

1879
1880

Sept. Destroyed hay + cart of O'Rourke. 1 month in Jail
24 June Fined £3 for breach of the game laws. (Then 20)

John Twiss

- 82 1 Jan 342
John Twiss + Timothy Callaghan remanded for Meinlein.
- 2 Jan 2444
Cork Winter Assizes
Callaghan discharged - jury disagreed
Twiss - father Robert, br. George, sr. Mary
gf Robert Mottis Chute Wm. Australia Mary USA
- 2 Jan 27 R5
You are 20 years of age. 18 months
- 8 Apr. 21 R4
John Culloty Parker shot (Kneecapped)
- 83 10 Apr 20
John Twiss (after 15 mths. in Mountjoy)
Hugh (carpenter) and John O'Connor
arrested 9 April leaving John O'Keefe's NT Glenthorne
Remanded. Twiss' frailty remarked on
- 15 July 27 R4
Cork Summer Assizes
Twiss 2 years. O'Connor 12 mths - each
105 I was a moonlighter + suffered for it on 2 occasions.

George Twiss

- 82 7 April 4 R5
George Twiss captured at Knockachur (on the river)
on Sat. evening
- 8 April 25 R2
George discharged. Undertook to go to America
- 15 July George + others arrested for stealing Corn. Hickey 8 June
- 83 10 13 Apr.
George + 2 others at house of Prendiville Wrong.
- 10 ~~George + others arrested for stealing Corn. Hickey (8 June)~~
- 22 Dec 11 R2
Castleisland Court - Crimes Act
Sunset 3.45
George + 2 others get 1 month in jail.

1894 21 Apr. James Donovan Glenthorne
26 Twiss arrested - remanded several times
Dec Trial Jan. - Sentenced to death
1895 Sat 9 Feb Hanged

16 MOD/77/77.4

JOHN

PROSPECTS of an outbreak of singing in town reminds me that I promised, a few weeks ago to print a couple of songs here. These songs were part of an article on Agrarian Strife, throughout the country, by Pat Feeley in the summer edition of the Old Limerick Journal and were sent to me from Limerick by Castleisland native Pat Kearney. The ballad of John Twiss deals with the trial and subsequent hanging of Twiss - a native of Cordal and to whom a commemorative stone now stands at Ardmona.

Historically the hanging of Twiss is seen as a grave injustice. The downfall of John Twiss

came soon after the murder, by clubbing, of James Donovan, described by Feeley as an emergency man on a farm in the Glenlara district near Newmarket in Co. Cork. Donovan was killed by two men on an April night in 1894.

"John Twiss, a convicted Moonlighter, a noted poacher and a thorn in the side of the police, was tried, convicted and hanged for the Glenlara murder," according to Pat Feeley.

"Twiss affirmed his innocence of the crime in a remarkable speech from the dock after he had been found guilty. The speech, though rambling and repetitive, was notable for its striking images and its patent honesty. It elevated the poor, ignorant countryman to another level and gave credence to his claim that he was of the blood of gentlemen," - the article states. The song goes as follows:

John Twiss of
Castleisland.

Farewell my dearest sister
Jane, your fond and
last adieu,

At the early age of thirty
five I now must part
from you,

For the murder of
James Donovan I am now

condemned to die

On the ninth of
February ninety-five
upon the scaffold high.

John Twiss from
Castleisland it's true it is
my name,

I never did commit a
crime, why I should deny
that same,

I own I was a sports-
man, with spirit light and
gay,

But paid spies and
informers, my life they
swore away.

On the twenty-fifth of
April eighteen ninety-
four,

That was the night,
dear sister Jane, long
years you may deplore

When I was taken pris-
oner, the police to me did
say

For the Murder of
James Donovan we arrest
you on this day.

It was in the Cork
assizes my enemies all
swore

That I shot James
Donovan and laid him in
his gore

The jury found me
guilty, the judge to me did
say

On the ninth of
February ninety-five, will
be your dying day.

But when I heard my
sentence passed to the
judge - I did say

The jury found me
guilty without the least
delay.

I swear that James
Donovan I never yet did
know

May the Lord forgive
my enemies who proved
my overthrow.

My blessings of the
Mayor of Cork, and the
people there also

In thousands they peti-
tioned, to release me they
did go

But my enemies were
determined I should my
life lay down

For paid spies and
informers - "A traitor to
the crown."

