AN INVENTORY OF THE GOODS, &c., OF THE REV. MR. JON. HEAD, DECd.

A just inventory of ye Goods & effects of ye Revd. mr. john Head who died October 1730.

Stock
4 horses 13 : 10 : 0
2 mears 3 : 10 : 0
2 coults 3 : 10 : 0
6 cows 12 : 10 : 0
7 sheep 2 : 6 : 0
4 calfs 2 : 0 : 0
3 hogs 1 : 10 : 0

Corn
Corn valued to 12 : 0 : 0
potatoes 6 : 10 : 0
Debts due to him 296 :
Redy money 10 : 0 : 0

houseold Goods
3 fether beds 3 bowls: 6 pillows with bed cloaths for ye 3 beds and curtains for ye Seam
2 Scrutons (?)
2 chests
2 trunks
2 boxes
2 tables
18 chairs
2 beds & bed cloaths for Searveants
3 dousn. puter pleats
9 puter dishes 1 beason 2 stands of puter
4 iredon pots
2 skiletts
2 saucepans
2 pr. of candelsticks
2 pot hooks 2 hangers
1 Gridl
1 Gridron
1 flesh forke
1 bras ladle
1 Chaifing dish
1 Pistol & mortor
1 Snuffers
dripping pan
Brusiog-vesels
Bear-vesels
Milk vesels
Delf weair
Glases.

yese Goods are valuced to 30 : 0 : 0
givien undr. my hand this 12 of may 1731

CASS : HEAD.

The above document was found in a book purchased from the collection of the late Archdeacon Begley, and probably came to him from Maurice Lenihan's collection of papers relating to the Protestant Diocese of Killaloe. This collection, which Lenihan purchased from the widow of a clergyman of that Diocese for a very small sum, is now in the British Museum.

The inventory is written in a thin spidery hand (Cassandra Head's, if we can judge by the signature) and the spelling is very erratic. It is a single sheet written on both sides.
The following marriage entry from the Killaloe Records (Dwyer’s History of the Diocese of Killaloe, p. 360) probably refers to Head and his wife:—“John Head and Cassandra Merritt of Finneoe, 1707.” I have been unable to trace Mrs. Head’s maiden name, but Minnett, a name which could easily be misread Merritt, was one common in the parish of Finneoe in the early 18th century.

In a note to the inventory, in Maurice Lenihan’s hand, it is stated that the following tombstone was in the graveyard of Templejake Church near Killaloe. I have been unable to trace it.

HERE LIES THE BODY OF
MRS CASSANDRA HEAD
RELIOT OF THE REVD. JOHN
HEAD, SHE DEPARTED THIS
LIFE THE 9th OF MAY. A.D.
1771, AGED 85yrs.

R.H.

A COPY BOOK OF 1731.

Among the manuscripts preserved from Curragh Chase is a fascinating eighteenth century school copy book. It consists of sixty sheets written in a very neat schoolboy hand, and dated at the beginning and end respectively August 10th 1731 and August 17th 1733. The author was Vere Hunt, father of Sir Vere Hunt, the diarist, and great grandfather of Aubrey de Vere, the poet.

This is a most attractive miscellany of the knowledge taught to a young Georgian landlord. It begins with an English translation of the first book of the Aeneid. (Throughout the book there is evidence of a classical education). However, the bulk of the matter consists of a series of observations on gardening and agriculture. Included are remarks on Devonshire—‘the popular eighteenth method of burning the sod for fertilisation; receipts for Birch-Liquor wine and cider; forestry hints; and notes on growing vegetables, hops, “liquorish,” “safron,” strawberries, “apricocks,” &c. After a particularly lengthy section on the cultivation of tobacco, young Vere Hunt scribbles:

“Come on, my Pen, what makes you languish here,
Faint not (I crave) ye Pleasant Shore is Near.”

Further sections deal with tame “Concys,” pheasants, the care of bees and the destruction of pests. Another couplet at the end of a page is the cynical improvisation:

“A-woman at best is a Consummate Eville,
She’s all Saint without, but within is all Devill.”

Following this comes a detailed “Kalendarium Rusticum,” and last of all a beautiful copperplate transcript of “an Eneorium on ye noble & Excellent Liquor Calld Royal Punch.” A few lines will suffice as a sample.

“This noble liquor first by ye Gods approvd,
Is now by Kings above all others lov’d.
Ambrosia and Nectar was theyr Drink Before,
But Punch is now and will be Evermore.
When Bacchus treated Gods he us’d no wine,
For Royal Punch was then ye Drink Divine.”

On the back cover is the writer’s signature—“Vere Hunt, Jun.” with a latin couplet calling attention to his ownership of the book.

“Hujus si cupias Dominum cognoscere libri,
Aspice sub scriptum & nomen habebis ibi.”

R.W.J.

INFORMATION WANTED—FRANKLIN.

Rev. Geo. Franklin (1762-1840), Rector of Kildimo, Co. Limerick, who had a large family, was the son of Joshua Franklin of Limerick, known to have been a man of means, and probably a younger son of an old family of some standing. One of his descendants seeks to gather any information which may lead to trace the genealogy of the said Joshua Franklin, including particulars of his marriage. It is conjectured that he may have been descended from a former Joshua, born about 1680, who had two sons, William and Robert, as well as three daughters, Rebecca, Elinor, and Ann.
LIMERICK PRINTERS AND PRINTING.

The following local items have been recently acquired by the City of Limerick Public Library:

1. Poem... Dublin: printed by A.B., and re-printed in Limerick, 1716. (Price, 2d.) 4pp. The poem treats of two Limerick beauties, Chloe and Millie. The title is torn from the title-page.

2. A compendious history of the Kings and Queens of England, from William the Conqueror to his present Majesty King George, with the most remarkable transactions which happened in each reign. Cork: printed by Samuel Terry, in Cockpit Lane, where Chapmen may be furnished with all sorts of small books... as also at his Printing House, in the City of Limerick. 14pp. (Imperfect). Illustrated with quaint cuts of the different kings.

3. The Charter Party; or, Articles of agreement of the Tontine Building Company of the City of Limerick; with a list of the subscribers’ names, and also of their nominees. Daniel Gabbett, Law agent and secretary to the Company. Limerick: Watson and Mahony, 1808. VI plus 22pp. Appended is a list of 36 subscribers with the names of their nominees, usually their children, and also the addresses of the subscribers and the maiden names of the nominees’ mothers.


100 pp. plus covers.

5. Analysis of the late Election of Limerick, shewing the entire list of the Poll, and also, the number of the different political parties that voted for each candidate, with an address to the liberal electors and non-electors of the City and Liberties. Limerick: M. Clancy, Printer, Denmark-street.

24pp. plus covers.

The first two items have been presented by Mr. M. J. MacManus, Literary Editor of the Irish Press; and item three was presented on loan by Harry Rhys Maunsell, Esq., B.A.

R. H.

PROCEEDINGS, 1941.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in the City Library on Wednesday, 22nd January, 1941, at 8 o’clock.


The reports and statements of accounts for 1940 were read and considered satisfactory.

During the year the following lectures and excursions were held:

22/1/1941 (after the General Meeting). Early Irish Architecture of Ireland, by R. F. Hewson.
13/3/1941. The Early Iron Age in Ireland, by Dr. Joseph Raftery, M.A., M.R.I.A.
26/5/1941. Excursion to Quin.