The Monthly Newsletter of the Father John Murphy Division, Ancient Order of Hibernians in America

THE CROPPY BOY

MAY 2024



MAY FEATURE: 2024 EASTER RISING COMMEMORATION

HAPPY SPRING FROM THE FATHER JOHN MURPHY DIVISION

See inside for all the events and going ons from the Plymouth division of The Ancient Order of Hibernians

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Father John Murphy,
The Rebellion of 1798

Father John Murphy Division #9
Cordage Commerce Center
36 Cordage Park Circle, Suite 220A
Plymouth, MA 02360

2024 DIVISION 9 OFFICERS

Michael Schilling
President

Michael Faut
Vice President

Thomas McTigue
Financial Secretary

Brendan Burke
Treasurer

John Sullivan
Recording Secretary

James O'Sullivan
Marshall

John Travers
Sentinel

Stephen Cohan
Standing Committee Chairman

NEW MEMBERSHIP

If any current members are aware of fellow Irish Catholics interested in joining the cause of the Ancient Order of Hibernians please invite them to a monthly meeting. New Membership Applications are readily available.

There is strength in numbers and increasing membership is the first step in maximizing our charitable efforts and performing our call to action!

FROM THE OFFICERS' DESK

DUES

Dear Brothers, it is that time of year again. Dues help support the division by paying for per capita to both National and State. As well as help pay for our space that we hold our meetings.

Which have you heard we have moved to Cordage Park?! Come see the new space……and bring your dues along.



OPEN HOUSE

Dear Brothers, we are gearing up for our open house on June 22nd. The committee for the event will be meeting several times over the next few weeks. As items come that we will need volunteers for we will send out emails. Final details of the event will be outlined at the June meeting.

calendar of events



2 **General Meeting**
7:00pm, Cordage Commerce Center
Monthly meeting of the Father John Murphy Division

4 **Hibernian Birthday**
Wish a Happy Birthday to Brother Steve Cohan!

5 **Mass AOH State Board Meeting**
11:00am, Salem AOH
Salem, MA

musical calendar

Dates, locations and times where you can find Hibernians or Friends of the Division playing in the Plymouth County area.

BROTHER STEVE KERR

Traditional Sessions

The Snug Pub - Hingham, MA, Mondays 5:30pm
The ICC Pub - Canton, MA , Fridays 7:00pm
Malachy's Saloon - Quincy, MA. Wednesdays 6:00pm

BROTHER DENIS O'GORMAN

Wednesday, May 1st
Mr. Dooley's - Boston, MA

Thursday, May 9th
The Auld Triangle - Hyannis, MA

Friday, May 10th
Tinker's Son - Norwell, MA

Sunday, May 19th
Red Rose Pub - Weymouth, MA

Wednesday, May 22nd
Mr. Dooley's - Boston, MA

Sunday, May 26th
Three V - Plymouth, MA

WEEKLY TRADITIONAL SESSIONS

THE SNUG PUB

116 North St., Hingham, MA
Mondays, Starting at 5:30pm

MARTINI'S BAR & GRILL (FEATURING STEVE LINDSEY)

