



Musings from the pen of the late Rev. Harry Beegan, C.C.

I. *The Friars of the Friary,
Join forces with the Pallotines and the Wesleyans,
In a unique ecumenical gesture,
To frustrate the designs and ambitions,
Of overly adventurous and under-handicapped golfers,
To hide and cover up
The small little white ball,
And yellow ball,
And orange ball,
To which they all sing "AMEN"*

2 *No way could a wayward wedge
Penetrate the Cedars of Adare Manor
And to prove it
In its lofty branches, even to this day
Hides many an injured golf ball,
Seeking succour
From the wild slashes of wilder golfers.*

3 *To cheat at golf
Is more than a mortal sin,
To cheat in Adare
May sometimes allow you to win,
But the ghosts of the Earls and the Monks,
Will haunt you at night
Till the trophies you show,
To your friend and your foe,
Are returned to their rightful site.*



The Founder

Windham Thomas Wyndham Quin, fourth Earl of Dunraven and Mountearl, was born in Adare Manor on 12 February 1841, the elder son of Edwin, the third earl. Growing up in Adare he mingled easily with the estate workmen, an experience which gave him a valuable insight into the life and times of a social class quite different to his own. During his childhood, his father, under the influence of John Henry Newman and the Oxford Movement, converted to Catholicism. This had severe implications for the young boy as his father also wished his heir to convert. To that end he sent him to various Catholic schools in England, as well as enrolling him for a period in a school in Rome. All however was to no avail for the young boy, encouraged by his mother, resisted all efforts at conversion and so that period of his life fostered in him a stubborn streak of independence which he demonstrated many times in his later life. Failing to reconcile major differences with his father but arriving at a necessary working arrangement, the young Viscount Adare - his title as heir to his father - went up to Oxford but came down without taking a degree, having spent more time dealing with the affairs of the Officer Training Corps than in his academic studies. His time in Oxford was not entirely misplaced for, on leaving, he was commissioned as a cornet or sub-lieutenant in the Life



The Earl of Dunraven

Guards. Army Life opened up new opportunities for the young officer. He began a life long interest in the sport of kings, firstly as a fearless amateur flat jockey, for which his courage and rather diminutive size earned for him the sobriquet 'the Fly', and continued in later life as a noted owner and breeder at



Adare.

A criticism often levelled at the Earl during his long life was that his interest in whatever sphere in which he was engaged was rarely sustained. So it was with his army career. His attention was drawn, in 1867, to the British campaign in the then Abyssinia. He immediately volunteered for service there but when that avenue was not open to him, he managed to wangle an invitation to go and act as war correspondent for the London Daily Telegraph. The army authorities refused to grant him leave of absence, so he promptly resigned his commission and set off. He made a success of that role though he had no journalistic experience or training, and so was kindled in him a love and ability for writing, something which he never subsequently lost. A few years later, in 1870-71, he reported for the same newspaper on the Franco-Prussian War and was present when peace between France and the then German Empire was signed at Versailles in February 1871.

On the rather sudden death of his father later in that same year, the young viscount succeeded to the title and vast estates in counties Limerick, Clare and Kerry, as well as Dunraven Castle and estate near Bridgend in South Wales. During the seventies and after his marriage he travelled to Canada and then on to America where he spent long periods in the midwest hunting buffalo with such worthies as Buffalo Bill (William F. Cody) and Texas Jack. On his return from his travels, he took his seat in the house of lords in London in 1878, sitting on the Conservative or Unionist benches and taking a lively interest in proceedings therein, especially matters dealing with Irish, foreign and empire affairs. Interest in the plight of Ireland - the start, on a philosophical level, of a long love-hate relationship with the land of his birth, moved him to write *The Irish Question*,

in 1880, in which he opined on the causes of Ireland's wretchedness and offered rational and tangible solutions. In 1885, on the accession of the conservatives to power he was offered and accepted the junior ministerial post of under-secretary for the Colonies - a posting which was inferred by many at the time as unworthy of his ability and interests. Always a man of high principle he resigned his government post some two years later as a protest against the stand of the cabinet on the Newfoundland Fisheries Dispute. Despite his falling out with the Conservatives he was appointed, in 1888, chairman of the Commission on the so-called Sweated Industries. This investigated abuses in the clothing factories in London's east end, but later the terms were widened to include alleged similar conditions in like industries throughout the United Kingdom. The report of the committee, mainly the work of the chairman, was wide ranging and recommended changes to sweep away the last remnants of tyranny and exploitation on the factory floor.

