

Life in the 19th Century

clothes and no boots. Owing to the great scarcity of fuel in the Town of Country a number of children are kept at home to gather sticks around fields.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| N. of Warning Notices served | 8. |
| " " Parents visited | 10. |

I attach return of the number on the present and absent for the month of January 1862



LETTERKENNY UNION

THE BOARD OF GUARDIANS of the above Union desire to Contract for a Supply of the following Articles for a period of **TWELVE MONTHS**, from the 29th Inst., reserving to themselves the option of Contracting for any of said Articles for a shorter period, as they may see fit. The Contractor, in each case, to deliver the Articles at the Workhouse, free of all expense, and according to Order :--

Brown Bread (best Wheaten Meal),
per lb. in 2 lb. Cakes.
White Bread (best). in 2½ lb. and 4 lb.
Loaves, per lb.
Butter (best quality), per lb.
Beef (with bone), best do.
Beef (without bone), best per lb.
Bones of same. per lb.
Ox Heads (each), weighing on an
average 14 lbs.
Oatmeal. of best quality, per 112 lbs.
Indian Meal (Yellow), do.
Barley and Peas (Split), do.
Salt, per do.
Eggs, per dozen.
Black Pepper. per lb.
Tea, at 2s 4d. do.
Sugar (Brown), do.
Tobacco, do.
Whiskey. per quart.
Sherry Wine, per bottle.
Soap (White) best quality, per 112 lbs.
Washing Soda, do.
Candles (dipt), best, per dozen.
Whitewash Brushes, best do.
Black Lead Brushes, do.
Bass Brooms, No. 5. do.
Sweeping Brushes. No. 8, do.
Coffins, with Slip Covers, per
Blankets, per lb.
Rugs.

Drugget. per yard.
Portlaw, Blue and Brown, per yard.
Winceys per yard.
Shrouding, do.
Women's Handkerchiefs.
Bengal Strip, per yard.
Sheeting, per yard.
Wollen Yarn, per lb.
Bed Tick.
Gray Frieze, per yard
Flannel, do. Home Manufacture
Calico and Shirting, per yard.
Corduroy, per yard.
Linen Unbleached. per yard
Men's Caps, of 3 sizes.
Boys' do
Men's Twill Mufflers.
Men's Suspenders.
Boys' do.
Thread. Black and Brown. per lb.
Cocoa-nut Matting, per yard.
Thimbles, per dozen.
Combs. Fine.
" Coarse.
Studs (bone), per gross.
Needles, per gross.
Tape, wide and narrow, per bolt-
Men's Shoes, per pair.
Women's Shoes, do.
Boy's Shoes, do.
Girls' Shoes, do.

OATEN STRAW, PER TON.

Samples of various Articles, bearing the Seal of the Union, to be seen at the Workhouse, on application to the Master. The Article in each case must be in quality fully equal to the Sample, and bear a **NUMBER** and **PRICE** only, otherwise it will be rejected.

Sealed Tenders, giving full particulars and Names of Sureties, will be received by me, up to **TWELVE** o'clock, on **FRIDAY**, the 16th **SEPTEMBER**, Inst., when the Guardians will duly consider same.

JOHN STOREY,
CLERK.

Life in the 19th Century

clothes and no boots. Owing to the great scarcity of fuel in the Town of Country a number of children are kept at home to gather sticks around fields.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| No. of Warning Notices served | 8. |
| " " Parents visited | 10. |

I attach return of the number on the present and absent for the month of January 1862



Guardians' UNION.

Population in 1851, — 40,159

Present Net Annual Value, ... £19,467

STATE of the WORKHOUSE for the Week ending Saturday, the 29th day of *January* 1859

| Number of Inmates for which accommodation is provided. | The total no. of inmates actually residing in the workhouse on the 1 st inst. | Total no. of inmates actually residing in the workhouse on the 29 th inst. | Able-bodied. | | Aged and infirm persons, adult persons, above 15 years of age, but not working. | | Boys and Girls above 5 and under 15 years of age. | | Children above 5 and under 5 years of age. | | Children under 5 years of age. | | RETURN OF SICK AND LUNATICS. | | OBSERVATIONS. | |
|---|--|---|--------------|-----------|---|-----------|---|-----------|--|----------|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---------------|------------|
| | | | Males. | Fem. | Males. | Fem. | Boys. | Girls. | Boys. | Girls. | Children above 5 and under 5 years of age. | Children under 5 years of age. | Number in Hospital on the above date. | No. of Lunatics and Idiots in Workhouse on the above date. | | |
| Workhouse, | 600 | 109 | 6 | 15 | 19 | 28 | 6 | 7 | 14 | 7 | 7 | 109 | 27 | In separate Wards, in Wards with other inmates, } 4 | - | |
| Temporary Buildings, | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | Total, } 4 |
| Additional Workhouse, | 40 | 3 | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | " | 1 | 1 | " | 4 | 3 | Total, } 4 | - | |
| Permanent Fever Hospital, | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | Total, } 4 |
| Fever House, | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Total, } 4 | - | |
| Total, | 640 | 112 | 6 | 15 | 20 | 29 | 7 | 14 | 8 | 7 | 113 | 30 | 4 | | | |
| Remaining on previous Saturday, as per last Return, | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Admitted during the Week, | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Discharged during the Week, | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Died, | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Discharged and Died, | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| REMAINING ON THE ABOVE DATE, | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

RETURN of DISTRICT PRISONERS relieved out of the Workhouse, as by Relief Lists, for the last Week ended Saturday, the 29th day of *January* 1859 authenticated and laid before the Board of Guardians at this Meeting.

