

**NAI  
REFERENCE:** CSO/RP/1824/402

**TITLE:** Letter from John Killaly, engineer, Clones, County Monaghan, concerning a proposal for improvements to the River Fergus, near Ennis, County Clare  
Letter from John Killaly, engineer, Clones, County Monaghan, to William H Gregory, Under Secretary of Ireland, Dublin Castle, reporting that proposed enhancements to the River Fergus between the port of Clare and town of Ennis, County Clare, will cost an estimated £11,000. Also copy letter from Dublin Castle to John Ormsby Vandeleur, Henrietta Street, Dublin, acknowledging receipt of letter and indicating a memorial from the grand jury of County Clare has been presented before the Lord Lieutenant. Also letter from Vandeleur, high sheriff, Ennis, to Gregory, enclosing memorial from the Grand Jury of County Clare to Richard Wellesley, 1st Marquis Wellesley, Lord Lieutenant, Dublin Castle, seeking support for plan to build a canal measuring 64 perches in length as means of avoiding an embankment of rocks on the riverbed near Clare Castle; emphasises the commercial benefits of the proposed plan and the advantage to public employment; signed by Lucius O'Brien and 22 others. Also letter from [Francis] Gore, [16 St Stephens Green, Dublin], to Lieutenant Colonel Meyrick Shawe, private secretary to Wellesley, enclosing copy memorial from the inhabitants of Ennis to Wellesley, espousing creation of canal to facilitate navigation for 'vessels of 200 Tons to the Town of Ennis even at ordinary tides instead of being navigable as at present for Small Boats at Spring tides only'; annexes to base copy of resolutions expressing benefits of scheme and listing delegation of 8 men including Sir Edward O'Brien [MP for Clare] to advance proposals before the Lord Lieutenant. [See also description CSO/RP/1825/476]. [Contains list of names not given in this description]

**SCOPE &  
CONTENT:**

**EXTENT:** 6 items; 15pp

**DATE(S):** 27 Feb 1824-9 Apr 1824

**DATE EARLY:** 1824

**DATE LATE:** 1824

**ORIGINAL  
REFERENCE:** 1824/8602

**NAI  
REFERENCE:** CSO/RP/1825/476

**TITLE:** Letter from Francis Gore, Ennis, County Clare, concerning application for financial aid to carry out improvements to the port of Clare and the River Fergus

**SCOPE &  
CONTENT:** Letter from Francis Gore, Ennis, County Clare, to Henry Goulburn, Chief Secretary, Dublin Castle, enclosing a memorial from the inhabitants of the neighbourhood of Ennis, County Clare, to Richard Wellesley, 1st Marquis Wellesley, Lord Lieutenant, Dublin Castle, requesting advance of financial aid to carry out improvements to the port of Clare and to the River Fergus. Emphasises the importance of the proposed scheme 'for extending the commerce and the agriculture of this remote part of Ireland'. Signed by Thomas Brown and 242 individuals. Also encloses a memorial from the inhabitants of Ennis to King George IV expressing a wish for advance of

funds to develop the river and harbour region near Ennis. Remarks that access to the town for ships is impeded 'by a bar or ledge of rocks which extends across the river near Clare Castle so that small boats only can pass up to the town of Ennis and at spring tides only'. Refers to proposal by John Killaly, civil engineer, to make a cut in the riverbed of about 400 yards rendering safe access directly to the town for large vessels, which is located some 2 miles upstream. Draws attention to a survey of the intended work, of which expenditure of near £11,000 will include the cost of 'a lock, Basin, excavation and drawbridge'. Signed by Richard Floyd Sr and 247 individuals. Also copy of resolutions passed by grand jury of County Clare at the Spring assizes of 1825 in favour of the work, signed by John Ormsby Vandeleur, foreman; with annotation overleaf from Goulburn instructing a letter be addressed to the 2 MPs for County Clare stating that no funds are available for the project in question. Also handwritten prospectus outlining the many advantages that will flow from the development of the intended 'canal' of Clare. Highlights the quantity of corn, butter and pork that are produced in the county, and anticipates the development of the cotton trade in the region. Stresses too the beneficial effects of giving employment to those without work in the vicinity.

**EXTENT:** 5 items; 17pp  
**DATE(S):** 4 Apr 1825  
**DATE EARLY:** 1825  
**DATE LATE:** 1825  
**ORIGINAL REFERENCE:** 1825/11457  
**ORIGINAL REFERENCE:** 1831/B29

**NAI REFERENCE:** CSO/RP/1832/667

**TITLE:** File of documents from the Office of Public Works, concerning proposals from the Committee of the Clare and Ennis Canal, on proposals to open a navigation between Ennis and the River Fergus, [County Clare].  
Copy of letter from Henry R Paine, Office of Public Works, to the Committee of the Clare and Ennis Canal, responding to a request for a loan to open a navigation between Ennis and the River Fergus; expressing their desire to support this project but regretting that they are not empowered under legislation, governing the fund for the aid of public works, to recommend this expenditure; referring to estimates and engineering proposals from Mr Killaly and Mr Grantham and a tender from Mr Tobin and seeking additional information. Also covering letter from Paine, to Sir William Gosset, [Under Secretary], referring to an earlier petition from the landed proprietors, merchants and traders of Ennis, [County Clare].

**SCOPE & CONTENT:**  
**EXTENT:** 2 items; 6pp  
**DATE(S):** 13 Feb 1832  
**DATE EARLY:** 1832  
**DATE LATE:** 1832