

Cork City and County Archives

Descriptive List

Identity Statement

Reference Code:	IE CCCA/U611
Title:	Denny Lane Papers
Dates:	1833 - 1895
Level of description:	Fonds / Item
Extent:	154 items

Context

Creator(s):

Lane, Denny (b1818-d1895)

Archival History

The Denny Lane Papers were deposited in the Archives in 2003.

Biographical History

Lane attended Porter and Hamblin's School in Cork (U611/1 – U611/2) and received a scholarship to study at Trinity College Dublin and was later called to the Bar (U611/62). Involved in Daniel O'Connell's repeal and reform movements and with the Trinity College Dublin Historical Society, Lane associated with such figures as Thomas Davis, Michael Joseph Barry, John Blake Dillon and Charles Gavan Duffy, and began writing, mainly poetry, for The Nation newspaper, usually under the name 'Donal na Glanna'. Lane is particularly remembered for penning the lyrics to the ballad 'Carrigdhoun'.

Lane returned to Cork in 1843 to assist in the running of the Glynstown Distillery, Riverstown, County Cork, which he inherited along with substantial lands following the death of his father in 1845 (U611/17).

Arrested and imprisoned under the Habeas Corpus (Suspension) Act 1848 and held for 4 months in Cork City Gaol. Following his 1848 débacle, Lane mostly retired from active politics for over 2 decades to concentrate instead on his businesses and work with the Gas Company, although he served briefly as a Town Councillor for the North East Ward of Cork City in 1854-55.

Secretary and Resident Engineer for the Cork Gas Company from about 1865 to his death in 1895.

The death in 1872 of Lane's friend and political ally John Francis Maguire M.P. led him to re-enter politics by expressing his support for his close friend, Home Rule candidate Joseph Ronayne (U611/55). In the 1874 election, Lane continued to support Ronayne, even against his old comrade John Mitchel. At this time he joined the Irish Home Rule League (U611/56). Lane delivered a noted funeral oration on the death of Ronayne in 1876, which it has been suggested may have been studied by Padraig Pearse for his own key oration at the grave of O'Donovan Rossa at Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin, in 1915. Lane stood in the election for Ronayne's former seat, however the popular vote was split with a fellow Home Ruler and the seat went to a conservative candidate (U611/57). Following this, Lane removed himself permanently from politics.

Lane, in common with his contemporaries, had a dream of improving Ireland through industry and had referred to the need for a revival of manufacture, education, and political independence in his speeches during the 1840's (U611/42). He was instrumental in the amalgamation of various Cork distilleries under the title of the Cork Distillers' Company in the late 1860's, and was a major organiser of the 1883 Cork Exhibition (U611/97). In that year he also established the Silversprings Starch Works at Knocknahorgan, Glanmire, County Cork which remained open until the late 1920's (U611/99). In the later decades of his life, aside from his work with the Gas Company, Lane remained active in business as deputy chairman of the Macroom Railway Company and as a director of the Cork Blackrock and Passage Railway Company. He was also a Member of Cork Harbour Board, where he represented brewing and distilling interests.

Lane was extensively involved in the artistic and cultural life of Cork City, at one time or another associated with the Schools of Art, Design and Science, the Cork Literary & Scientific Society, Cork Catholic Young Mens' Society, Cork Naturalists' Field club, the Cork Cuverian Society, and the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society.

Content & Structure

Scope and Content

Lane's early life is documented in the collection only by 2 school report books, from Porter and Hamblin's School in Cork, showing his consistently excellent marks in most subjects (U611/1 – U611/2).

The collection is of particular interest for those studying the nationalist political and cultural activity in the mid-19th century, especially The Nation newspaper and the Young Ireland movement. Contains a significant amount of political correspondence related to some of the nationalist figures and events of the 1840's and later on in the 19th century. Lane's friendship and political association with Thomas Davis is documented by letters to Lane in 1843/1844, mainly concerning content for The Nation, and written in a most familiar tone (U611/6 - /9, /11). Also present are letters written to Davis by other figures, such as Michael Doheny (U611/5) and Thomas Wallis, (U611/4) which Lane may have acquired for study. Correspondence of Lane's cousin, Daniel Owen Madden, includes a letter mentioning a visit by Daniel O'Connell (U611/13) and another from Thomas Wallis concerning a publication of the life of Thomas Davis (U611/14). Lane's earlier association with Charles Gavan Duffy, is documented by a few letters from 1842 to 1849, relating to The Nation, the Irish Confederation and the Young Ireland movement, including the disagreements and splits in the Repeal movement in 1846-1847 (U611/21) and following the period of the government's suppression of the Confederate Clubs (U611/23).

The 1848 revolutions in Europe sparked much excitement in Ireland, as evidenced by a letter from Duffy to Lane in March 1848 (U611/22). Lane resigned from the Repeal Association in September 1846 (U611/40), with the rest of the Young Irelanders, and in October John Mitchel (later, publisher of the United Irishman) asked Lane to contribute to a section of The Nation newspaper with the title 'Young Ireland' (U611/42). Clues as to Lane's political activities in 1846 may be found in his correspondence with Sir David Roche, accused of mistreating his tenants by Lane in a public statement (U611/35). The collection contains some correspondence from William Smith O'Brien, M.P. mainly concerning O'Brien's impending visit to Cork with Thomas Francis Meagher, and the organisation of the Irish Confederation in Cork and nationally (U611/26, /27). Of particular note is a letter from Denny Lane in April 1848 describing the political situation in Cork (U611/28). The sense of crisis in Ireland during the Great Famine in 1847 is evidenced in a letter from O'Brien to Michael Joseph Barry (U611/25).

The remainder of the 1840's political correspondence includes one or two items from various figures, including Richard O'Gorman (U611/39, /48), T. Devin Reilly (U611/43), Thomas D'Arcy McGee (U611/45), Terence Bellew McManus (U611/46), Thomas Mathew Halpin (U611/49), Thomas England (U611/50), Richard Deasy (U611/51), and John Martin (U611/54). These items mainly relate to the organisation of the Confederate Clubs. A few much later letters show Lane's ongoing contact with Gavan Duffy, mainly in connection with the latter's literary work on the Young Irelanders (U611/58 – U611/60).

The Collection also contains material of a more personal nature, such as, a list of members of the Munster Bar (U611/62), a letter from a friend concerning a fishing trip on the River Lee (U611/65), a letter from Eugene Curry of the Royal Irish Academy concerning the genealogy of the O'Liathain family (U611/66), and also some draft notes and writings by Lane (U611/69). Also found are a small number of lyrics which document Lane's great interest in poetry and music, including lyrics of 'The Lament of

the Irish Maiden, A Brigade Ballad', also known as 'Carrigdhoun' (U611/72b). Also found are printed garlands of song lyrics from pre-1850 (U611/76 - /79).

Denny Lane's extensive business activities are not well documented in the collection, apart from a settlement with his creditors in 1855 (U611/81), and a Patent for an invention to improve gas production in 1865 (U611/82).

Lane's extensive involvement in the artistic and cultural life of Cork is not well documented in the collection, although some items hint at Lane's cultural and literary interests (U611/9, /125).

The collection contains a large amount of correspondence for the period 1881-1893 concerning his work as Secretary and Resident Engineer for the Cork Gas Company. of the Gas Works (U611/104, /114) and Lane's visits abroad, where he updated his knowledge of the latest gas and electrical technology (U611/83, 105). The material includes mention of Thomas Alva Edison's electrical equipment (U611/94, /110). Lane also gives a few accounts of his speeches to the Institute of Gas Engineers (U611/85, /128).

Also found in the collection is a small amount of correspondence relating to Lane's wife, Mary Francis. She may have shared Denny Lane's noted wit (U611/46). Mary received number of letters from Charles Gavan Duffy in Nice, France, after the death in November 1895 of her 'generous and gifted husband', of whom Duffy writes he 'never met a more honorable or upright man. He was one of a class not growing plenty in Ireland...who thought always first of the country, and last of himself...' (U611/151).

Arrangement

Main Sections (See Table of Contents for more detail)

A. SCHOOLING

B. POLITICAL CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) Thomas Davis
- (ii) Daniel Owen Madden
- (iii) Charles Gavan Duffy
- (iv) William Smith O'Brien
- (v) Relating to Imprisonment (1848)
- (vi) Regarding the David Roche Affair (1846)
- (vii) Other Correspondence relating to 1840's politics
- (viii) Later Material

C. PERSONAL MATERIAL, WRITINGS AND LYRICS

D. BUSINESSMAN

E. SECRETARY AND RESIDENT ENGINEER, CORK GAS COMPANY

- (i) Correspondence from Denny Lane
- (ii) Other Correspondence to J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company.
- (iii) Mary Francis Lane, Wife

Accruals

Some accrual of material is expected.

Conditions of Access & Use

Access: Open by appointment to those holding a current readers ticket.

Language: English

Finding Aids: Descriptive List

Allied Materials:

Related material:

CCCA:

U15b Hewitt Correspondence

Cork Gas Company Records

Other locations:

MSS relating to Charles Gavan Duffy, William Smith O'Brien and other nationalist figures in the National Library of Ireland and in the Royal Irish Academy

Publication Note

Cronin, Maura, 'Denny Lane', *Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society*, Vol.100 (1995) pp1-15 and Vol.101 (1996) pp143-157

Obituary of Denny Lane M.A. B.L., *Cork Examiner*, 30 November 1895

Text of Funeral Oration by Denny Lane at grave of Joseph Ronayne M.P. *Cork Examiner*, 12 May 1876

'A Soul Came Into Ireland: Thomas Davis, 1814-1845', Moloney, John Neylon, Geography Publications (1995).

Archivists Note:

Brian McGee

Archivist, CCCA
Jan. 2005 and Sept. 2010

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List of Items

Section A: **Schooling (1833-1835) (2 items)**

- 1 20 August 1833 – 28 June 1834

School Report Book for Denis M. Lane (Denny Lane) at Mr Hamblin's and Doctor Porter's School, South Mall, Cork. Contains graded results by day of the week in subjects such as Greek Testament, Lucian, Homer, Xenophon, Latin, Terence, Juvenal, Livy, Virgil, Horace, Exercise, Euclid (Geometry), Algebra, History, Writing. Also records Conduct, Morning Attendance and After Breakfast Attendance. Note at end of each page, such as 'N.B – 9 is the highest degree of merit'. Lane receives a '9' or an '8' for all items. Also recorded are holidays, such as, 'Mayors Day' in October. With Various jottings and sketches on inside covers depicting portraits, mathematical formulae, notes.

42pp

- 2 18 August 1834 – 25 April 1835

School Report Book, as U611/1. Enclosed is a certificate of premium to Lane for superior answering in Roman History public examinations at the Classical, Mathematical and Commercial Academy, Wellington Place, St.Patrick's Hill, Cork; signed by Mr Henderson, Principal.

52pp & 1 item

**Section B: Political Correspondence (1840-1849,
1873-1894) (59 items)**

(i) Thomas Davis (1840-1844) (9 items)

3 6 December 1840

Letter, from J.R. Atkins, 7 Charlotte Quay, Cork, to Thomas Davis, 61 Baggot Street, Dublin. 'It being past 12 & headaches at work I cannot write the...critique on your pamphlet...'. Atkins writes that his perusal of it will "make Mr Atkins a Radical" and "...with many of your sentiments I agree, upon others I ponder and the rest we will both condemn by and by". Congratulates Davis on praise from 'the brotherhood of your Society'. Signed 'your affectionate cousin'.

