



**TIPPERARY HISTORICAL JOURNAL  
1989**

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**ISSN 0791-0655**

# Guide to Tipperary Newspapers (1770-1989)

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## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Preface .....	1
Introduction .....	1-2
Carrick-on-Suir .....	3
Cashel .....	3-4
Clonmel .....	4-8
Nenagh .....	9-10
Roscrea .....	10-11
Thurles .....	11
Tipperary .....	11-12
Repositaries .....	12-15
Bibliography .....	16
Index of Titles .....	16

## Preface

In the preparation some years ago of the thesis from which this guide derives, the writer owed much to the encouragement and assistance of many people. He would particularly like to thank the then Assistant Keeper of the National Library of Ireland, Mr. Thomas P. O'Neill, later Professor of Irish History in U.C.G. He is also deeply indebted for the whole-hearted co-operation he received from the then editors and staff members of the following newspapers: the *Tipperary Star*, the *Nationalist* (Clonmel), the *Guardian* (Nenagh), the *Midland Tribune*, the *Munster Tribune* and the *Sporting Press*.

The writer also wishes to express his appreciation of the kindness he received from the following persons or institutions: P. J. Fitzgerald (Clonmel); the Fitzpatrick brothers (printers, Tipperary); the British Museum (now the British Library); the National Library of Ireland; Trinity College, Dublin; the Representative Church Body, the Joint Library Committee of Co. Tipperary, the Diocesan Library (Church of Ireland), Cashel; the then County Manager, Mr. John P. Flynn, and the then County Librarian, Mr. D. J. Kinnane.

## Introduction

The history of Tipperary newspapers is, in part at least, also that of the county at the time of their publication. In the eighteenth century, when the press was born in Tipperary, newspapers were usually edited and sold by their printers. For the most part they were small commercial sheets, published primarily to circulate advertisements. News was often added almost as an afterthought — to fill space.



In many cases one individual was owner, printer, publisher, editor and manager combined, running his (or, in one case, her) paper with the help of journeymen printers. Circulation was small and profits were meagre, since advertisers would not pay high rates to reach such a limited circle of readers. Until comparatively modern times most of the news items were copied from English newspapers, home news being almost wholly neglected.

As a result, the early Tipperary newspapers had little or no personality, differing only slightly in appearances from each other, indeed barely distinguishable to the casual reader. In addition, there was a similarity of titles, which can be confusing. As an historical source they require careful handling, although they can be a rich mine of information for a local historian.

For long, newspapers were regarded as luxuries rather than (as today) necessities. Until 1814 all newspapers were printed by hand. A heavy stamp duty placed on newsprint had the (probably officially intended) effect of confining circulation to the moderate middle and upper classes. Yet often, especially when some local or national controversy was raging, a single issue was read by perhaps as many as 20 or 30 people.

This guide is a revised adaptation of a thesis originally submitted to the Library Association of Ireland at a time when the author was on the staff of the Joint Libraries Committee of Co. Tipperary in Thurles. It is published in the form which follows in the hope that it may be of value to historians and others researching various aspects of county Tipperary through the newspapers originating in that county.

With the assistance of the editor of the *Tipperary Historical Journal*, an effort has been made to bring the guide up to date (viz, to July 1, 1989) by checking with the various repositories listed on pages 12 to 15, and with others not so listed. The author and the editor wish to thank those contacted in the repositories listed on pages 12 to 15, and in other repositories not so listed, for their courtesy in replying to queries, often at short notice. They are also grateful to the Library Association of Ireland for permission to use the author's thesis. Should any additional holdings of Tipperary newspapers come to light after the publication of this guide, such extra information will be published in later issues of this Journal.

For their patience and co-operation in the course of the recent revision of the material comprised in the original thesis, the author and the editor of this Journal are particularly indebted to Mr. Martin Maher (County Librarian), Aileen Cahill and Thomas Deegan of the County Library and to Mr. Kevin Browne of the National Library of Ireland. However, in view of the limited time available for such revision, neither the author nor the editor can guarantee that the contents of the guide are wholly up to date. Accordingly, readers of the *Tipperary Historical Journal* in possession of relevant information not contained in this guide are invited to forward it to the editor or to the author of the guide, with a view to its publication in a later issue of this Journal.

As the list of contents (p. 1) indicates, each of the seven Tipperary towns in which newspapers were published in the period covered is dealt with in turn, in alphabetical order. Under Cashel, a rare publication emanating from the Rosegreen area has been included for convenience. Within each town-section newspapers are listed in chronological order, i.e. in the order in which they first appeared. Such information as is available relating to each newspaper is then given.

A list of repositories (in which newspapers are listed alphabetically, not according to place of publication), a short bibliography and an index of the titles of all newspapers listed, follow on pages 12 to 16.



## Carrick-on-Suir

### **Carrick Recorder or Weekly Advertiser (1770)**

In 1770 one John Stacy set up a printing establishment in this town. Little is known of him apart from a statement in a later newspaper, the *Carrick Democrat*, that 'he conducted a kind of literature journal with scraps of local intelligence . . .' According to Dix, Stacy's paper had one of the above two titles. It seems to have been mainly a commercial sheet published to carry advertisements, and probably had a small circulation.

### **Carrick Casket (1846-1847)**

During 1846 and 1847 a small eight-column sheet with this title was printed and conducted by Messrs. Hearne, Lynch and Callaghan. It ran to about 16 numbers and was suppressed during the 1848 Rising.