Yachting was his preoccupation during the nineties. In 1893 and again two years later, he competed unsuccessfully, in his own yacht, Valkyrie III, in New York for the America Cup. Never one to condone apparent injustice, he accused his American opponent of cheating during the 1895 race, something which subsequently took on a life of its own and caused minor diplomatic ripples between the British and American governments.

In 1899, he offered himself as a candidate for the Croom division on the occasion of the first election to the new Limerick county council. His decision to contest was difficult to fathom but he did say himself, in answer to a query from the *Limerick Leader* that it was the first opportunity afforded him to be of service to his native land. Standing as a



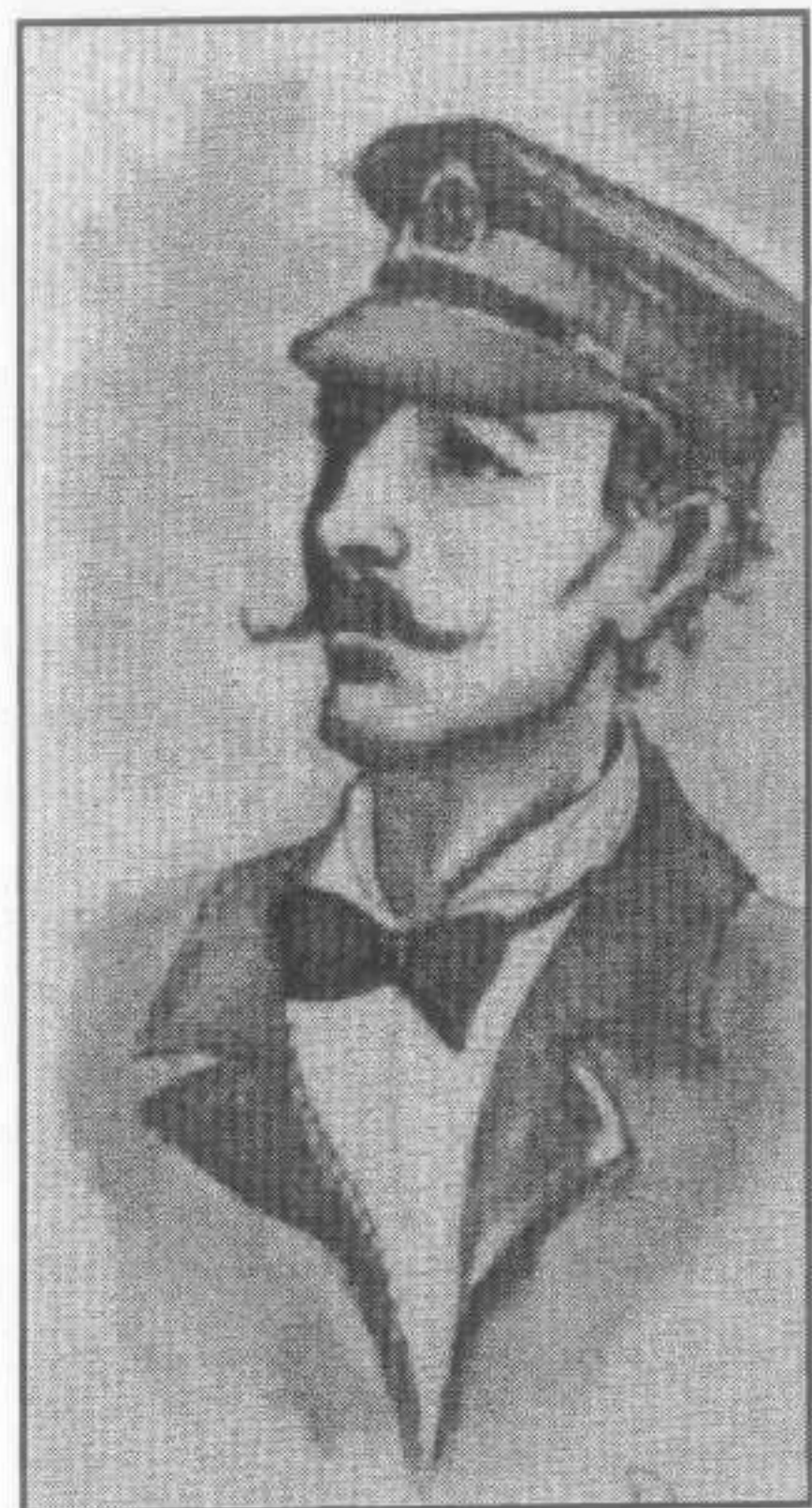
committed unionist and anti home ruler, he was vigorously opposed by local nationalist interests. The Croom contest soon became a cause celebre, generating much interest both at home and across the water for, apart from the impending struggle between a peer of the realm and a stout representative of nationalism, the R.C. bishop of Limerick, Dr E.T. O'Dwyer, foolishly and needlessly intervened in the campaign by purporting to insinuate that he had the power to instruct catholic voters not to vote for the titled candidate. In the end the voters ignored whatever embargo O'Dwyer had appeared to place upon them and returned the Earl as member for the Croom division, which embraced Adare, Kildimo and Croagh. During the eight years of his membership his contribution to affairs of the county was negligible apart from his setting up of proper financial structures and his active support for a campaign of direct labour whereby road making and repairing would come under the control of the council rather than the old method of contracting care and maintenance of highways to local interested landowners. The main prize in the giving of councillors, that of chairman of the council was resolutely denied him despite the fact that he had experience of the working of such bodies in both the Glamorganshire and London county councils. As he had many interests, in Britain, both political and business, he was away from home very often and so his attendance at council meetings left much to be desired. He was the organiser, at the commencement of the Boer War, of a company of sharpshooters in England and he accompanied them to Africa in April 1900. Dunraven, then in his sixties, tells us that he almost left his bones in Africa and as a result that expedition further exacerbated his already indifferent health. The Earl's most enduring and significant service to Ireland was when, as leader of a