50 Court St., Plymouth, MA
First Monday of the Month, 5pm - 8pm

THE TINKER'S SON

707 Main St., Norwell, MA
Wednesdays, 6pm - 9pm

THE COTTAGE BAR

26 Union St., Weymouth, MA
Thursdays, Starting at 6:30pm & Sunday afternoons

THE BANNER PUB

167 Union St., Rockland, MA
Saturdays, 1pm - 4pm

CJ'S BAR & GRILL @ JOHN CARVER INN

225 Summer St., Plymouth, MA
Saturdays, 6pm - 9pm



2024 Easter Rising Commemoration

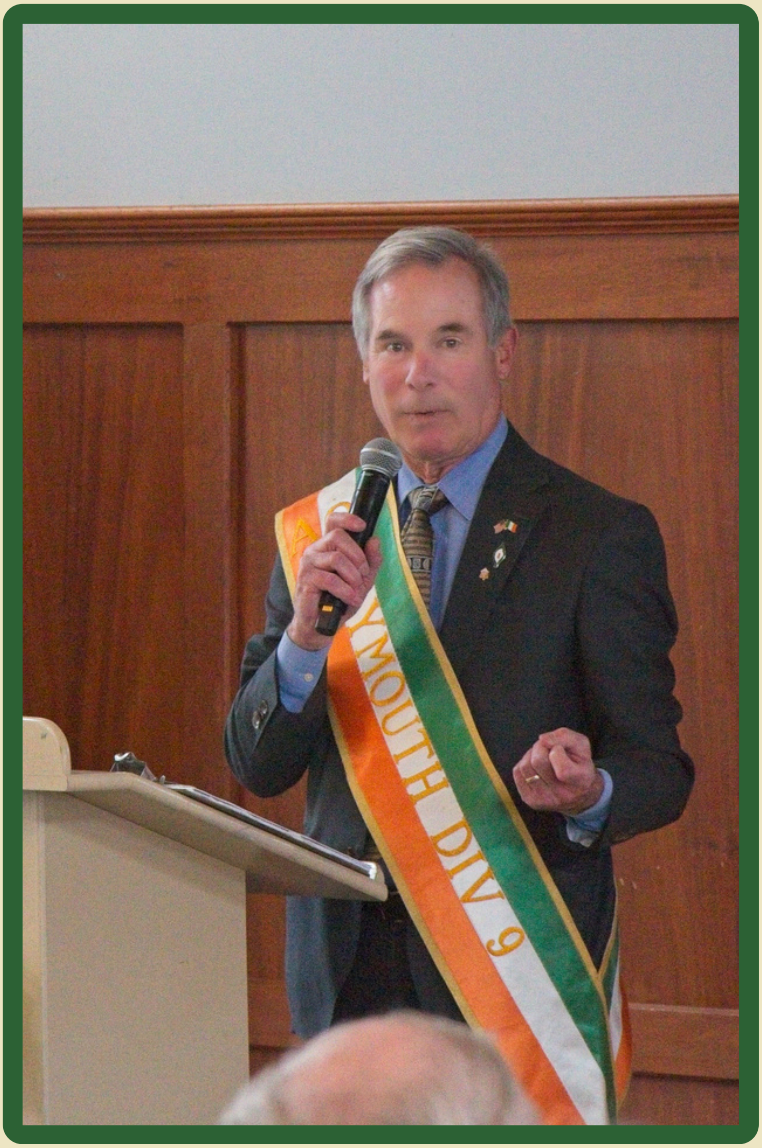
Dear Brothers, this year's Easter Rising Commemoration was another success. It was well attended by both the public and hibernians alike. While the panel was fascinating the highlight had to be the audience participation. In attendance was the Great-grandson of Thomas MacDonagh and the neice of Elizabeth O'Farrell. Both shared family stories and the role of the women in their family tree that played their part in the war of independence.

The speaking panel also kept the attention of the entire audience as they spoke about the role of women from a historical perspective and detailed the artifacts on display relating to the topic. Ms. Catherine Neill then gave her family story of her great-grandmother's role during the war of independence and how her and her family risked what they had to support the cause.

Within the following pages are photos from the event and a video of the event has been posted on the South Shore Irish Heritage Trail website.

Recognition should go out to Brother John Sullivan for being the host for the event, Brother John Travers for set up of the event space and being on duty throughout the event, Brother Stephen Rice for photography and all other members who attended the event.




PLYMOUTH DIV 9






POBLACHT NA H EIREANN.
THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT
OF THE
IRISH REPUBLIC
TO THE PEOPLE OF
15
















AOH
PLYMOUTH DIV. 3


AOH
PLYMOUTH DIV. 3




THE PROCLAMATION OF THE IRISH REPUBLIC WHICH FIRST TOOK PLACE IN DUBLIN ON APRIL 24, 1916 IS HONORED
AROUND THE WORLD WHEREVER FREEDOM AND HUMAN RIGHTS ARE CELEBRATED IN SCITUATE. IT HAS BEEN HONORED SINCE
THE 50TH HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EASTER RISING IN 2016 AT THE COLE PARKWAY BANDSTAND IN SCITUATE HARBOR
AS DESCRIPTIVE THIS MONUMENT IS TO ALL PEOPLE WHO LOVE FREEDOM AND TO THOSE WHO HAVE FOUGHT AND CONTINUE
TO FIGHT FOR LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS AROUND THE WORLD
THE SCITUATE EASTER RISING MONUMENT COMMITTEE
DEDICATED ON SUNDAY APRIL 26, 2020

POLITICAL EDUCATION

RAPE-ACCUSED JEFFREY DONALDSON FACES LONG 18-MONTH WAIT FOR TRIAL

General Staff
IrishIndependent.com

Legal sources rule out fast-tracking of case as courts battle with backlog

Jeffrey Donaldson faces an 18-month wait before he defends himself against a raft of sex assault charges.

