

ACCOUNT BOOKS OF THE
FRANCISCAN HOUSE
BROAD LANE, CORK,
1764–1921

edited by

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INTRODUCTION

The Franciscan community at Cork and its account books

While some date the arrival of the Franciscans in Cork to the year 1214, others see 1229 as more probable.¹ It can be stated with some certainty that the Franciscans have been in Cork since the early thirteenth century, when their first friary was situated on the North Mall.² The friary was often called the North Abbey and is marked or delineated on several old maps and drawings of Cork, which is useful in providing an idea of its position in relation to the city, the river and the north gate.³ As for the identity of the founder, Dermot MacCarthy Mór of Dundrinan, King of Desmond is the one most usually cited but the de Barrys and the Prendergasts are other suggestions.⁴ This pre-reformation friary was also referred to as St Mary's, Shandon or Saint Francis Abbey, the latter to identify it as Franciscan. The church has been described as 'notable, divided in two high columns and adorned by an excellent choir'.⁵ Provincial chapters were held in 1244, 1288 and later. At one such chapter in 1291 ethnic tensions, consequent on the Anglo-Norman invasion of Ireland, appear to have come to the fore. It is said that 16 friars were killed and many wounded during an encounter between the Irish and English Franciscans.⁶ The chapter of 1244 is believed to have been the first conducted in Ireland and testifies to the importance of the Cork house within the Franciscan system in Ireland.⁷

The end, when it came, was swift. The friary was suppressed in 1540 and abandoned.⁸ In 1541 Henry VIII leased the site of the friary with its fishery, weir, and land in Cork and Teampal-na-mBrathar to David Sheghan, a merchant of the city, for twenty one years at a rent of forty-two shillings and four pence sterling.⁹ By the end

¹ John Bradley and Andrew Malpin, 'The topographical development of Scandinavian and Anglo-Norman Cork' in Patrick O'Flanagan and Cornelius G. Buttimer (eds), *Cork history and society: interdisciplinary essays on the history of an Irish county* (Dublin, 1993), pp 36–37; Aubrey Gwynn and R. N. Hadcock, *Medieval religious houses: Ireland, with an appendix to early sites* (London, 1970), p. 236; Canice Mooney, OFM, *The friars of Broad Lane* (revised and extended by Bartholomew Egan, OFM, Cork, 1977), pp 15, 22.

² Gina Johnson, *The laneways of medieval Cork* (Cork, 2002), p. 103.

³ Mooney, op. cit., pp 17, 20–21. See also T. A. Lunham, 'Historical notices of old Cork', *Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society*, 13 (1907), pp 65–66 and Charles Smith, *The ancient and present state of the county and city of Cork* (2nd edn, Dublin, 1774).

⁴ Gwynn and Hadcock, op. cit., p. 246; Mooney, op. cit., pp 14, 16.

⁵ Mooney, op. cit., p. 25.

⁶ Gwynn and Hadcock, op. cit., p. 246.

⁷ Mooney, op. cit., p. 25.

⁸ Johnson, op. cit., p. 103.

⁹ Mooney, op. cit., p. 31. As in the case of a number of proper names, there is variation in the spelling of Teampal within the Franciscan accounts books.

of Henry VIII's reign in 1547, just over half of the monasteries and slightly under half of the friaries in Ireland had been dissolved.¹⁰ While a map of Cork in 1600 shows an intact church and tower without any adjacent conventual buildings, such detail is questionable. By 1617, the friary was said to be inhabited by an English Protestant who had built a house in the grounds and knocked down and demolished the other buildings with the exception of the walls of the church. In the first half of the seventeenth century various shops and houses continued to be built there, though as late as 1671 the property was still appearing in legal documents under the heading of 'The dissolved Franciscan Abbey in the North suburbs of Cork'. Indeed some forms of the old name survived into the nineteenth century, and names like North Abbey Square and Garranabraher are preserved even to this day.¹¹

Despite varying degrees of persecution, there appear to have been several hundred Franciscans in Ireland in the 1660s.¹² The more relaxed atmosphere of the early years of the Restoration was not to last, however. The re-emergence of religious intolerance was exemplified by the arrest of Peter Creagh, Bishop of Cork and Cloyne in March 1680. Creagh was tried in Cork in August 1682 and acquitted, but only after enduring two and a half years of imprisonment.¹³ By 1711 only a handful of Franciscans remained in Cork city, possibly in disguise and in hiding. In 1714 all the chapels and mass-houses were again closed down, and the friars once more forced to flee. Still, a report of 1731 on the state of popery in Ireland noted a friary in the parish of St Mary's Shandon and another mass-house or chapel in Cotner's Lane in the centre of the city between North Main Street and the Corn Market.¹⁴

Rocque's map of Cork for 1759 shows that the community had moved across North Main Street to Broad Lane. It is clear that by 1764 the friars were a fully organised community in Broad Lane, with a modest friary and a small chapel. The house was a two-storey one, comprising three rooms and a kitchen, and close to the city centre. On 12 October 1764 Father Patrick Daly procured an account book from Mr Eugene Sweeny for the use of the convent at Broad Lane. The cost of this large, specially-lined, hard-bound volume was the substantial sum of four shillings and four pence, more than the weekly wages of a labourer at the time.¹⁵ This is the opening account book in the series reproduced here.

The account books

The series of surviving account books for the Franciscan house at Broad Lane extend in time from the year 1764 until 1932. At the time of writing, these were still housed

¹⁰ Colm Lennon, *Sixteenth-century Ireland: the incomplete conquest* (Dublin, 1994), p. 142.

¹¹ Mooney, *op. cit.*, pp 33–34.

¹² Benignus Millett, OFM, 'Survival and reorganisation 1650–95' in Patrick J. Corish (ed.), *A history of Irish Catholicism* (Dublin, 1968), iii, 15–16.

¹³ Millett, *ibid.*, pp 30–31, 57.

¹⁴ 'Report on the State of Popery in Ireland, 1731: Dioceses of Cashel and Emly', *Archivum Hibernicum*, ii (1913), p. 131.

¹⁵ Johnson, *Laneways of medieval Cork*, p. 104; W. D. O'Connell, *Cork Franciscan records 1764–1831*, 1942, p. 2. The wages of labourers outside of Dublin, were usually no more than 5d to 7d per day in the 1760s (see Liam Kennedy and Martin Dowling, 'Prices and Wages in Ireland, 1700–1850', *Irish Economic and Social History*, xxiv (1997), pp 87–95).

in the Franciscan library at Dún Mhuire but were in the process of being transferred to University College, Dublin under the aegis of the UCD–OFM Partnership. The account books record the spending undertaken by members of the community on a regular, usually daily, basis. They also show the income received by the community at Broad Lane.