### **Carrick Democrat or South of Ireland Advertiser (1883)**

The first issue of this outspoken nationalist paper is dated 'Saturday 15th 1883'. Its 'creed' was 'Ireland for the Irish . . . we hold with John Mitchel that each man should sit beneath his own fig tree, and we intend to advocate the interests of working and trading classes.' The first number contained a report of a monster meeting in Waterford addressed by Michael Davitt, where he dealt with the evils of landlordism. The paper does not appear to have lasted beyond 1883, and may have been suppressed.

## Cashel

### **Lord's Munster Journal or General Advertiser (1778)**

This first Cashel newspaper was the work of a journeyman printer named Thomas Lord, who had transferred his presses to this town about 1786. Later he moved to Roscrea; see the *Southern Star* in this guide. The first number of his *Journal* appeared on 24 March 1788. According to Madden, its tone was national and patriotic and its appearance generally equal to that of the bigger national papers.

### **The Rock of Cashel (1837)**

This appears to have come out in 1837 and was printed by one Michael Madden. However, since it is not mentioned by either Dix or Madden, it may have been merely a pamphlet dealing with the town's historic ruins.

### **Genius of Erin (1838)**

The first number of this short-lived paper is dated 17 February 1838. It ran to 13 numbers, and was printed and published by Milo Burke O'Ryan, who was also its editor and proprietor. It was purely a literary journal, with no local news.

### **Cashel Mirror (1838)**

Printed on poor paper and with bad type, this was the first attempt in county Tipperary to establish a weekly paper. It met with little success. The first issue is dated 31 April 1838, and there were only eight more. The printer was one John Quirke, whom John Davis White claims to have been the only printer in Cashel before himself.

### **Cashel Conciliator (1843)**

Published by John Green (who was also the proprietor), this paper seems to have used the same press as the *Mirror*. According to Madden, it ran to only three numbers.



### **Amateur Press (1856)**

#### **Cashel Advertiser (1856)**

These were the first two publications of one of Cashel's most illustrious citizens of the nineteenth century, John Davis White. Born in county Kilkenny in 1820, White moved to Cashel at the age of 11 when his father became deputy mayor of that city's corporation. From then until his death in 1893 White was at various times printer, journalist, lawyer, savings bank treasurer, museum curator and diocesan librarian — among other things! In 1856 he purchased for 30 shillings the wooden press on which the *Clonmel Herald* had been printed. In September of that year he published three numbers of a crude broadsheet called the *Amateur Press*, followed by four issues of the *Cashel Advertiser*. In both he seems to have been testing the waters for a more ambitious publication, which duly first saw the light of day in 1864.

#### **Cashel Gazette & Weekly Advertiser (1864-1893)**

The first number of this valuable source of local history is dated 14 May 1864. Its editorial set out the principles that White stuck to rigidly for the next 29 years — to serve all classes, not to engage in controversial religious or political topics, to give local news and to promote local literature and history. With the substitution in 1866 of a new Columbian machine for the old Caxton-type hand-worked machine of the Clonmel firm, the quality of White's weekly paper improved considerably. His first printer was Patrick Bourke of 44 Main Street. There was a break in the late 1860s, but a new series appeared on Saturday 3 October 1868. With White's death in 1893, this fine provincial paper was discontinued.

#### **Cashel Sentinel (1885-1914)**

This last paper to be published in Cashel was printed from his office in Main Street by the proprietor, Thomas Walsh. It supported the Home Rule cause, and later the Gaelic League movement. The last issue is dated 26 December 1914, and it is believed that a fall in advertising revenue killed the paper eventually.

#### **Chun an Lae (1922-1923)**

This paper, which must earn the distinction of being the most unusual journal ever published in the county, was in effect a propaganda sheet 'printed and set in a dug-out near Rosegreen'. Published by a Tipperary column of the republican or anti-Treaty forces of the I.R.A., it ran from October 1922 to February 1923. Séamus Robinson of the Third Tipperary Brigade was its editor, and it may be contrasted with a corresponding publication emanating from Clonmel during the same period and giving the viewpoint of the opposing forces of the Free State; see the *Southern Bulletin* in the Clonmel section of this guide. No copy of Robinson's publication is known to exist.

## Clonmel

#### **Hibernian Gazette or Universal Advertiser (1771)**

The second newspaper printed and published in county Tipperary, the first number appeared on 18 March 1771. It contained three columns in each of its four pages. Although no copy is known to have survived Burke refers to it, praising its clear and crisp print, stating that it was bi-weekly and much superior to later local journals. Although it contained little local news, it supported Whig policy. Only two advertisements appeared in the first issue.

#### **Clonmel Gazette or Universal Advertiser (1775-1783)**

This was essentially the previous paper, under a new title and enlarged from 12 to 16 columns.



### **Clonmel Gazette or Hibernian Chronicle (1783-1798)**

This also was the *Hibernian Gazette* under another new title. Printed by Edward Collins & Heaslop, it bore no price but had a one-penny stamp duty.

### **Clonmel Gazette or Munster Mercury (1798-1804)**

Printed and published by a new proprietor, Edmond Power, this is still the same newspaper as the three previous ones with a third change of title. Priced at fourpence and edited by Bernard Wright, it now became the organ of the Lord Donoughmore (or Catholic) party in opposition to the Bagwell (or Protestant) party. A judicial decision against the paper at Clonmel Assizes on 11 August 1804 in favour of John Bagwell effectively put the paper out of business.

### **Clonmel Journal (1798-1804)**

This paper took the place of the *Gazette* when the latter changed hands in 1798 from Collins to Power. The first number is dated 11 August 1798; it was bi-weekly, priced fourpence and had four pages, each of 20 by 12 inches and containing four columns.

