MAY BEALTAINE 2004

- New Tourism Initiative
- European Enlargement Celebrated
- Countdown to Official Opening

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"MARE NOSTRUM" A FOCUS FOR TOURISM

New British-Irish Initiative Proposed to Promote the Coastal Areas of the Irish Sea

The Romans had their Mare Nostrum a great central highway in the heart of their empire bringing Europe, Africa and the Middle East in easy reach of trade goods, cultural exchange and development. In these isles we may not have the sun blest blue Mediterranean but we have our own Mare Nostrum (Latin "our sea") the Irish Sea bounded by the coasts of Ireland, Scotland, England, Wales and the Isle of Man. This sea too was a great maritime highway down through the millennia of settlement in Great Britain and Ireland. All our ancestors arrived on these shores by sea, indeed, likewise many of the ancestors of the Irish Diaspora first set out across the Irish Sea to Great Britain and onward to far distant lands across the oceans.

"Traditional View Challenged"

Traditionally we have always thought of the Irish Sea in terms of crossing it and travelling beyond to our destinations in Ireland or Great Britain. Now a new initiative seeks to challenge this view of the Irish Sea and to focus on the coastal areas of the Irish Sea in Ireland. Great Britain and the Isle of Man. These coastal areas of the Irish Sea basin besides offering stunning scenery, a variety of towns and cities, a wealth of culture and heritage, they are linked by high speed ferry services, mainline train services and excellent roads. A natural unitary tourism product that is virtually untapped and hidden until now, according to the sponsors of this initiative.

"Launched in Dún Laoghaire" The initiative was launched at a recent meeting of the Holyhead Dún Laoghaire Link Organisation attended by delegates

from the community, sporting, voluntary, business and heritage sectors based in the Dún Laoghaire area of Co. Dublin and the Town of Holyhead in North Wales. Enthusiastically supported by delegates from both countries, the invitation will soon go out to the various County, City, Town and District Councils with a coastline on the Irish Sea and their respective tourism bodies to join with Holyhead and Dún Laoghaire in the development of this exciting initiative.

"The Ring of the Isles"

The sponsors of this initiative view it as the co-operative development, branding and marketing of important inter-linked tourism products. It is providing a new concept of travelling around the rim of the Irish Sea or across it taking in the beautiful Isle of Man (Ellan Vannin) as an option when visiting Great Britain and Taking in the ancient lands of Ireland. Wales, Ireland, Scotland, England and the Isle of Man, this "Anglo-Celtic Ring" promises to be a very attractive and cost effective way of travel for coach tours and independent travellers by car, bike or public transport. The "Ring of the Isles" concept allows for a unitary branding and for the co-operative and joint promotion of the coastal areas by local government and tourism bodies possibly under the auspices of the British-Irish Council established by the Belfast Agreement of 1998.

"A Tale of More than Two Cities"

This new tourism concept seeks to link the cities of Belfast, Lisburn, Newry, Dublin, Chester, Liverpool, Blackpool, Carlisle and the Towns and villages between. Definitely providing City Breaks with a difference and linked by modern transport systems in each

jurisdiction. The branding of the route and the provision of imaginative and clear signposting to mark the route will, it is claimed, create a distinct product that is unique in Europe.

"Something for Everyone"

The coastal regions around the Irish Sea offer something for everyone, no matter what their interest, from the very ancient to the ultra modern. The "Ring of the Isles" as it winds its way through the counties on both sides of the Irish Sea has the potential to offer a range of uniquely tailored vacations and tours to suit every pocket and age group. Indeed, the route has a special significance for ancestry tourism given the many links between various areas and the long history of migration between these Whether it is the docklands of islands. Liverpool, the industrial heartland of Lancashire, the mines of Cumbria, the lowland farms of Scotland or the very place where the fateful Titanic was built, each is etched in the long story of the Irish Diaspora. The cities, towns and rural districts along this route were the inspiration for some of the literary giants of the English language in poetry and prose. Celtic culture too is vibrantly represented in Scotland, Wales and Ireland, and of course, on the Isle of Man. Activity holiday enthusiasts are spoiled for choice with walking, fishing, climbing, cycling or horse riding in some of the most stunning countryside in these islands. All just waiting to be discovered should this initiative get the backing it deserves from the local government and tourism bodies around the Irish Sea. The Society fully supports this initiative



IRISH SEA

Isle of Man at centre, England to the east, Wales south, Scotland north & Ireland west.