The time period covered by this work is 1764–1921, which is most of the period for which we have records (1764–1932). The start date chose itself by virtue of the survival of an account book that opens on the 1 October 1764. The terminal date was chosen because of the sheer volume of material which fans out as we progress through time. The accounts for the later nineteenth and twentieth centuries are especially voluminous, suggesting the growing popularity and prosperity of the community, as well as an ever-expanding range of consumer goods and capital items available to it. There is, it has to be said, an increasing opaqueness in the entries from the later nineteenth century onwards as quite a number of purchases are on account with named shopkeepers, traders and others, so it is not possible to say with any certainty what is being bought, or in what quantities. The value of the entries is thus correspondingly reduced as we move into the twentieth century.

The account books record the day-to-day living expenses of the community at Broad Lane, as well as some larger capital expenditures. Because of the limited resources available to the project, we have concentrated exclusively on the expenditure rather than the income side of the accounts. These are by far the more extensive and are likely to be of more interest to historians. Nonetheless, some sources of income, such as masses and collections, are sometimes interwoven with expenditure accounts and so are reproduced here.

In relation to expenditure, the original manuscript books take note of, with varying degrees of legibility, the date of a transaction, the nature of the transaction, and the amount of money involved (see frontispiece). These are the three key items of information. Because the information is arranged fairly systematically, it lends itself to entry into an Excel spreadsheet. In addition to the financial accounts, there are sometimes concise comments or asides that are revealing. These are also readily accommodated within the spreadsheet format used as the basis of this edition. Printouts of the spreadsheet were checked, line by line, against Dr Murphy's transcripts. Extensive random checks against the original manuscripts at Dún Mhuire were also undertaken and the spreadsheet data will be made available to search on the Irish Manuscripts Commission website.

The library code for each account book, as defined by the librarian at Dún Mhuire, has been retained. Thus the opening book in the series is labelled C295. Reading across the spreadsheet from left to right, the entry in the first column shows the date of the transaction that is being recorded. A description of the transaction is contained in the next column, exactly as in the original. This column takes up the most space, with the text sometimes spilling over into two or more rows. The opening entry, describing the first transaction recorded in the account books (see page 1), runs as follows: "3 quarts of beer for the community, and porter." This is immediately informative in that it shows that fairly basic human needs, such as food and drink, were being catered for through the market place.

Next along the line are the money payments, and these are recorded in three separate columns. This is the total cost of one or more transactions, as recorded by the bookkeeper. The bill for drink in the opening entry, for example, came to nine pence and a half-penny. This is "old money", the system of accounting in operation in Ireland and Britain before the decimalisation of the Irish currency in 1971. It may seem strange that there is a column each for pounds, shillings, pence and fractions of a penny. But using separate columns makes it easy to perform calculations within Excel. It also means that for modern readers old money can be readily converted into the more familiar decimal form, as presented in the final column. Needless to add, the column of decimal figures is an editorial addition to the original document.

The account books are generally well kept and most of the years between 1764 and 1921 are covered by these records. The major gap in the series is between 1785 and 1803 where a volume of accounts is marked as missing. The likelihood, according to the Librarian at Dún Mhuire, is that it no longer exists. The standard of writing and presentation varies both within and between volumes, and one of the benefits of this printed version is that most of the severe problems of legibility have now been solved. The code used by the Librarian at Dún Mhuire to reference each account book helpfully imposes a chronological ordering on the material, though there are deviations as in the labelling of the last two volumes in Table 1. The latter arose because the manuscripts reached the library in Dún Mhuire at different moments in time. Sometimes, even within a volume of the accounts, the chronology is confusing, so the subperiods set out in Table 1 are approximate rather than precise. The original order as found in the account books is adhered to in the text.

The opening account book was labelled C295 and spans the period from the 1 October 1764 to 8 of November 1777 (see Table 1). Then volume C296 picks up the accounts, after a gap of less than two years, in August 1779. The following is a summary of the volume references, the periods covered, and by implication the gaps in the series:

Table 1. Account books of the Franciscan house at Broad Lane, Cork.

VOLUME NO.	START DATE	END DATE
C295	October 1764	November 1777
C296	August 1779	September 1785
C297	July 1803	April 1814
C298	November 1812	May 1821
C299	July 1822	April 1824
C300	January 1825	September 1825
C301	January 1821	September 1838
C302	July 1828	August 1831
C303	August 1837	May 1845
C127	December 1845	February 1875
C128	January 1875	December 1903
C129	January 1904	August 1906
C130	January 1904	December 1921
C134	May 1910	January 1913
C135	June 1911	August 1915

Not every scrap of information on expenditure by the Broad Lane community has been transcribed from the original manuscripts, though the great bulk of the information has been captured and reproduced in printed form. Where essentially the same information was repeated over and over again, as in the case of wage payments to regular workers — wage rates tended to be sticky (unchanging) both in the short and the longer run — then the wage payment was not necessarily recorded in the database. As no information on wage rates was being lost, this helped to economise on time. However, once a particular wage rate changed, as it did eventually, the transcription of this information resumed again.

The other instance where the transcription was selective involved cases where the bookkeeper lumped together the cost of purchases of a number of dissimilar goods. This means it is impossible to attribute values to the individual commodities and hence the recording is of limited historical value. In such cases the quantities of the different goods were sometimes not noted either, so there is simply a list of purchases and a global figure. Where selective transcription has been used, and this was done sparingly, it is signalled in the text. Editorial insertions such as this are placed in square brackets.

