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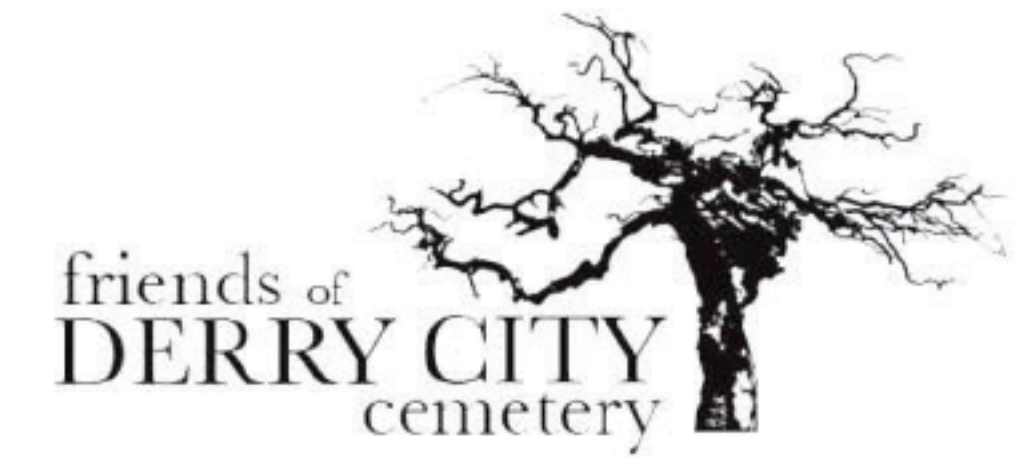
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# Strabane (New) Cemetery

The establishment of the New Cemetery at Strabane was a protracted and often contentious process that spanned over five decades in the 19th century, driven by public health concerns, religious sensitivities, and debates over land, cost, and ownership.

By the mid-1800s, Strabane's existing burial grounds—particularly Patrick Street Graveyard, dating to the 17th century—had become overcrowded and unsanitary. Patrick Street's historical significance included the unmarked grave of John “Half-Hanged” McNaghten and a megalithic structure suggesting ancient usage, but its capacity was clearly exhausted. The rise in urban populations and increased awareness of the risk of water contamination from decomposing remains pushed officials to consider a new burial site in line with growing Victorian public health reforms.

From the 1840s onward, local authorities explored several potential locations, including ‘the Glen’ and a field on Derry Road, the latter being rejected following a public petition due to its proximity to the area's only clean water source. Legal requirements dictated that cemeteries be sited at least 250m from wells and other water sources, adding to the complexity.

Between 1876 and 1892, various proposals, land negotiations, and political wranglings took place. In 1887, the Duke of Abercorn generously offered 1.5 acres of land for the cemetery, but the gift was initially neglected by the Board of Guardians. Renewed urgency in 1889, triggered by a damning

report from Dr. J.C. Boyd about dangerously shallow burials, reignited the campaign. The matter became further entangled in disputes over who should bear the cost—Strabane division alone or the wider Poor Law Union.

Religious division was another obstacle. Arguments broke out over whether the new cemetery should be consecrated, divided by denomination, or left undivided and secular. Some, like Rev. C.K. Toland (Presbyterian), argued for shared space and tolerance, stating “if we live together in peace, we should not be divided in death.” Others called for separate sections and Episcopal consecration. After numerous motions and protests—including those by Methodists and Presbyterians—a compromise was reached.

By 1892, the cemetery was constructed, with portions allocated to different faiths, including a Roman Catholic section under private trusteeship. A new roadway was installed with cost-sharing arrangements between the public and private sections. The Church of Ireland section was formally consecrated on 13 June 1892 by Bishop William Alexander, in the presence of local dignitaries and clergy.

Located just above Strabane's dispensary, the New Cemetery commands sweeping views of the surrounding countryside. Though hard-won, it stands today as a testament to civic cooperation, religious plurality, and the evolving values of public health and social unity in 19th-century Ireland.





#### SANITARY—THE NEW CEMETERY FOR STRABANE.

Mr. Barnes having appeared before the Board, and having read a report on the suitability of the field on the Derry road to be made a cemetery.

Mr. Jas. Simms moved, and Mr. Robt. M'Kinlay seconded, and it was resolved—That the committee originally appointed be authorised to confer with the Duke of Abercorn's agent in order to see about the purchase of the land, and also if they think proper to select another site for a graveyard, and to be empowered, if they think proper, to employ Mr. Barnes, C E., to do anything which may be required.

The following petition was read from the inhabitants of Long-row in reference to the new cemetery for Strabane.

#### *To the Guardians of Strabane Union.*

The petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth—

That your petitioners have heard that it is in contemplation to convert the large field on the right hand side of the Derry road, in the occupation of Mr. Charles McGowan, into a cemetery.

That your petitioners are all of them resident in the neighbourhood of the field, and that the only water which they can procure for household and domestic use is taken from a stream which runs through and out of this field, and has been running in its present course time out of mind.

That if the field be converted into a cemetery it will have the effect of rendering the only water supply with which your petitioners are provided altogether useless; and your petitioners are naturally alarmed at the proposed execution of a work which when completed, would entirely deprive a thickly populated district of the chief necessary of life—good water.

Your petitioners therefore pray that you will not convert the field referred to into a graveyard, and beg to express the hope that you will select a site for a cemetery which will not interfere so materially with your petitioners.

James Arbuckle, James Vance, John Cunningham, Thomas C. Houston, Clerk, Hugh Coyle, Jas. Divine, Hamilton Dudy, Henry Magee, &c.

Mr. Simms moved that this memorial of the inhabitants of the Long-row be referred to the Committee.

A most alarming fever has been, for some time past, raging in **Strabane**, Ireland, from the effects of which, not less than 107 corpses have been interred in the **grave-yard**, from that town and its neighbourhood, since the 27th of last month; and from the number of patients at present confined, and it being inferred that the contagion was likely to spread, it was deemed advisable to fit up the Court-house for their reception, which was ordered by the Provost, and a voluntary subscription entered into by the inhabitants; in consequence, forty patients were removed thereto on Monday. It is generally believed, that this calamity has arisen from the distress and misery of the suffering poor, which excite the strongest feelings of compassion.

#### THE PROPOSED NEW BURIAL GROUND.

The Local Government Board wrote in reference to the proposed new burial ground for Strabane that they are about to instruct their medical officer (Dr. Stafford) to take the necessary preliminary steps for holding a local inquiry under section 163 of the Public Health Act, based upon the representation received in December last from the ratepayers of the town in which the Board had been requested to have the present ground closed.

Some general conversation took place, and it was agreed to defer a decision for the present, the clerk to communicate with the Duke of Abercorn.

The relief business having been disposed of, the Board adjourned.

#### NEW CEMETERY FOR STRABANE.

Mr. SIMMS—I beg to move that the committee appointed to examine the site for the cemetery be re-appointed. We have all agreed as to the suitability of a field outside the town, at the Glen. They all think that a proper site, and I wish the re-appointment of the same committee to arrange about the land. The committee includes yourself—

The CHAIRMAN—You ought not to appoint me, as I am the man who will have to treat with you about the land.

Mr. SIMMS—There were Mr. Cochrane, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Gormly, and myself. Mr. M'Crea may be put in place of Mr. Gormly.

The CHAIRMAN—The same committee, omitting Mr. Gormly and myself.

The committee was then re-appointed.

#### THE NEW BURIAL GROUND.

The draft plan of the new burial ground having been inspected in committee, the subject of the burial ground and the erection of buildings thereon was considered.

Mr. FORD stated that the Committee would want full powers to let out the land in such lots and such terms as they thought fit. The feeling of the Committee was that they erect no chapels at present.

Mr. STANLEY thought the committee ought not to consider so seriously the letting of the ground for market gardens, for he did not think it good to make a good sum out of such things. He should like to see the whole of the burial ground laid out, the planting to be done at the present time.

Mr. FORD said he had no doubt the Hall would confirm anything the committee did.

The MAYOR said that they could let any portion of the ground by the month or the quarter. He should like to say that after inspecting certain cemeteries the less planting in reason the better.

It was resolved that the council having inspected the draft plans, prepared by the Borough Surveyor, showing the more proposed by him, for laying out the new burial ground, and give such directions as they deemed necessary for the alteration thereof, and for the preparation of a fair copy of the plan for ultimate approval.

It was also resolved that the Burial Board Committee be requested to consider what rules and regulations should be adopted in the new burial ground, and what trees planted therein, and lay the same before the Burial Board at a future meeting.

#### A CEMETERY FOR STRABANE.

Mr. Simms—About three years ago we appointed a committee to inquire about a new cemetery for Strabane. Our medical officer at that time reported that the existing cemetery at the Church was dangerous to the public health, and the guardians, acting under the impression that they were the Burial Board appointed a committee to select ground for a new cemetery. The members of that committee negotiated with you, Mr. Chairman, and also with Mrs. Brown, the tenant of a piece of ground lying alongside the Derry road, in the hope of getting it for the purpose. We had everything in the way of being satisfactorily arranged at that time, but at the eleventh hour the Local Government Board stepped in and said we were not the Burial Board, that the duty of looking after a new cemetery and such matters belonged to the Town Commissioners. It now appears that by the Public Health (Ireland) Act we are constituted the Burial Board for this district, and I think we should take the matter up. Of course, when the doctor reported the old cemetery dangerous three years ago, it must be more dangerous now, for numerous interments have taken place there since. I, therefore, give notice of my intention to move on this day fortnight for particulars of all proceedings in respect of the new cemetery, which were taken some time ago by the cemetery committee. If an epidemic broke out at present we would be in a bad state, for we would have no place where our dead could be buried.

Mr. Kennedy—In that case you had better take in a large field, for it will be required before our sewerage works will be long in existence. (Laughter.)

The Chairman—Mr. Kennedy you are always shaking hands with the d— before you meet him. (Laughter.)

## Cemeteries in Strabane, County Tyrone

16 cemeteries in Strabane, County Tyrone.

[Camus Old Cemetery](#)  
[Douglas Presbyterian Church Cemetery](#)  
[Grange Graveyard](#)  
[Leckpatrick Presbyterian Churchyard](#)  
[Leckpatrick Church of Ireland, Ballymagorry, Stra](#)  
[Leckpatrick Old Presbyterian Cemetery](#)  
[Melmount Cemetery](#)  
[Old Ardstraw](#)  
[Patrick Street Graveyard](#)  
[Sacred Heart Cemetery](#)  
[Saint Joseph's Cemetery](#)  
[Saint Mary's RC Cemetery](#)  
[Sisters' Cemetery, Convent of Mercy, Strabane](#)  
[St. Patrick's Church of Ireland](#)  
[Strabane Cemetery](#)  
[Urney Cemetery](#)



Patrick Street Graveyard



## STRABANE UNION—ALARMING REPORT.

(From our Correspondent.)

At the usual weekly meeting of the above body, held in the boardroom, at the workhouse, on Tuesday, the following report was read from Mr. J. C. Boyd, M.D.:—"As medical officer of health for this district, I beg to bring under your notice the sanitary state of the town of Strabane. In my opinion, this town, at some future time, and that not very far distant, will be the seat of a dangerous and general outbreak of typhoid fever, caused by an insufficient water supply, for the following reasons—First, a great number of the houses have water-closets supplied direct from the town pipes. In such cases the closets are filled for 22 hours daily with excreta, &c., and the gases therefrom pervade the house. Second, the main sewers are at present about three-fourths full of solid matter, which must generate sewer gases to an alarming extent. This deposition in pipes is caused principally by want of flushing during dry weather. As you are aware, it was stated at the time that the sewerage works were undertaken, the main pipes would require to be flushed periodically, and such has never been the case, owing to there being no water in dry weather. I would earnestly direct your attention, as the sanitary authority, to the matter, and also to again refer you to my report on Strabane graveyard, and the very great want of a new cemetery. If it were not that during the months of June and July there has been a most unusual rainfall, you will find on reference to watercarter's report, the town would long since have been without any water from either reservoir. Under the old system the want of water was not of such vital importance, as sewers did not require flushing, and there were no water-closets supplied direct from town pipes.—JOHN C. BOYD, M.D." This was referred to the Water Committee.

## THE STRABANE GRAVEYARD QUESTION.

Dr. J. C. Boyd, medical officer for Strabane Dispensary District, reported that the want of a new cemetery in Strabane is most urgently needed from a sanitary point of view, and referring the Guardians to his former report on the subject, and stating that it has now become an absolute necessity that a new graveyard be at once procured.

Mr. Simms—With regard to the report of the Doctor on the necessity for a new cemetery, I see Mr. Smyth is about to commence building a house quite close to the new graveyard. I think we should take some action in the matter, as it would be well to have it so fixed between the Board and Mr. Smyth that no hindrance may hereafter arise. The section of the Act of Parliament provides that no cemetery shall be opened within 100 yards of a dwelling-house without the consent of the owner, in writing. It would be well for the Board to see Mr. Smyth, so that nothing may arise or any difficulty crop up in the matter.

Mr. Baird—Has the Board got the place as a burial ground.

Mr. Simms—Yes; I think it would be well that the Board should write to Mr. Smyth stating that they are going to use the field as a burial ground, as it would be less than 100 yards to the house.

Mr. Kennedy—It would be easy to measure the distance.

Mr. Simms—It is not 100 yards. It is a curious case, because we selected the burial ground more than a year ago.

The Chairman—It is not properly settled until we have the sanction of the Local Government Board.

Mr. Simms—We had that, but the only difficulty was the area of charge. I brought forward a motion asking the union at large to be the area of charge, and the Board would not accede to it. Now it arises as a matter of necessity.

The Chairman—I think there would be no harm of your getting Mr. Smyth's sanction, if he gives it. Put yourself Mr. Simms in Mr. Smyth's position and what would you do.

Mr. Simms—I don't think I would do it—(laugh-

ter)—but I think it would be necessary under the circumstances.

Mr. Sinclair—How far is this from the house?

Mr. Simms—About thirty yards.

Mr. Sheils—Could the guardians not get ground elsewhere?

Mr. Simms—They could, but this land belongs to the guardians, and they will only have to treat with the landlord.

The Chairman—I think Mr. Smyth is so far aware of it that he is hurrying on his work.

Mr. Simms—There is no one more anxious than I am that there should be a cemetery. If the guardians have to take grounds elsewhere they will have to pay tenant-right for it.

Mr. Baird—Would the Strabane division pay for it?

Mr. Simms—We will have Union rating next year. At all events we may inform Mr. Smyth that this ground has been selected, and request to know if he is willing to give his consent in writing to it.

Mr. Sinclair, D.L.—If you are prepared at once to make a start, you have the start of Mr. Smyth.

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Mr. Sinclair, D.L.—If you are prepared at once to make a start, you have the start of Mr. Smyth. You have taken the initiatory steps, and if you are ready to go on you have the start of him.



Mr. Simms—The only difficulty we are in is as to the area of charge. You have the report of the doctor there, which says that the present graveyard is dangerous to the public health.

The Chairman remarked that if Mr. Simms wanted that considered, he would have to give notice.

Mr. Simms—I consider that would be useless. (Laughter.) I might have some of the new guardians with me, but we would be defeated. Next Session of Parliament it will be compulsory, and the Board ought to do it decently now. I would suggest that we simply put on the minutes for the Local Government Board to make such an area of charge.

Mr. Stevenson—To undo what we have done.

Mr. Simms—The only thing is this, that if the Board decline I will be obliged to get the area of charge formed. If the public health is endangered, certainly the area of charge should be extended, because for every graveyard in the entire Union the division of Strabane has been obliged to pay for building walls round them. We don't want the

Guardians to pay for us. All we want is that they should go security. I think that certainly they should come to the relief of Strabane, especially as it is only their security we want. It would not amount to  $\frac{1}{16}$  of a penny in the £ on the entire Union.

Mr. Simms was about reading a resolution, when

Mr. Kennedy said—Before you read that it would be well for the Guardians to know that it will cost £100 to purchase the ground elsewhere.

Mr. Simms then submitted the following resolution:—"That the public health being endangered by the continuance of the present graveyard as a place of interment, a new cemetery is an absolute necessity, and if the area of charge should be confined to Strabane division instead of the Union at Large it would be impossible to proceed with the purchase of the ground, and that the Local Government Board be requested to order the charge on such extended area as will secure the cemetery being formed." I now move that the resolution go

on the minutes.

Mr. Kennedy seconded the proposition.

Mr. Hood said he objected to the resolution going forward.

Mr. Alexander seconded Mr. Hood's proposition, and the matter having been put to a vote the amendment was carried by 10 votes to 9.

Mr. Simms afterwards handed in the following protest:—

"I hereby protest against the action of the Strabane Board of Guardians in refusing to accept a resolution to make the Strabane Cemetery a Union charge, as otherwise the Cemetery cannot be procured, and the public health will thereby be greatly endangered as shown by medical officer's report. All burial charges in whatever district have been heretofore charged on the Union at Large."

Mr. Kennedy handed in a notice of motion that on this day fortnight he would move that the resolution of 27th inst., granting travelling expenses to the Relieving Officer, be rescinded.

After appointing the dispensary committee for ensuing year the Board adjourned.

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#### PROPOSED NEW CEMETERY FOR STRABANE.

The Local Government Board for Ireland, acknowledging receipt of the clerk's letter of the 16th inst. enclosing copy of the notice given to each guardian of the Strabane Union with reference to providing a new cemetery for Strabane, desired to state that they do not think the notice given in this case sufficient, inasmuch as it does not specify that the guardians would at their meeting on 15th inst., consider the question of the area to be charged with the cost of providing the new graveyard, and the Board think the guardians should reconsider the matter after due notice. The Board have at the same time to request that they may be informed whether the requirements of section 172 of the Public Health Act have been complied with.

The Clerk having referred to the section in question, said the meeting was not called on a requisition of ten members and he must reply that the section was not complied with. It was not the intention of the guardians to fix the area at that meeting.

Mr. Victor Love said the Board wished the charge to go on the whole union, and he objected to that, and he objected still. However, it could not be done without giving proper notice.

The Clerk said there must be further notice given.

Mr. V. Love—Let every man that wants ground to bury in pay for it. If I want ground I will buy it.

The Chairman—We are getting on with the business, and don't want speeches.

#### STRABANE GRAVEYARD.

Mr P Gallagher wrote enclosing the following motion which he proposes moving on Tuesday, the 31st inst:—

"That this board take no further action in obtaining the ground for the new cemetery proposed to be made adjacent to the town of Strabane, inasmuch as the taxpayers of this Union, ninety per cent of whom are unable to meet their engagements, are, in consequence of the increasing agricultural depression and growing cost of labour brought about by the system under which this county at present suffers, unfit and unwilling to bear the additional expense which such an undertaking will incur; and further, that it is not imperatively required."

The Clerk said he had received the notice on Wednesday, and read the regulations, which provide that notices relating to the business of the Union could only be given at a meeting of the Guardians.

The motion was, therefore, not received.



#### NEW CEMETERY FOR STRABANE.

Mr Kennedy, in pursuance of the notice given by him, called the attention of the board to the necessity for a new cemetery for Strabane. He said they were all aware of the necessity, if they believed the report made by the medical officer of the town, Dr Boyd, when he reported some years ago that the then recent interments had only a few inches of covering on. All felt alarmed at that statement, and a committee was appointed to go and see about ground for a new Cemetery. Strabane old church was taken down about then, and it was considered that the ground occupied by the Church would relieve the pressure for the time being. He was of opinion that the clerk was instructed to write to his Grace, the late Duke of Abercorn, on the subject of ground for a cemetery, and about a week before his Grace's decease, the present Duke, who was then the Marquis of Hamilton, was in the chair at a meeting of the board, and said that he had been commissioned by his father to say that he would give an acre and a half of land for the purpose of a cemetery. He must say that the board had not treated the offer his Grace had made with the respect they should have done. They paid no attention to it at all, and treated it with great discourtesy. His object in bringing the matter up was that the board might take action in the matter, and to see whether they would instruct the clerk to write to his Grace and ask him whether it would be acceptable for his agent to point out the land or for the board to appoint a committee to select an acre and a half and make a report. They all knew the necessity that existed, and he might say to his dissenting friends round that board that they were fully as much interested in the matter as his own co-religionists, who were not pressed for space. Father Connolly had purchased a piece of ground adjoining the cemetery at Melmount. Of course that would ease them

in that direction for a long time. But he was sure that the Catholics of the locality would take advantage of a new cemetery, if there were such. Although men might differ on many points in politics and religion, all believed they would die and have to get some place to be buried, and all would be quiet enough when laid beside each other in the grave.

Mr Humphreys—Do you propose that the Duke be written to on the subject?

Mr Kennedy—Yes.

Mr Humphreys—That will open up the whole subject.

The Chairman—With regard to his kind offer.

Mr Humphreys seconded Mr Kennedy's motion, which was agreed to unanimously.

#### THE NEW CEMETERY.

Mr. Bayley enclosed estimate for work at cemetery, and stated that an application had been lodged to come before Road Sessions for making a new road into cemetery. The estimate of the cost of work to be done by the Guardians was £168.

The matter was left in the hands of the committee.

The Clerk said there was another matter in the same connection he wished to bring up, and that was that, according to section 174 of the Public Health Act, 1878, no burial ground could be made within 100 yards of a dwelling-house, if the owner or occupier objected, or unless their consent was given in writing. It appears there are two houses within a short distance of the cemetery, and it would be well to ascertain their exact distance in order to obviate any difficulty afterwards.

Mr. Duncan believed they were outside the 100 yards' limit, but in any case he did not believe there would be any trouble in that regard.

The attention of the committee was directed to the matter, with instructions to have the distances measured.

#### THE STRABANE GRAVEYARD.

The Local Government Board forwarded the following communication received from a number of residents in the town in reference to the closing of the Strabane graveyard—"Petition to the Local Government Board to have the Strabane graveyard closed. Gentlemen—We, undersigned ratepayers and residents of the town of Strabane, beg respectfully to lay before you the enclosed medical reports, and extracts from the minute books of the Board of Guardians dealing with this burial ground, and petition that you will order it to be closed, reserving only existing rights of burial. The medical reports, dating back to 1876, and urgently repeated no less than seven times, sufficiently indicate the pressing need there is that action should be taken immediately. Abundant evidence is available, if necessary, of the excessively over-crowded condition of this graveyard from clergymen who have witnessed interments, when less than a foot of soil covered the coffin, and from residents, who complain of the heavy smell rising from it in the summer evenings, &c. We reluctantly appeal to you as a last resource. The subject has been before the Board of Guardians for thirteen years, minutes concerning it appear on their books different times, and yet there seems no prospect that the necessary steps will be taken." Then follows the names of petitioners, and extracts from medical reports, and the minute book in reference to the same subject.

The Chairman said he thought the best course in the matter, which is an important one, would be to call a special meeting for that day fortnight.

This suggestion was agreed to.



#### PROPOSED NEW CEMETERY FOR STRABANE.

Mr. Kennedy said—There is a matter that seems to have lapsed here, Mr. Humphreys, which you yourself took an active part in at one time—that was with regard to a new cemetery for Strabane. You recollect that Dr. Boyd some years ago made a report in which he said that the present burying-ground in Strabane was so full that the more recent interments were covered by only a few inches of clay. We considered the matter, or rather a committee was appointed, in which you, Mr. M'Farlane, and some others were included, to see about a site. We went and examined a site out here at the foot of the Glen, on land belonging to Mrs. Brown. But the board considered, when we reported to it, that the area was too large, and that it would be too much expense, and too far distant from the town. A motion was made here—I think about October, 1885—that the late Duke of Abercorn would be approached with regard to a site, and some time very shortly before his Grace's death the Marquis of Hamilton was chairman, and he told us that he was commissioned by his father to say that he would give us an acre and a-half for that purpose. Well, sir, the Guardians have not taken any action with regard to that. In fact, I don't think his present Grace will feel complimented by their apathy in the matter. He offered us that gratuitously; and I would move, if you please, that the clerk be instructed to write to his Grace as to whether he would allow his agent to point out an acre and a-half to us, or that we would appoint a committee to select an acre and a-half.

Mr. Humphreys said under the circumstances the best course they could pursue, considering that the late Duke was dead, would be to call a special meeting of the board to take the matter into consideration, and then ask the present Duke again on the subject.

Mr. Kennedy said it was the present Duke who made the offer when he was Marquis.

Mr. Humphreys did not think there would be any difficulty about the matter, but the proper course would be to make a new application.

Mr. Kennedy then gave notice that he would call the attention of the board to the matter on that day fortnight.

The board then adjourned.

#### STRABANE GRAVEYARD.

Mr. Adams, in accordance with a notice of motion previously given, proposed "That we accept the offer of new ground granted by his Grace the Duke of Abercorn for a burying-ground at Strabane."

Mr. Baird seconded the motion, and pointed out the absolute necessity that existed for a new burying-ground at Strabane.

Mr. Traynor, Mr. Miller, Mr. Gallagher, and several other guardians of county divisions considered that Strabane should pay for the accommodation itself, and not have it made a union charge.

Mr. Miller quoted the Act of Parliament to prove that the charge could be confined to any particular division or district of the union.

Mr. Gallagher suggested that each denomination should prepare its own portion of the new cemetery.

