1889:

AUGUST 1889.

AFFILIATED CLUBS IN MAYO, 1889.

The following are the names of the affiliated clubs:

1) Ballina Commercials, navy blue & white; M J Cosgrave, Ballina.
2) Crossmolina Dr Crokes, orange & green; P Flanagan, Crossmolina.
3) Charlestown Sarsfields, crimson & black; P Breen, Charlestown.
4) Castlebar Mitchels, green & yellow; G Lavelle, Castlebar.
5) Ballaghaderreen Faugh-a-Ballaghs, blue & white;T Higgins, B.derreen.
6) Kilkelly Davitts, green & yellow; PJ Durcan, Kilkelly.
7) Killala Meaghers, green & white; PW Durcan, Killala.
8) Ballycastle Emmets, green & maroon; D W Stanley, Ballycastle.
9) Swinford Sextons, black, green & yellow; F Davitt, Swinford.
10) Swinford Commercials, blue & white; M Howley, Swinford.
11) Ballina Stephens, emerald green; D Fitzgerald, Ballina.
12) Balla Granuailes, black & red; Thos. Murphy, Balla.
13) Kiltimagh O'Donnell Abus, green & white; E O'Byrne Gear, Kiltimagh.
14) Bohola Tanners; P McNicholas, Bohola.
15) Backs Kickhams, crimson & white; Wm Quigley, Lisduoge, Ballina.
16) Backs Thomas Davis, blue & yellow.
17) Kilmore-Erris O'Connells, green, white & yellows; D. Dixon.
18) Kilcommon-Erris Dillons, green & yellow; J Ryder, Kilcommon.
19) Foxford Geraldines; P Jones, Foxford.
20) Ardagh Mandevilles, black, green hoop; wm. Clarke, Ballina.
21) Killasser Eugene Davis', green & red; Thos. Durcan, Killasser.
22) Ballysokeery Dr Walshes, crimson, green sash; M Bourke,
23) Meelick Redmonds, black & green; T. Carroll, Meelick.
24) Claremorris GH Moores, green & yellow;C O'Kelly, Claremorris.
25) Ballyhaunis Celts, green & yellow; PJ Mulligan, Ballyhaunis.
26) Kilfian John Martins

(Foregoing twenty-six clubs were represented at the County Convention, Nov Lst, 1888)

Photocopy.

27) Kilmovee Crillys, green & red; John Fleming, Kilmovee, B.derreen.

28) Newport Wolf Tones, green & yellow ; J MvNea, Newport.

29) Ballyglass Wm O'Briens, green & red; P A Murphy, Ballyglass.

30) Mayo Home Rulers, blue & white; J Cowan, Knockroe, Ballyglass

31) Ballinrobe Commercials; P Nealon, Ballinrobe.

32) Attymass O'Dowdas, amber & black; Patk Melody, Attymass, Ballina.

33) Croaghpatrick Sunbursts, green & white; Thos Murray, Murrisk.

34) Westport Artisans, green; James Gavin, Westport.

35) Mulranny Brian Borus, green & white; Patk O'Donnell, Mulranny.

36) Carra (Bunneconlan).

37) Kilmeena Macs; M F Duffy, Kilmeena, Westport.

38) Annagh (Ballyhaunis), green, white band; T. Byrne, Ballyhaunis.

39) Lacken, navy blue & white.

40) Kilmaclasser Father Burkes; P Kettrick, Kilmaclasser, Westport.

41) Ballycroy Kernes, green, white & amber; M O'Donnell, Ballycroy.

42) Carracastle Moroneys.

43) Geesala-Erris Teelings.

44) Westport MacHales.

45) Westport Quay Erin's Hope.

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CONNAUGHT TELEGRAPH - 30TH MARCH, 1889

THE GAELS IN CASTLEBAR

In consequence of the severe rain on Sunday last, the Gaelic Tournament in this town was neceessarily a failure to a great extent. Everything was prepared in splendid style by the local team, and the field so kindly given by Mr. Quinn was in excellent order; but, as the Westport "John McHales" were unable to put in an appearance, the match between them and the Castlebar 'Mitchels' had to be postponed to Sunday 7th April (to-morrow week) when a large muster of teams from adjoining districts is expected to attend, and good value may be looked for.

The Ballyglass "William O'Briens" and the Murrisk "Subbursts" came here on Sunday, and notwithstanding the heavy downpour, kicked for an hour, with the result of a complete victory for the former team, by two points to nil. The O'Briens gained that score in the first half-time, with the wind against them; but, after the change of place, there was no change in the scoring, not a single point being taken by either side.

Ref: C. T. March 30th 1889.

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The Ballyglass "William O'Briens" and the Murrisk "Sunbursts" came here on Sunday, and, notwithstanding the heavy downpour, kicked for an hour, with the result of a complete victory for the former team, by two points to nil. The O'Briens" gained that score in the first half-time, with the wind against them; but, after the change of place there was no change in the scoring, not a single point being taken by either side !

THE CONNAUGHT TELEGRAPH. APRIL I3th I889.

THE GAELS IN CASTLEBAR.

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As announced in our last, the Westport "John McHale" and the "John Mitchels" of our own town met on Sunday here, and played for one of the championship ties. Of the result we feel really delicate in writing, as it was such as, never before, came to our lot to record of any football match - 6 goals and 4 points for the "Mitchels" to NIL for the "McHales"!! The victors also gained a 7th gaola, just as time was called; but the did not claim this, as, indeed, they could well afford to do without it! Now, we care not to indulge in any exultant remarks-the figures of the score being more significant than any words of our could possibly be-but we may be permitted to coolly observe that such a completely disastrous defeat, with not one redeeming point, we never before witnessed, or even heard of ! The Westport men objected, at first, to kick with less than 2I on each side; but when the Castlebar captain offered to play with I7 Mitchels against 2I McHales it silenced the malcontents. We hope our Gaelic friends in Cahirnamort will, for the future, incline to less self-opinion and more practice, if they wish to uphold the honor attaching to the glorious old name they have assumed-for, assuredly, they reflected no additional lustre on it last Sunday!

On to-morrow (I4rh inst) there will be four outside teams in Castlebar viz, the "Mitchels" v. Ballyglass "O'Briens:" Balla v. Newport; and Mayo Abbey v. the victors in the first match.

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THE CONNAUGHT TELEGRAPH. APRIL 20th I889.

THE GAELS:

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On Sunday last the Newport and Balla teams met in Castlebar, and after a vigorous contest the Granuailes (Balla) won a decided victory by I goal and 4 points to 2 points for Newport.

There was a meeting of the Co. Committee, on Monday last, at the Moy Hotel, Ballina, at which Messrs P.G. Smyth (President) J.C. Nolan, P.W. Durcan, E. Ormsby, J. Beirne, A.J. Staunton and P. Mulhern attended. It was arranged that, on tomorrow (2Ist) the Ballina Commercials meet the Ballycastle Gaels at Killala and the Castlebar "Mitchels" proceed to Balla to engage the local team there.

On the I9th of May, the Ballina "Stephenes" will enter the list with the Ballaghaderreen club at Swinford, and, as same time and place, the local "Sexons" will encounter the team that will come off victors at Killala on to-morrow.

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CONNAUGHT TELEGRAPH 27th April 1889

GAELS OR ZULUS ?

The Castlebar "Mitchels" proceeded to Balla, on Sunday last, to engage as they expected, in a game of football, under Gaelic rules; but found to their cost, that their opponents would be bound by no restrictive regulations- they were, in fact, more inclined to kick the "Mitchells" than the ball, while thumping with the fist and butting with the head, after the manner of wicked rams, formed prominent features of the "amusement!" From the narrative of those who witnessed the unruly proceedings, one would conclude that that the so called "Gaels" of Balla were Red Indians rather than Irishmen; and the demeanour of the outside crowd more resembled that of parties prepared for a faction fight than quiet spectators of a properly conducted national game !

On one occasion, the Castlebar Captain (Mr. T. J. Kelly- one of the most inoffensive young men in existence) was standing on the ground, watching the play- the ball being over 20 yards away from him- when a Balla "gentleman" deliberately rushed at him, and, with a butt of the head in the stomach, stretched him insensibly on the field ! In fact, so rascally ~~rowydish~~ ROWDYISH was the conduct of players and outsiders that a Castlebar man dared not open his mouth ! We trust, for the sake of the Gaelic organisation, that such scenes of downright ruffianism as those in Balla, on last Sunday, will never be repeated at any meeting professing to be held under the rules of the association ! The result of the play was 1 goal for the Balla "Butters" and 1 point for the "Mitchels"- but there will be something heard of the matter yet!

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May 11th, 1889, CONNAUGHT TELEGRAPH.

THE LATE GAELIC CONTEST AT BALLA.

To The Editor, Connaught Telegraph.

Dear Sir—In your late issue there appears a letter from Mr Murphy, Hon. Sec. to the Balla club, and a protest signed by nine gentlemen who witnessed the above contest. The accuracy of your remarks is denied, and you are further told you might have waited longer and learned the true facts. As certain statements in the letter point to me in particular, I feel bound to give my account of the match and then "public opinion", which was appealed to by Mr Murphy, may decide whether your remarks were based on the testimony of partial "outsiders". I will take the letter first. Mr Murphy says if such ruffianly conduct as you allege occurred, such as butting the Castlebar captain with the head, when the ball was a considerable distance away, strange to say the attention of the referee was not immediately called on and have the offender punished according to the rules of the G.A.A.

My answer is, simply because the referee was aware of the fact, and had to stop play for half an hour in consequence, and as for not having the offender punished, I was unable at the time to say who the offender was on account of the 'manly' way in which he performed the feat viz.—by coming partly from behind and butting me with his head and striking me with his shoulder (I am unable to say which) in the stomach, as I turned round, the ball at the time being at the opposite side of the field to where I was standing. As soon as I recovered from this slight 'accident' sufficiently to speak, I complained to the referee, but he had not seen the occurrence. This was only natural as he must have

been watching the play which, as I have before mentioned, was at the opposite side of the field. I may add that I was informed on the previous Thursday that I was marked out for the special vengeance of the "Granuailes" because, in my capacity as referee in the match Balla v. Newport, I suspended one of the Balla team for charging unnecessarily a Newport player who was standing thirty or forty yards from the ball. I have since learned that it was the same player who assaulted me. We had been only a few minutes playing when I observed this man was following me no matter what part of the field I went to. In the end he got the opportunity he sought for. That he was not a little more successful must be to him and them a matter of regret. Mr Murphy calls that a'slight accident'.In my opinion "wilful assault" would be far more appropriate. Mr Murphy goes on to state that there was nothing that might be termed disunion, disorder, or disgrace; on the contrary there was mot an unseemly word made use of between player and player. This, as far as I am aware, was true of the Castlebar team, but the same cannot be said for many members of the Balla team.

