


THE MUSEUM OF NEWPORT IRISH HISTORY
P.O. BOX 1378
NEWPORT, RI 02840

	<p>THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MUSEUM OF NEWPORT IRISH HISTORY</p>
<p>Published by the Museum of Newport Irish History P.O. Box 1378 Newport RI 02840 (401) 847-2890</p>	

VOLUME 5

WINTER (JANUARY) 2001



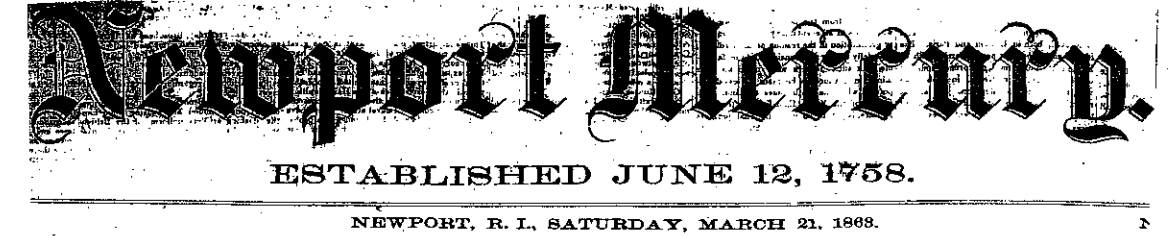
Senators Teresa Paiva-Weed and J. Clement (Bud) Cicilline, Newport, present a RI Senate grant of \$2,000.00 to President Arnold and Vice President McKenna.

The Rhode Island state Senate Majority Leader's office has given the *Museum of Newport Irish History* a grant of \$2,000.00 to assist the Museum in educational programs. The funds will be used for newsletter publications, reproduction of historic photographics, purchase of books and manuscripts and also for materials to aid in the preservation of the historic St. Joseph/Barney St. Cemetery.

The check for the grant was presented December 21st at Senator Paiva-Weed's office.

THE FIRST ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE IN NEWPORT 1863

Board member Pat Murphy's prodigious research into our past has uncovered what he believes to be the first record of a St. Patrick's Day Parade in Newport. Below is a reproduction of the *Newport Mercury* of March 21, 1863.



NEXT Thursday, the 17th inst., will be St. Patrick's Day, a day universally observed by our Irish-American citizens as one of joy and gladness. The celebration of it in our city will be as follows.

The St. Mary's Catholic Benevolent Society, headed by the Naval Academy Band, will march through the principal streets; they number 250 men between the ages of 20 and 45 years. The St. Aloysius Juvenile Society, composed of youths ranging from 12 to 16 years, numbering about 75, will also join the procession, preceded by the Drum Corps of the U. S. 15th Regulars from Fort Adams, under the direction of Drum Major Brown. They will move from their hall on Levin street at 9 o'clock A. M., and the order of march will be up Spring street to Pelham, up Pelham to Touré, through Touré to Kay street, thence to Mann Avenue, down Mann Avenue to Broad street, down Broad to the Parade, down the Parade to Thames street, down Thames to Dearborn, up Dearborn to Spring, down Spring to Narragansett Avenue, thence to South Touré, up South Touré to Perry, down Perry to Spring, up Spring to Levin street. We hope that our citizens will, if possible, allow any members of the above societies who may be in their employ, an opportunity of joining the procession.

NEW ACQUISITIONS FOR THE LIBRARY

The Cromwellian Settlement of Ireland

This is a reprint of J.P. Prendergast's classic account of how the English seized three-quarters of Ireland to be given to the unpaid soldiers of Cromwell's Army, while all Irish were to be banished beyond the Shannon. The Settlement Act of 1653 and its effects are still felt today. This was first published in 1865.

Modern Ireland 1600 - 1972 by R.F. Foster

This history, published in 1988, begins in 1600 with the end of the Elizabethan Wars and the establishment of the Ulster Plantation. The book is a great source of population trends and emigration information.

THE IRISH IN NEWPORT COUNTY -- THE CENSUS OF 1860

The Newsletter of the Museum has been studying the U.S. Census data and listings beginning with the first -- the 1790 census. We are currently looking at 1860 and this issue will only cover Jamestown.

Our Winter 2000 issue (a year ago) recorded the 1850 census and listed only 4 Irish names in Jamestown in a population of 358 souls.