### **Clonmel Herald (1802-1840)**

The first number of this paper is dated 27 May, 1802. It was bi-weekly, priced at fivepence and consisted of four pages with four columns each. The proprietor George Grace was a strong Tory supporter, received a secret personal allowance of £100 from the Government and had the privilege of publishing Government proclamations, then worth £800 a year. By 1831 Grace had died, his widow acknowledging receipt of the last payment of his secret allowance. In 1821 William B. Upton had become proprietor of the paper, and on his death in 1840 the paper went out of business. Terence McGrath, Upton's son-in-law, sold the printing press to John Davis White of Cashel for 30 shillings; see the *Cashel Gazette* in this guide. In 1832-33 the *Herald's* circulation was 10,500.

### **Clonmel Advertiser (1811-1843)**

This paper was founded by William Carson, who had previously printed the *Waterford Mirror* for Richard Farle. The *Advertiser* contained four pages of 22 by 16 inches each, with five columns to a page, was priced at fivepence and was published from an office in Bagwell Street opposite the Great Globe Inn. Early issues show it to have been Conservative and almost neutral in outlook; but by 1830 it was strongly pro-O'Connell and anti-tithe. On Carson's death in 1832 the paper was purchased by John Kempston, a Protestant and opponent of O'Connell. On his death in 1838 the paper was purchased by John Hackett and its title added as a sub-title to the title of the *Tipperary Free Press*; see this guide. Kempston's son (also John) established the *Guardian* in Nenagh in opposition to the *Free Press*; see this guide for the former paper also. In 1832-33 the *Advertiser's* circulation was 10,840.

### **Shamrog (1811)**

The only reference to this publication is in a notice in the *Clonmel Advertiser* of 2 August 1811, inviting subscribers to pay arrears due to 'Thomas Hearn, proprietor', to his clerk Thomas Power at the premises of Thomas Gorman, bookseller.

### **Clonmel Magazine (1826)**

Published in Dublin Street by Cornelius Higgins, the first issue of this magazine appeared in September 1826. Largely a literary publication, it lasted only a few months.

### **Tipperary Free Press (1826-1881)**

At a meeting in Clonmel in 1826 presided over by James Scully, it was resolved 'that a liberal and independent county journal which should . . . assert the rights of the people is wanted and



ought to be supported.' The result was a prospectus issued by 'J. Hackett, Public Library, Main Street', stating that a few individuals had decided to carry the resolution into effect. As a consequence of their actions the first issue of a new paper appeared on Saturday 23 December 1826. Printed and published bi-weekly by Hackett, it had five columns in each of four pages. The paper became the chief organ in South Tipperary and neighbouring counties of the Catholic Association and Emancipation Party. A plentiful supply of advertisements from local traders helped to finance the *Free Press*, which was printed with 'a new . . . type from the celebrated foundry of Caslon and Livermore of London and worked with the Columbian press . . . for the first time . . . seen in this part of the country'. In later years the tone of the *Free Press* softened and during its last two decades it was a Catholic Whig supporter. With John Hackett's retirement in 1861 its influence faded, his sons having neither his ability nor his courage. Shortly after the death of Henry O'Connell Hackett in 1880 the paper went out of existence; but Hackett senior had laid the foundations of the free press in the county. As early as 1832 its circulation had been as high as 43,250.

### **Tipperary Constitution & Munster & Leinster Advertiser (1835-1848)**

Intended as a successor to the *Clonmel Herald*, this paper was easily the most anti-national and anti-Catholic paper published in the county. Printed bi-weekly by Samuel Hovenden for Joseph Going (its sold proprietor and publisher) at Constitution Lane off Market Street, it had four sheets with five columns each. It was bitterly opposed to O'Connell and Catholic Emancipation, and with Hackett of the *Free Press* engaged periodically in mutual ink-slinging that did neither much credit. The most likely cause of its demise was a falling-off in advertising revenue.

### **Clonmel Advertiser & Literary Journal (1843)**

The second Clonmel newspaper with 'Advertiser' in its title was first published on Saturday 8 July 1843. Printed by James Hennessy and published by the proprietor John O'Flanagan at his general printing office at 9, Johnson Street, it had four (small folio-size) pages with four columns in each and was priced at one penny. It carried hardly any advertising material despite its name and (perhaps as a consequence) had a short life.

### **The Clonmel Chronicle & Southern Counties Agricultural & Commercial Gazette (1848-1935)**

The first issue of this paper that was destined to last for some 87 years is dated Friday 21 July 1848. Appearing bi-weekly, it was printed and published by Edmund Woods from his office at 40 Bagwell Street. Although it had been mainly due to the efforts of Joseph Napier Higgins that the paper was established, Woods became its sole owner. Like the *Tipperary Constitution*, it became the official organ of the Conservative Party; but (unlike that paper) it steered clear of the courts, and never engaged in personal attacks on its opponents. Indeed, the *Chronicle* quickly obtained a reputation for excellent, accurate and reliable reporting, Woods once claiming that it had the highest circulation of any bi-weekly in Ireland. Since it contained much local news, it was widely used as an advertising medium. In 1891 the sub-title was altered to *Tipperary and Waterford Advertiser*. On Woods's death in 1893, ownership passed to Messrs. Clarke, Barrett and Montgomery, who had for some years assisted Woods in managing the paper. In 1910 the paper went out of existence for two months; when it re-appeared on 31 August, it declared itself 'independent of all parties.' The format changed from two large sheets of seven columns each to a smaller size of four sheets with six columns each. From around 1913, when it began to appear from 33 Parnell Street, it adopted a distinct national flavour. When it ceased publication in 1935, the press was purchased by the *Nationalist* concern.