1p

4 17 May 1842

Letter, from Thomas Wallis, 29 College [College Green, Dublin] to Thomas Davis, 61 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin. Wallis says he has only just received Davis' note and manuscript. He does not think there will be room for more than the 2 chapters Davis sent, or that the map will be done this month. He is glad to hear Davis is '...so much recovered as to anticipate a speedy renewal of your acquaintance with the open air...'. Mentions Roebuck, a 'clever little terrier', who has redeemed himself from the stain of his 'one shilling-gallery' tomfoolery. Postscript mentions article in Blackwood for January 7, 1839 containing some 'admissions & anticipations'.

4pp

5 18 May 1843

Letter, from Michael Doheny, Cashel, Co. Tipperary, to 'My Dear Davis' (Thomas Osbourne Davis), 61 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin. 'If you come down, which I sincerely hope, you will abide with me...'. Asks why Duffy (Charles Gavan Duffy) does not publish his rhymes. Doheny says he had 'concocted an epistle to the Queen from a

Tipperary man' but could not finish it. Compliments Davis on his last publication, 'if I speak I'll make its first sentence my text- Men of Ireland be steady'. He is writing the letter while presiding at a meeting of the Board of Guardians, 'How think you Sir James would digest that, and every Guardian round me is a repeal Warden...'.
 1p

6 6 July 1843

Letter, from Thomas Davis, 61 Baggot Street, Dublin, to Denny Lane, esquire. 'Are you too full of cider to notice an article in the Packet against purchasing English works for the Art Union? Either you were absurd in what you said in the Nation article or you were not. If you were hold your tongue...If you were not write some qualified rational sagacious & short proof thereof...If you do so say the cruellest thing your strict conscience will allow you of MacManus and slaughter Partridge's happy Lucifer- the calf...'. Davis says he is 'almost in love with that darling blue-eyed girl of Fishers' and wishes she would spend summer with him, leaving his friends to their 'desolate perambulations'. Smith O'Brien (William Smith O'Brien) 'has made a hit. His voice & delivery are I'm told, feeble gentlemanly & wretched...'. Relates that 'We had about 100,000 people at Donnybrook (County Dublin) which makes me think your Cork story of 500,000 was a quintuple lie...'. He is in a 'very die away lovely mood...If I don't get out of it soon I'll fall in love or fight a duel'. Remarks on the 'fine sentiment people talk about Fawcett...Pah ! wasn't that as good a way as a man could die in time of peace'.

4pp

7 [1843]

Fragment of a letter from 'T.D.' (Thomas Davis) to Denny Lane. 'Plunket or when will you? Let me know this. The Boyhood Years Wd run to 6 pages of music & is not a ballad so it will not be in the spirit.' Asks Lane to write some music, 'I want you to grind some airs of Bunting (unused by Moore) into Barry's head & make him versify to them...'. His life is an 'odd mixture of hard work & active idleness...We miss you sadly...'.
 2pp

8 1843

Letter from Thomas Davis to 'Dear Lane', Denny Lane, Cork. 'The songs for which the initial sketches will first be needed are Erin our Own, The West's Asleep, Fag a Bealach, the Hymn of Freedom, The Volunteer's Song & The Union. Pray speak to Watson about them...'. Gives a reminder of other matters outstanding such as 'Mem, to send me 10s your own subscription...'. Davis relates certain ideas concerning illustrations for a piece on Owen Roe such as 'First Verse English official plotting or arranging the poisoning...' and '8 shall we venture to shadow a patriot chief on his ruined country and grieving...'. (Letter incomplete).

4pp

9 1843

Letter, from Thomas Davis to 'Dear Lane', Denny Lane, Cork. Mentions 'two figures from Canova' in the University for September 'engraved on stone as rapidly as they could have been sketched on paper... You should get some Cork men to this, If your city wont be a vigorous politician let it at least be a graceful & accomplished Sybarite & not a Yankee sensualist...'. Asks Lane if he will ever effect his Hall project, 'For God's sake get that & Repeal Reading Rooms up...'. Notes that OC [Daniel O'Connell] concurs in this system but dislikes any general rule. Asks Lane to bring 'piles of Irish airs (new old ones)' with him in November.

3pp

10 24 January 1844

Letter, from Thomas Davis, 61 Baggot Street, Dublin, to 'My dear Armstrong'. Contains questions concerning Lord Plunkett and Robert Emmet which Armstrong has then answered in the spaces provided by Davis. Questions concern Lord Plunkett's speech on Emmet's trial (1803) such as the possible acquaintance of Plunkett with Emmet, and whether Plunkett pressed Crown's evidence on the insistence of Attorney General O'Grady because he 'held the Junior's brief on that occasion and was professionally bound to obey his senior'. To Davis' question 'Why did he make so bitter a speech?' Armstrong replies that, the speech was not '...so much a personal attack upon Emmet as upon

French revolutionary and republican principles'. Davis requires 'as accurate answers as possible'. Armstrong provides a copy of a letter by Emmet on the morning of his execution (20 September 1803) to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, William Wickham, in order 'to prove that Emmet entirely acquitted Plunkett and the Irish administration generally of all harshness towards himself'. Quotations are given of notes which Wickham appended to Emmet's letter 'without which he refuses to allow publication', such as, that Emmet conducted his defence in relation to the general principles on which Ireland was governed by England and such as, that Emmet asked to be temporarily allowed to return from his place of execution in order to write the letter 'in a firm and steady handwriting' which was a 'full free...expression of his forgiveness of his enemies...'. Armstrong notes that this is a most valuable testimony to the noble spirit of Emmet. Concludes with details of a successful libel case taken by Plunkett regarding publication of a fake quotation from Emmet's speech imputing Plunkett's character.

10pp

11 20 July 1844

Letter, from Thomas Davis, 67 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin to Denny Lane, Sidney Place, Cork. Encloses 'an air by WEH' which Davis asks Lane to give to Barry (Michael Joseph Barry) who will write words to it. Davis hopes Lane and Barry are working hard. Says he has just got the proof of the cover for the Spirit of the Nation. Asks Lane to write telling him how he and his father are.

1p

(ii) Daniel Owen Madden (1842-1848) (4 items)

12 23 February 1842

Letter from Daniel Owen Madden, 1 Hamilton Row, Dublin, to 'My Dear Denny', Denny Lane, Barrister-at-law, 4 Sydney Terrace, Cork. Hopes to be on the way to London tomorrow evening and was delayed by a tremendous snowstorm. McCulloch stands 'higher than ever' in his opinion and is afraid 'that I would have been at fault upon a review of the transaction'. Madden wishes he could show Lane McCulloch's letters which 'redound in to his honour and to the ...greatness of his

views with regard to me'. Asks Lane to counter any impression that he injured McCullogh's character, as 'even when I was smarting under financial injuries...I was not slow to recall his past kindness...'

3pp

13 25 October 1846

Letter, from Daniel Owen Madden, Fermoy, county Cork, to 'My Dear Denny', Denny Lane Esquire, 4 Sidney Terrace, Cork. In reply to Lane's kind note he says he would like to meet Mr. Meagher, but is unable to go, 'Of his talents I am a great admirer- some of his speeches are worthy of Grattan'. Gives an account of his current activities, spending a very quiet time writing a little every day, but is 'starving for want of standard English authors'. Asks Lane about his own library, mentioning Swift, Scott, Brother Murphy and Elton's translation of the Odyssey. Madden is unsure of what he will do next year and has had no contact with Duffy (Charles Gavan Duffy). Recounts visit of O'Connell (Daniel O'Connell), who was very ill having 'messed too heartily on a quantity of buttered toast...He was very alarmed about himself- he apprehends that his heart is diseased...'. Madden quotes a witty remark made by O'Connell to E.B. Roche, who was not coming to the meeting concerning Roche's excuses 'when ever you're wanted for any public purpose...'. Mentions that all the mail coaches are changed. Madden's [wife] Ellen expected Lane on the day of the Railway meeting but 'because you were expected you did not come... Johnny cries out "It's Denny!" when he hears a knock and often mentions his stay at Sidney Place'.

7pp

14 21 June 1848

Letter from [Thomas Wallis] 78 York Road, Lambeth, London, to 'My Dear Madden', (Daniel Owen Madden). Concerns Madden's writing of Thomas Davis' life 'a man so little known and so prematurely cut off'. The author thinks it should be published by a Dublin house. Asks if there is much in the letters (by Davis) and recommends that it be published in 2 volumes. Says that Davis is 'extraordinarily little known in England', while the names of most of the other Young Irelander's have lately become familiar to the English, but Davis was gone before the party which he formed had attained recognised importance.

Mentions the poems of Davis and the marking of previously published volumes by Charles Gavan Duffy.

4pp

15 c. August - September 1848

'Extract of letter from Deasy' to Daniel Owen Madden. He reiterates the point of his last letter, hoping the government would allow Denny Lane to leave prison upon the sole condition of his travelling upon the continent for 2 or 3 months. Deasy thinks this would be more agreeable to Lane and that the government may require a termination of his connection with the (Repeal) Clubs which has already occurred de facto. Some consideration is needed about the substance and form of the arrangement in order to secure Lane's release and future action in politics. Wishes to speak with McCullogh who has great regard for Lane. 'As to what WP may think or say I attach very little importance to it.' (See also U611/30 and /50)

3pp

(iii) Charles Gavan Duffy (1842-1849) (9 items)

16 3 July 1842

Letter, from George Gavan Duffy (Editor, 'The Nation') to Thomas Davis, 61 Baggot Street, Dublin. 'I had a letter from our friend Dillion (John Blake Dillion, b.1816, co-founder of 'The Nation') promising to send me the Prospectus but it has never reached me...'. Asks Davis to request Dillion to forward it.

1p

17 11 July 1845

Letter, from Charles Gavan Duffy to 'My Dear Lane', Denny Lane, Cork, offering condolences on the death of Lane's father Maurice Lane. Wishes to cheer Lane 'under a loss that cannot be supplied, by convincing you how many true friends you have to share your feelings.'

2pp

18 23 January 1846

Letter, from Charles Gavan Duffy, to Denny Lane, Sydney Parade, Cork. He chastises Lane for not writing to him since Lane returned to Cork. 'Barry has told you of our Great Design – does it not warm you?' Lane, he says, is 'the only man in Munster whose aid we ask or desire – John Dillion for Connaught, John O'Hagan for Ulster, John Pigot for Leinster and Denny Lane for Munster'. Duffy expects Lane to sign a solemn covenant to that effect. Mentions 'the promised volume' for the Library of Ireland and Ballads for The Nation, and that the library is tolerably provided for 12 months, '...but then you must come to the rescue...'. There has been a letter from Dillion 'who is improving apace'. Hopes Lane will not be tempted to go into Parliament at present as '...what can a man do there now. By and Bye the good time will come – but you must wait for it'.

