

# EOIN MACNEILL ADDITIONAL PAPERS

LA1 / K



UCD Archives  
School of History and Archives



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**LA1/K: Eoin MacNeill Additional Papers:content and structure**

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**A. MACNEILL THE – SCHOLAR 1898-1945**

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**A. MACNEILL—THE SCHOLAR, 1894–1945****I. Revival of the Irish Language****a. The Gaelic League**

- 1**            12 December 1894            Manuscript letter from J.H. Henehan to [ ], Connecticut, USA. Describes the attendance at classes as 'remarkable' and comments on the organisation of language classes at Holyoke and Providence, Massachusetts.            4pp
- 2**            20 August 1903            Manuscript letter from MacNeill to Fr. Walsh outlining his views on the issue of travelling teachers for submission at the Munster Conference. He suggests that travelling teachers should be under the control of a district committee and that each district should raise funds for their upkeep. In relation to the English language, he writes that 'we must direct every possible effort to killing this custom.'            7pp
- 3**            22 December 1904            Letter from MacNeill, in reply to a query from a newspaper correspondent relating to the question of teachers salaries. He deplores the low salary which compels the most suitable candidates to emigrate, but he states that a coercion act is needed to force 'the better sort of men and women to accept the salary whether they like it or not.'            5pp
- 4**            2 August 1913            Extract from the *Tuam Herald* entitled 'The Gaels at Galway', reporting on the Oireachtas. States that the Irish people 'must go forward in this advancing language movement' ... and that 'they may feel secure that as they cultivate the old Celtic language, they thereby strengthen the old Gaelic Nationality'.            1p
- 5**            18 November 1913            Typed letter to MacNeill from a person in UCG, thanking MacNeill for his article which will do 'untold good'. Also claims that the animosity between him and some other members of the Gaelic League is due to his reluctance to allow himself 'be made a tool of by a band of politicians in their last ditch'. (signature illegible).            1p
- 6**            7 March 1914            Draft covering letter from MacNeill enclosing a letter from MJ Byrne relating to the problem of safeguarding an old altar and penal relics belonging to the O'Connor family.            1p

- 7            7 March 1914            Draft letter from MacNeill to MJ Byrne. Suggests that the altar should be placed in a glass case in a convenient Catholic church and that Bligh Talbot Crosbie from Antrim might be induced to secure the relics.            1p
- 8            22 April 1920            Circular letter to MacNeill enclosing copy of an agreement made between James Maguire and Patrick Corrigan who implores MacNeill to execute the agreement to ensure that the building would be used in 'furtherance of the objects of the Gaelic League'.            1p
- 9                            Circular letter to MacNeill proposing to honour Alice Mulligan, an organiser of the Gaelic League, by publishing a subscription edition of her poems.            1p
- 10           18 September            Manuscript letter from Mary Hayden, Inis Mean to MacNeill complaining that the priests on the Aran Islands only preach in English. She calls it a disgrace and thinks 'an appeal to the Bishops might make them do something'.            3pp
- 11                            Manuscript letter from Donnacha Ó Maighumhna asking MacNeill to support him, in a resolution, to make Dublin Corporation elect a Borough Surveyor who is an Irish speaker.            3pp
- 12                            Manuscript letter from Anna Horan to MacNeill, requesting a photo of him to use on slides at Gaelic League lectures in Boston.            3pp

### **b. The Teaching of Irish**

- 13           February– August 1912    **Irish Spelling:** Correspondence and printed matter relating to the plan to simplify Irish spelling by a method known as the 'fola method'. Includes a leaflet entitled '*Freedom in the teaching of Irish*', and draft manuscript letter from MacNeill to Arthur Clery in which he denounces the attempt to reform the system and claims that the 'rousing of ill-feeling among the few who are in earnest about Irish is an evil that no amount of spelling reform of any other reform can counter balance'. (September 1912).            5 items



- 14** June 1912–  
October 1935 **Omeath Irish College:**  
Correspondence, printed matter, and newspaper cuttings relating to the Irish College at Omeath, Co. Louth. Includes letter to MacNeill from Seamus Ó hAnnlúain in which he says that it would be better to discard text books and introduce oral classes. Also includes letters of application to attend college, and press cuttings relating to the opening of the college. Claims that 'all efforts are wasted unless the Church in Ireland uses the national language in public worship'. Also contains college prospectus for 1913 and 1920 and letters relating to the debts owed by the college. 32 items
- 15** December 1912–  
May 1914 **Funding of Irish Schools:**  
correspondence in relation to the dispute between the Treasury and the National Education Board, including a letter from Conchubar MacSuibne requesting the help of the Gaelic League in the matter, and copy letters [from Douglas Hyde] to Redmond and Birrell. 7 items

## II. The Promotion of Irish Culture, 1921-37

### a. The Folklore Commission

- 16** 23 March 1937 Typescript letter from S Ó Duilearga, Irish Folklore Commission, to MacNeill, regarding 'the most distinguished folklorist outside Europe' Professor Stith Thompson of the University of Indiana, USA. States that Thompson is interested in the collection of the oral tradition and that his help would be most valuable and that he should be invited to lecture in UCD during his forth-coming visit to Ireland. 2pp
- 17** 31 January 1939 Letter from S Ó Duilearga, Hon. Director of the Folklore Commission, requesting McNeill's help in obtaining a Government subsidy for his visit to the USA 'the object of which is to arouse interest in the work of the Folklore Commission and to get the work of oral tradition and literature underway there'. 3pp
- 18** Manuscript letter from a 'Donegal Teacher', stating that he has collected as much material as possible in the school district for national folklore. 1p

- 19** Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill to the Chancellor of the National University, regarding the status of Irish Folklore Studies. Suggests that the university should give the faculty a position of honour in the actual work of the university and states that 'those who hold Irish folklore in disregard are probably quite unaware that this attitude is anti-national and is a resultant of conquest and enslavement, a characteristic exhibition of the Seoinin Spirit'. 5pp

