May :* " The Lord Lieutenant is about to visit Munster. His first stop will be at Bishop's Court, the seat of the Right Hon. John Ponsonby ; next at Burton Hall. He will review the troops at Carlow and proceed to Kilkenny where he will stay with Dr. Morris, Bishop of Ossory. He will visit Bessborough House the seat of the Earl of Bessborough, will review the troops at Clonmel and stay at Lord Grandison's seat at Dromana, Co. Waterford ; by Lismore and Youghal to Castlemartyr, the residence of Henry Boyle, speaker of the House of Commons. On June 2 he will review the army at Cork and proceed to Charles Fort, Kinsale. The return journey from Cork will be to Sir Robert Deane's seat near Mallow (Dromore), Charleville, Limerick and the Silver Mines ; will stay at Colonel Pettys, Ballyfin and Mr. Poles, Maryborough ; thence through Redwood, Tullamore, Philipstown and Leixlip to Dublin."

2 *June :* " His Excellency has arrived at Cork from Rostellan Castle, the seat of the Earl of Inchiquin. On landing at the Custom House Quay he was received by the Mayor, Corporation and Gentlemen of the True Blues. He dined with them at the Assembly Rooms in Dunscombe's Marsh where an elegant entertainment was provided. He stayed at the house of Mr. Francis Carleton where he was presented with the Freedom of the City. He was accompanied by his brother, Lord Frederick Cavendish, Col. Courcy, Col. O'Brien, Col. Boyle, Col. Hyde, Sir John Colthurst, Col. Lysaght etc."

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" Stolen off the lands of Knockbrack, four cows and two black shanafies, property of William Casey, Ballymacmoy, Killavullen." (" Shanafeigh " is an Irish name for a certain type of heifer).

9 *June :* " To be sold by public cant at Ballymaloe, near Castlemartyr, saddle and crack horses, breeding mares and draft cattle, property of late Hugh Lumley, deceased."

1 *July :* " At the desire of the Principal of the Cork Knot of the Antient and Most Benevolent Order of the Friendly Brothers of St. Patrick, a comedy entitled " The Careless Husband " will be played on the 14th inst ; the money will be applied towards the discharge of insolvent debtors from both gaols. The members of the Knot are desired to attend Robert Rogers, Esq., Principal, at Mr. Ruggs Tavern for Dinner and later to the play. Signed John Friendly Terry. Secretary."

7 *July :* " To be let for three years, the tithes belonging to the Vicars Choral of St. Finbars at Drinagh, Fanlobbus, Kinneigh and Desert (serges) Proposals to Rev. John Wrixon."

" The tithes of St. Barrys will be let at the house of Philip Barry near the Barracks" (Cork Military Barracks were then off Barrack St).

14 *July :* " George Howell and Solomn Terraraci have run away from Alderman Croker's Free School in Cork."

" *The Cork Spectator* a weekly paper published every Saturday at one penny. All former issues may be had from the Author, " Hibernicus " who lodges at Dan Crowleys, at the sign of the ship in Half Moon Street."

21 *July :* " The house and demesne at Killanar (Killiniar) where Mr. John Ware now dwells, with 200 acres of well improved land, meadow ground well watered, situated in a sporting country and a good neighbourhood, free from ambitious usurpers, 5 miles from Bandon and 7 from Dunmanway, will be set from September for a term of years to be agreed on. Very good dwelling house, 2 rooms stocoad ; (stuccoed) others wainscotted ; mault house, brew house, turf house, chaise and truckle house ; barn with granary overhead where no vermin can get in ; a grist mill, and tucking mill. Mr. Ware desires that no person will propose for this land who will not make himself agreeable in so good a neighbourhood."

24 *July :* " Dr. Edward Barry of College Green, Dublin has a fine growing oak-wood for sale in the parish of Inchigeela, and the lands of Tiregeah where old Keadagh Leary formerly lived ; within two miles of Macroom ; lands are now rented by Thomas Morgan. Proposals to Edward Barry, Dublin or Thomas Morgan, near Dunmanway."

