

HISTORIC SITES

Royal Seats, scenes of historic events—battles, mass meetings, historic festivals, &c. Location.
Landowner. Historical or traditional notes.

Battles.

(Inisheeny)

Irish Fought the Que to land in Glen Bay
which belongs to the Parish is mentioned in
the Annals of the Four Masters under the
year 1235 as the scene of a battle. The
reference is as follows:— "A. D. 1235. Felim,

HISTORIC HOUSES ; BURIAL PLACES

(a) Birth places or one-time residences of distinguished Irishmen or other personalities.
Location and description. Present owner or occupant. (b) Burial places of distinguished
personalities.

The Rectory, Newport Road, Westport.

Quinted in the town of Westport. It was built in
1798 and is the original Georgian architectural
features of the parish. It is the present occupier
by the Rector, Rev. Mr. Robinson.
Canon Henry (George A. Birmingham) was the
21 years (1892-1913) rector of the Parish of Westport,
during which time he resided here.

No undoubted cave of the people shown
SPAS OR MINERAL SPRINGS

Spas formerly in use. Location and present condition. Access. Right of way to public.
Mineral content and curative properties so far as known locally.

None.

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He loved and he natural beauty of the
 district inspired many of his writings. To quote
 his own words "with the penes, green
 and others who have no claim to the dubious
 title of 'Gentry', my relations were always
 happy, and I have a deep love
 for the people who were utterly different
 from any I have known before. Someone once
 said 'where the real Ireland lies
 across the Limerick isthmus, and not
 the who only knows Ireland east of
 Mullone does not know Ireland at all."
 It was perhaps nature's his proximity
 to the scenic beauties of Galway Bay that
 produced in him his famous prediction
 for the day, or no more intimate description
 of this noble inlet could be found
 than the following: - "Our bay is

wonderful always; wonder full when the
 misty ~~with~~ winter rain hangs over it like
 a curtain and the water is grey; wonderful
 when storm's base flows, angry waves, and
 slow clouds of gray ^{fill} the surface of it
 to reach our fields and air and windows -
 panes with their leaded dall; wonderful when
 the sea goes crouching over it from the east
 ocean, indignant, proudly, terrifying; but
 more wonderful of all is the blaze
 of the summer sunshine.

Far out in the blue distance - "clear, calm,
 to ease," a poor little island - a people maintain,
 a crouching sentinel, guarding us from
 the Atlantic; guarding, perhaps, from our
 eyes the vision of the islands of the West
 which really lie out there somewhere, to be
 found if we dare sail out far enough.

Never has there been the line of narrow
 islands to rocks and the piece by piece
 stands and single which I see in.
 Between them, through ^{tortuous} passages,
 no tide comes to flood one way. It flows
 in from the ocean itself. It is perplexed
 and puzzled among our islands. It pauses
 in its course, turns backward here,
 whirls in oily eddies there, rushes like
 a wave down some dizzy path, meets a
 direct wall suddenly. Little wavelets
 rise from its smooth surface and clap
 the sands together. Like two fingers
 out to meet lips in rapid, rapturous
 kisses. Then, dragging steaming, curves
 of brown seaweed along with them, the
 distant tides, lower tides, reunited, flow
 on together again. There is Irishman,

The island of the port, and Distrales, the
island of the two mans, and Distrales,
beautifully named islands with their white
cottages and Derry, Stone-walled fields
and Pine.

His impression of the Irish Country town
was indeed shattered by Westport, because
instead of finding "a Kiggledy-piggledy
affair, Dordia and near, built without
any idea of making the most of the site,
which is of the beauty; he this covered
land" was not, alone of Irish towns known
to me, was barren, and planned with
a certain feeling for dignity and beauty.
it is a very early sample

of the town planning and has become
fashionable of late.
During his early years he is

Westport de and Mrs. Hanay continued their
theologic reading, and it was as a result
of the office "The Spirit and Origin of
Christian Gnosticism" to Dublin University
as a private subject for the Donnellan
lectures. The work was accepted and
Canon Hanay was appointed Donnellan lecturer
for the year. Very much interested in
the views of the Catechism he prepared
his first work up with "The Wisdom
of the Desert;" this work received great
notice. He says "my interest was beginning
to wander from my duties," and ^{he next} ~~he next~~
found time contributing articles to Hastings
Dictionary on various subjects. His ecclesiastical
decision was to devote any time to
have writing was changed owing to
circumstances: "My work in Westport was

growing less and ~~was~~ less every year
 owing to the diminution of the population.
 It no longer occupies my full energies.
 Moreover we ^{was} face once more with a
 serious financial crisis. We had managed
 to struggle along pretty well on a small
 income as long as our children were young,
 but when it became necessary to send our
 eldest boy to school we found that we
 had not enough money to give him the
 kind of education he wanted for him.
 We were now taught to write as a
 means of earning a little extra money.
 It was the old Baron Hervey that advised
 us after coming to the writing of
 'The Deering Post', which was eventually
 accepted for publication after being
 refused by eleven publishers. This book

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brought him more of a reputation than
~~more money.~~ 1906 saw Canon Henry writing
 articles for "The Morning Leader", voice of
 the League of Young Liberals, and not
 long afterwards in "A. Press, Review",
 the Press, the Daily Mail and some
 other papers. The Cant we have "Opposition
 Opera" which gained a certain amount of
 success, and was produced as a play by
 Countess Markievitch, for the first time, in
 the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. Mrs. Henry
 attended the production of "Opposition Opera"
 but Canon Henry feeling it would be
 a " flop " stayed at home. Mrs. Henry
 was three days away and when the
 audience Canon Henry presided with the
 M. of General John Regan, which gained
 much success in both London and

New York

This completes his writings in woodblock.

All quotations are taken from "Peasants' Plots" by George A. Birmingham. Published

1934 by:- William Heinemann & Co.

James Hardiman, author of the History of Galway and Counties of the Irish Mistake was born in Westport about the year 1778. He was just intended for the priesthood but through an accident to his eye (at the age of 21 years) he was disqualified from receiving Holy Orders without the dispensation of the Pope. Dr. Lyagh, the Parish Priest of Aughaval and afterwards Bishop of Achonry went to the Pope asking the dispensation be granted. This unfortunately was the process

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at which Napoleon was practically at the
 peak of his strength, and before Dr. Lynch's
 letter reached Mr. Holmes, he was
 imprisoned, and his letter remained
 unanswered for eight years. At the
 expiration of this period Dr. Lynch received
 a letter from the Prefect of Propaganda
 granting the dispensation. During the
 period he had elapsed James Hallinan's
 father had moved to Galway where he
 had set up in business; and as his
 vocation for the Church was now
 changed he applied himself to the
 study of Law, and was known as an
 Attorney in Dublin in the year 1815
 This is the total amount of information
 I could collect about James Hallinan. I
 have made efforts to ascertain his birthplace

but without any degree of definite success.
 I have seen this for some time but I would
 not say it has been definitely of place
 until I have seen it in some other
 way see at Castle Oak.

Dr. F. J. [unclear], of [unclear] & Sullivan [unclear]
 is [unclear] to have residence in [unclear] [unclear]
 a number of [unclear]. Nothing definite,
 I am [unclear] engaged on the [unclear].

Mr. Roberts. [unclear] of [unclear] [unclear]
 [unclear] a [unclear]. Nothing definite. I am
 [unclear] engaged on the [unclear].