Mr. M'Farlane, agent to the Duke of Abercorn, said that owing to its bad and overcrowded state the present graveyard in Strabane must be closed up. If the guardians did not take the necessary steps in the matter an appeal would have to be made to the Local Government Board to send an inspector down to close the place. It was discreditable to the board that there was not a place near Strabane where a stranger could be buried, as every spot in the existing cemetery was occupied. The cost of the new place to the union would be only  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a penny in the pound.

Mr. Kennedy said the proposed site of the new cemetery was not in the same parish as Strabane.

Mr. M'Farlane said the Duke would give ground anywhere about Strabane where he was the landlord. He did not confine the guardians to any particular spot, if they could arrange with the occupying tenant in another.

After some further discussion, it was proposed as an amendment by Mr. Love, and seconded by Mr. Miller, that the offer of the Duke of Abercorn be accepted, but the people of Strabane pay whatever cost would be incurred.

This amendment was agreed carried, and The Board adjourned.

#### THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

Mr. Kennedy—I want to ask you, gentlemen, regarding that note of Dr. Trimble, with regard to the closing of Strabane graveyard, does that interfere with existing rights of families who have been interring there for generations, if they require it for another interment?

Mr. Humphreys—I know this, if you close a graveyard in the way it is proposed to close this graveyard, anyone who wants to be buried in it, or who have rights of burial in it, have to get an order from the Privy Council. I know that is the case in the Derry Cathedral graveyard, but I don't know how it would affect this one, as I am not sufficiently cognisant of the law on the subject. The suggestion of the doctor is simply for to close it against casual burials, but I don't know there is any law to do that. I know in the case of the Derry Cathedral burial ground, certain persons are buried there, but they have to get the permission of the Privy Council for the purpose.

Mr. Kennedy—I know a gentleman who has built a vault in the ground formerly occupied by the site of the old church, and it would be too bad if he would not be permitted to use it.

Mr. Humphreys—I suppose there would be no difficulty in getting an order from the Privy Council for that; but these things will be looked into.

#### EXTENSION OF BURIAL GROUND.

Mr. Malcolm said there was a matter he wished to bring before the notice of the Guardians. It was in reference to the extension of the burial ground. The visiting committee some time ago had suggested that it would be well to take a piece of new ground and build a wall around it, but as the old mason who had been about the house formerly was now in hospital, he would suggest that a wire fence should be put up instead of the wall, and a ground hedge could be put down.



#### THE PROPOSED NEW CEMETERY FOR STRABANE.

The Chairman then read the motion in regard to this matter of which he had given notice on that day fortnight. It was as follows:—"That we consider the advisability of taking over the ground proposed to be used as a new cemetery at Strabane kindly presented to the board by his Grace the Duke of Abercorn." In moving the motion, the Chairman said the question had been so often before the board that it was useless going into details, as they were all familiar with them. He asked the Guardians to authorise the committee appointed in this matter to take over the ground.

Mr. Adams, in seconding the motion, said the number of graves to set in the old place was very few.

Mr. Miller said there were other graveyards. There was one at Melmount.

Mr. Stewart moved as an amendment that they do not take over the ground at present. He thought it was about time this public expenditure in Strabane should be stopped.

Mr. Wray seconded the amendment.

Mr. Clarke, in supporting the motion, said he thought it extremely short-sighted for the country Guardians to oppose this proposal for a new graveyard in Strabane. The Duke of Abercorn had offered them a piece of ground, and in these times of changes it was probable, if they refused it, he might not always be in that position. Besides, it was not the country Guardians' business to interfere with the Strabane people about their expenditure. The present graveyard was in such a state that the Local Government Board might send down a sealed order compelling them to provide a new burial place. The new cemetery would only cost one farthing in the pound, and they should not stand in the way of the Strabane people getting it.

Mr. Barr opposed the motion, remarking that if the Strabane people wanted a cemetery let them provide it at their own expense, and not place it upon the country districts.

Mr. Miller thought the amount Mr. Clarke had mentioned would only be a fraction of the cost. He believed it would take almost £1,000 or £1,500. He thought, having regard to the circumstances of the board, they should not burden themselves with such an amount as that.

Mr. Love said he had taken the trouble of asking the leading ratepayers in Strabane their opinion on the desirability of this cemetery, and they every one said it was not required at all. He believed it would take £3,000 to cover the cost of it. He thought they should wait a little till they got out of their present financial difficulties before they took up any fresh schemes.

Mr. Clarke—It is simply to take over the ground.

Mr. Miller—If you get up the cemetery at your own cost we will say nothing about it.

A vote was then taken, with the following result:—

For the motion—William Adams, A. T. Allison, James Clarke, Robert Smyth, Robert S. Smyth—5.

For the amendment—Archibald Anderson, Samuel Barr, William Dick, Joseph Farrell, James King, Victor Love, Hylands Lowry, Thomas B. Miller, William M'Comb, Matthew Nelson, Thomas Rodgers, James Thompson, Robert C. Wilson, W. J. A. Wray—14.

The motion was, therefore, lost, and no action in the matter is to be taken at present.

The board adjourned.

#### THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

Mr. Kennedy—I want to ask you, gentlemen, regarding that note of Dr. Trimble, with regard to the closing of Strabane graveyard, does that interfere with existing rights of families who have been interring there for generations, if they require it for another interment?

Mr. Humphreys—I know this, if you close a graveyard in the way it is proposed to close this graveyard, anyone who wants to be buried in it, or who have rights of burial in it, have to get an order from the Privy Council. I know that is the case in the Derry Cathedral graveyard, but I don't know how it would affect this one, as I am not sufficiently cognisant of the law on the subject. The suggestion of the doctor is simply for to close it against casual burials, but I don't know there is any law to do that. I know in the case of the Derry Cathedral burial ground, certain persons are buried there, but they have to get the permission of the Privy Council for the purpose.

Mr. Kennedy—I know a gentleman who has built a vault in the ground formerly occupied by the site of the old church, and it would be too bad if he would not be permitted to use it.

Mr. Humphreys—I suppose there would be no difficulty in getting an order from the Privy Council for that; but these things will be looked into and provided for when you get the new burial ground?

Mr. Kennedy—But in the meantime?

Mr. Humphreys—in the meantime the graveyard is open, and anybody can be interred in it. You can't close the graveyard.

Mr. Kennedy—From an observation made on this day week by a gentleman who is not present here to-day, it would appear that there is rather a sort of sectarian matter before the board. In my application for you to see about this ground, that the Duke was kind enough to give to us, I have no particular interest at all. But there was a gentleman here made an observation which would lead people to believe that I really had some sectarian interest in the matter. He said "that portion where the Roman Catholics were buried." I am sixty years in Strabane, and I have never known any sectional place in that burial ground of Strabane. I have never known of anything of the kind, and in consequence of the observation that gentleman made, I withdraw from the committee. I will keep my hand out of it. The observation was very unseemly for, and it was untrue. The burial of the dead is not a matter for any sectarian feeling.

Mr. Nelson—What I understood was, that the gentleman was of opinion that the Roman Catholics had ground at their own place of worship for burying in.

Mr. Kennedy—That was not what he alluded to.

Mr. Nelson—I understood it in that way.

Mr. Kennedy—It was clearly what I have said.

Mr. Humphreys—I did not take it in that way, Mr. Kennedy.

Mr. Kennedy—It was a very unseemly for observation from him, and I won't take any further action in the matter.



It is quite evident the question of providing a new cemetery for Strabane cannot be "shelved" much longer, and the sooner the Guardians of the Union, as the sanitary authority and burial board, proceed to business the better it will be for the pockets of the ratepayers. On a former occasion we pointed out what would likely be the result of procrastination—namely, that the Local Government Board would send down a sealed order closing the old graveyard, and compelling the Guardians to provide a suitable cemetery for the town. We were not far astray in our conjectures, judging by the present movements of the Local Government Board. The patience of that body now seems to be quite exhausted, and therefore the Guardians may be prepared for what is likely to come of their having "put off the evil day" in hopes that it would never come again. At the weekly meeting of the Guardians on Tuesday a communication received from the Local Government Board was read, quietly informing them that as no action had been taken to close the old graveyard, or provide a new cemetery, although the matter had been before them for a considerable period, the Local Government Board were about to instruct their inspector, Dr. Stafford, to hold an inquiry on the subject. It is an old proverb that says "delays are dangerous," and there is reason to believe in this instance the proverb will have a literal fulfilment. These inquiries and sealed orders are all associated with additional expenditure, and, where practicable, should be kept as far away as

#### PROPOSED NEW CEMETERY.

The following notice of motion for this day fortnight was handed in by Mr. Robert S. Smyth—"That we consider the advisability of taking over the ground proposed to be used as a new cemetery at Strabane, kindly presented to the board by his Grace the Duke of Abercorn." The Board adjourned.

possible. There is no necessity to bring Dr. Stafford down to Strabane to find out whether or not the old graveyard is full, or ought or ought not to be closed. Everyone admits that it is quite full enough, and does not at all meet the present requirements of the town and district. The greater portion of it, indeed, is more than full from a sanitary point of view; therefore the closing of it under any circumstances can only be a matter of short duration. The same remark applies to the providing of a new burial-ground. That is an absolute necessity. The Duke of Abercorn, who is ever ready to meet the wishes of the inhabitants of the town when any reasonable demand is made on his liberality, has promised a suitable site, and why there should be unnecessary delay is inexplicable. The Guardians should see to the matter at once, and prevent the necessity for any inquiry. When once Dr. Stafford comes on the ground and makes his report the old graveyard will undoubtedly be permanently closed against all interments, and this may prove rather an unpleasant result for some of the inhabitants who may still have a vacant spot of which they would not like to be deprived. There is now no time to be lost, for the Local Government Board will not hesitate long once they have decided on carrying out their plans for the providing of a cemetery for the town.

The Chairman—There is a matter I want to bring before the board. My attention and also that of Mr. Gordon has been called to the state of the burial ground at Strabane. It is unenclosed, and now there is no one in charge since the new church was built, or rather since the old one was tumbled down. The question is are we, as the sanitary authority, not required to appoint a person to take charge of it. The Clerk said it was not under the control of the board of guardians.

#### STRABANE BURIAL GROUND.

The inquiry respecting the closing of Strabane burial ground takes place at the Union Workhouse on Thursday next, 1st May, at twelve o'clock, before the Local Government Inspector, Dr. Stafford. Parties having claims to graves in the burial place should be aware that it is necessary for them to come forward at the inquiry, and be prepared to prove their right to the use of the ground. In the event of their failure or neglect to do so, they may be barred from interring in the place, should the Local Government Board decide on closing the graveyard against future interments.—COR.

The Board directed the master to do so.

#### STRABANE BURYING GROUND.

A letter was received from the Local Government Board acknowledging receipt of minutes of Strabane Board, containing an entry of the report of the committee appointed by the Guardians, acting as the Rural Board, to divide the new burial ground at Strabane into sections. The Board desired to draw the Guardians' attention to the provisions of section 183 of the Public Health Act, and requested that they might be provided with a map showing the proposed sections of the burial ground in question for the burial of members of different religious denominations.

The Chairman—I suppose we had better defer this until the committee reports.

The matter was postponed.



## THE NEW CEMETERY AT STRABANE.

Yesterday a special meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians was held in the Boardroom, Workhouse, for the purpose of considering, in addition to other business, the following notices of motion handed in by Messrs. Robert Smyth, J.P., and John M'Crossan, respectively. The first ran as follows:—"I beg to give notice that on this day two weeks, I propose moving that the resolution passed on 1st September, 1891, relating to the division of the burial ground at Strabane be rescinded, and that the portion under control of the Guardians be kept undivided." Mr. M'Crossan's was:—"I beg to give notice that in the event of the allocation of the burial ground made by the committee being rescinded, I will move that portion of the public burial ground be set aside for the Roman Catholics, and be exempted from Episcopal consecration." Mr. John Herdman, J.P., occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance of Guardians.

Mr. Simms asked the resolution which it was proposed to rescind to be read.

The Clerk read the Board's resolution of the 1st ult., adopting the burial committee's report, which recommended the division of the public cemetery thus: the top angle was to be reserved for union paupers, the bottom angle for strangers,  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the ground next their own portion for Roman Catholics,  $\frac{3}{8}$  for members of the Irish Church, four-eighths for Nonconformists.

Mr. Robert Smyth then rose and said it was not necessary to make a speech in order to recommend his motion to their favourable

consideration. He might be permitted to remark that when they found it was absolutely necessary to secure a burial ground in Strabane, they looked and found what was considered by all a very suitable field. His Grace the Duke of Abercorn being communicated with, he, with his usual liberality, gave them a field of over three acres in extent, the fee-simple for which was worth over £200—certainly a nice gift. Half of that field was given to the Roman Catholics, with which, he had no doubt, they were well pleased. The other half was given to the Protestants of various denominations, and as in the past they had lived in amity with each other, and buried their dead in the same ground, they wished to bury their dead in the future free from unnecessary, and, what might be termed uncalled for, distinction. Therefore, he begged to move that that portion of the burial ground under their control be kept undivided.

Mr. Simms said he had great pleasure in seconding the motion. He thought it a very curious thing to cut the burial ground up into portions. He noticed one part was designed for the members of the Irish Church, and another for Nonconformists. He did not know of any such distinction as this latter one. They in Strabane lived happily together. They intermarried, and when they lived thus in peace and quietness he did not know why there should be differences at death. For instance, his wife was a Presbyterian and he belonged to another Church, and for nearly a quarter of a century they lived in amity together, and he did not see why in death they should lie on the two sides of a hedge. It was altogether very curious to have the ground cut up, and he thought, on account of the expense, it would be absurd to have it divided, for he believed many of the people were not willing to have money expended in doing so. If they did cut up the ground, he thought posterity would consider them very curious people at this latter half of the 19th century, therefore, he once more repeated he had pleasure in seconding the motion.

Mr. Stewart said that as a member of the burial committee he wished to make an explanation, since there seemed to be a feeling that the Protestants should have had all the ground allotted to them. He referred to the Catholics from the parish of Camus as paying their part, and he thought it would be as well for Mr. Smyth to withdraw his motion because as a public body they had to act fairly towards all. Mr. Stewart then alluded to the question raised by the Presbyterians, when it was proposed to have the ground consecrated.

Mr. Simms—I contend there is no such question before the Board at all.

The Chairman said he (Mr. Stewart) was quite in order in making the explanation.

Mr. Stewart continued, saying that the feeling was that the Roman Catholics should have a portion of the public ground.

Mr. Smyth said the field had been given by his Grace to the Protestants and Catholics of Strabane, and the Catholics are fully satisfied.

Mr. Miller said they had nothing whatever to do with that portion which the Roman Catholics had. It was his impression their's was a public graveyard, and he thought the remainder of the Catholic people not provided for had a right to burial in it. They all lived comfortably together, both Protestants and Catholics.

After some further observations,

Mr. Wray said he wished to point out that, in the first place, the motion of Mr. Smyth does not rescind the order of the Board, but that only of the committee. The Board's resolution of the 11th August, which was passed unanimously—

Mr. Baird—It was not unanimous.

Mr. Wray (to Mr. Baird)—If you please do not interrupt me till I have done.

Mr. Sharkie read the resolution of the 11th August wherein it was directed that the Protestant Bishop be invited to consecrate the ground of the Episcopalians.

Mr. Wray then pointed out that they were not,

by Mr. Smyth's motion, rescinding what the Guardians had done at all.

The Chairman—Did the Board pass a resolution approving of the committee's report?

The Clerk—They did, sir.

On being requested by the Chairman, Mr. Sharkie read the report of the burial committee read at the Board on the 1st ult., and the adoption of it, with Mr. Robert Smyth's protest, after hearing which

The Chairman said it was that latter resolution they were rescinding, and it made the matter quite simple.

Mr. M'Crossan said when that matter first turned up there was some feeling amongst the Presbyterians not to have the ground consecrated. A committee had, therefore, been appointed to carry out the work of division, and when it became known that the Catholics would have to pay for their own part and that belonging to the union as well, he thought it right they should have a share of the public ground. He did not bring this motion of his forward in any spirit of perversity. He did not bring it forward as he was represented in the Press, to create prejudice against him in the matter. His action had been wrongly construed and misinterpreted, for he justly appreciated the generosity of his Grace the Duke of Abercorn in giving them the field for the Cemetery. However, he would ask was it fair that the people of East Urney should be taxed and get no portion of the burial ground set apart for them? East Urney had to pay as ratepayers of Strabane, and, therefore, he would ask that a small portion be allotted for that district. He would support Mr. Wray's amendment, that the resolution be not rescinded.

Mr. Wray's amendment was seconded by Mr. Craig.

A division was then taken, when there voted:—For the motion, 8; for the amendment, 20.

The amendment was, therefore, declared carried.

Messrs. David Roulstone, R. S. Smyth, and the chairman abstained from voting.



## THE NEW CATHOLIC CHURCH STRABANE.

The Duke of Abercorn has done one graceful act.

At a meeting of the committee appointed in connection with the building of the Roman Catholic Church, Strabane, held recently, and presided over by the Very Rev H O'Hagan, P P, the following resolution was passed:—  
'That the best thanks of the Catholics of Strabane are due, and are hereby tendered, to his Grace the Duke of Abercorn for his kindness and generosity in making them a gift of the ground for their new cemetery; and also for his respected agent, James M'Farlane, Esq, J P, for his courtesy and kindness in representing to his Grace the pressing necessity for this burial ground, and aiding in the necessary arrangements connected therewith; and that copies of this resolution be sent to his Grace and to Mr M'Farlane by the secretary.'

## THE PUBLIC HEALTH (IRELAND) ACT, 1878.

**W**HEREAS the Board of Guardians of Strabane Union, acting as the Rural Sanitary Authority for the District, have applied to the Local Government Board for Ireland for their sanction to a Loan of £350, for the purpose of providing a New BURIAL GROUND at Strabane, the area of charge to be the Strabane, the Camus, and the East Urney Electoral Divisions of the Union:

And whereas this sum, with the Balances of the outstanding Loans contracted by the said Sanitary Authority under the Sanitary Acts and the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, would exceed the assessable value for one year of Premises within the District in respect of which such money may be borrowed:

Now, therefore, the Local Government Board hereby Give Notice that they have directed their Chief Engineering Inspector, CHARLES P. COTTON, Esq., to hold a LOCAL INQUIRY in the matter, and to report to them thereon, and that the said CHARLES P. COTTON will attend at the WORKHOUSE, STRABANE, at ELEVEN o'clock a.m. on THURSDAY, the 30th day of JULY, 1891, for the purpose of holding such inquiry.

Any Ratepayer in the said area of charge objecting to this Loan being sanctioned may forward to the said CHARLES P. COTTON a Statement of his Objection, addressed to him at the Office of the Local Government Board, so as to be received on or before TUESDAY, the 28th day of JULY, 1891, and such Objection will be taken into consideration.

## STRABANE BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

**T**HE weekly meeting of the Guardians of this Union was held yesterday in the boardroom of the Workhouse at noon—Mr. T. W. D. Humphreys, J.P., presiding. The other Guardians present were — Messrs. Edward Duncan, James Simms, James King, Joseph Roulston, William M'Court, J. B. Gamble, and William Dick. The Local Government Board wrote to say that, having regard to the whole of the evidence given at the local inquiry, they regretted that they did not feel justified in acceding to the application of the Guardians to reopen the old graveyard pending the finishing of the new cemetery. In the interests of public health the friends of deceased persons whose names are not included in the already large list of exemptions should avail themselves of the accommodation afforded by other burial grounds within reasonable distance of the town of Strabane. Mr. James Simms cordially agreed with the decision of the Local Government Board. Mr. Anderson, the contractor for the Castlefin pump, wrote to say that he intended to complete his contract, but the valves had not yet come forward. Mr. Humphreys and Mr. Gamble complained of the great delay, and the unfair treatment of the people of the district, who were greatly in need of water. Mr. Humphreys said he understood that when the pump contracted for was completed it would be of no earthly use. Mr. Gamble said that was so.

## STRABANE CEMETERY.

Mr. Wray—With regard to the new cemetery for Strabane, who is responsible for the money you are borrowing? If it is to be a union charge I will oppose it.

The Clerk—That question will come up afterwards.

Mr. Duncan—I think it is not before the Board now, and that we should not discuss it.

Mr. Love—Mr. Wray has asked a question for his own knowledge, and he has a perfect right to ask it.

The Clerk said Mr. Wray would have an opportunity to raise the question at a future meeting.

Subsequently, Mr. Adams proposed that the Board come to some arrangement about the graveyard and the building of the wall, so that they could get things put into working order.

The Chairman said they could not do anything until they got an estimate from Mr. Bailey.

Mr. Duncan informed the Guardians that if the preparation of the ground was delayed until May he would not let them trespass on his grass field.

Mr. Wray did not wish to have anything settled until the area of charge was fixed.

Mr. Humphreys said the Board of Works would do that.

Mr. Wray repeated that the country guardians would oppose the charge being made a union one.

Mr. Baird said he would see that after a little.

The Chairman—The specification will have to be sent on to the Local Government Board, and we can do nothing till then.



## TO CONSECRATE OR NOT TO CONSECRATE.

### PRESBYTERIANS AND EPISCOPALIANS AND THE CONSECRATION OF STRABANE GRAVEYARD.

At a special meeting of the Strabane Board of Guardians yesterday—Mr. R. S. Smyth presiding—the question as to whether the Protestant Bishop of Derry should be asked to consecrate that portion of Strabane New Cemetery set apart for the several Protestant denominations was discussed. When the ground for the new cemetery was granted by the Duke of Abercorn the Catholics, at their own request, got a portion of the ground set apart for themselves, and paid all the expenses in connection with its preparation, in order that they might be in a position to have their portion consecrated by the Catholic Bishop. The remaining portion of the graveyard is approaching completion, and on Tuesday fortnight Mr. Humphreys proposed that the registrar of the Protestant Bishop be requested to arrange with his Lordship for the consecration of the Protestant portion of the ground. Mr. Wray, on behalf of the Presbyterians, objected to this proposition, as members of his Church did not believe in such things, and contended that a special meeting should be held to decide whether the Bishop should be invited to consecrate the cemetery or not. This was at length agreed to, and notices were issued for the special meeting, which was

held yesterday.

Mr. Humphreys, in opening the matter, said—On Tuesday fortnight I moved that the registrar of the Bishop of Derry be asked by our clerk to signify to us on what day it would be convenient for his Lordship to consecrate the Protestant part of the new cemetery of Strabane. Mr. Wray took objection to that and said that he did not see the necessity for it being consecrated at all. I pointed out to the Guardians at the time that it is of importance as far as the Episcopalians are concerned, because no clergyman under the rules of their Church can officiate at a funeral except in ground that is set apart by consecration. I have looked into the Act and it appears—this objection never was contemplated by anybody that I ever heard of before—it appears that we ought to have made arrangements to have a distinction between Presbyterians and the other Protestant denominations. Whether it is so or not, and whether it is essential or not, I shall, of course, bow to it. But in the meantime I have been asked by several people to hurry this matter, as they want to get burial there, and they cannot unless it is consecrated. Now, it is for you either to have a division between the different denominations of Protestants, or, what is the ordinary thing, have the bishop consulted, and let the ground be consecrated. I do not see that there can be much objection to it. Mr. Wray appears to have some, but I don't see what it is. I shall move, at any rate, that the clerk be directed to communicate with the registrar of the Bishop to know when it would suit his lordship's convenience to consecrate the ground.

Mr. Wray—Are you putting in the whole ground; that is the question?

Mr. James Baird—I would cut off a corner for the Presbyterians if they are raising a cavil of this kind.

Mr. Humphreys—I take it that Mr. Wray's ancestors were buried in consecrated ground, but he takes great objection to being buried there himself.

A Guardian remarked that a portion had been set apart for Roman Catholics.

Mr. Humphreys—That will be consecrated by their own Bishop.

Mr. M'Crossan—I don't think they asked for any portion but their own being set apart.

The Clerk—No, they did not.

Mr. Duncan said the Catholic portion was set apart by the Local Government Board.

Mr. James Baird thought that the Local Government Board would set apart a place for the Presbyterians also.

Mr. Humphreys—I myself do not hope to be buried for some time yet, but several people who have friends dead asked me to enable them to get a burying place there.

Mr. David Baird would not be in favour of any interference with the full exercise of their rights by Presbyterians.

Mr. Humphreys—It does not interfere with any person. Everybody buries in the old churchyard in Strabane, and I suppose it was consecrated according to the rites of the Episcopalian Church.

Mr. James Baird—And I never heard of any objection to Presbyterians burying there.

Mr. Johnston thought it was entirely unnecessary to lay the matter before the Board at all.



Mr. Humphreys—But you cannot open the ground of Episcopalian burial until it is consecrated. I only move in the matter because I was requested by Episcopalians in Strabane. I don't intend to be buried there.

Mr. Duncan—I think there should be no difficulty about it. What harm will the consecration do?

Mr. Hylands Lowry (angrily)—What good will it do?

Mr. James Stewart—The Roman Catholics brought up this question, as affecting themselves, at the start. Why did not the Episcopalians raise it then instead of now?

Mr. Humphreys—I beg your pardon. It was the Presbyterians brought it up now.

Mr. Stewart—I have no objection to consecration, but why should we object to one bishop more than another. A distinction was made at the start.

The Chairman—No, no. That is quite a mistake.

Mr. Devine—The Catholics objected to it because they wanted their ground in their own hands.