The Earl's boat, Valkyrie III (on right) competing in the America Cup

group of landlords who realised the inevitability of tenant purchase, he took up the idea of a conference between representatives of owners and occupiers or tenants to endeavour to reach a solution, acceptable to both parties, to the age-old problem. To the surprise of most a conference did take place in 1902; Dunraven was elected as chairman of the eight man group, and succeeded against the odds to again bring forward an agreed report, much to the chagrin of lunatic fringe elements on both sides. A land purchase bill closely followed the recommendations of the Dunraven report and so Ireland's land problem, which had long bedevilled Anglo-Irish relations, both internally and externally, was set fair to be resolved.

It was inevitable that once the thorny and seemingly insurmountable question of the land had been settled the minds of many would turn to securing, using the same modus operandi, a political solution with our larger neighbours. To that end the Irish Reform Association was set up with Dunraven again as leader or chairman. Failure to set up a conference on the land model meant that the reform association had to promulgate and promote its own policy and plans. A scheme known as devolution, a lesser form of home rule but still maintaining the link with Britain, was their preferred option. The plan was immediately rounded on by two powerful factions in Ireland - the unionists, those mainly entrenched in the northern counties, while it did not find favour with



Drawing of the Earl of Dunraven

nationalists who dismissed the whole idea as worthless cant and merely impeding the inevitable granting of home rule. Furthermore the popular appeal of the land issue was not there to sustain the movement so soon it became just a memory although some seventy years later devolved power has been granted by the Westminster parliament to the old nation-regions which form the United Kingdom. In the matter of devolution, at least, Dunraven was way ahead of his time.

At the commencement of the Great War in 1914, although seventy three years of age, Dunraven immediately offered his services and experience to the War Office. Resulting from his maritime background, he was seconded to the naval volunteer reserve, and after he had purchased and fitted out a large yacht at his own expense, he was detailed to act as a carrier to ferry wounded officers from the mainland of France to hospital ships out in the deep for transfer to ports in Britain. Later he served in the same capacity in Mediterranean waters. The sense of loyalty and duty to the empire, which inspired his own selfless sacrifice, consumed Dunraven to such a degree that he failed to appreciate the reluctance of Irishmen generally to enlist in the armed forces of Britain. He became a constant writer to newspapers urging and cajoling Irishmen to join the colours using any and all arguments to bolster his advocacy, firstly of recruitment and later of conscription. His stock fell to a new low in Ireland and engendered such a crescendo of fury that, in 1917, Limerick Corporation expunged his name from the list of freemen, a privilege granted to him some ten years beforehand for his promotion of Irish industry.