The former DUP chief and his co-accused wife Eleanor Donaldson are due at Newry Magistrates Court on Wednesday for their first appearance in what is going to be a long and drawn-out process.

Speculation that given the status of the accused the case could be fast-tracked has been dismissed. Mr Donaldson is facing a single charge of rape and a number of others of sexual abuse. His wife is charged with aiding and abetting in a number of the alleged offences.

It had been suggested in some quarters that the trial could go ahead before Christmas.
But with the courts battling huge case backlogs, legal sources have suggested it could be autumn 2025 before a criminal trial can be scheduled.

“There’s no chance of this going to trial before Christmas. It’s going to be a long, slow process and there’s still much to be done,” a legal source said.

“I would say it will be Christmas next year and even then, it will be a long shot.”

The source, who has knowledge of the case against Mr Donaldson, said the Lagan Valley MP had not wavered from his position of strenuously denying the allegations but he added: “He is fully aware of the difficulties he is facing at present.”

It is understood that the police investigation was run by a specialist team of detectives from the Public Protection Branch of the PSNI.
It handles all historical sexual assault inquiries. And recent data published by the police reveals only a 6pc success rate in cases.

In the meantime, all eyes will be on Newry Courthouse this week where Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson are due to appear.

As it stands, they are compelled to attend in person which will spark huge public and media attention.

The PSNI will have to mount a significant security operation.

The court hearing will attract huge media attention and the courtroom is also expected to be packed with members of the public keen to follow proceedings. Normally at magistrates courts the only



police officers present would be those involved in the criminal cases before the court.

Both the PSNI and Courts Service declined to comment when asked whether any special arrangements were being put in place for Wednesday's hearing. However, given the high profile of the Donaldson case, there is expected to be increased security arrangements at the hearing.

That's despite there still being no official confirmation that Mr Donaldson and his wife will appear before the court on Wednesday.

Each week, the Northern Ireland Courts Service (NICS) uploads its court schedule for the coming weeks online.

The list of defendants due to appear before Newry Magistrates Court on April 24 was published online earlier this month.

As of yesterday, there are 87 cases due before Newry on Wednesday — but neither Mr Donaldson (61) nor his 57-year-old wife are among those listed.

The PSNI was asked on Friday why their cases had not yet been added to the list.

A PSNI spokesperson said court lists can be updated up to three days before a court sitting.

"We are unable to provide any further information at this time," the spokesperson added.

There is still the prospect that the Donaldsons will apply to make their appearance via video-link, which would spare the PSNI a major headache.

Should they go down the video-link route, they will have to make their appearances from the offices of their legal representative, which will necessitate Mr Donaldson emerging from his London apartment.

In Mr Donaldson's case that will be with veteran Banbridge-based solicitor John McBurney.

Mrs Donaldson will be represented by a separate legal firm.

The Donaldsons were arrested at their home in Dromore, Co Down, before 7am on March 28, before being taken to Antrim Custody Suite where they were charged.

The DUP issued a statement the following day which said Mr Donaldson had resigned as party leader following his arrest.

It is understood that Mr Donaldson is facing one count of rape, one count of gross

indecency and several counts of indecent assault.

His wife has been charged with aiding and abetting offences in relation to the same police investigation.

The couple are not allowed to contact each other as part of their bail conditions and neither have been seen in public since their arrest, with Mr Donaldson in London and Mrs Donaldson holed up at the family home in Dromore.

It is unlikely that the Donaldsons will be required to enter a plea on Wednesday as there is an ongoing investigation and it is unlikely, although possible, that the prosecution will be ready to have charges formally put to the accused.

Wednesday's court date is the first step in that process. It is an opportunity for the PPS to brief the court on the progress of the case. It is likely to be brief, with a fresh date set for further review.

When the couple eventually appear before court for their first appearance, a decision will be taken on whether their cases should stay in the magistrates court or should be sent to the Crown Court.

This decision is usually based on the seriousness of the alleged offence.

Less serious offences such as motoring offences or public order offences can usually only be tried in the magistrates court.

The most serious offences such as rape or murder can only be tried in the Crown Court.

A decision will also be taken at the hearing on whether the Donaldsons remain on bail.

