

Clare Nun Drowned

Fatality at Spanish Point

Thrilling Scenes—Brave Rescue Efforts.

A distressing tragedy was reported in Limerick on Monday. Intelligence was received from Spanish Point, Miltown Malbay, County Clare, of the drowning of a Nun, Sister Mary Bernard, of the local convent at the seaside resort, despite heroic and gallant attempts at rescue, which unhappily proved unavailing.

Sister M Bernard, accompanied by Sister Mary Michael, of the convent, went bathing with a small party of boarders. The former got into difficulties, and Sister Michael went to her assistance and shouted for help.

There were very few people in the vicinity at the time, and the two girl boarders who were not bathing, pluckily plunged into the sea to render what assistance they could. One of the girls is Miss Meany, a native of Kilmihill, Co. Clare, but the other girl's name was not ascertained.

The four then got into difficulties. Their cries for help were heard by Patrick Morrissey, a youth of Legard, Clare, and Maura White, a girl of Miltown Malbay, who rushed at once to the scene.

The two latter eventually succeeded in bringing the Nuns, and the other girls struggling in the water, ashore after some difficulty.

Sister Bernard appeared to be dead at the time, and the others were in a very exhausted condition. Artificial respiration was immediately applied, and Dr McClancy who arrived shortly afterwards from Miltown, worked assiduously in striving to promote respiration. Sister Michael and the two girl boarders after a time responded to the treatment, but Sister Bernard did not recover though efforts at resuscitation were kept up for a period of over two hours, when Dr MacClancy had to pronounce life extinct.

It is believed that Sister Mary Bernard, daughter of Mrs Margaret Hooy and the late John Hooy, Dangan, Quin, Co. Clare, died as a result of heart failure while bathing.

Her remains were interred to-day (Tuesday) after Requiem Mass attended by the Most Rev Dr Fogarty, Bishop of the Diocese, and a large number of clergy. The interment was at the Convent of Meroy, Ennis.

Sister Michael and the other two girls are progressing very favourably from the effects of their trying ordeal.