### **Tipperary Examiner & Limerick, Waterford & Kilkenny Courier (1858-1859)**

The first number of this newspaper was printed for the proprietor, A. T. Harnett, by David Hawey from 40 Bagwell Street — the same offices used by Woods in the early days of the *Clonmel Chronicle*. The Examiner appeared bi-weekly with both print and paper of a lower standard than those of other contemporary Clonmel papers. Its editorial policy was clearly nationalist.

### **Tipperary People & Mercantile and Agricultural Gazette (1865-1866)**

O'Connell Hackett was both printer and publisher of this paper, which appeared first on 15 July 1865 from offices in Main Street. Amongst the causes the paper espoused were those of the tenant farmers, an independent Irish party and free education. Agricultural news occupied a prominent place; but there is some slight evidence that the paper had difficulty in attracting sufficient advertising material. The last issue in the British Library is dated 7 July, 1866.

### **County Tipperary Independent (1880-1892)**

This newspaper, which first appeared on 11 November 1880, took the place of the *Tipperary Free Press* when that paper ceased publication on the death of its proprietor Henry O'Connell Hackett. The *Independent* was owned and published by G. Fisher from offices in Richmond Street. The paper gave prominence to the activities of local branches of the Irish National League, the grass-roots body of the Irish Party at Westminster, and also contained much Waterford news, suggesting a big circulation in that county. On Fisher's death in 1892, the paper changed hands and its place of publication moved to Waterford.

### **The Nationalist (1881-1889)**

This paper, founded to support the nationalist cause and as an organ of the Irish Parliamentary Party, began its life in Thurles in 1881 under the editorship of T. P. Gill under the title *Tipperary Nationalist*. It lasted only two years and had a small circulation. In 1883 a new company formed in Clonmel to publish a paper purchased the plant of the recently-demised paper in Thurles, and in January 1886 a new *Tipperary Nationalist* appeared with J. G. McSweeney as editor. He was succeeded by John E. O'Mahony, formerly of the *Skibbereen Eagle*, who retired in 1890. when the title changed to *The Nationalist* under the editorships first of S. B. Naughton and later of H. Dillon. In 1891 a new company was formed and the paper, now under the title *The Nationalist and Tipperary Advertiser*, was printed, published and edited by James Long from 43 Parnell Street. Soon this paper became the leading weekly publication of South Tipperary, claiming a circulation of 10,000 within a radius of 70 miles. In 1908 came another change of owner and the paper took on a new format, with four sheets instead of two, printed by a new press capable of turning out 5,000 copies an hour. Since then the *Nationalist* has continued its leading role in the southern half of the county, and next year celebrates its centenary.

### **Tipperary Champion (1899-1910)**

Little is known of this paper, which is believed to have started before the turn of the century. Priced at one penny, it contained four sheets with seven columns each, and from the contents seems to have had mild nationalist leanings.

### **Southern Bulletin (1922-1923)**

Published in Clonmel, this was the organ of the Waterford and South Tipperary command of the National Army of the Irish Free State. It gave news of the Civil War, and naturally had little time for the republican opponents of the Treaty or the new State. Appearing at irregular intervals, it also contained news of interest to members of the Free State forces and advice on military training.





### **Irish Coursing Calendar: Coursing & Racing Calendar, Sporting Press (1925-1989)**

This paper, the organ of the Irish Coursing Club, was first printed in 1925 under the first of the three titles above by the *Clonmel Chronicle* and later by the *Nationalist*. In 1929 it was purchased by a subsidiary of the I.C.C. and adopted the second title; then in 1952 came the third title. The paper deals exclusively with news of the greyhound world.

### **Sportlight (1948)**

First published in Clonmel on 22 May 1948 by P. J. Fitzgerald, this paper was printed by E. M. Casey in Nelson Street. Devoted entirely to sporting news, it appeared only eight times.

### **Southern Sentinel & Galtee Gazette (1948-1950)**

This was P. J. Fitzgerald's second venture into newspaper publication (see *Sportlight* above), and first appeared in June 1948 from the same premises in Nelson Street as *Sportlight*. In 1949 the *Sentinel* moved to Cahir, where it was printed in printing works in Kickham House. It went out of existence in November 1950.

### **Munster Tribune (1955-1967)**

This paper, printed by the Greyhound and Sporting Press Limited, was published by a new company from 20 Parnell Street in Clonmel. It lasted for just short of twelve years, the final number being dated 30 May 1967. The first number on 10 June 1955 contained 10 pages and was priced at threepence. Later the *Tribune* was reduced to tabloid size and the final issue on 30 May 1967 contained only four pages. The proprietors were Messrs. W. O. Morrissey (chairman), S. King, J. Clinton, A. T. Morris, P. J. Henahan, R. Hannigan and T. O'Brien. The *Tribune* was published weekly on Thursday evenings.

### **Clonmel Express (1978-1986)**

Tabloid in size, the first issue of this paper is dated 24 June 1976 and contains one sheet. It was published from 45 Gladstone Street by John Ryan and Brendan O'Mahony, and was originally printed by the Greyhound and Sporting Press, Davis Road. Covering the southern half of county Tipperary, the *Express* appeared weekly for most of its life, but on a few occasions fortnightly or even at three-weekly intervals. Initially the paper was free, but before the last issue (dated 24 September 1986) its price had risen to 30p, and the number of pages to 12.