Life in the 19th Century

clothes and no boots. Owing to the great scarcity of fuel in the Town of Country a number of children are kept at home to gather sticks around fields.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| No. of Warning Notices served | 8. |
| " " Parents visited | 10. |

I attach return of the number on the present and absent for the month of January 1862



DUNFANAGHY UNION.

Population in 1871, 16477.

Present Net Annual Value, £ 116511.

STATE of the WORKHOUSE for the Week ending Saturday, the 26th day of March 1881

| Number of inmates for which accommodation is provided. | No. that can be accommodated in the workhouse above building. | Total No. in workhouse. | Admitted. | | Total. | Discharged. | Total. | No. of inmates in Hospital and others on the above date. | OBSERVATIONS. |
|--|---|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------|-------------|--------|--|---------------|
| | | | From the streets. | From the workhouse. | | | | | |
| Workhouse. | 545 | 36 | | | | | | | |
| Temporary Buildings. | | | | | | | | | |
| Additional Workhouses. | 24 | 4 | | | | | | | |
| Present Total Hospital. | | | | | | | | | |
| Present Total. | | 419 | | | | | | | |
| Remaining in previous Saturday, as per last Return. | | | 2 | 19 | 12 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| Admitted during the Week. | | | 1 | | | | | | |
| Total. | | | 2 | 20 | 12 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| Discharged during the Week. | | | | | | 1 | | | |
| Total Discharged and Dead. | | | | | | 1 | | | |
| Remaining on 26th MARCH 1881. | | | 2 | 19 | 12 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 3 |

COPY of MINUTES of Proceedings of the Board of Guardians, at a Meeting held on Saturday

the 20th day of April 1881

Present:—In the Chair, W. J. Stewart, Esq.

Other Guardians:

C. J. Stewart, Esq.

Edmund Murphy, Esq.

Miss John Linn

John Peattie

Daniel M. Stewart

Life in the 19th Century

clothes and no boots. Owing to the great scarcity of fuel in the Town of Country a number of children are kept at home to gather sticks around fields.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| N. of Warning Notices served | 8. |
| " Parents visited | 10. |

I attach return of the number on the present and absent of the month of January 1862



INISHOWEN UNION.

Population in 1861—37,222.

Present Net Annual Value, £38580.1.0

STATE of the WORKHOUSE for the Week ending Saturday, the 5th day of June 1869.

| Factors of Inmate which necessitate admission to provision. | No. that can be accommodated in each building. | Total No. that can be accommodated on the above. | Able-bodied. | | Aged and infirm persons, and adult persons, above 15 years of age, but not working. | | Boys and Girls above 9 and under 15 years of age. | | Children above 5 and under 9 years of age. | Children above 2 and under 5 years of age. | Infants under 2 years of age. | RETURN OF SICK AND LUNATICS. | | OBSERVATIONS. | | |
|---|--|--|--------------|------|---|------|---|--------|--|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| | | | Males. | | Fem. | | Boys. | | | | | Girls. | | | Number in Hospital on the above date. | No. of Lunatics and Idiots in Workhouse on the above date. |
| | | | Males. | Fem. | Males. | Fem. | Boys. | Girls. | | | | | | | | |
| Workhouse | 625 | 132 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Temporary Building | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Additional Workhouse | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Permanent Fever Hospital | 42 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fever Blocks | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total. | 667 | 137 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Remaining on previous Saturday, } as per last Return. | | | 3 | 44 | 62 | 2 | 6 | 11 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 134 | In Workhouse } Hospital, } 20 In Fever Hospital, } 5 Total, } 25 | In separate } Wards, } 21 In Wards } with other } Inmates, } 8 Total, } 29 | | |
| Admitted during the Week. | | | | 5 | 4 | | | 1 | | | 1 | 11 | | | | |
| TOTAL. | | | 3 | 49 | 66 | 2 | 6 | 12 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 145 | | | | |
| Discharged during the Week. | | | | 5 | 1 | | | | | | | 6 | | | | |
| Dead | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | 2 | | | | |
| Total Discharged and Dead. | | | | 6 | 2 | | | | | | | 8 | | | | |
| REMAINS ON THE ABOVE DATE. | | | 3 | 43 | 64 | 2 | 6 | 12 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 137 | | | | |

RETURN of DESTITUTE PERSONS relieved out of the Workhouse, as by Relief Lists, for the last Week ended SATURDAY, the 5th day of June 1869, authenticated and laid before the Board of Guardians at this Meeting.

Life in the 19th Century

clothes and no boots. Owing to the great scarcity of fuel in the Town of Country a number of children are kept at home to gather sticks around fields.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| N. of Warning Notices served | 8. |
| " " Parents visited | 10. |

I attach return of the number on the present and absent for the month of January 1862



Life in the 19th Century

clothes and no boots. Owing to the great scarcity of fuel in the Town of Country a number of children are kept at home to gather sticks around fields.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| No. of Warning Notices served | 8. |
| " " Parents visited | 10. |

I attach return of the number on the present and absent for the month of January 1862



[Form A.]