3pp

19 27 April 1846

Letter, from Charles Gavan Duffy to Denny Lane, 4 Sydney Place, Cork. 'I have got your books from...Davis...'. He understands that Madden is in Cork, and asks Lane to say to Madden that he trusts 'nothing has happened to interfere with the good understanding that I hoped existed between us...'. Asks Lane of his promised doings, 'the time to do them is now before you enter public life – now, now, now'. Mentions his efforts to get a horse 'as you did not get me a horse when O'Gorman was with you'. Expects a definite answer on the subject of 'our Northern Excursion'. Postscript, 'Davis' poems are just out – beautifully printed, and carefully edited'.

4pp

20 1 June 1846

Letter, from Charles Gavan Duffy, to 'My Dear Lane', Denny Lane, Sydney Parade, Cork. 'I wrote to you so long ago that the date may have been lost in the Fire of London...'. Concerns Lane's volumes of Parliamentary Debates which Duffy has sent to Barry, who will bring them to Cork. Duffy queries as to a convenient time 'for our fellow tourists to truck down on the North', asking Lane to write to him via The Nation office. Continues, 'We are living in a whirlwind here- but it is fine training for our future...and I wish you were in the midst of it'.

He hopes Madden is better and says he wrote Lane about him 'but could extract no reply from you. Are you dead and if so why did you die?'

4pp

21 19 December 1846

Letter, from 'CGD' (Charles Gavan Duffy), to Denny Lane, Sydney Parade, Cork. 'My dear Lane. There is no denying you are a terrible scamp – but... I forgive you'. Says they have done exactly in the Nation as Lane recommended before Lane's advice arrived. Duffy continues that Barry's letter arrived after the first edition of the Nation was printed and that he will print it next week, but he considers it bad policy as 'we have OC [Daniel O'Connell] now in the wrong – let us keep him there'. Duffy is concerned that 'some Seceders might go back without getting reforms... Let Young Ireland like Wordsworth's cloud "move together or not move at all"'. Requests Lane to send speedily a paper for "The Irish Party" which is sadly neglected by all Volunteers. Asks Lane to show this letter to Barry, as Mitchel is away and he doesn't have time to write to Barry. Concludes 'The verses by Brennan are weak... but I have seen good things from him in the Southern Reporter...'. With signet seal of Duffy.

4pp

22 29 March 1848

Printed circular letter from Charles Gavan Duffy, Chairman of Sub-Committee, Irish Confederation, to Denny Lane Esquire, Cork. States that the Council of the Confederation are of the opinion that a 'speedy election of the proposed Council of Three Hundred has become necessary', in order to provide the country with some organ which could 'speak on behalf of the entire people', and to negotiate 'our liberties with England, if the example of European Events has yet awakened her to the necessity of concession – and if not... to enforce our rights'. Enquires whether a joint Meeting of Repealers could be held in the local district, 'The country is beginning to look to the Assembly with hope... and this feeling must not be let die away...'

1p

23 20 April 1849

Letter, from Charles Gavan Duffy to Denny Lane, 4 Sydney Place, Cork. 'I have been learning wisdom is a hard school...It has shattered me, but...I will be fit for service again'. Tells Lane he will 'plunge into Munster' in a few weeks and they will have a talk 'de omnibus'. He will not revive the Nation in the interval and hopes Lane will not be in Paris when he is in Cork. Says he has not seen Madden. Postscript 'You have not utterly abandoned Irish music and her sister arts I trust. I do not detect your hand in the Province'.

2pp

24 2 October 1849

Letter, From Charles Gavan Duffy to Denny Lane, Sydney Place, Cork. Marked 'Private'. 'Dan Callaghan we hear is dead – can Butt be made his successor?...'. tells Lane that until he is prepared to represent Cork 'there is no man you ought to be better content with...'. Butt would be a creditable member, worth considering 'in the present state of our parliamentary party...'. Butt would also have the trustees to avoid a contest and make his return easier than anyone else's.

3pp

(iv) William Smith O'Brien (1847- 1848) (5 items)

25 29 January 1847

Letter, from William Smith O'Brien, M.P., London, to 'My Dear Barry', Michael Joseph Barry Esquire, Blackrock, Cork. Concerns the Irish Distilling industry and the Irish Confederation. Thanks Barry for his 'very useful' letter and says he has taken exactly the same view regarding distilling from sugar and importation of Rum at a reduced rate of duty. He has twice spoken on the subject in the House (House of Commons) but some of his observations were not reported. He could not see any sympathy for Irish distillers in the House and from Irish members, except Dan O'Callaghan 'to whom I made a direct appeal'. A deputation of distillers is in London but he warns that the 'Scotch will also move' so he must plan to make some impression, although the Chancellor of the Exchequer is very resolute in his proposal. O'Brien

asks Barry to 'report to me fully the state of feeling in Cork regarding the Irish Confederation and local organisations. He suggests that the Confederation should hold a grand meeting in Cork before the end of the year '...but in these times of disaster the fewer meetings there are except upon subjects connected with the mitigation of the Famine the better...'. He hopes that they shall have a considerable number of adherents from Cork.

7pp

26 2 March 1848

Letter, from William Smith O'Brien (M.P.), London to 'My dear Sir', Denny Lane Esquire, 4 Sidney Place, Cork, enclosing 'a note in reply to the letter of your friend'. He has recommended to our friends in Dublin to get up a general meeting of Repealers of all classes. Outlines 4 resolutions, firstly to adopt an address of congratulations to the French People, secondly an address to the Queen with a respectful demand for the granting of Repeal; thirdly to declare 'unremitting hostility' to every government opposed to repeal; fourthly an address to the Irish People for them to 'preserve order & repress outrage...'. O'Brien wishes that the Repealers of Cork would foment a combined movement with those in Dublin and requests that Lane let him know what are the views 'generally entertained in improving the present state of affairs'. He hopes that the Cork Confederates will intervene in the Borough of Kinsale election, where two Englishmen 'Lord N Clinton and B. Harvey ex MP' are battling 'without the intervention of any Irish party in their quarrel'. He suggests a deputation to Kinsale 'to make reconnaissance to be followed if possible by a fight'.

8pp

27 23 April 1848

Letter, from William Smith O'Brien, Limerick to 'My Dear Sir', Denny Lane, Sidney Terrace, Cork. Concerns visit to the Repealers of Cork. Mentions a 'soirée' on Saturday night at which Meagher will attend. He will be proceeding to Cork and thence by way of Youghal and Dungarvan to Waterford. He does not wish to propose such a meeting 'unless it be desired by the men of Cork'. Suggests holding a soirée in the evening as 'the working classes will be enabled to take part in the demonstrations without interfering with their ordinary occupations...'

28 25 April 1848

Letter, from Denny Lane, 4 Sidney Place, Cork to 'My dear Sir' (William Smith O'Brien). 'I will not now attempt to excuse myself for not having answered the letter...before your departure for France' (Representatives of the Irish Confederation met the French Minister for Foreign Affairs in April 1848). Mentions a soirée to be held on the day of Smith's visit to Cork. Lane says it is the wish of the people for him to attend a meeting in May and to entertain Smith and Mr Meagher. 'Parties and politics are in a strange and anomalous condition here' Lane continues, and Smith's presence would be of service to the cause. Lane does not have the time to say any more but is anxious to give an explanation 'of the state of opinion here'. He writes that 'upon the principle' they agree but regarding the conduct of the movement '...it would be uncandid of me to say that I quite coincide with much that has been done in the Confederation'. He looks forward to talking over the subject and the present state of the Post Office is not suited to any unreserved communication. 'I will...endeavour to give you some explanation of my doubts for I can scarce call them more.'

4pp

29 18 June 1848

Letter, from William Smith O'Brien, Cahermoyle, to Denny Lane, Imperial Hotel, Dublin. O'Brien writes that he has not forgotten the Cork Invitation but that he would prefer to attend a more general meeting which would 'combine all classes of Repealers', perhaps a meeting of the United Repealers, as 'How many excellent Repealers would be reluctant to join in any demonstration complimentary to us'. He has made his wish known to the Secretary of the Citizen's Club and that the 'circumstances of the present hour seem to invite the People of Cork to express their adhesion to the Proposed League' and the promotion of the re-union of all Repealers in one Confederacy. He wishes to make a personal inspection of the efficiency of the Club organisation in Cork. O'Brien asks Lane to show this letter to Meagher and concludes that he thinks the Confederates are more useful in the Provinces than in Dublin at present.

(v) Relating to Imprisonment (1848) (4 items)

30 8 August 1848

Letter, from George [Climpton], 27 South Mall, Cork, to 'My dear Lane', Cork Prison. He made several efforts to see Lane but was precluded by the 'strictness of the present regulations'. His object was to assure Lane '...that an old friend feels for you as a friend should in sunshine or storm...'. He has reason to believe that he has some influence with the authorities and if Lane was brought to trial 'there are a few of us opposed to you in political views, but attached to you by stronger bonds...who will readily exert ourselves to serve you...no religion or political difference has the power of effacing from my mind the recollection of old and happier days...'. (See also U611/15 and /50)

2pp

31 September 1848

Draft letter from Denny Lane, Cork City Prison, to J.N. Redington Esquire, Dublin Castle. Contains a statement regarding his arrest and detention since 2 August 1848 under warrant of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Habeas Corpus Suspension Act. He has waited patiently for a specific charge, and now demands to meet any such charges, or to be released from prison. He states that he is actively engaged in manufacturing and agricultural industry on an extensive scale and his imprisonment is limiting his ability to provide a very large number of persons employment in his neighbourhood and stopping his 'personal superintendence' of his business. Lane 'cannot believe' that the Government desires to hamper industry 'particularly in such a year as the present'. He will enter into recognizances 'to any amount that may be required' to secure his release.

4pp

32 September 1848

Further draft of U611/31

5pp

33 20 September 1848

Letter, from J.N. Redington, Dublin Castle, to Denny Lane Esquire, City Gaol, Cork. 'Sir, In answer to your letter of yesterday...'. Informs Lane that he is detained under 'Act II Victoria Cap.35' concerned with treasonable practice. 'His Excellency does not feel that he can direct any steps to be taken for your release'. (See also U611/31)

1p

(vi) Regarding the David Roche Affair (1846) (5 items)

34 22 March 1846

Letter, from Denny Lane to 'My dear Ambrose'. Encloses a copy of Sir David Roche's letter refuting a statement made by Lane at a public meeting. The letter asks to be permitted to refer Roche to Ambrose '...as it was on your authority that I made the statement in question...I make no doubt but that you will be able to explain it to his satisfaction...'.

1p

35 28 March 1846

Copy letter from Denny Lane, 4 Sidney Place, Cork, to Sir David Roche Bart. Regrets that he has not again addressed Roche on the subject of his letter of the 18th concerning the accuracy of statements made by Lane. Lane encloses the names and addresses of those 'on whose authority I relied...'. Lane says that how ever unpleased for him '...to give publicity to any statement that could ever be called into question...', he is glad to have afforded Roche the opportunity '...of bringing to issue a charge that had...gained extensive circulation'.

2pp

36 29 March 1846

Draft letter, from Denny Lane, Sidney Place, Cork, to ‘My dear Ambrose’, Cork. Lane has been waiting patiently for a reply to his letter (22 March) and having spoken to Tom Daly on the subject he supposes Ambrose’ silence ‘...gives consent to my request that I might be at liberty to refer Sir D Roche to you as my authority for the statement which he has called into question...’. Lane has forwarded a letter to Roche and now encloses a copy. Remarks that the newspaper report of his speech was ‘not literally correct, but...substantially so’.