GSI Website: www.gensocireland.org



The Society's Vice Presidents, Cathaoirleach & the Members of the Board wish to extend a warm Céad Míle Fáilte (One Hundred Thousand welcomes) to the Citizens of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Malta and the Republic of Cyprus to the European Union. These ten new members were welcomed officially into the European Union at a special ceremony in Dublin on May 1st 2004. Ireland currently holds the rotating European Union presidency.

AN DAONCHARTLANN



With the restoration of this historic Martello Tower now completed, the refurbishment of the building is well on target for completion this summer in time for the Official Opening on Wednesday 15th September 2004. Plans for the event are being drawn up to celebrate this milestone in the history of the Society. Lighting, computer power points and the service areas are being installed at present. The design of the storage or archive areas has been agreed and work will start very shortly on the rows of shelving on the ground floor. The Society's archive will remain in storage until it is finally transferred to the Martello Tower in August. The Archivist, Mrs. Frieda Carroll, FGSI regrets the inconvenience caused to Members wishing to access the Archives at this time, however, the placing of the collections in secure storage for this period was unavoidable. However, the Board of the Society believe that the wait will be most definitely worth it as this new facility will be up and running in a few short months. Members and friends of the Society are still always invited to help with this Phase 2 of the project. One way of helping is to become a sponsor. Each sponsor will be named in the Commemorative Book to be published for the official ceremonial opening in September 2004 - the two hundredth anniversary of the building of the Martello Patrons may have either their own name or that of a loved-one entered in this Commemorative Book and on a scroll that will be permanent memorial in the Tower. For just €100.00 (US\$125.00) per name, this is a special and worthy manner in which to

remember an ancestor, to honour a friend or loved-one or to memorialise your family ties with Ireland. Another way of helping is to send what you can as donations no matter how modest are all very welcome. Donations should be sent to the Hon. Secretary at the address below with details of the name or names to be entered on the scroll and published in the commemorative book to mark the official opening of "An Daonchartlann" on Wednesday September 15th 2004.

GSI SPRING JOURNAL

The Spring 2004 issue of the Society's quarterly journal - Vol. 5 No. 1 is now available. Articles in this 64 page issue include: Adam Smyth (1875-1918) - Post Office Sorter on Royal Mail Steamer "Leinster". From Dublin to Devon in Search of a Maritime Past. Ouirky Entries from The Cork Mercantile Chronicle. The Death of Thomas Bewley in an 1889 Dublin Industrial Gas Accident. A Note on Cornelius Fennessy, O.S.A. James Terry's Legacy (Terry was Athlone Pursuivant at the time of King James II's defeat and exile to France). The Gentleman Soldier (families mentioned Dillon, Suffield, Cramer, Tandy, D'Arcy, D'Esterre and Guinness - amongst others). James Gunning - A Dalkey Man in Her Majesty's Navy. Royal Hibernian Military School Extant Records. The Anglo-Norman Origins & Genealogy of the De La Launde Family. Price €5.00 (members Copies available via the Society's Website www.gensocireland.org

GRAPHIC FAMILY TREE SERVICE

VISUAL ARTIST & GRAPHIC DESIGNER OFFERS THIS SERVICE AT REASONABLE AND AFFORDABLE COST

Artist based in Dún Laoghaire will work with you to produce a beautiful graphic presentation of your Family Tree in full colour, with all your photographs of family members included. All you have to do is complete a standard family tree chart or Birth Brief and send all relevant photographs, clearly identifying the individuals as per the chart. Each person will be framed, and the complete document printed on a textured background, with Crests and any text you may require - you decide the level of information to be included. We will work in close consultation with you at all stages of the project. Costs are based on the number and quality of the images involved. Confidentiality and security guaranteed. We also specialise in Photographic Restoration. CONTACT Frankie Lee at 087.782 0932 or E-mail: frankiezee@eircom.net for more information.

US & UK CURRENCY

The exchange rate for check or cash in US dollars €1.00 = US\$1.25 and for British pounds €1.00 = 0.70p. These rates apply to all purchases and membership subscriptions transacted in the currencies concerned. Alternatively why not pay by Credit Card – MasterCard or VISA via the Website?