**b. Irish Historical Society**

- 20** 18 December 1938 Letters from members of the Irish Historical Society including letters from Philip P Graves and LM Brommey, thanking MacNeill for nominating them as associate members of the society (18 December 1938). Also includes letter from TW Moody notifying him of a meeting and items on the agenda. 3 items

**c. American-Irish Historical Society**

- 21** 10 November 1903 Manuscript letter from Anne-Mary Craig informing MacNeill that she has sent him pamphlets relating to the society. 2pp
- 22** [1903] Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill to (the President of the AIHS) enclosing reports of his lecture tour to America. States that the chief object in going there was to 'prepare the ground for a movement of the kind outlined in the reports'. 3pp
- 23** 25 June 1931 Manuscript letter from Anne-Mary Craig, acknowledging receipt of the bulletin of the proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy containing McNeill's paper on Ogham inscriptions. 2pp
- 24** [1931] Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill inquiring as to whether the AIHS could promote the establishment of a library circulation in America, for publications dealing with Ireland. He points out that the idea would have a 'real cultural value for the great Irish element in your population ... and through them for the American people'. 6pp

**d. Irish Manuscript Commission**

- 25** 20 April 1922 Manuscript letter from MacSuibhne Magh Seana Ghlais, Albergo di Roma, Italy, acknowledging receipt of McNeill's publication for inclusion in the Irish section of the Vatican library. Expresses a wish that MacNeill will continue to show a 'practical interest' in his undertaking, the object of which is to 'erect an indestructible monument in honour of Irish Science and Literature in the very heart of the greatest centre of learning in the world.' 2pp
- 26** 12 May 1924 Manuscript letter from PJ Connolly thanking MacNeill for his article. States that he is asking experts to comment on it, indicating what they think suitable for inclusion in the project '*Monumenta*'. Also names DA Binchy as a candidate for the office of Keeper of the Rolls. 2pp
- 27** October 1939 The '*Vita Columbae*'. Correspondence between MacNeill and Seán Lester in relation to MacNeill's query concerning the 8<sup>th</sup> century manuscript of Adamnan's *Vitae Columbae* in the Stradtbibliothek of Schaffhausen (Switzerland). Includes letters from Vallery Radot, the librarian of the League of Nations. 7 items
- 28** 18 August 1945 Typescript letter from Ludwig Bieler to MacNeill regarding the possibility of producing a facsimile of the Schaffhausen manuscript. Also says he is willing to compile an up-to-date commentary of it, but that he is anxious to continue his studies on the Patrician texts. 2pp

**e. The Royal Irish Academy**

- 29** 28 June 1921 Letter from G H Carpenter, Secretary of the RIA informing MacNeill that he has been reinstated as a member. 1p
- 30** 21 August 1922 Manuscript letter from T Corcoran, Department of Education, UCD to MacNeill, suggests that steps should be taken to have no further grants made to the RIA until there is an official investigation into all grants paid by the British Government. States that the aim should be 'to secure an Institute of Ireland ... with a radical reform of the RIA on National Academy lines'. 2pp

**f. The National Academy**

3 letters from T Corcoran, Secretary of the National Academy to MacNeill, informing him of meetings and resolutions passed.

- 31** 23 November 1921 1p
- 32** 23 March 1922 Includes minutes of meetings of March 22<sup>nd</sup> at which the relations of certain members of the committee to membership of the Council of the RIA was discussed. 1p
- 33** (17 May 1922) 1p

**g. National Monuments Council**

- 34** 30 September 1939 Manuscript covering letter from JSC Dragg enquiring whether MacNeill would be prepared to act as a member of the council. Encloses a copy of the National Monuments Act 1930 and a list of members on the council. 40pp
- 35** 6 January 1940 Manuscript letter from HG Leask, Inspector of National Monuments, to MacNeill informing him of the restoration work being carried out on the seven churches graveyard on the Aran Islands. 1p

**III. Academic Activities, 1912-14**

- 36** September 1929 **American lecture tour:** Correspondence relating to McNeill's lecture tour to the USA mainly relating to arrangements. Includes letters from Michael MacWhite of the Irish Legation in the USA and correspondence between MacNeill and John J Murphy and JC Walsh. Also includes letter from John O'Connor of *The Advocate* offering to promote the tour (7 December 1929), and a press cutting from the *New York Times* which describes MacNeill as a 'more thoroughgoing revolutionary' than either Arthur Griffith or Michael Collins (1 December 1929). Includes letter from James E Pond, organiser of the tour informing MacNeill that he was disappointed with his choice of topics, which he feels are limited to Irish audiences (2 February 1930); and a letter from Padraic Colum suggesting places to visit (2 March 1930). 12 items

- 37** 2 October 1912–  
November 1936 **Invitations to lectures:** Letters to MacNeill inviting him to speak at various functions such as the students' National Literary Society (27 October 1912) and the Belfast Féis (11 November 1936). Also includes a letter from Barry M Egan asking him to deliver a lecture on Ireland at the Norwegian University at Christiania (3 September 1921).  
3 items
- 38** September 1931 **Broadcasts:** Letters from broadcasting companies inviting MacNeill to broadcast lectures. Includes a letter from Séamus Ó hAoda, Director of Broadcasting GPO, Dublin, asking him to lecture on the Battle of the Boyne (27 May 1939) and letter from the Norwegian state broadcasting station expressing their wish to participate in celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dublin but stating that they understand that 'you have to take your policy of neutrality into account' (17 March 1941). 9 items
- 39** March 1913–  
March 1941 **Letters from editors:** Invitations extended to MacNeill to contribute to various publications such as *Irish Provincial Studies*, *Scottish Review* and the *Transatlantic News*. Also includes a letter from the editor of the *Newry Telegraph* requesting an article on the best means of promoting a better understanding between North and South especially in relation to trade (22 November 1926). Also a letter from GM Giollagain of *The Free State* stating 'we feel it necessary to have articles from people with inside knowledge', and one from Michael Sweeny of the *Irish Independent* asking MacNeill to review the book *The Forged Casement Diaries* by WI Moloney (27 October 1936).  
33 items