In the early years of the century when most of his vast estate in Co. Limerick was being transferred to private ownership, Dunraven was already experimenting with the cultivation of tobacco on his own lands. The experiment, grant aided by the state, seemed to be successful and was increasingly seen as a valuable cash crop likely to benefit the new farmers who were then encouraged to grow an acre or so on their own lands. By 1911 Dunraven was so encouraged by the success of the experiment that he built a cigar and cigarette factory opposite the hotel in Adare, producing goods of high quality using a combination of locally grown and imported leaf. In 1914 about fifty farmers, under the Small Growers' Scheme were actively engaged in the cultivation of tobacco in the vicinity of Adare, Kildimo and Croagh. Disaster struck the fledgling industry on January 1 1917, when a fire in the old farmyard destroyed stocks of tobacco and an expensive processing machine, just a short time beforehand, imported from America. The 1914-18 war brought its own problems because while the demand for tobacco products was enormous, the amount of land available for its cultivation in the British Isles was considerably reduced due to the necessity of utilising all available land for food production. A fire in the cigarette factory, in March 1919 caused further damage and disruption to the industry. The factory was rebuilt but finally closed down in March 1923 when the Adare Tobacco Company went into liquidation. The advent of the Irish Free State and the subsequent loss of favoured Commonwealth status meant that the lucrative British market was no longer available to Irish growers. While producers made optimistic sounds in the early days, the problem of excess moisture in Irish grown tobacco was never successfully overcome. So ended a once glorious experiment.

Dunraven's last hurrah in the realm of



public affairs was his membership of the Irish Convention of 1917-18, set up by British prime minister, Lloyd George, ostensibly to seek an enduring solution to the continuing Irish discontent but, in the eyes of sceptics, merely an exercise to convince the American government that as something was being done in Ireland the Americans would be encouraged to enter the war on the side of the allies. The convention was over-membered and therefore unwieldy. Dunraven was a lone voice urging devolution as a compromise between the intransigence of stubborn unionists and intractable nationalists. Before any solution could be arrived at, even if one seemed remotely in the offing, the convention was dismissed as soon as the U.S. entered the war.

With the sweeping victory of Sinn Fein in the postwar general election of 1918, Dunraven and his fellow moderate unionists realised that some form of native government was imminent in Ireland which might not be altogether to their liking. A minority, including Dunraven, opted to remain and pledged their support to the new order of things. On the establishment of the Irish Free State, he was nominated by President Cosgrave to become a member of the newly

established senate or upper house of parliament, but he only rarely attended and contributed nothing to its proceedings. The day of the Anglo-Irishman was fast drawing to a close and many chose to move abroad. Dunraven himself had always hoped that the landlords, who had received generous compensation for the sale of their land to their tenants, would retain portion of the estates and continue to live in and invest in the future of Ireland as he himself was doing. But sinister forces elsewhere decided otherwise.

In his declining years, in the early twenties, Dunraven spent more of his time at sea cruising the warmer waters of the Mediterranean. He had just returned from such a voyage in the Spring of 1926, when he died, on 24 June, rather unexpectedly, at his London home. Appropriately, his body was conveyed in his yacht, Sona to Foynes for removal and burial in the crypt of the old Black Abbey at Adare. He was succeeded in the title by his first cousin, the grandfather of Thady, the present Earl.



Adare Manor



Interested spectators at the Curtis Cup played in Royal County Down, June 1968, Madeline Casey on the left with Winnie Treacy.



Adare House in the early 1800s.