Is Mr Murphy aware that the gentleman who captained the Balla team, on the occasion, told Higgins, one of our players, that the next time he (Higgins) dropped on the ball in front of him, he would kick his brains out!" Is he aware that the same gentleman called another of the Castlebar team 'a liar', while another of the Balla team (Costello) made himself especially conspicuous by the use of violent language, directing fellow players to 'kick the belly' out of Lavelle and Rafferty (Castlebar players)

and boasting that if he were near them when they dropped on the ball he would do it? Another of the Balla team, whom I don't know, directed a comrade to 'kick the guts out of the wh—e in green,' referring to Hughes of our team, who wore a green jersey. These are a few of the many similar remarks I heard on the occasion. I would not mention them at all, only for Mr Murphy's statement that 'there was not even an unseemly expression made use of.' In his opinion and, I suppose, in the opinions of the gentlemen who signed the protest also, these and kindred remarks may be, to copy a phrase from the protest, 'the usual incidents at similar matches' at Balla where, I suppose, such expressions are evidently not regarded as'unseemly! Mr Murphy further states that I said 'I had nothing whatever to complain about with regard to the play.' On this as on almost every statement in his letter, my recollection differs from his. What I beleive I said in reply to a question as to whether I was satisfied with the match, was 'I was satisfied that the match ended as it did, considering the play.' He ignores altogether the fact that I told the referee and different members of the Balla team that the injury I received was wilful and premeditated and that, as there were Kiltimagh men playing on the Balla team, I would lodge an objection. For anyone suffering at the time from the effects of a wilful injury, such as I received, to say he had no fault to find with the play in which that injury is only a 'usual incident', would seem, to say the least of it, very remarkable. Now, as well as then,I have the greatest possible objection to it, my experience on the day in question being sufficient. He next expressed regret for the 'slight accident' I met with! The sincerity of that regret may

be judged by the remark he made use of at the time—'It served Kelly bloody well right, and I am glad he got all that anyhow!" He upbraids you for not mentioning the fact that I took up the ball when the Granuailes were on the point of scoring. My explanation is very simple. F. Faul (one of the Mitchel team) was deliberately tripped up and, in consequence, I did lift the ball, in order to seek redress, but when Faul complained to the referee, he was told by the Balla umpire, who, l.ng before this, had usurped the functions of the referee,in language that would not bear repetition, that if he said another word, he (the u mpire) would shove his stick down his (Faul's) throat until it wo.ld find an exit elsewhere! Some of the Balla players now style their umpire as an 'intermeddler' and a 'busybody' and state that if I only objected to his presence on the field they would put him off. As everyone knows who has any acquaintance with the rules <u>each team has the right to select their own umpire;</u> and Balla having selected a <u>fitting representative,</u> it would have been an impertinence on my part to hint at their substituting any other person in his stead. That Balla would have scored had I not lifted the ball is a mere surmise. I don't beleive they would, and the referee evidently shares that belief for he did not even give a free kick to Balla, but threw up the ball., not even suspending me as was suggested to him by the Balla umpire. As to Castlebar players throwing themselves on the ball when in dangerous proximity to their goal, there is no prohibition of such play in the rules that I am aware of; and until such time as Mr Murphy can show a rule which prohibits that practice, the Mitchels must be excused for not adopting their ideas of play. Castlebarmen have had a varied experience of football, at Rugby and Association as well as Gaelic, and never before has

a Castlebar team received such treatment as we received in Balla. An idea of this may be obtained when four of the Mitchels team were struck by a single player, one receiving a thump in the ear, the second a thump in the mouth, the third, a thump in the stomach, and the fourth, a butt of the head in the chest. The Castlebar backs protested again and again about the vicious way in which they were charged by this same player. The Castlebar umpire and myself appealed to the referee for 'fouls' times without number, but he declared every time that he had not seen it. Once, and once only, did he suspend a player; and strange to say, he belonged to the Balla team. Slight as this incident is, it disposes of Mr Murphy's statement that there was not even an unseemly expressiom. It is a singular coincidence that the members of the Kiltimagh team that played the Granuailes in Balla on Sunday, April—, state they received treatment similar to ours.

I will deal with the protest as briefly as I can. The gentlemen who sign it say they 'never say a match in which more fair play was exhibited'; second that 'nothing occurred other than the usual incidents in similar matches', third 'the crowd was as orderly as anything they have hitherto seen.' As regards the fair play we received, the remarks which I have already made are sufficient an answer. Still, to convince anyone who might be led to believe from the protest that we got fair play,, I will give a few incidents which will serve to show the fair play we got. Will anyone deny that Balla sympathisers were continually coming in on the ground? Mr Murphy making himself very prominent in this respect; when asked by the Castlebar umpire to go outside, he replied that 'he had as much right to be on the field there as Mulhearn in Castlebar.' A field committee was conspicuous by

it's absence, and the very persons who might be expected to keep order were those who did most to destroy it. One Balla man rushed over the field with an uplifted stick to strike a Granuaile for not kicking a Castlebar player, while another was cautioned by a policeman for his repeated command to some of the Balla tam to work personal violence upon us. As another specimen of the 'fair play ' we received, I may mention that after they (Balla) scored the goal, seven minutes of the time remained unexpired. Two or three times the 'Mitchels' forced the ball over the Balla goal line and, when about to kick out the ball, the Balla goalkeeper was directed by Mr James Nally to take his time as the Mitchels have only a few minutes or, in other words, to deliberately waste time so as to lessen our chances of scoring. Another incident which speaks volumes for the fair play we received from Balla,—a highly-coloured report of the match (from the pen of a Balla correspondant evidently) appeared in the columns of the Western People, in which we are represented as kicking the ball into touch to prevent Balla from scoring when, as a matter of fact, the Balla goal was hotly beseiged at the time. The last statement in the protest speaks of an orderly crowd. I have a few words to say to the orderliness. Was it orderly or fair for a member of this crowd to strike the ball from Rafferty's foot with his walking-stick, and Raferty at the time having a very fair chance of scoring as he was past the most of the Balla backs? Will it be believed that this 'orderly crowd' broke in upon the field when Baala scored a goal and held posession for ten minutes? Lavelle of the Castlebar team who had been hurt and was lying on the ground, was walked on by them,—not being able to

rise he was unable to save himself, and it was only with considerable difficulty he was rescued from his perilous situation by Mr Stenson of Balla—and outside members of this 'orderly crowd' directed some of the Balla players to come and kick me as I lay upon the ground from the effects of what Mr Murphy calls a 'slight accident'. The following will serve to show the intentions of some of the Granuailes; one of them declared, some days previous to the match, that if there wasn't a man on the field to break my bones, he would do so before I left the field! Another of these exponents of 'fair play', in the person of a Balla kicker, jumped at P. Loftus, striking him in the side, and breaking one of his ribs. To this circumstance the goal may be credited, as Loftus exchanged places with the goalkeeper rather than leave the field altogether, and when the ball came to him he was unable to even walk to it, though at the time it was rolling slowly along the field, no player, except Loftus, being within thirty yards of it.

In further proof of the orderliness, fair play, &c., I give the statement of two of the 'protestants', Messrs. Glynn and McDonnell, on the occasion. Mr Glynn, in conversation with Mr W Lavelle, could find no milder words to describe the Balla team and the orderly crowd than "they are savages". Mr McDonnell repeatedly told one of our goal umpires (Mr W Martin), that the Castlebar team were being foully treated, and that the Claremorris team on the occasion of their visit to Balla, received like treatment. As Mr Glynn is the only one of the 'Protestants' who is a player, his statement must be regarded as of particular importance. Of the remaining seven, one (Mr W Fitzpatrick) frankly admits he knows nothing of the rules that govern football matches.

If the other six were only frank enough, they would, if asked, return a similar answer, for none of them, as far as I am aware, has any acquaintance with the rules of Gaelic Football. Mr Cannon, another gentleman who signs the protest, did, I beleive, drive by the field in which we played, and I suppose he must have seen some of the play. Whether he saw enough to justify the statement from him that we got fair play, and that good order prevailed, is a matter upon which others may form an opinion as well as Mr Cannon. I beleive he learned the result of the match at Shrule fair, next day, from our field umpire, Mr M Flannelly. Two of these gentlemen I will deal with seperately —namely Mr C Daly and Mr Joyce. As both of these write Castlebar after their names, a reader, unacquainted with the geographical position of Belcarra and Donamona, would fancy that the gentlemen that reside there belong to Castlebar parish. This is not the case. Belcarra, where Mr Daly resides, is in the parish of Balla. Donamona, Ballyglass is the proper address, and not Donamona, Castlebar.

As there were players on the Balla team who did not reside in the parish, this would be a sufficient reason for our claiming the match altohether. However, we don't want to do this; but simply ask the County Committee to arrange to have the match played over again in some place that incidents such as I have enumerated are not regarded 'ordinary', and where an 'orderly crowd' of a different description to the one in Balla would view the match without interfering with the players. This would enable the public to judge whether the 'Mitchels' got fair play, and the impartial treatment of an 'orderly crowd' on the occasion in question.

Sincerely yours,

T.J. Kelly.

Ref: C. T. May 4th 1889.

SOME BALLA VOICE IS HEARD !

To The Editor Of The Connaught Telegraph.

Balla, April 30th 1889.

Sir- Your very uncomplimentary remarks in the Connaught Telegraph of 27th inst, relative to recent football match between Castlebar 'Mitchels' and Balla 'Granuailes' require a reply. In the first place, we maintain that we strictly adhered to the Gaelic Athletic Association rules, and that there was no such thing as thumping with the fist or butting with the head. You might have waited a little and learn some of the truth before you poured forth such a torrent of abuse. Everyman who play regretted that Mr. Kelly met with the slight accident, but it is only one of those things which are liable to happen in such contests. There is no truth in the statement that he was deliberately butted, or butted at all. You altogether ignore the fact that in the hotel, after the play, when partaking refreshment, the captain of the 'Mitchel' team stated that he had no complaint whatsoever to make in regard to the play, and, at parting, cheered for the Balla men. You have made no allusion whatever to that strange action of the Castlebar captain taking up the ball when the 'Granuailes' were on the point of scoring, or to that remarkable trick in the 'Mitchels' of lying down on the ball whtn in dangerous proximity to their goal.

Balla men can bear favourable comparison with those of any other locality in Mayo, and do not require a certificate of character from Castlebar. Their character in this matter will, at all events, stand the tost of any impartial tribunal. It is no wonder that Castlebar men feel hurt for their long victorious record being broken; and it must also hurt their feelings to be shut out from the certainty (in their own minds) of being presented with the valuable medals which the County committee intend to give to the champions of the present season. I have made no allusion to the wounded 'Granuailes,' although they had, in fact, more reason to

complain than the 'Mitchels', through that unmanly style of the latter in dropping themselves before the players, and throwing themselves on the ball.

