

One of the most notable men in the life of Mid Cork, perhaps of the county, has passed to his reward. That man is Dr. Lynch, Medical Officer of Slieveragh Dispensary District, whose career has embraced such a measure of romance, combined with unceasing and tireless efforts for the promotion of social and National welfare in those places where his influence prevailed, as to make him a really remarkable man. That his loss to the community in which his services and his talents were employed will be sorely felt is but a mild commentary on the feelings which the lamentable event has evoked in Macroom and Ballyvourney. The deceased was a man of high intellectual attainments, an ornament to his profession, and a gentleman of many noble and attractive parts. For thirty years he has discharged the duties of Medical Officer of Health of Ballyvourney district, and it might be said with truth and justice that no officer in the service of the Poor Law Guardians held such a measure of respect and confidence from the Board as Dr. Lynch. Through his great enterprise and organising ability the once dingy hamlet of Ballyvourney has been transformed into a flourishing village, where prosperity and contentment characterises the lives of the people. A man of deep patriotic sentiment, the Celtic revival, with its concomitant, the Industrial movement, which formed such a large part of the national activities of the past 15 years, found in him a protagonist whose example was truly inspiring. The language movement made wonderful progress in Ballyvourney under his guidance and support, and as an indication of his interest in the movement generally it need only be said that he was one of the most widely known of the delegates at the Ard Theis, the proceedings of which he regularly attended up to recently. His support of the Industrial movement was of the most practical kind. He established in the village of Ballyvourney a class in which the young girls were taught knitting, lace making, and kindred work, and in a short time dozens of the young girls who would otherwise be tempted to emigrate found remunerative employment there, because Dr. Lynch made it his business to find the market for the output, and the result was the establishment of a permanent and thriving industry in the village. Of the romantic side of his career much might be written, which can be merely touched upon in this notice. After terminating a brilliant College course he joined the French army, and went right through the Franco-Prussian war, and subsequently joined the Papal Zouaves. After this military career he had a complete change of scene and occupation. He worked his way to New York, and on to the West, and 10 years of a strenuous life were spent on the Rocky Mountains, where he resided in a hut. That he had considerable talent and genius may be inferred from the fact that he was 40 years of age before he made up his mind to adopt the medical profession, and in a brief period took out his degrees. The remainder of his life was spent in Ballyvourney, where he was beloved by the people, and commanded an extraordinary influence over them. His demise at an advanced age is deeply regretted, and it creates a void which can never be filled in the district where his useful energies were employed. Popular sympathy with the deceased's family is widespread.