The Course

From earliest times the land on which the golf course is situated was part of the territory of an ancient tribe and was called Ui Cairbre Aodhbha, which is translated into the vernacular as Hy Carbery. Their lands stretched from Bruree, where the royal fort was situated, down along the banks of the River Maigue (as modern spelling has it) to a point just below the present village of Adare. The most prominent leader of the tribe was a shrewd warrior called Donovan and when, around the year 1000 AD, surnames began to be introduced, his people took on the name of O'Donovans, that is descendants or followers of Donovan. The O'Donovans, for we can refer to them as that, were a warlike race, indulging in frequent squabbles and battles with neighbouring chiefs or petty kings. Preservation of territory was of the utmost importance so strategic earthen forts were erected at Croom and Adare to guard the river crossings on sites later occupied by formidable stone castles, built by their successors. When the Norman invaders, in this instance the Fitzgeralds or descendants of a Welsh knight, Gerald, rampaged thorough Munster, they soon became attracted to the fertile land stretching from Bruree to Adare. The O'Donovans, weak from long years of internecine strife, particularly against their sworn enemies, the O'Briens of Thomond, were no match for the

foreigners and were soon dispossessed. The modern term 'ethnic cleansing' is a new name for a very old concept and soon the indigenous people of Hy Carbery were on their way to South West Cork. There, in the same manner by which they themselves were dispossessed, they carved out a territory for themselves, naming it Carbery after their homeland.

The lands thus acquired by the Geraldines remained in the possession of that family for a long number of years. Meanwhile around the present clubhouse area a strong castle had been built by the new owners on the site of the old O'Donovan fort along the river bank. In addition a walled river-port town grew in the shadow of the castle. It has never been definitively clarified as to whether the town was on the eastern (or golf club) bank or adjacent to the opposite bank. A map in connection with the so-called Down Survey of 1656 shows the town on the western bank with the market square in the area opposite the Dunraven Arms Hotel and in front of the gateway to the Manor hotel. Logic would dictate that as the castle provided the protection necessary for any Norman or non-Irish settlement the town should have been built close by it and not a quarter of a mile away and on the opposite side of a river. As well as that it would have been unusual that the parish church was built



Edward Lloyd/ James Layden, NT, Adare/
Rev T. Lynch PP, Stonehall/ Thomas
Lambert, Shannon Lawn, N. C. Rd.,
Limerick

John Murphy, c/o J. Baggott, Adare/ Mr
and Mrs J. K. Murray, Athenry, N. C. Rd,
Limerick/ Dr P. J. Mulvaney, Glenbevan,
Croom

Dr and Mrs P. J. McMahon, 2 Pery
Square, Limerick/ Mr and Mrs Morgan
McMahon, Dromore Castle, Kildimo

Miss G. O'Leary, MPSI, Medical Hall,
Adare/ J. A. O' Brien, M. and L. Bank,
Croom/ Mr Charles, BDS and Dr Sarah
O'Malley, 4 Pery Square, Limerick/ J.
O'Mara, Lisnamara, Corbally, Limerick/
John O'Brien, New Road, Rathkeale/
Miss W. O'Shaughnessy, Post Office,
Adare/ Mr and Mrs P. O'Malley/ Mr and
Mrs T. E. O'Donnell/ John O' Leary/
James O'Connor, Ardmachree,
Charleville/ Miss Helen O'Donnell,
Croom/ M. O'Malley, Auburn, O'Connell
Ave., Limerick

Mrs E. M. Purcell, Iveragh, Ennis Road,
Limerick

Mr and Mrs P. F. Quinlan, Kylemore,
Ennis Road, Limerick

Mr and Mrs S. J. K. Roycroft/ Dr M.
Roberts, Kloof, N. C. Rd., Limerick/ R.
A. Ryan, Glentworth Hotel, Limerick

Mr and Mrs E. Stevenson

J. Turpin/ Very Rev. Canon Thornhill PP/
Mr and Mrs G. S. Trainor, The Hotel,
Ballinarry

Capt Valentine Wyndham Quin, Royal
Navy/ Lady Olein Wyndham Quin/ Miss
Maisie Walsh, Toryhill House, Croom

Editor's note:

A study of the names and numbers
of members for the two years
throws up some interesting facts.
In 1946, less of the so-called
landlord class and Limerick
business people appear on the list;
a drop in membership is
noticeable; and the beginnings of
strong local interest is discernible.
This latter is most significant as
this group, together with loyal
Limerick members, kept the club
alive through the slack days of the
late forties and the fifties until the
arrival of the first surge of new
members in the sixties. To those
in general and to the Estate
Company in particular is owed a
debt by all present day members.