It has to be said that the legibility of the original manuscripts varied greatly as, to a lesser extent, did the thoroughness of the recording of individual transactions. These depended on the skills, and possibly the interest, of the bookkeeper, and naturally the bookkeepers changed from time to time over such a long period. Where some text was illegible or virtually illegible, we have inserted a question mark in square brackets. Editorial insertions, as mentioned above, are placed in square brackets. These are not numerous. The quality or detail of the recording varied, it has to be said. Thus an entry (13 November 1764) that says "36 lb of beefe at 2d p. pound" is more revealing than one that simply states "beefe 6 shillings", as weight-specific information allows us not only to note that members of the community ate meat but also to track the movement of meat prices over time. Similarly limited are instances where a number of grocery items are mentioned and only a single overall figure is given for the cost of this amalgam of items. On the wages' front, it is clearly more revealing to be told (30 September 1778) in relation to a servant woman: "Peg her quarter's wages 15 shillings" than to be informed that a sum of 14 shillings was paid to John Crosbie "for various repairs to the dwelling house" on the 4 February 1775. In the latter case we are given no idea of the skill content of the work or of the duration of the work. Unlike the case of Peg, there is no possibility of calculating the daily, weekly or quarterly rate of pay, which might be of interest in its own right and also for making comparisons of wage rates over time.

These are qualifications, nonetheless. There is no doubt these books of accounts are rich in information, they reach well back into the statistically darker age of the eighteenth century and forward into the twentieth century. In the following section the importance of these manuscript sources are briefly sketched.

Value of the Cork Franciscan account books

Due to a variety of circumstances, Ireland has suffered major losses to its historical archives. Thus economic and social information that extends in a fairly consistent

fashion over long periods of time is relatively rare for Ireland. Moreover, in the case of the Franciscan account books the information is location specific, so one does not face the methodological issue of how to splice together data from different geographical areas. The range of evidential materials is also impressive. Prices and commodities are the most common variables to be found in these sources. The fact that Cork was a port town, engaged in extensive cross-channel and international trade, meant that an array of produce was available to the consuming public, at least to those sections of society with purchasing power.

The variety of commodities mentioned, even in the early years, is striking. As well as water and milk, we find expenditures on such drinks as ale, porter, cider, wine, claret, brandy, punch and rum. Tea makes its first appearance in the summer of 1769. So also does sugar, suggesting demand for the two was interrelated. Among references to meats and fish, we find sausages, kidneys, veal, beef, mutton, salmon, turbot and cod. The more carbohydrate-rich foods consumed by the Franciscans included the ubiquitous potato, as well as bread and rice. Butter and eggs were also eaten. The purchase of vegetables was less common, though lemons and onions are mentioned, and, as a condiment, mustard. It is likely that vegetables and potatoes were more commonly available to the community than is suggested by the lists of purchases.¹⁶ This is because the Franciscans were the beneficiaries of payments in kind, generated by the door-to-door collections known as questing (or the seeking of alms). In the countryside donations of foodstuffs rather than cash is likely. In addition to food and drink, energy and light sources in the form of coal and candles added to the comfort of the community.

The range of foodstuffs mentioned above, it should be emphasised, refers to the 1760s only. In subsequent years and decades the variety of food and drink widened, which means it is possible to trace the evolution of a consumer culture through the medium of these records. Of particular interest is the "hungry 1840s", when thousands died of malnutrition and associated diseases in Cork city and countryside. The Franciscan records offer an unexpected vantage point on the course of retail food prices and clerical consumption during the worst of decades in modern Irish history. Widening opportunities for consumption, comfort and perhaps piety are evident in the post-Famine decades.

The members of the community did not of course receive wages, though on occasion they did receive expenses. The convent at Broad Lane did, however, hire skilled and unskilled workmen, usually for building and maintenance work. So we have references to masons, stone-cutters, slaters, sawyers and carpenters, as well as labourers. In addition, the convent made payments to washerwomen, cooks, kitchenmaids and servants. These were generally female. Thus this all-male institution, in an incidental way, generated records relating to women as well as men, which is a somewhat unexpected bonus. In later years an organist was employed on a regular basis, which gives some indication of the income of a professional artist. A problem with some of the wage data, as hinted earlier, is that it is often not possible to work out a daily or

¹⁶ This means that one has to be careful about inferring consumption standards from the recorded transactions. One also needs to bear in mind that the Franciscans dispensed charity as well as receiving alms.

weekly wage because the duration of the work is not specified. Other times of course it is, and this adds appreciably to the rather meagre knowledge we have of wages in the Cork region.

Footwear and clothing are often mentioned. Thus on 1 March 1774 "A Breeches for the little boy" was purchased for three shillings and nine pence. In the following year another breeches was bought for the "boy" at two shillings and two pence. Shirts, stockings, boots, and their associated prices, all find a mention, though clearly there is a problem of consistency of quality in making comparisons over time. Material culture in the form of crockery and cutlery is also captured in the accounts.

The convent at Broad Lane was first and foremost a religious institution. The accounts offer insights into the progress of organised religion in Cork from the later eighteenth century onwards. We find that incense was being used in the church in Broad Lane as early as 1764. Candles were a frequent purchase, altar linen was regularly washed, while four shillings and four pence was spent on books for the library on 12 August 1777. An inventory of "all furniture, plates, books, altar ornaments, vestments, latch and kitchen furniture etc" taken in July 1822 mentions that by then the library contained a remarkable "2,688 volumes of all descriptions". This must have made it one of the largest repositories for books, pamphlets and manuscripts in Cork in this period. A highly literate community might also be expected to be interested in newspapers and we find bills for the *Cork Mercantile Chronicle*, the *Tablet*, and later on the *Freeman's Journal*, as well as subscriptions in the late nineteenth century to the *Dublin Review* and the *Gaelic Journal*. These subscriptions also suggest an increasing identification with Irish nationalism, as does a donation of £3 to the "Tenants Defence" in December 1890 (possibly linked to the Plan of Campaign, a nationalist agrarian agitation of the period).

Building work, acquiring neighbouring buildings, and generally extending the physical infrastructure of the House was something of a preoccupation. Though there were only four priests in the Broad Lane community in the summer of 1813, the community decided to demolish the old Convent in Cross Street, close by Broad Lane and replace it. Touchingly, it is noted: "the entire material of which was sold for £5". But in less than three weeks the community collected over £1400, and the foundation stone for the new building was laid on the 26 July 1813. The scale of this investment suggests a substantial Catholic middle class in the city towards the end of the French Wars. Indeed in December 1838 the community took out an insurance of £1,000 on the House. In May 1840 it spent the sum of just over £175 on the Church altar, candlesticks and vestments. There were further major building developments in the second half of the nineteenth century but it is worth noting how much had been achieved by the 1810s and the 1820s, particularly in view of debates surrounding the timing of the Devotional Revolution in Ireland. The addition of side altars to St Francis and other saints, and the spending of as much as £20 on High Mass vestments in 1868, conveys some of the tone of Irish catholicism during the era of Cardinal Cullen.

