

## Attymass and Bohola. Account from “The Nation” Newspaper, June 5<sup>th</sup> 1847

Elsewhere in the paper there are details of the death census and returns submitted by clergymen in various parts of the country.

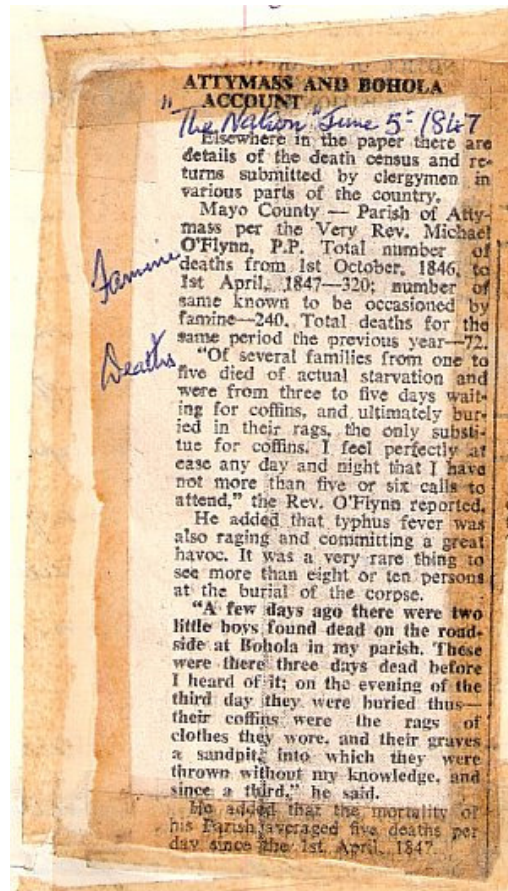
Mayo County – Parish of Attymass per the Very Rev, Michael O’Flynn, P.P. Total number of deaths from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 1846, to 1<sup>st</sup> April 1847 – 320; number of same known to be occasioned by the famine – 240. Total deaths for the same period last year – 72.

“Of several families from one to five died of actual starvation and were from three to five days waiting for coffins, and ultimately buried in their rags, the only substitute for coffins. I feel perfectly at ease day or night I have not more than five or six calls to attend,” the Rev. O’Flynn reported.

He added that typhus fever was also raging and committing a great havoc. It was a very rare thing to see more than eight or ten persons at the burial of a corpse.

“A few days ago there were two boys found dead on the roadside at Bohola in my parish. These were there three days dead before I heard of it; on the evening of the third day they were buried thus – their coffins were the rags of cloths they wore and their graves a sandpit into which they were thrown without my knowledge, and since a third” he said.

He added that the mortality of his parish averaged five deaths per day since the 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1847.



The 1847 press cutting