

The Mayor usually presided however he rarely took an active part in debate. On 3. March the Limerick Chronicle reported that the Mayor sent a telegram to the war dept. expressing his dissatisfaction at the removal of the Limerick County militia for training at Kilworth Co. Cork. His appeal was however rejected on the grounds that "In Limerick there is no range which enables them to fire the service cartridge".

L.C. 21. March the Mayor Mr. Nolan's role in the intended liquidation of the Limerick Leader was alluded to. Two years had passed and no effort had been made to force the publication to cease. Although the Mayor was not blamed his participation in an unsatisfactory operation was emphasised.

On 4. April Mr. Nolan asked J&G Boyd L.T.D. as well as P. Evans & Co. to close on Easter monday as he supported the concept of that day as a general holiday. Several other businesses closed voluntarily.

On. 14. April the Mayor presided over a meeting of Limerick Harbour Board but had no input.

On 15. April the Board of Guardians met and the Mayor agreed that Limerick City was inadequately represented on the Local Government Board.

On 23. April Alderman Hall initiated a long running and bitter campaign to expose the misappropriation of Corporation finances by the Corporation. The Mayor was reticent and vague stating only that an inquiry was in everyones interest. On 25. April a letter from Alderman Ambrose accused the Mayor of inadequate response to this issue which he knew to be true. He was also critical of the Mayor for conducting Corporation business without a quorum (minimum number to be present).

L.C. 2. May 1896, Mayor attended meeting of Rate Payers Association in Town Hall where the dispute over the misappropriation of finances continued but he took no part.

16. May 1896 First leaks appear of Mr. Nolans intention to resign as Mayor for the office of Town Clerk.

28. May, reports of letter of resignation of Mr. William Nolan as Mayor and Town Councillor for the Market Ward. However he had also applied for the position of Town Clerk, now vacant due to the death of it's previous holder. Only an unknown figure from London, known as John Malone opposed Mr. Nolan. He was not present, applying only by letter and his application was taken as a joke. Mr. Nolan was elected Town Clerk unanimously.

Mayorality of Michael Cusack

Defeated Alderman Kenna by 16 votes to 13 in Corporation poll. Interestingly both candidates were permitted to and did vote for themselves. Like William Nolan was reticent on many current issues, being

particularly invisible at the weekly Corporation committees.

13.June 1896-Mayor proposes a token presentation to the successful London opera singer Joseph O'Mara, a Limerick native who was soon to be married. A committee to be formed and seek contributions of £1 with the aim of eventually presenting a gift to the distinguished citizen at a future date.

27.June- Mayor Michael Cusack appears on the list of committee members of the Limerick Horse Show and Agricultural Society.

1.July 1896- Attends opening ceremony of the "Thomond " Fancy Fair on behalf of St. John's Hospital and the Magdalen Asylum. Lady Emly attended and the Mayor welcomed her in an address. This was very broad selection of stalls of Irish and non-Irish goods along with food, amusements and a great many decorations, quite like a carnival. It was to be held on different sites, including the butter Market the Theatre Royal and Thomond Castle. The Mayor was on the Management Committee.

18. August Crown Princes of Austria visits Limerick, surprisingly no interaction with Mayor.

interaction

14. August 1896 John Daly a Fenian a Limerick native had just been released from Portland prison and was greeted by a delegation including the Mayor-himself a Home Ruler , members of the Corporation and the Amnesty Association on his arrival by train in Limerick. The Mayor stated that a committee should be established to address Mr. Daly and that he believed in Mr. Daly's innocence.

L.C. 6. October 1896, Banquet held for Mr. Daly in Town Hall. Mayor stated that "They had assembled here to welcome one of the purest Nationalists that Ireland had ever had. " He toasted to "Ireland a Nation".

' . December 1896, Mr Cusack attended dinner at Cruises hotel for the Lansdowne Rugby football team who played Garryowen. He praised them and hoped that they would come again.

1.December 1896, relected unopposed to Mayorality for 1897.

L.C.12.Jan 1897. Mayor presided at the annual meeting of the governors of Barringtons Hospital. His onlt input was that he hoped that it's debts would be reduced within the next year. He was also elected on the Managing Committee.

2.Feb 1897 The Bishop of Killaloe was consecrated at St. Finbarre's Cathedral. The Mayor of Limerick attended.

For

6 May, Mayor bemoans the inadequate railway service ~~for~~ Limerick which was treated "like a village". He was particularly aggrieved at the fact that there was only one Limerick-Dublin train per day and that its journey time 11am-4pm meant that a return journey on the same day was impossible. There had previously been a 6.40 am departure but that had been suspended as its minuscule number of passengers rendered it uneconomical. He called on the Waterford and Limerick Railway Company to reconsider. He also stated at the same gathering that he supported the Amnesty question and that the city needed cleansing and sanitation.

L.C.19. June 1897. Mayor proposed making Queen Victoria's Jubilee a holiday. Businesses would be encouraged though not forced to close.

1 July 1897, Mayor appointed himself to committee to investigate alleged abuses in the Court of Conscience. Finances were allegedly misappropriated.