#### IV. Correspondence with other academics, 1895-1939

##### a. Osborn Bergin

- 40** 26 June 1924 Typescript letter from Bergin commenting on a paper by MacNeill which he feels should pay more notice to the work of other scholars. Also discusses etymology and phonetics with reference to *The Wurzburg Code*.  
6pp

- 41** 31 December 1926 Draft manuscript letter to Bergin from MacNeill in response to MacNeill's commentary on his paper. States that he will include Bergin's notes as an appendix  
5pp
- 42** 21 October 1930 Draft manuscript letter to Bergin from MacNeill in which he says that Bergin's 'amended reading of the Kilbonane Ogham would make the Ogham a skit based on a pun, with a rhyme into the bargain'. Describes the inscriptions on the stone and states that artificial archaism was very general in Ogham inscriptions.  
7pp
- 43** Draft manuscript from MacNeill to Bergin asking him to research the doubts relating to the oldest sentence written in Irish on the Kilbonane Ogham stone.  
6pp

**b. Professor Richard Irvine Best**

- 44** 24 February 1910 Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill to Best acknowledging receipt of the 'Sudigud Tellaig Temra' the object of which was to present, in a popular form, the main features of the *Book of Invasions*. Also discusses the chronology of the *Fír Bolg*.  
1p
- 45** 9 October 1927 Manuscript letter from Best to MacNeill in which he states that he hopes to examine the manuscript Laud 610 when he visits Oxford, with a view to publishing a facsimile of it. Also refers to the death of Plummer (a Celtic scholar) as a 'great loss'.  
2pp
- 46** 14 September Manuscript letter from Best to MacNeill relating to his paper on the Tigernach. Discusses the handwriting and states that he believes it was written by two different authors.  
4pp
- 47** Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill to Best in which he says that the division of early Irish writing into 'old and middle', is no longer adequate, as Ó Máille's work on the language in the *Annals of Ulster* proved.  
5pp

**c. Professor Richard MacAlister**

- 3 letters from MacNeill to MacAlister with reference to Ogham inscriptions.
- 48** 29 July 1921 8pp
- 49** 9 August 1921 6pp
- 50** 20 November 1921 4pp
- 51** 2 May 1924 Manuscript letter to MacNeill in relation to MacAlister's application for the position as Keeper of the RIA Collection of Irish Antiquities. States that he is willing to put his name forward if no one else has already been appointed. 4pp
- 52** (1927) Manuscript letter to MacNeill from MacAlister with regard to the dispute between himself and the O'Growney branch of the Gaelic League over the dismantling of the Souterrain at Cnoc Sean-Mhaighe and the removal of Oghams at UCC. Asks MacNeill to write a letter 'to put people right on the issue'. 4pp
- 53** 26 October 1930 Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill to MacAlister with reference to the Kilbonane Ogham, which he feels deserves 'a most minute study' as it contains the oldest sentence known in the Irish language. 5pp
- 54** 13 July 1938 Manuscript letter from MacAlister to MacNeill referring to the etymology of the *Annals of Tigernach*, *Annals of Ulster*, and *Annals of Clonmacnois*. Includes an extract from the *Revue Celtique XVI*. 8pp
- 55** 10 September 1938 Transcription of a telephone message from MacAlister to MacNeill informing him of the discovery of two Oghams, including transcripts of the inscriptions. 3pp
- 56** 21 September 1938 Draft manuscript letter from [MacNeill] to MacAlister enquiring as to whether he took down the inscriptions on the Ogham stones correctly. 1p

- 57 Draft manuscript letter from [MacNeill] to MacAlister referring to the spelling of the word 'NUADAT' on the Ogham at Curraghmore West. States that it belongs not to the Ogham tradition but to the manuscript tradition and 'to a late stage of it'. 1p

**d. Kuno Meyer**

- 58 1 November 1895 Letter from Meyer to MacNeill thanking him for copies of the *Mucrama Poems*. Also states that he would appreciate criticism of his edition of the *Imram Brain*. 2pp
- 59 December 1912 Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill to Meyer referring to Meyer's paper on *Workunde* which he describes as 'most interesting and instructive'. Also refers to Esposito's paper on 'The Knowledge of Greek in Ireland during the Middle Ages' in *Studies* Vol. 1 no. 4 (unfinished) 3pp
- 60 23 January 1913 Manuscript letter from Meyer regarding MacNeill's and Professor Macalister's plan to publish an edition of *Leabhar Gabhala*. Dismisses Esposito's paper on Irish knowledge of Greek as 'silly' and points out that the glossaries of Cormac O' (Mulroney's) are 'full of Greek vocables and phrases which show a far more intimate knowledge—and not biblical Greek only, or of isolated words taken from Isidore—than Esposito will allow'. 3pp
- 61 9 February 1913 Manuscript letter from Meyer to MacNeill discussing Etymology and describing MacNeill's and Macalister's scheme [to publish an edition of *Leabhar Gabhala*] as excellent'. 3pp
- 62 23 June 1913 Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill to Meyer referring to *Archivum Hibernicum*, a periodical published for the Catholic Record Society. Also discusses the pedigree of the Eoganacht dynasty in relation to McNeill's work on the Lucreth poems. 3pp



- 63**            8 January 1914            Postcard from Meyer to MacNeill requesting the return of the proofs of his article ‘... as we must get on with Zeitschrift’.  
1p
- 64**            (1924)                      Typescript bibliography of Meyer’s publications, compiled by Richard Irvine Best in *Zeitschr für celt. Phil XV 1924*. Also includes some biographical information on Meyer.                      3pp