Mr. Humphreys—We never objected to the Catholics consecrating their own ground.

Mr. Stewart—Mr. Humphreys said ———

Mr. Devine—You must have misunderstood the thing.

Mr. Duncan said that what really happened was that Mr. Humphreys said the Catholic bishop would not consecrate the ground unless a portion was set apart for the Catholics.

The Chairman—You are wrong about the statement too. (Laughter.) What was said was that the Roman Catholics would not take it unless they had complete control over it.

Mr. Humphreys—That is a very different thing from our objecting to the Roman Catholic bishop consecrating the ground. We did not object to that.

Mr. Wray—I thought this Board was non-sectarian, but I think now it is entirely so. I do not see that this Board has any right to bring in a minister of any denomination to consecrate ground for another denomination. I think every denomination should have their burying ground in their own hands to consecrate or not as they may think fit. If we live Presbyterians, we want to die Presbyterians, and we don't want to be buried as Episcopalians. I object to it. I object to an Episcopalian bishop or any other man consecrating ground for Presbyterians.

Mr. James Baird—We will not object to any of your clergymen coming there.

Mr. Wray—You did in the past and we are afraid of the future.

Mr. Baird—You are raising a cavil that never was heard of in the country before, and I was astonished when I heard of it. You want to be buried among "suicides," or something of that kind.

Mr. Wray—I don't think that is a very creditable saying.

Mr. Devine—As far as I am concerned I don't care whether it is consecrated or not.

Mr. Wray—But you would not have your own ground consecrated by an Episcopalian bishop.

Mr. Devine—You objected to the paying for it and not to the bishop.

Mr. David Baird did not think Mr. Wray had a voice in the matter at all, as his district would not pay anything towards the cost of the graveyard.

Mr. James Baird—I think he is the one man in the county who should not be cavilling at all. If he was a descent Presbyterian in the district who would be buried in it, then he could speak, but he has no call to speak at all.

Mr. Wray—I move as an amendment that only the part belonging to the Episcopalian party be consecrated by themselves.

The Chairman—It will mean a great deal more money to do that.

Mr. Stewart seconded the motion.

Mr. James Baird—Mr. Wray has not to pay for it, and he does not care what expense he is putting us to. He should have mentioned this at first.

Mr. M'Crosson said it might have been foreseen that a difficulty like this would have arisen. The Catholics made provision for the consecration of their own ground, and when they claimed that privilege they were prepared to pay for it. He would suggest that a portion be set apart for the Episcopalians and thus prevent any dispute, and let them pay for the privilege as the Catholics had paid for theirs.

Mr. Wray—The others have had their ascendancy, and I think we should keep our side straight now.

Mr. James Baird—The objection would have come with greater grace from Mr. Stewart, who has something to pay as I have myself.

In response to a request from Mr. Duncan, the clerk read the statute on the point, which provides that a portion of the cemetery may be set apart for the exclusive use of each particular denomination.



## THE NEW CEMETERY AT STRABANE.

### PROTEST BY PRESBYTERIANS AND METHODISTS AGAINST DIVISION.

AT the weekly meeting of the Guardians of Strabane Union yesterday, Rev. C. K. Toland, minister of Second Strabane Presbyterian Church, and Rev. George Robinson, minister of the Methodist Church, accompanied by Mr. Robert Smyth, J.P., Strathfoyle House, attended as a deputation with reference to the question of the proposed division of the new cemetery at Strabane. As already reported in our columns, a motion was brought before the Guardians recently by Mr. T. W. Humphreys, J.P., asking the Guardians to make arrangements for the consecration of a portion of the new burial-ground for members of the Church of Ireland by the Bishop of Derry and Raphoe. Mr. W. J. A. Wray, a Presbyterian, objected to consecration, and the result was that it was decided ultimately to divide the ground into sections, giving to each denomination a separate lot. A committee was appointed, and, according to the wishes of the Guardians, or rather all the terms of their resolution, the ground was laid out in sections, and a map prepared. This arrangement was approved of till the Local Government Board wrote for a map and plans of the cemetery showing the nature of the divisions made. This came before the Guardians at their last meeting, and a reply was postponed till yesterday,

when the deputation waited on the Board. Rev. C. K. Toland, who was introduced by Mr. Smyth, J.P., made an eloquent speech. He pointed out that Presbyterians in Strabane, while they did not believe that consecration could do either good or evil to the burying-ground, they at the same time did not desire to raise any question as to consecration by their Church of Ireland or Roman Catholic neighbours if they desired to perform such ceremony. He (Mr. Toland) considered the burial of one human body in the ground would consecrate it more than any ceremony. The Church of Ireland and Presbyterians in Strabane had always lived on the most amicable terms. They intermarried, and joined in social intercourse with each other in the most friendly terms, and there was never any discord of a denominational character. There was one thing in common which happened to them all—namely, they all died. If they lived together in peace and amity why, then, he asked, should they carry their imaginary feuds to the grave? (Hear, hear.) He had no earthly belief in consecration as being the means of either doing good or evil to the burial-ground, whether carried out by either priest or bishop. No ceremony they could carry out would do it any harm. In the old graveyard Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, members of the Church of Ireland, and others, had been buried side by side, and he had never heard of a shadow of dispute amongst them. What he would say was just let the matter be. If the Church of Ireland and Roman Catholics wished to consecrate the ground,

by all means let them do so at their own expense, and let there be no unseemly divisions, and setting apart portions for different denominations. For his own part, he would just as soon bury in consecrated as unconsecrated ground. Rev. George Robinson said he fully concurred with all Mr. Toland had said, and spoke on behalf of the people belonging to the Methodist Connexion in Strabane when he said they did not desire this division of the burying-ground. The deputation then retired, Mr. Toland thanking the Guardians for their courtesy in hearing them. Mr. W. J. A. Wray said before anything could be done to alter what had been already carried out by the committee, the former resolution must be rescinded. Mr. Smyth, J.P., who is an *ex-officio* Guardian, then gave notice to the effect that, with the view of carrying out the desire of the Strabane people, as represented by the deputation, he would move that the resolution passed on 1st September, relating to the division of the burying-ground, be rescinded, and that the portion under the control of the Guardians be kept undivided.



## PROPOSED CONSECRATION OF THE NEW CEMETERY AT STRABANE.

STRABANE, TUESDAY.—The weekly meeting of the Guardians of Strabane Union was held here to-day—Mr. T. W. D. Humphreys, J.P., presiding. The other members present were—Messrs. W. J. A. Wray, Edward Duncan, James King, Hylands Lowry, Thomas B. Miller, John Johnston, William Dick, William M'Comb, and Matthew Nelson. During the proceedings the chairman called attention to the fact that the Protestant portion of the New Cemetery had not yet been consecrated, and as a number of people were in consequence kept from burying there, he had drafted a letter which, if approved of by the Guardians, he would have forwarded to the Bishop of Derry, asking to let them know when it would be convenient for him to consecrate the ground.

Mr. WRAY said he thought there should be a special meeting to consider the matter, and to say whether the graveyard should be consecrated at all or not.

The CHAIRMAN—There is this difficulty, that unless the ground is consecrated, no person either of the Roman Catholic or Protestant religion can be interred.

Mr. WRAY—Excuse me ; that is an open question.

The CHAIRMAN—Well, no member of the Church of Ireland will bury there at any rate, until the graveyard is consecrated.

Mr. WRAY—That is an open question. Presbyterians don't believe in that at all, and they claim the same right in this as the Church of Ireland or Roman Catholics. I think they should be asked whether a bishop will be asked to consecrate this ground or not, and a special meeting should be called to consider the question.

Mr. MILLER—There is no law to prevent any person burying in the ground, whether it is consecrated or not. A great many Protestants—members of the Church of Ireland, too—don't care a straw whether it is consecrated or not.

The CHAIRMAN—No Church of Ireland clergyman can officiate there until it is consecrated.

Mr. MILLER—That is a matter for the Church itself, not for the Board of Guardians.

After further discussion, it was decided to call a special meeting to consider the question.

## CONSECRATION OF STRABANE GRAVEYARD.

At the weekly meeting of the Guardians of Strabane Union, held on Tuesday—Mr. James Stewart presiding—the Burial Committee appointed to divide the new cemetery among the various religious denominations recommended that the top angle of the ground be left off for union paupers, the bottom angle for strangers, one-eighth of the square ground next the Roman Catholic part for their own use, three-eighths in the centre for the Irish Church, and four-eighths next the south wall for Nonconformists. Mr. Smyth—Who are the Nonconformists? The Chairman—I suppose the Presbyterians, Methodists, and others. Mr. Brown—There are no Nonconformists now. Mr. Smyth—There must be some misconception, because they are all on the same platform. I think the ground should be kept intact and go on as before. The Clerk—It is now for the Board to say whether the recommendation of the committee will be approved of. Mr. Smyth—Was there a resolution passed authorising them to divide it? The Clerk—Yes, after a long discussion. Mr. Smyth—Protestants and Catholics seem to sleep very quietly in the old graveyard, and I don't see why they should not in the new. There might be an arrangement that the Protestants should be kept together. The ground was not made better or worse by consecration, and the feeling of the people is general that it should not be split up. Mr. Nelson—I think it is a great mistake splitting it up. Mr. Baird—I think so, too. I was certainly against splitting it up, but the committee thought it the best thing they could do. Mr. Nelson—Well, I don't believe in it at all. The Chairman—There is no split in it after all, if you look at it. The Clerk—I don't see what you can do. Mr. Smyth—Well, I protest against it. Mr. Nelson—If you're bringing the Bishop into it I don't see how you will prevent him consecrating the whole place. You will require to have a very thick veil around him. (Laughter.) Mr. Smyth—I again protest against it, as it is most unseemly. After further discussion, the recommendation of the committee was approved of.

## THE NEW CEMETERY AT STRABANE.

### THE CONSECRATION CEREMONY.

The ceremony of consecrating the portion of the new Cemetery at Strabane set apart for interment of members of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and which has been the subject of much discussion at the meetings of the local Board of Guardians, was performed on Monday by the Right Rev. William Alexander, D.D., Lord Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, assisted by the Rev. Canon R. Babington, registrar. The other clergymen present were—Rev. Mervyn Wilson, rector, Camus-juxta-Mourne; Rev. Canon Olphert, rector of Urney; Rev. Canon M'Clintock, M.A., rector of Clonleigh; Rev. Mr. Delap, and Rev. Mr. Tompkins. There was a considerable attendance of the general public, and amongst those present were—Rev. C. K. Toland, Mr. T. W. D. Humphreys, J.P., Mr. James M'Farlane, J.P., Mrs. M'Farlane, Mrs. Boyd, Mrs. E. T. Herdman, Mr. John Colquhoun, Mr. Robert Rawson, Mr. C. R. Ross, Mr. and Mrs. Craig, Mr. J. R. Baillie, Mr. James Simms, Mrs. Simms, Mr. J. Ledlie, Mr. James Baird, J.P., Mr. David Baird, Mr. J. R. Donnell, Mr. William Pollock, Mr. W. T. Bayley, &c. The clergy having donned their robes, and the portion of the ground to be consecrated having been pointed out, Mr. J. E. Sharkie, clerk to the Burial Board, presented a petition to his Lordship praying that the ground might be consecrated. The 49th Psalm was then recited by the Bishop and clergy, and the special service of the Church having been read by the Lord Bishop, the Act of Consecration was read by the Rev. R. Babington, and the ceremony concluded. His Lordship then delivered an address explanatory of the views held by members of his Church on the subject of consecration. Mr. and Mrs. M'Farlane afterwards entertained the clergy and a few friends to luncheon at Melmount.



Mr Alexander Bailey has been appointed town surveyor of Strabane, and the Local Government Board have approved of the appointment. Mr Bailey is a brother of the late town surveyor who left to occupy a similar position in England.

Next, Robert Hamilton, fifth son of the John and Margaret Bailey, Tivney, Strabane. Funeral from his residence, 5, Leigh Street, Cliftonville, for interment at Randalstown Burying-ground, tomorrow (Friday) morning, at 11 o'clock. No flowers.

Margaret Davida McLaughlin Bailey was one of six children born to Alexander McLaughlin and Margaret Ballantine, she was the 3rd born and youngest surviving daughter. She married John Bailey (jr) in 1855 in a Church of Ireland ceremony in Gortin. Together they had 12 children. Her husband, a farmer, died in November 1897 of "senility" per his death certificate. She died in 1921 of chronic bronchitis and cardiac failure per her death certificate. Both are buried with children Alexander, Robert Hamilton, May, Hestor and Sarah in Strabane Cemetery.



In Memory of  
Robert Stevenson  
Who died 9th March 1922  
And of his son Robert  
Who died 17th Dec 1912  
And of his youngest daughter  
Kathleen  
Who died 18th Nov 1915  
Also his wife Jane Johnston,  
Who died 15th Aug 1932  
Mary Sibella, third daughter  
Who died 30th Jan 1955

## DEATH OF MR. ROBERT STEVENSON, STRABANE.

On Thursday evening, at his late residence, Main-street, Strabane, Mr. Robert Stevenson passed away, to the regret of a sorrowing community. The deceased, who had reached almost ninety years, was one of the oldest businessmen in the North-West. He was a pioneer of the Presbyterian Church, and up until ten years ago had been Sabbath-school superintendent, a position he occupied for half-a-century, and which he handed over to a successor, to the regret of the congregation, by reason of his advanced years in life. Mr. Stevenson was an uncompromising Unionist in politics, and on many occasions presided at meetings in furtherance of that cause. He was held in the highest esteem by people of all denominations, who looked upon him as a true friend. He leaves a wife and family, two of whom are members of the medical profession, to mourn his loss.

STEVENSON—March 9, 1922, at his residence, 58, Main-street, Strabane, Robert Stevenson, aged 87 years. Interment in Strabane New Cemetery this (Saturday) afternoon, 11th inst., at three o'clock.

Yesterday, on the motion of Mr. W. B. Smyth, Strabane, Guardians tendered Mrs. Robert Stevenson and Dr. Stevenson their condolence and sympathy in the loss they had sustained by the death of Mr. Robert Stevenson.





In  
loving memory of  
**PETER DORAN**,  
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE  
ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY 1909, AGED 64 YEARS  
ALSO HIS WIFE  
**MARY**  
DIED 30<sup>TH</sup> DEC 1920, AGED 72 YEARS.  
ALSO THEIR SON **PATRICK**,  
DIED 12<sup>TH</sup> NOV 1957.  
AND HIS WIFE **ANNIE DORAN**,  
DIED 1977.  
**BRIDGET DORAN**,  
1961.  
**PATRICK GERALD DORAN**  
DIED 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2006  
REMEMBERED BY  
HIS LOVING WIFE **BERNIE**

#### THE BREAD CONTRACT.

The Local Government Board forwarded a letter which they had received from Mr. Peter Doran, Strabane, with reference to the contract for the supply of bread to the Workhouse.

In his letter Mr. Doran points out that he tendered for the supply of bread to the Workhouse in accordance with the terms of the advertisement. The bread was to be made of first flour, and to be equal in quality to the best bread made in Strabane. Mr. M'Menamin, J.P., and Mr. Neal Bradley were appointed a committee to consider the tenders, and they accepted Mr. Doran's tender, believing it to be the best value for the money, though it was  $\frac{5}{16}$  of a penny in the 2lb. loaf dearer than another tender. The Guardians, by a vote of 7 to 6, refused to ratify the decision of the committee with regard to the bread, though their decision in regard to other articles was ratified. Mr. Doran also pointed out that he was contractor for the past year, and there had been no complaints.

The Local Government Board asked the Guardians for their observations on the subject of Mr. Doran's letter.

**DORAN**—July 7, at his residence, Main Street, Strabane, Peter Doran, baker and merchant, fortified by the rites of the Holy Catholic Church.—*R.I.P.* His remains will be removed from the above address this (Friday) morning, 9th instant, at ten o'clock, to the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Strabane, thence to the New Cemetery, for interment. "O, Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on his soul."

The Committee request the members of the William Collins Branch Irish National Foresters to attend.

## TRY **Doran's Bread.**

—  
**ONLY THE BEST FLOUR USED, and**  
the Quality may always be Absolutely  
Depended Upon.

Acknowledged by every Resident of Strabane and  
Vicinity to be the

**Sweetest and Best Bread.**

—  
"DON'T YOU FORGET IT."

—  
**DORAN'S BAKERY,**  
MAIN STREET, STRABANE.

**DORAN**—July 7, at his residence, Main st., Strabane, Peter Doran, baker and merchant, fortified by the Rites of the Holy Catholic Church.





## DEATH OF MR. R. K. MALONE, STRABANE.

The death occurred on Tuesday of Mr. Robert Kay Malone, Newtown-street, Strabane. The deceased a few years ago retired from the post-mastership of that town, after a service extending over a period of fifty years. Ten of these years he spent in Strabane, and during that time he endeared himself to all classes of the community. He was a member of the Strabane and District War Pensions Committee, taking a keen interest in the welfare of the soldiers' dependents during the late war and up to the time of his demise. He was also a member of the Strabane and Donemana Old Age Pensions Committee, and rendered useful work on that board. He was considered one of the best "sports" in the county, being much associated with football. He was also a keen angler. He belonged to Strabane Parish Church, being a member of the select vestry, and also people's churchwarden. The deceased was a native of England.

### ROBERT KAY MALONE

Died March 15th 1921 Aged 65

In Loving and Fond Memory of

ELEANOR (NELL) MALONE

For More Than 36 Years was the

Beloved Wife and Companion of

ROBERT KAY MALONE

Post Master of Strabane

Died 21st Dec. 1918 Aged 67

WALKING STICKS FOR USE OF  
WOUNDED SOLDIERS IN  
ARMY HOSPITALS.  
Any walking sticks the public may  
have to spare will be gladly received by  
Mr. Malone, Postmaster, Strabane.



MONTEITH—January 6, 1952, Robert Monteith, Canal Street, Strabane. Funeral to Strabane New Cemetery this (Tuesday) afternoon, 8th inst., from his late residence at two o'clock. Very deeply regretted.

## LAWLESS IRELAND.

### More Outrages Over the Week- End.

Masked raiders, fully armed, are reported to have entered the residence of a farmer, named Robert Monteith, at Strabane, and carried off a gun.

### ROBERT MONTEITH

Died 6th January 1952

And his Wife AGNES Died 20th October 1967

Also Their Infant Daughter DOROTHY

Died 5th november 1910

and their elder Son GEORGE ELLIOTT

Died 11th June 1972

And Their Younger Son ROBERT JAMES

Died 20th January 1981

And his Wife SARAH ISOBEL

Died 28th April 2011





### FUNERAL OF DR. J. M. TRIMBLE, J.P.

The funeral took place on Saturday of Dr. John Maxwell Trimble, J.P., Newtown-street, Strabane, to the New Cemetery. The cortege was large and representative. Rev. Edward Clarke, M.A., officiated at the graveside. Dr. Trimble's death occurred the previous morning with comparative suddenness, and his demise deprives the North-West of Ireland of one of its leading physicians. Deceased, who was over fifty years of age, was attending to his professional duties up till some days ago, and, although it was learned that he was indisposed, the end was not by any means anticipated. He was appointed to the Commission of the Peace for county Tyrone about eight years ago, and sat at the Strabane and Lifford Petty Sessions. In politics Dr. Trimble was a Unionist, and he also was a member of the Strabane Presbyterian Church. A gentleman of sterling qualities, the late Dr. Trimble was held in the highest esteem by everyone with whom he came into contact either privately or in a professional capacity, and his death, while little beyond his prime, has occasioned widespread regret.

PRESENTED, WITH A PURSE OF SOVEREIGNS, TO  
DR. JOHN MAXWELL TRIMBLE,  
Of Strabane,  
On the occasion of his Marriage.

DEAR SIR—The happy occasion of your marriage provides us, your friends and admirers, with a very welcome opportunity to publicly express our affectionate regard for you. However modest you are, you cannot but be gratified to know that your friends and admirers are nothing less than all who have had the privilege of knowing you whether as a physician or as a fellow-citizen. Your manly, thorough, and kindly disposition not less than your painstaking care and skill in your profession has greatly endeared you to us, so that each of us looks on this event as the marriage of a close personal friend.

Our pleasure is increased by our knowledge of the worth of Mrs. Trimble, proved to us in the conscientious, cheering, and sympathetic discharge of that arduous work of Christian charity to which she had devoted herself among the poor of this district.

Congratulating you on your mutual choice we wish for you both a long life of united happiness and prosperity.

Very sincerely yours,  
P. M'MENAMIN,  
C. K. TOLAND,  
JOHN BRITTON, M.D.,  
J. M'ELHATTON, P.P.,  
On behalf of the Committee.  
THOS. ELLIOTT, Hon. Sec.  
WILLIAM HOY, Hon. Treas.

#### REPLY.

Dear Sirs—Permit me to return you my sincere thanks for the [very handsome Gift with which you have just presented me, and particularly for the very kind and flattering manner in which you have referred to me in the Address just read. I feel unworthy of all the kind things you have said about me, and am greatly honoured and deeply touched by the proof of your esteem and regard for me.

I also desire to thank you on behalf of my wife for the very sympathetic manner in which you have spoken of her work, and feel deeply indebted to you for all the kindness shown to her in the short time she has been in Strabane.

We both return you our very hearty thanks.

Yours sincerely,

J. M. TRIMBLE.

Strabane, 4th April, 1906.



ROBERT SMYLY GREER  
Camus

Born 30th June 1826

Died 4th September 1904

Also His Wife ISABELLA

Born 7th July 1843

Died 3rd August 1926

And Their Son JAMES

Born 9th August 1866

Died 29th Aug 1944

And Their Eldest Daughter

CATHERINE SMYLY

Born 4th July 1868

Died 1st March 1948

### JAMES GREER, Deceased.

ALL Persons having any Claims against the Estate of above-named Deceased, late of Camus House, Strabane, who died on 29th August, 1944, are requested to furnish the particulars forthwith to the undersigned, Solicitors for his Executor.

Dated this 4th day of September, 1944.

THOMAS ELLIOTT & SON,  
Solicitors, Abercorn Square,  
Strabane.

SMYLY GREER—March 1, 1948, at District Hospital, Strabane, Miss Katherine Smyly Greer, eldest daughter of the late Robert Smyly Greer, Camus House, Strabane. Funeral private.

### FIGHTING IN NORTHERN NIGERIA

#### HEAVY BRITISH LOSSES.

Reuter's Agency learns that according to the latest intelligence from Northern Nigeria the British force under Major Merrick, which is operating in the Bassa province against the Okpoto natives, who cut up a force under Captain O'Riordan and Mr. Burney, and murdered the two officers, continues to meet with the most determined resistance.

In the recent fighting the British lost four killed and 48 wounded, 20 severely.

Two have died of disease.

MERRICK AND GREER—October 28, at Ormond Quay Presbyterian Church, Dublin, by the Rev. Samuel Prenter, D.D., F. S. Merrick, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, N. Nigeria, youngest son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Merrick, Bengal Staff Corps, and Fanny A., youngest daughter of the late Robert Smyly Greer, Camus House, Strabane.





JOSEPH ORR  
 Who Died 31st December 1933  
 Also his Wife ANNIE  
 Who died 9th March 1941  
 And Their Son ROBERT  
 Who Died 13th August 1911  
 Also Their Daughter ANNIE  
 Who Died 12th November 1947  
 And Their Son JOSEPH  
 Who died 12th March 1948  
 Also Their Daughter ISABELLA  
 Who Died 24th November 1966  
 And Their Daughter MARGARET  
 Who Died 17th December 1972  
 Also Their Son JOHN  
 Who Died 25th February 1975

## Death and Funeral of Mr. Robert Orr, Strabane.

The regret with which news was received of the death of Mr. Robert Orr, Strabane, which occurred on Sunday last was both widespread and sincere. The deceased who passed away at the residence of his father, Patrick street, had been in unsatisfactory health for some time past, but in its serious stage the illness to which he eventually succumbed was of little more than a week's duration. He suffered from congestion of the brain, and with the object of obtaining rest and relief from business worries, recently left Londonderry where he owned a successful and flourishing business establishment, and arrived at the home of his family. Here his illness suddenly became acute, and notwithstanding the unremitting ministrations of Dr. Trimble and Dr. Boyd, ended fatally on Sunday morning, the deceased being in a condition of unconsciousness for a considerable time. His sorrow-stricken parents, and sisters and brothers who are passing through the sad experience of a great and deplorable bereavement, have what consolation the general condolence of a sympathetic public can bring. Apart from the esteem in which the family of the deceased are held locally, his own many estimable qualities were fully deserving of the highest measure of respect, and few young men in this district enjoyed more general popularity. In Londonderry, where the deceased spent the last few years of his life, he also formed numerous friendships and acquaintances, and his demise is learned with profound regret in the circles in which he was a popular figure in that city. The deceased was a member of the International Order of Good Templars, of the Orange Order, and of the Royal Black Preceptory, and at the funeral which took place to the new cemetery, Strabane, on Tuesday, all these Orders were

strongly represented. The funeral procession was both imposing and beautiful, and comprised all classes and creeds in the district. The attendance of representatives from "Harmony" L.O.L. No. 858, Royal Black Preceptory, No. 237, "Rehoboth" I.O.G.T., and "Star of Bethlehem" I.O.G.T., Derry, furnishes striking evidence of the esteem in which the deceased was held. There was also a large muster of the brethren of Strabane L.O.L. and R.B.P.