The Methodists

Dudley Levistone Cooney



It was "in or about the year
1756" that, according to
tradition, John Wesley, the
Founder of the Methodist Church
first preached in Adare. He stood under
an ash tree near the ruin of the Franciscan
Abbey, at no very great distance from
where the road then ran from Adare to
Limerick. A stone, placed in position in
1940, marks the spot. The stone is
advisedly vague about the date. His
Journal for that year records visits to
Pallaskenry (then called Newmarket) and
Ballingrane on June 16th, 17th and 18th,
and then continues

"I rode back (to Limerick) through Adare,
once a strong and flourishing town, well-
walled and full of people, now without
walls and almost without inhabitants -
only a few poor huts remain. At a small
distance from these are the ample ruins of
three or four convents, delightfully
situated by the river, which runs through a
most fruitful vale".

There is no mention of his preaching in
Adare, and it is unlikely that he would
have omitted the fact had he done so.

Four years previously Wesley had arrived
in Limerick city on August 12th. On the
following two days there he held the first
Irish Methodist Conference. One piece of
business done in the course of those two

days was to recognise
Philip Guier as the preacher
to the Irish Palatines of
Ballingrane, Courtmatrix and

Killeheen, where Methodist societies
had been formed a few years previously.
He left Limerick for Cork on August 21st.
Of his activities between August 14th and
21st he says almost nothing. What would
have been more natural than for him to
visit the Palatines to whom he had just
appointed a preacher, and meet on his
own ground the preacher whom he had
just appointed? That he actually did so is
evidenced by an entry in his sermon
register. On an unspecified date that year
he preached in Ballingrane. There is no
other time at which a visit there would
have been possible.

There is, therefore, a possibility that his
sermon under the ash tree may have been
preached four years earlier than has been
supposed. There were then, of course, no
Palatines in Adare: Lord Dunraven first
gave leases to some of them eight or nine
years later. Wesley's interest in Limerick,
however, was not confined to Palatines,
and if a crowd could have been gathered
to hear him, he would not have failed to
seize the opportunity.

On the other hand he was back in the
area on eleven occasions between 1758
and 1789. In 1789, being then aged



eighty-six and trying to crowd as much as possible into what was foreseeably his last Irish tour, he asked all the Palatines to gather at Pallaskenry. On some of the other ten occasions he might have preached at Adare, so that the ash tree might have sheltered him on more than one occasion.

The Minutes of the Methodist Conferences of 1794 and 1797 both record that a preaching-house was being built by the Methodists in Adare. It is improbable that two were built within three years. What is much more likely is that the building was planned in the earlier year, and then deferred either for lack of funds or lack of a site. Where did the Adare Methodists meet for worship before that? It was their habit to make use of any premises sufficiently large to accommodate them, and they could crowd a surprisingly large number of people into quite small places. Customarily they sat on backless benches, but if necessary they were quite willing to dispense with the benches and stand for the hour or more, and so make room for larger numbers. The large room of a house, a barn, a store, in one place or another quite a variety of buildings were used, and any one of the sort could have served in Adare. However, here there is a very interesting suggestion.

In her *Memorials of Adare Manor*, published in 1865, Countess of Dunraven gives a description of the old parish church. She writes (on page 99):

"The building consists of a nave and chancel, and a third division west of the nave, which contains a low rude pointed arch, and is surmounted by a gable; this was probably formed by dividing the nave, but for what purpose it is difficult to determine. It is said that this western portion was at one time used as a Meeting-house".

It is the last sentence that is most interesting. It is couched in the cautious language of the historian who has no written source, and no living memory to authenticate it, but a sufficiently strong tradition to make it worthy of mention. The Methodists tended to avoid the word "Meeting-house", which was used for Nonconformist places of worship. Claiming in those days to be a religious society within the Established Church, the Methodists preferred to speak of preaching-houses. But others were not so scrupulous, and in any case regarded Methodists as Nonconformists. It is therefore possible that this was where the Methodists met. There seems to be no tradition in the area of Presbyterian or Baptist presence.

It is extremely improbable that the division was made to accommodate the Methodists, but given the fact that it had been made for some long forgotten purpose, perhaps they were allowed to use it. If so, it must be unique in Irish Methodist history. A few clergy of the Church of Ireland were sympathetic to Methodist work; most were indifferent, and not a few were actively hostile. If the tradition to which Lady Dunraven refers is correct, it reflects a remarkably sympathetic landlord, and a very sympathetic or compliant rector.