**e. Henry Morris**

- 65**            1 January 1922–  
21 July 1939            Correspondence between Henry Morris and MacNeill relating to topography. Includes letter to MacNeill commenting on his book *Celtic Ireland* (1 January 1922). Also includes a letter from MacNeill in which he says that the concentration on words and not on their relation to facts is the greatest obstacle in Irish education (30 June 1939)  
11 items

**f. JG O’Keefe**

- 66**            3 January 1913            Correspondence between MacNeill and O’Keefe relating mainly to the history of the Picts and in particular to their language. Includes a letter from MacNeill in which he states that Adamnan’s account of the fulfilment of St Columba’s property may be interpreted as a reference to the disappearance of the Irish Dal Riada (4 January 1913). Also includes a letter from O’Keefe in which he states that ‘there was no language difference—bar ordinary phonetic changes—between the Picts and the Scots, any more than there was between the Picts of Dal Riada (7 March 1913).  
10 items

**g. Julius Pokorny**

- 67**            5 May 1922                      Correspondence between MacNeill and Pokorny, relating to Pokorny’s dispute with the editor of the *Irishes Bulletin*, Nancy Power, which arose over Pokorny’s criticism of grammatical errors in the publication. Encloses correspondence between himself and Nancy Power and also from Frau Dr Agathe Grabisch, who described the publication as being ‘injurious’ (5 May 1922) and a letter from G Nectel who encloses a list of ‘chief grammatical mistakes’ (8 July 1922).  
10 items

- 68** 28 October 1930 Letter from Pokorny to MacNeill in relation to MacNeill's paper on the *Tripartite life of Patrick* in the *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquities of Ireland*. 1p
- 69** 19 February 1931 Letter from MacNeill to Pokorny enclosing a paper on *Archaisms in Ogham Inscriptions*, which may help to define more clearly the evidential value of Oghams in matters of philology. 6pp
- 70** 1935-36 **Loss of Citizenship:** Correspondence relating to the suspension of Pokorny from his chair in Berlin University (due to the passing of the Nuremburg laws of 1935 by which Jews lost their citizenship). Includes a letter to MacNeill in which Pokorny asks for his help stating 'I am a true Catholic, have always been one and also my parents before me. My grandparents, no less! are the unfortunate culprits' (6 November 1935). Also includes copy of a letter from Pokorny and a draft manuscript letter from MacNeill asking the German government to allow Pokorny to continue in the University of Berlin. 3 items
- 71** 16 July 1937 Letter from Pokorny to MacNeill relating to old Irish. Suggests the year 750 as marking the change from archaic Irish. 1p

#### **h. Sir William Ridgeway**

- 72** December 1925– March 1926 3 draft letters from MacNeill to Sir William Ridgeway relating to Irish etymology, also includes comments on Ridgeway's work relating to Niall of the Nine Hostages, St Patrick and the Traprain hoard. 3 items

### **V. Academic Writings**

#### **a. Literary papers**

- 73** On the differences between the free and the un-free in early Ireland. 2pp
- 74** On the 'Ardmore Ogham'. Includes sketches of the inscriptions. 24pp

- 75** Paper on Ogham in which MacNeill proposes to prove that the Ogham cult associated with the inscribed stone was predominately a cult of the Erainn. 6pp
- 76** Critique of a paper on Bronze Age Ireland and Mediterranean trade routes. 11pp
- 77** Analysis of Mr Boland's lecture on the university question and its relation to nationality. 2pp
- 78** Paper on the National Language Movement in which he states that the object which should overshadow every other is the restoration of the use of Irish as the family language. 3pp
- 79** Paper addressed to the Irish speaking heads of the country, in which he tells them to encourage their children to read and write Irish. 4pp
- 80** 4 poems:
- Lermontor* by Niall Lawler.  
'Comrade, I want to be alone with you' 32 lines
- Ultimatum* by Niall Lawler and John Hoey.  
'We have crossed an invisible frontier' 15 lines
- Flight* by R K  
'Mocking statements from serious faces...' 13 lines
- Verzangliche Lust* by William Carlin  
'Zur Fruhlingszeit, Zur Fruhlingszeit...' 8 lines
- 81** Memorandum by 'Jacobstahl' on works of Celtic art which are described as the 'most artistic productions of all times and nations'. 6pp
- 82** 8 November 1913 *A lonely Grave* by Frances Joseph Biggar. Reprinted from the *Northern Whig*. 1p

- 83 Notes on the 'P' Celts and the 'Q' Celts. 1p
- 84 Notes on Ogham Inscriptions. 4pp
- 85 'The Excavation on Brendan Hill' 3pp
- 86 On topography and the influence of mythological tradition. 3pp

**b. Ogham Inscriptions**

- 87 20 July 1906 Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill concerning the importance of Oghams to the study of Irish history and Philology. Suggests that a corpus of all the known inscriptions should be compiled. 3pp
- 88 25 October 1907 Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill to O'Brien in which he attempts to prove that the Ogham tradition was taken over by the manuscript tradition and suggests an example in *Torche ma mDesse Eriu* Vol. II (unfinished). 2pp
- 89 31 July 1925 Manuscript letter from Rev H Parlin to MacNeill enclosing a copy of the inscription on the Ogham stone on Calady Island. 2pp
- 90 June-October 1933 Letters from RSG Anderson in relation to the Ogham stone on the Island of Gigha off the west coast of Kintyre. Encloses a photo and requests a transcription of the inscription (27 June 1933). Also includes a letter in which Anderson says that he is 'glad to learn that the inscription is in Ogham'. 3 items
- 91 June 1937 Manuscript letter from Donal A Reidy to MacNeill enclosing a memorandum regarding two Ogham stones, found in St Brendan's seminary, Killarney. 4pp

- 92**            8 October 1937            Manuscript letter from RAS MacAlister to MacNeill regarding an inscription on an Ogham stone which 'has no antiquarian value' but doubts if it is a 'dock forgery'.            6pp

**c. The Picts**

- 93**            30 January 1939            Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill to Mr Crawford discussing the legend that they came from the Orkneys and also doubts that they were Celts, since their language and customs were not Celtic.            3pp

- 94**            11 July 1939            Manuscript letter from R Berry asking for a reference for McNeill's paper on the Irish Picts.            1p

Two manuscript letters from MacNeill to Dr Duke discussing the importance of inscriptions for the history of the Picts.

