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DEATH OF MILTOWN MALBAY
CENTENARIAN AT 106

Freigh, adjoining Miltown Malbay has lost a remarkable personality by the death of Mr. Thomas Brody, who has just passed away at the remarkable age of 106 years. Freigh has been noted for the longevity of its residents, including Tom Hennessy and Tom Driscoll, and the latter’s wife, who exceeded the centenarian limit by several extra years. Brody was the oldest resident in Kilfarboy parish and he remembered the memorable Clare Election of 1829, when he was in his teens, the O Connell voters passing him on the road on their way to Ennis to record their votes – he was turning “bawn” at the time. Some short time afterwards he entered the employment of the late Mr. Thomas O Gorman, J.P., Buncraggy, who placed him in a position of trust, in caretaking and herding his property at Freigh, and he was at the time of his death in the employment of his son, Mr. T.A. O Gorman, J.P. Cahercalla. he served both faithfully for over 60 years. During his early years he was a powerful and well-shaped man of fine physique and capable of doing all farmwork. A popular neighbour of his told our correspondent, yesterday that after the famine years when he could not get sufficient farm labourers during the harvesting season to cut his hay, he had to apply to Tom. Deceased came to the rescue of his friend whose meadowing was uncut. In those days there was no machinery, but Tom prepared his scythe and the following day cut down a two acre field of strong hay in one day, an act not recorded of any man there since. Only a short time before his death did he cease to take an active interest in ??? and he possessed all his mental faculties almost to the end.

In not a few townlands through the parish there are many men and women, nonagenarians, octogenarians and septagenarians to be found.