It would be surprising if there weren't instances of scandal down the years but the only reporting of a major incident was on All Saints' Day, 1 November 1822:¹⁷

¹⁷ Entry in account book C299, 1 November 1822, p. 87.

On this day [the name is crossed out] and [the name is crossed out] impiously, irreligiously, and with the spirit of apostate, left this Convent without my permission or knowledge, and without even intimating to the local Superior their wicked intentions they went off without having either heard or said Mass on that great festival, and left the Chapel, without Mass to the great loss of the Convent and to the disedification of the public at large.

The fact that the defections took place, not only on a Sunday, but on a special Church holiday, All Hallows or All Saints Day, compounded the infamy of the absconders. One of the men carried off a suit of purple vestments belonging to the Convent, "in consequence of which scandalous conduct I have declared them apostates". The report was signed by an obviously outraged Brother W. A. O'Meara.

There is the occasional hint of sectarian tensions. There were regular payments to "the Minister", though for what purpose was not specified. In March 1779, it was noted: "I paid 5 shillings to a Devil of a Minister". A month later there was a larger payment, recorded as "I paid those Devils of Cork". It seems likely that these were Church of Ireland clergymen, and the payments may well have been the urban counterpart of the tithe system found in the countryside. In the later nineteenth century, as the politics of Cork Corporation moved decisively in a Catholic and a nationalist direction, there are occasional entries suggesting that the Franciscans benefited financially from decisions by the Corporation to clear buildings in the vicinity of Broad Lane to help with redevelopment, this being one indication of an emerging alliance between the institutional Church and an embryonic Irish state.

There are other miscellaneous expenditures that find their way into the account books. These include payments for piped water, city rates, poor rates, lamp and hearth money charges, funeral expenses, postal and railway charges, legal expenses and the cost of preference stock shares. These expenses link the Franciscans, at least financially, to the wider community in which they were located — one in which they were consumers, employers and property developers, as well as suppliers of sacred services.

Finally, a lack of standardisation is apparent in the spelling of words in the original manuscripts. This is hardly surprising in view of the long time span covered by the accounts and the different scribes employed in this work. The editorial decision has been to preserve the original spelling, or spellings. Thus we encounter such word forms as "chapple", "candels", "alter", "linnen", "mugg", "egs", "barrils" of coal, "showes" [shoes], "beefe", "soop" and "suggar". In general, it is not difficult for the modern reader to identify the terms being used. Earlier forms of spelling also offer clues as to pronunciation at the time. Thus the following late eighteenth-century spellings suggest a distinctive Cork flavour: "sasagis" [sausages], "likes and sallery" [leaks and celery], "drishean" [drisheen], "turnops" and "musthard". These are not simply quaint residues of the past but important source materials for students of language, literacy and dialect, and their evolution over time. They are all the more valuable by virtue of being precisely anchored in time.

Currency, weights and measures

It may be helpful, for those unfamiliar with older systems of money, to note the following: one pound (£1) equals 20 shillings; one shilling equals 12 pence; so a pound

equals 240 pence. Before 1826 there was an Irish pound — in 1826 the British and Irish currencies were amalgamated — which was a bit less valuable than the pound sterling.¹⁸ The exchange rate between the two currencies varied over time, but usually the Irish pound was valued at about eleven-twelfths of the British pound. It should be understood, therefore, that we are dealing with Irish currency (pounds, shillings and pence) in the Franciscan accounts before the opening months of 1826 and the common sterling currency thereafter.

Some readers will also be unfamiliar with the Imperial system of weights and measures used in the accounts. A ton was made up of 20 hundredweights (cwt); a hundredweight in turn was composed of 8 stones, and each stone weighed 14 pounds.¹⁹ Moving to very small weights, there were 16 ounces in a pound. In the case of the hugely important potato crop the Cork region employed a distinctive measure, the “weight” (equivalent to 21 pounds weight of potatoes) which seems to have been largely confined to the region.

Volume measures, as well as measures by weight, were also in use. Thus we see, for example, references to barrels of foodstuffs and coal. Translations are always approximate, with the weight equivalent of the barrel varying with the density (or specific gravity) of the commodity in question. There were also regional variations in the size of these volume measures and sometimes changes over time as well, so caution needs to be exercised in using this information.²⁰

¹⁸ The exchange rate between the British and the Irish pound fluctuated but typically by the 1820s the British pound exchanged for 1.083 Irish pounds. See F. W. Fetter, *The Irish pound, 1797–1826* (Evanston, Illinois, 1955). For the wider economic context see L. M. Cullen, *An economic history of Ireland since 1660* (London, 1972).

¹⁹ 1 lb equals 0.454 kg.

²⁰ For some further detail, see Dermot Feenan and Liam Kennedy, ‘Weights and measures of the major food commodities in early 19th century Ireland: a regional perspective’, *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*, 102C, (2002), pp. 21–45.

1764

BOOK C295

DATE	DESCRIPTION	£	s	d	£*
1/10/1764	3 quarts of beer for the community, and porter			9 ½	£0.04
4/10/1764	Sand, freestone, and water for the Chappel etc.			3	£0.01
	John Creagh Jun. : 7 bottles of clarett	8	2		£0.41
6/10/1764	4 quarts of ale			8	£0.03
8/10/1764	Paid the washer woman for 5 albs and table cloths etc.	1	9		£0.09
5/10/1764	Paid Thomas Egan for 46 pounds of Sixid [?] for the Community, and 48 pounds for the kitchen in all 12 st.	1	11	4	£1.57
12/10/1764	Paid Mr Wornell for half a year's rent due out of the house where Donovan lives and for which Fr. Tiernan has his receipt [receipt] in full and which fell due the 10th of this instant October: N.B it was paid out of the money Mr. Tearny had in his care.	2	5	0	£2.25
13/10/1764	Sand for the Parlour Stairs and a dram			3 ½	£0.01
	A Riddle to use the sand			6 ½	£0.03
15/10/1764	A shoulder of mutton 11 pounds	1	10		£0.09
	Brandy for the Community ½ pt.			4	£0.02
16/10/1764	26lbs of beefe for the Community and Boy	4	4 ½		£0.22
	7 traces [see glossary] of onions procured by Fr. Fitzgb.			6 ½	£0.03
19/10/1764	An entire salmon for the following Saturday	1	6		£0.08
20/10/1764	For mending the kitchen toaster			2	£0.01
	Mease to preserve the salmon in pickle			1 ½	£0.01
	Incense for the altar to Br. John			1	£0.00
22/10/1764	Potatoes 1 wt.			3 ½	£0.01
23/10/1764	Mending Br. Johns shoes			10	£0.04
24/10/1764	Pepper			1	£0.00
26/10/1764	One Barrill of Coals and the Carriage	4	7 ½		£0.23
	Thursday, Fryday, and Saturday gave Peggi	3	3		£0.16
29/10/1764	For sweeping the Chimneys			8	£0.03
30/10/1764	" mending John's shoes			10	£0.04
	John Bellew of Corke for mending the Chappel rooffe with sheeted led workmen, nails etc	19	8 ½		£0.98
31/10/1764	A shoulder of mutton for Thursday	2	0		£0.10
	A bottle of clarett for strangers in the Convent	1	2		£0.06
1/11/1764	Washing 5 shirts for John: and table cloath and altar linnen 2 towels etc	1	2		£0.06