- 95**            24 May 1940            Includes MacNeills theory that the Pictish language is not Celtic.            3pp

- 96**            31 May 1940            Includes an outline of the 3 stages in the history of inscriptions.            9pp

- 97**            1 May 1945            Letter from V Gordon Childe, Director of he National Museum of Antiquities, Scotland, to MacNeill enclosing photographs of a Pictish symbol with Ogham inscriptions found at the Carse of Gowrie. Encloses four back and white photos and sketches.            6 items

**d. Irish Philology**

- 98**            10 September 1909            Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill to Fr O'Reilly commenting on his book *The Native Speaker*, and discussing the passive voice in old Irish.            5pp

- 99**                       Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill discussing topography with reference to St Patrick and his travels (incomplete).            3pp

- 100** Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill to 'Fir na Chlaidhimh' discussing Irish literature which he divides into 3 classes, the oldest manuscript literature, traditional folklore and original work by living writers. Also says that Irish literature has become 'hay-ridden' with Philology and that Philological bullying has deterred many from doing good and useful work.  
5pp

**e. Early Irish Poetry**

- 101** 16 July 1913 Manuscript letter from MacNeill commenting on a paper on Indo-European rhythm with reference to a poem by Luccrath Moccu Chiara (unfinished).  
16pp
- 102** 23 September 1913 Manuscript letter from MacNeill with regard to the poem *Foderc dam*. Suggests that a separate authorship wrote the two parts and also discusses the poem with reference to topography.  
13pp

**f. Early Irish History**

- 103** 10 January 1931 Manuscript letter to MacNeill from Thomas L Dumanoir OP in relation to the Papal Bull, *Laudabiliter*. He requests a translation of the Irish introduction to the Bull. Also disagrees with Cleary's view that Diarmaid MacMurchada petitioned the Bull.  
4pp
- 104** May-November 1913 Letters from Rev J Seymour in relation to his work on the vision of Tundel.  
2 items
- 105** 4-15 November 1913 Letter from Senator Maurice Moore to MacNeill enclosing letter from J M de Navarro regarding the Ligurians and their language (November 4<sup>th</sup> 1931). Includes extracts from *Rellexikon der Vorgeschicner*, which he wants translated.  
2 items

**g. Brehon Law**

- 106**      23 March 1920                      Manuscript letter from Robert H Murray to MacNeill enquiring whether there was any physical force employed, if a defendant refused to comply with the judgement of the Court in early Irish law.  
2pp
- 107**      14 June 1923                      Typescript letter from William J Byrne to MacNeill enquiring whether the public could fish in tidal waters, including rivers, under the Brehon Laws. Refers to the Rolls Series of *Ancient Laws of Ireland* Vols. 1, 3 and 4 and describes the English translation as 'Vile'. 'Any 5<sup>th</sup> book national school child would be severely punished for so murdering the Kings' English'.  
2pp
- 108**      18 July 1940                      Manuscript letter to MacNeill from Seamus h-Insee relating to fosterage and the right of succession under Brehon Law. Refers to *Celtic Journal* by Cameron, 1973.  
2pp
- 109**      9 May 1945                      Manuscript letter from R Ó Briain to MacNeill enquiring whether there was any law preventing the last admitted Chieftain from naming his new heir who is a member of the Clann but not the blood, as Tánaiste.  
2pp

**h. Local History**

- 110**      1916–44                      Correspondence relating to local history, including enquiries regarding the history of the Diocese of Cork and Ross (20 January 1916), and queries relating to parish boundaries (14 October 1939). Also includes a letter from MacNeill to Edward O'Toole in which he writes: 'I keep one thing always in view, that is, to interest our people in their own locality and if possible to make them honour it' (5 June 1939), and extract from the *Parliamentary Gazetteer of Ireland 1845* relating to the Parish of Abbeylara in Co. Longford.  
12 items

**i. Genealogy**

- 111** 1913–40 Correspondence relating to genealogical enquiries including letters from RA Caird, relating to the history of the Caird family (25 November 1913), and Tomas Ó Cleirigh enquiring whether ‘Ó Baothain’ is the Irish spelling of Behan. (6 June 1939) 12 items

**j. Archaeology**

- 112** 3 January 1922 Manuscript letter from Tomas Ua Duinn, District Justice for Co. Offaly regarding the discovery of a copper cauldron on Lord Digleys’ estate, which is in danger of being taken to England. States that he ‘awaits instructions on the matter as there are other collections in the hands of those people’, (the descendents of the English settlers) I think something should be done to provide a National Museum for all such, and place them there. 2pp
- 113** 10 March 1926 Manuscript note from WH O’Brien to MacNeill requesting the return of a torc he gave him. 1p
- 114** 5 May 1926 Manuscript letter from Canon Donohue, Granard, requesting McNeill’s assistance in preserving the historic moat of Granard. Suggests that the Board of works should maintain it and hold it in trust for the people of Ireland. 3pp
- 115** 1 June 1930 Manuscript letter from Dr Adolf Mahr, Director of the National Museum, relating to a stone club recovered from the River Barrow, and asks MacNeill if the ancient laws of Ireland refers to the method of fishing with clubs. Encloses sketches of the prehistoric club. 2pp
- 116** 7 December 1936 Manuscript letter from Niall MacNeill to Dr Mahr asking for Mahrs’ opinion on a stone found in Fermoy, Co. Cork (7 December 1936) and notes relating to the discovery of the stone. 2 items