All the O'Learys went out in the great war of 1642-'52 and suffered the usual penalties of confiscation and death which attended the losing side. When Charles II was restored in 1660 he granted the O Leary lands to the earl of Clancarty. The earl or his representative leased the lands later on to the representative of the O Learys who had survived the war. The Clancarty lands were again confiscated after the Jacobite war of 1689-1692, but several of the lesees claimed that they came under the articles of the Treaty of Limerick and so were entitled to their leases. A court of claims was set up and Keadagh O Leary had some claims allowed, while others were not. But the fee simple of the Clancarty estates was sold to the Hollow Sword Blade Company who later disposed of their purchase to various personages of a certain religious and political outlook. It is likely that Keadagh O Leary did not conform to the ideas of his new landlords and when his leases ran out (circa 1700) they were not renewed and the lands were given to more compliant tenants.

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20 *July :* " The lands of Lyre (Carrignavar) 937 acres and Ballynaportagh 976 acres, with a right of commonage over a great track of mountain to be let. Apply to his lordship, Viscount Midleton, at Cleveland Court, St. James, London, or to Counsellor Weeks, his lordships agent at Cork."

" To let 300 acres of Droumgurrihy and Ballyorban, adjacent to Mr. John Dormans of Rafeen. Splendid view of Cork Harbour and Carrigaline river ; well enclosed with double ditches. Apply Mr. William Dorman, Dunbogey or Richard Dorman, Attorney, South Mall."

" Dr. McDaniel, after long study and practise in foreign countries cures all curable diseases incidental to the human body ; is to be seen every day at Mr. Dixons, in Sullivans Quay where he sells his cordial stomach tincture. It cures all disorders of the head and stomach, drives out measles and small pox, and gives ease to the colick."

31 *July :*" Died lately at Glanheskin near Kilworth Mr. Peter Harding a farmer, aged 113 years."

" Imported and to be sold by Thomas Beale at Meeting House Lane, choice ware. At Elmgrove good Irish cider by the hogshead. At Banduff beyond Ballyvolane he has some fields to let."

4 *August :* " The Poor Debtors in the County Gaol acknowledge £13 13 from Rev. Dean Goldsmith being the benefaction of the grand jury."

7 *August :*" Died on the 5th Mr. Francis Morrogh aged 82 years."

14 *August :* " To be sold a plot of ground outside the South Gate having a front to lower Douglas Road and to Cow Lane opposite Samson Twogood's house. On it are built six slated houses. Between both fronts there is a garden convenient for building and a lane may be made through from one road to the other. Apply : Jehoshaphatt Huleatt near the South Gate."

" To be sold on Aug. 26 at the dwelling house of John Ireland deceased, all kinds of brass and iron work and the interest of the house where Nicholas Fitton, Brass Founder, dwells, at the end of Farrington Lane on Tuckeys Quay." (Ireland's Row 1752 is carved on a stone inserted in a wall of M. D. Dalys Store in Tobin St. Tuckeys Quay was along the west side of the present Grand Parade).

25 *August :* " Notice to all sportsmen : there will be hunted at Cecilstown on September 1, 1755 the well noted white buck of Ballygiblin. It is expected that all lovers of sport will attend and dine at Cecilstown Club House on that day."

" Whereas John Heaney of the North Suburb of Cork extorted promissory notes payable to himself from Andrew Barry of Glaunafrehane (Glenville) farmer, who was obliged to get Dermot or Darby Murphy to join in the note. Now Andrew Barry cautions all that he will not accept the note."

" Whereas Andrew McDaniel hired with me as a gardener and went away in my debt, I warn the public not to hire McDaniel. Signed : John O Mullane." O Mullane was Daniel O'Connell's father-in-law).

28 *August :* " This morning an express has arrived at the Custom House, Cork to put an embargo on all beef exports. An embargo was put on last week to prevent us supplying the French."

1 *Sept :* " Letters from Virginia bring news of the repulse of our forces under command of General Braddock by the Ohio river. The regiments commanded by Colonel Dungar and Sir Peter Halkett refused to fight and laid down their arms."

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4 *Sept :* " General Braddock mortally wounded. A good many troops have retired to Philadelphia. Of the 82 officers present at this action on the Monongaheela river only 18 escaped unhurt. Amongst them is George Washington, Esq., one of General Braddock's aides-de-camp."