THOMAS MURPHY.

A PROTEST.

We, the undersigned, having witnessed several football matches, and being present at the recent match between the Castlebar 'MItchels' and Balla 'Granuailes' which came off at Balla on the 21st inst., do certify that we never witnessed any match in which there was more fair play exhibited; and we cannot by any means understand what justification there can be for the abusive statements appearing in the 'Mayo Examiner' and Connaught Telegraph of the 27th inst. in reference to said match. We can positively state that nothing occurred during the play more than the usual incidents which are liable to happen in similar matches, and the crowd was as orderly as any we have hitherto seen as such meetings.

Walter Joyce, Donamona, Castlebar
Charles Daly, Coachfield, de.
Myles O'Donnell, Craggagh, Claremorris
Edward Cannon, Lisnolan, Balla
John McDonnell, Claremorris
Henry French, Mossbrook, Claremorris
P. J. Glynn, Ballinafad, Ballyglass
W. J. Fitzpatrick, Athavallie, Balla
Patrick Stephens, Mayo.

Ref: W. P. May 25th 1889.

GAELIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

MAYO CHAMPIONSHIP.

Stephenites (Ballina) v. Faugh - Ballaghs (Ballaghaderreen)- This match was played at Swinford on Sunday last in presence of a large crowd of spectators. The day fortunately held fine though a stiff breeze blew for portion of the time to the advantage of the Faughs, who won the toss. Of the play generally, as a n exhibition of science and plunck, it would be difficult to speek in too high praise. The only regret was that it should have been marked by so many disputes and objections, which were chiefly, and we might almost say entirely, raised by the captain of the Faughs. This, gentleman had a perfect right to safeguard the interests of his team, but he undoubtely gave himself too much away on the occasion, with the result that time was wasted and tempers were not improved. The ballwas hardly thrown in before it was rushed by the Stephenites into the Faughts territory, and it was only by the merest possible shave that Fitzgerald, of the Stephens (whose play throughout the day was of a brilliant order) missed scoring a point. This seemed to put the Faughs on their mettle, and they quickly forced the ball back into their opponents ground, and succeeded after a hard fought tussle in scoring a point. It was the only score made on either side when half-time was called. Play throughout the second half was fast and furious. For the Stephens, Fitzgerald scored two points and a third was scored by Hogan, the Faughs not having scored in the meantime. With a desperate rush, however, they broke through the defence of the Stephens and succdeded just before the half hour was up in gaining a point. Their captain claimed it was a goal, and was backed up by Mr. Moriarty, who made the kick, but the referee and their own goal umpire decided against them, so that the Stephens won by 3 points to 2. The Faughs subsequently lodged an objection with the committee and were re-admitted to play in the championship. It is but due to the Faughs to compliment them on the marked improvement which has taken place in their fielding and kicking since last year. There is scarcely a team in the county which has come on so well. Mr. Flanagan, Crossmoline, refereed, and the goal umpires were- For Faugh-a-Ballagha- Messrs. Kelly, Claremorris, and F. Davitt, Swinford, for Stephens- Messrs Murray and Lavelle Ballina field umpires - Messrs. Hunt and Devers.

Ref: W. P. June 8th 1889.

GAELIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

BALLINA COMMERCIALS V. SWINFORD SEXTONS.

This was the only match of the championships played on Sunday. The journey to Swinford was undertaken in face of a lowering sky and a slight mist. Matters en route did not at all mend, and it required a dauntless spirit to compass the long, weary road, and to find, when you a arrived at your destination, that though the pretty and progressive town itself put on its best appearance and welcomed its visitors hospitably, the weather continued tp pass from one bad phase to another until it reached a climax that might become November, but violently disturbed the traditons we are assustomed to associate with the "leafy month of June" It was under such depressing circumstances that the rival teams lined up in the saucer-shaped field that held in its bosom a miniature lake. The Sextons won the toss. Half time was called withoutadvantage accuring to either side. The second half of the game was entirely in favour of the home team, who literally romped away with the leather from their opponents, left off victors by two goals and two points to nil. Unhesitatingly, we gave it as our impression that they were much the better team and played the better game, for which reason it is to be regretted that several " scrimmages" should have occurred that might, with a little display of patience, have been avoided. There is a virtue in taking victory with midesty. The sexonts won a decisive victory. They marred it, however, by indulging in one of those enthusiastic demonstrations to which a period might be be set with the phrase vae victis ! They chaired their captain (Mr. A. j. Staunton) round the field, as well indeed they may have had a right, since the brunt of the battle fell on him. We only gave them their due when we say that they have improved very much and will have a good deal to say to the championships before they are decided. The Commercials have notified an objection on the ground of the Sextons having a man on their team who belonged to the Meelick Redmond Club, but we have received from the secretary of the Redmond Club an authoritative statement denying this. Mr. John Boland of Foxford, refereed the match.

THE WESTERN PEOPLE. 1889.

THE CO. MAYO COMMITTEE:

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TO THE EDITOR OF THE WESTERN PEOPLE.

CASTLEBAR, 27th JUNE, 1889.

DEAR SIR- I was much surprised on reading in a late issue of your journal a report of the meeting of the County Committee of the G.A.A. held in the Moy Hotel, Ballina, from which it appears the clubs recently admitted to the championship have been again excluded This is by far the most ludicrous and absurd proceeding which has yet distinguished the County Committee, and it can only be deemed worthy of notice as affording proof. that this irregular mode of procedure is the source to which the present disorganised state of the association in Mayo may trace its origin. This disorganisation is, to my mind, the creation of a clique who, from Ballina and Swinford alternately, rule the Gaelic affairs of the county.
The clubs which are now virtually expelled were admitted at a meeting held in Feeny's Hotel, Swinford, on Sunday, the 19th of May, at which there attended a majority of the entire County Committee. The objections lodged were fully inquired into witnesses examined on both sides, and the clubs, as I have already stated, re-admitted. Matches were then arranged in which they were to participate, and there was a fair prospect of having whatever differences existed amicably settled. But the evil genius of the County Committee again assweted itself. At the meeting in the Moy Hotel, Ballina, at which only two of those who attended the Swinford meeting were present (a third having left the room in disgust), acting on the suggestion of a gentleman who had no actual knowledge of the circumstances under which these clubs had been readmitted, a resolution was adopted excluding them from the championship and reversing (without any notice) the decision arrived at by gentlemen who had taken the trouble of inquiring into the whole matter most minutely. The only semblance of justification for this arbitrary proceeding is to be found in a remark made by Mr Staunton, who is reported to have said, "All this trouble came out of the informally convened meeting of the County Committee at Swinford". As Mr Staunton has given so much information to the public, perhaps he would now go a step farther-and it is necessary in the present state of affairs that he or somebody else should and explain how and why it was informal. It is quite true the minute book was not before the meeting and should have been, but the gentleman who is the custodian of it in the absence of the county secretary was present, and why did he not produce it?
Is it not a fact that the holding of the Swinford meeting was fixed upon and notice given in the Press a month previous to its being held? and was a month s notice not sufficient to have the meeting formally convened and the minute book produced? Furthermore, I would like to know if Mr Staunton considers that meeting was illegal, why it was that he sought to have on the same day but at an earlier hour a meeting held in some rickety structureon the football field?
It would be very desirable, if the County Committee is to be re established in the estimation of the public, to have satisfactory

answers given to those queries. At the same time I cannot help observing that Mr Staunton, in questioning the legality of that meeting, considers himself in as much as he is one of the officials who were more or less responsible for having it properly convened. It is rather amusing, too, to contrast the warmth displayed by him at the Swinford meeting in protesting against rescinding a resolution without notice(which was not done) with his silence at the meeting in the Moy Hotel, Ballina, where a resolution was adopted revoking, without notice, a decision which was only arrived at by a previous meeting after the most careful and searching inquiry. In conclusion I trust the clubs who have been cut off from the championship will show their appreciation of the action of certain gentlemen by severing their connection with the association, and though it would be presumptuous to suggest to the gentlemen whose decision has been reversed in such a high-handed manner what they should do under the circumstances. I may be permitted to express my approval of the course adopted by Mr Mulhern and Mr Kelly in withdrawing from the committee. Conducted on its present lines it can no honour to any gentleman to be connected, however slightly, with the G.A.A in Mayo.

Faithfully yours,

G. LAVELLE.

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THE Western People . I889.

GAELIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION MEETING OF THE COUNTY COMMITTEE:

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The first meeting of the new county committee of the Mayo G.A.A. was held in Fitzgerald's Hotel, Swinford, on Sunday, 27th ult.,

T.B. KELLY ESQ, PRESIDING:

Others present: Messrs J. Beirne (sec), P. Feeny, P.J. Durkan, D. Hunt, T. McNamara, and P.A. Waldron.

The secretary reported that the number of clubs affiliated up to date was I8. The following are the names:

Ballina Stephens, Ballina Commercials, Swinford Commercials, Ballaghaderreen Faugh-a-Ballaghs, Ballaghaderreen St Patrick's Temperance Club, Ballyhaunis Celts, Annagh O'Briens, Kilmvoee Crillys, Lacken Sarsfields, Kilmeena Macs, Mulranny Brian Borus, Ballyhaunis O'Briens, Attymass O'Dowdas, Westport Artisans, Claremorris G.H. Moores, Crossmolina Dr Crokes, Ballycastle Emmets, Ballysokeery Dr Walshes.

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THE Western People. 13th JULY 1889.

CO. MAYO CHAMPIONSHIP.

Ballina Stephens v Balla Granuailes.

This match was played at Ballina on Sunday last and resulted in a decisive victory for the Stephens by I goal and 9 points to nil. The final tie for the county championship will be played tomorrow at Foxford between the Ballina Stephens and the Swinford Sextons.

THE Western people . SATURDAY AUGUST I7th I889.

GAELIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION:

MEETING OF THE CO COMMITTEE:

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A meeting of the County Committee was held at the Moy Hotel, Ballina, on Monday, Mr. P.G. Smyth, president, in the chair; and also present-Messrs T.B. Kelly, Claremorris; J.A. Nolan, Crossmolina; P.J. Durkan, Killala, and J. Beirne, Ballina.

The chairman said there were two clubs remaining in the championship out of all those which had entered-the Ballina Stephens and the Swinford Sextons. Some time since it was agreed that they were to meet at Foxford to play off the championship. The Stephens went to Foxford, and remained on the kicking ground until about 2 o'clock. Before they left Ballina they received a telegram from Swinford stating that the Sextons would not go there that day in consequence of an accident sustained by their captain (Mr. A.J. Staunton), and this, added to rumours which otherwise prevailed, seemed to strengthen the impression that the Sextons would not compete. At any rate the Stephens having gone on the ground, and remained there until 2 o'clock without the Sextons having put in an appearance, he (chairman) distributed to them the championship medals, on the understanding, signed in writing by the captain of the Stephens, that if at any future time the Sextons agreed to play them, the match should come off on such a day and place as might be mutually arranged on. It was under those conditions the medals were given and accepted. The Stephens then left the field and returned to Foxford, and while they were in the town the Swinford team unecpectedly arrived. He (chairman) immediately went to the Stephens team and requested them to return to the field and kick off the match, but they objected to go back again that day and requested that the match would be put off to some other day, consenting in the meantime to give up the medals until the County Committee appointed a day for the championship to be played off.