Despite the seriousness of the charges, legal sources have indicated they will be allowed to remain on bail given their clear records.

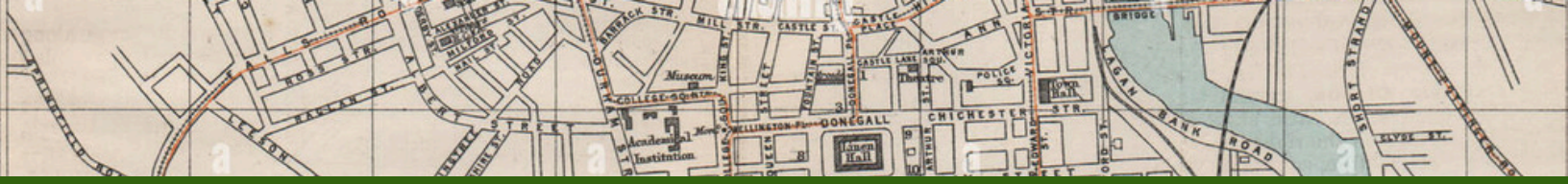
If, as expected, they are released on continuing bail, conditions will be put in place by the court which could include defendants being told to hand over their passports or report to a police station on a regular basis.

A surety may also be put in place through which a person promises to pay a certain amount of money to the court if the defendant does not turn up for subsequent court hearings.

If, as expected, the Donaldsons appear before Newry court on Wednesday, they will share the courtroom with a wide variety of alleged criminals.

This includes people facing allegations of arson, theft, drink-driving and domestic violence.

A number of dissident republicans accused of taking part in an unnotified parade are also due before the same court on Wednesday.



Freedom For All Ireland

Bloody Sunday families slam PPS decision to not prosecute former soldiers accused of lying

By IrishCentral Staff
irishcentral.com, April 19th, 2024

Northern Ireland's Public Prosecution Service (PPS) announced on Friday, April 19 that it will not to prosecute 16 individuals in relation to allegations of false evidence relating to the Bloody Sunday Inquiry.

The PPS said in a statement on Friday that the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) previously submitted an investigation file to the PPS in relation to allegations of murder and attempted murder on Bloody Sunday.

Those reported included former soldiers and alleged members of the Official IRA and a decision to prosecute one soldier, known as Soldier F, issued in 2019.

At the time, the PPS explained that consideration would also then be given as to whether the Test for Prosecution was met in respect of allegations that those reported had given false evidence in connection with the Bloody Sunday Inquiry.

The prosecution team, which included senior independent counsel, has now carefully considered all the available evidence in the investigation file and the content of the Report of the Bloody Sunday Inquiry in respect of allegations of the giving of false evidence.

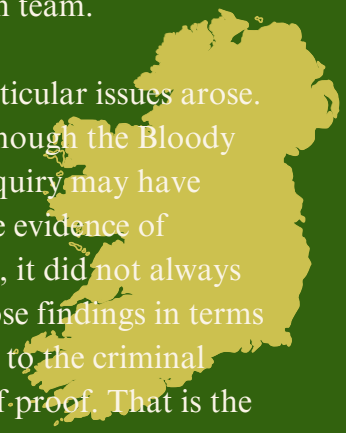
The prosecution team has determined that the available evidence is insufficient to provide a reasonable prospect of conviction of any suspect considered, which include 15 former soldiers and one former alleged member of the Official IRA.

PPS Senior Public Prosecutor John O'Neill said: "All decisions on whether or not to prosecute are taken by independently and impartially applying the Test for Prosecution.

The standard of proof needed for a criminal prosecution is high. For a conviction, the prosecution must establish beyond a reasonable doubt, through available and admissible evidence, the commission of a criminal offence by the suspect.

"After careful consideration, it has been concluded that the available evidence in this case is insufficient to provide a reasonable prospect of obtaining a conviction of any suspect for offences in relation to the giving of false evidence.

"The decision making involved the consideration of a vast amount of material. Consideration of the allegations of false evidence presented particularly complex evidential and legal issues, all of which were thoroughly analysed by the prosecution team.



"Three particular issues arose. Firstly, although the Bloody Sunday Inquiry may have rejected the evidence of individuals, it did not always express those findings in terms amounting to the criminal standard of proof. That is the

standard which the PPS must consider.

"Secondly, many of the findings related to the rejection of accounts given by former soldiers in 1972. The PPS has concluded that, for a number of legal reasons, those accounts from 1972 would not be admissible in criminal proceedings today.

