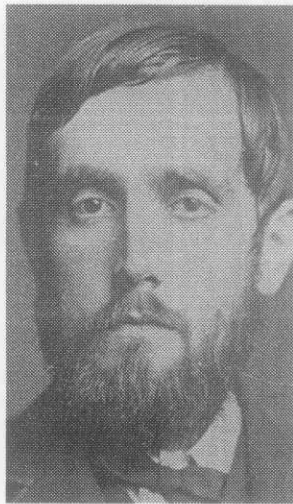


130 years later, Freeman enter Roll of Honour

by Marie Hobbins

A LOCAL historian's efforts to have the record put straight regarding the omission of the names of two recipients of the Freedom of the City of Limerick, some 130 years ago, have succeeded.



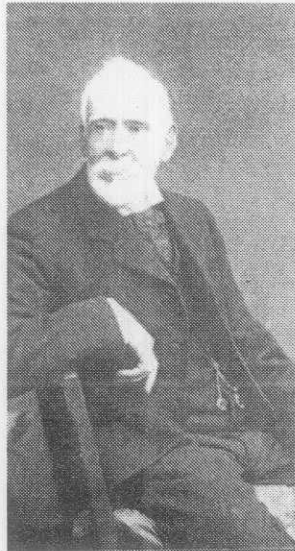
At a recent meeting of Limerick City Council, a notice of motion submitted by Cllr Pat Kennedy, was passed. That motion read: "That the council resolve

to have the names of John Dillon and TD Sullivan added to the Roll of Honorary Freeman, both of whom were voted by Limerick City Council to receive this honour, but have been mistakenly/wrongly omitted from the said Roll".

Pleased with the outcome, Limerick historian, Dr Tadhg Moloney, told the Limerick Post that the names of Freeman, John Dillon and TD Sullivan, had been inadvertently omitted from the Roll.

"John Dillon was a member of the Irish Parliamentary Party but was imprisoned in Kilmainham Jail because, as a Nationalist, he was a leading light in a plan of campaign for the Land War, and when the then city council was proposing him for the Freedom of Limerick in 1881 the mayor at the time, Cllr Stephen O'Mara, of the famous Limerick Bacon Factory family, said: "We cannot release him from prison but we can honour him with the Freedom of the city".

Acknowledging a letter



sent to him, informing him of the "Freedom," John Dillon replied by letter conveying his "warmest thanks for your kindness and the very high honour".

TD Sullivan, who wrote the rousing ballad, God Save Ireland, was Lord Mayor of Dublin, and had been imprisoned in Tullamore Prison, found guilty of "incitement to violence" arising from comments he made in a

letter to a newspaper

Dr Moloney says: "On January 2, 1888, TD Sullivan was made Freeman of Limerick and in a letter to Limerick Corporation, acknowledging the honour, he said:

"I am very proud of this honour and it will be a pleasing recollection to me all the days of my life".

Dr Moloney added he had felt it was wrong that the names of these two recipients of the city's highest honour had not been entered into the Roll of Honour.

"I believe that once the councillors vote unanimously to grant this honour, the person involved is automatically made a Freeman of the City of Limerick, and it was a pity that the names of these two were not recorded for posterity.

"I am very glad that Cllr Pat Kennedy took the issue on board and submitted a formal notice of motion, which was subsequently passed in City Hall, and that the matter has been successfully rectified".

Thomson Tunnel-p

By Rebe
Commans

BIG events at Thomson Park Stadium contributed greatly to increase in vehicle availing of the Limerick tunnel.

Tom King, general manager of Direct Road said that an increase of 4,000 vehicles passed through the Clonmalt toll plaza enroute Thomson Park for recent Munster vs All-Ireland.

"Motorists have reaped the benefits of the tunnel, as it takes just 10 minutes avoiding traffic congestion," told the Limerick Post.

"We have been put to rest one hour after letting us use the tunnel, and it is now become more peaceful."

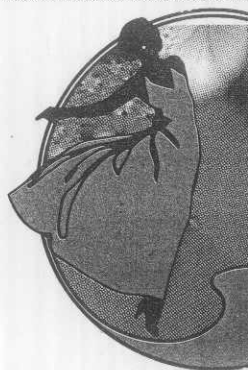
He added that, though the word of mouth people like to hear when driving a car using the tunnel and avoiding traffic congestion.

When asked why there are more motorists using the tunnel now that motorists had not chosen to use it before.

"Parents who are using the tunnel and are sticking to it."

He revealed that a lot of people are using the tunnel to bushtime.

"Time is very precious in Shannon each day, for rush hour. That's a testament to the tunnel."

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