The chief mourners were—Messrs. Joseph Orr (father), Joseph Orr, jun., and John Orr (brothers); Robert Gamble and James Orr (uncles); Albert Carlyle, Derry, R. Douglas, Derry, and Robert Orr, Derry (cousins).

The funeral arrangements were in charge of Mr. J. W. Miller, Strabane, and were carried out with extreme satisfaction. Numerous wreaths adorned the coffin, which was of beautiful workmanship.

The following is a list of those from whom floral tributes were received:—Family of the deceased; fellow-lodgers in No. 5 Victoria Place, Derry; "Harmony" L.O.L., and R.B.P. No. 237, Derry; Strabane Protestant Working Men's Association; Abercorn Flute Band; "Rehoboth" and "Star of Bethlehem" I.O.G.T., Derry; Dr. and Mrs. Trimble, Strabane; Mr. and Mrs. Douglas, Derry; Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle, and Mr. M'Alister, Derry; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gamble, Tullyard; Mrs. Donaghey, Derry; Mrs. and Miss Donnell, Strabane; Mrs. Healy, Strabane; Mrs. M'Govern, Strabane; the Misses M. and J. Mitchell, Derry; Miss I. Mills, Derry; Miss M. Findlay, Derry; Miss Ballantyne, Strabane; Miss Jeannie Anderson, Culmore; Mr. Lyons Alexander, Strabane.

Rev. C. K. Toland conducted the burial service at the graveside, and special hymns were afterwards sung in accordance with the custom of the I.O.G.T.





William was Clerk of Strabane Union.  
He lived at Derry Road, Strabane.

FRONT  
In Loving of  
WILLIAM J. INGRAM  
Died 11th August 1915  
Aged 50 Years  
Also his wife Margaret  
Died 1st April 1939

RIGHT  
Also His Son NORMAN  
Died 30th October 1918  
Aged 17 Years  
"Behold My Lord My Strength and  
My Redeemer"

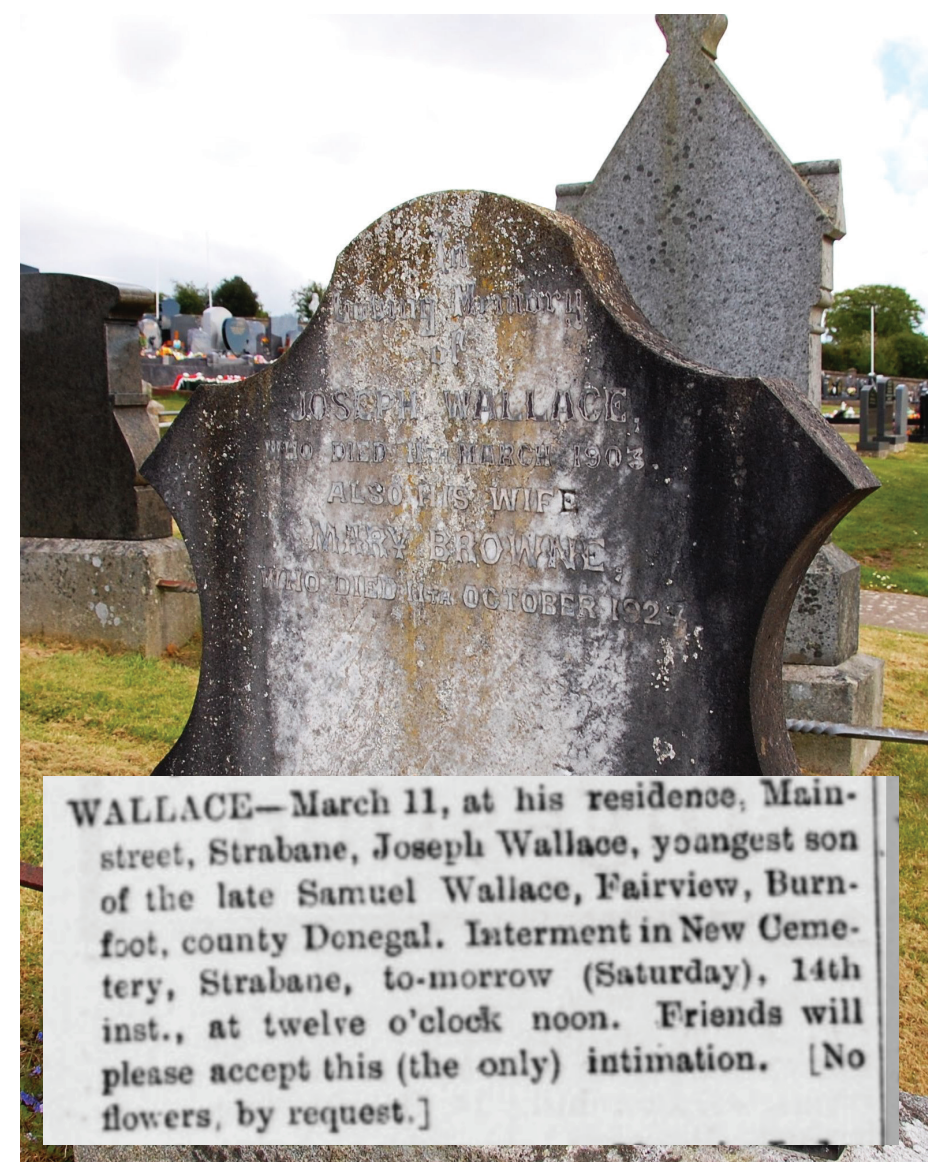
**FUNERAL OF MR. WILLIAM J. INGRAM, STRABANE.**

On Friday afternoon the remains of Mr. William John Ingram, late clerk of Strabane Union and the Nos. 1 and 2 Rural Councils, whose death at the comparatively early age of fifty years is widely deplored, were impressively laid to rest in the New Cemetery in Strabane. There was a large and influential cortege, embracing prominent brethren in the Masonic Order, public officials, and representatives of professional and commercial life from Strabane, Londonderry, and various other parts of the North-West. Prior to the removal of the remains a service was held in the deceased's late residence, being conducted by the Rev. Edward Clarke, M.A., First Strabane Presbyterian Church, assisted by the Rev. C. K. Toland, Second Strabane. Four of Mr. Ingram's particular friends—Mr. E. Clarke (Strabane), Mr. H. S. Robinson, and Mr. James A. Elliott (Londonderry), and Mr. James Robinson (Sion Mills)—carried the handsome polished oak coffin, with solid casquet mountings, to the hearse. Two beautiful wreaths were placed on it (at the request of the family no flowers were sent by outsiders): one was from his sorrowing widow and family, and the other from his bereaved mother, "In fond and loving remembrance," and bearing the following appropriate verse:—

Sleep on, beloved, sleep and take thy rest;  
Lay down thy head upon thy Saviour's breast;  
We loved thee well, but Jesus loves thee best.

The chief mourners were—Mr. John Boyd, Newry (father-in-law); Mr. John Ingram, B.E., Belfast, Inspector under the Intermediate Board of Education; Mr. William H. Ingram, Mr. Ernest Ingram, and Masters Norman and Freddie Ingram (sons). Immediately behind came a large representation of the Masonic Order, headed by past and present officers of the two Provincial Grand Lodges of the North-West, in both of which deceased was an honoured officer, viz.:—Derry and Donegal—Bro. James Barr, S.G.W., P.K., P.P.; Bro. T. B. Adams, P.P.S.G.W., P.K., E.P.; Bro. R. J. Roden, P.P.S.G.W.; Lieut. John Weir, P.G.L.I.G.; Bro. John W. Russell, P.P.S.G.W. Tyrone and Fermanagh—Bro. T. J. Ingram, P.S.G.W.; Bro. W. E. Gordon, J.G.W.; Bro. Ross M'Kelvey, S.G.D.; Bro. Dr. W. L. Stevenson, P.G.S.; Bro. William King, P.G.I. Next in order in the sad procession walked the various other lodges with which the deceased was connected, viz.:—Abercorn Masonic Lodge 251, Strabane—Bro. John S. Weir, W.M.; Bro. James Robinson, secretary. Abercorn Royal Arch Chapter—Bro. John Perry, M.E.K.; Bro. John Miller, P.K., registrar. St. Columb's Lodge, Royal Arch Chapter, and Preceptory 640, Londonderry—Bro. James Barr, R.A.O. registrar and secretary of the lodge; Bro. E. Clarke, Preceptor; and Bro. A. Ellis, Immediate Past Preceptor; Bro. H. S. Robinson, P.M., P.K. Newtown-stewart Lodge 547, Bro. William Ward, Londonderry, W.M.; Bro. John Crosbie, Sion

Mills, secretary. R.A.C.—Bro. James Moore, M.E.K.; Bro. John Crosbie, P.K. Harmony Lodge, Londonderry, 63—Bro. James Ross, P.M. Lifford 102—Bro. Andrew Heron, W.M.; Bro. John Perry, secretary. St. Johnston 281—Rev. C. R. Thompson, W.M., Bro. John M'Cracken, secretary. Raphoe. Bro. Robert Thompson, P.M. Enniskillen Preceptory 332 was represented by Bros. T. J. Ingram, R. Moore, William Ward, and Campbell; and among numerous lodges represented were:—Stranorlar 341—Bro. Thomas Kee, W.M. Donemana 256—Bro. Robert Lyons, W.M. Castlederg 799—Bro. W. J. Davidson, P.M. Omagh R.A.O. 332—Bro. Joseph Wilson, P.K. Omagh Lodge 350—Bro. William Calvin. There were also three representatives from the Jordan Lodge 201, London. Bro. David Thompson, 18th Degree, Londonderry, was unavoidably absent. Other representative mourners included Mr. James Toner, Clerk of the Crown and Peace for Tyrone; Mr. Robert Lyons, C.C., and Mr. Ross M'Kelvey, of the Tyrone County Council Office; Mr. W. J. Craig, master of the Strabane Workhouse, and the following other officials:—Messrs. J. Ashenburt, Stuart Ashenburt, and Joseph M'Naught, relieving officers; Denis Phelan, porter; John Houston, assistant clerk; Dr. Weir, Ballindrait; Dr. Hamilton, Donemana; Dr. Boyd, Lifford; Dr. W. L. Stevenson, Strabane; and Mr. Wm. Stuart, B.E.; Mr. William Rankin, J.P., chairman No. 1 District Council; Mr. Andrew Lowry, J.P., chairman No. 2 Council; Mr. Bernard M'Fadden, secretary, and Mr. W. H. Black assistant, Donegal County Council; Mr. Thomas K. Howie (chairman) and Mr. T. B. Feely (clerk), Strabane Urban Council; Mr. H. O. Cochrane, Sub-Sheriff for County Donegal; Mr. R. M'Nulty and Mr. John Heron, from the office of the Clerk of the Crown and Peace, Lifford; Mr. George R. Lavery, agent Great Northern and Midland Railways, &c., Strabane; Mr. R. K. Malone, Postmaster, Strabane; Captain. Waldon, Drum-Major Stevenson, Mr. James Ross, manager "Londonderry Sentinel"; Mr. John Elliott, Mr. William King, Mr. William P. Moody, Mr. James O. Brown, Mr. John S. Magee, Rev. E. Clarke, Rev. C. K. Toland, Rev. Canon Delap, Rev. T. Sutcliffe, Rev. W. Green, Mr. P. M'Namin, J.P., Mr. Eugene Conroy, J.P., Mr. John Reilly, J.P., Mr. R. J. Craig, J.P., Mr. William Keatley, C.P.S., Strabane; Mr. Thomas Ewing, O.P.S., Stranorlar, etc., a large number of the general public bringing up the rear of the cortege. Blands were drawn en route as the procession slowly passed on its sad journey. The Masonic brethren formed up at the graveside in two lines facing each other, and uncovered, and through this passage the coffin was carried by the same four gentlemen to the grave. Rev. E. Clarke conducted the closing exercises, and the Masons, led by the Provincial Grand Lodge officers, then filed past and deposited their sprigs of acacia on the bier of their departed brother, whose memory will be long revered in the numerous spheres in which his loss has created heartfelt regret. The entire funeral arrangements were capably carried out by Messrs. White & Co., Railway Street, Strabane.



Joseph Wallace  
Born: 1852  
Died: 11 Mar 1903 (aged 50-51)  
  
Joseph was a commercial traveller,  
who lived at Main Street, Strabane.  
He die of influenza and TB.

In Loving Memory of  
JOSEPH WALLACE  
Who Died 11th March 1903  
Also His Wife MARY BROWNE  
Who Died 11th October 1924  
"I Know that My Redeemer liveth"



**Mr. James White, Strabane.**

The death occurred suddenly last night of Mr. James White, at his residence, Bowling Green, Strabane. Mr. White, who was at his business yesterday as usual, was the proprietor of a large furnishing establishment, and was one of the best-known business men in the North-West. He was a magistrate, and sat regularly at the Strabane Petty Sessions. He leaves a widow and eight of a family, with whom there will be sincere sympathy.

JAMES WHITE J. P.  
Born 4th Sept. 1853 Died 12th March 1928  
Also His Wife MATILDA ANN  
Born 10th Feb. 1861 Died 5th Aug. 1935  
JAMES HEMPHILL WHITE  
Born 11th July 1886 Died 7th Nov. 1969  
And His Wife JEANIE  
Born 8th Feb. 1887 Died 12th May 1972  
EILEEN MAUDE WHITE  
Born 18th Oct. 1892 Died 7th March 1913  
EVELYN ANNA WHITE  
Born 18th Feb. 1895 Died 20th Jan. 1971  
JOHN ALLEN WHITE  
Born 11th July 1886 Died 1st March 1891  
WILLIAM ROSS WHITE  
Born 28th Sept. 1887 Died 27th Dec. 1912  
GEORGE ALBERT WHITE  
Born 8th Dec. 1888 Died 14th May 1940  
SAMUEL ERNEST WHITE  
Born 11th Nov. 1890 Died 6th May 1964  
in Toronto





(MINNIE) LOGUE  
DIED 1ST APRIL 1958  
AGED 78 YEARS  
HER SISTER  
ROSEANNE LOGUE  
DIED 4TH FEBRUARY 1958  
AGED 70 YEARS

## CONVENT OF MERCY, STRABANE— DEATH OF A YOUNG LADY.

At the Convent of Mercy, Strabane, a young life of great promise has come to a close. After an illness which none of her friends looked upon as likely to prove dangerous, Miss Georgie M'Ginnis passed quietly away in the Convent, surrounded by friends and companions, and by the good nuns that had so often instructed her and superintended her spiritual education. Miss M'Ginnis was a special favourite, both with her teachers and companions. She was remarkable for many amiable virtues that endeared her to every one with whom she came in contact. It is needless to say that her death gave a great shock to her mother and other friends. However, she was taken away at an age when she was well prepared—a tender flower of goodness and virtue that was ill adapted for the rough ways of earth. May she rest in peace.—COR.







Robert Smyth, a shopman, was the son of Henry Smyth, a farmer of Strabane. He married Annie Bates, daughter of William Bates, a baker, in Mulvin, Ardstraw Reformed Presbyterian Church on 7 June 1866. Robert, now a corn merchant, died at his home Town Parks, Strabane.

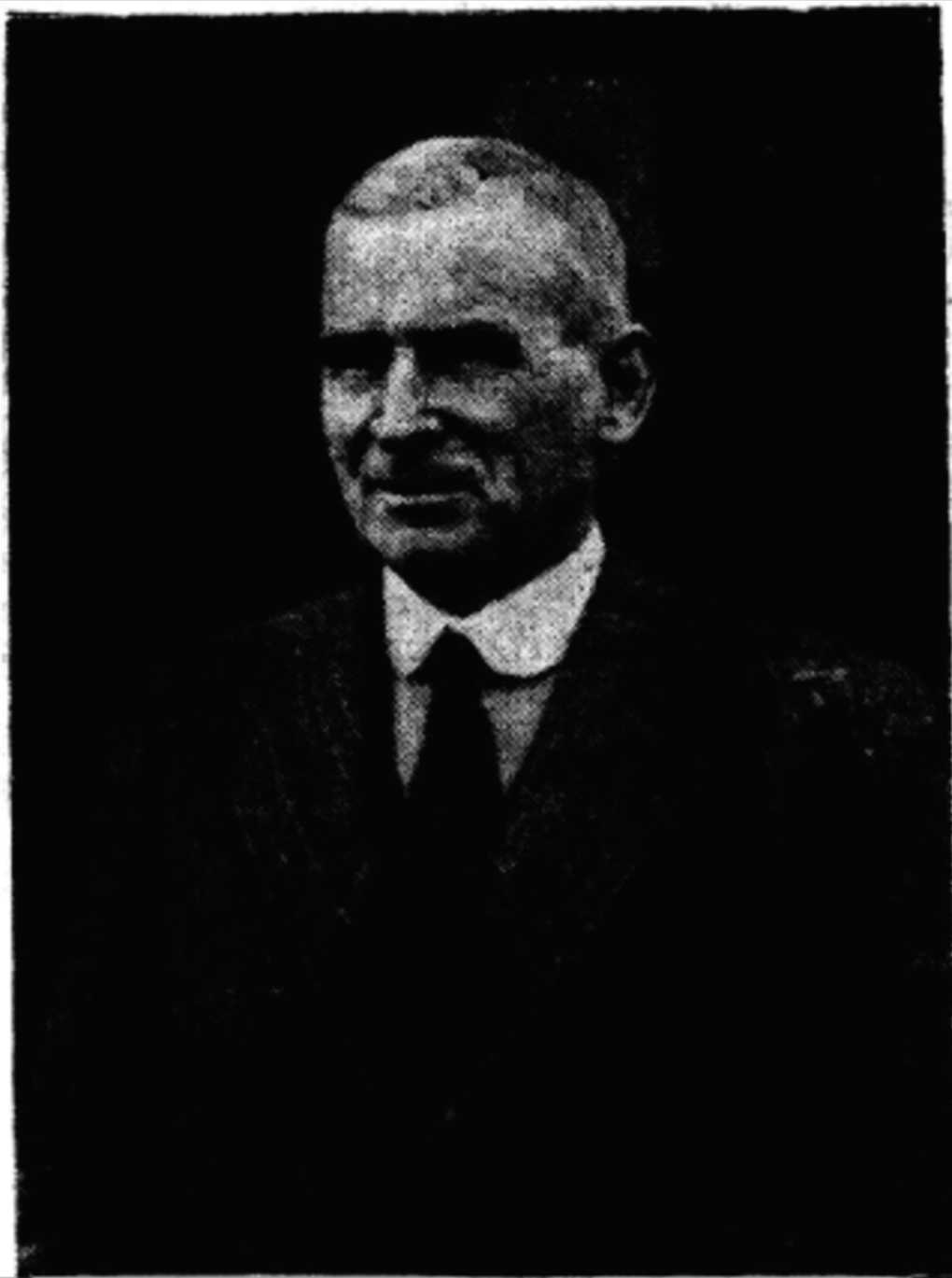
ROBERT SMYTH  
Who Died 4th December 1912 Aged 77 Years  
Also his Wife ANNIE  
Who died 20th September 1917 Aged 80 Years  
And Their Son ROBERT HENRY SMYTH  
H.M.V.L D.L. Londonderry  
Who Died 9th May 1941 aged 72 Years  
Also Their Daughter MABEL SYMTH  
Who died 7th November 1941 aged 64 Years  
“Blessed are the Dead which live in the Lord”  
Rev. XIV

Robert Henry, a merchant of Clooney Park, Londonderry, was the son of Robert Smyth of Strabane and his wife Anne (formerly Bates). Robert was a well known businessman in Londonderry. He died suddenly at his residence. Robert was chairman of Londonderry Harbour Board and a former High Sheriff. His funeral was attended by a great many of the city’s dignitaries.

**MR. ROBERT SMYTH, STRABANE.**  
Mr. Robert Smyth, J.P., of Strathfoyle, Strabane, County Tyrone, merchant, who died on 4th December last, left personal estate in the United Kingdom valued at £96,687 4s 9d. Probate of his will, dated 1st August, 1910, has been granted to his widow, Mrs. Annie Smyth, of the same address, and his sons, Mr. William Bates Smyth, also of that address, and Mr. Robert Henry Smyth, of Clooney Park, Londonderry, merchants. The testator left £20,000 to his wife, Mrs. Annie Smyth, £15,000 upon trust for each of his daughters, Mabel and Annie Cavendish, and their respective issue, and he left his residence, Strathfoyle, the lands held therewith, and all effects there to his wife for life, with remainder to his son Wm. Bates Smyth. He stated that he had promised £3,000 to the Foreign Mission Fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, to be contributed in sums of £300 at the regular collections for that fund in the Second Strabane Presbyterian Church, and that he had already given £300 as a first donation. He, therefore, directed that any unpaid contributions should be paid to the fund, expressing the wish that they should be contributed in a similar manner by some member of his family through the regular collections at their place of worship; but if it shall not be possible or convenient to so give these unpaid contributions they are to be paid to the person authorised by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland to receive such funds on behalf of the fund. The residue of his property he left to his two sons, Robert Henry Smyth and William Bates Smyth, in equal shares.

**DEATH OF MRS. SMYTH, STRABANE.**  
It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mrs. Robert Smyth, Strathfoyle, Strabane, widow of the late Mr. Robert Smyth, J.P., a gentleman widely known and honoured in the North-West. In the districts of Strabane and Londonderry the news of her death, which took place on Thursday, 20th inst., will be received with no ordinary sense of loss. Her Christian character, her many acts of kindness and generosity, her benevolent sympathy with religious and social endeavour movements won her the admiration and gratitude of all sections of the community. With her two daughters, one of whom is Mrs. W. H. Cavendish, and her two sons, Mr. Robert H. Smyth, Derry, a member of the Harbour Board, and Mr. W. B. Smyth, Strabane, there will be every sincere sympathy in their great bereavement.  
The funeral took place privately on Saturday to the New Cemetery, Strabane. Along the route shop windows were shuttered and window-blinds drawn. The Rev. Edward Clarke, B.A., Strabane, and the Rev. Dr. George Thompson, Belfast, conducted the services in the house and at the graveside. The employees of the firm of Messrs. Robert Smyth & Sons, millers and grain merchants, walked in processional order behind the hearse. The chief mourners were Mr. R. H. Smyth, Derry; and Lieut. W. B. Smyth, Strabane (sons); Dr. Frizzel, Derry (son-in-law); and Mr. David Wilson, solicitor, Raphoe. Mr. W. H. Cavendish (son-in-law), was unavoidably absent owing to the mail train being late. The Right Rev. Dr. John Irwin, Moderator of the General Assembly, wired from Cork an expression of deep sorrow and regret that he was unable to be present.





**The Late Mr. R. H. Smyth, H.M.V.L.**

### **DERRY CORPORATION'S SYMPATHY**

At a meeting of Londonderry Corporation yesterday a resolution was adopted, on the motion of the Mayor (Senator F. J. Simmons, J.P.), seconded by Sir James Wilton, M.C., placing on record "our deep sorrow and regret at the unexpected demise of Mr. Robert Henry Smyth, H.M.V.L. for this city. Mr. Smyth filled with dignity the office of City High Sheriff during the year 1929. We tender to Mrs. Smyth and her family our sincere and heartfelt sympathy in their sad bereavement and direct the Town Clerk to communicate this resolution to Mrs. Smyth."

Mr. Smyth was born in Strabane and was educated at Foyle College, Londonderry. When his father, the late Mr. Robert Smyth, J.P., the founder of the milling firm of Messrs. Robert Smyth & Sons, Ltd., established mills at Londonderry Mr. Smyth came to the city as a young man to develop the business, and at the time of his death he was chairman of the firm, in which his brother, Mr. W. B. Smyth, J.P., Strabane, is a director. Since that time he had an outstanding career in business and became one of the most prominent figures in the industrial life of Ulster. He was associated with several other enterprises in Londonderry. For twenty years he was chairman of the Londonderry Gaslight Company and a director of Messrs. Biggers, Ltd., pork-curers. Mr. Smyth rendered distinguished service to the city generally in his capacity as chairman of the Port and Harbour Commissioners, a position which he occupied with conspicuous success for the long and record period of over fourteen years. He was first elected a member of the Board in 1914, and in 1927 he was elected chairman for the first time. His wise and capable direction of the affairs of the Trust was widely recognised, and the members of the Harbour Board revealed their estimate of the value of his services by re-electing him year after year. His undoubted great business ability was much in evidence in the manner in which he presided over the affairs of the port. His success in this most important position was equalled only by the esteem in which he was held by his fellow - Commissioners. When the Northern Ireland Transport Board was set up in 1935 Mr. Smyth's business experience was recognised by his appointment as one of the five members.

In public life he was especially prominent in the last 15 years. Apart from his occupancy of the Harbour Board chairmanship, which brought him into the public life of the city and made him a leading figure at all civic functions, he came before the public in many other ways. He was a Deputy-Lieutenant for the city since 1929 and was High Sheriff of the city in the same year, and

since the departure of Sir Basil McFarland, Bt., for service overseas he acted as his Majesty's Vice-Lieutenant for the city.

One of his last public duties was to receive the Duke of Gloucester when he visited Londonderry recently.