### **Carrick Opinion (1978-1981)**

Up to the late 1960s a publication with this title (of which no copies are known to have survived) had been published by the late Thomas F. Kearney. In 1980 its goodwill was purchased by the *Clonmel Express*, which printed (and apparently published also) the *Opinion*, to cover the Carrick-on-Suir area. The first issue is dated 20 October 1978 and the last 27 November 1981; on 1 November the *Opinion* had been merged with the *Express*. No name of proprietor or publisher ever appeared in this newspaper, which did not even contain a business address — merely two addresses for advertising material.

## Nenagh

### **Nenagh Guardian (1838-1989)**

First published on Saturday 21 July 1838, the proprietor was John Kempston, son of the late proprietor of the *Clonmel Herald*. The paper from the start was strongly Conservative, and rarely missed an opportunity to attack O'Connell. On Kempston's death in 1857, the paper was purchased by George Prior, who set up his press at 13 Summerhill and continued to bring out two editions weekly. Under a new editor, John O'Shea, the standard of writing much



improved; it included material from O'Shea's son, the famous war correspondent John Augustus O'Shea, one of the personalities of Victorian journalism. In 1916 the *Guardian*, on its purchase by a new concern, became a strong supporter of the Home Rule movement, the issue of December 16, 1916 marking a new era in the paper's history. Now incorporating the *Nenagh News* and the *Tipperary Vindicator*, the *Guardian* also circulates in the four adjoining counties as well as in North Tipperary.

### **Baxter's Literary Journal & Nenagh Gazette (1841-1842)**

Priced at fourpence and printed by its proprietor James Raleigh Baxter at 54 Pound Street, this was (as its title indicated) essentially a literary journal, rather than a conventional newspaper. In the midst of news 'lifted' from other sources, as was then the custom, appeared gems from figures such as Sir Walter Scott and Coleridge. But the wealthy classes, to whom Baxter appealed for support, did not give it to him in sufficient numbers, and his brave venture failed after only 18 months or so.

### **The Tipperary Vindicator (1844-1895)**

This fine newspaper, which first appeared on 31 January 1844, was essentially the brainchild of Daniel O'Connell. Its first and only editor was Maurice Lenihan, probably Tipperary's ablest journalist in 200 years, a native of Waterford who came to live in Carrick-on-Suir in 1818 when aged seven. After a promising early journalistic career in Waterford and Limerick, he was asked by O'Connell to start a rival paper to the *Nenagh Guardian*, and for over half a century Lenihan ably advocated the cause of a free Ireland. In 1849 when the proprietor of the *Limerick Reporter* sold his interest to Lenihan, the latter amalgamated both papers under a new title *Limerick Reporter and Tipperary Vindicator*. This he printed and published bi-weekly from both 29 Catherine Street, Limerick and Silver Street, Nenagh. The last number of the *Reporter and Vindicator* appeared on Tuesday 31 December 1895. In heavy type it mourned the death of its founder, who 'after a journalistic ceaseless work of 64 years had passed to his reward'; Lenihan had started as a reporter in 1831 on the *Waterford Examiner*.

### **Tipperary Advocate & Nenagh Commercial and Agricultural Advertiser (1858-1889)**

When in 1849 Maurice Lenihan moved to Limerick (see *Tipperary Vindicator* in this guide), the *Advocate* became the leading paper in North Tipperary. It was founded in 1857 by Peter E. Gill and published from an office in Chapel Lane. Gill, although not an outstanding journalist like Lenihan, was a fine orator and stood for parliament several times. Through his paper he preached self-government, civil and religious liberty and tenant right; he also strongly supported the Fenian movement. His paper filled a gap between the death of O'Connell and the Land League, and when the latter body came to prominence Gill's mission was accomplished. He died in 1891, only two years after the demise of the *Advocate*.

### **Nenagh News (1894-1926)**

The first issue of this successor to Gill's *Advocate* is dated 27 January 1894. It was printed and published for its proprietor, John F. Power, at his works at 31 Castle Street on presses he had bought from Gill. Although not a great journalist, Power was a good business man; accordingly his paper was non-controversial and catered largely for the farming community. It attracted wide advertising support and lasted till Power's death in 1926, when it was incorporated with the *Guardian*.

## Roscrea

### **Southern Star or General Advertiser (1795-1798)**

Thomas Lord, the journeyman printer who about 1786 had established the *Munster Herald* in



Cashel, moved his press to Roscrea in 1795, where he started the *Southern Star*. Since only one copy has survived and the paper lasted only three years, little is known about it. The authorities even disagree on why it eventually went out of existence. According to Aspinall, this was a government-subsidised paper, implying that it failed because it did not get sufficient business in the form of proclamations. Burke, however, maintains that it was suppressed during the 1798 Rising by the local yeomanry and its type burnt and scattered around the town because the printers, rather than the proprietor, had published seditious ballads.

### **Midland Counties Advertiser & Roscrea Journal of Commerce and Agriculture (1854-1948)**

Established by Francis H. Shields, this paper first appeared on 21 January 1854. By keeping out of politics it became a commercial success, and had a substantial amount of advertising material. As a provincial paper it was a competently produced journal. From its issue of 14 November 1929 it was printed at the works of the *Offaly Chronicle*. Then in 1948 the *Advertiser* effectively ended as a Tipperary paper, when the *Chronicle* became an associate of the *Midland Tribune*, which is published in Birr.