The 1860 census shows quite a different picture, no doubt because of the influx of Irish from the famine of the 1840s. Of 79 families and a total population of 320, there are 25 Irish listed. All are listed as either "domestic" or farm laborers. The oldest was Jeremiah Sullivan, age 49 and the youngest Margaret Murphy, age 2. By far, most were in their 20s with one person aged 30 and the aforementioned ages 49 and 2.

In addition to Sullivan and Murphy the surnames are Flaherty, Kelly, Connolly, Riley, Dougherty, Quigly, Kinney and Mahoney. (Spelling is very difficult to discern in these records.)

In the next Newsletter we'll continue our look at the 1860 census throughout Newport County.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We welcome the following new members who recently joined:

Patrick Nagle	Georgia
Virginia Keefe Hanson	Newport
Tim Ahearn	Pawtucket
Mr. & Mrs. David Scott Molloy	
Kimberly Ward	Naugatuck, CT
Kevin Quinn	Middletown
Marie Jewell	Newport

Also, congratulations to our newest ***Life Members***:

Pat Nagle	Virginia Keefe Hanson	Patrick Toohey
-----------	-----------------------	----------------

A SAD NOTE OF THE DEATH OF LONG-TIME MEMBER REP. LEONA KELLEY.

Rep. Leona Kelley, South Kingstown died this past Election Day. She was one of our first members and an active supporter of the Museum.

Leona was an historian and during her terms in the RI House fought for the preservation of historic cemeteries and farmland. Her great efforts in these areas will be missed.

The President's Corner

The year 2000 was quite a busy and interesting year for the Museum. We "kicked off" the year at our annual breakfast meeting, with Dr. John Quinn of Salve Regina University as the speaker. John talked about Eamon DeValera's American connections and visits, especially here in Newport.

Our Annual Old Colony-Newport Train Ride was a great success on June 1st with nearly 80 along for the picturesque ride and wonderful food provided by over a dozen generous local restaurants.

In August, AOH Division #1 again put on their famous "Steak Night" for the Museum's benefit. Bob Watkins and Joe Buckley did a superb job! Along with the Raffle put on by our own Skip Carter, the Museum raised nearly \$1,000.00.

In September, Skip and Eileen Carter chaired a great Wine and Cheese get-together at the Newport Winery. This was a very nice event where we saw many old friends, made some new friends and gained new members. Skip and Eileen's efforts raised over \$400.00.

In June we dedicated our new plaque at the Barney Street Cemetery. The beautiful bronze plaque is mounted on a handsome granite stone donated by Peckham brothers. A terrific job was done by Bob and Tim Finn, along with the "ever-present" John Booth assisted by Brian Pelletier. Be sure to stop by and see the plaque which outlines a brief history of the site.

We launched two projects in 2000 which will help us in our goal of finding and setting up a museum site. These are the start of a TV history of the Irish in Newport County and a great new brochure which will assist us in our 2001 campaign for major fundraising.

All-in-all, the Millennium Year was busy, interesting and exciting. 2001 promises even more! Mark your calendars now for a Gala Reception on **Saturday March 31st!** We plan this to be a major event with the preview of our video "*History of the Irish in Newport County*". We think you'll be pleased with our efforts!!

Vince Arnold

AN INTERESTING OBITUARY FROM 1898

Rev. Robert Hayman, the Historian for the Diocese of Providence sent along the following obituary from *The Providence Visitor* of January 15, 1898.

NEWPORT Obituary

On Thursday last, Mr. John Cottrell, the oldest Catholic resident of Newport, died at his home on Pelham Street. He was 79 years of age and quite feeble but whenever he could he liked to wander down to Thames Street and see his friends. Last week while out alone, he fell and injured his head so severely that in spite of his great vitality he never rallied. He was a well known mason and had lived in Newport for the better part of seventy years, coming there with his father when 9 years of age. He worked on the construction of Fort Adams, which was the first thing that drew Catholics to Newport, and later he worked for the government at Key West, going down South every winter and returning every spring. He was in later years, an old land mark of Newport which he had seen grow up from the decadence of the early part of the century into the flourishing watering place it is to-day. He was full of recollections of the last and could tell of the days when General Rosecrans and Miss Emily Harper were the zealous instructors in the Catholic Sunday School of the town. Now that old Mr. Garvey and himself are dead, almost the last of the first Catholic settlers have gone.

Mr. Cottrell's youngest brother is ex-Alderman James Cottrell. He leaves one son, Mr. John Cottrell and three daughters Miss Mary Cottrell, Mrs. John Jennings and Miss Annie Cottrell. He will doubtless be buried on Saturday. May he rest in peace.