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## THE LATE HON. S. E. SPRING RICE.

### MEMORIAL CROSS AND DRINKING FOUNTAIN AT SHANAGOLDEN.

The drinking fountain in connection with the beautiful Celtic cross, which has been erected at Shanagolden by Lord and Lady Montagu in memory of their eldest son, the Hon. Stephen Edmond Spring Rice, who died April 7th, 1900, aged 22 years, was opened for public use by Lord Montagu on Tuesday, 31st July, in the presence of a group of relatives, personal friends and neighbours. The cross, which stands in a commanding position at the cross roads at the west end of the town, was designed after old Celtic models by M. Hughes. It is 24 feet in height and is surmounted by a crucifix (somewhat like that on the cross at Tuam) which was carved by Mr. Joseph Hanrahan, and is a very fine specimen of the carver's art. The shaft of the cross is adorned with Celtic traceries, and at the base there are four basins forming a drinking fountain. It stands on a circular flight of steps and is all carried out in limestone from Lord Montagu's quarries, and has been quarried, cut, and erected by his own men. There has been a great need of an improved supply of water in Shanagolden, the existing supply being inadequate in quantity, and, especially in summer, far from satisfactory in quality. The new supply has been brought from a spring in the hill at some distance from the town, and the works in connection with it have been tedious and expensive, costing over £400 (quite apart from the cross and fountain itself), but Lord Montagu was undaunted by failures and persevered till this plentiful supply of pure water was obtained. In making this offering to Shanagolden, he said that it was the expression of his earnest desire that the memorial to one who, he knew, had endeared himself to all of them, might not be only beautiful in itself but a real benefit to the town. He dwelt with satisfaction on the fact that the work had all been carried out at home, and it was work of which he felt they might justly feel proud. The water was then turned on, and an abundant stream issued forth. A drinking trough for cattle and a convenient tap for householders is to be added close to the fountain. It may be remembered that the Hon. Stephen Spring Rice died of fever less than two years after his coming of age had been celebrated with great rejoicings, but there is ample evidence that he is not forgotten by those amongst whom he was brought up and to whose welfare he had made it his object in life to devote himself. This noble cross and fountain will be a permanent and fitting memorial of a singularly beautiful life.

## THE PEOPLE'S PARK EXPENDITURE.

At the Corporation on Thursday evening, arising out of the resolution dealing with finance, Mr. Slattery alluded to an item of £16 10s. payable in respect of work done in the People's Park. He said it was rather strange that seven weeks should be occupied by two men clearing a few perches of ground. It appeared to be the common practice, that anyone getting into the Corporation could spend what period he liked doing its

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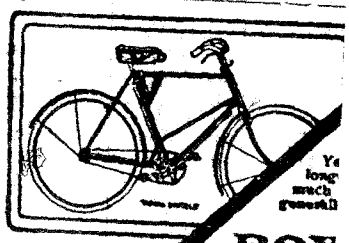
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