Mr. Durcan: have they given up the medals?

Chairman: Yes; they are here.

Mr. Durcan: It seems then that they are willing to comply with any rational request.

Chairman: Certainly; the Stephens are willing to meet the Sextons when or where we had all our arrangements completed and must go on.

Mr. Kelly - Oh, that would explain it.

Mr. Temple- I heard from a very respectable man, Mr. Dolphin that they left Swinford long before he did and he passed them on the road, so that they must have taken their time coming along.

The deputation then retired.

Mr. Beirne suggested that the match be played at Ballina. No club ever came here yet that did not get fair play.

Mr. Nolan-I think Foxford would be the better place.

FINANCIAL:

The chairman read the statement of accounts submitted by the county secretary as follows, and observed that five clubs did not seem to have paid the affiliation secondly as he had checked the particulars.

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THE Western People .. AUGUST 23rd I889.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WESTERN PEOPLE.

BALLINA, AUGUST 23rd, I889.

DEAR SIR- For the information of the Gaels of the county, I beg to state that I have received the championship crosses for '89 from the county chairman, Mr P.G. Smyth and same will be distributed this evening (Saturday) in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute to our team-the undoubted champions of Mayo.

D. FITZGERALD. Hon Sec.

STEPHENS. G.A.A. CLUB.

(3)

COUNTY MAYO GAELIC ATHLETIC CONVENTION. 29-9-1889

The annual convention of delegates from the Co. Mayo Gaelic Athletic Associations was held at the Moy Hotel, Ballina, on Tuesday. Twenty two delegates, representing twelve clubs, out of 18 that affiliated up to date of convention, took part in the proceedings. The names of the delegates present were:

Ballaghaderrin Faugh-a-Ballaghs, Messrs. Hunt and Gordon; Attymass O'Dowds, Messrs. Durkan and Woods, Kiltimagh O'Donnell Abus, Messrs. McNicholas and Lavin, Westport Artisans. Mr. J. Gavan, Claremorris George Henry Moores, Messrs, Killeen and McDonnell, Ballina Commercials, Messrs Cosgrave and Kelly, Crossmolina Dr. Crokes, Messrs. Flanagan and Flynn Swinford Commercials, Messrs. Ruddy and M. F. Beirne, Ballycastle Emmets Messrs Stanley and Mr. Namara, Kilmoyee Dan Crillys, Mr. J. Fleming, Ballysokeery Dr. Walshs, Mr. McDonagh, Ballina Stephens, Messrs Courell and Temple.

On the mention of Mr. J. McNichlas, seconded by Mr. Durkan, the chair was taken amid applause by

Mr. T. B. Kelly, Claremorris.

Mr. J. T. Beirne, the secretary, submitted the financial statement of affairs, and read the names of the clubs (18) who had paid their affiliation fees for this convention.

THE LATE COUNTY CHAIRMAN.

The secretary read the following letter from Mr. P. G. Smith:

Ballina, September 9th 1889

To the Delegates of the Gaelic Association of Mayo, in Convention assembled.

Gentlemen- In consequence of my transfer to another sphere of action it becomes my duty to resign the honourable position which for the past two years you have allottee me- that of President of the Gaelic Athletic A Association of Mayo. In so doing I have to thank you sincerely for the trust reposed in me, and my colleagues of the outgoing county executive for the uniform attention and courtesy shown by them in the discharge of their

duties. With regard to the financial position of the Association at close of official year I have to inform you that a balance of £1 17s 6d (as shown in annexed report) has been handed over by me to the hon sec pro tem. Mr J. Beirne, and that the committee have estimated that the monies remaining in the hands of Mr. A. J. Stauntion, outgoing county treasurer, amount to £7 12s. of which sum Mr. Staunton is willing to account for but £2 5s the committee disallowing him £4 5s. expended by him without authority for crosses, and £1 5s. claimed by him for "stamps" stationery and other expenses. I would direct your attention to the debt of £5 5s. due Messrs. Hopkins, of O'Connell street, Dublin, for crosses supplied by them for the Mayo championship of 1889, and trust you will order immediate payment of the amount. Although with regret I have to sever myself from your ranks I shall ever remember with pride and plessure the success which has attended the G.A.A. movement in Mayo, resulting in a grand rally and organisation of the youth, and many a stirring competition of strength and skill between the various athletic corps of the county, Sincerely trusting that your annual assembly may be large, united, and harmonious, your election of officers most satisfactory, and that the Gaelic Athletic Association may long continue to triumphantly go on and prosper as it derserves to, as a most healthy national institution, I tender you, gentlemen, a warm and hearty farewell.

Yours faithfully

P. G. Smith.

The Championship.

A discussion then rose with respect to the purchase of two set of medals, held by the Swinford Sextons and the Ballina Stephenites.

The chairman said the medals purchased by the late president (Mr. Smyth) was an act which had the full authority of the county committee while the medals purchased by Mr. Staunton, and given over to his own club, was done on his initiative, and without the sanction or authority of the committee. The county committee at its last meeting passed a resolution calling upon him to refund the money paid for those medals. He asked the secretary if that had been done?

The secretary said he had got no answer from Mr. Staunton.

Mr. Gordon: While I do not endorse the action of Mr. Stauntion I believe the president had no right to buy the medals either, without consulting a larger number of the county committee.

Mr. Hunt: Was full notice given to all the members of the commiettee?

Secretary: Mr. Smyth was acting secretary at the time, and I presume all the members got notice.

Mr. McDonagh: It is my opinion that the medals have not been properly distributed at all and that neither the Sextons nor the Stephenites are entitled to be considered champions. The club which I represent here today states that there were seven minutes of their time unexpired when the referee ordered play to cease.

Mr. Temple: How can you make that out?

Mr. Courell: Mr. McDonagh must not be aware that the Stephenites offered to meet the club he represents at any time, and that they refused to meet us.

Mr. McNicholas: In my opinion there is no champions club in the county this year properly speaking.

The chairman thought that these matters were entirely outside the business for which they met here today. He was sorry their treasurer was not present.

Mr. McNicholas: Where is the statement of accounts he sent in?

Secretary: It was read by Mr. Smyth at the last meeting. I did not get it.

Mr. Ruddy: It was published in the Western People.

A copy of the Western People was then handed in by a delegate containing the report of the last meeting of the committee.

The chairman said they must all acknowledge that the business of the association had not been carried on satisfactorily during the past year,

They had met here today to try and remedy this state of affairs, and to elect men who would endeavour to work more harmoniously in the future for the general good of the G.A.A. leaving all bickerings and disputes aside, and having only one common purpose and idea in view- to make the Gaelic movement a thorough success in Mayo (hear, hear) He presumed that the members forming the late county committee would not hand in their resignations so that the delegates might proceed to elect a new chairman and committee for ensuing year, to whom it would be the duty of the outgoing committee to hand over a full statement of affairs.

Mr. Gordon: It is to the delegates here assembled that this statement should be handed over, not to the new committee. Let us hear the statement of accounts?

The secretary then read the treasurer's account from the Western People.

Mr. Gordon: We will certainly not pay for two sets of medals.

Chairman: To put it into a nutshell, let any delegate draft in a resolution approving of Mr. Staunton's conduct in purchasing a set of medals on his own responsibility.

Mr. Gordon: I don't approve of his conduct. Neither do I approve of the conduct of the county committee, because I consider it was an irregular meetings, and that there was not a quorum present at the time the medals were presented to the Stephens club.

Mr. Hunt: The medals should not have been purchased, let alone distributed without every member of he committee getting notice of the meeting.

Mr. Durkan said if there was a quorum present when an order was given to purchase the medals the proceedings were legal in every way. If members got notice, and did not chose to attend, that was their own affair.

Mr. McDonagh: The question is- has the championship been properly decided or not?

Mr. Courell: That was settled long ago.

Mr. McNicholas: To the satisfaction of some parties, no doubt, but not to the satisfaction of he large majority of the clubs.

Mr. Hunt observed that he had seen in the Western People some time ago a letter of resignation from Mr. Kelly. Yet his name figured in the h last meeting of the county committee as one of those present at the meeting.

Secretary: I received no letter of resignation from Mr. Kelly.

The chairman said the letter he wrote to theWestern People merely stated that as long as disputes arose a t the committee he should decline to act upon it. He never ceased to be a member of the committee, and no man who read his letter intelligibly could have drawn any other conclusion.

Mr. Hunt: Might I ask if there was anything else in the committee afterwards but disunion?

Mr. McNicholas: There is no use going back upon this now. We have to deal with more important things, namely the medals. There is no match at all kicked for them yet.

Chairman: If any gentleman objects to the action of the county

committee let him appeal to the Central Executive. I think we are out of order discussing it here. We have awarded the medals to the Stephenites, and if we have given a wrong decision the Central Council is there to correct us, and put matters right.

Mr. Courell said the Stephenites followed the orders of the County committee, and went to Foxford to meet the Sextons, and after waiting in the field for two hours they then returned to the town. The Sextons arrived some time afterwards and wanted them to go back and play the match. The Stephenites decline, but offered to meet them on any future day, and it was on this condition they were handed over the medals by Mr. Smyth; they would not have taken them otherwise.

Mr. Gordon said it was well known that the captain of the Sextons (Mr. Staunton) met with a serious accident a few days before. Did the Sextons not send a telegram in consequence asking that the match should be postponed?

Mr. Temple: Yes, but we wired back that having engaged cars and made all our arrangements we must go on to Foxford.

Mr. McNicholas: I certainly think that he match should have been postponed when their captain met with such an accident

Mr. Beirne said the Stephenites got positive orders to go to Foxford. Was it to suit the convenience of any team that they should break through their orders?

Mr. Gordon: It was not to suit his convenience at all. He met with a serious accident, and some regard ought to have been had for the fact.

Chairman: What is the use of discussing these matters now? We have a lot of business before us.

Mr. Beirne: To sum up the business, I propose that Mr. Staunton be called on by the county committee to hand back the money he paid for these medals.

Mr. Gordon: I move that the championship medals be not distributed yet, on the grounds that the action of the committee was irregular, and that we had no proof that all the members got notice.

Mr. Courell: But the medals are distributed.

Mr. Gordon: What's done can be undone?

Mr. Courell: It is no use having a county committee at all if its actions are to be upset for no reason.

Mr. Gordon: Mr. Beirne's predecessor is not here to tell us if all the members were notified.