8 *Sept :* " General Braddock fell into an ambuscade and was surrounded on both sides by Indians and French. The two Irish Regiments whose behaviour is questioned are mostly comprised of English and Scotch soldiers. Before they gave way they asked their officers to let them fight the enemy but they refused to. The Indians fire from behind bushes while they lie on the ground, they turn on their sides and reload. They cover themselves with moss and are nearly invisible. Our soldiers pleaded with the General to send parties to clear the bushes sword in hand but he esteemed it much below the character of a general officer to engage his troops in any manner contrary to the existing rules of war and to this idea he fell a victim."

As I wrote in a previous contribution, the printer and editor of the *Cork Journal* was Eugene Swiney and although he had to watch his words, he printed these opinions: " Many of the English news-writers are most invidiously false and ignorant in their accounts of the Irish Regiments in the late battle in America, just as they are in many facts relating to this Nation."

" It is a truth too well known that although 12,000 troops are maintained at the charge of Ireland, yet the unhappy natives of this kingdom are deprived of the liberty of serving their king and country. There is a military law, without sanction of any Act of Parliament, that no Irishman whatever can be admitted into the foot services or the soldiery of Ireland, as a common man. The Army of Ireland is being always recruited by men from England or Scotland. It is true that most of the officers are Irish Gentlemen and where can a braver set of men be got in this world ?

Sorry we are, to say that Irish soldiers are not only converted and cajoled into all services in Europe where their courage and bravery are known to be superior to any troops in the world. It is well known they prevented the present French king from being taken prisoner at the field of Fontenoy when they fought under Marshal Saxe in the army of France. That army would have been destroyed by His Royal Highness, the Duke of Cumberland, were it not for the Irish Brigade. Was not our victory at the battle of Dettingen, where his present Majesty, (George II) commanded in person, owing almost entirely to the bravery of General Ligonier's regiment of horse, who to their immortal honour were nearly all Irishmen ? "

The New England colonies were then used as penal settlements. We learn that on 10 Sept. 1755 John Morrison, James Wilkey and Felix McCarthy were put on board a ship bound for Philadelphia being noted rioters and transported according to sentence. The report previously adds : " It is hoped that the fate of these wretches will deter their comrades from following out their old trade."

11 *Sept :* "To be set, an establishment fit for a merchant or brewer, the late sugar factory within the South Gate with its linnies are yards containing nearly 100 feet frontage to the South River. A well and pump in the yard produce fresh water and in a little time may be had a large commodious dwelling house fronting Tuckeys Quay. Inquire of Phineas Bagnell at the Post Office." (Lanes Brewery was established here. Post Office Lane recalls where Mr Bagnell had his establishment. The large house fronting Tuckeys Quay was superseded by the building which formerly housed the Cork City Club).

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" To be sold at Carrigaline fifteen couples of staunch running beagles and four couples of whelps, all the property of Thomas Newenham, Coolmore."

" The members of the Principal Cork Knot of the Friendly Brothers of St. Patrick will meet on Wednesday but will not dine in character as they have agreed with other gentlemen to entertain some M.P's at Ruggs Tavern where all lovers of their country will be welcomed.

13 *Sept :* " Whereas David Moylan of the North Suburbs, son of John Moylan, butcher, and several others did on Sept. 8 carry away Mary Farrell daughter of Margaret Farrell of Blarney Lane contrary to her will and pleasure, now I Margaret Farrell will give a reward of £50 to any person who will lodge the said David Moylan in any of his majestys gaols and prosecute him to conviction. Signed, Margaret Farrell." The lady must have withdrawn her "whereas," for in the *Journal* of October 15 appears the announcement of the marriage of Mr. David Moylan of Blarney Lane to Miss Farrell of the said place, an agreeable young lady with a fortune of £1,000.

18 *Sept :* " Last Monday died of small pox young Mr. Lavallin of Threshertown. Yesterday his remains were interred at Whitechurch. Philip Lavallin his uncle succeeds to an estate with £1,500 a year."

22 *Sept :* " The Dublin Correspondent of the *Corke Journal* records that there was a grand match of hurling between the gentlemen of the counties of Dublin and Kildare played lately on the commons of Lyon at which the marrquis of Hartington, lord lieutenant and a most brilliant appearance of nobility and gentry were present." (this is the place recently taken over by the Albert College Glasnevin.)

9 *October :* "Report from the *Pennsylvania Journal* relates how the general assembly of the colony met and discussed Colonel Washington's report of the defeat of General Braddock. It is stated that the governor of Virginia has given Colonel Washington command of a regiment of 1,000 men which that colony is now raising."