Mr. Smyth had an extremely generous heart and every deserving object in the district received his warmest support. He was a very good friend of the various welfare organisations, especially of those assisting the poor and distressed. As a member of the committee of the Londonderry Sailors' Rest since before the last war his constant concern for the comfort of shipwrecked seamen was well known and appreciated. He was also a valued friend of the British Legion in Londonderry and a generous contributor to every worthy appeal. As an example of this it may be mentioned that Mr. Smyth called with the Mayor on the evening before his death and handed him a cheque for £100 for the Air Raid Distress Fund. He was one of the principal members of Great James Street Presbyterian Church, on the committee of which he served for many years. He was a governor of the Londonderry City and County Hospital. Mr. Smyth was a keen sportsman and was very popular in various branches of sport in the North-West. He played for the school fifteen while at Foyle College and later captained City of Derry in one of the few years when they won the Ulster Provincial Towns' Cup. He took a great interest in cricket also and in his early days captained Strabane Club for about ten years, being a useful batsman. Latterly he was president of Brigade Cricket Club, while for several years he had been a vice-president of the North-West Cricket Union and a member of the Protests and Appeals Committee of the Union. He was also keen on golf and played on the North-West Links and at Castlerock. He was a former President of the Londonderry Y.M.C.A.

He married Miss Barbara Wilson, daughter of the late Mr. William Wilson, M.P. for Donegal in the Imperial Parliament, and sister of the late Mr. David Wilson, solicitor, Raphoe. He is survived by his widow, a son, Mr. Billy Smyth, and two daughters, Mrs. Tracey, who is resident in England, and Mrs. Hogg, who lives in Scotland, as well as by his brother, Mr. W. B. Smyth, and sister, Miss Smyth, who reside at Strabane. To them the sincere sympathy of the community will be extended in full measure.

## **DEATH OF MR. R. H. SMYTH, H.M.V.L.**

### **DERRY HARBOUR CHAIRMAN**

#### **FRIEND OF EX-SERVICEMEN.**

We regret to announce the death which took place suddenly this morning of Mr. Robert H. Smyth, H.M.V.L., who occupied a leading and distinguished position in the commercial and public life of Derry and district, in which he was universally esteemed. One of Mr. Smyth's last public functions as H.M.V.L. was to receive the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester on their recent visit to the city.

A son of the late Mr. Robert Smyth, he was a director of the well-known firm of flour millers, Messrs Robt. Smyth & Co., Derry and Strabane, and he was also associated with other industrial concerns in the city.

#### **INTEREST IN PORT AFFAIRS.**

Mr. Smyth took a deep interest in the affairs of the port. He was elected a member of the Harbour Commissioners in 1914, and for the past 14 years filled the position of chairman, a record in the history of that body.

Mr. Smyth, who was High Sheriff of the city in 1929, was a generous friend of the ex-Servicemen, to whose welfare he devoted a great deal of his time and ability. He was also closely identified with the Sailors' Rest, and spared no

effort in the work of helping the shipwrecked mariner, while as in the last war every movement for the entertainment of the troops had in him a most enthusiastic supporter.

Amongst his industrial activities, Mr. Smyth was chairman of directors of the Londonderry Gaslight Co. He was appointed a member of the N.I. Transport Board in 1935, to which he rendered valuable service. He was also a life governor of Derry City and County Hospital and a former president of Derry Y.M.C.A.

A man of great personal charm, there was no more popular figure in the city, and his passing will be sincerely mourned by all creeds and classes.





John Britton was a medical practitioner, who lived at Derry Road, Strabane.

JOHN BRITTON M.D. F.R.C.S.E.  
Who died 11th October 1910  
Also his Wife MARGARET HENRY  
Who Died 6th March 1935 Aged 71 Years

And of His Son  
WILLIAM K.M. BRITTON B.E.T.C.D.  
2nd Lieut. Munster Fusiliers  
Attached Royal Flying Corps.  
Killed 23rd May 1917 Aged 26 years

Also Their son  
HAROLD WARWICK  
Who Died 23rd Feb 1958 Aged 56 Years  
and His Wife MARY ELIZABETH STEVENSON  
Who died 28th Sept. 2009 Aged 96 Years

### Strabane Doctor's Death.

The death occurred at his residence, on Tuesday evening, after a lingering illness, of Dr. John Britton, Strabane. Dr. Britton was the son of Rev. Alexander Britton, of Bready, Strabane, and was educated at Glasgow University, where he graduated M.B. in 1857.

The many friends and acquaintances of Dr. Thomas Britton, son of the late Dr. John Britton, Strabane, will be pleased to learn that he has been promoted to the rank of captain in the R.A.M.C., and is in charge of a military hospital in Perthshire, Scotland.

### THE FUNERAL.

Amid manifestations of profound sorrow the remains of Dr. John Britton, Hazelwood, Strabane, were conveyed for interment to the New Cemetery, Strabane, on Friday. The cortege was very large, practically the entire adult male population of the town attending, together with hundreds from the surrounding district. Blinds were drawn in the houses en route to the burying-ground. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. C. K. Toland, minister of Strabane Second Presbyterian Church, of whose congregation the deceased was a member. The Rev. Edward Clarke, First Presbyterian Church, assisted. The chief mourners were—Mrs. Britton (widow), Mrs. Porter (sister-in-law), Messrs. Alex. Britton, T. C. Britton, W. K. M. Britton, J. H. Britton, and H. W. Britton (sons), the Rev. Dr. Magill (father-in-law), Dr. R. J. Johnstone, Messrs. R. J. Porter and D. Strain (brothers-in-law), Mr. B. W. Porter (nephew), the Rev. J. Beattie and Mr. J. Stevenson (cousins). Floral tributes were sent by the following:—Mrs. Britton and family, Mr. and Mrs. Galloway, Mr. T. W. D. Humphreys, Captain and Mrs. J. C. Herdman, Mr. and Mrs. James Toner, Mrs. and the Misses Greer, Miss Smyth (Porthall), Mrs. John Colhoun, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Magill, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Johnstone, Mr. and Mrs. David Strain, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Porter, Mr. and Mrs. Craig, the Misses Kerr, Mrs. James Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Smyth and family (Strathfoyle), Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Cooper, Mrs. Gordon and family (Stragullen House), Miss Hepburn, Miss M'Crea (Lisdivin), Mrs. Ballantyne (Lisdivin), Miss M'Crea (Leckpatrick), Miss Clark (Belmont).

DEATH OF A STRABANE DOCTOR.—The death of Dr. John Britton, Hazelwood, Strabane, has been heard of in that town with general regret. Although ailing for more than a year and in indifferent health for a considerably longer period, he was only three weeks confined to bed. His death removes one of the most respected and skilful medical practitioners in the North-West. A son of the late Rev. Alexander Britton, of Bready, Dr. Britton was a student of Glasgow University, where he took his M.B. degree in 1857. He also held the F.R.C.S. of Edinburgh. He practised a couple of years in Oxford, and in 1860 came to Strabane. In 1863 he married Miss Magill, a daughter of Rev. Dr. Magill, Belfast, by whom he is survived, together with six sons and a daughter.



William Kerr Magill Britton, Lieut. R.F.C.  
Killed, May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1917.

BRITTON—At Yatesbury, Wiltshire, on May 23, the result of a flying accident, Second-Lieutenant W. K. Magill Britton, Royal Flying Corps, aged 25 years, fourth son of the late Dr. John Britton, J.P., Strabane, and grandson of the Rev. George Magill, D.D., Elmwood Avenue, Belfast.

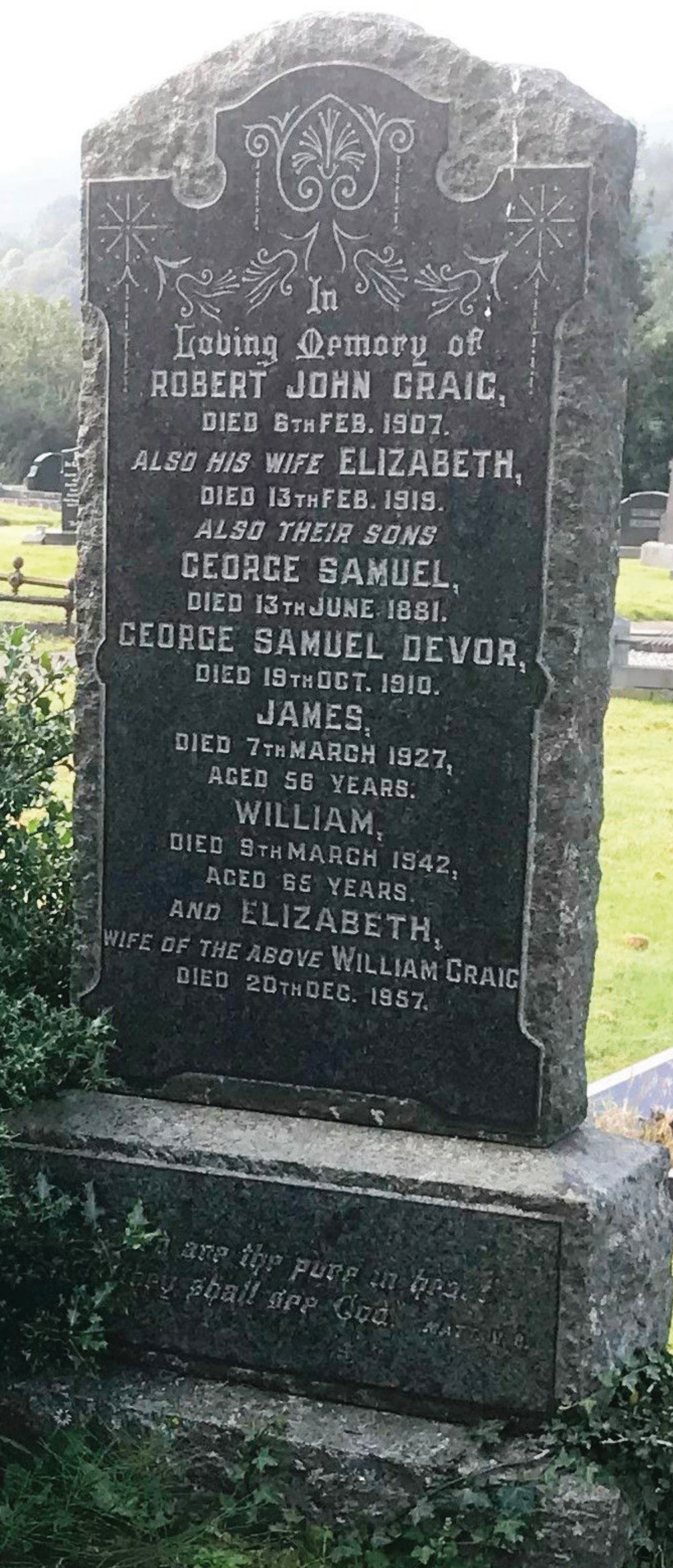
### THE ROLL OF HONOUR. Flying Officer Killed.

Second-Lieutenant W. K. Magill Britton, Royal Flying Corps, was killed in an aeroplane accident at Yatesbury, Wiltshire, England, on Wednesday evening. Second-Lieutenant Britton, who was twenty-five years of age, was the fourth son of the late Dr. John Britton, J.P., Strabane, and a grandson of the Rev. Dr. George Magill, Elmwood Avenue, Belfast. He was a nephew of Mr. R. J. Porter, solicitor, Wellington Place, Belfast. The deceased officer was educated at Strabane and Foyle College, and afterwards proceeded to Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated in arts and engineering. In April, 1916, he received a commission in the Royal Munster Fusiliers from Sandhurst, and three months later he was seconded for duty with the Royal Flying Corps. He proceeded to France, where he took part in numerous engagements with enemy machines over the German lines. He was ultimately wounded, and was subsequently sent to England and

appointed an instructor. His brother, Captain Thomas Britton, R.A.M.C., is serving in France.

Second-Lieutenant Edwin S. M'Cullagh, Cheshire Regiment, officially reported missing since 21st May, is the younger son of Mr. S. W. M'Cullagh, B.A., Roselands, Rosetta Park, Belfast. He received his earlier education at St. Jude's School and the Royal Belfast Academical Institution, graduating in arts in Queen's University in 1915. He was a member of the Officers' Training Corps, and on taking his degree he applied for a commission, being posted to the Cheshire Regiment on 24th August, 1915. His brother, Captain W. M'K. H. M'Cullagh, M.B., Royal Army Medical Corps, has served with distinction in France, gaining the Military Cross and being twice mentioned in despatches.





## DEATH OF THE MASTER OF STRABANE WORKHOUSE.

Much regret has been occasioned in the Strabane district by the news of the death of Mr. R. J. Craig, master of Strabane Workhouse. As recently as last Tuesday week he attended a meeting of the board, and it is supposed that he caught the chill which subsequently cost him his life on that occasion. Serious developments took place about the end of last week, and although Drs. Boyd and Trimble were unremitting in their attention Mr. Craig passed away on Wednesday evening. The deceased gentleman was 63 years of age, and for the long period of thirty-four years he had acted as master of the Strabane Workhouse. In early life he was a teacher at Milford, but he gave up the scholastic profession to fill an appointment in the estate office of the Earl of Lintin, subsequently resigning his post there to come to Strabane. He married a Milford lady early in life, and she came to Strabane with him to help in the task of controlling the workhouse as its matron. Both the deceased gentleman and his wife earned widespread respect, and it was a matter for almost universal regret when about two weeks back they both tendered their resignation as the result of slight conflict with the Stores Committee of the board of guardians. During his mastership Mr. Craig witnessed many big alterations in the workhouse and its administration, and he acquired a thorough knowledge of poor law matters which he was ever ready to place at the disposal of the guardians and other interested persons. His disposition was ever kindly and courteous, and the poor people forced to seek the shelter of the house have lost in him a good friend. Outside their workhouse duties Mr. and Mrs. Craig made many friends, and both were always willing to assist in local charitable and philanthropic efforts to the best of their ability.

## Strabane Workhouse.

In accordance with time-honoured custom the inmates of Strabane Workhouse were provided with many of the good things which go to adorn the tables of their more fortunate brethren in the outside world at this time of peace and goodwill among men. The Master of the Institution, Mr. Craig, had the dining-room decorated with holly and evergreens and the inmates were provided with a breakfast of tea, currant bread, and cake. In the evening the dinner served under the personal superintendence of Mr. Craig and Mrs. Craig (matron) consisted of roast beef, vegetables, etc., and plum-pudding was afterwards served. An extra tea was also given and the men were allowed extra tobacco. Everything possible was done to make the inmates happy and contented. A Christmas-tree, loaded with fruit and toys, will be erected on Tuesday evening next for the enjoyment of the young people of the Institution.

## ASSAULTING A WORKHOUSE MASTER.

### A Caution to Tramps.

At a special court of petty sessions, held in the Constabulary Barracks, Strabane, on the evening of the 10th inst., before Dr. J. M. Trimble, J.P., and Mr. Edward Gallagher, J.P., a man named James Clarke, of no fixed residence, was charged with assaulting the master of Strabane Workhouse (Mr. R. J. Craig), the porter (Denis Phelan), and the ambulance driver (Jas. Moore). The accused, who was described as a dangerous and quarrelsome man, with a bad record, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, in default of finding bail for his future good behaviour.

## MANAGEMENT OF STRABANE WORKHOUSE.

Yesterday Mr. J. Coffey and Mr. J. Considine, Inspectors of the Local Government Board, opened an inquiry in Strabane Workhouse regarding the discharge of their duties by Mr. J. E. Starkie, clerk, and Mr. J. Craig, master. It was alleged that the clerk allowed the affairs of his office to get into a muddle, and minutes had not been forwarded to the Local Government Board in due time. It was also alleged that his estimates were founded on a wrong basis. The master was charged with waste and neglect of duty. The inquiry will last several days.

One of our oldest residents—and admittedly the oldest of her sex in the district—passed away on Friday last in the person of Mrs Elizabeth Craig, of Queen street. The deceased, who had almost reached her 95th year, had not been complaining of any serious indisposition, and her death, which was no doubt due to old age, came somewhat unexpectedly. Her husband, who predeceased her many years, was a Constabulary pensioner, and acted as bailiff for the Manchester estate; a son, Mr James Craig, who has since died, was for some time master of Lurgan Workhouse, and a son, who survives her, Mr Robert Craig, is master of Strabane Workhouse. Mrs Craig, who was also related by marriage to Mr Robert Jones, rate collector, was highly respected by all who knew her. The funeral took place on Monday, when the remains were interred in the New Cemetery.







## FUNERAL OF DR. O'DONNELL, STRABANE.

The funeral of Dr. O'Donnell, Strabane, nephew of Mr. P. M'Menamin, J.P., took place on Monday, and the cortege was one of the largest witnessed in the town for a lengthened period. The protracted illness of the deceased, extending over a year, which cut short the bright prospects of a talented professional career and the happiness of his young wife, called forth the sincerest sympathies of those who knew him. The remains were conveyed from the residence of deceased to the Church of the Immaculate Conception, where an appropriate service was conducted by the Rev. Hugh M'Glynn, C.C. At the close of the service, he bore eloquent testimony to the character of the deceased. The chief mourners were—Mrs. O'Donnell, widow of deceased; Dr. Joseph O'Donnell, Preston, brother; Mr. Hugh O'Donnell, brother-in-law, Sligo; and Mr. P. M'Menamin, J.P. The service at the grave was also conducted by Rev. Mr. M'Glynn.

The coffin, which was of massive oak, beautifully mounted in brass and ebony, was supplied by Mr. A. Hamilton, ironmonger, Strabane.

James O'Donnell was a medical doctor  
who resided at Castle Street, Strabane.

J.P. O'DONNELL M.D.

Who Died 12th February 1910

Also

MARY ANN O'DONNELL

His Wife

Died 28 December 1913

## OBITUARY.

### DEATH OF DR. O'DONNELL, STRABANE.

With feelings of sincere regret we announce the death of Dr. O'Donnell, Castle Place, Strabane, on Saturday last, 12th February, at the early age of 33 years. Previous to his resignation of Rowan Dispensary District, Mohill, Co. Leitrim, some two years ago, he contracted a very bad cold, which, despite the very best medical skill and care, he could not shake off; and when it became evident he could not recover, all his thoughts were turned to the life beyond the grave, and his death, if premature, and the cause of great sorrow, was also most edifying, and a source of consolation to his bereaved wife and mother, as well as to Father Hugh McGlynn, his Father confessor, who was hourly at his bedside during his last moments. Father McGlynn, after Solemn Mass on Monday in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, gave eloquent testimony to the patience and Christian resignation with which Dr. O'Donnell died. Deceased was eldest son of the late Mr. James O'Donnell, Cloonanure, Gurteen, Co. Sligo, and during his all too short medical career, made hosts of friends all over the West and North, where he practised his profession.

Messages of sympathy and condolence were received from Dr. O'Donnell, Bishop of Raphoe; Dr. McHugh, Bishop of Derry, and from the majority of the clergy and laity of both Diocese; from his old friends in Achonry, as well as

from various parts of Ireland and Great Britain.

For long will the kindly, genial, generous, open-hearted young doctor be missed and mourned by his bereaved young wife and child, his relatives and his friends, and their fervent prayer is—May God have mercy on his soul, and may the turf lie lightly on the generous young heart of him who is gone.

The chief mourners were:—Mrs. O'Donnell (wife), Mrs. O'Donnell (mother), Dr. Joseph O'Donnell, Preston (brother); Mr. Hugh O'Donnell, Cloonanure, Gurteen (brother-in-law), and Mr. P. McManamin, J.P., Strabane (uncle-in-law).

The funeral cortege was very large. It would be impossible to give anything like a list of those present, and we must be content by saying it was abundantly representative of every creed and class in Tyrone and surroundings.

The coffin, which was of massive oak, beautifully mounted in brass and ebony, was supplied by Mr. A. Hamilton, Strabane.—R.I.P.





CHARLES ALFRED ELLIOTT  
Died 16th April 1876 Aged 6 Months  
ROBERT HANNA ELLIOTT M.D.  
Tracherous Murdered with six  
Companions by the King of Benin  
When on a Peace Mission to His City  
4th Jan 1897 Aged 31 Years  
WILLIAM MOORE ELLIOTT M.D. F.R.C.S.E.  
Accidently Killed at Mountcharles  
18th July 1899 Aged 34 Years  
GEORGE ELLIOTT Accidently Killed  
Near Plato Saskatchewan  
4th October 1918 Aged 45 Years  
MARY Wife of COLONEL CHARLES ROULSTON ELLIOTT  
Died at Portrush 12 August 1931 and is buried there

**The Benin Masacre, 1897**  
In December 1896, James Robert Phillips, Acting Consul-General of the Niger Coast Protectorate, set out on a peace mission to Benin to advance trade talks with the Oba (king). Despite the Oba requesting a delay due to the Igue festival and asking to receive only Phillips and one Jakri chief later, Phillips proceeded with a larger entourage. On 4 January 1897, Phillips and his party were ambushed near Gwato, resulting in the deaths of most British personnel and African porters. Only two British survivors remained. Over 100 porters were captured. News of the massacre reached London swiftly, triggering the Benin Punitive Expedition. On 9 February 1897, around 1,200 British forces launched a full-scale invasion of the Kingdom of Benin. Within days, they overran the city, looted sacred sites and palaces, and burned much of it down, including the Oba’s palace. Evidence of human sacrifice was found. The Oba, fearing retribution, reportedly conducted further mass sacrifices in desperation.

**MRS. ELLIOTT, PORTRUSH**

The death at her residence, Dhu Varren, Portrush, on Wednesday, of Mrs. Mary Elliott, wife of Colonel C. R. Elliott, has caused wide-spread regret in the district. On Monday morning Mrs. Elliott was hanging a picture in her home, and fell from a pedestal, striking her head on the floor. A servant who was with her immediately called for assistance, but Mrs. Elliott never regained consciousness.

Mrs. Elliott was a member of a well-known Strabane family, and with her husband had resided in Portrush for about twelve years. Colonel Elliott, who had a long and distinguished service in the Army Medical Corps in India, retiring some years ago, was on Saturday last elected captain of the Royal Portrush Golf Club. Deep sympathy is felt for him in his tragically sudden bereavement. The funeral will take place to-day to Ballywillan Cemetery.

**THE BENIN MASSACRE.**

**INTERVIEW WITH MR LOCKE.**  
(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

FORCADOS RIVER, February 4th.

I have to-day had an interview with Mr Locke, one of the two survivors of the Benin massacre. He said:—  
“ We started from Gwato on January 4th. Messengers from the king of Benin came to meet us the next day. After halting to confer with them we pushed on. As soon as we had passed a fallen tree, half way to the city, the natives, who were in ambush, fell upon us. Some were armed with long Danish guns, and others with hatchets. A place had been cleared in the bush, and the men with guns were lying down with the muzzles of their long flint locks nearly touching the path. They fired upon the white men indiscriminately. When the firing commenced, Captain Crawford, Mr Phillips, Captain Boisragon, Captain Maling, Dr. Elliot, and myself were leading. My bootlace came undone, and I then fell back to the rear, with Gordon Powis and Campbell. Captain Crawford immediately afterwards came running back, crying out that Mr Phillips was dead. While I was consulting with him and the others, the Benin men again opened fire upon us. Capt. Crawford, Dr. Elliott, and Capt. Maling fell immediately, mortally wounded, and I was also hit. Mr Powis, who spoke the Benin language, shouted out to the hidden natives, trying to pacify them, but before he could say more than a few words he was shot dead. I called out to Captain Boisragon, who was near me, and asked whether he was alive, for he had been wounded as well as myself. The two of us then crawled into the bush, where we succeeded in hiding ourselves. The Benin people were meanwhile attacking the carriers, in order to secure their loads. I luckily picked up a compass which Captain Crawford had dropped in the path. With its help we steered our way, after five days' wandering in the bush—drinking the dew from the leaves, and satisfying our hunger with a few roots—to a small creek, where we found a native in a canoe. By his help we ultimately reached the Consulate at Sapele in safety.”

Mr Locke had four wounds, two in the right arm, one in the forearm, and one in the abdomen. All are nearly healed, and he looks in fairly good health now, but he bears the marks of privation and suffering. Captain Boisragon has comparatively recovered. Mr Locke leaves for home by the steamer Volta.



**ELLIOTT**—October 4, 1918, near Elrose, Saskatchewan, Canada, killed in motor accident, George Elliott, fifth son of the late William Elliott, of Strabane.

### **Colonel C. R. Elliott.**

The death took place yesterday at his residence, Dhu Varren, Portrush, of Colonel Charles R. Elliott (retired), Army Medical Service.

Colonel Elliott was interested in everything pertaining to the welfare of young people in the town, and was president of the Young People's Presbyterian Society.

### **WILLS OF LOCAL INTEREST.**

Colonel Charles Roulston Elliott, R.A.M.C., of Dhu Varren, Portrush, who died on October 20 last, left personal estate valued at £4,932. He bequeathed £300 to Letitia Amy Benison, his present housekeeper, if still in his service at his death; £30 to Mary Smyth, housemaid; similarly, £100 to Dr. Barnardo's Homes; £100 to the Salvation Army.

Mr. William Robinson Douglas, of Ballyards, Lislea, Co. Armagh, who died on September 5 last, left personal estate valued at £4,624.

Miss Jemima Eliza Marion Boyle, of Bournemouth, who died on October 31 last, aged 92 years daughter of the late Conolly Boyle, formerly of Rush Hall, Co. Derry, left estate of the gross value of £2,669, with net personalty £1,112.