| No. of Case. | NAME. | OFFENCE. | Date of Offence. | Punishment inflicted by Master or other Officer. |
|--------------|----------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 74 | Ricky Genthess | Using abusive language to the Matron, & persisting in doing so, after being cautioned. | 5th July | 2 hours in the Refractory Ward, by the Master. |
| 75 | William Rodden | Going to Milford without leave. | 18th July | 2 hours in Refractory Ward. |
| 76 | Red O'Donnell | Using filthy and abusive language to the Matron. | 7th July | 2 hours in Refractory Ward. |
| 77 | Patrick Linnace Jun. | Going over the wall & leaving the Workhouse premises. | 18th July | Beaten with a rod on the Hands, by the Schoolmistress. |
| 78 | John Rodgers. | Refused to comply with an order of the Master, after having been cautioned previously. | 26 July | 2 hours in Refractory Ward. |
| 79 | Patrick Linnace Jun. | Disobeying the Schoolmistress and running away when she called on him. | 17th July | 10 steps of a rod on the hands by the Schoolmistress. |

R. J. Hewitt
 7/6/75

PUNISHMENT BOOK

| No. of Case | Name | Offence | Date of Offence | Punishment inflicted by Master or other Officer |
|-------------|----------------------|--|-----------------|---|
| 74 | Lizzy Carithers | Using abusive language to the matron, persisting in doing so after being cautioned | 15th May | 3 hours in the refractory ward by the Master |
| 75 | William Rodden | Going to Milford without leave | 18th May | 2 hours in the refractory ward |
| 76 | Ned O'Donnell | Using filthy and abusive language to the matron | 7th July | 2 hours in the refractory ward |
| 77 | Patrick Deneese Jun. | Going over the wall and leaving the workhouse premises | 18th July | Beaten with a rod on the hands by the schoolmistress. |
| 78 | John Rodgers | Refused to comply with an order of the master after having been cautioned previously | 26th July | 2 hours in refractory ward |
| 79 | Patrick Deneese Jun | Disobeying the school-mistress and running away, when she called on him | 19th August | 4 slaps of a rod, on the hands by the schoolmistress |

(Source: BG/119/3/5 1879-1893 Donegal County Archive Service)

Record of Deaths.

| No. in Register | Date of Death | Cause of Death | Name | Whether Male or Female | Age | Date of last Admission to Workhouse |
|-----------------|---------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|
| | | Half year ending 31 March 05 | | | | |
| 1603 | 4 Oct | Drooping | Kate Lynch | Female | 65 | 27 July 04. |
| 1755 | 18 Nov | old Age | Mary Moore | Female | 80 | 16 Nov - |
| 134 | 12 Dec | do | Mary McBlowdy | Female | 54 | 9 Nov 04 |
| 1561 | 20. 00 | do | Sam Longhead | Male | 88 | 16 June 04 |
| 1793 | 25. 00 | Consumption | Hugh Diver | Male | 17 | 15 Dec 04. |
| 1863 | 21 Feb'y | Smallpox | John McCafferty | Male | 40 | 20 Feb'y 05 |
| 1887 | 11 March | do | Patrick McCafferty | Male | 30 | 6 Nov - |
| 1806 | 12. 00 | Diphtheria | Jane Morrison | Female | 25 | 2 Jan'y 05 |

~~Sp. 1 Co. vs 17.6.05~~

8 Deaths in Half year ending 31st March 05.

Wash 1 Coffin for the late Jane Morrison & Melton.

Record of Deaths.

Half year ending 30 Sept 06

| No. in Register | Date of Death | Cause of Death | Name | Whether Male or Female | Age | Date of last Admission to Workhouse |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 2401 | 2 April | Diphtheria | Annah Jackson | Female | 55 | 15th April 06 |
| 256 | 16 00 | old Age | Dorby Longhroy | Male | 82 | 28 Aug 05 |
| 2082 | 26 00 | Tetanus | Sarah Davis | Female | 19 | 14 April 06 |
| 2517 | 11 May | old Age | Denis Kerr | Male | 80 | 4 May 06 |
| 2007 | 8 Aug | Consumption | Daniel Duffey | Male | 25 | 23 April 06 |
| 2718 | 11 Sept | Diphtheria | Francis Cate | Male | 2 1/2 | 27th August 06 |

6 Deaths during Half year

4 Coffins used during Half year.

~~Sp. 1 Co. vs 1.3.07~~

Life in the 19th Century

| RECORD OF DEATHS Half year ending 31 March 05 | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|--------------------------|--|------------------------|-----|----------------------------------|
| No. in Register | Date of Death | Cause of Death | Name | Whether Male or Female | Age | Date last Admission to Workhouse |
| 1603 | 4 Oct | Dropsy | Kate Lynch | Female | 65 | 27 July 04 |
| 1755 | 18 Nov | Old Age | Mary Moore | Do | 80 | 16 Nov " |
| 134 | 12 Decr. | Do | Mary McCloskey | Do | 84 | 9 March 1900 |
| 1561 | 20 Do | Do | Sam Loughhead | Male | 88 | 16 June 04 |
| 1793 | 25 Do | Consumption | Hugh Diver | Do | 17 | 15 Decr. 04 |
| 1863 | 21 Feby ' 05 | Smallpox | John McCafferty | Do | 40 | 20 Feby 05 |
| 1887 | 11 March | Do | Patrick McCafferty | Do | 30 | 6 March 05 |
| 1806 | 12 Do | Typhoid Fever | Jane McMahon | Female | 25 | 2 January " |
| | March 1 Coffin | for the late Jane Marrow | Ramelton | | | |
| | | | 8 Deaths in Half Year ending 31 March 05 | | | |