### **Rostrevor or Local Gazette (1891)**

This was a single-sheet newsletter with some local news and local advertising material. The names of its proprietor or printer are not known, although the name of the latter may have been Eggers, who is mentioned for an earlier period by Dix. No copies are known to have survived.

### **Midland Tribune (1881-1989)**

Although not a Tipperary paper in the strict sense, this paper has taken the place of the *Midland Counties Advertiser* in the Roscrea area since 1948 and carries as part of its sub-title *Tipperary Sentinel* — a paper believed to have never existed, but perhaps included to indicate that the *Tribune* enjoys a wide circulation in the county.

### **Roscrea People (1974-1988)**

Edited and published by the well-known historian Mr. George Cunningham, this paper first appeared monthly from November 1974 to March 1975. Since then it has appeared intermittently — five more numbers in 1975, two in 1976 and one each in 1978, 1984, 1987 and 1988. Now apparently an annual Christmas publication, it reviews events in Roscrea in the previous year and also contains articles on local enterprise as well as short stories and poetry.

### **Roscrea Review (1927-1929)**

Printed by Roscrea Printing Works, at the Abbey, Roscrea, and published by Francis Fahy of Main Street, Roscrea, this attractive weekly ran for almost two years. The first number is dated 4 June, 1927. The *Review* covered not only county Tipperary (both Ridings) but also counties Offaly and Laois. Concentrating largely on local news, it also had occasional verse, commented on national issues and had little time for the then Opposition in the Dail. Tabloid in size, the *Review* obtained regular advertising material from local authorities in at least three counties.

## Thurles

### **Tipperary Leader (1856)**

The first of two newspapers with this title published in Thurles had a short career — 14 months and two days, precisely. According to the first issue, dated 27 January 1856, it was printed by



John Huggard for the proprietor William Kenealy, who intended to publish it bi-weekly from his office in Main Street. Highly critical of all aspects of Government policy, it appears from the final issue on 29 March 1856 that it was suppressed.

### **Tipperary (1881-1882)**

Printed and published bi-weekly for its proprietor Thomas P. Gill, this paper first came out on 15 October 1881. Gill was a staunch supporter of the Land League, which received great prominence in his paper. However, he also carried much local news and reports of trade associations, and ran a good literature section. It seems that a shortage of money caused the paper's collapse. There is evidence of an attempt to form a limited company, with prominent figures such as Rev. James Cantwell of Thurles, Rev. David Humphreys of Tipperary, Alderman Murphy of Clonmel and William Allis of Tipperary backing it; but eventually this move foundered, as did the paper.

### **Tipperary Leader (1882-1885)**

The first number of this Thurles newspaper is dated 23 September 1882, only two months after the paper *Tipperary* went out of existence; the *Leader* claimed to have incorporated the earlier paper. The editor was Patrick O'Gorman, an outspoken but shrewd journalist, who was a strong supporter of the Land League and the nationalist cause generally. He produced a highly readable paper bi-weekly, and from 1883 also published from an unknown address in Clonmel. The *Leader's* reports of early G.A.A. events are of value to any student of that body a century later. It also carried an excellent literary section. Precisely why this fine paper was discontinued after 25 April 1885 is not known.

### **Tipperary Star (1909-1989)**

Edward Long, a native of county Kilkenny who had gained experience in two Wexford papers where he had acquired a trenchant and incisive literary style, founded the *Star* in 1909, the first issue appearing on 4 September of that year. Explicitly nationalist in outlook, this paper has also given prominence over the past 80 years to various aspects of Gaelic culture. Long believed in giving news in a condensed form, and his practice of tabulating news under local parish or town headings has since caught on widely outside the county. Long died in 1925, and in 1936 the sub-title *Midland Advertiser* was dropped. In 1963 the proprietor of the *Star* sold the paper to the company which published the *Nationalist* (Clonmel).

### **An Scathan (Tipperary Mirror) (1959-60)**

Although essentially a magazine, this publication contained news in many of its features. First printed in Portlaoise and later in Limerick, it was published by the proprietors, Mirror Publications of Thurles. Containing 16 pages and priced 6p, the first number appeared at Christmas 1959 and the only other known issue in March 1960.

## Tipperary

### **Tipperary Weekly News & Advertiser (1857-1858)**

Little can be said of this ephemeral publication, which seems to have been aimed at the better-off class in Tipperary town and the surrounding area 130 years ago. No local news was included; instead, the editor allowed his pen and imagination run riot as he re-wrote various pieces of foreign intelligence, such as Italian earthquakes and opium-smoking in China! A signed copy of one issue in the British Library bears the name Edmond Jordan, and the last known issue was dated 27 February 1858, about a year after the paper first appeared.



### **Tipperary People (1875-1921)**

Although associated with Tipperary town for some 44 years, Nenagh was the place of origin of this newspaper, which first came out on 8 August 1875. Sub-titled 'A Journal of Literary and Political Instruction,' it was printed and published every Friday for the proprietor, John McCormack, at his office at 71 Castle Street, Nenagh. Nenagh then had two firmly established papers, and it was a year before McCormack, ventured into print again. Then he moved southwards to Tipperary, where his paper lasted for over 40 more years. Strongly nationalist (not to say separatist) in tone, the paper was published from 8 Grattan Street and gave particular support to the agrarian cause. On McCormack's death his widow took over the paper until 1921, when a new company was formed and a new title, *Tipperaryman*, decided on.