## **MELANCHOLY FATALITY IN MOUNTCHARLES.**

### **Doctor Moore Elliott Killed.**

Many of our readers, particularly in Strabane and surrounding districts, will learn with sincere regret of the death of Dr William Moore Elliott, F.R.C.S.E., eldest son of Mr William Elliott, merchant, Strabane, which took place on Wednesday at Mountcharles under extremely sad circumstances. Deceased, who was home on a holiday from the West Coast of Africa, where, we understand, he filled an important engagement in the Government service, was out cycling and met with an accident, which terminated fatally. It is only a short time since Dr Robert Elliott, deceased's brother, was killed in the Benin expedition. This circumstance, combined with the fact that Dr William Moore Elliott was the eldest son and a young man with exceedingly bright prospects, renders the melancholy fatality one of peculiar sadness.

It appears Dr Elliott left home on Tuesday in company with his brother Alfred with the intention of spending a few days in Mountcharles and neighbourhood. At seven o'clock on Wednesday evening his friends in Strabane received a telegram to say that he was seriously injured by reason of an accident. This was followed shortly afterwards by another telegram to say he was dead. It is supposed he was travelling down a rather

steep incline and must have lost control of his machine, as he struck against a tree with such force that he was killed instantaneously, his neck being dislocated by the impact. Deceased, was a young man of pleasing but rather retiring disposition, and was remarkably popular with all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. He has been in the service of the Gold Coast Company for seven years, and came home only a few weeks ago on a seven months' holiday from the West Coast of Africa. He was in the best of health and spirits, and told a friend about a week ago that after another year's service he could retire from the service in the event of illness. Only recently he had been transferred to the Hinterland adjoining the French colony, and was delighted with the new situation, as he was in such great favour with the natives that he could go about unarmed with perfect freedom, while his neighbouring friend the French medical officer had to go about armed and protected by an escort. He was delighted with the climate and life in West Africa. The country suited him splendidly, and he spoke with admiration of the way in which the British governed the natives, who highly appreciated their humane treatment. Deceased was about thirty-five years of age, and was a member of the Masonic body, having joined the order in Strabane. He was educated at Strabane Academy under Mr. A. E. Kerr, M.A., and was remarkably clever in his profession.





## FUNERAL OF MR. WILLIAM RUSSELL, STRABANE.

The funeral of Mr. William Russell, Derry Road, Strabane, took place yesterday. The remains were removed from his late residence to the Methodist Church, where a service was conducted by Rev. Clayton, Rev. Roddy, Rev. Freckleton, and the Rev. Collier.

The burial took place in the New Cemetery. The chief mourners were John, Frank, and Alec (brothers); Dr. William Russell, Dr. Victor Russell, Cecil, Leslie, and Basil Russell (sons); J. M'Farland (Beragh); John Kelso (brothers-in-law); Mr. Fred Humphreys (son-in-law); John Smith, William Smith, William Russell, and John Russell (nephews).



**THE FUNERAL.**  
of **Rev. W. A. H. Robinson**, who died on Thursday, took place on Saturday, the burying place being **Strabane**. Notwithstanding the intimation of "No flowers," the number of wreaths and other floral tributes were exceptional completely covering the coffin. A short service was held in the Church of which for an exceptional period he had been an assiduous Pastor, and was conducted by the **Rev. J. Coulson**, Enniskillen, and the **Rev. E. de Courcy**, Cootehill. The chief mourners were Mr. Cecil W. **Robinson** (Dublin) son, and the **Rev. W. H. Massey** (Lurgan) son-in-law.

Amongst the general public were:—The **Revs.** Edward de Courcy, John Coulson, R. E. Sherwood, J. J. Daly, William Addy, J. H. Brownrigg, John Elliott, John Cullen, William Maguire, Henry Shire, H. M'Gahie, George **Robinson**, J. W. R. Campbell, M.A.; James Richey, S. Fleming Stuart, B.A.; (Presbyterian); Chancellor T. G. Stokes, I.C.; William J. Booth, P.P.; Alexander M'Peake, C.C.; Edward Clarke, **Strabane** (Presbyterian); Messrs. Anthony Bunting, Lurgan; Thomas Spence, Maralin; H. E. Crawford, Belfast; George S. Stirling, (Supervisor I. Revenue, Buncrana); Hugh Moore, **Strabane**; Robert Smith, **Strabane**; William Russell, **Strabane**; Thomas Sweeney, **Strabane**; Stanley Thompson, **Strabane**; John H. Massey, Dublin; J. J. Roberts, Enniskillen; H. M'llwaine, Drumkeerin; Dr. George A. Pringle, Messrs. George M'Elroy, solicitor; William Early, solr.; John J. Eea, solr.; Joseph Speer, solr.; Thomas Irvine Graham, J.P.; Matthew J. Fiddes, J.P.; Joseph Abraham, J.P.; John Loughran, V.S., J.P.; John M'Cann, J.P.; Joseph Boyd, Robert Galbraith, James Taylor, M.P.S.I.; James M'Nulty, James Woods, John Fair, Foster M'Kay, C.P.S.; Isaac A. Lowry, Press correspondent; William Speer, David Lamb, P. J. Hanncker, Thomas J. Hadden, J. M'llwain, Michael Daly, John Gaskin, Robert Irwin, John C. Fiddes, Peter Magirr, H. S. Sloan (Manager C. V. Railway); P. M. Soraghan (Accountant C. V. Railway); John Emerson, (store-keeper C. V. Railway); Gustaf Akerlind (Supt. C. V. Ry.); Andrew and Willie Fair, Annagh House; W. J. Moore, John Henderson, Thomas Henderson, Robert Sawyers, James Abraham, Robert M'Cleery, Thomas Kennedy, Wm. Beatty, Patrick Flood, Robert A. Lowry, John Young, &c., &c.

## DEATH OF MR. WM. RUSSELL, STRABANE.

Much regret was occasioned throughout the North-West by the news of the death of Mr. William Russell, which took place at Elmview, Strabane, on Monday. The deceased, who carried on an extensive drapery business both in Strabane and Omagh, was of a kindly and generous disposition, and was most charitable. He leaves a wife and a large family, three of whom are members of the medical profession. There is deep sympathy with them in their bereavement.

## GRAND DISPLAY OF NEW GOODS

CHOICE SELECTION OF LADIES' BLOUSES.  
GREAT VARIETY OF  
LADIES' COSTUMES, COSTUME SKIRTS, CORSETS,  
GLOVES, BODICES, NECKWEAR, ETC. ETC.  
GREAT VALUE IN  
MEN'S & BOYS' READYMADE CLOTHING, CAPS,  
SHIRTS, TIES, COLLARS, ETC.  
TENS UPON TONS OF SOLID LEATHER BOOTS AND SHOES.  
BEST VALUE EVER OFFERED IN OMAH. ONLY ONE PRICE AND PLAIN FIGURES.

**WILLIAM RUSSELL.** MANCHESTER HOUSE.  
STRABANE.

## DEATH OF THE **REV. W. A. H. ROBINSON.**

Great regret has been occasioned at Aughnacloy by the death of the **Rev. W. A. H. Robinson**. Deceased was well known and highly respected by all sections of the community as was evidenced by the large funeral cortege. The reverend gentleman's illness was of short duration. Taking a cold which turned to influenza he was confined to bed for a few days, but rising too soon, and doing visitation work, he suffered a relapse, and this taken in conjunction with a weakened heart, finally caused his death, despite skilled medical attendance and the unremitting care of his loving daughter.

Deceased was 58 years of age having been born in 1851. He entered the ministry in 1871, and was ordained in 1875. He was first stationed in Aughnacloy in 1872 for one year, and again for the last four years, during which time he has acted as the indefatigable secretary of the Clones District Synod. The late Mr. **Robinson** will be greatly missed being a gentleman of deep-seated religious principles, and an untiring visitor and an earnest preacher.





**TYRONE AND DONEGAL REPORTER**

# Strabane

**Weekly News**

HOME **NEWS** COMMUNITY/  
LIFESTYLE SPORT MOTORS JOBS CLASSIFIEDS ANNOUNCEMENTS



Saturday 28 September 2019 12:00

The family of Strabane poet John McCrossan gathered in the town on a Saturday in 2019 to unveil his headstone, more than 100 years after his death.

John, also known as the 'Evish Bard', was a working-class farmer from Strabane who, in the early 19th century, spent much of his time writing and reciting poetry, which was frequently published – mainly in the Farmer's Almanac. He had won awards for his work and often shared his poems with his local church, his community, and relatives overseas.

John passed away in 1895, aged in his 50s, and was buried in Strabane Cemetery alongside his wife Mary-Ann McGurk and their two children, John Junior and Rebecca. However, no headstone marked the grave, leaving it unidentifiable despite his local renown and a valued body of published work that continued to circulate.

That changed in 2019, when his descendants came together to raise funds for a headstone through a GoFundMe campaign. Approximately 100 family members from Ireland, England, Australia, New Zealand, the United States, and across Europe gathered in Strabane to celebrate the life and legacy of their distinguished ancestor and ensure his memory would endure both locally and internationally. The headstone, created by Devine Memorials, was unveiled following a special Mass at the Church of the Immaculate Conception.

The event had been in planning for over a year and was made possible thanks to the efforts of Poet John's great-great-grandson, Patrick McCrossan of New York, and his great-great-granddaughter, Rebecca (Reba) McDaid Longhorn, who rediscovered much of his work. Patrick had explained beforehand: "Descendants of Poet John will gather in Strabane – some for the first time – for the unveiling of the headstone and to celebrate his legacy. They will be travelling from Australia, England, Dublin, Scotland, and the US to participate in this momentous occasion."

The event had already garnered widespread media attention in the weeks leading up to it, reportedly reaching around one million people. Among those in attendance was the Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council, Michaela Boyle, who described it as a momentous occasion not just for the family, but for the wider community.

By John M'Crossan, Evish, Strabane.

Thou goddess wandering o'er land and sea,  
Dealing thy gifts by random 'mong mankind,  
Methinks thou must be deaf as well as blind,  
Else thou would'st some time deign a part to me.  
Oft have I anxiously appealed to thee,  
And pushed myself to where thou mightest me  
find.  
Yet, still, I find myself left quite behind,  
As though thou did'st me neither hear nor see.  
Like spendthrift heirs of misers' hoarded gold,  
How many idlers on thy gifts carouse,  
Whilst I am daily toiling like a blouse,  
And even thy titled namesake, basely bold,  
Miss Fortune, whom no man would e'er espouse,  
With me this stern intruder's wont to house.





#### FUNERAL OF REV. C. K. TOLAND.

On Saturday afternoon the people of Strabane and for miles around paid sincere tribute to the memory of the Rev. C. K. Toland, whose death took place on Thursday. Deceased had been a minister of the Presbyterian Church for almost half-a-century. Every class and creed was represented in the large cortege that followed the remains from the manse in Derry-road to the New Cemetery. Along the route tokens of mourning were seen in closed shops and drawn blinds. The service at the manse was conducted by the Rev. Robert Dick, Douglasbridge. The chief mourners were—Dr. C. K. Toland, London (son), Master Herbert Toland (grandson), Mr. Edward Clark, solicitor, and Dr. W. L. Stevenson (sons-in-law), and the Rev. John M'Kee, Wishaw (brother-in-law). Following the chief mourners were a large number of ministers of the Presbyterian Church from the surrounding counties. At the graveside the service was conducted by the Rev. M. Neill, Sion Mills, and the Rev. Edward Clarke, M.A., First Strabane.

#### THE LATE MRS. TOLAND, STRABANE.

##### REFERENCES BY REV. MATTHEW NEILL.

Owing to the lamented death of Mrs. Toland the pulpit of Second Strabane was occupied by the Rev. Matthew Neill, an old friend of the family. The subject at the morning service was from the anointing scene at Bethany. After describing Mary's act as an evidence of faith, a token of gratitude, and an offering of love, the preacher called special attention to love's enthusiasm and love's liberality. At the close of the sermon he said—There is a reason for my presence here to-day beyond the ordinary, and which needs no explanation. Mary's memorial has, indeed, been speaking amongst us this morning with a double voice, and we are reminded by other episodes and life histories of the costly spikenard poured so lavishly and lovingly on the Lord Jesus. Amongst us are there not still homes and sacred places fragrant with the same kind of ointment—lives that have been giving forth the same aroma of meekness, charity, sweet reasonableness, and sincere devotion—fruit from the same faith and love? Of that gentlest of wives, tenderest of mothers, and truest of friends let me say in the comprehensive words of Him who knoweth all, "She hath done what she could." Most people have a little of what might be designated two sidedness. I knew of

no second with Mrs. Toland. I knew of no offence of her giving, no pain of her inflicting, of no sorrow of her creating, of no faith or friendship of her breaking, and that I say after a long acquaintanceship of over thirty years. The first impression received and the first opinion formed remained unaltered. She lived for those she loved, and for each and all "she did what she could." Her words were few. Her deeds were sincere and honest, but it was chiefly in those most admirable qualities of mind, heart, and spirit that she shone so conspicuously, and rises before us to-day in strength and beauty. These are her memorials, and shall continue to be for many of us while memory holds. She will be missed in this circle, and in others more remote, but it is in that inner and most sacred of circles where she will be missed most of all: where her example was a daily sermon and her influence a soothing psalm. There in the light, and amid the tears and prayers of those she loved most on earth, she robed and waited for the "Voice that calleth her home." There another Sabbath has come with its resurrection hopes. There Jesus, the ever-welcome, comes, breaking through the closed doors with His message of peace, walking in the darkest chamber like an angel of light, Jesus, the unexpected, unfailing friend. With us in the midst of our tangled thoughts, torn feelings, and bleeding memories, touching us so tenderly, and "speaking as never man spake." Then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace be unto you."

ELIZABETH TOLAND  
Wife of Rev. C. R. TOLAND  
Born 6th Sept. 1851, Died 26th Jan. 1908

REV. C. R. TOLAND  
Born 20th Nov. 1839 Died 26th Oct. 1916

Also their daughter ANNIE  
Died 29th Oct. 1965  
And Their Daughter FRANCES  
Died 13th March 1971



| Name, Rank & Service No.   | Unit, Regiment, Country of Service                                     | Date of Death                                 | Commemorated at   |  |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| <b>WILLIAM JACKLIN</b><br>Driver<br>Service Number: 1950007              | Royal Engineers<br>United Kingdom                                      | <b>Died 14 November 1943</b>                  | <b>STRABANE CEMETERY</b><br>R.C. part. Sec. A. Class C. Grave 20.<br>United Kingdom     | <div>More details</div> <div><a href="#">Save to My list</a></div> |
| <b>WILLIAM HARPUR</b><br>Sergeant<br>Service Number: 1796407             | Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve<br>United Kingdom                    | <b>Died 25 May 1944</b><br>21 years old       | <b>STRABANE CEMETERY</b><br>C. of I. part. Sec. B. Class C. Grave 10.<br>United Kingdom | <div>More details</div> <div><a href="#">Save to My list</a></div> |
| <b>DANIEL BRESLIN</b><br>Flight Sergeant<br>Service Number: 1561437      | Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve<br>United Kingdom                    | <b>Died 18 July 1943</b><br>20 years old      | <b>STRABANE CEMETERY</b><br>R.C. Part. Sec. A. Class C. Grave 21.<br>United Kingdom     | <div>More details</div> <div><a href="#">Save to My list</a></div> |
| <b>PATRICK JOSEPH GALLAGHER</b><br>Gunner<br>Service Number: 1427296     | <b>332 Bty., 106 H.A.A. Regt.</b><br>Royal Artillery<br>United Kingdom | <b>Died 01 June 1946</b><br>23 years old      | <b>STRABANE CEMETERY</b><br>R.C. Part. Sec. A. Class B. Grave 21.<br>United Kingdom     | <div>More details</div> <div><a href="#">Save to My list</a></div> |
| <b>WILLIAM ALEXANDER MCKINLEY</b><br>Sergeant<br>Service Number: 1080089 | Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve<br>United Kingdom                    | <b>Died 29 March 1943</b><br>20 years old     | <b>STRABANE CEMETERY</b><br>C. of I. part. Sec. D. Class G. Grave 2.<br>United Kingdom  | <div>More details</div> <div><a href="#">Save to My list</a></div> |
| <b>JOHN ALFRED WASSON</b><br>Trooper<br>Service Number: 7897755          | <b>North Irish Horse</b><br>Royal Armoured Corps<br>United Kingdom     | <b>Died 27 May 1941</b><br>25 years old       | <b>STRABANE CEMETERY</b><br>C. of I. part. Sec. E. Class D. Grave 28.<br>United Kingdom | <div>More details</div> <div><a href="#">Save to My list</a></div> |
| <b>WILLIAM KERR MAGILL BRITTON</b><br>Second Lieutenant                  | Royal Flying Corps<br>United Kingdom                                   | <b>Died 23 May 1917</b><br>25 years old       | <b>STRABANE CEMETERY</b><br>AE. 15.<br>United Kingdom                                   | <div>More details</div> <div><a href="#">Save to My list</a></div> |
| <b>JOHN BURKE</b><br>Rifleman<br>Service Number: 23444                   | Royal Irish Rifles<br>United Kingdom                                   | <b>Died 23 September 1918</b><br>16 years old | <b>STRABANE CEMETERY</b><br>FB. 5.<br>United Kingdom                                    | <div>More details</div> <div><a href="#">Save to My list</a></div> |
| <b>P EARLEY</b><br>Gunner  | <b>1st Res. Bty.</b><br>Royal Garrison Artillery<br>United Kingdom     | <b>Died 10 October 1918</b>                   | <b>STRABANE CEMETERY</b><br>FF. 11.<br>United Kingdom                                   | <div>More details</div> <div><a href="#">Save to My list</a></div> |

County: CO. TYRONE

PLACE OF BURIAL: STRABANE CEMETERY

Controlling Authority: Church of Ireland Ground - Urban District Council

The following are buried here: Roman Catholic Ground - R.C. Strabane Cemetery Committee.

GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM

Schedule No.: 1.YR

Certified complete and correct.

SIGNATURE: [Signature] DATE: 1.11.54

| (a)           | (b)                    | (c)                        | (d)   | (e)           | (f)  | (g)  | (h)                | (j)                              |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---|---------------|--|--|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| P.R.G.        | No. and Rank           | Initials, Name and Honours | Unit  | Date of Death | Details of Grave marking including Screen Wall | By whom maintained, if at Commission expense state fee payable | Ownership of Grave | REMARKS                          |
| <u>Gr.No.</u> |                        |                            |   |               |  |  |                    |                                  |
| 10            | 1796407 Sgt (W.Op.Air) | W. HARPUR                  | CHURCH OF IRELAND PART<br>SECTION B. CLASS C<br>R.A.F. (V.R.) | 25.5.44       | P.P.M.   | By relatives   |                    | Pr.P.M.                          |
| 2             | 1080089 Sgt (Pilot)    | W.A. MCKINLEY              | SECTION D. CLASS G<br>5 O.T.U.<br>R.A.F. (V.R.)               | 29.3.43       | P.P.M.   | By relatives   |                    | Pr.                              |
| 28            | 7897755 Tpr            | J.A. WASSON                | SECTION E. CLASS D.<br>North Irish Horse<br>R.A.C.            | 27.5.41       | C.H.   | By relatives   |                    | Pr. Kerb                         |
|               |                        |                            | ROMAN CATHOLIC PART<br>SECTION A. CLASS B                     |               |  |  |                    |                                  |
| 21            | 1427296 Gnr            | P.J. GALLAGHER             | 332/106 H.A.A.<br>Regt. R.A.                                  | 1.6.46        | C.H.   | Cemetery Committee @ 5/-                                       |                    | Pr.                              |
|               |                        |                            | SECTION A. CLASS C  |               |  |  |                    |                                  |
| 20            | 1950007 Dvr            | W. JACKLIN                 | R.E.  | 14.11.43      | P.P.M.   | By relatives   |                    | Pr.P.M.                          |
| 21            | 1561437 F/Sgt (A/G)    | D. BRESLIN (D.F.M.)        | 1485 Flt.<br>R.A.F. (V.R.)                                    | 18.7.43       | C.H.   | Cemetery Committee @ 5/-                                       |                    | Pr. C.H.S. REMOVED SEE R.A 15087 |

**STEWARTSTOWN**  
**ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHYARD**  
Index No. U.K. 7463

HENRY, Pte. WILLIAM JOHN, 6984428. Reconnaissance Corps. 7th September, 1941. Son of Joseph and Elizabeth Henry, of Stewartstown.

**STRABANE CEMETERY**  
Index No. U.K. 7464

BRESLIN, Flt. Sgt. (Air Gnr.). DANIEL, 1561437, D.F.M. R.A.F. (V.R.). 18th July, 1943. Age 20. Son of Daniel and Bridget Breslin, of Strabane. R.C. Part. Sec. A. Class C. Grave 21.

GALLAGHER, Gnr. PATRICK JOSEPH, 1427296. 332 Bty., 106 H.A.A. Regt., Royal Artillery. 1st June, 1946. Age 23. Son of Nellie Gallagher, of Strabane. R.C. Part. Sec. A. Class B. Grave 21.

HARPUR, Sgt. (W.Op. (Air)). WILLIAM, 1796407. R.A.F. (V.R.). 25th May, 1944. Age 21. Son of John Blair Harpur and Annie Harpur, of Strabane. C. of I. part. Sec. B. Class C. Grave 10.

**JACKLIN, Dvr. WILLIAM, 1950007. Royal Engineers. 14th November, 1943. R.C. part. Sec. A. Class C. Grave 20.**

**MCKINLEY, Sgt. (Pilot). WILLIAM ALEXANDER, 1080089. R.A.F. (V.R.). 29th March, 1943. Age 20. Son of James and Elizabeth McKinley, of Strabane. C. of I. part. Sec. D. Class G. Grave 2.**

**WASSON, Tpr. JOHN ALFRED, 7897755. North Irish Horse, R.A.C. 27th May, 1941. Age 25. Son of Robert and Louisa Wasson, of Strabane. C. of I. part. Sec. E. Class D. Grave 28.**

**UPPER CLONANEESSE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHYARD**  
Index No. U.K. 7465  
**CORR, Pte. JAMES, 6985080. The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 16th October, 1947. Age 24.**





3444 Rifleman John Burke.  
The Royal Irish Rifles.

Son of James and Annie Burke, of Drumnabury, Strabane.

John Burke, son of James Burke and Annie Burke, formerly Harpur, was born on 9 April 1902 at Drumnabury, Strabane. His father was a Labourer.

John Burke, aged 17, a bachelor, a Soldier, died at the Military Hospital, Victoria Barracks, Belfast, on 23 September 1918.

The cause of death was Influenza with Pneumonia, 7 days, Cardiac Syncope, certified.

897755 Trooper John Alfred Wasson.  
The Royal Armoured Corps. North Irish Horse.  
Died: 27 May 1941 (aged 25)  
Son of Robert and Louisa Wasson of Strabane.

**WASSON—May 27, 1941 (result of an accident), John Alfred Wasson, North Irish Horse, aged 25 years, son of Robert and Louise Wasson, 58, Meetinghouse Street, Strabane. Funeral to Strabane New Cemetery on to-day (Thursday), 29th inst., at 4 p.m. (Official Time).**



Gunner Patrick Earley.  
The Royal Garrison Artillery. 1st Reserve Battery.

Patrick Early, son of Michael Early and Annie Early, formerly McCallion, was born on 15 March 1891 at Drumnahoe, Newtownstewart, Co. Tyrone. His father was noted as a Labourer.

He was a military passenger on board R.M.S. Leinster which was sunk by torpedoes in the Irish Sea, 16 miles east of Dublin, on the morning of 10th October 1918, on its outbound journey of 68 miles from Kingstown, Dublin, to Holyhead, Anglesey, North Wales. His body was recovered, and brought back to Strabane for burial. His name is included in R.M.S. Leinster Casualties A - H

**KILLED BY STEN GUN SHOT**

**Bullets Penetrate An Adjoining Soldiers' Hut**

An unusual fatality in a Suffolk village in which a soldier sitting round the fire in one hut was killed by a shot from a Sten gun accidentally fired in another hut was investigated by the Coroner for the Liberty of Bury St. Edmund's (Mr. Thomas Wilson) on Tuesday afternoon. The dead man was Driver William Jacklin (22), R.E., a native of Lincolnshire, whose wife lives at Strabane, Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland.

The gun belonged to Sapper Ross, who, said Major R. H. Walker, had, at the time of the accident, just been posted to another unit. He had not had much training in the Sten gun, although he had three and a half years' service, but had been trained with a rifle. Normally when cleaning a Sten gun there was no occasion to put in a magazine. He found three holes apparently made by bullets in each of the two huts.

**HOW THE ACCIDENT OCCURRED.**

Police Sgt. Gillings (Horringer) described how he delayed his interview with Ross until his condition improved. Ross then explained that he was preparing his kit ready for his transfer. "I started cleaning my Sten gun," the man continued. "The magazines and ammunition were lying on the bed. I picked up what I thought was an empty magazine, and put it in the hole in the gun where the magazine goes, and went on cleaning it with my right hand. While the barrel of the gun was lying lightly in the palm of my left hand it went off. I cannot say if the bolt-knob caught in my sleeve or on my jack-knife. The bolt was forward whilst I was cleaning the gun. When the gun went off, I threw it down and went outside to see what damage I had done, and I saw deceased stagger to the door of Hut 14 where he collapsed."

