

macra na fírne and that it is in the safe hands of intelligent young leaders who are willing and ready to meet the challenges to their skills and potentials which are demanded by the exigencies of modern life and economic necessity.

## FAMOUS AUTHOR IN LIMERICK

A recent visitor to Limerick was the brilliant author and globe trotter, H. V. Morton, whose books on his visits to many lands have become gems among contemporary literature.

First to quote a few of his outstanding successes, I mention the following:—"In Search of Ireland," "In Search of England," "In Search of Scotland," "London," "A Traveller in Rome," "Through Lands of the Bible."

### A CHANCE

"A Stranger in Spain." There are others—all to be treasured in any library.

I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Morton during his brief visit to Limerick. And

### Advertiser's Announcement

## LIMERICK GROUP FOR LOURDES

ON Saturday, the 8th of August next, a group of Limerick people will travel by Aer Lingus Viscount from Dublin to Lourdes. They will stay at the Astoria Hotel and return on the 13th of August.

A Priest Leader will accompany the Group and during the visit an Irish Resident Representative will be available. A coach tour of Lourdes will be arranged and a visit to Bartres. The all inclusive cost is 35 gns.

A similar Group will leave on September 30, returning October 5.

Further details from:—

Riordan's Travel Ltd., 62 O'Connell Street, Limerick. Phone 44226 and 47441.

(advt.)

for the record let me say straight away that it was a chance in a million. I was sitting in a well-known lounge talking to this stranger. Also in the company was Colonel Gerald the O'Grady, Kilballyowen, Bruff. We talked about matters in general.

### TO KEEP A PROMISE

I knew the face and realised immediately that this was a very distinguished personality, but I could not place the name. We talked and talked until eventually it came to me—H. V. Morton, the author. However, it transpired that he was visiting this country incognito for the purpose of getting a badly needed rest, and wanted no publicity. I had to sit on a good story to keep a promise to brilliant author.

### CALCULATED

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## DIOCESE OF LIMERICK

In virtue of a dispensation granted by His Lordship the Bishop, there will be neither fast nor abstinence on the Vigil of Pentecost, May 16.

Conferences of the clergy have been arranged for the coming week as follows:—

Tuesday, May 12—Rathkeale.

Thursday, May 14—Kilmallock.

Friday, May 15—Limerick.

The conference at each centre will begin at 12 o'clock, S.T.

And surely no Department in the cumbrous civil service

# He h roots

**MICHEAL ÓG Ó LONGAIN** is often spoken of as the Poet of 1798—of the Rising of that year, that is. His father was Micheál Mac Peadair Ó Longáin, reachtaire or rent receiver for the Knight of Glin.

About 1740 the Catholic Knight of Glin was deprived of his title and possessions, in accordance with the provisions of the Penal Laws, when his younger brother became a Protestant. Micheál Mac Peadair didn't like his new master, and after a quarrel with him he left Glin and went to live in Carrignavar near Cork city, a district famous for its long tradition of Gaelic poetry. Micheál Mac Peadair was himself a poet, and frequently attended the sessions of the Maigne Poets at Croom. More than 20 poems of his survive.

Micheál Mac Peadair's famous son, Micheál Óg, was born in 1766. Micheál Óg has left us a short autobiographical note which begins:—

"Lá Lúnasa 1. August, 1791, bead 25 bliana d'aois óir do rugadh mé August 1st, 1766, i mBéal Átha Maghair i bparóiste Dhúna Bolg. D'éag m'athair iar mbeith 4 bliana d'aois dom agus mo mháthair 8½ bliana dom . . ."

—(August 1st 1791 / I shall be twenty-five years old, for I was born August 1st 1766 in Béal Átha Maghair in the parish of Dún Bolg. My father died when I was four years old and my mother when I was eight and a half.)

Long years after his father's death Micheál Óg fondly inscribed in a Gaelic manuscript that had once belonged to his father:

"Micheál Mac Peadair Uí Longáin ó Ghleann (gan) Ridire do scríobh an leabhar so 70 bliana ó shin. Bean-nacht De, na naomh agus na n-aingeal lena anam agus le anamnacha an domhain go léir. Mar órdíos Dia agus