### **The Tipperaryman (1921-1934)**

The first issue of this last paper to originate in Tipperary town came out on 16 April 1921. It contained four pages instead of the two of its predecessor the *People*, but generally continued the same editorial policy. There were two editions — Friday evening and Saturday morning. During the Red Flag (or Soviet) period of 1922, the paper was discontinued for eight months. When it resumed Richard Williams became editor; but lack of capital and fierce competition from its rivals forced it out of business in January 1934.

## Repositaries

### **Abbreviations:**

BL= British Library, London (formerly British Museum)

NLI = National Library of Ireland, Dublin

GPA = GPA-Bolton Library, Cashel

TCD = Trinity College, Dublin

TCL = Tipperary County Library, Thurles

UCC = University College Cork Library

(The omission from this section of a newspaper mentioned in pages 3-12 may be taken to indicate that no copy of that paper is known to exist anywhere.)

### **Amateur Press**

GPA (Sept. 1856 — one issue)

### **Baxter's Literary Journal**

BL (1.1.1841 — 25.6.1842)

### **Carrick Democrat**

BL (15.9.1883)

### **Cashel Gazette**

BL (14.5.1864 — 7.7.1866)

(3.10.1868 — 8.7.1893)

TCD (14.5.1864 — 7.7.1866)

NLI (14.5.1864 — 7.7.1866)

(30.9.1882 & 13.6.1885)

GPA (5.8.1865; 20.5.1882; 2.1.1886)

TCL (22.6.1872; 8.10.1881 — 29.9.1883)

### **Cashel Sentinel**

BL (12.1.1889 — 26.12.1914)

(1889 & 1890 incomplete)



**Clonmel Advertiser**

BL (2.1.1828 - 7.4.1828)  
NLI (17.7.1813 - 12.7.1815)  
(23.12.1817 - 24.7.1819)  
(2.1.1828 - 7.4.1838)  
TCL (16.7.1811 - 12.1825)  
Clonmel Town Hall (1811-1813; 1820 & 1821; 1824-1825)

**Clonmel Advertiser & Literary Journal**

BL (8.7.1843 - 16.9.1843)  
NLI (Same holding as in BL)  
UCC (Same holding as in BL)

**Clonmel Chronicle**

NLI (4.11.1854; 13.2.1861; 24.6.1862; 16.7.1881; 2.10.1885; 3.1.1891 - 31.12.1913;  
1.6.1921 - 30.3.1935)  
Nationalist Office, Clonmel (21.7.1848 - 30.3.1935)  
TCL (25.8.1848; 13.10.1849 - 23.6.1855)

**Clonmel Gazette or Hibernian Advertiser**

BL (26.9.1792; 29.9.1792; 19.12.1792; 22.12.1792)  
NLI (3.4.1788 - 4.2.1795)  
(odd numbers - 1788, 1791, 1793)

**Clonmel Herald**

BL (26.5.1813; 2.1.1828 - 10.3.1841)  
NLI (2.1.1828 - 10.3.1841)  
TCD (1815 & 1816)  
TCL (1.10.1800; 20.1.1808; 27.1.1808)

**Clonmel Journal**

TCL (24.9.1800 & 1.10.1800)

**Clonmel Magazine**

NLI (1 issue, undated)

**Clonmel Nationalist:**

see Nationalist; see also Tipperary Nationalist

**County Tipperary Independent:**

see Tipperary Independent

**General Advertiser:**

see Roscrea Southern Star

**Irish Coursing Calendar**

(incl. later titles) NLI (1925 to date)

**Limerick Reporter & Tipperary Vindicator**

BL (26.4.1859 - 31.10.1871)  
NLI (4.1.1850 - 28.12.1855)  
(22.4.1856 - 31.12.1895)  
TCL (Jan. 1883 - Dec. 1880)

**Midland Counties Advertiser (Roscrea)**

BL (21.1.1854 - 10.11.1881)  
(28.9.1882 - 5.1.1893)  
(23.3.1893 - 15.9.1948)  
NLI (4.8.1927 - 26.6.1947)

**Midland Tribune (Birr)**

NLI (15.9.1881; 22.9.1881)  
(3.8.1882 to date)



**Munster Tribune**

NLI (10.6.1955 — 30.5.1967)

**Nationalist** (Clonmel)

BL (11.5.1899 — 1.2.1890; 22.2.1890 to date)

NLI (4.1.1905 to date)

TCL (22.2.1890 — 30.12.1891; Nov. 1968 to date)

UCC (July 1975 to date)

**Nenagh Gazette**

BL (1.1.1841 — 25.6.1842)

NLI (Same holding as BL)

**Nenagh Guardian**

BL (21.7.1838 to date) (1872 & 1873 incomplete)

NLI (21.4.1860; 1861 odd numbers; 1.1.1862 — 30.12.1868; 9.1.1875 — 30.12.1876; 4.10.1899; 6.8.1927 to date)

TCL (Feb. to May 1856)

**Nenagh News**

BL (2.7.1898 — 10.2.1923; 21.4.1923 — 20.12.1924; 1922 incomplete)

NLI (1921 — odd numbers Apr.-June)

**Roscrea People**

TCL (Roscrea) (1974 to date)

**Roscrea Review**

NLI (4.6.1927 — 9.3.1929) (incomplete)

**Roscrea Southern Star**

Cambridge University Library (19.8.1795)

**Southern Bulletin**

NLI (6.1.1923 — 24.2.1923)

**Sporting Press**

BL (8.12.1951 to date)

NLI (Same holding as BL)

**Tipperary**

TCL (9.11.1881 — 26.7.1882; 28.9.1882) (incomplete)

NLI (Same holding as TCL)