Ross said the statement was quite correct. He had never had any instruction in the Sten gun. When he put the magazine in the gun he thought it was empty. He never put any rounds in the magazine.

**VERY AGITATED AND DISTRACTED,**

kept asking if Jacklin was alright, and witness gave instructions for him to be taken to the Guard room, where later in view of his condition he gave him a sedative.

Corpl. G. A. Woodford said that he and others, including Jacklin, were sitting round the fire in Hut 14, when there was an awful clatter and they all scrambled up. Jacklin staggered to the door and collapsed with blood running from his back. Sapper Ross, who was very upset, came from the next hut, and said: "It's all my fault. It was an accident."

Trooper C. W. Lumsden said that while in Hut 15, he saw Ross on his bed counting his ammunition. Then he heard the report of a gun, and saw Ross placing his Sten gun on his bed. They went to Hut 14.

**CORONER'S COMMENTS.**

Driver C. F. Capon gave evidence that he saw Ross loading his Sten gun magazines. "Misadventure."





Mary Foster (formerly Boyd) was the wife of George Foster, a labourer. she died at her home at Ballyfatton, Strabane and is buried in the family grave in Strabane Cemetery.  
Inscription

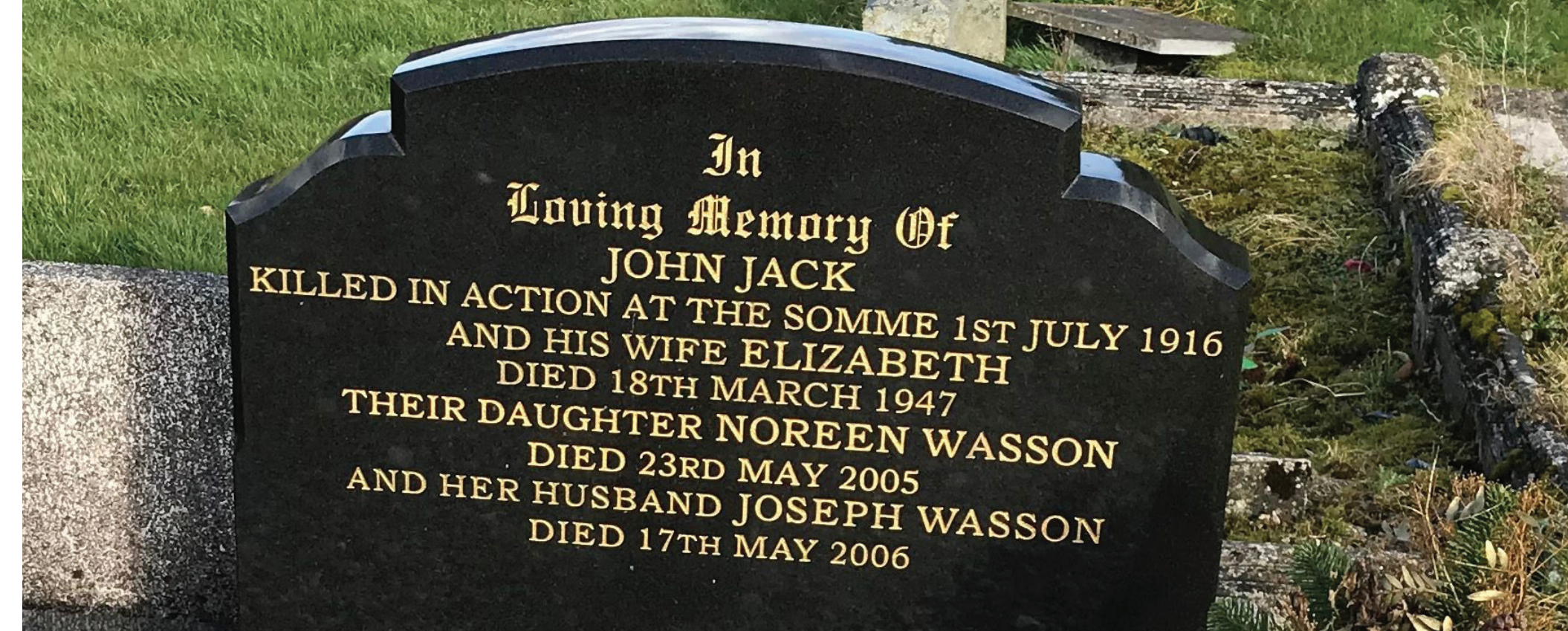
In loving Memory memory of MARY FOSTER died 19th June 1919 aged 66 years  
Also her son GEORGE Killed at Ypres 16th May 1915 aged 31 years  
Also her son JOHN JAMES died 28th June 1920 aged 44 years  
Deeply Regretted  
Also her husband GEORGE died 23rd March 1935 aged 83 years  
Also her son THOMAS who fell asleep 29th June 1937 aged 46 years  
Erected by her family

Service No: 7852

Age: 34

Regiment/Service: Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 'B' Coy. 2nd Bn.

**Killed.**  
The following men of the 2nd Battalion Inniskilling Fusiliers are reported killed :—  
Corporal J. King (2412), Private M. Moran (17054), Private J. Taylor (2445), Private George Foster, Strabane, and Private Wm. Brolly, Ballmoney.



Private John Jack, Bridge Street, Strabane, is officially reported missing, and the news is causing much anxiety to his wife and relatives. Captain M. Conachie, writing to Mrs. Jack on the subject, regrets that he cannot throw any light on the whereabouts of her husband. Colonel Ricardo has also written Mrs. Jack to the same effect. Private Jack took part in the recent big offensive, and has not been heard from since. It may be that he is a prisoner of war in Germany. Shortly after the outbreak of hostilities Private Jack joined the colours. Prior to this he held an important and responsible position in Strabane and was a very popular young man. His genial, kind, and endearing disposition gained for him many friends amongst all creeds and classes. We hope that the worst has not happened to the young man, and that good tidings of him will soon be forthcoming.

### STRABANE VOLUNTEER KILLED.

The relatives of Private John Jack, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Bridge Street, Strabane, have received news that he has been killed. He had been missing since 1st July, and was in the U.V.F.





1080089 Sergeant William Alexander McKinley.  
Pilot. The Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.  
Died: 29 March 1943, Aged 20.  
Son of James and Elizabeth McKinley, of  
Strabane.

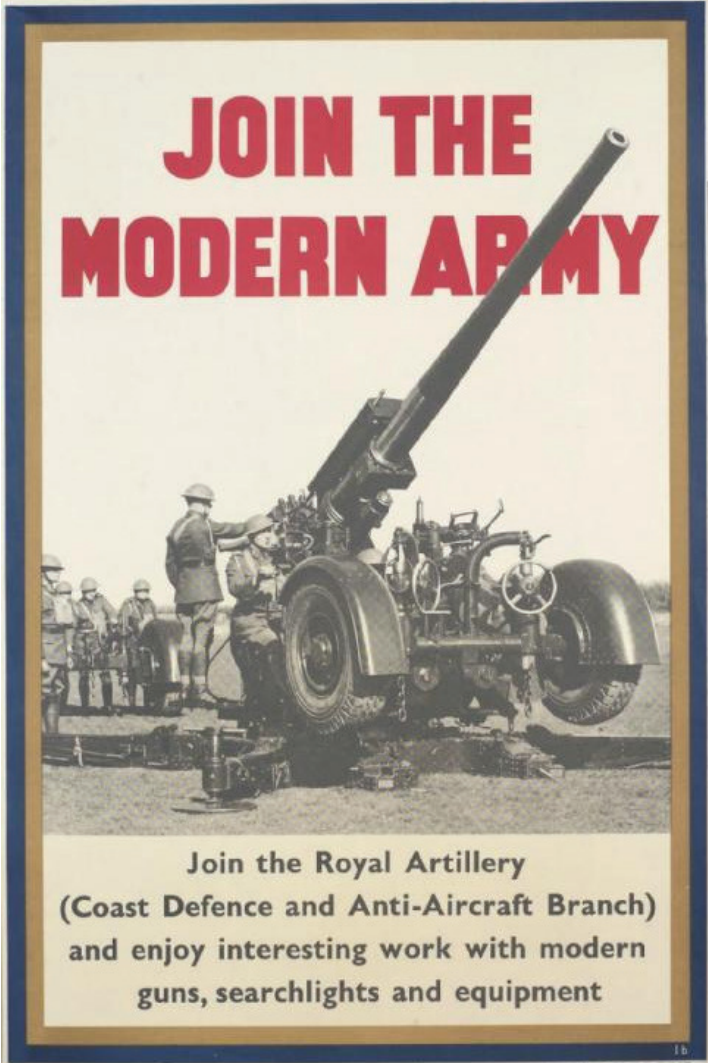
In Loving Memory of Our Dear Son  
WILLIAM ALEXANDER SGT. Pilot R. A. F.  
Killed 29th March 1943  
Also GEORGE RAE Infant Son  
Died 10th Jan. 1935  
Also Their Father  
JAMES MCKINLEY  
Who Died 21st May 1969  
And Their Mother ELIZABETH  
Who died 15th March 1989  
And Their Son JAMES JOHNSTON  
Who Died 2nd July 2017  
Thy Will be Done

**DEATH OF STRABANE R.A.F. PILOT**  
Mr. James F. Gandle, M.P., (vice-chairman), presided at a meeting of Strabane and Castlederg Regional Education Committee on Tuesday.  
At the opening of the business the Chairman extended a hearty welcome to Very Rev. T. J. Agnew, P.P., who has been appointed a member of the Committee.  
The Chairman made sympathetic reference to the loss Mr. and Mrs. James McKinley had suffered by the death in action of their son, Sergeant-Pilot Wm. Alexander McKinley, Strabane. He stated that Mr. James McKinley had formerly been a most efficient school attendance officer, and the deceased young man was a junior and senior scholarship holder under the Regional Committee. He asked the Secretary to convey their deep sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. McKinley.  
The resolution was passed in silence.

**STRABANE R.A.F. PILOT  
KILLED**  
Mr. and Mrs. James McKinley, Main Street, Strabane, have received intimation that their eldest son, Sergeant Pilot William McKinley, R.A.F., has been killed on active service.  
Aged 20 years, Sergeant Pilot McKinley received his early training in Canada under the Empire Air Training plan. At the time of his death he was attached to Coastal Command and expected to finish a course on which he was engaged in the very near future and be posted for foreign service. He was home on leave only two weeks ago.  
Sergeant Pilot McKinley received his education at Foyle College, Londonderry, and gave good promise as a cricketer.

1427296 Gunner Patrick  
Joseph Gallagher.  
The Royal Artillery.  
332 Battery, 106 Heavy Anti-  
Aircraft Regiment.  
Died 1 June 1946 Aged 23.  
Son of Nellie Gallagher, of  
Strabane.

**THE FUNERAL**  
There was a remarkable demonstration of sorrow at the funeral, which took place to Strabane New Cemetery yesterday evening.  
The remains had rested overnight in Christ Church, Strabane, at which Sergt. Pilot McKinley had been a constant attendant. The coffin was draped in the Union Jack, and was covered with many magnificent wreaths.  
A short service was held at the Church, conducted by the Archdeacon of Derry, Ven. Thomas Baird, B.D., and Squadron Leader Rev. W. T. Boyd. Mr. H. Halstead presided at the organ, and there was a large turn out of R.A.F. personnel.  
Members of the R.A.F. acted as pallbearers, and the hearse was preceded by a Guard of Honour and Firing Party of the R.A.F.  
At the graveside the committal service was conducted by the Archdeacon, following which a volley was fired over the grave, and an R.A.F. bugler sounded "The Last Post," followed by "The Reveille."  
The chief mourners were—James (father); John and Johnston (brothers); William (uncle); R. Black and J. Bond (cousins).





1796407 Sergeant  
William Harpur  
Wireless Operator/  
Air Gunner.  
The Royal Air Force  
Volunteer Reserve.  
Died: 25 May 1944.  
Aged 21.  
Son of John Blair  
Harpur and Annie  
Harpur, of Strabane.

## ROLL OF HONOUR

### SERGEANT WIRELESS OPERATOR W. HARPUR

The death took place on Thursday, in Credenhill Hospital, Hereford, after about a week's serious illness, of Sergeant Wireless Operator William Harpur, aged 20, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Harpur, Patrick Street, Strabane, and brother of Mr. Jack Harpur, Provincial Bank of Ireland, Ballyshannon, and of Mrs. W. Wray Parke, Lisnamallard, Omagh.

Sergeant Harpur was reported dangerously ill towards the end of last week, and facilities were procured for his parents to cross to England, and they had the consolation of being with him from Sunday night last until he passed away.

Deceased, who was one of the most popular and respected of young Strabane men, joined the R.A.F.V.R. in June last.

In the month of March he was granted leave, and while at home contracted a severe attack of influenza, which prevented him from rejoining his unit for five weeks, at which time he had apparently regained much of his health and vigour.

He was greatly interested in the welfare of Strabane Presbyterian Church, of which his father is an elder; he was a member of the choir, and president of the Strabane Branch of the Boys' Auxiliary.

Prior to volunteering for the R.A.F., deceased was employed in the office of Messrs. Robert Smyth & Son, Ltd., millers, Strabane, for which firm his father is a well known traveller.

Deep sympathy will go out to deceased's parents, brother and sister, and other relatives in their irreparable loss.

### FUNERAL OF SERGEANT- WIRELESS-OPERATOR W. HARPUR

The funeral of Sergeant-Wireless-Operator William Harpur, Royal Air Force, who died in an English Military Hospital on Thursday last, took place to Strabane New Cemetery on Tuesday evening.

The cortege was one of the largest witnessed in the town for a long time; the streets were lined with hundreds of sympathisers.

Members of the R.A.F. formed a guard of honour and also acted as pall-bearers at the G.N.R. Station, and at the graveside.

The employees of Messrs. Robert Smyth and Sons, Ltd., in which deceased was employed prior to joining up, and of which his father is a respected traveller, walked in the sad procession.

At the graveside the service was conducted by Very Rev. Dr. Clarke, M.A., and Rev. E. E. K. McClelland, M.A., LL.B.

The chief mourners were—John B. Harpur (father); John Harpur, Provincial Bank, Ballyshannon (brother); W. Wray Parke, Lisnamallard, Omagh (brother-in-law); Samuel Quinn, William Quinn, William Smyth, James Nelson (uncles); and Charles Nelson, Gilmore Nelson, J. Quina (cousins).

Included in the numerous beautiful floral tributes were wreaths from Strabane Presbyterian Church Choir, of which deceased was a member; Strabane Boys' Auxiliary, of which he was president; the staff and employees of Messrs. Smyth; the Swilly Valley Mills, and several from R.A.F. comrades.

### TRIBUTE TO LATE SERGEANT W.O. WILLIAM HARPUR, R.A.F., STRABANE

Speaking at the noon service on Sunday in Strabane Presbyterian Church, Rev. E. E. K. McClelland, M.A., LL.B., making reference to the death, after illness in hospital in Hereford, of William Harpur, sergeant wireless operator, R.A.F., younger son of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Harpur, Patrick Street, Strabane, said:—"We have no right to blunder with words on the sacred threshold of other people's sorrow, but we would like this brave family to understand that in our paucity tongue-tied way we offer our deepest sympathy.

"We miss this young lad. A man's man he was, of the character and personality we shall deeply need when this war is over. But as is so often the way, the best endowed are called too soon, and we are left with the age-old 'Why?' on our lips.

"William's stuff was too rare and fine to stay, but he would not have us grieve over him, for in the mercy of God death is too trivial an incident in the larger life."

Rev. Mr. McClelland also said that the late Sergeant Harpur had many talents, one of the most striking being the quality of unconsciously attracting one's respect and affection on the first time of meeting.

### DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

HARPUR—May 25, 1944, at Credenhill Hospital, Hereford, William Harpur, Sergeant-Wireless-Operator, R.A.F.V.R., younger and dearly-loved son of John B. and Annie Harpur, Patrick Street, Strabane. Funeral from the residence of his parents this (Tuesday) afternoon, 30th May, at three o'clock, to Strabane Cemetery.

### TYRONE AIRMAN'S FUNERAL

Members of the Royal Air Force acted as pall-bearers at the funeral to Strabane New Cemetery of Sergt. Wireless Operator William Harpur, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Harpur, Patrick Street, Strabane, who died on active service. At the graveside the service was conducted by the Very Rev. Dr. Clarke, M.A., and the Rev. E. E. K. McClelland, M.A.



## **STRABANE AIRMAN'S DEATH.**

News has been received in Strabane that Sergeant Daniel Breslin, of the R.A.F., was accidentally killed in England on Sunday. The deceased, who was twenty years of age, and was the only surviving son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Breslin, Strabane, and Kingskettle, Fife. Before joining up he was a cattle salesman.

Sergeant Breslin was an air gunner, and a few weeks ago was awarded the D.F.M. for courage, skill, and determination during operations against targets in Germany and Italy. A tragic feature of his death was that he was due to arrive home on leave this week.

He was pre-deceased by three brothers, and is survived by his father, mother, and two sisters. His mother was formerly Miss Hughes, of Castlederg. He has many relatives in the Strabane and Castlederg districts, to whom sympathy will be extended.

## **AIRMAN KILLED**

### **Won Distinguished Flying Medal**

News has been received in Strabane that Sergeant Daniel Breslin, of the R.A.F., has been killed on active service. Aged 20 years, he was the only surviving son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Breslin, of Strabane, and Kingskettle, Fife. Before enlisting in the Royal Air Force he was a cattle salesman.

Sergeant Breslin was an air-gunner, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal for courage, skill and determination during operations against targets in Germany and Italy. The official citation set out that one night in April last, while over Duisburg, an enemy fighter made two very determined attacks on his aircraft, but the steady and accurate fire he maintained damaged the fighter and drove it off. Throughout his operational tours he displayed the utmost courage and efficiency. Sergeant Breslin was expected home on leave shortly.

## **AIRMAN'S FUNERAL**

The funeral took place yesterday to Strabane New Cemetery of Sergeant Daniel Breslin, D.F.M., son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Breslin, Strabane and Kingskettle, Fife, who was killed on active service. The streets from the railway station to the cemetery were lined with sympathisers. Included in the R.A.F. firing party were several Australians. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack. At the graveside the last prayers were recited by the Rev. P. Devlin, C.C., Strabane.

The chief mourners were Daniel Breslin (father), John and Joseph Breslin, John, Robert, and Patrick Hughes (uncles). The floral tributes included several from R.A.F. personnel. Sergeant Breslin was awarded the D.F.M. for courage, skill and determination during operations against targets in Germany and Italy.

## **DEATHS.**

**BRESLIN**—July 18, 1943 (accidentally killed in England), Sergeant Daniel Breslin, R.A.F., son of Daniel Breslin, Strabane. His remains will arrive Strabane Station to-morrow (Thursday) evening from Belfast for interment in New Cemetery. Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on his soul.

1561437 Flight Sergeant Daniel Breslin D.F.M.  
Air Gunner. The Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve  
Died: 18 Jul 1943. Age 20  
Son of Daniel and Bridget Breslin.





Sergeant John Ashenhurst, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, son of the Relieving Officer of Strabane Union, with the cups which he won at the three-day Bisley shoot at Singapore, at which he was runner-up for the championship of the shoot to R. S. M. Martin, also of the Fusiliers. The cups are (from left back row)—The McQueen Cup, 1938; First Stage Aggregate Bisley Meeting, 1937; Perak Open Championship, 1937; Réplica of Perak Cup; First Stage Aggregate and Second Grand Aggregate. (Second row)—Federal Malaya States Open Champion Cup, 1937 (open sights), and a cup which he won in Shanghai. (Front row)—Team Tankard (Seletar Cup); Cup for the highest score, rapid 1937-38, Malaya Peninsula, 49 ex 50, 10 rds., in 40 seconds; 7½ in. bull; Silver Cigarette Tin for Colony Shoot; Tyro Cup, 1937; Malaya States; the Changi Cup, and another team record.

## STRABANE CORPORAL WOUNDED IN KOREA

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Fletcher, of Greenfield Housing Estate, Strabane, and until recently of Patrick Street, Strabane, have received intimation from the War Office that their eldest son, Lance-Corporal William John (Jack) Fletcher, of the Royal Ulster Rifles, has been wounded in Korea.

Aged twenty-three, he is the eldest of a family of twelve, and served in Austria before leaving for Korea last October.

**THE SERIOUS ASSAULT ON A HUSSAR NEAR STRABANE.**—It is learned that Private J. Doherty, of the 5th Hussars, and a well-knit young man, who was assaulted on the Ballyfatton-road by being struck on the head with a knife, has been ordered to Omagh Infirmary. He received a nasty wound over the eye, the bone being smashed. It appears that when struck he turned on his assailant, and succeeded in putting him down, but was then charged from behind by another. He defended himself pluckily, and only gave up when he fainted from loss of blood. It is thought that jealousy was the cause of the assault, as one of the parties now awaiting trial was associating with the girl in whose company the injured man was when assaulted.

## GALLANT AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICES

### STRABANE MEN HONoured

A "London Gazette" announcement states that Captain Robert McCrea, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, whose home is in Strabane, has been awarded the O.B.E. (Military Division) for gallant and distinguished services in Burma.

The following awards were also announced — Guardsman John Kerr, Newtownstewart, and Lance-Corporal Robert Cunningham, Strabane, Royal Irish Fusiliers, have been awarded the Military Medal.

## MILITARY FUNERAL IN STRABANE.

On Sunday afternoon, the remains of Lieutenant William K. M. Britton, Royal Flying Corps, who was killed in an aviation accident in England, were brought from Yeastbury, Wilts., to Strabane for interment in the New Cemetery. The funeral, which took place with full military honours, left the residence of the deceased's mother, Hazelwood, Strabane, at 3.30 p.m., followed by an immense concourse of sympathisers. The streets en route to the Cemetery were lined with a dense throng of people. The band of the 3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, the V.A.D. nurses of the Strabane military hospital, the R.I.C., the Boy Scouts and the members of the Masonic Order in the district were prominent in the funeral procession. The Rev. Edward Clarke, M.A., Presbyterian minister, officiated at the graveside. The chief mourners included Mrs. Britton (mother), Mr. G. H. Britton and Master G. W. Britton (brothers).



## IMPRESSIVE FUNERAL TRIBUTE.

The funeral of the late Mrs. Rose Anne Kennedy, the beloved wife of Mr. James Kennedy, merchant, Strabane, took place to the New Cemetery, Strabane. The cortege testified to the esteem in which the deceased lady was held.

Requiem Mass was celebrated in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, in the presence of a large congregation, by Rev. T. J. Agnew, P.P. At the conclusion of the Mass, Father Agnew referred in eulogistic terms to the many estimable qualities of the deceased.

Rev. William Murphy, C.C., officiated at the graveside.

The chief mourners were—Jas. Kennedy (husband); John and Michael (sons); Sister Margaret Mary, Mrs. Bonnar, Bridie and Anne (daughters); Jos. Gallagher (brother); Edward O'Boyle, ex-N.T., P.C. (brother-in-law); Jas. Bonnar (son-in-law); Seamus Bonnar (grandchild); Misses K. Kennedy, M. Morris, M. Gallagher, and Mrs. Hugh Britton (Glasgow) (nieces); Rev. Charles J. Dorrian, C.S.S.R. (Sunderland), Wm. Dorrian, John Gallagher, Peter Kennedy, John and Patrick Murphy (nephews); John O'Donnell, Jas. Kennedy, Sean Kennedy, N.T., Miss M. M'Loone, Mrs. M'Gonigle, Miss C. M'Gonigle, and J. J. Quinn (cousins).

Messages of sympathy were received from—The Rev. Mother Superior and Community, Strabane; the Rev. Mother Superior and Community, Kells; the Rev. Mother Superior and Community, Sligo; Sister M. Alphonsus, Convent of Mercy, Lurgan; Sister Teresa, Convent of the Sacred Heart, London; Dr. O'Sullivan, Mountcharles; Mrs. M. A. Sheridan, Dublin; Mr. J. M'Groarty, Donegal; Mr. W. J. Conolly, Derry, and Mr. E. M'Elhinney, Derry.

## STRABANE DOCTOR DIES AT 88

The death has taken place at the age of 88 of Dr. John McAdam Hill, of Urney Road, Strabane, who was for many years medical officer of Strabane Hospital.

Dr. Hill who served in the Royal Army Medical Corps in the 1914-1918 war and afterwards in the Indian Army built up an extensive practice on his return to Strabane.

Well known in Masonic circles, he was Past Master and former Secretary of Abercorn Lodge, Strabane, and a Past King of Abercorn and Donemana Royal Arch Chapters. He was also an officer of Trinity Preceptory and a past officer of the Provincial Grand Lodge and District Grand Chapter.

Dr. Hill is survived by one son and two daughters.

## Death of Strabane Doctor

The death has taken place in hospital of Dr. John McAdam Hill of Urney Road, Strabane. He was 88.

Dr. Hill served with the medical corps in the First World War and afterwards with the Indian Army. On his return to Strabane he built up an extensive private practice and for many years was medical officer of Strabane Hospital.

He is survived by one son and two daughters.



## Obituary

### Dr. J. McA. Hill

THE DEATH has taken place in hospital of Dr. John McAdam Hill of Urney Road, Strabane. He was 88.