*Money values (£ s d) expressed in decimal form.

DATE	DESCRIPTION	£	s	d	£
3/11/1764	Butter 1½lb	7	¾		£0.03
	For those who could not eat winters pollock	3	½		£0.01
	Ale for John, Peggy, and myself at dinner	5			£0.02
5/11/1764	For potatoes one wt.	3			£0.01
7/11/1764	A shoulder of mutton 10lbs	1	7	½	£0.08
	Mrs McLoughlin for 4 quarts of white wine for the altar	5	0		£0.25
8/11/1764	16lb of beeffe	2	6		£0.13
	Mending the guard	2			£0.01
	A 1 stone of potatoes for the community	4			£0.02
	Matches for the kitchen and 3 rooms	2	½		£0.01
	An altar stone for the Chappel to Br. John Lawson	4	4		£0.22
	Paid more for cutting a part at each wide [side?] of the altar stone etc	6	½		£0.03
12/11/1764	Mutton 11lbs	1	10		£0.09
13/11/1764	36lb of beeffe at 2d p.pound	6	0		£0.30
14/11/1764	7lb of mutton at 2d " "	1	2		£0.06
	Turky	1	1		£0.05
	Wine for Doctor O'Brian 1 bottle	2	0		£0.10
	Mease for the soop + for mending the Chappel door	10			£0.04
15/11/1764	A half pint of brandy for the Bishop	4			£0.02
17/11/1764	A pint of ale for the boy who brought the tripes	3			£0.01
19/11/1764	33lb of beeffe at 7 farthings p. pound	4	9	¼	£0.24
	One quart of ale for Mr O'Donnell	2			£0.01
20/11/1764	One wt. Potatoes	3	½		£0.01
22/11/1764	8½lb mutton	1	4		£0.07
24/11/1764	A fagott	1			£0.00
	For Johns 5 shirts washing 5 tablecloats 2 albs: and 2 altar cloaths	1	4		£0.07
25/11/1764	25lbs of beeffe at 1¾d p.pound	3	6		£0.18
26/11/1764	One quart of ale for John Lawson and the servant maid	1	½		£0.01
28/11/1764	A shoulder mutton 11lbs	1	10		£0.09
	1 quart of ale for John	3			£0.01
29/11/1764	Potatoes a stone	3	½		£0.01
30/11/1764	Sand for the parlour and stairs	1	½		£0.01
1/12/1764	Mr Doyle for binding the Masbook [Massbook] and registers	4	8		£0.23
	Sand for the Chappel	11	½		£0.05
3/12/1764	30 pounds of beeffe p. Fr. Fitzgib.	4	4	½	£0.22
	One quarter wine for the alter per John to Mrs McLoughlin at 5s p. gallon	1	3		£0.06
3/12/1764	4 quarts of wine for the alter to Fr. Tiernan	4	0		£0.20
	A pint of ale for Fr. Martin	1			£0.00
4/12/1764	2 gallons of the above wine for the alter at 4s.	8	0		£0.40
5/12/1764	A snag. of punch for Fr. Leddy and the community	1	0	½	£0.05
7/12/1764	20 pound of beeffe at 2d p.pound	3	1		£0.15
	Sixpence was returned to John for one pound of incense:				
	Chartcole for the alter	5			£0.02
8/12/1764	A pound of butter	6			£0.03

DATE	DESCRIPTION	£	s	d	£
10/12/1764	John the waterman	1	1		£0.05
11/12/1764	A hine of mutton 5lb at 2d lb		10		£0.04
	A half pint of Brandy for the community		4		£0.02
12/12/1764	Salt per John for the House 1 pack		8		£0.03
13/12/1764	Mustard		1		£0.00
15/12/1764	A wt. Potatoes		3	½	£0.01
17/12/1764	A fagot for the kitchen fire		1		£0.00
	2 pound of Sasagis [sausages] for the family's dinner		6		£0.03
19/12/1764	Margrett Quinlan her weages due the 6 instant [Note: The inside leaf of C295 recorded that she had 'commenced her time in this house the second time the 6th day of March, at 15s per quarter in the year of Our Lord 1764'.]	13	0		£0.65
19/12/1764	2 Codd's for the community + porter to bring	1	11	½	£0.10
	A half pint Brandy for the community		4		£0.02
21/12/1764	A half pint Brandy for the community		4		£0.02
	Washing for the altar and John's linnen	1	6		£0.08
24/12/1764	Half pint of Brandy for the commun.		4		£0.02
25/12/1764	Gave the servants for drink		6	½	£0.03
27/12/1764	A shoulder of mutton 11lb at 2½ p. pd.	2	4		£0.12
	Butter to beast the meat, & choir boy		2		£0.01
	2 Naggine Brandy for the community yesterday		4		£0.02
28/12/1764	Pepper		1		£0.00
	Milk for Mr Tiernane		1		£0.00
	Rice		3		£0.01
29/12/1764	Eggs for Fr. Sheehan		1	½	£0.01
29/12/1764	Milk " Mr Tiernane		1		£0.00
31/12/1764	A broom		1		£0.00
	Freestone		1		£0.00

