

- 1858 Fr. Gallagher added a sacristy to **Fintown** Catholic Church. (Maguire, Canon Edward, *op. cit.*, Vol. 1, p. 482)
- \* The new Catholic Church opened on the Glen Road, **Glenties** replacing the old building which was sited where the current Garda Station (and former R.I.C. Station) was erected. It was built by Fr. Pat Gallagher and Hugh Maguire was the architect. It was said to be able to accommodate 3,000 worshippers. (Maguire, Canon Edward, *op. cit.*, Vol. 1, p. 490; *DJ*, September 9th, 1863)
  - \* Captain Dunlop of the **Berbice** out of Greenock, Scotland thanked the **Portnoo** Coastguard for coming to his ship's aid in December when the rudder broke in gales on November 23rd and replacement parts were required. Two second-hand rudder irons were purchased inland while the ship docked in Boylagh Bay on December 3rd, though Capt. Dunlop was surprised that the seller (a "landed proprietor") sold them for one pound each when he had bought the old rudder they came from for a shilling some time earlier. Captain Manus Boyle from Rutland Island and his rescue crew were credited with steering the **Berbice** without a rudder for twelve miles through Boylagh Bay to shelter. (*Greenock Advertiser*, December 21st, 1858; for more on Manus Boyle's daring feats, see *Northern Whig*, September 23rd, 1869 and *DJ*, November 28th, 1873)
- 1859 Fr Thomas Daly, C.C., Ardara, publicly thanked Robert Russell, agent to the Marquess of Conyngham for a donation of £2 for the improvement of "Beyha" school (**Beagh**). (*The Ulsterman*, January 31st)
- \* The building of Saints Peter and Paul Church in **Kilclooney** began in 1859 according to the *Derry Journal* in 1932. It also mentioned the source of the timber used: a shipwreck at Tramore in December 1857, probably the "St. Lawrence" (see above entry). The sparse official diocesan records specify that the foundation stone was laid in 1857. (*DJ*, May 27th, 1932; Plunkett, Tom, "A Turas of Faith", St. Conal's Church 150th Anniversary Magazine, 2014, pp. 22-24)
  - \* The brig, Commerce of Drogheda en route from Newcastle to Limerick was wrecked near Glen Head in Boylagh Bay on December 13th. The crew was saved. (*Newcastle Courant*, December 23th)
- 1860 A new bridge to be built at "**Strabuoy**" near Glenties was recommended at the Donegal Assizes and contracted for by William Harte, Co. Surveyor. (*LS*, April 3rd)
- \* Mass pickpocketing was reported at the **Glenties** Fair. The thieves were pursued, the money was regained and a beating was issued, seven miles from the town. (*DJ*, April 11th)
  - \* **Dooley** 8492 opened as a National School, with Neil Ward its first teacher. (Plunkett, Tom, *SWDNS*)
  - \* A poitín raid in **Lettermacaward** received publicity: "The constabulary force stationed at Lettermacaward, County Donegal, proceeded on revenue duty, in the Government boat, across the river Guebarra. Landing on the other side, they ascended the top of the mountain of Glengorth, when they saw smoke issuing from the premises of Thady Gallaher, to which they instantly proceeded, and where they found a still at work in his barn. Seeing the approach of the constabulary, the distillers made their escape down the mountain. The force took possession of the premises, and, on making search, found a seven-gallon keg full of spirits, quite hot, concealed in a corn field near the house. This, together with all the apparatus, was removed and carried off. The parties will be prosecuted at the next Sessions. The usual fine in this county is six pounds for the first offence, and the fine is doubled each time after". (*Northern Whig*, August 16th)
- 1861 An Art Union Prize Draw held on February 2nd raised £73 towards the ongoing construction of the church in **Kilclooney**. (*DJ*, February 6th)
- \* Tenders were invited to paint the exterior of the Church of Ireland in **Lettermacaward**. (*LS*, February 15th)
  - \* **Kilclooney** 8078 opened in a new building, replacing Kilclooney 2659 which closed. It was nicknamed "The Black School" on account of the dark stone façade. It operated until 1933. The original school building from 1840 was sited near the current church graveyard. (Plunkett, Tom, *SWDNS*)
  - \* **Meentanadea** 8517 in Cloughboy connected as a National School following its application, with James Roddy its first teacher. This Robertson Board Methodist school was built in 1859 and opened (not as a National School) on November 1st in that year. It replaced an earlier school in Drimitten. This school was situated opposite the current school. (A photo was featured in Dearth, Christmas 1984; Plunkett, Tom, *SWDNS*)
  - \* **Ardara** 8727 (Ardara No. 3) became a National School with Thomas B. Gibson its first teacher. It was under Methodist management. (Plunkett, Tom, *SWDNS*)
  - \* **Boyoughter** 8623 in Lettermacaward became a National School with Charles O'Donnell its first teacher. (Plunkett, Tom, *SWDNS*)
  - \* **Edeninfagh** 8901 opened as a National School, with John McCaffery its first teacher. (Plunkett, Tom, *SWDNS*)
  - \* **Loughrospoint** 8780 connected as a National School, with Francis J. Cartwright its first teacher. Erected in 1857, it was also a Methodist chapel and school-house. (Plunkett, Tom, *SWDNS*; Henderson, Rev. Ian D., *op. cit.*)
  - \* Two men were arrested in "Glencolumbkille" accused of passing forged notes in southwest Donegal over a period of months. John B. Gillis had been staying at "the Ardara Hotel" for ten weeks and had, with the assistance of his driver been passing off forged notes in payment to shopkeepers and publicans in exchange for coin. A visiting businessman from Derry (Hamilton Thompson) spotted the notes in **Ardara** and a chase ensued. They were both committed for trial at the Assizes. (*BNL*, September 13th)