DIARY DATES

Tuesday May 11th 2004
Evening Open Meeting. 20.00hrs
Dún Laoghaire College of Further Education,
Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire
Bus: 7, 7A, 46A, and 75.
DART Monkstown/Salthill Station.

Speaker: Mr. Seån Muphy, MA
Topic: "The Lineage of the Irish Chiefs"

Tuesday June 8th 2004

Venue as above

Speaker. Mr. James Robinson

Topic: "Oscar Wilde's Friend & Benefactor,

Helen Carew (1856-1928)"

Weds. May 26th & June 23rd
Morning Open Meeting 10.30hrs
The Port View Hotel
Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire
Discussion Group on Family History

Contribution of €3.00 at each meeting Coffee/Tea served at Morning Meetings

QUERIES PUBLISHED

Oueries from Members and friends will be published in "The Genie Gazette" provided that a full postal address is provided with each query. Queries with just an E-mail address will NOT be published as it has been noted that Email addresses are changed frequently and thus, a person reading such a query in a few months time cannot make contact with the person placing the query in this newsletter. REMEMBER, this Society does undertake commercial research assignments whether in the Society's own Archive or in other repositories. HOWEVER, by placing a query with an offer of reciprocal research in your part of the world, publication can assist in the location of a Member or other reader willing to undertake research for you. The terms governing such reciprocal research are entirely a matter for the parties concerned and, therefore, the Society is not responsible in anyway for such arrangements. The EDITOR

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE

Irish based Members living in either the Republic or Northern Ireland are reminded that their Annual Membership Fee fell due on January 1st 2004. The Annual Membership Fee for Irish based Members (ROI & NI) is just €20.00. For overseas Members the Fee due on the anniversary date of joining is now €25.00. Membership renewals may be made via the Website by Credit Card (VISA or MasterCard) or by Cheque to the address below.

GSI LIVERY FLAG

Order a GSI Livery Flag. Measuring (3ft x 5ft) at just €90.00 each including delivery. Made by the Dublin flag makers **Timothy O'Regan**, as a GSI Member, this Livery Flag would be great at your next family gathering. Contact the Hon. Secretary at the address below.

COUNTDOWN TO THE OFFICIAL OPENING

The heavy task of arranging and planning the ceremonies to mark the Official Opening of An Daonchartlann has been delegated to a Sub-Committee of the Board under the Chairmanship of our Leas-Chathaoirleach, Mr. Séamus Moriarty, MGSL With little over four and a half months to go this Sub-Committee will both plan the ceremonies and draw up the official guest list for the occasion. Sub-Committee will have Board Members and ordinary Members working together to make this a very special day in the history of the Society. Indeed, as matters have progressed well with the restoration and refurbishment of the building, Daonchartlann Development Executive - the Sub-Committee established in May 2000 to oversee the works at the Tower, was stood down by the Board at a Special Board Meeting last month. Mr. Liam Mac Alasdair, FGSI, was appointed to the position of AnDaonchartlann Project Director reporting directly to the Board of Directors. development frees-up other Board members to take a more active role in the planning of the Official Opening. Important decisions such as who should perform the Official Opening or preside at the ceremonies have yet to be considered by the Sub-Committee. The matter of whether a suitable multi-faith element can be included, as some have suggested, has to be examined in relation to the size of the building and the limited space available. As the Martello Tower is in the ownership of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, the Society will liaise closely with officials of the The restoration and County Council. refurbishment of this historic tower and its opening in 2004 is also a celebration of the rich architectural heritage of this County. Also, a number of our Overseas Members have expressed a wish to attend the ceremonies and therefore, the Sub-Committee must cater for possibly numbers in excess of our Irish based membership and invited guests. A suitable venue to host a reception following the Official Opening must be agreed as transport may well be required to take guests from the Tower to the venue for the reception. The compilation of the commemorative booklet will be a cooperative endeavour by a number of Board Members, including the Hon. Treasurer, Caroline McCall, Editors (IGS & Journal) Gaye Ashford and Margaret Conroy, Cathaoirleach Rory Stanley and the Hon. The commemorative scroll Secretary. containing the list of sponsors and/or those remembered by sponsors will take some time to complete. The issue a limited edition Commemorative Medal to mark this occasion, including, the design and numbers to be struck has to be agreed by the Sub-Committee next month. All in all, a lot of work has yet to be done and when further news is available it will be published in this newsletter.



NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

The Society always welcomes new Members from Ireland and overseas. If you wish to join contact the Membership Officer, Mrs. Annette McDonnell, MGSI, 4, Kippure Ave., Green Park, Dublin 12, Ireland. You may also contact Annette by E-mail via the Hon. Secretary GenSocIreland@iol.ie Membership of the Society is open to all with an interest in or heraldry. A laminated genealogy Membership Card featuring the Society's heraldic badge "the Mungovan Badge" will be forwarded to you by mail. Overseas Members and those Irish Members living outside Co. Dublin receive the monthly newsletter "The Genie Gazette" by mail each month.

COUNTY CLARE

A new book on the history of County Clare been published by Boru Cultural Enterprises, Cragbrien, Darragh, Ennis, Co. Clare, Ireland. "Ireland's Banner County Clare from the fall of Fame/i to the Great War, 1890-1918" by Daniel McCarthy ISBN 0-9544087-0-5 hardback 225pp 8pp illustrations. Price €25.00 plus €3.00 p+p (Ireland) and €5.00 (overseas). Ireland's participation in the Great War was for many years after independence obliterated from the national consciousness, as the country snapped off the imperial ties of the past, yet over recent years such a trend has been reversed in an effort to appreciate the full swing of the revolutionary pendulum and this book highlights the ultimate sacrifices made by over 50,000 Irishmen with a specific examination of the environment in which 5,000 Clare men volunteered to join the Allied armies of WWI. There is a feature on the Fighting 69th's Colonel Martin Meaney. Of Battle of the Ourcq fame — one of WWI's greatest feat of arms, where he successfully lead the Shamrock Battalion against crack Prussian Guards under the Kaiser's son, Prince Eithel Frederick - Meaney went on to becoming very influential in Irish American circles and was alleged in 1940 to have been one of the ring leaders of a counterrevolutionary rightwing plot to place a wring of steel' around Washington D.C. to combat an anticipated communist revolution, during the course of the Federal District Court trial of the 'Sporting Club' which was part of the Christian Front movement. It covers charismatic Irishmen such as the uncrowned king, Charles Stewart Parnell, who was hero-worshipped by the majority of Clare people, Archbishop Clune, from Ruan, Co. Clare, Chaplain General to the Australian forces and later mediator between Michael Collins, Lloyd George and the Vatican in the War of Independence (he had a chance meeting with his brother Fr. Francis Clune who was also administering to Australians in the trenches), Major Willie Redmond, a Clare M.P., (brother to the Home Rule leader, John Redmond), who was succeeded in Clare upon his soldier's death in WWI by Eamon de Valera. This famous byelection announced the political arrival of both Sinn Féin and de Valera. Others whose roles are examined in this defining period include controversial Australian native, Arthur Lynch, the West Clare M.P., John Philip Holland, a Clare man and father-founder of the modern submarine, Mícheál O Griofa, author of the Gaelic draft of Bunreacht na hEireann and Michael Cusack, the architect of the GAA, the latter two are closely assessed under Gaelic revivalism. This book has received glowing reviews in the North Munster Antiquarian Journal, 2003, and Stand to, the Journal of the Great War Society. It is directly available from Boru Cultural Enterprises, Cragbrien, Darragh, Ennis, Co. Clare, Ireland.

MAY GENIE UPDATES

The 15th Ulster ULSTER-AMERICAN Heritage Symposium will be held at the Centre for Migration Studies at the Ulster-American Folk Park, Omagh, Co. Tyrone from Wednesday 23rd to Saturday 26th June 2004. Meeting every two years since 1976, this symposium has been a very successful vehicle for the blending of scholarly study and public awareness on the historical connection between the nine counties of Ulster and North America. The theme for this year is "Changing Ways of Thinking about Emigration from Ulster". An impressive line-up of speakers will deliver papers on a range of related topics covering Scotch-Irish, Ulster Scots and Irish heritage, history, language and literature, archaeology, folklore, religion and music. For further checkout the website: information www.qub.ac.uk/cms or write to the Centre for Migration Studies. Ulster-American Folk Park, Mellon Road, Castletown, Omagh, Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland BT78 5QY