Mr. Courell Won't you take a person's word for it?

Mr. Gordon: I will take no person's word for it. There is no book or record to prove that notices were sent out to all the members.

Mr. Durkan: The committee having already decided this question, I fail to see why we should waste time in going back upon it again. To my mind it is entirely irregular.

Mr. Hunt differed. It was not alone the privilege, but the duty. of the delegates to review the action of the committee. He contended that a meeting of five members of the committee for West Mayo had no right ro reverse the ruling of a committee of seven members held previously in Swinford, and to five authority at the same time to the chairman to buy these medals without summoning a full meeting of the committee, and notifying what they were about to do.

Chairman; This is an extraordinary state of affairs as far as I can see. Mr. Staunton himself was present when the medals were ordered to be brought, and why is he not here today to make his own explanation?

Mr. Hunt: I object to the tone of he chairman's remarks. I am not here to support Mr. Staunton or anybody else, but to support men who do their duty peoperly and fairly.

Chairman: By all means: these are the very men we now want.

Mr. McNicholas: The question is- will we get them? There was a full meeting of the committee at Swinford, and an arrangement made as to the matches that were to be kicked off the following Sunday, but a few days afterwards we find a meeting summonded here in Ballina, and the whole business swept overboard that was done at Swinford. That was the meeting that killed the Gaelic association in Mayo.

Mr. Stanley: The Swinford meeting wea illegal.

Mr. Temple: Mr. Staunton had it all his own way too long.

After further discussion,

Mr. Beirne, Ballina, proposed, and Mr. Ruddy, Swinford, seconded;

That this Convention assembled call upon Mr. A. J. Staunton to give up to the ensuing treasurer the balance he has on hands belonging to the Mayo G.A.A. including the £4 5s. sterling, which he paid out of the funds for medals which he bought for his own club without the permission of the County Committee.

Mr. Gordon: I beg to propose as in amendment to that:
That last year's championships as left over from County Committee meeting at Swinford on 19th May, 1889 be played again.

Mr. McNicholas seconded the amendment.

Mr. Ruddy - The Swinford Commercials are more entitled to the Championship than any other club.

Mr. Hunt: That being so I don't see why you should have any objection to the amendment.

Mr. Beirne The Swinford Commercials have been badly treated. They are an unbeaten team,

The chairman at first declined to receive Mr. Gordon's amendment on the ground that it would tend to hopelessly disorganise matters without any satisfaction, but after some further discussion he consented to let it go to the meeting lest any delegate might suppose that he did not wish to allowe them the fullest justice.

Mr. McNicholas Before a division is taken I wish to be allowed to say a few words. There are some gentlement here who say the meeting held at Swinford was an illegal one, but I do not see what authority they have to make that assertion. It was certainly a more legal meeting than the one held afterwards in Ballina. And I was present at that meeting in Swinford when it was arranged how the matches were to be kicked off. It was arranged that there would be seven or eight matches kicked altogether, and what was the consequence? The next Sunday certain matches were to be played, amongst others we were appointed to meet the Swinfords. The commercials came to Swinford and we went to meet the Ballyglass men but they failed to turn up, in pursuance of the order of the committee. What was the next move? A meeting of the county committee was summoned. We were not aware what was the prupose ot the meeting, and only a few members attended, and the corsequence was hat the arrangements came to at Swinford were over-ruled without authority. This is how the county committee transacted its business and left the Gaelic movement as it is now in the county.

Mr. Ormsby supported the action of the committee and asked Mr. McNicholas if he got notice of the business to he done at Swinford? The committee dndeavoured to do its duty honestly and featlessly but was met and thwarted on every side.

Untimately, a division was taken, when Mr. Beirne's resolution was carried almost unanimously, and the amendment to re-open the championship again defeated by a very large majority.

THE LATE ACCOUNTS.

The accompanying financial statement was received from Mr. Smyth with his letter of resignation.

MAYO G.A.A. 1889.

	£	s	d
To affiliation fees of 12 clubs, viz. Ballinrobe, Geesala, Carracastle, Attymass, Bunneconlan, Kilmeena, Kilmovee, Westport, Artisans, Murrisk, Kimore-Erris, Kilmaclasser, and Ballycroy (10s each)	6	9	0
Entrance fees (2s 6d each) of 34 clubs	4	5	0
	10	5	0

OR

By secretary's expenses	3	15	0
"President's do (attending Central Countil £1, telegrames and postage £1 7s 6d)	2	7	6
Western People account	1	12	6
Ballina Herald do.		12	6
	8	7	6

No return of affiliation fees from Mayo, Ballyglass, Annagh, Lacken, and Castlebar.

SECOND CLUBS IN TOWN.

Mr. Cordon said among the affiliation fees read out by the secretary today was one from a new club which had been formed in Ballaghaderrin. They in Ballaghaderrin had always stood firmly by the Gaelic movement since it started in Mayo, but if a second club were sanctioned in the town he feared it would only lead to opposition and injure Gaelic interests. This was the experience of all towns where second clubs were started, and he therefore thought, without meaning anything personal whatever to the

TEMPERANCE
~~Templelance~~ club, that its affiliation fee should be returned.

Mr. Ruddy said from what he could understand the club was anxious to affiliate purely for sport among its own members and would not interfere with the old club in any way.

Mr. Ormsby - I am always strongly opposed to two clubs in a town

Mr. Hunt asked Mr. Ruddy did he appear on behalf of the ~~Templerance~~ TEMPERANCE club.

Mr. Ruddy No I am only speaking on the merits of the case.

Mr. Beirne said two clubs were permitted in Westport, Swinford, and three within Ballina township, and he did not see why there should be any objection to affiliating a second club in Ballaghaderrin.

Mr. Gavan- The Westport clubs I am glad to say are working in harmony with each other.

Mr. Beirne- The Ballina clubs are doing the same.

Mr. Hunt- We don't oppose this club on any personal grounds, but we don't want that a bad example should be shown to other places. If we take Ballyhaunis last year a second club was affiliated in the town and what was the result? The old club was not able to play in the championship matches, and the new club was only able to play in onem~~m~~atch and in that it got badly beaten.

Ultimately the matter was left to the new county committee to decide at its first meeting as to whether they would sanction the affiliation of the Temp~~e~~rance club.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND COMMITTE.

Mr. Durkan proposed that Mr. T. B. Kelly their chairman, be elected president of the county committee for the coming year. He moved this resolution with considerable pleasure, since Mr. Kelly had throughout taken an active part in the foundation of the Gaelic movement and had discharged the duties devolving on him as a member of the committee not alone with intelligence and independence, but with a gentlemanly bearing to whom he believed vvery delegate here would do ample justice (hear hear) No doubt during the past year a great many unfortunate difference had sprung up between clubs, but now that they were entering a new year he trusted those differences would be forgotten, and that with the infusion of new blood on the committee they might look forward to the future with every hope and confidence (hear, hear) If they all stood firmly to one another and did their duty as men, Mayo would not be in the grand Gaelic organisation (applause)

Mr. Ormbsy seconded Mr. Durkan's propostion.

Mr. McNicholas - before you proceed further, you will permit me to say that I am authoriaed by my club to demand An affiliation fee back.

Mr. Ruddy - State your reasons for it.

Mr. McNicholas- It is not necessary, These are my instructions.

Mr. Gordon- Would it be possible to make you withdraw your application?

Mr. McNicholas - No. I have done with the business for the future. "We expect nothing to come from it but had to worse. The association was bad enough before and it can't be much worse now.

Mr. Ormbsy I am astonished to hear such an expression coming from you.

Mr. McNicholas The demand may be a little premature, but I have positive instructions to ask for a fee.

Mr. Courell; Mr. McNicholas trust us for this year.

Mr. Durkan You are going to anticipate before you see how this question will be decided. Cannot you wait and judge results?

Mr. McNicholas Myself and my brother delegate have come to the conclusion in consequence of the way the business was conducted to withdraw. We have no reason to expect any improvement.

Mr. Beirne There has been no business really transacted yet except that resolution.

Mr. McNicholas You ousted the seven clubs that are really entitled to compete for the championship. That is enough.

The gentleman who accompanked Mr. McNicholas as delegate said that they had instructions from their club to demand the affiliation fee back if those seven clubs were not allowed to play in the championship.

Chairman I don't see why Mr. McNicholas should say the association is going from bad to worse.

Mr. McNicholas I withdraw that. It was an oversight of mine. I did not mean it in any way personal, I assure you.

Mr. Hunt - I must say that before the convention assembled at all Mr. Nicholas told me his inteniton to withdraw if the championship were not reopened to those clubs.

Mr. Beirne I must certainly say that Mr. McNicholas has shown a very bad example.

Mr. Ormsby He comes here as a delegate and because he cannot have things his own way he then withdraws.

Mr. McNicholas pressed to be returned the affiliations fee of his club.

Chairman: Is there any objection, gentlemen?

Mr. Flynn Certainly , he has taken part in our proceedings. It was the affiliation money of his club that gave him a right to be there.

Mr. Beirne:I also strongly oppose the money being returned. He comes in and takes part in this convention, and now when he sees that things generally are not up to his standard he wants his money back.

Mr. McNicholas If you think fit to keep the affiliation fee you can, but I am determined to be done with the convention.

Mr. Courell I propose that the fee be returned to Mr McNicholas.

The motion was carried, the delegate who accompanied Mr. McNicholas observing, as both took their hats and left the room, I wish you every success?

Mr. Flynn- Nice nationality!

The election of chairman was then proceeded with.

Mr. McDonagh proposed that Mr. J. Nolan, Crossmolina, be chairman for ensuing year.

Mr. Ormbsy said he heard today that Mr. Nolan would not act at all. Perhaps Mr. Flanagan could inform us.

Mr. Flanagan said Mr. Nolan was away in London at present and he did not know whether he would consent to act or not as he had not heard from him , for which reason he would suggest to Mr. McDonagh to withdraw his motion.

Mr. McDonagh did so, and Mr. Kelly was then declared unanimously elected as chairman for ensuing year, amid general applause.

Mr. Kelly- I have to thank Mr. Durkan and Mr. Ormsby for proposing the resolution and particularly the first named gentleman for the kind words he has made use of towards me, and which I believe I do not at all deserve as neither do I deserve the honour you have conferred upon me to day. I regret with you all that we had to lose our late chairman, but unfortunatly in this country men of his abilities are denied that reward which is freely paid to them in other lands, and we can only wish him again happiness and success in his new home (applause) I thank the delegates sincerely for the position they have placed me in and I can only promise that for the coming year everything that I can possibly do, every interest that I can command and every effort that I can make shall be made to forward the interests of the Gaelic association in this county (applause)

I will not now refer to the mistakes of the past. All we have to do is to try and remedy those mistakes and regain the confidence of clubs that are holding away from us at present, but which I believe by and bye we will get back again into the ranks to help us along in the good work we have all at heart - the welfare and success of the Gaelic association (loud applause)

On the proposition of Mr. Cosgrave, seconded by Mr. Ruddy, Mr. Beirne was unanimously elected secretary of the association, Mr. Ormbsy remarking that they could not appoint a better man (hear hear)

Mr. Beirne briefly retuned thanks.

