

## OUR IRISH TOWNS

### And Their Ancient Monuments

#### A CASHEL HEADLINE FOR LIMERICK

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader.")

Dear Sir—While most of us know a good deal about our ancient history, do we know as much about our ancient monuments?

About a week ago while motor-ing to Tipperary with my wife a young man put up his hand just outside the town to ask for a lift to Tipperary. He turned out to be a Belgian student who had come over here, via Scotland, for holidays. He had been in Belfast and Dublin and got to Limerick in the same way as he got to Tipperary.

#### BECAUSE OF THE SONG.

He said he wished to visit Tipperary simply because of the song of that name. We told him that as far as we knew the song was not an Irish song and that Tipperary was not a very long way from Limerick, at any rate. We spent half an hour in Tipperary and told him he would find us at a certain place if he wished to return, which he did. While he was with us we learned more about Belgium than we had ever heard or read about it. He was interested in places like Limerick and wished to see any ancient monuments, etc., so we put him down at the Treaty Stone and told him to get along over the bridge after seeing it, to King John's Castle, the caretaker of which would tell him all he wished to know. That was as much as we found we could do for him and we hope he did find out all he wished to know.

Incidentally, he said he thought the roads here were very good, as many roads in Belgium were paved with wooden blocks, and they are not so nice to motor on. That goes without saying, as a run over the lower end of Mallow Street on to the docks will prove. It may be ancient, but scarcely a monument, and should be concreted, like the rest.

#### A CASHEL HEADLINE.

To get to the real subject of ancient monuments, I have been reading just now an account of a prominent clergyman who lived here for some time and was popular with all classes, and who has been some time in Cashel, as regards his activities with a friend and a couple of cameras. What they have discovered in Cashel is a revelation. They have unearthed ancient monuments which are not recorded in any guide book, etc., and they are still at it. I enclose an account of what they have so far discovered and photographed. The same thing could be done in our ancient city of Limerick by any well-versed, good photographer, and he need not be a professional. It could be

## ESTEEMED LADY

### Death Of Mrs. Denis O'Donovan

#### GRIM TRAGEDY RECALLED

With very deep and sincere regret we chronicle the demise of Mrs. Agnes O'Donovan, which took place this morning at Milford Convalescent Home.

The deceased lady was relict of Denis O'Donovan, a former proprietor of the Shannon Hotel, Castleconnell, who met his death under particularly distressing circumstances in 1921, when he was brutally murdered by Black and Tans. Indeed, Mrs. O'Donovan never fully recovered from the shock she sustained at that time, and during the past twenty-seven years of her life she has borne the memory of a tragedy that bereft her of a loving husband and her children of an exemplary father.

Mrs. O'Donovan sprang from an old and honoured Limerick stock. She was a sister of the late Mr. John McNamara, Shelbourne; the late Mr. Thomas McNamara, Clonmacken, and the late Dr. Matthew McNamara, Sydney, all of whom were prominently identified with National movements. Like her distinguished husband, she was herself a sterling Nationalist, but as she was by nature of a retiring disposition she worked unobtrusively, not only in the field of politics, but in every other cause she espoused.

A lady of refinement and culture, Mrs. O'Donovan was a charming hostess. Affability, kindness of heart, coupled with an anxiety to help those in need, were her characteristic traits. Her passing has removed from our midst one who enjoyed the love, esteem and respect of all who had ever the pleasure of making her acquaintance. To her children—Mr. D. G. O'Donovan, solicitor; Dr. D. K. O'Donovan, Dublin; Mrs. P. Heffernan, and Mrs. D. J. O'Malley—and numerous other relatives—we tender our deepest sympathy in their great loss.

The remains will be removed at 7 o'clock this evening from Milford Convalescent Home to St. Patrick's Church. Solemn Requiem High Mass will be celebrated at 11 o'clock to-morrow (Thursday), and immediately afterwards the funeral will leave for Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery.

#### NEW PREMISES

#### FOR CHARLEVILLE POST OFFICE

As already stated in these columns, Charleville is to have a new post office at a future date (writes our Charleville correspon-

## DELAYED PROJECT

### Subject Of Further "Abeyance"

#### QUESTION OF NEW COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The Limerick County Council, at their meeting on Saturday, will have before them correspondence from the Co. Registrar (Mr. H. O'E. Moran) and the Department of Industry and Commerce relative to the proposal to have a new County Courthouse erected.

The existing building was condemned as dangerous over thirty years ago and during the intervening years thousands of pounds have been spent in the carrying out of such repairs as were considered necessary to prevent a complete collapse.

#### CONDEMNED BY ENGINEER.

During recent years the building has been condemned in toto by Mr. P. J. Sheahan, M.R.I.A.I., who carried out a thorough examination of it on behalf of the Co. Council. Mr. Sheahan at the same time recommended the building of a new Courthouse, pointing out that it would be far more economical to do so than to attempt to maintain the old structure, which had become undermined from top to bottom. At that time, too, the Minister for Justice threatened the Council that if they did not take steps to build a new Courthouse his Department would do so at the expense of the Council.

Following that ultimatum, the County Council proceeded to look for a suitable location for the Courthouse and eventually Mr. Stephen O'Mara vested in the Council three acres of the lands of Strand House. The Corporation, too, it should be mentioned, were made part owners of this most desirable site, it being their intention at the time to build a new Town Hall. All this took place prior to 1939.

#### NO ACTIVE MOVE.

Since the cessation of hostilities no active move has been made by either body to proceed with their respective plans for the erection of the public buildings referred to. In the meantime the Circuit Judge has strongly criticised the County Council because of their failure to provide a courthouse which would be not only in keeping with the dignity of the law, but, more important still, safe from the point of view of those members of the general public who have occasion to attend court from time to time. Indeed, not so very long ago Judge Barra O Briain threatened to transfer the business of the Limerick Circuit to Ennis.

The County Registrar, in a letter to the County Manager (Mr. P. J. Meghen, B.E.), has asked for information as to the intentions of the

## ARTHUR

### As "C"

#### RECLAMATION

As part of Planning programme Mr. Desmond the foreshore to be "reclaimed" be carried out of dumping part of the posed at low taining' wall from Honan's Curragower stood, become very considerable be raised above

The Harbour given permission to carry out scheme of certain that the Board fled against of berthage Quay. But participated from as much as berthed in the more than ei

#### WILL TAKE

It will take years to complete realised for A Town Planning decade, if not front at this a dump and hope is expressed objectionable deposited there scarcely tolerable a second Co heart of the med, however ities will see not happen.

The question of "reclamation" adverted to proposed retaining thousands of those responses must have had a considerable capital As no statement made with regard of a State grant works, there Government money of this money available, for plan.

#### INFORMATION

The citizens some information it is felt that desirable it may what is euphemistic "civic centre," by the stores on the other houses in Patrician of £ s. d. tirely ignored.