| RECORD OF DEATHS Half year ending 31 March 05 | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| No. in Register | Date of Death | Cause of Death | Name | Whether Male or Female | Age | Date last Admission to Workhouse |
| 2461 | 2 April | Diphtheria | Hannah Jackson | Female | 55 | 1st April '06 |
| 2156 | 16 Do. | Hannah Jackson Old Age | Darby Loughrey | Male | 82 | 28 August 05 |
| 2482 | 26 Do. | Tetanus | Sarah Davis | Female | 19 | 14 April 06 |
| 2517 | 11 May | Old Age | Denis Kerr | Male | 80 | 4 May 06 |
| 2447 | 8 August | Consumption | Daniel Duffly | Do. | 25 | 23 March 06 |
| 2718 | 11 Sept | Diphtheria | Francis Carr | Female Do. | 2 1/2 | 27th August 04 |
| | | 4 Coffins used during Half year | 6 Deaths during Half Year | | | |

(Source: BG/119/3/6 1899-1917 Donegal County Archive Service)

Workhouses in Donegal: Admission and Discharge Registers



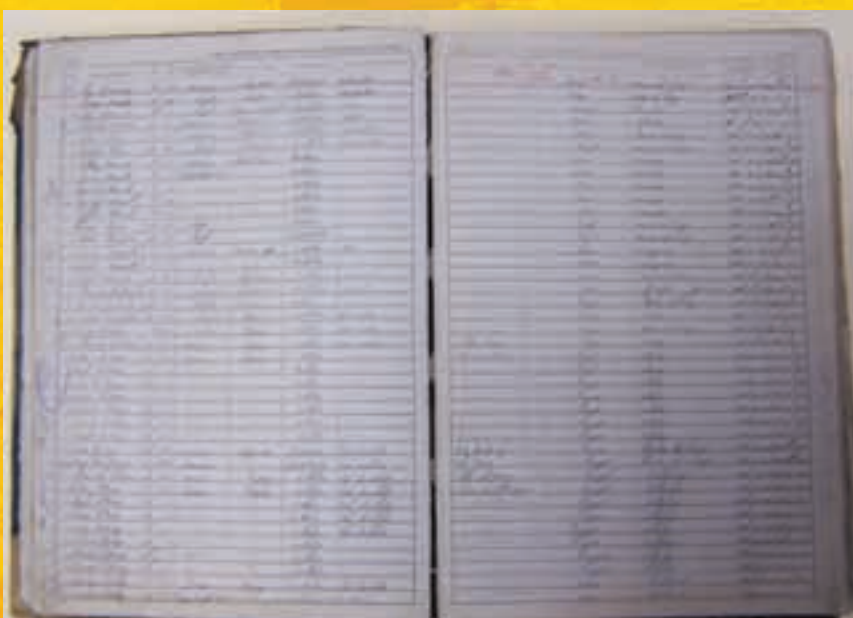
The Boards of Guardians were very good at keeping detailed records of the activities of the workhouse.

Upon entering the new inmate's particulars were recorded in the Admission and Discharge Register. Information recorded included their name, age, address, occupation, if they were married, single or if the children were, orphaned, or deserted.

Also documented was the inmate's religion and details of any illness or disability they suffered from.

Their date of entry to, and discharge from, the workhouse was also recorded.

Some inmates stayed only one night in the workhouse; these people were often only passing through the town. Most inmates had a much longer stay, especially if they were old or sick.



Life in the 19th Century

Glenties Workhouse Admission and Discharge Register 1884 (Extract BG92/3/2)

| | Name and Surname of Pauper | Sex | Age | If Adult, whether Single, Married, Widower or Widow, if Child whether, Orphan or Deserted | Employment or calling | Religious Denomination | If disabled, the description of disability | Name of Wife or Husband | Number of Children | Observations on condition of Pauper when admitted | Electoral Division and Townland in which resident | Date when Admitted or when born in the Workhouse | Date when died, or left the Workhouse |
|-----|----------------------------|-----|-------|---|-----------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| 01. | Alexander McGrory | M | 36 | Married | Begging | Catholic | No Disabilities | Ellen McGrory | 6 | Ragged and Dirty | Killybegs | Dec 6th 1884 | Dec 27th 1884 |
| 02. | Ellen McGrory | F | 35 | Married | Begging | Catholic | | Alexander McGrory | | Ragged and Dirty | Killybegs | Dec 6th 1884 | Dec 27th 1884 |
| 03. | Eliza McGrory | F | 15 | Single | | Catholic | | | | Ragged and Dirty | | Dec 6th 1884 | Dec 27th 1884 |
| 04. | Hugh McGrory | M | 13 | | | Catholic | | | | Ragged and Dirty | | Dec 6th 1884 | Dec 27th 1884 |
| 05. | James McGrory | M | 8 | | | Catholic | | | | Ragged and Dirty | | Dec 6th 1884 | Dec 27th 1884 |
| 06. | Mary McGrory | F | 5 | | | Catholic | | | | Ragged and Dirty | | Dec 6th 1884 | Dec 27th 1884 |
| 07. | Edward McGrory | M | 4 | | | Catholic | | | | Ragged and Dirty | | Dec 6th 1884 | Dec 27th 1884 |
| 08. | Samuel McGrory | M | 1 | | | Catholic | | | | Ragged and Dirty | | Dec 6th 1884 | Dec 27th 1884 |
| 09. | Anthony Kilferty | M | 60 | Widower | Musician | Catholic | | | | Clean | Union at large | Dec 6th 1884 | Dec 7th 1884 |
| 10. | Mary Cunningham | F | 18 | Single | Servant | Catholic | | | | Ragged and Dirty | Glencolmcille | Dec 7th 1884 | Jan 18th 1885 |
| 11. | William Sheerin | M | 70 | Married | Begging | Catholic | Old Age | Rose Sheerin | | Ragged and Dirty | Glengesh | Dec 7th 1884 | March 12th 1885 |
| 12. | David Bonar | M | 17 | Single | Servant | Catholic | Sore Leg | | | Clean | Lettermacaward | Dec 12th 1884 | May 15th 1885 |
| 13. | Margaret Gallagher | F | 80 | | Begging | Catholic | Old Age | | | Ragged and Dirty | Glenties | March 31st 1885 | Sept. 8th 1885 Died |
| 14. | Condy Bonar | M | 1 1/4 | Orphan | None | Catholic | Not Sick | | | Ragged and Dirty | Lettermacaward | June 26th 1885 | This child has been sent out to Nurse |