2pp

37 31 March 1846

Letter from Sir David Roche, 10 Merrion Square North, Dublin, to Denny Lane, Cork, in reply to Lane’s letter of 29 March. Roche says he is favoured by Lane’s letter referring him to Dr. Ambrose of Newcastle (Co. Limerick) as Lane’s authority for a charge against Roche at a public meeting in Cork, but that he has already informed Lane that the statement was a fabrication, and that Lane should sift out the truth or falsehood of the charge. Roche remarks that this is not a ‘...candid or straight forward way to correct a misstatement...’ and will not give the public more confidence in Lane’s future speeches. He asks Lane to publicly state that Ambrose has not been able to support his statement and continues, ‘You will then Sir, have done me justice and corrected yourself with the public, and let your “Limerick Gentleman” get out of his gossip as well as he can’.

4pp

38 2 April 1846

Drafts of letter from Denny Lane, 4 Sidney Place, Cork to Sir David Roche. Acknowledges receipt of letter of 31 March. Lane has seen Roche’s letter to Mr Sugrue detailing Roche’s treatment of his tenants in Limerick and explaining how ‘injurious’ statements on Roche’s character as a landlord may have developed. Lane accounts for the delay in replying with the details of his informant Dr. Ambrose, ‘...I must say that I could not have adopted a more candid or straightforward course...’.

6pp

(vii) Other Correspondence relating to 1840's politics (16 items)

Richard O’Gorman (1846) (1 item)

39 23 January 1846

Letter, from Richard O’Gorman, ‘Library’, to Denny Lane, 4 Sidney Place, Cork. Says he has just been speaking to Nally who reports in the Roll but he found none deciding the point mentioned by Lane. He will enquire whether such a decision has been made in the Exchequer. Asks Lane to ‘Read me in tomorrow’s Nation and tell me what you think...I spoke without preparation and merely gave...the best report I could from Memory...’. (See also U611/48)

4pp

Denny Lane (1846) (1 item)

40 5 September 1846

Letter from Denny Lane, 4 Sidney Place, Cork, to J.M. Ray, Secretary, Loyal National Repeal Association, Corn Exchange Rooms, Dublin. Lane requests that his name be removed from the list of members of the Association ‘ As the policy lately adopted...and the recent expulsion of independent members, without cause, charge, notice, or form, seems to me to be calculated (if it is not designed) to perpetuate the Legislative Union, and to extinguish freedom of opinion in Ireland...’.

1p

J.M. Ray (1846) (1 item)

41 10 September 1846

Letter, from J.M. Ray, Secretary, Loyal National Repeal Association, Cork Exchange Rooms, Dublin, to Denny Lane Esquire, 4 Sidney Place, Cork. Ray Acknowledges receipt of Lane’s letter of resignation

from the Association received 7 September 1846 and says that on the grounds stated by Lane, he ceases to be a member.

1p

John Mitchel (1846) (1 item)

42 25 October 1846

Letter, from John Mitchel, Heathfield, Upper Leeson Street, Dublin, to 'My dear Sir', Denny Lane, Cork. Mitchel requests Lane to contribute to a section of the Nation newspaper proposed by Smith O'Brien, for 'those Repealers whose energies are withdrawn from the Repeal Assn. its meetings and Committees...'. The section will contain original reports and papers 'on the wants & resources & prospects of this island in every shape...industrial, statistical & economic...' and especially regarding new legislation 'with a view of systematically exhibiting the real exigencies of the country...'. The title of 'Young Ireland' will be put at the top of the section. The main consideration, Mitchel writes, is in the 'men who may be calculated upon to keep such a thing moving...', many of whom are 'very good writers & very well informed' but require a little organisation by assigning particular subjects to prevent 'vague declamations of which the world is weary'. Mitchel asks Lane's opinion on the project, whether he will contribute and his preferred subject. He names Dillion, Duffy, Pigot, O'Hagan, McGee, Bindon, Martin, Reilly, and Rev. Mr. Meehan of the 'Confederation of Kilkenny'.

3pp

T. Devin Reilly (1846) (1 item)

43 11 December 1846

Letter (printed) marked 'Private and Confidential' from T Devin Reilly, Acting Secretary, National Repeal Association, Nation Office, Dublin, to 'Sir' (Denny Lane, Cork). Encloses 5 resolutions adopted at a meeting of the Seceders of Dublin, held at the Nation Office, and requesting opinions and advice on same. The 1st resolution was moved by Richard O'Gorman and seconded by Charles Taaffe concerning

overtures of reconciliation made by Daniel O’Connell. The 2nd was moved by John Mitchell, seconded by Rev. Mr. Meehan, not to reiterate all the points of difference. The 3rd, moved by T.F. Meagher, seconded by Thomas D’Arcy McGee (on behalf of the Committee of the Dublin Remonstrants) on waiving the right to nominate persons and accepting those suggested by Daniel O’Connell. The 4th was moved by Charles Gavan Duffy and seconded by P.J. Smyth, regarding the substitution of Mr. O’Hagan. The 5th was moved by William Bryax, Raheny and Dr. Duffy of Finglas regarding the ascertaining of opinions of Seceders residing at a distance. Resolutions backed by James Haughton, Chairman and T.Devin Reilly, Acting Secretary.

2pp

Motion for Meeting of [Cork Repealers] [1846] (1 item)

44 [December 1846]

Motion for Meeting of [Cork Repealers] ‘ That we hereby adopt the National Declaration of the United Repealers of Dublin’. Text of the Declaration given, stating that the inhabitants of Ireland declare a ‘solemn conviction’ that the continuance of legislative Union between Great Britain and Ireland ‘is a grievance and that the permanent peace and prosperity of this country and the rights of property therein can only be secured by an immediate Repeal of the measure’. Pledges best exertions for the attainment of that object. States that ‘Being also thoroughly convinced of the religious ascendancy we pledge ourselves...to oppose any infringement of the rights of conscience or exclusion from political power of any class of Irishman on account of their religious faith’.

1 item

Thomas Darcy McGee (1848) (1 item)

45 1 January 1848

Circular letter from Thomas D’Arcy McGee, 9 D’Olier Street, Dublin, to ‘My Dear Sir’, Denny Lane Esq, Barrister, Cork. McGee informs

members that the Council have arranged for anniversary meetings to be held in Dublin on the 11th, 12th and 13th of January 1848. The meetings will consider plans of action for the coming year, review the condition of the country and political events, and the Council is anxious to ascertain the actual strength of the Confederate organisation in both kingdoms. Requests answers to 5 queries concerning the strength and activities of the Club in the relevant District.

3pp

T.B. McManus (1848) (1 item)

46 9 February 1848

Letter and Reports from T.B. McManus, Liverpool, England, to Denny Lane, Cork. Apologises for non-reply to his 'favour of the 4th December'. Explains that the delay was caused by heavy shipments for North America, which occupied his attention for nearly 3 weeks. He was also interrupted by Influenza, but has now completed 'all necessary enquiries' and now appends his reports under the different headings. 'The Spiritual Department...Liverpool', he can find Lane an agent to push trade in this town, a landlord, an Irishman, 'For the trade purposes...it would be better to sell from Sample and let the purchaser pay duty..You could send weekly by steamer...'. Similar entry on 'London and Birmingham', 'It is quite clear that whiskey will be the predominant drink in England...'.

4pp

Policing of Young Ireland Movement (1848) (1 item)

47 14-17 June 1848

Item containing copies of documents relating to the Policing of the Young Ireland movement and Confederate Clubs. Copy of letter, 16 June 1848, marked 'Confidential', from J.N. Redington, Dublin Castle, to Col. McGregor, Inspector General, (Royal Irish Constabulary), with request from the Lord Lieutenant concerning attempts to establish an organisation throughout the country by means of clubs, associations or

societies in connection with a party calling itself 'The Young Ireland Party'. The Lord Lieutenant requests the Inspector General to communicate confidentially with the officers of the Constabulary directing their particular attention to this subject, especially watching proceedings and obtaining court evidence of their movements. Gives 5 points of particular note, firstly to obtain evidence regarding any secret nature of the society, secondly the object of the club, whether it is concerned with the purchase or distribution of arms; thirdly the names of the principle officers of the club, those whose premises are used for meetings and all persons with relations with the club; fourthly whether the club is divided into sections and is in the habit of practising military exercises; fifthly the amount of arms which may be possessed by the enrolled members. Reports are to be made for the information of the Government and information communicated to the Resident Magistrates of the Districts. Copy of Circular, 14 June 1848, marked Confidential, from D. McGregor, Inspector General, Constabulary Office, Dublin Castle, regarding the duty to obtain accurate information in each District about meetings called 'Confederate Clubs', including the place of the meeting, names of officers and members, the grounds for the formation of the Club, and meeting transactions. Copy of Notice/Circular from D. McGregor, Inspector General, concerning the Promotions which have taken place this month in the Constabulary Force. 'They require some very strong stimulant to keep their loyalty screwed up to the proper pitch. It was nearly gone to the dogs...'. Promotions include six 2nd Sub Inspectors to be promoted to 1st Sub Inspectors at a salary of £150-00. Continues, 'In counties where vacancies exist in the Ranks County Inspectors will recommend the most deserving men'. Concluding text 'Let me ask who are these deserving men alluded to, I answer, fabricators of crimes and outrages, spies and detectives and persecutors of the people...'.
 3pp

Richard O'Gorman (1848) (1 item)

48 8 July 1848

Letter, from Richard O'Gorman, Council Rooms, Dublin, to Denny Lane, Sidney Place, Cork. Asks Lane to apologise to 'our friends' in Cork as he cannot attend their soirée due to a meeting of the Dublin

Clubs. Remarks that the conduct of the government and their Police in Dublin is becoming more arbitrary and tyrannical every day. Tells how the office type, newspapers and all were seized and that 'All this looks like business and men should prepare their minds for what they may expect'. Says the courses likely to be adopted by the Government are to intimidate and break down the rising spirit of the people or 'lash...them into riot and premature outbreak...Have the people the patient courage that can wait and suffer yet prepare and hope?'. (See also U611/39)

4pp

Thomas Mathew Halpin (1848) (1 item)

49 14 July 1848

Letter from Thomas Mathew Halpin, Committee Rooms of the Irish League, 2 Dame Street, Dublin to 'Dear Sir', Denny Lane Esquire, Cork. Informs Lane of next meeting of the Honorary Secretaries of the Irish League. The meeting should 'present as large an array of adhesions as possible, and enrol an immense number of United Repealers, the Committee rely upon your using all the influences you can command in Cork for that end'.

2pp

Thomas England (1848) (1 item)

50 9 August 1848

Letter, from Thomas England, Cork to 'My Dear John'. Explains that the reason he did not write on receipt of letter was because of his preparations for America. He intends to visit England on his way to Liverpool. Relates that M.J. Barry, Denny Lane, the Varians, and Mullan are in gaol under the Habeas Corpus (Suspension) Act, and their houses searched. 'It is reported that there are charges against Lane for High Treason but I don't believe a word of it...any charges...are unfounded.' Reports that F Mangan is gone to New York and other young men have also left. England is in good spirits about his trip and his Cork friends give him every hope of success. (See also U611/30, /15, /51).