In or about 1797 the Methodists secured their own building, which they would at first have called their preaching-house, but which by the middle of the 19th century they would have been calling their chapel. It stood on the north side of the old road from Adare to Limerick, in the townland of Gortaganniff. The line of that road is now represented by the avenue which winds through the golf course. The Ordnance Survey map of the period shows three buildings, two joined to form an inverted "L" and the third at a small distance, which may not in fact have had anything to do with the Methodist people at all. The adjoining

buildings were the chapel, and probably a stable to shelter the horses during worship. These were usually released from the traps and carts for the time, and tethered in such a way that they could not bite or kick each other. The chapel was certainly a simple building, gable ended, and not unlike that which still stands in use at Ballingrane, but without the porch. Here the Methodists were to worship for nearly eighty years.

The memory of Mr. Wesley and his sermon or sermons under the ash tree was not allowed to die. There may have been other such gatherings from time to time, addressed by other Methodist preachers. Rev. Adam Averell, a distinguished Methodist evangelist who was also a connection of the John Averell who was at one time Bishop of Limerick, visited Adare in 1796, and certainly preached in whichever premises the Methodists were using, and in the open air as well. The open air site could possibly have been the one associated with Wesley. However, the series of annual Field Meetings on the site beside the Franciscan Abbey did not commence until 1819. This date is authenticated by a reference in the *Limerick Chronicle* in 1842 which describes the gathering that year as the twenty-fourth.

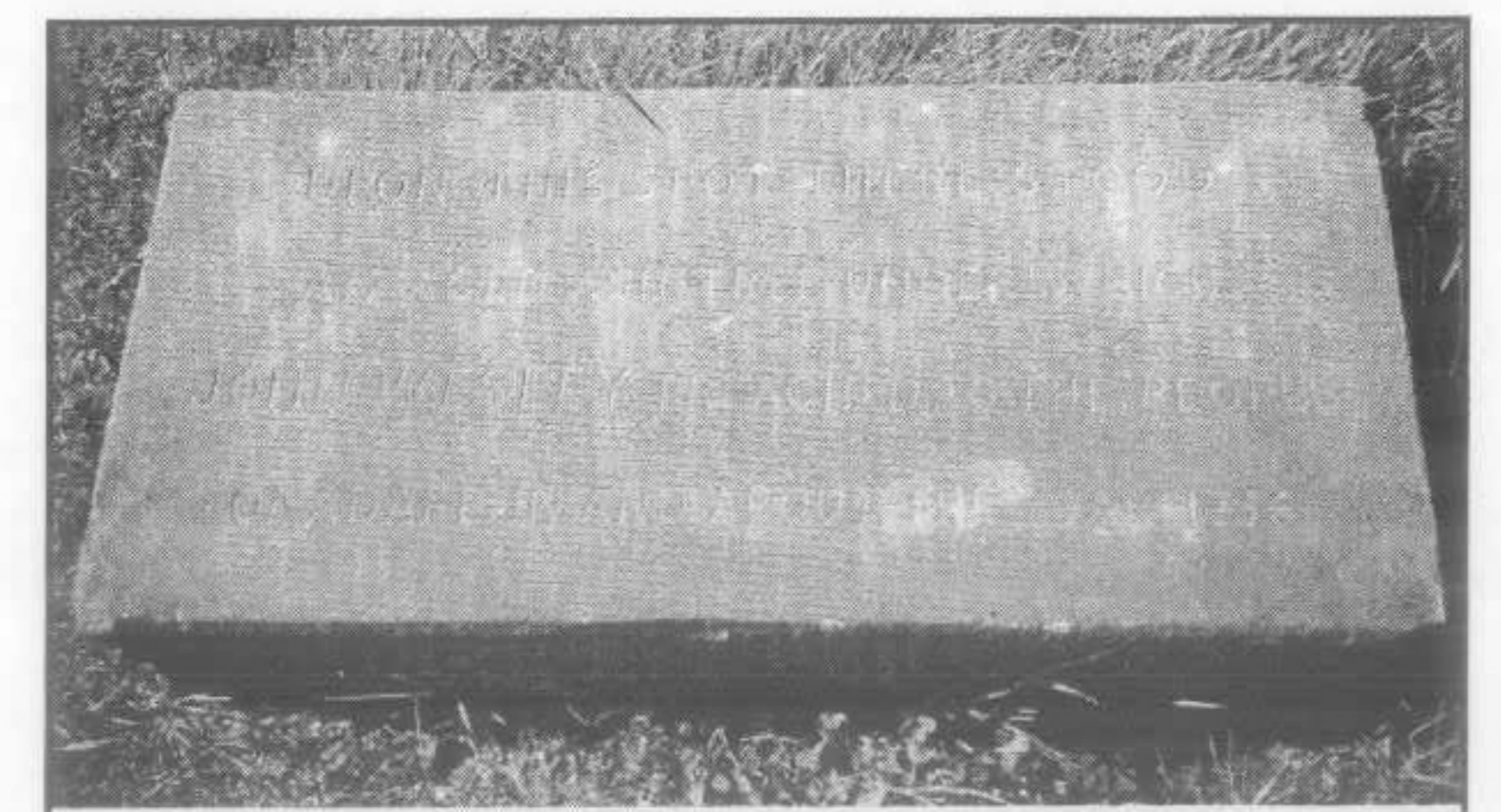
The latter half of the 19th century saw major changes in Adare Manor. The original Georgian mansion gave way to the splendid Gothic revival building which still graces the park; the road to Limerick was realigned some hundreds of yards to the north, along the route it still follows; and Lord Dunraven began to enclose the enlarged demesne with a wall. It was awkward to have the Methodists driving into what was now his private pleasure ground every week for worship, and doubtless they felt the awkwardness too. His Lordship gave them another site on the Black Abbey Road, where the foundation stone of a new church was laid in the January of 1892, and with its