16 *October :* " Married at Whitechurch Mr. Melchirr Lavallin of Mallow Lane to Miss Fitton, an agreeable young lady with a fortune of £800."

23 *October :* " This day the Hon. John Reilly, Mayor of Cork, empanelled and swore in the Market Jury being the first of its kind in the City. The members were : Robert Travers, Esq ; *burgesses :* Noblett Phillips, Usher Philpot, James Chatterton, John Webb, John Swete, John Wrixon, Stephen Denroche, Kevin Izod ; *merchants :* Martin lavitt, Samuel Perry, Paul Maylor, Peter Ardouix, William Ricketts, John Deyos, Robert Lane, Francis Gray, William Finch, John Skeyes, Peter Foulke ; *gents :* Andrew Franklin, Sterne Tuckey. His worship addressed them thus : Gentlemen ! As your chief magistrate and clerk of the markets, I am empowered to empanel a market jury for the better regulation of this large and opulent city. On behalf of Our Sovereign Lord the King I have called you before me. It becomes your duty to examine the several markets and inquire into the quality and goodness of all meats, fish, and provisions exposed for sale therein ; to inspect bread in baker's shops and see that same is of proper weight quality and goodness. You are strictly to inquire into all endeavours to enhance the price of provisions which is a great oppression to the poor and let all forestallers, regrators and ingrossers have your attention. Make it part of your business to see that all drivers of cars, drays truckles lead their horses by the bridle or collar through the streets. See that the sabbath day is kept with due reverence and that there shall be no unlawful pastimes or haunting of ale hostels or brandy shops or such like. You are to seize and bring before me all provisions that you find

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unfit for sale or deceitfully set off and see that all weights and measures are of the required standards."

23 *Oct :* " James Poppam with his father John Poppam has opened a shop where Andrew Johnson lived near the North Gate opposite Stevellys ; sells calimancoes, linens etc." (There is a Poppams Lane near the Fair Field).

3 *Nov :* " Died in his 86th year at Kilcor new Castleyons, Mr. O Brien much lamented."

" To be let a large and well fixed brewery at Kifts Lane near the South Gate with two large copper kilnes, under bank terms. Pumps, coolers, throughs and stillions. Apply John Hughes Common Brewer."

20 *Nov :* " Last week died at his house, Dawson St., Dublin Lady Deane relict of Sir Matthew Deane, Bart. To morrow her remains will be interred in the family vault in Ballinamona Church near Mallow."

18 *Dec :* " A letter has been received from Messrs Roberts and Moylan, Lisbon to a merchant in Cork. It was brought by Captain Robert O Brien, who arrived in the harbour yesterday. It relates how on November 1st, an earthquake razed the greater part of Lisbon to the ground ; people thought it was the end of the world. They had the good fortune to secure some boxes and cash but all their barrels of beef, pork and butter were under the ruins of their warehouses and cellars. The list of Irish missing includes Misses Fanny and Peggy Keating, sisters, Henry Hutchins, Thomas Doran, Richard Roche, Miss Mary Morrogh, Mrs Moore, Edward Wall, Anthony French, Miss Jane Campion, Miss McCarthy, Miss May Donelan, Rev. John Manley President of the English College, Lisbon, Fathers Grace, Bourke and McCabe ; two other fathers of the Corpo Santo ; Miss Collins, Miss Burgess.

It is recalled how at 9 a.m. on November 1st there was felt in the city of Cork a shock as if of an earthquake which lasted near a minute. The motion was slow and gradual, in some parts it was tremulous and seemed to be confined to the centre of the city as very few in the north or south sides noticed it. At 2 p.m. the sea swelled in an uncommon manner outside Kinsale. It rushed into the harbour like a mountain flood. There was no breeze but in ten minutes the sea was thirteen feet higher than usual. It overset ships and boats and its unexpected force broke their cables and anchors. It went off, returned and went off again three times. It washed over the town and continued up along the estuary of the Bandon river. This was the tidal wave which followed the earthquake of Lisbon."

22 *Dec :* " To let that ground between Mallow Lane and Fair Lane formerly known by the names of Gurteenacounter and west Gurteenakane."

" Last night died Mr. Noblett Johnson, one of the most considerable dealers in beef and tallow."

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