"Thirdly, the full amount of evidence upon which the Bloody Sunday Inquiry based its findings is not generally available to the prosecution today. Issues arise in respect of the admissibility of evidence and its availability, since not all witnesses who provided evidence to the Inquiry provided witness statements to the PSNI.

“I wish to make clear that these decisions not to prosecute in no way undermine the findings of the Bloody Sunday Inquiry that those killed or injured were not posing a threat to any of the soldiers.

“We acknowledge that these prosecutorial decisions will be disappointing to the victims and families involved, and that this may be another difficult day for them. We have written to them to explain in detail the reasons for the decisions. We would like to provide assurance that these decisions were taken impartially,



Northern Ireland’s Public Prosecution Service (PPS) announced on Friday, April 19 that it will not to prosecute 16 individuals in relation to allegations of false evidence relating to the Bloody Sunday Inquiry.

independently and only after the most thorough and careful consideration of all available evidence and the relevant legal issues."

Ciarán Shiels of Madden & Finucane, the Belfast law firm that represents the majority of the families of the people murdered and the people wounded at the Bloody Sunday, said in a statement that the Bloody Sunday families are "very disappointed" but "certainly not fooled" by the PPS decision.

Shiels said: "Anyone who closely observed the evidence given at the Bloody Sunday Inquiry will know that members of 1 Para, and indeed senior military officers in command positions within the British Army in 1972, both individually and collectively, perverted the course of justice by concealing the criminal behaviour of their colleagues in Support Company of 1 Para, thereby ensuring that they would evade prosecution for their crimes.

"Those who gave dishonest evidence on oath also committed perjury and were clearly outside the scope of the assurance against self incrimination provided by the Attorney General at the outset of the Inquiry, which was designed to facilitate the provision of truthful evidence to the Inquiry to assist that Inquiry to reach its proper findings.

"A major cause for concern arose last week when police informed the families of the persons referred to the PPS for prosecution and not one officer in a position of command on Bloody Sunday, in particular Captain Mike Jackson, featured. The families made serious and detailed allegations in relation to Mike Jackson's conduct on Bloody Sunday. He had personally interviewed those who admitted firing live rounds in the rear of his APC before the Paras had even departed the Bogside and was recalled to the Bloody Sunday Inquiry to explain omissions in his evidence. Jackson was the chief architect and puppeteer in relation to the British Army's cover up on Bloody Sunday, yet a file does not appear to have been submitted in relation to him.

"It is of course regrettable that this decision has been communicated to us only today, some 14 years after the Inquiry's unequivocal findings, but less than two weeks before the effective enactment date of the morally bankrupt Legacy legislation designed specifically to allow British army veterans to escape justice for its criminal actions in the north of Ireland.

"We will carefully consider the reasons we have received today and do not rule out the prospect of further legal action."

John Kelly, whose 17-year-old brother Michael was murdered on Bloody Sunday, said on behalf of the Bloody Sunday families and wounded: "The families of Bloody Sunday who sit here today disappointed and perplexed by this decision not to prosecute a single soldier for perjury ask themselves rhetorically: 'Why is it that the people of Derry cannot forget the events of Bloody Sunday, yet the Parachute Regiment, who caused all of the deaths and injury on that day, apparently cannot recall it?'

"The British Army lied its way through the conflict in the north.

"Accountability was never an option.

"And it is clear from the events of Bloody Sunday that killing unarmed civilians and lying about the circumstances of those murders never operated as a bar to individual promotions for soldiers, but in fact helped endear themselves to their superior officers and authorities.

"We consider that today's ruling by the PPS is an affront to the rule of law and a continuation of the injustice that was perpetrated on Bloody Sunday."

Irish History

How an Irish priest transported his parish from County Wexford to Wexford, Iowa

By Kayla Hertz
irishcentral.com, April 19th, 2024



In October 1850, County Wexford priest Father Thomas Hore set sail with his entire parish to escape the Great Hunger and settle in America. There he established Wexford, Iowa as the first Catholic community for miles around with his parish called Immaculate Conception.

After he was ordained in 1820, Father Thomas Hore spent six years as a missionary in America as part of a Virginia diocese, and after his return to Ireland, he always kept America at the forefront of his mind. Upon his return to Ireland, he became a parish priest in County Wicklow and then established a loyal congregation in Wexford.