Workhouses in Donegal: Admission and Discharge Registers



The Boards of Guardians were very good at keeping detailed records of the activities of the workhouse.

Upon entering the new inmate's particulars were recorded in the Admission and Discharge Register. Information recorded included their name, age, address, occupation, if they were married, single or if the children were, orphaned, or deserted.

Also documented was the inmate's religion and details of any illness or disability they suffered from.

Their date of entry to, and discharge from, the workhouse was also recorded.

Some inmates stayed only one night in the workhouse; these people were often only passing through the town. Most inmates had a much longer stay, especially if they were old or sick.



Life in the 19th Century

Inishowen Workhouse Admission and Discharge Register 1844 - 1849 (Extract BG97/3/1)

| No. | Name and Surname of Pauper | Sex | Age | If Adult, whether Single, Married, Widower or Widow, if Child whether, Orphan or Deserted | Employment or calling | Religious Denomination | If disabled, the description of disability | Name of Wife or Husband | Number of Children | Observations on condition of Pauper when admitted | Electoral Division and Township in which resident | Date when Admitted or when born in the Workhouse | Date when died, or left the Workhouse |
|-----|----------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Patrick McLoughlin | M | 17 | Single | Labourer | RC | Ulcerated Leg | | | Clean | Carndonagh | 26 Oct 1846 | 2 Feb 1849 |
| 2. | Hanna McIntyre | F | 87 | Single | Beggar | RC | General Debility | None | None | Dirty | Greencastle | 28 Oct 1846 | 7 Aug 1847 |
| 3. | James Molloy | M | 16 | Deserted | None | RC | Idiot | | | | Greencastle | 2 Nov 1846 | 6 Mar 1847 Died |
| 4. | John Molloy | M | 13 | Deserted | None | RC | Idiot | | | | Greencastle | 2 Nov 1846 | 1 April 1847 Died |
| 5. | William Ramsey | M | 30 | Married | Beggar | RC | | Catherine Ramsey | 4 | Dirty | Greencastle | 16 Nov 1846 | 26 Nov 1846 |
| 6. | Catherine Ramsey | F | 27 | Married | Beggar | RC | | William Ramsey | | Dirty | Greencastle | 16 Nov 1846 | 26 Nov 1846 |
| 7. | Nancy Ramsey | F | 10 | Child of Above | | RC | | | | Dirty | Greencastle | 16 Nov 1846 | 26 Nov 1846 |
| 8. | Patrick Ramsey | M | 7 | Do. | | RC | | | | Dirty | Greencastle | 16 Nov 1846 | 26 Nov 1846 |
| 9. | John Ramsey | M | 3 | Do. | | RC | | | | Dirty | Greencastle | 16 Nov 1846 | 26 Nov 1846 |
| 10. | William Ransey | M | 1 ¹ / ₄ | Do. | | RC | | | | Dirty | Greencastle | 16 Nov 1846 | 26 Nov 1846 |
| 11. | Lusinda Ruddy | F | 18 | Single | Servant | RC | | | | Clean | Buncrana | 23 Nov 1846 | 28 Feb 1849 |
| 12. | John Boland | M | 11 | Orphan | | RC | | | | Clean | Culdaff | 8 Jan 1847 | 19 June 1847 |
| 13. | Eliza O'Donnell | F | 35 | Married | None | Presbyterian | Healthy | Charles O'Donnel | 1 | Deserted by Husband | Turmore | 12 Jan 1847 | 9 Mar 1847 |
| 14. | Alexander O'Donnell | M | 4 mths. | Child of Above | | RC | | | | | | 12 Jan 1847 | 9 Mar 1847 |