- 117** July 1938 **Castleknock Excavations:** Relating to the excavations including a letter from the Ministry of Finance, permitting the continuation of the project saying 'any excavation which increases knowledge is a very welcome avenue of expenditure to this department'.  
2 items
- 118** 3 May 1939 Manuscript covering letter from LM Brammely enclosing a press report on RM Wheelers' expedition to Brittany entitled 'From Britain to Brittany'.  
2 items
- 119** 28 July 1939 Letter from Michael Duignan, National Museum, to MacNeill relating to a ring fort near Burgage Churchyard which is in danger of being flooded by the new Liffey Waterworks. Suggests that the ESB should help fund the excavation as they will be responsible for the destruction of the site. 2pp
- 120** 29 January 1940 Typescript letter from GA Hood, Hon. Secretary of the Photographic Society of Ireland, informing MacNeill that he should contact the Archaeological Society in order to obtain duplicate photographs of the Liffey Reservoir. 1p
- 121** 21 April 1940 Letter from James Hogan, informing MacNeill that Professor Ó Riordáin of the Archaeology Department, UCC would be prepared to combine his work in UCC with supervision of the National Museum. 1p
- 122** 14 January 1914 Typescript letter from P O'Connor, Acting Director of the National Museum relating to a collection of Gold, Silver, and Bronze objects offered for sale to the Museum. 1p
- 123** **Carns and Forts:** Includes a report by Francis Joseph Biggar on the Mountstewart Carn and a draft manuscript letter from MacNeill relating to the Belach Duin Bolg. 2 items

- 124** Typescript letter from SE Morison, requesting information on a 17<sup>th</sup> century Ulster cottage construction in order to complete the late Harold R Shurtleff's monograph on *Early Dwellings in the English Colonies*.  
2pp

### **k. Anthropology**

- 125** Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill to Bayley Butler discussing Scharff's book *European Animals* during preglacial and glacial times.  
7pp

- 126** Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill relating to the Pretani—the Bronze Age inhabitants of England, in which he questions 'Whether we have anything worth calling ascertained knowledge or high probability about prehistoric racial types in Ireland', and also expresses doubts about ethnologists reliance upon physical characteristics as a basic racial classification.  
5pp

### **l. Calendars**

- 127** 1921–27 Correspondence relating to various calendars such as the Chinese calendar. Includes a letter from Seán Murphy enclosing letter from the High Commission of India enquiring whether lunar months are used by the Jews and Mohammedans. (9 November 1932).  
5 items

### **VI. Student Theses**

- 128** 29 June 1914 Manuscript letter from Neil Ross asking MacNeill to give his opinion on 'one of two specimen chapters of his thesis on the dramatic element in Gaelic literature.'  
4pp
- 129** June-October 1936 Letter from John A Duke asking for McNeill's advice on his thesis before proceeding to publish it.  
3 items

**B. MACNEILL – REVOLUTIONARY, 1913-22****I. The Irish Volunteers**

- 130**            3 December 1913            Private manuscript letter to MacNeill from FOD in which he says that he is with the cause but has doubts over the timing and suggests that MacNeill ‘should talk it over with the wisest people you know’. Also discusses the importance of National Monuments and says that if we were a living healthy nation, all our antiquities would be preserved *in situ* and ‘museums would only be used for preservation as a last resort’.            4pp
- 131**            20 May 1914            Letter from Edward Donnelly inviting MacNeill to the inauguration of the Annagh branch of the National Volunteers.            2pp
- 132**            15 June 1914            Letter from Tomás Ó Dolan telling MacNeill that he should unite with John Redmond in order to gain the confidence and support of the country for the volunteers.            2pp
- 133**            26 November 1914            Letter from P Monahan requesting a meeting with MacNeill ‘to get from you the correct view of the present situation of our volunteers’.            1p
- 134**            [1914]            Pamphlet dealing with the divisions in the City of Limerick Regiment of the Irish Volunteers.            4pp
- 135**            [1914]            Press cutting relating to a Volunteers demonstration which will be most ‘impressive and most representative yet witnessed in the Cork area’.            1p
- 136**            [1914]            Manuscript letter from Ignatius B Mac Hugh informing MacNeill of Volunteer drills in the Donegal area. States that he’s ‘writing these few notes to let you know that the spirit of Red Hugh, Eogh an Ruadh, Sarsfield, Tone, Emmet, Mitchel, Davis and Rooney is not dead yet’.            2pp

- 137**            9 March 1922                      Manuscript letter from WH Joyce, New York, to MacNeill saying that his mission here remains unfulfilled; due to his ill-health he thinks it advisable that he should return to Ireland, bring with him memoirs and a portion of the original documents which 'may prove a reliable pivot on which certain machinery will revolve'.  
3pp

## II. Sinn Féin

- 138**            17 January 1922                      Circular letter relating to an 'Extraordinary Árd Fheis' of the Árd Comhairle of Sinn Féin at which it is proposed to interpret the constitution of the organisation with special reference to the situation created by the Anglo-Irish Treaty and its approval by the Dáil, and to decide on policies of organisation in view of possible forthcoming elections. Encloses instructions from the secretaries of Cumainn and Comhairlaí Ceanntair and a copy of their constitution as amended at the last Árd Fheis.  
4 items
- 139**            19 November 1922                      Subscription sheet for Derry City Cumainn affiliated in 1921. Names on the sheet read 'Pearse' and Ashe'.  
1p
- 140**    Pamphlet containing the constitution of Sinn Féin written in both Irish and English. Also contains information on the scheme of organisation and rules.  
8pp

## III. The Belfast Boycott

- 141**            November 1921–  
February 1922                      Letters relating to the Belfast Boycott 1920. Includes letter from J Leahy asking MacNeill to advise his brother who has been badly affected by the boycott. Also includes a letter from the Director of the boycott, Michael Staines, informing the organisers that he has been instructed by the Cabinet to wind up the department (28 January 1922) and from the Central Committee asking the Dáil to reconsider their dismissal and either guarantee re-employment or provide adequate compensation.  
4 items