Mr. Courell proposed that Mr. Flanagan, Crossmolina, be elected treasurer He was sure Mr. Flanagan would do his business properly if he only got a trial.

Mr. Ormsby seconded the proposition.

Mr. Gordon proposed Mr. Denis Hunt on the ground that it would be only fair to give their side of the county one of the offices.

Mr. Durkan acknowledged that there was a great deal of force and justice in Mr. Gordon's argument but ultimately, on a division, Mr. Flanagan election was carried by 15 votes to 7.

Mr. Flanagan thanked the delegates and assured them that he would leave nothing undone on his part to work for the interests of he association (applause).

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE.

The chairman said befor they proceeded to the election of a committee he wished to point out to the delegates the advisability of selecting these gentlemen from as many points of the county as they possibly could.

In the course of a discussion, it was explained by the secretary that the chairman's idea could not be carried out to the extend the convention would desire as many of the towns from which they would like to have a committee man had not affiliated their clubs, and the convention could only elect a committee from the affiliated clubs.

A number of names were then duly proposed from which the eight members forming the committee were selected, the voting being as follows: Messrs. Courell, Ballina, 20 votes, Feeney, Swinford 18, Durkan, Attymass 15, McNamara, Ballyhaunis, 15, P. A. Walsron, Ballyhaunis 14 D. Hunt, Ballaghaderrin, 13 Ormsby, Ballycastle, 13, and Garvan, Westport 12.

THE ANNUAL CONVENTION.

On the motion of Mr. McDonagh, seconded by Mr. Courell, the chairman was unanimously appointed to act as delegate from the county at the approaching Provl. Convention the secretary (Mr. Beirne) to also accompany him if before the convention thirty clubs were affiliated in the county.

THE PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

The secretary was instructed to communicate with the sec of the Dunmore (Co. Galway) club with a view to having the inter-provincial match with the Stephenites, Ballina, played at Claremorris on Sunday week.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

It was arranged to hold the county committee meetings in future at Swinford, Claremorris, Ballina and Westport, in the order of rotation here given first meeting to be held at Swinford.

On the motion of Mr. McDonagh seconded by Mr. Gordon, a warm vote of thanks was passed to the chairman for the admirable manner in which he had carried out the proceedings of the convention.

Mr. Kelly, in replying, said he took the unanimity shown by the delegates throughout the day as a good augury for thefuture, and he trusted that when they met next year they would all have reason to congratulate themselves on the work of the association fr the year they were now entering upon (applause) .

1890.

NOTE:

No mention of G.A.A. reports recorded for this year. W Connaught Telegraph

Ref: W. P. January 25th 1890.

GAELIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

KILMEENA (MACS) V. MULRANNY (BRIAN BORUS).

The above match came off on Sunday, the 12th inst, at Kilmeena, ona field given by Mr. H. Dever, P. L. G. Newport. The home team were there from an early hour, and had all preliminary matters arranged before the arrival of the Brian Borus' whose appearance was the signal for much rejoicings and demonstrations of welcome on the part of he people of Kilmeena. Mr. J. Duffy, captain of the Macs club, and Mr. P. Grady, captain of the Brian Borus held a short discussion as to the number which should constitute the teams, the result of which was that 19 men kicked on each side. Referee, Mr. Alex Kavanagh, Newport, umpires. Mr. P. Golden, Westport, for the Macs, and Mr. J. Greene, Newport, for the Brian Borus, in the first half hour the Kilmeena team lost the toss, the consequence of which was that they had to work against a stiff breexe and the glare of a noonday sun two circumstances thecombined effects of which, it must be remembered, would seriously after the issue of the contest, particularly in the commencement of play. The Macs made several efforts to get goal or point, but the wind was hen blowing so strong that it was vain for either team to try to score a point against it. At the terminat-ion of first half time, the Brien Borus had got 3 points and the Macs nil. On changing sides both teams were drawn out in line on centre of field under the supervision of their respective captains, and refreshments served to each, which the home team took care to have provided for the occasion. Then the Macs worked with the indomitable spirit that always characterizes the people of Kilmeena, and scored a point. A good portion of the last half hour was frittered away in argument. Result of match 3 point for the Brian Borus, I point for Macs no goal on either side. The captains worked manfully, and proved themsemves worthy to be chosen as leaders by the lithe and stalwart athletes that were there on both sides. Before the departure of he Brian Borus, they were invited to the Temperance Hall, where refreshments where again served round to the kickers of each club and they parted in the best of friendship- entirely forgetting their disputes of the previous hour- with many hearty ringing cheers, and

mutual salutation of happiness and success, which is indeed the proper and only way for members of the 'Gael' to meet and part.

"Cassius."

COUNTY MAYO G.A.A.

To the Editor of the Western People.

Philadelphia, January 17th, 1890.

SIR- By your courtesy, one brief remark, and then adieu to Mr Hunt. At least three generations of ancestral residence is surely a clearer title to say my say in the interest of Ballaghaderrin than a recent arrival. So much for our respective claims.

As for the rest of his letter, it may be briefly summarised as three parts abuse to one part nonsense. Mr Hunt mistakes invective for wit and "Billingsgate" for humour. Had he confined himself to the question on hand he might have made himself a better case. As it is, he is content with the Balfourian dodge or evasion. Of course he knows that to deny is not to disprove. And further he must know that until he can disprove my position a denial will not weaken, but on the contrary, will confirm it. To discuss a question on its own merits is one thing: to drop into low personalities quite another. Of the latter Mr Hunt has proved himself quite a rare master, but I respectfully decline to follow his example.

One word more. There is a deal of water in three thousand miles of Atlantic, but not enough to wash out my affection for the old land or my interest in the affairs of Ballaghaderrin, notwithstanding Mr Hunt's "vapid vapourings".

With renewed thanks for your space and with many hearty New Year wishes to the Faughs, the Temperance Club, and Mr Hunt,

I am, Faithfully yours,

PATK. J. COLEMAN.

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GAELIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

BALLAGHADERRIN FAUGH-A-BALLAGHS

The members of the above club- both committee and ordinary- are requested to assemble at Mr O. Carneys on Sunday evening next 2nd February. The principal business will be the election of captain vice Mr J.H. Moriarity, who has been obliged to serve his connection with the club owing to change of residence. The chair will be taken at 7.30 o'clock, and we hope all will be in attendance at that hour.- D. HUNT, T. HIGGINS, HON. SECS.

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WESTERN PEOPLE FEBRUARY 8th I890

CO. MAYO G.A.A.

up to the present twenty six clubs have been affiliated. The next meeting of the County Committee will be held at Ballina on Sunday, 9th inst.

MARCH 29th I890

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL BALLINA. (Soccer)

The return match between Messrs Hatte's and Scroope's teams will be played on Thursday afternoon in Mrs McGuinness's field. By the way, we notice that a correspondent sends to the Herald an account of the recent match, which is unfair to Mr Scroope's team, and is evidently intended to depreciate their hard won victory. When he speaks of Mr. Scroope's team as being opposed by "lank school boys" we can only draw the charitable inference that he looked through the wrong side of his field glass.

26th JULY I890

THE GAELIC CONTROVERSY.

We have received a lengthy letter from the sec of the Mulranny club complaining of the injustice done his team in the case of the final round for the championship. The sec of the Ballysokeery team writes us also respecting a communication in another journal with reference to the match between the Ballina Commercials and the Dr Walshes. If the championship still hung in the balance we might see our way to make room for these communications, but inasmuch as it is decided and over we do not see what good can arise from prolonging the controversy. The fact is that these bickerings have helped to kill the Gaelic movements in Mayo as elsewhere, and while many will regret that the grand old pastimes are in a state of extremis they will seriously ask themselves after all whether the movement was worth all the acrimony and bad feeling it has led to.

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(8)

CO. MAYO G.A.A.

A meeting of the County Committee was held last Sunday in Muffeny's Hall, Ballina, In the absence of Mr T. B. Kelly, president, the chair was taken by Mr P.J. Durkan, and those present were - Messrs Feeney, Swinford; G. Ormsby, Ballycastle; P. Flanagan (treasurer), Crossmolina; T. Courell, and J. T. Beirne, hon sec.

The minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

The sec. announced that the late sec, Mr. Conmy, had handed him over £2 IOs the balance of monies in his possession.

APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION.

Mr. Flanagan produced two letters received from Mr. Francis Davitt, Swinford. The first letter contained a remittance of IOs to have the Sextons affiliated, provided they were admitted to play in the championship; and in the second communication Mr Davitt wrote: - "I fear there will be some jealousy and opposition from the Ballina side as we didn't part on friendly terms at the last contest" The sec. said it would be necessary to find out if the former captain of the Sextons was still a member of the club, because if he were this application should not be entertained until he had refunded the money belonging to the committee.

Mr. Ormsby supported this view. Mr. Flanagan: I believe myself he is not a member of the Sextons now, but in any case I don't think it would be fair to visit on the club the action of any single man.

Mr. Courell concurred and spoke in favour of affiliating the Sextons. They should be all desirous to extend the Gaelic movement at much as possible.

The secretary said a resolution was passed at the Convention asking him to write to the late treasurer for the balance on hands. He sent a communication accordingly, but had never received an answer.

Mr. Flanagan: He offered to give me £2 5s if I passed a receipt to him, but I told him I could not do so.

Chairman: He certainly did a very high handed act in buying these medals without the authority of the late committee; still for my part I would be disposed to let

bygones be bygones and affiliate the Sextons. Mr. Courell: We ought not to condemn a whole body of men as we will be doing if we refuse their application to be affiliated. Chairman: Very probably there is new blood infused into this club altogether. Perhaps Mr Feeney could throw some light upon it.

Mr. Feeney: Living in the same town I would prefer not having anything to say on the matter. After further discussion, Mr Flanagan proposed and Mr Courell seconded that the Sextons be affiliated.

Chairman: Has any gentleman an amendment to propose?

Mr Feeney then proposed and Mr Beirne seconded that their affiliation be refused. A vote was taken by ballot, when three appeared for affiliating the Sextons and three against.

Mr Flanagan asked had not the chairman a casting vote?

The secretary said he had already voted.

Chariman: It I have no casting vote the proposition falls through.

Sec. I will write to them and tell them so.

Mr. Flanagan: I moved in the matter for the good of the Gaelic Association. I had no personal wishes at all.

Mr. Courell: Neither had I, and I think it was a mistake not to affiliate them.

THE CENTRAL EXECUTIVE.

