

Robert Dwyer Joyce
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Doctor Robert Dwyer-Joyce

(1830-1883) was born in Glenosheen. He knew George Petrie (1789 -1866) and contributed many airs which were included in *The Petrie Collection of the Native Music of Ireland* which was published in 1855. Robert produced a volume of poems but his main interest was in the field of old Irish music. *The Wind that Shakes the Barley* was one of his better-known compositions.

THE PARISH OF PARTICLES derived its name from the detached particles or portions of other parishes which were combined to form it. The townlands of Down Gadmond, Down Innish, Chapel Martel and Ineycachel belonged respectively to the abbeys of Butte, Kilmallock, Monasteranenagh and Adare before the Reformation. These townlands were given to the churches by the O'Kelly, or O'Hely, family at a very early period. There were three churches here in medieval times, Castleotway, Clough-a-Nutfooy, or *Dún Ghadamoinn* Church, Sithcathil or *Sióth Chathail* Church and Chapel Martel or Mortelstown Church. By 1840 there was neither an ancient nor a modern church in Particles parish.

CASTLE OLIVER derived its original name of Otway's Rock or castle from the Irish *Cloch an Otbhaidhigh* after an Anglo-Norman family who settled there soon after the Invasion. This was later Anglicised to Cloghnotefoy, Cloghanodfoy, Clonodfoy or Cloghnodfoy and a house of that name, Clonodfoy House, was erected here before the present Gothic-style structure was built. Castle-na-Doon, the seat of the Roches until they were ousted by the Fitz-Harris family was the oldest edifice on this site. Sir Edward Fitz-Harris was the owner of an old ruined house, bawn, stable, orchard and garden here in 1654. This was described in 1655 as a bawn with a crenellated wall and four turrets with conical roofs at the angle. In 1666 Robert Oliver, a Cromwellian captain, was confirmed in his ownership of the estate. Richard Oliver changed his name to Gascoigne on inheriting the estates of Sir Thomas Gascoigne of Parlington, Yorkshire, in 1812. In 1837 the estate consisted of 20,000 acres. Robert Gascoigne neglected his Irish holdings and allowed his bailiff to live in the old mansion which had become very dilapidated. G. Fowler Jones, a York architect, was employed to design a new house which may have been built as a famine relief scheme. The stable block of the older house was retained but the rest of it was demolished to make way for the present house with its massive keep-like tower, steeped gables and battlemented turret. Work commenced in 1846 according to Tony Browne, although other sources claim a date of 1850, Tony com-

mented on the iron framework of the high-pitched roofs, which is a modern feature. He took members of the Shannon Archaeological and Historical Society on a tour of the house, which has been closed for a number of years and is now in a dangerous and dilapidated condition. Castle Oliver had been badly vandalised by then, August 1988, and "stripped" of many of its fittings, but even so it was still an impressive building. A French company purchased Castle Oliver some time before August 1988, and intend to restore it.

OLIVER'S FOLLY, located on one of a series of small hills north of Castle Oliver, is older than the present Castle Oliver. This is a small gateway tower which was erected by Silver Oliver during the eighteenth century.

MARIA DOLORES ELIZA GILBERT (1818-1861), alias Rosa Anna Gilbert, alias Elizabeth Rosanna Gilbert, alias Lola Montez, was "everything by turns and nothing long". Her mother was an Oliver of Castle Oliver and her father, Edward Gilbert, was an English ensign who died in India when Lola was seven years old. Lola was educated in Scotland and Paris. She lived for a while in Bath but eloped with, and married, Captain Thomas James in 1837 to avoid another marriage her mother had planned for her. She travelled to Ireland with her husband and then accompanied him to India where he rejoined his regiment. By 1842 she was back in England, supposedly divorced and preparing for a theatrical career. She studied under a Miss Fanny Kelly, perfected her dancing in Spain, and made her debut in London where she was hissed off the stage of Her Majesty's Theatre. She was successful in Dresden and Berlin; was expelled for her political associations from Warsaw; received many presents from Czar Nicholas in Russia; and caused the death of an editor in a duel in Paris. She was a woman whose beauty allied to "a certain power of fascination" enabled her to do as she liked with men. In Munich she completely captivated Ludwig I of Bavaria and became his mistress. She was created Baronne de Rosenthal and Comtesse de Lansfeld, received a state pension, and possibly provoked the Revolution of 1848 which resulted in Ludwig's dethronement. She returned to the stage, in England, after fleeing from Munich. Lola was sued for bigamy after marrying George Trafford Heald in 1849, and was forced to flee to Spain with her new husband. Heald was drowned in Lisbon in 1853. Lola went to America where she appeared on Broadway, and later married P.P. Hull, the owner of the *San Francisco Whig*. She left him within a short space of time. In 1855 she went on a tour of Australia, where she horse-whipped the editor of the *Ballarat Times* for

casting aspersions on her character, but had returned to America by 1857. In 1858 she became a public lecturer, lecturing on her own career, that of other beautiful women, heroines in history, and similar subjects. She met a former school-mate, Mrs. Buchanan, a New York florist, in 1859, and spent the rest of her life visiting outcasts of the Magdalen Asylum outside New York. She died in an asylum at Asteria, New York, on 17 January 1861. Her last words were, "I am very tired". Lola Montez, the most famous member of the Oliver family, was buried in the Greenwood Cemetery, New York. She had been born in the old Castle Oliver within sight of a woodland area known as the Greenwood which has long since been incorporated into a State forest complete with walks and picnic areas.

BALLYORGAN can be translated as Organ's or Horgan's Town. In 1837 it had a population of 369 persons, and contained the Church of Ireland and Roman Catholic churches for the parish of Kilflyn. The former building was a neat edifice with a square tower, built in 1812, while the latter was a small thatched building. **HORGAN**, Organ, Hargan, *O'hArgáin*, *O'Horgaine*, *O'Horgane*, *O'Hargan*, is a contracted variant of *O hArragáin*, which in itself is a corruption of *hAnradháin*, the descendant of the Warrior or Champion. The *O hArragáin* name can be found in North Munster but the *O'hArgáin* is more common in Cork or Kerry.

KILFLYN CHURCH is situated in the townland of Abbey and is believed to have been founded by St. Finian or St. Flann about 547. Kilflyn is generally translated as the Church of Flann. However, St. Finian may be another name for St. Finan the founder of Kilfinnane four miles north of here on the map, about seven by road. This ruined church is believed to have been a Trinitarian monastery which was rebuilt by the Geraldines in 1296. A considerable portion of the building collapsed in 1835, undermined by people digging for a treasure supposed to have been deposited here. The parish of Kilflyn was located in the middle of a group of mountains separating the counties of Cork and Limerick, and was considered a wasteland until 1761 when a considerable number of Palatines settled around here at the invitation of the Oliver family. Within three-quarters of a century they had brought the former wilderness into cultivation. The principal mountains in this grouping are Kilcruig and Coolfrie, or Houndscourt.

SOURCE REFERENCE NUMBERS

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