## IV. Prison Correspondence

- 142** June 1916 **Correspondence with family:**  
 Letters between MacNeill and his wife Agnes and children mainly relating to conditions in prison and events at home, particularly the childrens' progress at school. Includes letters from MacNeill in which he says that he is doing 'the best to make the most of my opportunities during this long holiday' (26 February 1917), and also tells her to 'take care that the children keep their own language in good order' (1 June 1916). Also contains letters from his wife in which she says that 'all your friends are aghast at your brutal sentence (1 June 1916) and also refers to Mrs de Valera saying that both of them 'have the great hope of having our husbands back' (12 February 1917) and messages from his children Niall, Turlough, Maire, Rosin, Eilis, Brian, Seamus and Eiblin, including a letter from the latter, referring to an article in the *Daily Mail* regarding the Lloyd George proposal of a convention which she says both 'Count Plunkett and Arthur Griffith have thrown cold water on it'. (20 May 1917). 17 items
- 143** March–May 1917 **Letters from relatives:** Letters from his brother Charles, his sisters, Annie and Maire and his niece Maureen, mainly relating to events in Ireland. Includes a letter from his sister Maire who tells him that 'his courage and integrity is everywhere recognised' (16 April 1917), and letter from his brother Charles informing him that his name has been removed from the list of members of the RIA so that the Academy would not lose its Parliamentary grant (26 April 1917). 4 items
- 144** December 1916 **Letters from friends:** mainly enquiring into his well-being. Includes letter from Gavan Duffy enclosing a transcript of his court-martial proceedings (30 March 1917) and letters from Siobhan Bairead remarking on the progress of the Gaelic League (11 May 1917). 7 items

**C. MACNEILL – THE POLITICAN, 1911-14****I. Election Notices**

- 145**            10 September 1923            Notification of his election to the Dail for the university constituency of the National University and also as deputy elected for the county constituency of Clare.            2 items

**II. The Boundary Commission**

- 146**            10 September 1924            Manuscript letter from EP [Culverwell] to MacNeill referring to a report in the *Irish Times* which he describes as ‘unfounded’ as it implies the transfer of some part of Co. Tyrone only, and says ‘it is most indestructible to arouse expectations which will not be fulfilled’.            2pp
- 147**            September 1924            Correspondence between MacNeill and John Doris including one from the latter in relation to a plebiscite on the Boundary Commission. States that the registers have been neglected and if an election was held the majority would be largely decreased’. Suggests that a census should be taken on the issue.            2 items

**III. Election Funds Appeal**

- 148**            17 February 1925            Manuscript letter from JM Eason to MacNeill informing him that a substantial subscription has been given ‘but not directly to your organisation’. Points out that their reluctance to contribute ‘directly should not be taken as a divergence of opinion on what is by comparison unessential’.            2pp
- 149**            30 July (1925)            Manuscript letter to MacNeill from (Rosamund French) enclosing a subscription for the election fund.            4pp

**IV. Minister for Education**

- 150**            20 September 1922            Typescript letter from the [editor] of the Irish Texts Society, to MacNeill enquiring into the possibility of subsidising Dineen’s *Revised Irish Dictionary*.            1p

- 151** 25 September 1922 Manuscript letter from James J Macken to MacNeill stating that he is willing to act on a committee to consider questions affecting the Irish training colleges. 1p
- 152** 16 October 1922 Manuscript note from Seán MacMuirius enclosing a statement relating to the Kilmore School, Co. Roscommon, where plans for a new school resulted in the picketing of neighbouring schools in order to get the Commission of National Education to sanction the plans. 6pp
- 153** 26 October 1922 Confidential report of the Assistant Commissioners of the Irish Intermediate Education Board stating the necessary requirements for a share of the additional Parliamentary grant and also supplies numbers of registered teachers in Intermediate Schools in Ireland. 1p
- 154** 27 October 1922 Letter from Thomas J Bowman relating to the National Education Board's decision to withdraw his bonus attached to the Higher Diploma. Gives background to his dispute with the board. 3pp
- 155** 3 November 1922 Typed copy of a parliamentary question posed by Tomas O'Connell as to whether the Ministry intended to improve the present unsatisfactory position of lay teachers before June. Includes the Ministers' reply in which he states that the provision for the next year 'will be considered in relation to the estimates and the state of public finances on which a serious strain is imposed by the present condition of the Country'. 1p
- 156** [1922] Manuscript statement regarding the harassment of John Meeny which resulted from a rumour that he was going to amalgamate the girls with the boys school, and who is seeking a transfer. 3pp

- 157**      26 July 1923      **Education Conference:** Manuscript letter to Mrs MacNeill from E Gleeson enclosing a letter and printed matter from Ellen O'Connor, USA, in which the latter draws attention to the fact that there was no Irish representative at an Education Conference and suggested that Ireland 'ought to be represented at the World Conference on Education' (11 July 1932). Includes an article on the World Conference, taken from the *Journal of the National Education Association*.  
3 items
- 158**           Copy typescript letter from Fr Connolly to MacNeill regarding the proposed amalgamation of Carraigline boys and girls school. He disapproves of the idea stating that 'girls grow coarse and rough and unpolished in manner, and careless and untidy in appearance'.  
2pp
- 159**      June 1924      **Mount St Benedict's College:** Letters relating to the threatened closure of the College, including a memorandum from Dr Codd, Bishop of Ferns, criticising the opening of a bacon factory at the monastery (4 March 1924) and a letter from TJ Frontman to MacNeill in which he says that 'bacon and eggs are entirely in the interest of the school and are necessary to pay our way' (3 June 1924). Also includes letter from WF Butler stating that 'the closure of the school would be ... detrimental to education interests in Ireland'.  
4 items
- 160**      23 September 1924      **Albert Bridge School:** Letter to MacNeill from Robert McCormick, MP for Londonderry, enclosing two resolutions passed at a mass public meeting, demanding an inquest into the compulsory retirement of Samuel McCambley. Principal of Albert Bridge PE School and deciding to close the school as a sign of protest 'to long and cruel officialdom'.  
3 items
- 161**      16 October 1924      Letter to MacNeill from Thomas O'Connell of the INTO suggesting that the Executive Council should drop the plan to dismiss teachers who were 'interned or otherwise concerned in the recent political trouble'. Instead, he thinks it better that they reinstate those who are prepared to be faithful to the State.  
3pp