VIKINGS IN IRELAND Just outside the City of Waterford archaeologists have discovered one of the earliest urban settlements in Ireland. Urbanisation as we know it today came to these shores with the Vikings in the eight and ninth centuries. This major archaeological site was found during works on the €300 million bypass of Waterford City. Described as possibly the most significant Viking fortress discovered in Ireland for over a century and dated to approximately 850-870AD this site is likely to be another contentious flashpoint between developers and conservationists. Professor Donnchadh Ó Corráin of University College Cork is reported in "The Irish Times" of May 4th 2004 as saying that there was a "high possibility" that a grave found on the site could have belonged to a Danish chieftain named Rothlaibh (Rodulf) and that some historians believe that he was the son of the exiled King of Denmark, Harold. Already many artefacts have been unearthed including weights, measures, locks, chains, nails and a decorative figurine reports Joe Humphreys of "The Irish

Times". Located at Woodstown on the banks of the River Suir this important site has international importance according to Prof. Ó Corráin. It will be up to the Minister for the Environment, Heritage & Local Government and Waterford TD (Irish MP), Mr. Martin Cullen, to decide whether this site will follow Carrickmines Castle into the annals of the great heritage battles of Ireland.

DUE NORTH The Spring/Summer 2004 issue of the Magazine of the Federation for Ulster Local Studies "Due North" is now available and as usual, it provides a selection of fascinating and very well research articles. Whilst, most the articles have an Ulster theme or subject, one does not have to be on the ancestry trail in any of the nine counties of Ulster to appreciate the wealth of information provided in this issue. Articles in this issue include:- Ballyedmond Castle, Co. Down; Memories of Omagh Town Hall; A World War I Soldier's Letters Home to Tyrone; Belmont National School, East Belfast; Studying Your Townland and Along Lough Swilly's Shore. The article on Townlands by Roddy Hegarty and another on the same subject by Kay Muhr bring home to us all the importance of measures to preserve our Townland names throughout Ireland. With over 60,000 such placenames on the island, all too often we take them for granted as developers and local authorities introduce new and sometimes very alien placenames for housing estates, roads and parks ignoring the real local Townland names. The Townland was once the basic division of land in Ireland and therefore it contain a wealth of history. topographical information and sometimes genealogy in the name of Townland. Whether this name is rendered in the original Gaelic or in the "Anglicised" forms they are both of immense importance. The "Anglicised" form may only date from the early 19th century but in it we have the local pronunciation of the name as it was once rendered in the Irish Gaelic or Ulster Scots of the area. Losing these gems of the nomenclature of our landscape to the meaningless corporate branding of new developments and roads or the introduction of Zip Codes (post codes) is simply cultural obliteration. The Federation for Ulster Studies is to be congratulated for its stand on the preservation of Townland names. Copies of "Due North" are available for €4.00 (£2.50)

MOORE STREET James Scannell reports on Dublin's famous street. An Taisce (the Irish National Trust – a voluntary organisation recognized in Irish planning legislation) fights to preserve Dublin's Moore Street. The Moore Street open air fruit and vegetable market has a unique character of its own and is a traditional part of Dublin street and commercial life. But now it is understood that Dublin City Council is actually considering relocating the casual traders and trading area to another location in the city to facilitate on-going development in the immediate area. An Taisce has now launched a campaign to preserve this

traditional aspect of Dublin street life. arguing that Moore street's casual traders are a defining image of Dublin and is calling for any redevelopment of the area to retain and maintain the trading character of the street. CROAGH PATRICK James Scannell reports on Ireland's ancient holy mountain. UN Heritage Status Sought for Croagh Patrick Mountain in Co. Mayo. The assistance of the Irish Government is being sought to have Croagh Patrick Mountain in the West of Ireland, where St. Patrick prayed for 40 days and nights, designated as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, the UN educational and scientific body. At the present time Ireland has 2 designated UNESCO heritage sites - Skellig Michael off the Kerry coast and the archaeological ensemble of the Bend of the Boyne in Co. Meath, including the famous Newgrange and associated burial mounds..