1765

BOOK C295

DATE	DESCRIPTION	£	s	d	£
1/1/1765	23 pounds of beeffe at 2 ¼ p.pound	4	4		£0.22
2/1/1765	A snag. of punch for the community	1	0	½	£0.05
4/1/1765	A dram Mrs. Sheehan and Purcill had		2		£0.01
5/1/1765	A quart of ale for Fr. Tiernane		2		£0.01
	Ita est Fr. Patritius Daly [signature]				
	" " Fr. Joannes Tiernan [signature]				
	" " " Jacobus Sheehan [signature]				
	" " " Francis Fitzgibbon [signature]				
8/1/1765	Shoulder of mutton wt. 13 pounds	2	5	½	£0.12

DATE	DESCRIPTION	£	s	d	£
8/1/1765	A letter from the Provincial to Mr Tiernan			5	£0.02
16/1/1765	A shoulder of muton 11lb @ 2½p.pd	2	1		£0.10
17/1/1765	8½lb of ling @ 2½d	1	9		£0.09
	½ pint of brandy for the community			4	£0.02
	Paid Mrs. Mary for John Lawson's 2 coats as per her receipt appears	12	3	½	£0.61
18/1/1765	Ale 5 qrts		10		£0.04
19/1/1765	Sunday allowance for the servants		11		£0.05
	Mending John's shows [shoes] to Mr. Hanson	1	6		£0.08
	Salt a halfe pack		3	½	£0.01
	Allowance for the servants 3 in all	3	4	½	£0.17
24/1/1765	A codd for Fryday	1	1		£0.05
	Porter			½	£0.00
	20lb of beeffe at 3d p.pound – Clive boy	5	0	½	£0.25
	Sand for the altar		1	½	£0.01
	A snag. of Punch, + a bottle of Clarett for the community + Mr. Lyon at dinner	2	5		£0.12
	Clarett	1	4		£0.07
	More Punch: N.B. 3 Ordrings in snags makes it dear [?]	1	1		£0.05
26/1/1765	28 Waits of Potatoes to Mr Kenny	8	4		£0.42
	Sand for the Parlour and stairs		1	½	£0.01
28/1/1765	Quarts – 5 ale for the community		10		£0.04
	A letter from the Provincial regarding this community and confessions			5	£0.02
29/1/1765	Paid the glasor [glazier] for mending the parlour, + Chappell windows – John Bellew to John	1	11		£0.10
	Mending the Chappell lock		4		£0.02
30/1/1765	Mr Doyle for mending the altercards	1	1		£0.05
	Mutton a leg wt. 10½	2	0		£0.10
	Turnoppes		2		£0.01
30/1/1765	2 quarts of ale and one of beer for the community after dinner		9		£0.04
31/1/1765	Ale 6 quarter	1	0		£0.05
1/2/1765	A gallon of wine to Mrs McLoughlin for the altar	5	0		£0.25
	Postage of a letter from the community to the Provincial in answer to his of the 26 January		4		£0.02
5/2/1765	Straw		1		£0.00
11/2/1765	Washer woman	1	11		£0.10
14/2/1765	Mr Tiernan's letter	1	9		£0.09
	Salt		3		£0.01
21/2/1765	Greens		2		£0.01
	½ pint of brandy for the community		4		£0.02
	Paid Mr Thomas Egan for a cask of butter wt. half hundred and [8? blotted] pounds at p. 1:12 [£1–12s–0d] hundred	18	4		£0.92
23/2/1765	5 quarts ale for the comm.		10		£0.04
	Mr Fild for the dripping pan for the House	3	3		£0.16
	Mr Fild [or Tild] for a lantron for the House	3	3		£0.16
24/2/1765	2lb of candles to Nancy Ryan		9		£0.04

DATE	DESCRIPTION	£	s	d	£
25/2/1765	5 quarts ale			10	£0.04
	A noggin of brandy after dinner			2	£0.01
27/2/1765	Lynch: letter to Mr Tiernan			3	£0.01
	A large cod fish	1	3	½	£0.06
	The Waterman John Sullivan	1	1		£0.05
	A load of water for the Chappell			1	£0.00
	One quart of ale for the Father Houl [Houlihan?]: at dinner			2	£0.01
1/3/1765	19lbs of Ling @ 3d pound	4	9		£0.24
4/3/1765	Likes & sallery [leaks and celery]			2	£0.01
	5 quarts ale			10	£0.04
5/3/1765	6 quarts ale	1	0		£0.05
	2 fresh codd's and the carriage home	1	10	½	£0.09
	Mrs McLoughlin for a gallon of wine for the alter to Br. John	5	0		£0.25
9/3/1765	Course sand for the alter + stairs			3	£0.01
	4 pounds of mould candles for the weak	1	8		£0.08
11/3/1765	Margrett Quinlan housekeeper weages which only fell due the 6 of this instant March 1765 and the intire of what was due to her of 12 months	15	0		£0.75
12/3/1765	To porters who buried Fr. Houlihan and for diging his grave to consent of the Fathers	3	3		£0.16
13/3/1765	A pint of vinegar at dinner			3	£0.01
16/3/1765	Spinnige			4	£0.02
	Incense			6	£0.03
	Bottoming a chair			5	£0.02
18/3/1765	Ale 5 quarts			10	£0.04
19/3/1765	" "			10	£0.04
	A fresh cod	1	2	½	£0.06
22/3/1765	Houlihan's coffin to Mr Webb as per his receat	11	4	½	£0.57
	Ale for the comm. 5 quarts			10	£0.04
25/3/1765	" " " " 4 "			8	£0.03
	Washer woman for the Chapel + John	1	2		£0.06
26/3/1765	Samuel Clerk per John Parish rates order			6 ½	£0.03
	Paid Jenny Ceary for Fr. Martin's allowance by night, for 7 weeks 1 pint per night	4	1		£0.20
27/3/1765	5 Pints of musthard used for the House	1	8		£0.08
	Paid for salmon + carriage from the market	1	4	½	£0.07
	Ale for the community 5 quarts			10	£0.04
	Ale " strangers, Mr. Daly + Gould			4	£0.02
	A quart rum, sugar + oringis for Mr. Daly + Gould	2	0		£0.10
	½ pint of Brandy for strangers			4	£0.02
28/3/1765	Ale for the community 6 quarts	1	0		£0.05
29/3/1765	10 pounds of dry ling to John	2	6		£0.13
	The carriage of Palm			6 ½	£0.03
	A gallon of wine for the altar to John	5	0		£0.25
30/3/1765	7¾lb of ling @ 3p. pound	1	11		£0.10
3/4/1765	A flask of eating oyl for the House from Mrs McLoughlin	1	4		£0.07