**Tipperary Advocate**

BL (6.3.1858 — 18.9.1889; 12.10.1889; 19.10.1889)

NLI (7.1.1860 — 23.10.1889)

TCL (Same holding as NLI)

**Tipperary Champion**

BL (8.8.1903; 12.11.1904 — 31.12.1910)

**Tipperary Constitution**

BL (4.12.1835 — 30.5.1848)

NLI (Same holding as BL)

UCC (Jan. 1836 — May 1838)

**Tipperary Examiner**

BL (17.4.1858 — 18.5.1859)

**Tipperary Free Press**

BL (23.12.1826 — 22.7.1881)

NLI (Same holding as BL)

**Tipperary Independent**

TCL (Mar.-July 1834; Aug.-Dec. 1834; Oct.-Dec. 1838; 23.8.1843; Mar.-Nov. 1844; Jan.-Nov. 1845; July-Dec. 1852; 1866-1888 (incomplete)

BL (11.11.1882 — 1.4.1905; 25.5.1907 — 2.11.1907)



**Tipperary Leader**

BL (27.1.1855 — 29.3.1856)

TCL (Same holding as BL)

**Tipperary Leader**

BL (23.9.1882 — 25.4.1885, excl. 18.9.1883 & 6.6.1884)

NLI (23.9.1882 — 25.4.1885; 6.10.1885)

TCL (Same holding as BL)

**Tipperaryman**

NLI (16.4.1921 — 28.1.1922)

(29.1.1927 — 6.1.1934)

TCL (7.1.1920 — 19.12.1931)

**Tipperary Mirror**

TCL (Dec. 1959 & Mar. 1960)

**Tipperary Nationalist**

BL (11.5.1889 — 1.2.1890)

**Tipperary People** Clonmel)

BL (15.7.1865 — 7.7.1866)

**Tipperary People** (Tipperary)

NLI (25.8.1876 — 20.12.1877)

(10.1.1879 — 18.12.1891)

(6.1.1893 — 23.12.1904)

(12.1.1906 — 15.11.1918)

(2.1.1920 — 8.4.1921)

(Holding generally incomplete)

TCL (1881-1891) (incomplete)

(9.1.1914 — 25.12.1914)

**Tipperary Star**

BL (4.9.1901 to date)

NLI (Aug. 1927 to date)

TCL (Same holding as BL)

UCC (July 1975 to date)

**Tipperary Vindicator**

BL (31.1.1844 — 29.12.1849)

(26.4.1859 — 31.10.1871)

NLI (31.1.1844 — 29.12.1849; thence continued as Limerick Reporter — 4.1.1850 —

28.12.1855; 22.4.1856 — 31.12.1895)

**Tipperary Weekly News & Advertiser**

BL (2.1.1858 — 27.2.1858)





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## Index

### TITLE

- Amateur Press, 4  
Baxter's Literary Journal, 9  
Carrick Casket, 3  
Carrick Democrat or South of Ireland Advertiser, 3  
Cashel Advertiser, 4  
Cashel Conciliator, 3  
Cashel Gazette & Weekly Advertiser, 4  
Cashel Mirror, 3  
Cashel Sentinel, 4  
Chun an Lae, 4  
Clonmel Advertiser, 5  
Clonmel Advertiser & Literary Journal, 6  
Clonmel Chronicle & Southern Counties Agricultural & Commercial Gazette, 6  
Clonmel Express, 8  
Clonmel Gazette or Hibernian Chronicle, 5  
Clonmel Gazette or Munster Mercury, 5  
Clonmel Gazette or Universal Advertiser, 4  
Clonmel herald, 5  
clonmel Journal, 5  
Clonmel Magazine, 5  
Clonmel Nationalist: see Nationalist & also Tipperary Nationalist  
Coursing Calendar, 8  
Coursing & Racing Calendar, 8  
Galtee Gazette, 8  
General Advertiser (2), 3, 9  
Genius of Erin, 3  
Hibernian Gazette or Universal Advertiser, 4  
Limerick Reporter & Tipperary Vindicator, 9  
Limerick, Waterford & Kilkenny Courier, 7  
Local Gazette, 10  
Lord's Munster Journal, 3  
Mercantile & Agricultural Gazette, 7  
Midland Counties Advertiser, 10  
Midland Tribune, 10  
Munster Tribune, 8  
Nationalist, 7  
Nenagh Commercial & Agricultural Advertiser: see Tipperary Advocate  
Nenagh Gazette, 9  
Nenagh Guardian, 8  
Nenagh News, 9  
Rock of Cashel, 3  
Roscrea Journal of Commerce & Agriculture: see Midland Counties Advertiser  
Roscrea People, 10  
Roscrea Review, 10  
Roscrea Southern Star, 9  
Rostrevor, 10  
Scathan, An, 11  
Shamrog, 5  
South of Ireland Advertiser: see Carrick Democrat  
Southern Bulletin, 7  
Southern Sentinel, 8  
Sporting Press, 8  
Spotlight, 8  
Tipperary, 11  
Tipperary Advocate, 9  
Tipperary Champion, 7  
Tipperary Constitution, 6  
Tipperary Examiner, 7  
Tipperary Free Press, 5  
Tipperary Independent, 7  
Tipperary Leader (2), 10, 11  
Tipperary Mirror, 11  
Tipperaryman, 7, 12  
Tipperary Star, 11  
Tipperary Vindicator, 9  
Tipperary Weekly News & Advertiser, 11  
Universal Advertiser, 4  
Weekly Advertiser, 3, 4