R. Deasy (1848) (1 item)

51 28 December 1848

Letter from R. Deasy, 184 Brunswick Street, Dublin, to 'My Dear Lane', Denny Lane, Cork. 'I have not hitherto acknowledged the receipt of your letter partly because I was much occupied...'. Deasy is glad to hear from Madden that Lane's health has not suffered by his imprisonment. Mainly concerns Madden looking for the 'Chair of English Literature & History in the new College of Cork' (Queens College Cork). Deasy sees the chief difficulty for Madden in this matter to be the hostility which may arise from Catholic Clergy due to Madden's religious position. Requests Lane's opinion of the matter and asks Lane to find out the sentiments of Bishop Delaney (William Delaney, Bishop of Cork) '...a sensible moderate man and I believe reticent...'. 'Any communication', Deasy continues, 'should be so guarded as to prevent its coming to the ears of any of the hot-brained priests who might...indulge in ultra Episcopal zeal...' and injure Madden's case. (See also U611/50)

4pp

Portion of draft speech or letter, and declaration (1848) (2 items)

52 [1848]

Portion of draft speech or letter. 'Apart from these considerations is the fact that every place bestowed by government is bestowed by favour...'. A representative of a constituency 'should be ready at any movement to denounce or to oppose the minister, should the interests of those whom he represents demand his doing so... We have disposed of objections...to the resolution: let us now confront a slander... We will not stoup to defend ourselves against a charge which insults the character of our city...it is not necessary to say more on...the policy which we require to be pursued by our representatives in parliament...'.
3pp

53 [1848]

‘Declaration of the Inhabitants of the County and City of Cork’ concerning ‘the record of immediate measures to satisfy the just demands of the Irish people. ‘During the period of rule of the Imperial Parliament the condition of the country and people gradually has grown worse and more hopeless...’. A mischievous course of centralisation’ concentrated expenditure in England, and the consequence has been an increase in pauperism in Ireland, ‘vainly attempted to be remedied by an ill advised poor law system. Argues for the restoration of an Irish Parliament which alone can save the country from ‘social ruin’. Advocates loyalty to the Throne, anxiety to preserve public order and property rights, and opposition to ‘all religious ascendancy’. Immediate concern to these claims can alone prevent public disturbance.

2pp

John Martin (1849) (1 item)

54 17 June 1849

Letter from John Martin, on board the *Mount Stuart*, Elphinstown, Cove Harbour, to ‘Dear Sir’ (Denny Lane, Cork). ‘Mr O’Doherty and I were put on board this convict transport this morning...’. Martin relates that their removal from Richmond Prison was quite sudden and they ‘counted in sharing the fate of our friends the “traitors”’. They were given no information on their destination, whether ‘Spike or the Cape or Van Dieman’s Land or Jericho’ and are ‘unfurnished in many respects’ for the voyage. They must take the rations of ‘ordinary convicts’ or ‘”arrange” a different mess with the Captain’. Martin makes a ‘bold request’ to get money from his brother-in-law Dr. Simpson as a loan. He hopes the rest of their rebellious comrades won’t be sent to join them due to the probability of overcrowding in their state room if there were ‘6 Irish Rebels’. Concludes they are ‘stout in body & mind & intend to be so for our ten years or as much longer time as the Enemy may be able to hold us’.

3pp

(viii) Later Material

Isaac Butt (1873) (1 item)

55 8 October 1873

Letter, from Isaac Butt M.P, Leader of the Home Rule Party, Dublin, to 'My Dear Ronayne'. He is 'greatly obliged for all the trouble you took about the Club'. Mentions his obligation to Mrs. Ronayne for her trouble and a letter from O'Neill Daunt on Ronayne's suggestion about a meeting in Cork. Butt agrees with Ronayne that 'it is too late for any open air demonstration but a meeting of delegates ... would be very useful... It is easy to keep clear of the convention act.'

3pp

Denny Lane Home Rule Membership (1875) (1 item)

56 1 September 1875

Certificate of Membership of the Irish Home Rule League, Denny Lane Esquire, Cork, for period ending 1 September 1875. With celtic-style decoration and image of the Irish Parliament Building at College Green, Dublin. Signatories of Honorary Secretaries include John O Blunden, W.J. O'W.Davitt, Joseph A. Galbraith, W.R. Redmond M.P. On reverse are printed the general principles and objects of the Irish Home Rule League.

1 item

57 21 May 1876

Letter, from Isaac Butt M.P., United Hotel, London, to Denny Lane, Cork. 'I was not here yesterday when your telegram came...'. Butt has every reason to believe that the University Bill will be approved by the Catholic prelates, but that they have unfinished opinions on the subject, and he has no authority to say that it has the sanction of any among them. He cannot go beyond his statement in the House of Commons and wishes the letter to be considered 'entirely private', 'we are looking with great anxiety to the results of the Cork election'.

Charles Gavan Duffy (1879) (3 items)

58 4 February 1879

Letter from Charles Gavan Duffy, Parliament House, Melbourne, Australia, to Denny Lane, Cork. I will try to get your protégé employed in a Brewery, to get him employed in the Public Service is wholly impossible'. Tells of a political and commercial crisis at present, 'If there were ten bankruptcies in Cork and an insurrection fixed for Autumn, it would be about an equivalent for our troubles...'. He has 'worn out his friends' trying to place young Irishmen 'who come to me...by every ship'. Asks Lane to send his carte (photo) as he is the 'only one of the Y.I (Young Ireland) of whom I have no likeness' and also to send letters of Davis or Dillon for a memoir of '48 (1848). Laments that there are few of the original Young Irelanders left, except for Lane, O'Hagan, and Richard O'Gorman in America. Duffy intends to go to Europe to complete his book when the Parliament is dissolved.

4pp

59 17 July 1879

Letter, from Charles Gavan Duffy, 117 [Siran] Street, London, to Denny Lane, Cork. 'Many thanks for the carte de visite...'. Asks Lane to return to him the correspondence, with final corrections, plus any notes Lane may have upon 'that period'. Duffy has got John McNevin's papers, but not Barry's, and '...the book was the judgement upon you for raising him from a watery grave...'. Tells of interest in forthcoming volume.

3pp

60 17 November [1879]

Letter from Charles Gavan Duffy, 19 Lower Phillimore Place, Kensington, London to Denny Lane, Cork. Requests Lane to review his second volume which is coming out in December, 'I have wasted so much energy on it that I am beginning to hate the sight of it...'. Asks

U611/

Lane if he ever takes Mrs. Lane abroad, and that he would have a hearty welcome in Nice.

2pp

Michael Davitt (1894) (1 item)

61 28 November 1894

Letter from Michael Davitt, Ballybrack (County Dublin), to 'My dear Mr. Lane', Denny Lane, Cork. Davitt is deeply grateful for Lane's kindness 'in the matter of the vacant post in the Queen's College'. He does not know young McEldery personally but was asked by his friend Rev. Richard Little of County Down 'who is a staunch Nationalist-though a Unitarian Minister...to try and interest my friends on behalf of an Ulster Protestant applicant...'. Concludes with a 'fervent hope that you may continue to climb our biggest mountains (without, however scattering boulders around) until you come up to the opening of an Irish Parliament...'

4pp

C. Personal Material, Writings and Lyrics

The Munster Bar (1839) (1 item)

62 6 May 1839

List of Members of the Munster Bar. 'At a General Meeting of the Munster Bar held on 6th May 1839, George Bennett, Esq, in the Chair, the following Resolution was passed unanimously RESOLVED – That the Committee be directed to call in the Members...who have not already subscribed to the Wine Fund, to pay their Subscriptions of One Pound each'. Also with a list of members' names. Names include Beamish, Besnard, Bereton, Coppinger, Fitzgerald, Goold, Galwey, Herrick, Jackson, Lalor, Lane, Longfield, McCarthy, O'Connell, O'Donovan, O'Leary, Pigott, Perrier, Rutherford, Sarsfield, Townsend, Wrixon.

1 item

John O'Hagan (1855) (1 item)

63 25 June 1855

Letter, from John O'Hagan, 20 Kildare Street, Dublin to Denny Lane, Cork. 'John Pigot with Mrs Pigot and the Miss Phelans are coming over to take a cup of tea...I will take it as a very great favour if you will accompany them...'.
2pp

2pp

Denny Lane – Draft Writings (c.1840-1850) (1 item)

64 c.1840 - 1850

Writings in draft form by Lane, 'The expostulatory address of Old Nick' address to Councillor M.Joseph Barry, Queens Inn Chambers, Henrietta Street, Dublin. Contains verse, such as, 'Do you think I am Such a fool of a devil, and a devil of a fool,

As to stop when the wine's so deliciously cool?...'
'The Devil's dinner...He ate with great relish a pair of fried soles...'

4p

Francis Woodley (1842) (1 item)

65 8 July 1842

Letter from Francis Woodley to Denny Lane, 4 Sidney Place, Cork. Concerns a breakfast and fishing trip on the River Lee. Written with playful and comical intent in the manner of a legal document, 'I Francis Woodley by the grace of God of all I here about...do survey, send to my well beloved friends and cousins Denny Lane Esqre Barrister at law and Wm Lander Esqre Student...greeting...'

Eugene Curry (1844) (1 item)

66 7 October 1844

Letter from Eugene Curry, Royal Irish Academy, Dublin, to 'Dear Sir', Denny Lane, Cork. Concerns the genealogy of the O'Liathain family. 'As I have not the advantages of a South Munster birth and a Blarney education, being a mere Dalcassian...'. Discusses the origin of the name from Uibh Liathain, an 'extensive territory in the now County of Cork...'. Thanks Lane for his trouble in getting a list of 'Mr O'Flynn's MSS...one of which ...was certainly sold here by Long, to Sir Wm Betham. Lists O'Flynn's remaining manuscript, including the Lives of the Saints, Chronicon Scotorum, and enquires whether O'Flynn would give away the items, 'We are making great efforts here to bring together and save from further ruin...all the remnants of our ancient literature – Anything that comes into Sir Wm. Betham's hands is never again heard of here...'

4pp

Writings by Lane (?c.1840s- 1860s) (4 items)

67 n.d.

Page of writing [by Denny Lane]. 'L. I know will do all he can to show me whats to be seen...He is a fine fellow, but hardly selfish enough for great success except as an apostle...Agitation may have its evils which make some men prefer open force...Agitation does not break heads but it breaks hearts...hypocrisy...meanness and all uncharitableness are the habitual courtiers of moral agitation'. [Words by Thomas Davis].

1p

68 n.d.

Notes by Lane entitled 'Louis XIV'. 'A reign which has been so often celebrated as the zenith of warlike and literary splendour but which has always appeared to me to be the consummation of whatever is afflicting and degrading in the history of the human race...'

2pp

69 n.d.

Writings by Lane in draft form, mainly concerning the Irish political situation. 'Sometimes I turn away from the present and gazing forward thro' the long alley of the future my fancy strives to form some image of the texture into which the destinies of my country will be woven in the web of time...'

5pp

70 n.d.