Dr. Hill served with the medical corps in the First World War and afterwards with the Indian Army.

On his return to Strabane he built up an extensive private practice and for many years was medical officer of Strabane Hospital.

He was well known in Masonic circles. He was the PM and former secretary of Abercorn Lodge, Strabane and PK of Abercorn and Donemana Royal Arch Chapters. He was also an officer of Trinity Preceptory and a past officer of the Provincial Grand Lodge and the District Grand Chapter.

Dr. Hill is survived by one son and two daughters.

**MAUDE DAVISON**  
**Beloved Wife of JOHN McADAM HILL M. B.**  
**Died 30th January 1956**  
**Also the Above JOHN McADAM HILL M. B.**  
**Died 24th December 1969**



**Sudden Death from Intoxication.**—On Friday last, a man named Philips, who lived in the Parish of Donaghedy, in the county of Tyrone, accompanied a neighbour who was much addicted to intemperance, into a small public house in Mount-castle, in the parish. They drank, it appears, to great excess, and the same evening the unfortunate Philips died suddenly, from the deleterious effects of the liquor he had taken, it is believed. Sudden death is now so frequent, and in many instances from drunkenness, that such cases should not be allowed to pass unnoticed. The deceased was in the market of Strabane, on Tuesday last, attending to the concerns of his family—that family, owing to the unfortunate propensity of the lower orders to swill ardent spirits whenever they can procure it, is now without a provider—and the head of it an inhabitant of the silent tomb.

Derry, Wednesday.

### THE PUBLIC-HOUSE NUISANCE IN STRABANE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SENTINEL.

SIR—I wish, through the medium of your valuable paper, to give a public expression to my approval of the course pursued by the magistrates at the Strabane Quarter Sessions for some time past, in regard to applications for spirit licences.

I, in common with a great number of my fellow-townsmen, am happy to see that they are determined not to grant any new licences in Strabane, for the obvious and very cogent reason that Strabane is not only sufficiently well supplied, but actually over-stocked with public-houses already.

I think the magistrates should also consider the propriety of taking every available opportunity to reduce the public-houses in Strabane to a number more in proportion to the extent and requirements of the population.

Recklessly to create new licences in places where they are not wanted is wantonly to add to the already too numerous allurements to the vice of drunkenness, and its attendant immoralities. It would be, moreover, in my opinion, an abuse of the discretionary power vested by the law in the hands of magistrates, which no logic could justify.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

A RATEPAYER.

Strabane, 24th October, 1870.

### DEATH OF A STRABANE MAN IN AMERICA

AN EVENTFUL CAREER.

William Collins, who was born in Strabane, and went to the United States prior to the war in which he participated, died at his home, 531, Myrtle-avenue, Brooklyn, on the 5th ult., in the 50th year of his age, after an illness of about five weeks. On the close of the civil war he settled in Cleveland, O., and for some time worked as a labourer in the quarries there, while at the same time contributing his first ballads and songs to the old *Boston Pilot* and other Irish-American journals. He took part in O'Neill's Fenian Invasion of Canada, in 1867. A short time after the establishment of the *Irish World* he became a member of its editorial staff, and contributed many spirited ballads and songs to its columns. His writings in that paper attracted attention in Irish circles, and established his reputation as an Irish National poet. He continued on the *Irish World* staff for several years. Subsequently in conjunction with a Mr. J. C. Curtin, he established a weekly called *The Globe*, which had but a short existence. He was latterly connected with the *New York Tablet*. During several months prior to his last illness he contributed extensively both in prose and verse to *Donohoe's Magazine*, but Mr. Collins was a voluminous writer for the *Irish American Magazine* and weeklies and was intensely Irish in thought, sentiment, and expression. (As a novelist his "Dalrida" has been thought by some to be equal to the writings of Banim or Griffin in historical interest, whilst his "Green Groves of Urney" is, to those resident in the North of Ireland, interesting from the fact that the different scenes throughout the work embrace the country from Donemana to Donegal bay. As a poet he wrote pieces connected with almost every county in Ireland, and his "Collins' Poems" contains many exquisite contributions, but beyond other localities his heart turned to his own town and the scenes of his childhood. As to other places in his mind:—

"They want the green verdure, the bright skies  
that span  
And the hills which encircle the vale of Strabane."

The deceased, who leaves a widow, will be deeply mourned by the Irish race at home and abroad.—Communicated.

**FREE EMIGRATION TO CANTERBURY, NEW ZEALAND.**—Yesterday a number of emigrants left the Waterside station, en route for London, to embark for the above colony. We learn that they obtained free passages from Mr. R. T. Turbitt, selecting agent, Strabane—the ship's outfit, and sea stores for the voyage, being also supplied free, and no repayment ever required in the colony. The emigrants appeared to be very eligible people—strong, healthy, and youthful young men and women, such as are likely to succeed well in the land of their adoption.

### KNOX, MORTON, AND CLARKE,

{ } EG leave to inform the public, that they have commenced the Making of Whiskey at their Distillery in Lifford, and that they have at present on hands, a few Puncheons made from *Real MALT*, which they will dispose of for **Ready Money only.**

Lifford Distillery, Feb. 2, 1825.

**THIS** is to give Notice, that on Monday the 11th day of April next, there will be shewn in Strabane, thirty-one Cocks and Stags each Side, between the Gentlemen of the Counties of Tyrone and Donegal, for one hundred Guineas the Main, and ten Guineas a Battle; which Fighting is generally thought will be the best has been in that Country for some Years past.

### STRABANE, JAN 28.

This morning, at 8 o'clock, a duel was fought by Capt. S—s of Col. Fitch's Regiment and Lieut. D. R—n of the Royal Tyrone Regiment, quartered in this town, when after one shot being fired by each, which luckily had no effect, the seconds interfered and had the matter settled.



# Outcry at Strabane cemetery abuse

**A STRABANE priest expressed anger yesterday after it emerged a local cemetery was being used as a drinking den and a dumping ground.**

Fr. Michael Doherty said radical new security measures may have to be introduced to halt the desecration at Melmount graveyard.

The local Parish Priest said an urgent review could result in the cemetery being locked at night for the first time in its history.

Parishioners are to attend a public meeting to discuss ways of stemming the tide of abuse at the Melmount Road burial ground.

Fr. Doherty said: "People with relatives buried in the new part of the cemetery are concerned about graves being interfered with and statues and flowers being removed.

"The other concern is

young people using that end of the cemetery for a drinking den and a play area late at night.

## Bin liners

"Receptacles placed there for the graveyard are also being used as a public dumping ground by some people bringing along bin liners containing their rubbish."

Fr. Doherty said: "The

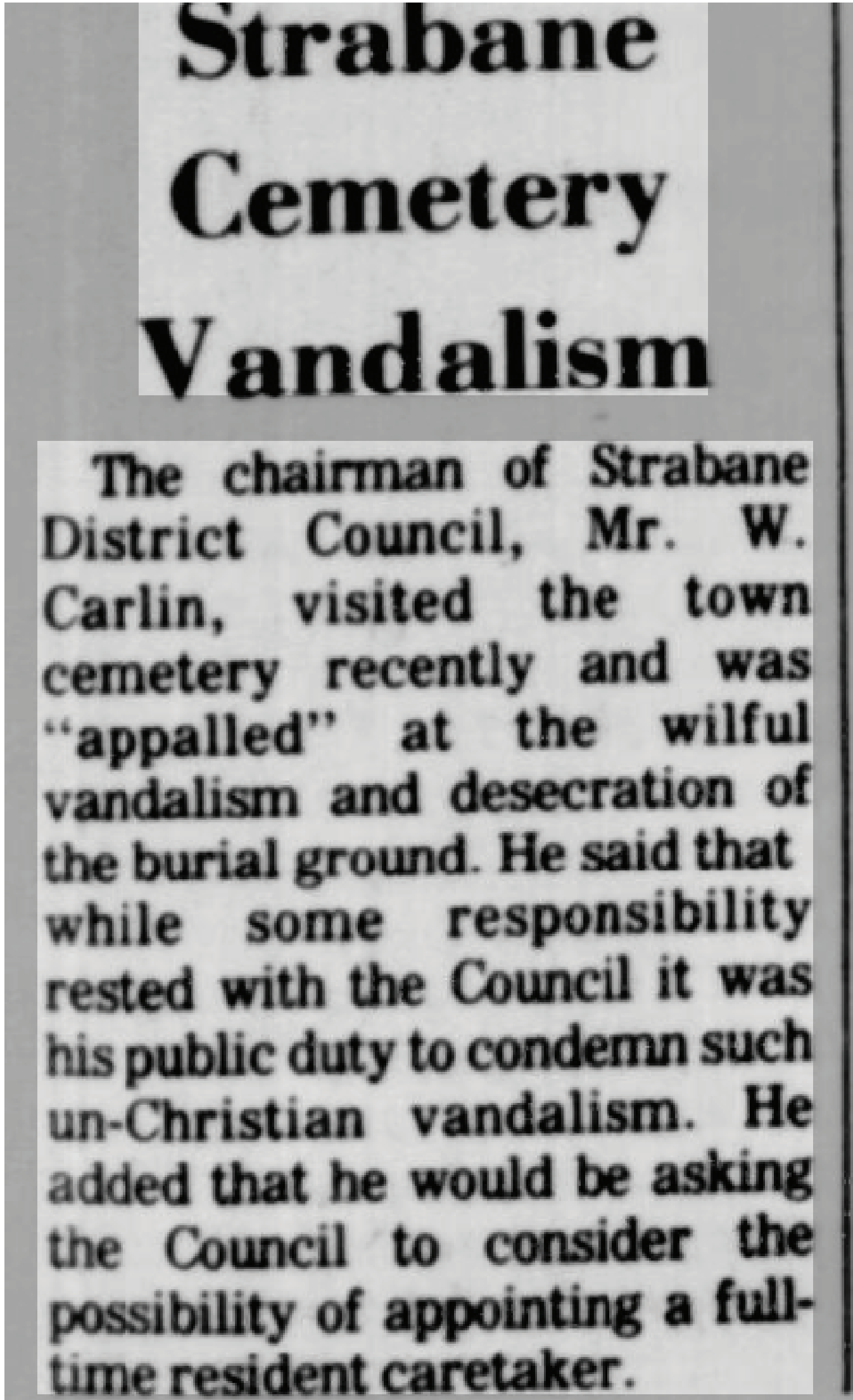
public meeting is to let the people talk about whether they feel a solution would be locking the graveyard at night, although that would be an inconvenience to people who have been used to it being open all the time.

"It just seems to be a reality that we now have to do it. It is sad that people aren't using the

graveyard as it should be used," Fr. Doherty said previous efforts to resolve the problem had only achieved a temporary solution.

"We have appealed at Sunday Masses and through the bulletin and asked some young people to leave the cemetery. It is all right for a few weeks but the problem recurs," he added.





# Widower left distressed by Strabane grave vandalism

🕒 30 April 2018



PSNI

| A number of ornaments and statues were damaged at Strabane Cemetery between Friday night and Saturday

**A County Tyrone pensioner has said he has been left distressed after finding his wife's grave vandalised.**

Ornaments and statues on a number of graves were damaged at Strabane Cemetery between Friday night and Saturday.

Thomas McGarrigle, whose wife Rosemary died in December, said the people

N. Ireland | N. Ireland Politics

# Vandalism at Strabane Cemetery 'infuriating'

🕒 28 April 2018



PSNI

| A number of ornaments and statues were damaged

**Vandalism at a cemetery in County Tyrone has been described as infuriating by an assembly member.**

Police have said that a number of ornaments and statues were damaged at Strabane Cemetery.



and signed an address to be transmitted to the late eminently loyal and great minister William Pitt, Esq;

Extract of a letter from Strabane, dated Nov. 10 1761.

This day Andrew Knox, of Prehen, Esq; one of the Knights of the Shire for the county of Donnegall, coming to this place with his lady and daughter, was met by John Mc. Naughten, about three miles from hence, with three Ruffians armed. Mc. Naughten desired Mr. Knox's Coachman to stop the carriage or he would blow out his brains, upon which Mc. Naughten immediately fired a pistol into the coach, and Mr. Knox returned the fire, but neither shot did any hurt. Mc. Naughten then ran round the coach, and putting his head and arm in at the window, fired a pistol at Mrs. Knox, and lodged three slugs in her side, just under her stays. Mr. Knox at the same time fired a pistol and shot Mc. Naughten in the shoulder, upon which he went off and got into Tom Winsleys out-house unseen by his pursuers. A vast number of people went in pursuit of the murderer, and amongst others a party of Sir James Caldwell's light horse that lie here, and spread a great way over the country; but two of the light horse were informed where Mc. Naughten was, and upon search found him upon a loft in an out-house; he fired two shot at the light horse men but without hurting either, on which they fired at him, and wounded him in many places; they then put him on a car and lodged him in Lifford Jail; he is speechless but still alive, whether his wounds are mortal or not I do not know. The Ruffians who attended him in the perpetration of this horrid murder are not yet taken, but there are so many in pursuit of them that they cannot escape. The young lady lived but four hours after she received the wound.

By letters of Fridays post from Strabane, we hear, that on Tuesday last Mr. Mc Naughton was brought there from Lifford Goal in order to take his trial, but that he had put it off for three or four days.

## "Half-Hanged Macnaghton."

### STORY OF THE PREHEN MURDER.

A "Constant Reader" in Glasgow writes to us as follows:—

In your issue of 20th September there is a reference to the gift of a post-chaise with a romantic history to the Corporation of Derry. The story of the romantic tragedy which occurred in Prehen district 160 years ago is not generally known. The writer has asked several Derry people resident in Glasgow, and, while they have heard of "Half-hanged Macnaghton," they, like myself, do not know the story, or they know just a little of it. It would be most interesting to many readers of the "Sentinel" at home and abroad if you would give the full story in a future issue of your widely read and much appreciated newspaper.

### STORY OF THE TRAGEDY.

On a gallows erected "on a plain between Strabane and Lifford" John Macnaghton, a member of an aristocratic county Antrim family, was executed at one o'clock on the morning of December 15th, 1761, for the murder of Miss Mary Ann Knox, only daughter of Andrew Knox of Prehen, member for county Done-

What remained of Macnaghton's own estate was left to descend to his heir.

But a condition of the marriage was that he should give up gambling. This he swore to do. To this lady "he made a tender and affectionate husband." After two years, finding the restraint irksome, he made such representations regarding the huge sums which he might have won but for his oath he induced his wife and her mother, then a widow, to release him, which they unfortunately did.

Writs were soon out against the incorrigible gamester. On one occasion he had an encounter with the sheriff's officers. They surrounded the house in which he was playing. Starting late for home, he temporarily evaded them by getting into a sedan chair. This the bailiffs followed. Outside his house they attempted to arrest him, and in the scuffle such a noise was made that his wife, then in delicate health, received a shock, and, falling into a nervous state, died shortly afterwards.

After a time of sorrow he broke out again, and his condition became "more truly deplorable." But through Lord Mazarine's influence he was appointed a "collector of the King's taxes in the county of Coleraine," worth £200 a year. This was five years before his execution. Two relatives became security for him to the extent of £2,000 — and lost their money, through an act of embezzlement on his part.



## MURDER NEAR STRABANE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

STRABANE, WEDNESDAY.

Information of a shocking murder at a village named Douglas Bridge, a few miles from here, was circulated this morning. A farmer and Scotch millowner, named Michael O'Brien, was stabbed to death by a man named Stuart Donnell, who was in the employment of deceased as scotchman and general servant, in which latter capacity he was assisted by his wife. On arriving home yesterday evening from Strabane market, where Donnell, his wife, and deceased had been, an altercation and angry words ensued, when Donnell, drawing a knife, rushed on O'Brien and stabbed him, after which the unfortunate man lingered but a little while.

Donnell was subsequently arrested by the constabulary from Bine Mills.

This afternoon an investigation was held in the residence of deceased, before John Henderson, Esq., J.P. At that hour the prisoner Donnell, who had been conveyed by escort from Newtownstewart, to which place he had been conveyed the previous night, was brought from the village of Douglas Bridge, where he resides, to deceased's house, a little distance further up the hill. During the examination of the witnesses he appeared altogether unconcerned and asked no questions. His clothes were all bespattered with blood, and as evidence of that being given by the constable in charge, the prisoner said, "Don't you know we were killing pigs that morning, and that's how the blood came."

Mrs. Isabella O'Brien deposed she was wife of deceased, who was about 61 years of age. At about half-past 3 yesterday morning Donnell, in charge of a horse and cart with pork, left for Strabane market, to which place her husband followed at about 6 o'clock. At about 10 at night he returned with the horse and cart himself, and proceeded to unlodge it, assisted

by the servant boy, John Alexander M'Hugh. Donnell afterwards turned up, and witness brought out a candle, which she handed to Donnell, saying, "In the name of God, what kept you, Donnell?" He took the candle, saying, "Never mind," and handed the light to M'Hugh, who was inside the stable. She afterwards went inside, and in the course of some time she heard a scuffle following some word from deceased like "I'll kick you," or "I'll strike you." On hearing the scuffle she ran out, and saw her husband stagger and fall. She cried out, "My God, he's murdered," and then screamed for the neighbours. Deceased was bleeding much from the neck, and was afterwards carried into the kitchen, where he died soon after, never having spoken a word.

John Alexander M'Hugh was examined, but his evidence did not throw any further light on the matter more than that given by the previous witness.

Bernard Campbell proved having been attracted to the place by the screams of Mrs. O'Brien. He saw the deceased lying on the ground in the yard, and tried to stop the wound. He afterwards helped to carry him in.

Head Constable Moffatt and Sergeant Curran gave evidence of the prisoner's arrest at his own house. On being searched he gave up a pen-knife to the head constable. He made no statement, though cautioned.

Dr. Todd deposed that he was called upon about 11.30 on Tuesday night. He saw O'Brien, who was then dead, and examined the wounds. Near the edge of the angle of the left lower jaw he found an incised wound extending deeply into the neck. It had the appearance of extensive hemorrhage. He believed the principal artery on that side was wounded and that wound was the cause of death.

The prisoner was then remanded until the 20th inst.

An inquest was subsequently held by the Coroner, Mr. Robert McCrea, and a verdict was given implicating Donnell.

## MURDER NEAR STRABANE.

A magisterial inquiry was held into the death of a farmer named O'Brien, who, it is alleged, was murdered near Strabane, County Tyrone, on Tuesday night. The deceased's carter, named Stuart Donnell, was committed to jail on a charge of murder. From the evidence it appeared that the two quarrelled in the stable, the deceased accusing Donnell of having deserted a horse and cart left to his care in Strabane Market, when Donnell stabbed with a penknife. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of murder against the prisoner.

## DEATH OF STRABANE NONAGERIAN

The death took place at Strabane District Hospital of Mr. Thomas Quigley, Urney Road, Strabane. Aged 92, he was one of the oldest men in the town. He is survived by his sister, Mrs. McHenry, The Farmers' Home, Railway Street, Strabane.

Deceased's family connections with Strabane go back for hundreds of years. A victualler in his earlier years, he was in the employ of the Ministry of Agriculture purchasing agricultural produce during the 1914-18 war.

He was a brother of the late Mrs. Leo Doherty, Barrack Street, and a cousin of the late Very Rev. J. L. McGettigan, P.P., V.F.



### CORONER'S INQUEST.

On Thursday last, the 13th instant, a vast crowd of people assembled in the graveyard of Strabane, to witness the disinterment of William Porterfield, whose death was suspected of having been occasioned by poison administered to him by his wife, who, after limiting the term of her widowhood to *three days*, was married to a man named Patrick Quin, who had lodged in her house for twelve months previously. Actuated by this suspicion, C. C. Hunt apprehended the newly wedded couple just before the funeral baked meats had ceased to "coldly furnish forth the marriage table," and made to exchange the nuptial bed for separate pallets in a dreary dungeon, being charged with the murder of the deceased William Porterfield.

After the body had been exhumed, the inquest was adjourned to the Court-House, and proceeded with in the presence of the prisoners, who seemed mutually mourning the unsmoothness of true lover's current. Several witnesses were examined, including Captain Hunt, who deposed that on the night in which the prisoners were taken, when he and his men proceeded to the house, they found the door bolted fast on the inside. They could, however, perceive, by the light within, and through the crevices of the window, that the bride, and her betrothed who could then have scarcely exclaimed, "I'm *but* a lodger," were standing, undressed, on the middle of the floor, and in the words of our informant, "one of them held the light, and a piece of flannel loosely folded was given from the one to the other." This state of things, however natural it might be under different circumstances, did not satisfy the constabulary, and Captain Hunt, on demanding admittance, was answered pretty nearly as the famous Mr. Ferguson was answered by the indignant lady. The woman was then observed passing into another room, with the suspicious piece of flannel in her hand, whereupon Captain Hunt began to force the door, but was admitted before the disagreeable operation was concluded. Having placed the prisoners in custody, he proceeded to examine the house, and in the other room alluded to, he found a chest which was locked. He asked for the key, and was told by the woman, perhaps with truth, that the chest belonged to a person who had lodged with her twelve months ago. The Captain having forced open "the old oak chest," found in it

person who had lodged with her twelve months ago. The Captain having forced open "the old oak chest," found in it the suspicious looking piece of flannel, and on opening it, discovered that it contained a paper, labelled "Poison," and containing a white powder. He enquired for what purpose the poison was kept there, and was first answered, "a rat, a rat!" but afterwards was told that it was to do the business of a certain dog, "suspected" of hydrophobia. Mr. Hunt examined every thing in the house, and found a number of other papers containing medicine of one kind or another. The statement of Captain Hunt, as may be supposed, puzzled the honest jurors pretty considerably, and their suspicions being highly excited, they stated their reluctance to return a verdict until the body of the deceased should have been opened by a Surgeon, and the contents of the stomach duly analyzed. This was done on the following day by Dr. Stewart, and the proceedings of the inquest having recommenced, the Doctor having been sworn, stated that he had opened the body and examined the bowels, but had found no trace of poison, nor any inflammation either of the stomach or bowels—there was no appearance of disease whatever, save a slight redness in the lower region of the latter, which could not be accounted the cause of death, still less of death from poison. He had next examined the head, and found that there was inflammation of the brain and of the vessels of the head—the brain being much softened and part of it having oozed through the mouth and nose. He therefore believed that Porterfield died of inflammation of the brain and not by poison, as was generally believed. Dr. Leney stated, on oath, that he was present at the dissection of the body of the deceased, and was perfectly satisfied with Dr. Stewart's statement, believing it to be perfectly correct. The jury then retired, and immediately returned a verdict in favor of the prisoners.

poison, as was generally believed. Dr. Leney stated, on oath, that he was present at the dissection of the body of the deceased, and was perfectly satisfied with Dr. Stewart's statement, believing it to be perfectly correct. The jury then retired, and immediately returned a verdict in favor of the prisoners.

There is no question but that Captain Hunt acted with much praiseworthy zeal on this occasion; and the moral of the whole transaction seems to be, that ladies who are particularly anxious to relieve themselves of the loneliness and ennui of widowhood, should be careful of three things, 1st, Not to marry a twelvemonths' lodger with indecent haste; 2dly, To be cautious in closing the crevices of the nuptial chamber; 3dly, To meddle not with "leperous distilment" for a month at least before and after a hasty wedding.

### STRABANE CEMETERY DEATH

At an inquest held by Mr. Edwd. Clark, coroner, into the circumstances of the death of John M'Elhinney (72), 533, Oldpark Rd., Belfast, a retired sergeant of the R.I.C., who was found dead in Strabane New Cemetery, his sister Miss Margaret M'Elhinney, said he left Belfast on Friday morning to visit the grave of his wife in the New Cemetery, Strabane. He had suffered from giddiness and was treated for high blood pressure. He had a weak turn before he left Belfast and took some brandy.

James M'Naul said when passing the cemetery gate, which was partly open, he found a man lying dead inside. He was on his back and the key of the gate was in his chest.

Dr. J. M. Hill said he believed death was due to cerebral hæmorrhage and a verdict was returned accordingly.







# 45 people living in one house, Council is told

**FORTY-FIVE PEOPLE—22 adults and 23 children**  
—are living in a tenement house in Strabane,  
the Urban Council has been told.

## Prince will pay return Ulster visit

**PRINCE ABEGBIYEGA**  
**ADEDOYIN**, Speaker of  
the Western Nigeria House of  
Assembly, medical graduate  
of Queen's University, Belfast,  
and once one of the best  
known names in British  
athletics, arrives in Belfast on  
Thursday to attend a nine-day  
Parliamentary course.

Mr. W. D. B. Crichton,  
public health inspector, said  
in one instance a man, his  
wife and three children were  
living on a top landing of the  
house and it was most  
inhuman to allow a family to  
be accommodated under such  
conditions.

Conditions in the house  
generally were deplorable.

An inspector from the  
N.S.P.C.C. said the children  
living on the top landing  
were in danger of their lives  
every minute of the day.

**They were three storeys**  
**up and there were no safe-**  
**guards whatever. The chil-**  
**dren could just drop over**

You are in: > DERRYNOW > LOCAL NEWS

## Quarter of children in Derry and Strabane living in poverty

'Government must scrap the two-child limit to benefit payments, a policy which continues to pull children into poverty every day' - NI Anti Poverty Network



Quarter of children in Derry and Strabane living in poverty.