| Classes | Meal, | On 5 days in each Week | On 2 days in each Week |
|--|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Working Men, and Animals, above 13 years. | Breakfast Dinner | $4\frac{1}{2}$ ozs Indian Meal } $\frac{1}{2}$ qt $4\frac{1}{2}$ ozs oatmeal } $\frac{1}{2}$ B. Milk $4\frac{1}{2}$ ozs Indian Meal } $\frac{1}{2}$ qt $4\frac{1}{2}$ ozs oatmeal } $\frac{1}{2}$ B. Milk | $7\frac{1}{2}$ ozs Rice with Molasses, and Sweet Milk &c. |
| Aged and infirm and Children from 13 to 9 years. | Breakfast Dinner | $3\frac{1}{2}$ ozs Indian Meal } $\frac{1}{2}$ qt $4\frac{1}{2}$ ozs oatmeal } $\frac{1}{2}$ B. Milk $3\frac{1}{2}$ ozs Indian Meal } $\frac{1}{2}$ qt $4\frac{1}{2}$ ozs oatmeal } $\frac{1}{2}$ B. Milk | $6\frac{1}{2}$ ozs Rice with Molasses, and Sweet Milk |
| Children from 9 to 2 years. | Breakfast Dinner | $2\frac{1}{2}$ ozs Indian Meal } $\frac{1}{2}$ qt $2\frac{1}{2}$ ozs oatmeal } $\frac{1}{2}$ B. Milk $2\frac{1}{2}$ ozs Indian Meal } $\frac{1}{2}$ qt $2\frac{1}{2}$ ozs oatmeal } $\frac{1}{2}$ B. Milk | $4\frac{1}{2}$ ozs Rice with Molasses, and Sweet Milk. |
| Infants under 2 years. | Breakfast Dinner & Supper | $2\frac{1}{2}$ ozs Indian Meal } $\frac{1}{2}$ pint $2\frac{1}{2}$ ozs oatmeal } $\frac{1}{2}$ B. Milk $2\frac{1}{2}$ ozs Bread } $\frac{1}{2}$ B. Milk | |
| * Molasses $\frac{1}{4}$ lb to every 100 and Sweet Milk $\frac{1}{2}$ qt to every 20 pounds. | | | |

Diet approved by the Dunfanaghy Board of Guardians in 1847

| Classes | Meal | On 5 Days in each week | On 2 Days in each week |
|---|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Working Males and Females above 13 years | Breakfast Dinner | 4 ozs. Indian Meal 4 1/2 ozs. Oatmeal 4 ozs. Indian Meal 4 1/2 ozs. Oatmeal | 1/3 quart Buttermilk 1/3 quart Buttermilk |
| Aged and infirm and Children from 13 to 9 years | Breakfast Dinner | 3 1/2 ozs. Indian Meal 4 ozs. Oatmeal 3 1/2 ozs. Indian Meal 4 ozs. Oatmeal | 1/3 quart Buttermilk 1/3 quart Buttermilk |
| Children from 9 to 2 years | Breakfast Dinner | 2 1/2 ozs. Indian Meal 2 1/2 ozs. Oatmeal 2 1/2 ozs. Indian Meal 2 1/2 ozs. Oatmeal | 1/3 quart Buttermilk 1/3 quart Buttermilk |
| Infants under 2 years | Breakfast Dinner and Supper | 2ozs. Indian Meal 2ozs. Oatmeal 4ozs. Bread | 1 Pint Sweet Milk |
| Molasses 1 [qt] to every 40 and Sweet Milk 1 qt to every 20 Inmates | | | |

(source: BG81/1/1 1841-1847 p206 Donegal County Archive Service)

Life in the 19th Century

clothes and no boots. Owing to the
great poverty in the Town of
Country a number of children are kept
at home to gather sticks around

Workhouses in Donegal: Admission and Discharge Registers



The Boards of Guardians were very good at keeping detailed records of the activities of the workhouse.

Upon entering the new inmate's particulars were recorded in the Admission and Discharge Register. Information recorded included their name, age, address, occupation, if they were married, single or if the children were, orphaned, or deserted.

Also documented was the inmate's religion and details of any illness or disability they suffered from.

Their date of entry to, and discharge from, the workhouse was also recorded.

Some inmates stayed only one night in the workhouse; these people were often only passing through the town. Most inmates had a much longer stay, especially if they were old or sick.



Life in the 19th Century

Letterkenny Workhouse Admission and Discharge Register 1864 - 1878 (Extract BG/109/3/3)

| No. | Name and Surname of Pauper | Sex | Age | If Adult, whether Single, Married, Widower or Widow, if Child whether Orphan or Deserted | Employment or calling | Religious Denomination | If disabled, the description of disability | Name of Wife or Husband | Number of Children | Observations on condition of Pauper when admitted | Electoral Division and Township in which resident | Date when Admitted or when born in the Workhouse | Date when died, or left the Workhouse |
|-----|----------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Peggy Campbell | F | 60 | Married | None | Roman Catholic | Not disabled | | | In distress | Union at large | 15 Oct 1864 | 17 Oct 1864 |
| 2. | James Boyle | M | 17 | Single | Servant | Roman Catholic | Fever | | | Very Sick | Labbadish | 19 Oct 1864 | 21 Oct 1864 |
| 3. | Durby Kelly | M | 15 | Single | Servant | Roman Catholic | Fever | | | Very Sick | Manorcunningham | 19 Oct 1864 | 29 Nov 1864 |
| 4. | Thomas Graham | M | 45 | Single | Cabinet Maker | Presbyterian | Infirm | | | Clean | Union at large | 25 Oct 1864 | 26 Oct 1865 |
| 5. | Denis Malony | M | 32 | Married | Carpenter | Church of England | Not disabled | Margaret Malony | 4 | Clean | Gartran Carrowtrasna | 4 Nov 1864 | 1 May 1865 |
| 6. | Margaret Malony | F | 30 | Married | None | Church of England | | Denis Malony | | Clean | | 4 Nov 1864 | 1 May 1865 |
| 7. | Thomas Malony | M | 11 | Single | | Church of England | | | | Clean | | 4 Nov 1864 | 1 May 1865 |
| 8. | John Malony | M | 9 | Single | | Church of England | | | | Clean | | 4 Nov 1864 | 1 May 1865 |
| 9. | James Malony | M | 7 | Single | | Church of England | | | | Clean | | 4 Nov 1864 | 1 May 1865 |
| 10. | Patrick Malony | M | 1 ¹ / ₂ | Single | | Church of England | | | | Clean | | 4 Nov 1864 | 1 May 1865 |
| 11. | Alexander Lawn | M | 60 | Married | Labourer | Roman Catholic | Not disabled | Kitty Lawn | 1 | Clean | Gartran Casheltown | 26 Nov 1864 | 22 July 1866 |
| 12. | Kitty Lawn | F | 54 | Married | House Keeper | Roman Catholic | Not disabled | Alexander Lawn | | Clean | Gartran Casheltown | 26 Nov 1864 | 22 July 1866 |
| 13. | Biddy Lawn | F | 11 | Single | Servant | Roman Catholic | Not disabled | | | Clean | | 26 Nov 1864 | 22 July 1866 |
| 14. | Bell Donnell | F | 20 | Single | Servant | Roman Catholic | Small Pox | | | Sick | Union at large | 26 Nov 1864 | 26 May 1865 |