Writings by Denny Lane in draft form. Appears to concern the future political situation in Ireland. 'When the destiny of my country comes to be woven in the loom of time, I pray that the national fibre though lustrous and pure may be knit into a texture tough as manhood yet flexible as womanhood, reflecting from its surface the sheen of the heaven above it and woven into no unvarying pattern...If I and my forebears have inherited the evil effects of Tyranny, we have also...inherited...the privilege to forgive...The nation that Grattan half created and that Davis strove to create again...unite into raising itself far above the accidents of time...'

4pp

Poetry and Lyrics (?1840s-?1870s) (12 items)

71 27 January 1849

Lyrics of a ballad/air 'To D.L.' (Denny Lane) in 8 verses.
'One beautiful eve when all nature was sleeping
And the bright sun has sunk in the west to repose...'

2pp

72 n.d.

'Lines found on the Riverstown road between the hours of 7 and 8 on
Saturday morning'. Lyrics in 4 verses,
'I write this ode to thee
Oh! Most Charming Maid
Lovely Hennessy!
Star of the "Grand Parade"...'

2pp

72b n.d.[February 1845]

'Lament of the Irish Maiden, A Brigade Ballad', lyrics, and music.
Lyrics are by Denny Lane.
'On Carrigdhoun the heath is brown,
The clouds are dark o'er Ardnalea...'

2 items.

72c n.d.

Music score marked 'D Lane'
'Oh Maureen mo Colleen my heavy hearts breaking
To hear the thick sobs up from your breast...'

4pp

73 n.d.

Manuscript lyrics [by Lane]'To XXX A young girl who loved flowers
Aetat. XV'

U611/

‘In a fair garden many a plant there grew
Each on with beauty and with worth endowed,
Various in habit, form, in scent, in hue
As shapes one sees in some mad masquing crowd...’

2pp

74 n.d

Typescript of U611/73

2pp

75 n.d.

As U611/73. Written on the reverse of Cork Gas Consumers Company letterhead note paper, with addenda and revisions.

9pp

76 pre-1850

Printed garland of song lyrics, ‘Immortal O’Connell’ and ‘The Lass of Richmond Hill’.

‘Each liberal brave your attention I crave
To these lines that’s composed on that
Wonderful man,
O’Connell the great on this subject I’ll
Treat

Whose name is so famous thro’ Erin’s
Green land’. (from verse 1 of 8)

Concerns Daniel O’Connell, M.P. Mentions ‘Erins sad grievances’ and ‘thousands idle and sorely distressed’.

‘On Richmond Hill there lives a lass
More bright than May day morn,
Whose charms all other maids surpass
A rose without a thorn...’. (Richmond Hill, from verse 1 of 3)
Printed by W.Kelly, Waterford.

4pp

77 pre-1850

Printed garland of song lyrics 'The Sprig of Shilelagh', 'The Brides mistake at meeting her mother-in-law' and 'My Native Home'.
'O Love is the soul of a neat Irishman,
He loves all the lovely and loves all that he can,
With is Sprig of Shilelagh and Shamrock so green...' (The Sprig of Shilelagh)

'Girls did you hear how the old woman treats their daughter-in-laws
How sweet they will be on them until they ge[t] them in their claws...'.
(The Brides Mistake...)

'O'er breezy hill or woodland glade...
The wretch in sadness shall roam
Who wanders from his native home'. (My Native Home)
Printed by W.Kelly, Waterford.

9pp

78 pre-1850

Printed garland of song lyrics, 'The Burial of General Sir John Moore', 'Darby Kelly O!' and 'The Old Miser and the Young Wife'.

'Not a drum was heard not a funeral note,
As his corpse to the rampart we hurried...' (General Sir John Moore)

'My grandsire beat a drum so neat,
His name was Darby Kelly, O...
When Marlbro's name first rais'd his fame...
At Blenheim he and Ramillie...' (Darby Kelly O!)

'I am a poor miser both old and lame
And out of Northumberland county I came
I married a young damsel about twenty-one
And the very day after my sorrows began...'. (The Old Miser and the Young Wife)

Printed by W.Kelly, Waterford.

9pp

79 Pre-1850

Printed garland of song lyrics, 'The Turk and the Pope! A Curious and rare Poem, Appointed to be read in all The Reformed Churches, Both at Home and Abroad.' The poem 'is with great respect inscribed to all worthy, liberal, and enlightened Protestants, (of every sect)...whose exalted minds are...above petty artifice...by a few fanatics...[who raise]...prejudice against their Catholic bretheren...'

'With you that love to rail at Church and Pope,
And glory in your freedom from their yoke
...Such Dire dissension thro' this island range.

How happens it, that we so disagree ?

I mean your English Church from Popery...

Rome's spotless Church shall thro' the world resound...'

Printed in Dublin at the Wholesale and Retail Book Stationary
Warehouse, No.3 Mary Street.

9pp

80 n.d.

Cuttings/fragments from the 'Sam Hall Songster' of lyrics. Includes 'Rory O'More', 'St James's and St. Gile's', 'The Leather Bottel', 'You all knew Old Dusty'.

8pp

D. Businessman (1855 – 1865) (2 items)

81 30 June 1855

Deed of Release. Several creditors of Denny Lane acknowledge payment of outstanding debts at a rate of 15 shillings to the pound. Enclosed are receipts of payment by Denny Lane. Creditors include Robert Honan £296.17.6, John Sheen £171.5.0, William Adams £242.11.0, Robert Chambers £300, Robert Shaw £291.11.4, Henry Young £277.19.4 and the Burkes Brothers £540.15.7.

1 item plus enclosures

82 24 June 1865

Patent from Queen Victoria to Alfred Henry Still and Denny Lane, both of the City of Cork for an invention for Improvement in the manufacture of Gas. For 14 years once the invention is registered with the Great Seal Patent Office within 6 calendar months.

2 skins

E. Secretary and Resident Engineer, Cork Gas Company (1881-c.1895) (72 items)

(i) Correspondence from Denny Lane (1881-1893) (48 items)

83 16 June 1881

Letter, from Denny Lane, Secretary and Resident Engineer of Cork Gas Company, Birmingham, England, to J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. 'Since I set foot here I have been kept going so fast that I had no time to write'. Mainly concerns Lane's activities in investigating gas and lighting systems in England. He has 'written fully to Mr. Harrington about the Electric light'. Mentions that the public lighting in Birmingham near the Town Hall is the 'best public lighting he has ever seen', some lamps with '5 fish tail burners of Brass', of excellent effect, like 'a warm sunset in a fair autumn day'. Lane is 'greatly pleased' that Travers is recovering. Mentions cost of transporting pipes by steamer, suggesting a sailing vessel may be arranged. The engineers 'have been most courteous and obliging', particularly the President of the Gas Engineers (Institute). He stopped a row 'by bland suggestions very unlike those of a fighting Irishman'. He has picked up a good deal of information and believes that the Cork gas works will be capable of meeting an increase in consumption of gas. Lane concludes by observing that the electric light is 'nowhere' and has 'greatly served the interests of gas production'.

4pp

84 16 June 1881

Letter from Denny Lane, Secretary and Resident Engineer of Cork Gas Company, England, to 'My dear Mr O'Mahony', Cork Gas Company, Cork. 'I have not received your letter enclosing the copy of the memorial to Cardinal Simeoni...'. Lane is sorry he cannot sign the document in the form it has taken 'for more reasons than one'. He lists the reasons for this opinion. The letter related to the Church in the South Parish, Cork, mentioning the 'removal of the Dean', the 'almost military organisation of the Church' and the influence of the Dean over the Bishop'.

85 [19] June 1881

Memo. From Denny Lane, Oxford, England, to J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. Concerns Lane's social activities in Birmingham which he says he 'entered...comparitively unknown and left...the most popular man amongst the Gas Engineers'. He attended a party of 450 where he was called upon to respond to the Toast of Science, Literature and Art and 'happened by some good luck to strike the right key and was applauded to the skies...and had my praises sung in all the dialects of the North Countrie by the Scotchman'. He 'got more "Blarney" in one evening than I ever got in all my life in Ireland'. Lane explains that there was not much in his speeches, but that they were a contrast to 'some very stodgy men who went before me... who never used a phrase...that one had not heard 1000 times before. I suppose it was the brogue did it.'

2pp

86 21 June 1881

Letter, from Denny Lane, Mellon's Hotel, Covent Garden, London, to 'My dear Mr O'Mahony'. 'I got your letter only now as I was kept in Oxford...'. Mentions a fellow whose acquaintance he made and that Oxford is a 'most delightful place' which is 'greatly improved' since he last saw it 48 years ago.

1p

87 24 June 1881

Letter, from Denny Lane, Covent Garden Hotel, London, to 'My dear Mr. O'Mahony', Cork Gas Company, Cork. Mainly concerns Lane's investigations on Electric Light. A Mr.Schoolbred M.I.C.E. is giving him a lot of information and 'In every way corroborates the views I have already expressed to you'. Lane says there has been 'no commercial success' with the Fablockoff Co. 'in difficulties', Bush 'selling below cost', with Siemens only selling at a 'price that pays' and, Lane thinks, enthusiastic for the future extension of gas. Mr Schoolbred says electric light 'has greatly benefited the Gas Co here and will do so wherever it is introduced'. Also mentions arrangements for the delivery of gas coal.

88 27 June [1881]

Letter, from Denny Lane, London, England, to Mr. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. Lane has seen Mr Alexander Siemens, in charge of the electric light department who 'laughs at the idea of the [electric light] ... gas companies' and the 'very high price ... they charged for putting up the apparatus in the City'. Lane made a tour of all electric lights after 12 o'clock when the public house lights were out. The best lighting was by 'Brokies lamps'. Lane notes that a policeman told him that London was the only city in the world that could afford electric lighting. Lane is to pay a long visit to the South Metropolitan works which have several new processes under trial, and if he has time to the Siemens works at Woolich.

3pp

89 [28 June 1881]

Memorandum from Denny Lane, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Concerns his post. He thinks that letters from Mrs Lane and [Mr G] Lynch must have miscarried.

1p

90 [June 1881]

Memorandum from Denny Lane, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Relates to Lane's visit to Cromptons Electric Works at Chelmsford, England, 'where they showed me everything in course of construction'. Lane is concerned that a large portion of their work is for arc lighting, with expensive conductors and storage buttresses, but 'so far as I can see Gas Companies have little to fear from such a system'. Mentions a gas system at the Grosvenor Gallery with an unperfected meter. He cannot possibly get at all the systems in this visit, but 'got enough to think of for some time'.

3pp

91 22 September 1881

Note from Denny Lane, Grand Hotel De L'Athénee, Rue Scribe, Paris, France, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. 'Just arrived...Tell Mr Harrington my address at once...'

1p

92 24 September 1881

Letter, from Denny Lane, Grand Hotel De L'Athénee, Rue Scribe, Paris, France, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. 'Got your letter here...'. Lane hasn't received any letter from Mr Kerkman, but when home, will be ready to treat liberally with him about Glynstown. He writes that if the people will support it there is a future to be made and the capital required will be very small. Mentions 'regulators', preferably 'Scotch' which 'vary as little as the French ones'. Lane has sent a telegram by the post and 'will join on anything you and Travers wish for'. Contains observations on an electric lighting exhibition in Paris, 'I see no great progress except in incandescent lamps' such as Edison's and Fox's, which are of a 'more agreeable colour' than arc lights. He thinks that these might compete with gas at 7 or 8 shillings a thousand. Siemens lamps are as good as any other, and several ones are suitable for large halls, however for street lighting or domestic purposes 'nothing can compete with gas'. Lane notes that hundreds or thousands of men are at work on the subject, but that the 'laws of nature are stronger than the inventions of man'. Some cafés on the Boulevards use Jablockoff lamps but are the 'least frequented of any'. He has spent nearly all his time in the exhibition.