6. July, Mayor attended opening of City Commission and Grand Jury.

17. July, Mayor named President of The Committee of the Limerick Citizens Regatta.

7. August, Mayor presided over City Petty Sessions but was again timid.

10. August 1897- Mayor struggles to bring John Daly to order at Corporation sitting. On the 26. October he supported his disqualification as a Burgess as he was not resident in Limerick City for one full calendar year as required. He was not however the instigator of this proceeding, he merely supported its passage. Officially Mr. Daly claimed to have resided at 28 Thomas St. from the 31. August 1896 until the 31. August 1897. He was in fact not released from prison until early September 1896 and didn't even arrive in Limerick until the 14. September 1896.

L.C.9. Sept. Mayor member of the governing body of St. John's hospital which met but again took no active part.

16. Sept, presides over meeting of gas committee.

21. Sept. Corporation Committee, Mayor opposes half-pay entitlements for sick employees injured at work. Mayor and Corporation receive invitation to the Parnell Anniversary Celebration in Dublin on 10. October.

L.C. 28. September- after a long running dispute the Mayor with associates took possession of the 'Large Room' in the Town Hall in the name of the Corporation. Sarsfield Independent League had claimed tenancy of the room and held meetings there. The Mayor warned future "trespassers".

L.C.30. Sept. Mayor attends funeral of Mrs. E.G.Fitt, wife of Mr. E.G. Fitt

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of Wellington Terrace.

L.C.23. Oct. Mayor attends funeral of the late Mr. Joseph P. Gaffney at St. Michaels Church.

25. October, Mayor attended funeral of the late Mr. John O'Riordan V.P.

L.C. 30. October 1897 attends funeral of the late Mr. George HARRIS, resident at Aston, Croom.

L.C.2. Nov. 1897, attended funeral of Mr. L.B. Switzer 4. Victorian Terrace.

L.C. 25. November, proposed a banquet to celebrate the 7th centenary of Limericks Charter, according to the Mayor, within the U.K. only York was older.

L.C. 2. December 1897. Michael Cusack reelected Mayor for 1898. Defeated Mr. Donnelly by 23 votes to 8.

L.C.30. December 1897, a Ball was held at the Theatre Royal in celebration of the seventh centenary of Limericks's charter. The Mayor naturally attended.

L.C.4.January 1898. Mayor was a steward at a meeting of Limerick Coursing Club.

L.C.11. Jan 1898. Barrington's Hospital A.G.M., Mayor praised the work of the hospital and stated that the Corporation would at least maintain and if possible increase it's grant to the hospital.

L.C. 15.Jan. 1898. Public Meeting was held on the Catholic University Question at the Courthouse. The Mayor called for a bill to be brought before the Commons this year. Referred to a small number of Protestant bigots in the north of Ireland who still clung to the ascendancy.

18. Jan 1898, Mayor and rest of Corporation accept an invitation to the Dominican Roman Catholic church , Glentworth St. for special ceremonies on Sunday next when the memorial chapel to the late Right Rev. Dr. Carbery O.P. was to be opened.

12.March 1898 Mayor vehemently opposes the proposed sale of Waterford, Limerick and Western Railway Company to the the Great Southern and Western Company. He addressed a protest meeting reasoning that this would divert trade to Cork and Dublin, relegating Limerick to "mere village " status. He hoped that if public opinion opposed it that the government would not sanction it. He called on the city's merchant's and traders to make themselves heard.

L.C.19. March 1898 the Wales Rugby team defeated Ireland by 11 points to 3 at the County Crickat Ground in Limerick. The Mayor greeted both teams on arrival.

L.C. 17. May 1898 Mayor attended funeral of his former opponent for the Mayorality namely Alderman Kenna J.P. of Glentworth St who was buried at Mount St. Lawrence.

Horse Show on 28., 29. June, Mayor member of Committee.

L.C. 21. June 1898, Mayor supports the propped introduction of electric tramways into Limerick City. However he had little input into the debate and the issue though long running, was never agreed upon.

L.C. 30. June 1898. Limerick Horse, Dog and Poultry Show. Mayor was member of it's committee.

L.C. 7. July, Mayor present at opening of summer assizes but took no part.

L.C. 21. July 1898, Mayor President of the Limerick Annual Regatta Committee. Again appears to have been a figurehead prescence.

Various strikes took place throughout Michael Cusack's Mayorality, including the Bakers in 1897 and Sweepers and Taylors in 1898, however the Mayor appears to had no input in the resolution of any.

L.C. 24. Sept 1898. Dr. Roberts MA., secretary to the Gilchrist Educational Trust gave an address at the Athenaeum Building. The Mayor him and gave thanks.

L.C. 21. October, list of donations made in collection for St. John's Hospital published. Michael Cusack donated £1.

L.C. 17. November 1897. Mayor alludes ambiguously that he might favour the suspension of the water supply to city residents who don't pay their rates.

L.C. 18. December, Mayor presents Medals of the Royal Humane Society to two men, Fr. Quinlan C.C. of Newcastlewest and Mr. William Delaney both of whom saved a drowning man at Edmund in Kilkee

In January 1899 John Daly was elected the new Mayor

* Corporation Committees met most weeks, the Mayor usually Presided but both were hugely inactive in this setting.