

CURRAGH CHASE PASSES TO STATE DEPARTMENT

After exactly 300 years (1657) the ownership of Curragh Chase has passed this week from the family of the de Veres to the Department of Lands and Forestry—for fully 2 centuries, the family have been practical tree lovers.

This decision has caused infinite regret to the late owner, Mrs. de Vere, but she has come to place reliance for its future welfare and preservation on the expert care of the Department.

COULD NOT BE CARRIED ON PRIVATELY.

For more than two years it had become increasingly apparent that this beautiful estate could not be carried on privately under existing conditions, rising costs, etc. She hopes, however, that the present change will prove to be for the best, and that these wide and varied woodlands — including as they do, part of the remaining primeval forest of Ireland — will have the full expert care which, with all their love of the place and its memories, she and her husband were never able to afford to give it.

MEMORY OF AUBREY DE VERE.

A deep interest in the home of the poet, Aubrey de Vere, has been shown by those at the head of affairs, who, it is believed, will seek to preserve his memorial stone, and the Crosses and other places of special beauty, in his memory. The Forestry officials who have been at Curragh over a period, and in close touch with Mrs. de Vere, have shown an appreciation of the place which gives her every encouragement for the future, and the confident hope that they may be able to preserve and beautify it as no private owner could hope to do.