2pp

93 26 September 1881

Note from Denny Lane, France, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. He received O'Mahony's note and 2 from Dr. Harrington. Mentions rent due to Mr Sarsfield, Ducloyne and encloses cheque. He is going to Paris tomorrow and is glad that 'all is so smooth that you have nothing to tell'.

1p

94 [March] 1882

Letter from Denny Lane, Craven Hotel, Craven Street, London, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. Lane notes humorously that that he is writing with a 'pen invented by Satan'. Mainly concerns Lane's activities in England in investigating electric light. He has met several of the 'electric men' including Crompton, Desmond Fitzgerald, Edison's agent and Schoolbred. Lane has 'found nothing to change my opinion that the E.L will ever injure gas interests' and that all the electricians agree except Professor Selvanus of Bristol. Crompton 'confesses' that the electric light has no widespread future without some system of storage, while Fitzgerald agreed with Lane's statement regarding the limits for electricity produced using motive power. He '...could nearly stand an examination...in all the dynamo electric machines...'. Mentions Edison's (Thomas Alva Edison, inventor of electric light bulb) last machine which has not reached England. Describes 'one of the best American machines' taking fire at the Crystal Palace and how the electric lights at the Lord Mayor's Banquet failed, caused by 'the jealousy of a large Crossley gas engine'. Describes the cost of cells for electric light, weighing 40lbs each and taking 30 such cells to produce 'a single small light for a few hours'.

4pp

95 30 September 1882

Postcard from Denny Lane, Cologne, Germany, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, 72 South Mall, Cork. Lane has arrived and says that all is well. He will 'determine what to do tomorrow'.

1 item

96 12 October 1882

Postcard from Denny Lane, Louvain, Belgium, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, 72 South Mall, Cork. Mentions that St. George the Martyrs Parish, Southwark, London, has resolved to oppose all electric light unless advertisers 'agree to give half of all profits above 7½ per cent...'

1 item

97 17 April 1883

Note from Denny Lane to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. Concerns large lamps and candles in Crystal Palace for about £15 each which lane proposes to send to Cork Exhibition. Asks O'Mahony to tell the Chairman (of Cork Gas Company) and Mr. Travers. Requests a lithographical ground plan of the Cork Exhibition building from Mr. Walker or Mr. Beamish. Mentions that the Dublin Gas Bill, is '...getting a great deal of opposition...'.
2pp

98 10 September 1883

Postcard from Denny Lane, Hotel Rosenbad, Burtscheid Aix la Chappelle, Aachen, Germany, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. He thinks 'Mrs Lane will not stop here much longer she is anxious to get home'. He will probably return via Amsterdam.
1 item

99 3 October 1883

Postcard from Denny Lane, Cologne, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. Acknowledges letter. Says rice can be ordered weekly from North Shore Milling Company, but they have only delivered 12 tons out of 30 bought. He is going up the Rhine to Coblenz today.

100 17 January 1884

Letter, from Denny Lane, c/o Hotel de l'Athenee, 15 Rue Scribe, Paris, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. 'I received your note last evening there is no English post delivered on Monday mornings'. He is obliged about O'Mahony's notes on business 'all of which will wait until my return'. Mentions that he has 'never been more disappointed' that he was at D.O'Callaghan's appointment and that 'it was so good and right a thing that it could never happen'.
2pp

101 14 July 1884

Letter, from Denny Lane, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. He hopes they will not get into any trouble with the Ledlie people, 'but you could do no more in the matter'. Mainly concerns certain contracts for

U611/

supplies which Lane is sourcing in England such as ‘offers of 15000 tons Ravensworth at 5/3...’. Asks O’Mahony to ‘Husband your resources until he comes home.

1p

102 17 June 1885

Letter, from Denny Lane, Paris to Mr. J.O’Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. Concerns Lane’s return to London, where he will be looking at the ‘inventions’.

1p

103 [1885]

Note from Denny Lane to Mr. J.O’Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. Lane gives permission to draw £125 from the Bank, He has surplus sulphate with him and will see what he can do with them in the City.

1p

104 15 July [1885]

Memo from Denny Lane, [London] to Mr. J.O’Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. ‘I have written to Mrs Cooper and Hurley to...attend to their accounts...’. Makes arrangements concerning the paying of the cheques. Remarks that The Exhibition is ‘very good’ but that he has ‘not seen anything remarkable in Gas’, and that the Irish and the Fine Arts departments are ‘particularly good’. The remainder concerns the ‘compensation arrangement for new contract’. Lane thinks the Directors should be asked if the new contract will be proposed by Mr Maguire, or Mr. Hanrahan. There is also an outstanding question to be replied to by Mr. Gillman concerning the Corporation’s power to execute certain works in the event of delays.

2pp

105 14 November 1885

Letter, from Denny Lane, Craven Hotel, London, to Mr. J.O’Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. ‘After writing to you on Monday I got across to Gateshead to see Honble Mr. Parsons Lord Rosses Brother...’, where he saw the new steam engine. He was ‘gratified to

find that it carries out in a beautiful way with steam a theory of my own about water turbines'. Mentions Mr. Parsons 'large incandescent lamps' from 100 to 500 candlepower, mainly used in ships and some mills. Lane spent time in the Physical Laboratory in Cambridge where Professor J.J.Thompson showed him many electrical and other instruments, and they 'got on like two pickpockets'. He is reading up to date at the Institute of Civil Engineers in London and spent some time at Messrs Edmundson, a branch of the Dublin firm. Mentions the high cost of work on private houses. He is 'cramming like a boy for an examination'.

4pp

106 16 April 1886

Letter from Denny Lane, Craven Hotel, London, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. 'We had a five hour meeting of the Gas Council yesterday...'. Lane went to Hanrahan's correspondents' where he enquired if 'the issue' would be tried immediately, '...they said certainly not...'. Asks O'Mahony to send him the samples of Sulphate from Travers.

1p

107 [April 1886]

Memorandum from Denny Lane, London to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, Cork. 'I saw Mr Leo Wright this morning and he will write you before Saturday an offer for spent oxide'. Mainly concerns purchase of materials for Cork Gas Company.

4pp

108 18 April 1887

Memorandum from Denny Lane to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. 'I have got letter for D O'Mahony to say that Mr Bradley called...'. Mentions Anderson's apparatus to produce sulphate more cheaply.

1p

109 26 February [1888]

Letter, from Denny Lane, Craven Hotel, London to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Mainly concerns Lane's observations on Gas lighting equipment. He writes that the Gas Exhibition does not contain much that is very new, the principle novelties were Granston's regenerative burner and two systems of incandescent gas burners. Lane requests that the Chairman be asked to apply for space at the exhibition. He is asking Crossley and others, 'but Ireland is so much out of favour that I do not think I will succeed'. Lane remarks on Charles Stewart Parnell. Parnell's speech 'confirms the opinion I always held of him...very much a special pleader he has not the courage to condemn the Carey gang...his exhibition was a wretched one'. Lane continues, Parnell 'spurred out insults' when 'brought to bag' but made no answer to some of the most damaging charges, '...'Tis not of such stuff a hero's made'. Concludes with a note concerning his tenant at Harpers Lane who's rent he has not collected for 3 or 4 years.

4pp

110 15 November 1888

Memorandum from Denny Lane, Craven Hotel, London, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Mainly concerns Lane's investigations on electric light and his activities in London such as reading at the Institute of Civil Engineers and the Library of Telegraph Engineers. Lane reckons that the greatest progress has been in transformers. He found that Edison in New York 'works with the Direct current without either transformers or storage batteries'. Mentions cost of private house plant, also 'no improvement in generation of electricity'. He does not see anything that would affect them much in Cork, 'the Corporation would never stand the money' and the profit would not attract speculators.

4pp

111 20 November [1888]

Memorandum from Denny Lane, [London], to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Mentions financial matters such as cheque for £50 for J.W. Bourke. Mainly concerns his reports on systems he has seen in England. Lane saw the new Gas Engineers yesterday at the Agricultural Hall. He is thinking of sending a pupil to the School of Electric Engineering in January. He is to attend a meeting of the Electrical

U611/

Engineers to hear a 'great disciple on the important subject of distribution'.

3pp

112 [November 1888]

Note from Denny Lane to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Requests Mr John Lalor's London address and a packet of visiting cards. He has 'plenty of fountains to dip my scallop shell in'.

3pp

113 [November 1888]

Note from Denny Lane, London, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. 'I got your telegram last night and will go on to Newcastle tomorrow...if you have anything to say wire care of Tyne Coal Co...'. Lane says he 'got on very well with the Gas men', getting 'considerable applause for some very dislocated observations'. He has 'heard of some plot to make me the Lead Boss of the Institute', but he does not think it would suit him.

2pp

114 12 November 1888

Letter from Denny Lane, care of Hebburn Colliery Office, Lombard Street, Newcastle on Tyne, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Mainly concerns supplies of coal from Bowes of which Lane proposes to order 9000 tons before May 1889 and 15,000 tons thereafter.

4pp

115 [1888]

Letter from Denny Lane, [London], to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Mainly concerns business matters and activities in England. He sees 'great preparations here for electric lighting and has made the acquaintance of a Mr. Kapp, a distinguished electrical engineer. Mentions that an article of Lane's appears as a leader in Civil and Fine Traders Review.

2pp

U611/

116 16 September [1889]

Postcard from Denny Lane, Paris, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Lane has received the letter and arrived this morning. He is getting along very well, and Paris is 'full of Cathedrals &c. to repletion'. Mentions a long talk with the engineer at Brussels.

1 item

117 21 September 1889

Postcard from Denny Lane, Paris to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Mentions 'great Gas night last night' when he met two ex-presidents of the French Engineers at Exhibition. He is not alarmed at electric light putting up large additional works in Paris, as the consumption of Gas increases.

1 item

118 3 June 1891

Memorandum from Denny Lane, Newcastle, England to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Mainly concerns purchase and contracts for coal. He is heading to Edinburgh and then to London via Carlisle.

3pp

119 6 June 1891

Note from Denny Lane, 72 South Mall, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Concerns papers in his office and his appointment to meet Mr. Bowes, Barrister, about electric lighting.

1p

120 6 June 1891

Newsclipping from 'Drapery Record', London. 'The Electric Light – Claim for Damages for Neglect to Supply'. Court case involving Hampton and Sons versus The London Electric Supply Corporation for £5,000 damages for failing to adequately light a Pall-Mall premises, which were left in 'partial or complete darkness'.

1 item

121 10 June 1891

Memorandum from Denny Lane, London, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Mainly concerns coal supplies and contracts. Lane has received a letter from the Secretary at the Board of Trade requesting a meeting. This will delay his return home. Lane has bought 16,000 tons of coal.

2pp

122 22 August 1891

Note from Denny Lane, Victoria Hotel, 19 West George Street, Glasgow to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Concerns his arrangements to return home.