Workhouses in Donegal: Admission and Discharge Registers



The Boards of Guardians were very good at keeping detailed records of the activities of the workhouse.

Upon entering the new inmate's particulars were recorded in the Admission and Discharge Register. Information recorded included their name, age, address, occupation, if they were married, single or if the children were, orphaned, or deserted.

Also documented was the inmate's religion and details of any illness or disability they suffered from.

Their date of entry to, and discharge from, the workhouse was also recorded.

Some inmates stayed only one night in the workhouse; these people were often only passing through the town. Most inmates had a much longer stay, especially if they were old or sick.



Life in the 19th Century

Dunfanaghy Workhouse Admission and Discharge Register 1891 - 1915 (Extract BG/81/3/6)

| No. | Name and Surname of Pauper | Sex | Age | If Adult, whether Single, Married, Widower or Widow, if Child whether, Orphan or Deserted | Employment or calling | Religious Denomination | If disabled, the description of disability | Name of Wife or Husband | Number of Children | Observations on condition of Pauper when admitted | Electoral Division and Townland in which resident | Date when Admitted or when born in the Workhouse | Date when died, or left the Workhouse |
|-----|----------------------------|-----|-----|---|-----------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | John Simpson | M | 82 | Single | Labourer | Church of Ireland | | | | | Tougher | 2 Nov 1896 | 23 April 1902 |
| 2. | Hugh Gallagher | M | 63 | Married | Labourer | Roman Catholic | | | | | Kildaragh | 6 April 1891 | |
| 3. | James Cael | M | 51 | Single | Labourer | RC | Paralysis | | | | Derryherriff | 3 July 1901 | 28 Aug 1903 |
| 4. | Mary McGarvey | F | 51 | Single | Servant | RC | | | | | Gweedore | 3 June 1901 | |
| 5. | Daniel Gallagher | M | 36 | Single | Labourer | RC | Epileptic | | | | Murroe | 1 May 1900 | 6 Aug 1902 |
| 6. | Isabella Robinson | F | 21 | Single | Servant | RC | | | 2 | | Dunfanaghy | 15 Oct 1901 | |
| 7. | John Robinson | M | 2 | Single | | RC | | | | | Dunfanaghy | 15 Oct 1901 | |
| 8. | Sarah Robinson | F | 1 | Single | | RC | | | | | Dunfanaghy | 15 Oct 1901 | |
| 9. | Sarah Gallagher | F | 78 | Single | Servant | RC | | | | | Dunmore | 17 Dec 1901 | 24 Feb 1910 (died) |
| 10. | Hugh Conaghan | M | 67 | Widower | Labourer | RC | Lame | | 4 | | Falcarragh | 15 April 1902 | 16 April 1902 |
| 11. | James McGarvey | M | 43 | Married | Tramp | RC | | | | | No Fixed Residence | 15 April 1902 | 16 April 1902 |
| 12. | Margaret McGarvey | F | 38 | Wife of James McGarvey | Tramp | RC | | | | | No Fixed Residence | 15 April 1902 | 16 April 1902 |
| 13. | John McGarvey | M | 7 | | Tramp | RC | | | | | | 15 April 1902 | 16 April 1902 |
| 14. | Jane McGarvey | F | 5 | | Tramp | RC | | | | | | 15 April 1902 | 16 April 1902 |
| 15. | James McGarvey | M | 4 | | Tramp | RC | | | | | | 15 April 1902 | 16 April 1902 |
| 16. | Frank McGarvey | M | 1 | | Tramp | RC | | | | | | 15 April 1902 | 16 April 1902 |

Diet: 1846

Resolved that the following Dietary be accepted for the use of the Union:

Working Men and Women and Children above 13:

Breakfast: 7oz. Oatmeal
1/2 pt. Buttermilk
1/2 pt. Mixed Sweet Milk
Dinner: 3 1/2 lbs. Potatoes
1pt. Buttermilk
Supper: 4oz. Oatmeal
1/3 qt. Buttermilk

Old and Infirm and children above 9:

Breakfast: 5oz. Oatmeal
1pt. Sweet Milk
Dinner: 2 1/2 lbs. Potatoes
1/3 qt. Buttermilk
Supper: 4oz. Oatmeal
1/3 qt. Buttermilk

Children under 9 and above 2:

Breakfast: 3 1/2 oz. Oatmeal
1/2 Buttermilk
1/2 pt. Sweet Milk
Dinner: 1 3/4 lbs. Potatoes
1/3 qt. Buttermilk
Supper: 2 1/2 oz. Oatmeal
1/3 qt. Buttermilk

