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The following entry for Dec. 29, 1820, reads: "Bryan, son to Michael Ryan and Catherine Merryman. Rev. M. Enright, baptised."

He was probably a nephew of Brian Merriman, author of *Cúirt an Mheán Oíche*, who is supposed to have died at his sister's residence in Old Clare Street, 29th May, 1805.

### STREETS OF OLD LIMERICK

The old city when looked at on a map has an outline somewhat resembling the shape of a wasp; having a slender waist at Baal's Bridge. The present quay was but a marsh.

The principal streets in the Irish Town were Broad Street, High Street, John Street and Mungret Street.

#### ENGLISH TOWN:

In the English Town Main Street ran from King John's Castle past St. Mary's Cathedral to Baal's Bridge, but it is now divided into Nicholas Street and Mary Street. Branching from Main Street were Bow Lane at one side of St. Mary's Cathedral and Quay Lane, now known as Bridge Street, almost on the other side. Little Creagh Lane ran from Mary Street down to where Barrington's Hospital now stands and Creagh Lane ran parallel with it. Long Lane started from Sir Harry's Mall, went by the Franciscan Abbey and became Emly Street. It went on to join Sheep Street. Fish Lane was about fifty yards from Baal's Bridge, and at the side of the present National Bakery.

#### LIMERICK CEASES TO BE FORTIFIED:

In the year 1760 A.D. Limerick ceased to be a fortified garrison. Up to this period there had been seventeen gates to the city. The destruction of the walls and gates was followed by the opening up of a road from the new Square near St. John's Church to Mungret Road or Boher Buy and a broad passage was made from Baal's Bridge to the Quay.

#### NEW TOWN:

The new town of Limerick was now assuming shape in South Priors Land which had been granted to an ancestor of the Earl of Limerick. This new town was known as Newtown-Pery. Men of enterprise had already begun to take ground and to build; one was Patrick Arthur who built a quay—Arthur's Quay. Sir Harry Hartstonge built a mall and several fine houses—Sir Harry's Mall. To name the streets of Newtown Pery was an object soon accom-

## General St. file.

plished. Few streets there, had particular names before the year 1786 when Sir Christopher Knight, the mayor made many useful regulations for the city. Boarded labels were fixed with the name of the streets at each corner.

George's Street (now O'Connell Street) —King George III; Ellen Street (Miss Ellen Arthur); Francis Street (Francis Arthur); Patrick Street (Patrick Arthur); Thomas Street (Thomas Unthank) —The Arthurs and Unthinks were city merchants; Catherine Street (Catherine Unthank); Pery Square (The Pery Family).

Barrington Street. The Barrington family came to England from Normandy with William the Conqueror. They take their name from Barantin near Le Havre.

Hartstonge Street. The Hartstonge family resided in what is now Hartstonge Street.

Sir Harry's Mall. Sir Harry Hartstonge built it.

Rutland Street. Lord Rutland was Viceroy in the 19th century.

Sexton Street. The Sexton family got church property during the Reformation Period.

Roches' Street. The Roches were millers who came originally from Kilkenny in the 19th century.

Newenham Street. The Newenhams were 19th century merchants.

Honan's Quay. The Honans were city merchants who built the quay.

Boherbug (An Bóthar Buí). From the yellow clay on the road or perhaps from the gorse. This was the road that led to Mungret.

Lenihan Avenue. Called after Lenihan the historian.

Downey Street. Downey was shot by the Black and Tans.

Byrne Avenue. Called after Robert J. Byrne of Town Wall Cottage who was shot during the Black and Tan regime.

Glentworth Street. Lord Glentworth. (Earls of Limerick)