My last hour is
approaching, I hear the
death bell toll

The hangman he has
pinioned me, I must now
give up my soul

You know that I am
innocent is all I have to
say

May the Lord forgive
my enemies, on all their
judgement day.

TWISS

There is no music
attached but it looks like
the air of the Galtee
Mountain Boy, for one,
would fit the words neat-
ly.

The source of the above
song is credited to :
Seamus MacMathúna,
(editor) Traditional
Songs and Singers,
Comhaltas Ceoltoirí
Éireann, Dublin (1977
p40)

177.4 (2)

TWISS JOHN

94.2 Apr 528LT Robert Scantaglin arrested for murder of caretaker
Doreen Newmarket on Friday morning
94.2 May W913 Remanded at Newmarket police barracks. Not
represented. Declared his innocence.
94.25 May W16R5
94.2 May W23 R4-5
94.3 June W6R6 Prisoners again remanded
June W20 R3-4 remanded
June S30 R2 Twiss + Keefe remanded
30 July W11R6 A Kerry informer
4 July W25R5
4 Aug W1R4-5 More extraordinary evidence

1883

Name	Page	Age	Height	hair	eyes	Complexion	Born	Last Address	Occupation
Hugh Connor	1	16	27 5'	10 Br	Grey	fresh	Conginilla do.	carpenter	} Revolver + 10 rounds of ammunition from John Keefle.
John Twiss	16	23	5-8	fair	Blue	fresh	Cordal do	lab	
John Connor	16	18	5-7 1/2	Br.	Grey	Sallow	Conginilla do	lab	
John Casey	8	18	5-11 1/2	br	br	fresh	London	Cistad ^{lab}	

John Casey	8	age	height	Brown	Brown	fresh	born	Last address	P. 14
Michael Kennedy	12		5.11 1/2	hair	eyes	fresh	London	Cistad	Lab.
Michael Collins	12							Curious	
Hugh Connor	16							Conginilla	
John Twiss	16							Cordal	
John Connor	16							Conginilla	
John Lynch									
Al. Murphy									
Joseph Barry									
John Barry									

TWISS
GEORGE

- 82.7 Apr T4R5 On Saturday evening at Knockachur police captured a youth named Twiss of Cordal. A long time on the run.
- 82.8 Apr T2SR2 At Tralee, George Twiss, who was arrested about 4 weeks ago re. William Hartnett Meeneitrim, was discharged there being no evidence against him, on his promise to leave the country.
- 82.15 July F2LR4 Inquiry into the death of Cornelius Hickey. George Twiss, Thos. Flynn, John Walsh + Path. Fitzgerald were charged. Latter two discharged. Const. Gillooly had that day got a letter implicating Twiss + Flynn.
- 83.22 Dec 11R2 George Twiss, Jeremiah Sullivan + Michael O'Connor charged by S.I. Kerin that on the evening of Dec. 1 they were assembled in contravention of section 8 of the Crimes Act, Sunset 3.45. Connor said the other 2 came to his home to collect a greyhound for coursing the following day. Did they always tie him up with a handkerchief. Sentenced to 1 month in jail.
- 84.17B Oct 1NLL meeting. Received 2 votes in election of President.
- 85.1 Jan F23R $\frac{5}{6}$ Clisland Thurs. At a special court here today 4 men of the farming class George Twiss, Michael Reidy, James Kelly + George Gleeson were charged with being out on the night of Jan 15 at about 10.45, sunset being about an hour earlier. Gleeson discharged. Case adjourned to to-morrow.
- 86.6 Feb F26R $\frac{5}{6}$ George, Thade, Hugh + John O'Connor, Geo. Glover + Timothy Shea charged that, dressed as straw boys, they assaulted the RIC at the wedding of Jeremiah Lyons Breakey Feb. 20. Bound over in £20 and 2 sureties of £10.
- 86.7 March T2LR4 F5R2 A policeman's cap + a pair of handcuffs were later found on a gate near Cordal church.
- 86.11 May FTR5 B.O.G. Visited by Dr. Rice in Dr. Harrelde's absence.
- 86.13D June T8L2 Charged that on the 6th at Curragh
1. Threw stone at Const. McRally injuring him
2. Assaulted man named Crenin.
Sentenced to 1 month in jail. Gone to U.S.A.
- 94.5 Nov S24R2 3 months hard labour for possession of ammunition
Drunk 2/6 or 7 days. Assault 1 with.
Bound to the peace for 12 months
- See The Times Commission Dec 1888 TD 515