WEBSITE The Board of the Society at its May meeting co-opted Iris O'Connor, MGSI to the Board and appointed Iris to the position of Website Developer & Editor. Iris will be building a new website for the Society to include feature that could not be made available on the present web-pages located at web designer and her appointment has generated much debate as to what would be the ideal genealogical website and in particular. what this Society should host or provide on a website. Iris would welcome the comments and suggestions from Members and readers on this issue. Iris can be contacted by E-mail: iris@desdo.com The Cathaoirleach Rory Stanley, FGSL commenting on this appointment, pointed out that now the Society is very fortunate to have four Editors, Gave Ashford, MGSI - Irish Genealogical Sources Series: Margaret Conroy, MGSI - Quarterly Journal; Michael Merrigan, FGSI, "The Genie Gazette" and now Iris O'Connor, - Website Development/Editor. Indeed, it could be said that the Society has a fifth Editor - Barry O'Connor, FGSI, who has been the inspirational driving force behind the Society's recording and publication of monumental inscriptions. The Board wishes Iris every success with this important portfolio. ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING As reported last month, our friends in Eneclann have launched yet another CD-ROM in their Irish Records Index series. "The 1831 Tithe Defaulters" is compiled and edited by Stephen McCormac. But this is but one of an impressive list of electronic publications emanating from this company. This format has the potential of widening the accessibility to our Nation's heritage, both genealogical and historical, to the greatest extent ever. This is vitally important for the preservation of our heritage and the furtherance of education and research in genealogy, heraldry, history and many other disciplines too. The GSI has been to the forefront in fighting for greater accessibility to heritage and electronic publishing is an important step in that direction. Readers are encouraged to visit the Eneclann website: www.eneclann.ie and to view their existing products which are available via the website, or by mail from Eneclann, Unit 1 b, Trinity Enterprise Centre, Pearse Street, Dublin 2, Ireland.

SPECIAL OFFER A new book is now offered at a pre-publication price of just €30 until May 20th - "Reporting the Russo-Japanese, War 1904-5 – Lional James's First Wireless Transmissions to The Times" by Peter Slattery. Published by Global Oriental, Kent, England - ISBN 1-901903-57-5. This early wireless adventure story, a "first" in wireless and in the history of journalism, has its origins in Ireland -in Howth, Co. Dublin - 100 years ago. Avail of this special offer by placing your order with The Open Book, Sutton Cross, Sutton, Dublin 13, Ireland. E-mail: bookshop@openbook.ie Tel: +353.1.832 4931 The Irish Postal POSTAGE RATES Authority - An Post, has applied to the Irish government for an increase in the postage rates. An increase has not yet been sanctioned. The Society will keep this issue under review and advise Members accordingly.

QUERIES RECEIVED

ELEANOR POWER (née Quinlan), 8, Mooncoin Heights, Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny. Wrote: Seeking information on my grandparents who were married in Kensington, London in 1887. Michael Quinlan (26 years) son of Andrew Quinlan married Mary Boyle (25 years) daughter of Michael Boyle were married in Our Lady of Victories Church, Kensington on January 8th 1887. Michael's occupation was given as a "baker" and his father a "railway inspector". Mary's father was a "gardener". Their places of abode at marriage were Paddington for Michael and Kensington for Mary. Any information on where in Ireland both families originated would be gratefully appreciated.

TOM PIERCE, MGSI, 1241, N. 18th Avenue, Apt. 201, Sturgeon Bay, WI, 54235, USA Wrote: Seeking information on the Pierce family of County Cork, especially, John J., Dennis, Michael and Hannah Pierce. Any information on the Pierce family most appreciated, including connections to above.

MARGARET LOVE, MGSI, P.O. Box 175, Bacchus Marsh, Australia, 3340 Wrote: seeking information on or any descendants of Patrick Love who left Co Fermanagh in 1857 for Australia. His parents were Owen Love and Susan (Scullan). Any info. much appreciated.

BERNICE CLARKE, MGSI, 31, Lord Street, Bacchus Marsh, Victoria, 3340, Australia Wrote:- Seeking information or any descendants of Matthew Finnan and Eliza O'Doherty who married at St Michael's, Tipperary and arrived in Australia about 1854. Matthew's parents were believed to be Joannes Fineen and Ellena Mergin (Merigan). Any further information much appreciated.