By October 1850, Fr. Hore wanted to escape Ireland's Great Hunger and transport his parish to rural America, where he would establish a church and a strong Catholic presence. He and 450 loyal parishioners set sail on a voyage from Dublin that took them across to Liverpool to board an ocean-going vessel to transport them to New Orleans and from there they traveled on to Arkansas, where he had planned to settle.

Upon reaching Arkansas, they realized much of the land had already been occupied. Some of his parish remained, but the rest continued to Iowa, where the land was abundant and the atmosphere reminiscent of home.

He purchased a thousand acres of land for $1.25 per acre – the settlers built their homes and a church out of logs three miles north of the Mississippi River. They also built a two-story building on Fr. Hore's new farm, where he raised crops and cattle.

By 1854 this new farming community had a total of around 400 members and two more churches. Fr. Hore was the only priest in the Iowa's Allamakee County until 1855. He was known for having looked after the Catholic population in neighboring counties as well, even some in Minnesota. He would regularly visit their settlements on horseback.

Having seen his colony firmly established, Fr. Hore returned to Ireland in 1857, leaving over 6,000 Catholics in the Iowa county. At home, he became the parish priest of Cloughbawn, County Wexford, where he died in 1864 at age 69.

Known today as one of Iowa's oldest Catholic Congregations, Immaculate Conception is perched pleasantly atop a valley with a congregation of about 100 parishioners. This was the third church that Fr. Hore's parishioners built. They built it out of Limestone and it was completed in 1870.

Today's Immaculate Conception is a tight-knit congregation that is extremely proud of its roots: "We, the parishioners of Immaculate Conception, Wexford, take the deep-rooted faith of our ancestors that established our parish over 150 years ago," their mission statement says.

"We will use that faith to bring praise and honor to God by using our gifts and talents to serve God and God's people with the help of the Holy Spirit."

Life in Wexford, Iowa is said to be ideal, especially for people in their older age looking for a serene atmosphere. The colony was responsible for the rapid growth of Catholicism in the surrounding area; after they had arrived, many more Catholic settlers followed, especially those from Ireland. The young Wexford, Iowans are especially proud of their Irish heritage.

Good & Welfare

Division 9 Scrapbook

From all the items that have turned up in the moving of the hall we have decided to create a division scrapbook. We are looking for a volunteer to put this together. Anyone interested please let Mike Schilling know at the next meeting.

PRAYERS FOR.....

Ginny Davis

Please email any other requests for prayers to AOHPlymouth@gmail.com or at the next General Meeting



Gaeltacht Corner

Initial

English - How are you?

Irish - Conas atá tú?

'Cun-is ah-taw two'

Reply

English - I'm fine

Irish - Tá mé go maith

'Taw may guh mawh'

"boolavogue"

At Boolavogue as the sun was setting o'er the bright May meadows of Shelmalier
A rebel band set the heather blazing and brought the neighbors from far and near
Then Father Murphy from old Kilcormac spurred up the rock with a warning cry
"Arm, arm," he cried, "For I've come to lead you, for Ireland's freedom we'll fight or die."

He led us on against the coming soldiers and the cowardly yeomen we put to flight
'Twas at the Harrow the boys of Wexford showed Bookey's regiment how men could fight
Look out for hirelings, King George of England, search every kingdom where breathes a slave
For Father Murphy of County Wexford sweeps o'er the land like a mighty wave.

We took Camolin and Enniscorthy and Wexford storming drove out our foes
'Twas at Slieve Coilte our pikes were reeking with the crimson blood of the beaten yeos
At Tubberneery and Ballyellis full many a Hessian lay in his gore
Oh, Father Murphy, had aid come over, the Green Flag floated from shore to shore.

At Vinegar Hill o'er the River Slaney our heroes vainly stood back to back
And the yeos of Tullow took Father Murphy and burned his body upon the rack
God grant you glory brave Father Murphy and open heaven to all your men
The cause that called you may call tomorrow in another fight for the Green again.

Father John Murphy was the parish priest in Boolavogue, a small town in County Wexford in Ireland, who led his parishioners in battle during the 1798 uprising. For his participation, Father Murphy was tortured, flogged, decapitated, burned, and ultimately, had his head put on a stake to warn his countrymen against further rebellion. The song "Boolavogue" was written in his honor in 1898 by Patrick Joseph McCall, who set the lyrics to an ancient Irish air called "Eochaill."