DATE	DESCRIPTION	£	s	d	£
4/4/1765	A salmon intire smoked	1	7	½	£0.08
	½ pint of Metheglin [see glossary] for Fr. Fitzgib.		3		£0.01
5/4/1765	Waterman cash	1	1		£0.05
	The Provincial's letter to Mr Tiernan		5		£0.02
	A cutt of fresh salmon for " "	1	7		£0.08
	For an other cutt for (the) [no other details] etc.		2		£0.01
	Beer & ale for the father's inquire	1	3		£0.06
	Water for washing the Parlour		2	½	£0.01
6/4/1765	Butter one pound, ale 5 quarts	1	5		£0.07
	A side of pork for the House		5	3	£0.26
	Unto Mr Tiernan going to the chapel	1	2	9	£1.14
10/4/1765	A leg of mutton	2	0		£0.10
	Butter to beast the mutton		1		£0.00
11/4/1765	Water for the kitchen			½	£0.00
12/4/1765	2 codd's for the family	2	2	½	£0.11
	Ale for the family 5 quarts		10		£0.04
16/4/1765	Paid unto Sherriffe Butlers servant ministers money for the Chappel + House	3	2		£0.16
17/4/1765	Mutton a legg @ 3d p.pd.	2	6		£0.13
17/4/1765	Punch for Fr. Archdeacon	1	1		£0.05
19/4/1765	The little celler under Donnovans apartment Ministers – money to Donavans wife [two spellings of the same name]		2		£0.01
20/4/1765	1lb Butter		6		£0.03
	Br. John's shooes	4	4		£0.22
22/4/1765	4 wates of Potatoes @ 5d p.wt. & Porter	1	9		£0.09
23/4/1765	A half years rent to Wm. Wornell for the out house as per his receipt	2	5	0	£2.25
26/4/1765	Sand for the stairs		1	½	£0.01
27/4/1765	Beeffe at 2½ p. pd. & carriage	8	5	½	£0.42
30/4/1765	John Lawson's washing	1	1		£0.05
	Paid Jenny Ceary for Fr. Martin's allowance from the 26th of March till this 30 April 1765 for ale at night	2	4		£0.12
	A hine mutton 6 pounds	1	3		£0.06
	Butter to beast mutton		1		£0.00
4/5/1765	Macrill		6		£0.03
10/5/1765	Sand for the parlour		1	½	£0.01
	John and mending a spoon			½	£0.00
	[A new writer takes over here, less legible writing and less detail in terms of weights and amounts.]				
15/5/1765	Hearth money for our House & Donovans [Selective recording follows]	10	0		£0.50
8/6/1765	A quarter of mutton	3	11		£0.20
	Nails and mortar		2		£0.01
	To the meason	1	0		£0.05
11/6/1765	Mr Houlahan's habbit	6	6		£0.33
22/6/1765	The washer woman	2	9		£0.14
24/6/1765	A quarter of butter		1	½	£0.01

DATE	DESCRIPTION	£	s	d	£
1/7/1765	The Provincial's Horse	9	4		£0.47
2/7/1765	Coal & portorage	4	9		£0.24
10/7/1765	Martin and Peg		2	½	£0.01
12/7/1765	" " "		2	½	£0.01
13/7/1765	" " "		2	½	£0.01
14/7/1765	" " "		2	½	£0.01
	Parish rates	5	5		£0.27
16/7/1765	Martin and Peg		2	½	£0.01
	Church rates and Clarks sallery	16	3		£0.81
17/7/1765	Martin and Peg		2	½	£0.01
24/7/1765	Coal & portorage	4	9		£0.24
	[Selective recording follows]				
11/9/1765	For mending two sashes	1	7		£0.08
20/9/1765	Ale 2 days		4		£0.02
	The waterman	1	1		£0.05
25/9/1765	The joyner	3	11		£0.20
26/9/1765	For Biddy for ale		8		£0.03
12/10/1765	A frying pan	4	4		£0.22
14/10/1765	Mending John's shoes	1	6		£0.08
16/10/1765	Biddy Ford	1	0		£0.05
	The housekeeper to buy shoes	3	3		£0.16
22/10/1765	Mending the tub		8		£0.03
29/10/1765	Paid the house keeper Peg Quinlan	1	5		£0.07
31/10/1765	Mr Loyds servant		3		£0.01
5/11/1765	Mr Sweeny [no further detail]	6	6		£0.33
	Mr Loyds servant		3		£0.01
14/11/1765	Mr Crosby	8	8 ½		£0.43
18/11/1765	Mr Loyd's servant maid		2		£0.01
	Mr Loyd's servant maid		2		£0.01
5/12/1765	Ministers money	3	0		£0.15
6/12/1765	Mending two locks		6 ½		£0.03
23/12/1765	Mr Hannan to mend a bridge		6 ½		£0.03
	The servant maid	5	5		£0.27
	The washer woman free stone sand	1	4 ½		£0.07
	For water	1	1		£0.05

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BOOK C295

DATE	DESCRIPTION	£	s	d	£
17/1/1766	For seating a Chair and ale for the maid		6		£0.03
19/1/1766	A sheep's face		4		£0.02
23/1/1766	The washer woman	1	3		£0.06