Children under 2 total per day:

4 oz. Oatmeal
4 oz. Bread
1/2 qt. Sweet Milk

(source: BG/119/1/1 1841-1846)

Life in the 19th Century

clothes and no boots. Owing to the great scarcity of fuel in the Town of Country a number of children are kept at home to gather sticks around fields.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| N. of Warning Notices served | 8. |
| " " Parents visited | 10. |

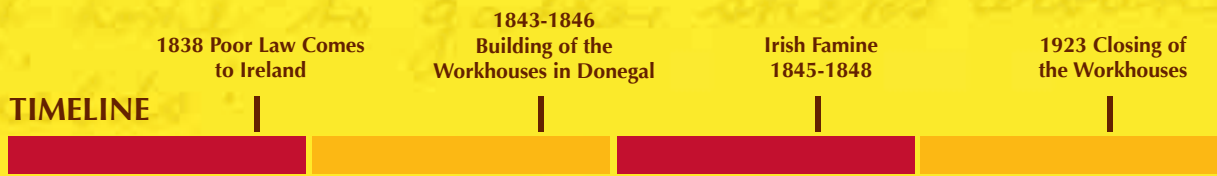
I attach return of the number on the present and absent for the month of January 1862



Life, society, work and culture in the past

Topic: Life in the 19th century

Worksheet
Three



Did you know?

POOR LAW UNIONS AND THE BOARD OF GUARDIANS

The Poor Law was introduced to Ireland in 1838 to provide relief for the poor. The country was divided into unions, each with a workhouse, run by a board of guardians. Donegal had eight unions, Ballyshannon, Donegal, Dunfanaghy, Glenties, Inishowen, Letterkenny, Milford and Stranorlar. Parts of county Donegal were also in the Derry and Strabane unions.

The workhouses provided a home for the destitute poor, who had nowhere else to go. A master and a matron were in charge of running the workhouses. Porters and nurses also worked there, as well as schoolteachers who taught classes and supervised the children.

The workhouses were very unpopular, as life for inmates was quite harsh and the rules of the workhouse were very strict. No one was allowed to leave the workhouse without the permission of the master and inmates were punished for breaking the rules.

Families were split up upon entering and children only saw their parents once a day. Everyone had to work, except the very sick and elderly.

Meals in the workhouse were very basic, made up mostly of bread, porridge and potatoes. Only in the 20th century did the diet improve allowing the inmates a few luxuries such as tea and sugar and occasionally meat.

The workhouses ran until 1923. Some of the buildings were converted to County Homes or Hospitals and are still in use today.

POTATO FAMINE

Ireland in the 19th century was heavily dependent on potatoes. Most of the population of 8 million lived in rural areas on very small farms, which were rented from larger farmers and landlords.

In 1845 a third of the potato crop was destroyed by blight, which quickly spread, causing the crop to fail entirely in 1846. This meant that poor people were left with nothing to eat and many were evicted from their homes for not paying the rent.

Emigration or entering the workhouse was the only option left to a lot of people.

This led to huge overcrowding in the workhouses and the spread of diseases such as dysentery and typhus. The boards of guardians provided help to people outside the workhouse during the famine called 'outdoor relief' in the form of medical and food aid.

IN YOUR PACK YOU WILL FIND:

1. A map of the Poor Law Unions in Donegal
2. Letterkenny union notice from 1881
3. A page from a minute book of the board of guardians.
4. The workhouse punishment book for Milford Workhouse
5. Record of Deaths from Milford
6. Diet sheets from 1846 and 1847
7. A page from an admission and discharge register from the workhouse.

seirbhís Cartlainne Chontae Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Archives Service

Look at the evidence

Worksheet
Three

The Workhouse

1. Poor Law Union Map

Using the map provided select the union that your town/school/home belonged to.

2. Letterkenny Union Notice, 1881

What types of meat were included in the workhouse diet?

Make a list of the fabric and items of clothing ordered for the inmates?

From the list of materials ordered, what jobs do you think the inmates had to do?

3. Minutes of the Board of Guardians

What date is this record from?

What was the total number of paupers in the workhouse ?

How many boys and girls between 9 and 15 years of age were in the workhouse that year?

How many people were in the Fever Hospital?

4. Workhouse Punishment Book

Do you think the punishments inflicted on the inmates were harsh?

Which form of punishment do you think was the most unpopular?

Patrick Deneese Junior left the workhouse without permission, how was he punished?

5. Record of Deaths

What was the most common cause of death between October 1904 and March 1905?

How old was Francis Carr and what did he die from?

How long had Daniel Duffly been in the workhouse when he died in 1906?

6. Diet

Compare the two diet sheets used in the workhouse, what is missing from the diet in 1847?

Do you think this was a healthy diet for the paupers?

Compare your diet to that of someone your age in the workhouse in 1847. Which foods would you miss most?

7. Admission and Discharge Register

How many children were admitted?

Who was the youngest and what age were they?

Make a list of the professions of the inmates?

What professions did the women have?

How many different disabilities are recorded?

Who on this list had the longest stay in the workhouse?

How long was it for?



**DO SOME
DETECTIVE WORK...**

- Try to imagine what life was like for children in the Workhouse and write a short passage about how you think you would feel upon entering.
- Imagine you are a reporter visiting the workhouse in 1847. Write an article for your newspaper on what you have witnessed.

*Seirbhís Cartlainne Chontae Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Archives Service*