1p

123 [June 1892]

Note from Denny Lane to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Lane feels better, but needs 'a complete rest as ordered'. Mentions shares sold to Mr Morgan of Lewisham.

2pp

124 [June 1892]

Memorandum from Denny Lane to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. 'Much better – will be all right in a couple of days...'. Asks O'Mahony to send down the Directors' Memo. Book, as he wants to see the rotation of Directors.

1p

125 [June 1892]

Memorandum from Denny Lane to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. 'I feel better but...the Doctor has not come...no pain whatever unless I put my foot to the ground'. Asks O'Mahony to send certain effects such as his 'blue note book for 1891' and a 'couple of bound volumes of the Revue des Deux Mondes from Cork Library...'.
1p

126 13 June 1892

Note from Denny Lane, Ballyvourney, County Cork, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Lane seems to be on holiday. 'Beautiful weather with cold nights...feel better already'. Lane says the place is 'charming now' with 'Rhododendrons and Agaleas in full bloom...'.
1p

127 1 March 1893

Letter from Denny Lane, Queen's Hotel, Birmingham, England to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Mainly concerns Lane's observations on equipment at Windsor Street Works. Mentions that the electric light in the coffee room is 'so bad I could scarcely read a newspaper'. Lane remarks that 'some of the people here were surprised at the low price at which we can get Newcastle coal in Cork'.
4pp

128 1 March [1893]

Letter from Denny Lane, Craven Hotel, London, to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Mainly concerns an electrical exhibition which he has attended and a speech he gave to the Institute of Gas Engineers. He met Edison's representative at the Exhibition, who gave him every information. Lane notes that Edison has 3 steam engines working 12 dynamos. Lane attended a Dinner for members of the Gas Institute at the Crystal Palace. Speeches by Stevenson, Spice, Sugg and others 'gave no useful information on electric lighting', hence 'there were loud calls for me'. Lane's view 'greatly comforted many' that 'how absurd it was to fancy that any improvements of consequence could be made in the production of Electricity...', as 'Groves principles' proved that progress was impossible. He also showed how 'far cheaper gas was than the incandescent light' and was 'cheered to the echo'. He was thanked warmly by many. Lane concludes that his speech was more successful than anticipated.
5pp

129 2 March 1893

Memorandum, from Denny Lane, Craven Hotel, London to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Contains observations on gas making systems Lane has seen in Coventry, particularly 'inclined retorts'. Notes the stokers wages at 4/9 per 8 hour shift, and the fact that workers were not exposed to any heat and also that the coal moving in Cork Gas Works could be done for much less. The workers prefer the inclined retorts over the horizontal, and an Irish stoker told him that he used to go to bed after 8 hours at the horizontal, 'but goes to have a walk after the slopers'.

3pp

130 [March 1893]

Memorandum from Denny Lane, Craven Hotel, London to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. He has just arrived from Manchester. Observes that 'The air in Manchester district was dreadful and affected Travers so much...he rushed away from it...'

2pp

(ii) Correspondence to J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. (1879-1894) (14 items)

131 17 February 1879

Memorandum from 'F.L' to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. 'I scarcely think it was fair to submit me to a cross examination in the technology of Gas making without first giving me sufficient notice that my examiner was the one who thoroughly understood the manufacture of Gas'.

1p

132 [1879]

Note from Michael P.Buckley, Corporation Auditor to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Asks O'Mahony to 'check the foregoing with what I gave you this morning...I was in such a roaring passion while writing it that I really forget what I said....', Also note,

U611/

attached stating that he has examined the accounts and balance sheet of the Cork Gas Company for the year ending 31 December 1878.

1 item

133 [1881]

Note to 'Dr Sir', 'I hope to send in those costs to day'. Asks if Goulding and Co. are the proprietors of the store.

1p

134 17 June 1881

Letter from J. Hooper, Herald Office to Mr. J.O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. Concerns Denny Lane's letter about the Simeoni memorial (U611/84). Requests O'Mahony to send the letter to his house at 26 South Terrace.

2pp

135 [14 April 1882]

Memorandum, to J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, relating to an error on the strength of acid charged by Scott & Co.

1p

136 9 October 1884

Letter from James C. Ledlie, 30 Patrick's Street, Cork to 'Dear Sir', J. O'Mahony Esquire. He will be obliged in getting Peter Young culm at wholesale price.

2pp

137 10 October 1884

Letter from James C. Ledlie, 30 Patrick's Street, Cork, to J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company. He is obliged to O'Mahony for his correspondence and thinks the company 'are quite right in the matter'.

1p

138 24 January 1885

U611/

Letter, from William Harrington, Cork Club, to 'Dear Sir', J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company, regarding cheque.

1p

139 29 September 1887

Letter from James Ledlie, 30 Patrick's Street, Cork to 'Dear Sir' (to J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company). Asks O'Mahony to give work to Dan Daly at the Gas Works.

1p

140 1888

Letter from Thomas Travers, Bonus Hotel, Surry Street, London to 'My dear Mr. O'Mahony' (J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company). 'I intended to write before...'. He called Dr. Farmer and the dentist a number of times and his boy had to go through a severe operation.

3pp

141 22 October 1888

Note from J.Crawford Ledlie, Fernville, Cork, to 'Dear Mr. O'Mahony' (J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company) asking him to give Bearer Dan Daly employment at the Gas Works.

1 item

142 3 October 1889

Letter from J.D. Burke, 'Monastery', to J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Office. Asks O'Mahony 'with your normal kindness to manage the enclosed for me...'

1p

143 3 March 1890

Letter from J.D. Burke, Christian Schools, Our Lady's Mount, Cork to J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Office. Asks O'Mahony 'privately if Mr. Geratys post will be filled up by an outsider'.

1p

U611/

144 21 December 1894

Note to 'Miss A.C. from 'Shawn Fitz'. Mentions 'eye lotion...for internal use only...'

1 item

(iii) Mary Francis Lane, Wife (1881-c.1895) (10 items)

From MF Lane to J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company [1880s] (6 items)

145 [1881]

Letter from Mary Francis Lane, Fairy Hill, Monkstown, Co. Cork, to 'My dear Mr. O'Mahony' (J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company). 'We arrived safely yesterday in the wildest of a...Cork downpour...'. She is obliged to O'Mahony for his kindness in lending the Herald. Asks O'Mahony if he had heard lately from D.L. (Denny Lane) whose last address was Brussels. She was asked to go sight seeing in Dublin to the Botanic & Zoological Gardens, museums, theatre, shops, Kingstown and Brayside. She had a 'long gossip with Sir C.G. Duffy (Charles Gavan Duffy) and 'quite fell in love with him...'. She 'besited' Kickham, Fr. Meehan and other celebrities as well as Frank Mahony's intended 'a very nice girl...quite the opposite of the "Girl of the Period" '.

1p

146 [June] 1881

Letter from Mary Francis Lane, Fairy Hill, Monkstown, to 'My dear Mr. O'Mahony (J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company). Asks O'Mahony to send Denny Lane the Herald and to mark anything he would be required to read. Mentions Lane's journey in London. She was amused 'at getting an absolutely illegible letter in pencil' from Denny Lane in Birmingham 'on the principle that a lobster cannot I understand be got in Kinsale he appeared to be without a nib in the land of pens, so I sent him one as a gentle hint'. Asks O'Mahony how he is existing without his 'Parmesan & Macaroni'.

1p

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147 [1880's]

Note from Mary Francis Lane to 'Dear Mr. O'Mahony' (J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company). Asks O'Mahony to give bearer Miss McAuliffe £3 as she is unable to go to town.

1p

148 [1880's]

Note from Mary Francis Lane to 'Dear Mr. O'Mahony' (J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company). She has told D.L. (Denny Lane) of the water coming into his room and thinks the best thing would be to wire to Avenue Hotel Belfast asking Denny Lane to send key.

2pp

149 [1880's]

Note from Mary Francis Lane to 'Dear Mr. O'Mahony' (J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company). Asks O'Mahony to 'Please send to Perrys and have Mr Lanes [locks] opened at once', to send at once for plumber and lock the house and keep the keys. She has 'such a bad night she could not go to day & it is raining torrents here'. She is sorry the job was not done at once and fears Denny Lane will be angry.

2pp

150 [1880's]

Note from Mary Francis Lane to 'Dear Mr. O'Mahony' (J. O'Mahony, Cork Gas Company). Tells O'Mahony that she thinks the pipe has better be 'refixed & put in working order as it would be a convenience to have water brought up to bedrooms. She could never discover what mysterious reason D.L. (Denny Lane) has for delaying repairs...'. She has received 2 cards from Denny Lane from Brussels.

1p

From Charles Gavan Duffy to Mary F. Lane (1895) (3 items)

151 9 December 1895

Letter, from Charles Gavan Duffy, 12 Boulevard Victor Hugo, Nice, France to 'Dear Mrs. Lane' (Mary Francis Lane, wife of Denny Lane. Duffy offers his condolence of the loss of 'your generous and gifted husband. I knew him for fifty years, and never met a more honourable or upright man. He was one of a class not growing plenty in Ireland...who thought always first of the country, and last of himself...and [with] intellectual and social gifts not easy to match...'

3pp

152 31 December 1895

Letter, from Charles Gavan Duffy, 12 Boulevard Victor Hugo, Nice, France to 'Dear Mrs. Lane'. He agrees that there ought to be a collection of Denny Lane's works, which ought to be preceded by a brief memoir. Offers to write some reminiscences of him 'at the period when I was associated with him, but a memoir would not be possible, as he has not been in Cork in nearly fifty years, never saw Lane with his wife and children, 'nor seen him at all since 1849, except in brief, snatches...'. Offers advice concerning the publication of such a work, and that it might be best done by subscription, 'and his popularity would probably ensure a thousand subscribers'. Duffy would offer more aid if he were younger, but he is nearly 80 years of age and 'busy winding up the tangled business of life'.

4pp

153 [1895]

Letter, from Charles Gavan Duffy, 12 Boulevard Victor Hugo, Nice, France to 'Dear Mrs. Lane', Fairy Hill, Monkstown, Co. Cork. You never told me what you finally determined to do about the writings of your husband'. He thinks a little volume entitled 'The Life and Literary Remains of Denny Lane' would be a good sale. The Library of Ireland ends with the 12th volume now being printed. Duffy could give some letters of Lane's 'if the work were undertaken by a competent person'. His health has not been good, 'it is hard to be the survivor of all my old comrades, but perhaps it will not be for long...'. He gives regards to Mrs. Lane's daughter, whom he met in Dublin fifteen years ago.

3pp

U611/

Outline of Life of Denny Lane (After 1895) (1 item)

154 n.d. [after 1895]

Manuscript 'Denny Lane (B1818 – D1895) Patriot, Poet, Philanthropist'. Gives an outline of Lane's life, such as 'Only child went to school at Porter & Hamblins...', matriculated to Trinity College Dublin aged 16, wrote poems for The Nation, friend of Thomas Davis and Charles Gavan Duffy, a Young Irelander gaoled in 1848. Debts and financial affairs, Secretary of Cork Gas Co., Lane's brewery for light ale, Silversprings Starch Works, Glanmire, interest in beet sugar, turf and electricity development, address to French Engineers in Paris, character and activities. '...to know him was a liberal education...'

3pp