The secretary thought the time had come to send their affilitation fee to the Central Executive. Last year they did not affiliate and the result was that they were debarred from playing in the Provincial and All Ireland Championships. On the motion of Mr. Courell, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, it was resolved to affiliate and send forward a cheque for £3 0s 4d, being one-third of the amount of affiliation money received from the county clubs.

THE REFEREES

The chairman said from his experience of Gaelic matches in the county he observed that the whole ones of deciding disputed matters was thrown upon the referee. That was not the spirit of the rules at all. The two umpires ought to bear their proper share of the responsibility. When a dispute arose it ought to be left to the umpires to arrange, and if they

failed to agree, then the referee could be called in. That was the course that was followed in Charlestown where, perhaps, he saw played the best match that ever came off in Connaught.

Mr. Ormsby: For my part I have acted as referee on three or four occasions and an angry word never passed between the clubs. It entirely rests with the honesty and fairness of a referee to have matches played without any unpleasantness.

Chairman: You don't understand what I mean to convey - I want to take the ones off the referee.

Mr Ormsby: That would be a wrong thing. Umpires will naturally lean to their own side in case of doubt. If you get a fair and honest referee you will have little trouble.

The subject dropped.

On the motion of Mr. Courell, seconded by Mr Feeney, the committee reaffirmed a resolution already on the books suspending any player for six months who wilfully obstructed the referee or refused to abide by his decision.

THE CO. CHAMPIONSHIP DRAWS 1890

The following was the result of the draw for the forthcoming championship, the first ties of which are to beplayed on Sunday week, 23rd inst:

TO BE PLAYED AT BALLINA

Ballina Stephens v. Ballina Commercials.

Mr. P. Flanagan, referee.

Crossmolina Dr. Croke's v. Attymass O'Dowda's. Mr T. Courell, referee.

AT SWINFORD.

Swinford Commercials v. Charlestown Sarsfields. Victors to play Keltimagh O'Donnell Abus same date.

AT BALLYHAUNIS:- Annagh O'Briens v. Ballyhaunis Celts.

Victors to meet Claremorris G. H. Moores in Claremorris on the following Sunday.

AT BALLAGHADERRIN:- Faugh-a-Ballaghs v. St. Patrick's Temperance.

AT WESTPORT:- Kilmeena Macs vl Westport John MacHales.

Victors to play Artisans same date.

AT BALLYCROY.- Mulranny Brian Borus v. Ballycroy Kernes.

AT BALLYCASTLE:- Killala Round Towers v. Ballycastle Emmets. Mr M. McGurrin, Lacken, referee. Lacken Sarsfields v. Ballysokeary Dr. Walshes. Mr G. Ormsby, Ballycastle, referee Carracastle Tom Moraneys, a bye.

CO. SLIGO CHAMPIONSHIP - First Ties.

The following TIES between South Sligo football teams, for the Co. Championship, first ties, were decided at Bunninadden on Sunday. February 2nd:

Bunninadden Emmets v. Achonry Red Hughs.

The Emmets and Red Hughs lined up under their respective captains, Messrs Marren and M'Donagh; their respective field umpires being Messrs John O'Dowd (co-secretary) and Peter Brennan. Mr Luke Armstrong, member of County Committee, of Tubbercurry, acted as referee.

At close of time the score stood - Bunuinadden Emmets I goal and II points against I goal and 3 points and a disputed goal on the part of the Achonry Red Hughs. The referee decided against the Red Hughs in the matter of the disputed goal, but they lodged an objection, and their claim in all probability will be sent to a meeting of the County Committee for decision.

Kilavil G.A.A. v. Curry Liberators.

The Liberators failed to make their appearance and the referee, Mr James J. Flanagan, threw up the ball and the Kilavil team having formally kicked out a goal, the game was decided in their favour. It may be mentioned that the Liberators wear the much-coveted medals of the I889 Co.Sligo Championship.

The winners in South Sligo in the first ties for I890 championship are, so far, Tubbercurry St. Patricks, Kilmactigue (Aclare) Leamys, Bunninadden Emmets, Kilavil G.A.A.

CO. ROSCOMMON CHAMPIONSHIP

The first ties of the above championship was played at Castlerea on Sunday week between the Castlerea Leo Club and Ballymoe Parnellites. The former winning the toss gave their ppponents the advantage of the sun in their faces. Play commenced at 2 o'clock, in the presence of a large crowd of spectators, the ball was thrown up by the referee, and the men on both sides started off briskly and alternated for some time up and down the ground with varying fortune. On settling down the Leos adopted their old "Association"

Ref. 5/4/1890, western.people.

(5)

CO. MAYO G.A.A.

A meeting of the County Committee was held on Saturday in the Moy Hotel, Ballina, Mr T.B. Kelly, president, in the chair. Those present were—Messrs P.J. Durcan, P Flanagan, T Courell and J.T. Beirne, hon sec.

THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT

The chairman thought that before they entered into the ordinary business they ought to pass a resolution on the temperance movement, in accordance with the advice tendered by Archbishop Croke to the members of the G.A.A.

Mr Durcan said the chairman had anticipated him in this matter as he had drafted the following resolution:

> Inasmuch as the Gaels of Ireland have been appealed to through the public press by their Graces the archbishops of Dublin and Cashel regarding the use of intoxicating drinks at football matches; we, the members of the Mayo G.A.A., request the clubs of the county to observe the rules of temperance in accordance with the wishes and i instructions laid down by their Graces.

The Chairman thought the resolution would meet with the unanimous approval of the committee.

The resolution was seconded by Mr Courell and adopted.

THE BALLAGHADERRIN "FAUGHS"

The sec, Mr J.T. Beirne, read the following correspondance:

Faugh-a-Ballagh G.A.A.,

Ballaghaderrin, 20 March, '90.

DEAR SIR—I must again trouble you regarding our inability to meet the O'Briens in Swinford on the day arranged (Sunday) by the Committee. In my letter to you of the 13th I explained our position and placed ourselves at the hands of the Co Board

should Fr Cunniff's condition warrant our declining to go to Swinford. I wrote the O'Briens in similar terms promising to wire them on Saturday our final decision. I did so, and at 7,30 Saturday evening received a wire in reply stating they would go to Swinford. This was an unexpected position for them to take up as we confidently expected that under the circumstances, and as we did our utmost to prevent inconvenience, they would stretch a point. I again wrote a letter, which they received Sunday morning saying we could not meet them. I enclose copy of a communication received from Mr Feeney and it is couched in such indefinate terms that we find ourselves somewhat nonplussed as to what to do. We cannot see what the "being represented" means whether it was by their team or how. We know not who awarded them the match or by what authority such was done. And further, we have not heard from the O'Briens and cannot say whether they regard Mr Feeny's letter as fully explaining their position. We believed that on receipt of my wire on Saturday last you would have telegraphed the Ballyhaunis men not to go to Swinford. Such a course we understand you were empowered, in virtue of your position, to take in such emergencies. We place our case unreservedly before the Co Committee, and are prepared to abide by their decision. we await with some anxiety an official intimation of what we are to do, and will feel thankful for an early communication from you on that respect. On behalf of the "Faughs",

Yours faithfully,

T. HIGGINS, HON. SEC.

(Copy of Mr Feeny's letter)

Swinford, March 18th, 1890.

Faughs v O'Briens

Mr Higgins-

DEAR SIR—In consideration of the O'Briens being represented here on Sunday they claimed a walkover. It was awarded to them conditionally that unless your team go to Ballyhaunis on Sunday next, 23rd inst., and contest the match now pending they will consider themselves entitled to the award already made. I trust this arrangement will meet with your approval.

Yours faithfully,

P.J. Feeney.

Ballyhaunis, March 24th, 1890.

DEAR SIR- Owing to the non-appearance of the Faughs at Swinford, on Sunday, 16th inst, the prearranged match, Faughs v O'Briens, was directed by referee (Mr Feeney) to be played at Ballyhaunis on 23rd inst. The Faughs did not attend. The O'Briens did, and having driven the ball batween the goal posts, they claim a victory.

Yours etc,

Per pro Thomas Byrne, Sec

T.C. MCNAMARA.

The chairman considered the reasons alleged by the Faughs for their non-attendance to be very fair. He (chairman) had a conversation with Mr McNamara a few days after he went to Swinford. He asked Mr McNamara did he take his full team there. He said not, that he only brought a few members lest the Faughs might turn up and take advantage. To his (chairmans) mind, Mr McNamara was wrong in taking any men to Swinford when he did not bring the full team. Mr McNamara acknowledged the mistake. Under all the circumstances the best thing to do would be to order the match to be played over again.

Mr Flanagan agreed.

The secretary said he was sure the Faughs were not afraid to meet the O'Briens. They were perfectly right not to go to Ballyhaunis on account of Fr Cunniff being laid up.

Chairman: I beleive that was the reason of their non-attendance and a sincere reason too.

The match was unanimously ordered to be played on Easter Sunday at Kilkelly; if Faughs the victors to meet the Swinford commercials at Charlestown the following Sunday; if O'Briens the victors to play the Commercials at Ballyhaunis same day.

ANOTHER DISPUTE

The secretary read the following correspondance relating to the match played between the Kilmeena Macs and the Westport John McHales:

Macs G A Club, Kilmeena, Westport.

DEAR SIR- I hope you will call the attention of the Co Committee to the facts as regards the match played on last Sunday by the Kilmeena Macs and the Westport John McHales. We base our claim on the following facts- First, it was mutually agreed by the captains of both clubs, and sanctioned by the referee (Mr J Connor, Newport) that there was to be an allowance for the time occupied in argument which amounted to ten minutes. They were both willing to kick for the ten minutes till an outsider gave them an advice to kick no more. Secondly, when the ball was within a foot of our goal-post, one of their men shouted out that it went behind the line and took the ball in his hands, while impartial bystanders admitted that the ball had not gone behind the line. Then our men rushed in, knocked the ball out of his hands, and made a point, which we claim. Thirdly, our captain asked the McHales sec had he any men but those belonging to his own club, and he said he had not. But the fact was they had men from the Artisans club kicking along with them unknown to us. As an instance we mentioned

McEvaney, who before we left the field, we saw turning over and kicking with his own club against the MacHales. For those reasons we claim that the match be played over again. Hoping that you will give it a favourable consideration,

I remain, yours etc.,

J.K. Casey, hon sec.

.....

Carraholly, Westport.

SIR- I am authorised by the committee and captain of the Macs branch of the G.A.A. to inform you that the statements set forth in the secretary's letter of the third inst can be substantiated by the independent testimony of all impartial observers, and by many men of Westport, who could in no way be predjudiced in our behalf. The MacHales scored two points. We scored two also, one of which was disputed; but one of our men can prove he put the ball a point after it was knocked out of the hands of one of the MacHales, who had no right to raise the ball off the ground. The referee, Mr O'Connor, Newport, said it was only right that the play should continue for ten minutes longer, but time was called without giving any allowance as agreed upon for the time occupied in argument. Any further particulars concerning the match we will be happy to furnish, and hope you will be kind enough to bring the whole case before the next meeting of the committee. I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

John Greely.