DATE	DESCRIPTION	£	s	d	£
	[Selective recording follows between the 23 Jan and the 3 March .The one exception being the entry for salmon on 27th of February.]				
27/2/1766	Salmon	1	6		£0.08
3/3/1766	Br. John's shoes	4	4		£0.22
6/3/1766	Punch		11	½	£0.05
8/3/1766	2 gallons of wine for the altar	8	8		£0.43
	Veale		10		£0.04
10/3/1766	Rates	1	7	½	£0.08
13/3/1766	The Meason Flaherty	1	4		£0.07
18/3/1766	Candels to Condon	5	0		£0.25
28/3/1766	Oil	1	8		£0.08
	Mustard		8		£0.03
30/3/1766	Mutton	4	7		£0.23
1/4/1766	Mutton	2	3	½	£0.11
	"	2	3	½	£0.11
	"	2	2		£0.11
18/3/1766	Candels to Condon	5	0		£0.25
5/4/1766	Water man		11	½	£0.05
8/4/1766	Mutton for 3 days	6	5		£0.32
9/4/1766	"	2	4		£0.12
13/4/1766	"	5	5		£0.27
15/4/1766	"	1	10	½	£0.09
16/4/1766	Paid the house keeper	14	1		£0.70
	Mutton		1	10 ½	£0.09
18/4/1766	Paid Mr Wornell rent	2	5	0	£2.25
19/4/1766	Mutton		1	8	£0.08
21/4/1766	"		2	1	£0.10
22/4/1766	"		1	10 ½	£0.09
23/4/1766	"		2	2 ½	£0.11
24/4/1766	"		1	11	£0.10
26/4/1766	Washer woman		1	4	£0.07
	wine		4	4	£0.22
26/4/1766	Mutton		1	8	£0.08
28/4/1766	"		1	10 ½	£0.09
29/4/1766	"		2	0	£0.10
30/4/1766	"		2	1	£0.10
1/5/1766	Mutton		2	2	£0.11
	Punch			11 ½	£0.05
3/5/1766	Mutton		2	3 ½	£0.11
	[Selective recording follows]				
10/5/1766	Pork		6	2 ½	£0.31
19/5/1766	Greens and to Porters			7	£0.03
27/5/1766	A brass Cock		2	2	£0.11
31/5/1766	A gal. Butter Milk		1	1	£0.05
3/6/1766	For cleaning the shore		4	7 ½	£0.23
9/6/1766	Church Rates etc.		14	7 ½	£0.73
26/6/1766	Glasses			7 ½	£0.03

DATE	DESCRIPTION	£	s	d	£
30/6/1766	Shrub etc.			10 ½	£0.04
6/7/1766	For the Commissary and servant	2	10	11	£2.55
8/7/1766	Washer woman		1	11	£0.10
9/7/1766	Beeff [no details of quantity]		4	3	£0.21
14/7/1766	Wine " "		15	0	£0.75
	For Conveying the Provincial		8	11 ½	£0.45
19/7/1766	To the Guardian for His expenses to Dublin	2	5	6	£2.28
30/7/1766	Wine		4	4	£0.22
4/8/1766	To the washer woman and a dram		1	5	£0.07
6/8/1766	Allowance nails to a labourer			9	£0.04
11/8/1766	Paid Dennis Hale for Cyder	1	1	9	£1.09
16/8/1766	Punch		1	0	£0.05
26/8/1766	A dram and to the post boy			9	£0.04
30/8/1766	The washer woman		1	2	£0.06
12/9/1766	To Candon for candles		6	6	£0.33
12/9/1766	Bread allowance			8 ½	£0.03
27/9/1766	Wine		4	4	£0.22
4/10/1766	Allowance bread ale for John			10	£0.04
	Ale for dinner			6	£0.03
	Ita est. Fr: Joannes Tiernan [signature]				
	" " James Sheehan [signature]				
	" " Fran: Fitzgibbon [signature]				
7/10/1766	Ale for the Refectory		1	6	£0.08
8/10/1766	To ourselves	6	16	6	£6.83
17/10/1766	Ale bread allowance to Mr. Loyd's servant		1	8 ½	£0.08
22/10/1766	" " " " "		1	8	£0.08
	Ministers [ink blot] Dues		3	6	£0.18
18/3/1766	Candels to Condon		5	0	£0.25
24/10/1766	Mending for Johns shoes		1	6	£0.08
28/10/1766	Ale bread allowance ale for Callinan's servant		1	7 ½	£0.08
3/11/1766	Wicks for candles		1	0	£0.05
12/11/1766	To Mr Crosby		6	7	£0.33
	[Selective recording follows]				
14/12/1766	Wine		2	2	£0.11
	The housekeeper			6 ½	£0.03
19/12/1766	For a Tub		1	1	£0.05
	Wine		2	2	£0.11
25/12/1766	2 Muttons		2	2	£0.11
	To the housekeeper	1	2	9	£1.14
25/12/1766	Punch		1	0	£0.05
31/12/1766	Beeff		4	6	£0.23

1767

BOOK C295

DATE	DESCRIPTION	£	s	d	£
8/1/1767	The Bread Woman	1	7	½	£0.08
9/1/1767	The Provencial	1	1		£0.05
10/1/1767	Water		1		£0.00
14/1/1767	A leg of mutton	1	10	½	£0.09
	A leg " " due since Saturday	1	2		£0.06
15/1/1767	The Provencial	1	1		£0.05
	Mustard	1	4		£0.07
19/1/1767	Water		3		£0.01
20/1/1767	Candles	8	3		£0.41
	The washer woman	1	0		£0.05
26/1/1767	Wine and shoes for Br. John	8	8		£0.43
30/1/1767	Mr. Bellew	6	8		£0.33
9/2/1767	Candles	2	9		£0.14
	Table cloths	14	10	½	£0.74
11/2/1767	Ale bread allowance to the washer woman		1	10 ½	£0.09
19/2/1767	Paid for Commissary French's horses at Wm. Daly's	1	9	10	£1.49
24/2/1767	Ale brandy for the brother's servant		9	½	£0.04
26/2/1767	Mutton 2 days		3	11	£0.20
27/2/1767	For Mault	1	14	0	£1.70
	Ale yesterday after dinner		1	3	£0.06
2/3/1767	Washing for the House		1	3	£0.06
3/3/1767	To the Brewer		1	5	£0.07
11/3/1767	John Field		3	10	£0.19
12/3/1767	Blackball washing		1	7	£0.08
14/3/1767	Traps		4	0	£0.20
16/3/1767	Punch Saturday night			11 ½	£0.05
	Hearths money	10	0		£0.50
21/3/1767	Washing		1	3	£0.06
27/3/1767	The Milkwoman			9 ½	£0.04
28/3/1767	To Mr. Hannan for Mr. Mahony architect in part payment for building the wall at the south side of the Chapple	4	11	0	£4.55
30/3/1767	Mutton For mending a chair		2	3	£0.11
	Fish			6	
31/3/1767	Mutton		2	5	
6/4/1767	Lats for the Chappel		2	9	£0.14
10/4/1767	Cads [Cod?] 2		2	3	£0.11
	Washing		1	1	£0.05
	Brushes			11	£0.05
14/4/1767	Wine		4	4	£0.22
18/4/1767	Pork		8	8	£0.43
20/4/1767	The cyder man		6	6 ½	£0.33
21/4/1767	Water Matches Pins			6	£0.03
29/4/1767	Mr. Patt Hannan		19	7 ½	£0.98