opening the following year the Methodists abandoned the building in the demesne, which was then razed to the ground. Henceforth, the Methodists would come into the demesne with the Earl's gracious permission just once a year for the Field Meeting.

In 1900 the then Lord Dunraven took the initiative for the formation of the Adare Manor Golf Club, and the course was laid out around the ruins of the old Parish Church, including the Meeting-house and the Franciscan Abbey. The site of the old Methodist chapel now lies smack in the middle of the 5th fairway. In an exceptionally dry summer, which has happened twice or thrice in living memory, as the grass turns yellow, the outline of the Methodist foundations becomes visible. The site on which Wesley preached is now beside the 14th green, but that did not put an end to the Field Meetings.

Once a year the Golf Club graciously closes the course for the morning to enable the Methodists to meet. It thus has been from the beginning the only golf club in the world to regularly close so that a religious service may take place in its grounds. That courtesy it has since extended to the Catholic Church on other dates. The Methodists of the Adare and Ballingrane Circuit greatly value this co-operation over the past century, and look forward to its continuation for many years to come. In the second half of their third century they wish every success to the Club as it enters its second.



The Wesley Stone

Below: Aylmer Cleeve, who was captain in 1935, with his son Terence, who was a junior member of the club. Terence is wearing the uniform of a cadet in the Royal Navy.



Our Professionals

John Hayes, who has been described, in the twenties, as the club manager, may well have been an early professional attached to the club. If so his tenure of office came to an end in late 1929 when Tom McGrath was appointed. McGrath must have been one and the same as the Thomas McGrath who was appointed professional to Limerick Golf Club in 1925 with his sister being engaged as cook/caterer. This combined arrangement continued until December 1928 when McGrath was let go because he complained so much to members about the club getting his lesson fees. In addition there was a long running dispute between the club and the professional concerning his living accommodation. Nonetheless McGrath proved a gem in Adare as he was an excellent teacher and was readily available to play with members. It can be assumed that he lived in the then newly built Golf Lodge, replacing the house in which Hayes lived.

McGrath's departure in 1938 was said to be due to his dismissal on account of a long running dispute between himself and the Estate Office over the overuse of coal in the Golf Lodge. McGrath is said to have taken up a position with Ballina Golf Club, Co. Mayo.

Bob Wallace was appointed groundsman/professional in 1938. Bob was one of



Bob Wallace

several brothers from the Newcastle area of Co. Down who learned their golf in and around the Royal County Down course. He later went to London where he served his time as a clubmaker with Gradiges in London and was competent in all aspects of his trade when he arrived in Adare. In early 1946 there was an opening in Galway Golf Club and Bob removed there where his wife, as in Adare, took charge of the catering. While in Galway, Bob took on a not so young assistant, one Patrick