P.S.- We claim the match for the causes set forth in the sec.s letter- J.G.

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Bridge Street, Westport, March 3rd.

SIR- On yesterday, the 2nd inst, the matches arranged to come off here took place. In the first match the MacHales beat the

Macs, play being 2 points for the MacHales to 1 for the Macs, and in the second match the MacHales were the victors also, beating their opponents (the Artisans) by 1 disputed goal and 4 points to one point for the Artisans.

Yours truly,

Bernard S. Walsh,

Hon. Sec MacHales.

.....

Chairman: I think we ought not hear anything whatever from outsiders.

Mr Courell: As to the complaint that there were members belonging to another club kicking, have you not already ruled that it is fair to take members from one club to another?

Mr Flanagan: I dont know that.

Mr Courell: But it was so ruled by the committee at Swinford. You remember what was done in the Stephens match.

Sec: In that case there were objections from each side.

Mr Courell: There was no man playing with the Stephens that could be objected to, whereas the Commercials had five or six men belonging to different clubs playing with them.

Sec: Will you kindly state the five or six?

Mr Courell: Two men from Ardnaree, one from Charlestown, two from the Stephens, and one from the Swinford Commercials.

Sec: How long were these men in town?

Mr Durcan: We had better not go into this matter now.

Chairman: It is not before the meeting at all. It is all past and gone and no good will be served by reviving it.

Mr Durcan: What will you do about the Westport case?

Chairman: Oh, I think we must award the match to the MacHales.

Agreed to.

LACKEN CLUB

A deputation, consisting of Messrs McGurrin and McHale, appeared before the committee to lodge an objection to the match between Lacken and Cooneal being given to the latter club on the ground that they had a man playing on their team from Ardagh parish, and other outsiders. The deputation considered that an injustice was done their club , and requested the committee to order the match to be played over again, especially as they saw by the Western People that a resolution was passed at Swinford ordering that in future "teams must be composed of persons employed in affiliated parishes," and Ardagh was not an affiliated parish.

The chairman thought it was a mistake of the committee to have passed any such rule during the progress of the championship. He was in favour of the resolution himself at first, but on reflection he had come to the conclusion that they had acted prematurely. They ought to have waited until the championship was over before making any change.

Mr Flanagan was of opinion that they could not entertain the objection of the Lacken men. If Ardagh were an affiliated parish of course it would be different.

Mr Durcan agreed. They had no control over outsiders.

Mr McGurrin said the Lacken men felt their treatment very much and considered an injustice was done to them.

Mr Durcan acknowledged that it was a great hardship, but the committee were powerless.

Mr Courell coincided with the chairman that the resolution passed at Swinford was a mistake. He thought the resolution should be rescinded, and intimated that he would hand in a notice of motion to that effect, but subsequently said he would not do so now as it might only lead to further confusion.

After further discussion, the committee informed the deputation that they could not entertain the Lacken objection.

BALLYSOKEERY V BALLYCASTLE.

The following letter was read from the referee in this match:

Lacken, March 19th, 1890.

SIR- My decision as referee in the match kicked at Ballycastle between the Ballysokeery Dr Walshes and Ballycastle Robert Emmets is a disputed goal for the Walshes to nil for the Emmets. The Emmets stated that the ball was carried through the goalposts by one of the Dr Walshes, and one of the goal umpires also stated the same, and was not contradicted by any other goal umpire. I was in the centre of the field at the time, and could not see whether the ball was carried or not. Therefore I cannot give an independent decision, as I cannot say whether the goal was fair or foul.

Michael Corcoran.

To Mr J.T. Beirne, County Hon Sec.

The chairman thought that it would be the fairest course to have the match kicked over again.

Mr Courell was entirely against the committee coming to any such conclusion. He believed the Ballysokeery men fairly won the match. Besides that, they were treated very badly in being ordered twice to Ballycastle.

Mr Flanagan: we acted on the word of Mr Ormsby. He said that the Ballysokeery men never got any fair play in Crossmolina, and that he could guarantee fair play for them in Ballycastle.

Mr Durcan: They complain that they did not get fair play.

Mr Courell: And I believe their complaint was a very just one too.

The committee unanimously decided to award the match to Ballysokeery.

THIRD TIES.

The third ties for the championship were drawn as follows:

At Kilkelly, Sunday, 6th April- 1890

Ballaghaderreen Faugh-a Ballaghs v Annagh O'Briens.

Faughs, if victors to meet Swinford Commercials in Charlestown on Sunday, 13th inst. O'Briens, if victors, to meet Swinford Commercials in Ballyhaunis on the 13th.

At Killala, Sunday, 6th April-

Ballysokeery Dr Walshes v Crossmolina Dr Crokes.

Victors to meet Ballina Commercials in Crossmolina on the following Sunday.

This terminated the business.

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WESTERN PEOPLE FEBRUARY 22nd I890

CO. MAYO G.A.A.

To the Editor of the Western People.

Swinford, I9th February, I890.

DEAR SIR - Kindly allow me space in your invaluable medium (which I am glad to see you have considerably advanced, and that the public have now in their midst a provincial paper which cannot but meet with the general approval of all its subscribers) some remarks relative to the proceedings of the Gaelic County Committee which appeared in your last issue. It appears by that report that the Swinford Sextons' affiliation had been refused although having three votes for and three against it. I say it is the most glaring piece of business imaginable to refuse the affiliation of one of the oldest and mast prominent county clubs. What right had they to refuse it? Should not the same formalities be gone through in affiliating all the county clubs as well as the Sextons club by having a vote on the matter? If there was an objection of a serious nature or of any consequence then it would be time for them to decide it in this manner. Why did not some member who had the Gaelic movement and its interests at heart object to this formality being gone through? And why should the chairman ask for an amendment when there was no previous objection that would debar them from affiliation? I am surprised a man of his intillegence and ability to manage affairs would not, under the circumstances, scoff at the idea of asking for an amendment of taking a vote on the matter. Mr Feeney, when asked as to whether there was new blood infused into the club, said - 'Living in the same town he would prefer not saying anything on the matter' although to show his 'good natureed' personage. Now, I on behalf of the Swinford Sexton Club, enter their most emphatic protest against the envious dispositions of those who participated in this unjust action, and under the subjection of those ill-disposed persons I think the Gaelic movement in Mayo can hardly be prosperous. When the Sextons' affiliation was annulled; the club that was the heart andsoul of the Gaels of Mayo; the club that afforded all the Gaels of Mayo; the club that afforded all the necessary facilities and accommodation in giving their beautiful trysting ground at Lake View to Gaelic athletes; where the standard of the Gaelic's first glorious

movements was raided for Mayo; which I believe cannot be omitted from the pages of history. I would ask the clubs of Mayo who I think ought to co-operate with me in this matter to impress upon the County Committee the desirability of forthwith reconsidering their action towards the Sexton club. I beg to be excused for trespassing on your valuable space, and thanking you in anticipation,

I remain dear sir,

Yours truly,

P.Brennan,

Sextons.

WESTERN PEOPLE MARCH 8th 1890

MAYO CO. COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Mayo County Committee was held on Sunday at Fitzgerald's Hotel, Swinford. Members present - Messrs T. B. Kelly, Claremorris, Chairman; P Flanagan, Crossmolina, treasurer; P.J. Durkan, Ballina; P. J. Feeney, Swinford; T. MacNamara, Ballyhaunis; G. Ormsby, Ballycastle; J. T. Beirne, Ballina, sec. Referees decision in first ties County Championship matches were read, and sundry differences in connection with same having been satisfactorily adjusted, the following fixtures (second ties) were made by lots:-

To be played at Castlebar on Sunday, 9th March - Ballina Stephens v. Ballina Commercials.

At Crossmolina (same date) - Attymass O'Dowdas v. Crossmolina Dr. Crokes.

Following matches on Sunday, I6th March:

SWINFORD:- Ballaghaderrin Faugh-a-Ballaghs v. Annagh O'Briens.

Carracastle Tom Moroneys v. Swinford Commercials.

BALLYCASTLE:- Ballycastle Emmets v. Ballysokeery Dr. Walshes.

The following resolutions were passed unanimously:-

"That in future teams must be exclusively composed of persons residing or being employed in affiliated parishes."

"That referees should be supplied by captains of competing teams with lists of names."

WESTERN PEOPLE MARCH 8th 1890

BALLAGHADERRIN FAUGH-A-BALLAGH

(juniors) v. St Patricks (juniors). - This match came off on Sunday at Castlemore on the old practising grounds of the Faughs, kindly given on all such occasions by John Flannery, Esq. Great interest was centered in the match as was seen by the numerous spectators who came to witness the youthful Gaelic contest. Both teams lined up at I.30 and the captains having tossed for choice of sides, which was won by the captain [illegible] sides, which was won by the captain of the Faughs, who took advantage of the slight incline and a favourable breeze which was blowing towards their opponents' goal..

The ball was not long in play when it was brought in dangerous proximity to the St. Patricks goal. Here a very lively encounter took place, as the Faughs made very determined rushes to score but were unsuccessful, when the referee blew the whistle announcing half time. Having changed sides the play now became more lively, the St. Patricks' forwards rushed the ball into their opponents' territory, where an infrigement of the rules took place, the referee allowing a free kick within twenty yards of the goal, which placed a point to the St. Patricks' credit. Shortly afterwards two more points were scored in quick succession. Full time being called, the score stood, 3 points for St. Patricks' to nil for Faughs. The referee allowing ten minutes for lost time the Faughs seemed determined to pull up their loss, having scored two points during last five minutes. This brought the match to a conclusion, leaving the St. Patricks victors by one point. Mr. John Murphy acted as umpire for Faughs, and Mr Michael O'Donnell for St. Patricks. Too much praise cannot be given to P.J. Murray, Esq, for the impartial manner in which he acted as umpire.

WESTERN PEOPLE 22nd MARCH 1890

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL (Soccor)

The population of Ballina turned out in large numbers on Thursday afternoon to witness a match under Association Rules between Mr Scroope's and Mr Hatte's teams. The venue chosen was a beautiful level stretch in Mr McGuinness's field beside the railway station. The match was exceilently contested throughout, and resulted in a victory for Mr Scroope's team by a goal to nil. Mr Scroope himself did yeoman service by defending his goal, while the play of Messrs Rooney (Ulster Bank), J A Flanagan, T. Gordon, etc, left nothing to be desired as a fine exhibition of the seience of the game. Capt Kirkwood's two son distinguished themselves on the opposite side by their bold free play, and we must bracket with them D Fitzgerald. With such a combination, and Mr Hatte in charge of the goal, it may be rendily understood that it required the best side to be very good indeed to come off the victors.