- 162** November 1924 **St Kevin's School Glencree:**  
 Manuscript letter from Seamus Ó hAoda, asking for McNeill's approval of his claim for financial aid in respect of St Kevin's School (28 November 1924). Encloses copy of his petition to the Minister for Finance and states the reason for applying for the grant.  
 2 items
- 163** December 1924 **Teachers Pensions:** Letter to MacNeill from retired teachers demanding an increase in their pensions. 2 items
- 164** 18 December 1924 Manuscript letter from John Magner to MacNeill informing him of the treatment Irish teachers received from the Scottish Education Authority. Claims that he and others were dismissed without any valid reason being given. 2pp
- 165** 17 December 1930 Letter from TD Joyasuriya, Officer of the Ceylon Government Educational Department, requesting information regarding the language policy of the Irish Free State in relation to his study of the media of instruction in Irish Schools. 2pp
- 166** [1922-25] Manuscript letter from John L Gerig of the India Academy of America in relation to the lack of an Irish influence on education in the USA. Suggests that the influence would be greater if more Irish books were stocked in every library and also suggests arranging exhibitions of Irish Craftwork. 3pp
- 167** [1922-25] Manuscript letter from Matt Gleeson to 'Andy' asking him to ask for McNeill's 'assistance in relation to his sister who has had her salary withdrawn owing to a decline in the attendance at her school'. 3pp

**V. Barnes and McCormack Appeal, 1940**

- 168** 27 January 1941 Circular letter from the Barnes and McCormack Appeal Committee extending an invitation to a meeting to discuss what steps should be taken to ensure that the death sentence on Richard McCormack and Peter Barnes is reprieved. Signed by members of the Professional Committee, including Maud Gonne McBride. Includes list of those invited to attend. 2pp
- 169** 31 January 1940 Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill to Dr McCarten, outlining his reason for demanding a reprieve of the death sentence in the Barnes/McCormack case. States that the British Government has maintained in Ireland 'a state of things which apart from its other evil effects has encouraged the same kind of acts which these men are sentenced to die for, and on a very much larger scale.' Cites the 1920 pogrom in Derry as an example of this. 4pp

**VI. Political Correspondence**

- 170** 19 February 1914 Draft letter from MacNeill to Mrs Green commenting on Balfour's Ibernian argument against Home Rule. States that Balfour has inverted the facts and discusses the origins of the Irish people. He points out that the Paleolithic People were not as industrious as the Neolithic who form the basis of the Irish people and speaking of the House of Lords '...their leisure for Politics was not restricted by any undue preoccupation with industry'. (unfinished) 5pp
- 171** October– December 1914 **World War I:** Circular letter marked 'private' and 'confidential' from Wilfred Ward asking MacNeill to sign a statement declaring Britain's efforts for peace in order to dispel the prejudice of Catholics on the continent. 2pp
- 172** 27 November 1918 Manuscript note from Cardinal Michael Logue to MacNeill in relation to the report of the Bishops of the ecclesiastical Province of Ulster, attempting to prevent 'three cornered contests' in Ulster which would favour the Carsonites. States that any one can see that this would give the Carsonites their strongest argument for the partition of Ireland. 2pp

- 173**            4 October 1920            Manuscript draft letter by MacNeill advising that the Mayor of Derry should not go to America. He should stay in Derry and take evidence from the people, paying special attention to evidence of the initiation of the Ulster pogrom and to the attitude of British officials towards it.            1p
- 174**            11 November 1921            Summons issued to MacNeill to attend a sitting of the Circuit Court for a case involving John P O'Shea and an adjutant general of the Army, arising out of the latter's non-payments of money to the former for goods sold to the Irish Volunteers prior to 1916.            1p
- 175**            16 November 1921            Manuscript letter to MacNeill from EJ Burns relating to the registration of greyhounds.            3pp
- 176**            7 December 1921            Manuscript letter from J Malcolm Lyons to MacNeill referring to the Treaty Settlement and the League of Nations. Refers to Michael Collins as an ardent supporter of the League of Nations, 'so much so that he is already looking forward to a time when the oath he proposes to take to be faithful to HM King George shall have been rendered meaningless'.            3pp
- 177**            11 December 1921            Manuscript letter from P Hendley to MacNeill stating that he is willing to assist in the furtherance of 'our countrys interests', particularly in the development of Irish trade.            3pp
- 178**            19 January 1922            Manuscript letter from Fr John Shiels, PP to MacNeill recommending two people to help in agriculture matters, one of whom is his brother Michael.            4pp
- 179**            25 January 1922            Letter from Harry Lynch of Atlanta, Georgia, USA congratulating MacNeill, the Government and the Irish people 'upon the great results achieved on behalf of Ireland'. 'The opportunity is now yours to help the Irish Nation to prove that the English claims that the Irish people cannot govern themselves are false'.            1p

- 180** 18 March 1922 Covering letter from Dr B Moore, Belfast, enclosing letters sent to Mrs Foster and others in Hillman Street. One note requests to exchange houses with Loyalists evicted from Dawson Street and concludes: 'if you fail to comply ... we will deal with you as they are dealt with'. 5 items
- 181** 25 March 1922 Manuscript letter addressed to the 'House of Parliament' Dublin from John F Munk, USA, in relation to the Civil War. States that they have fallen short of 'what we expected of you'. Referring to de Valera, he writes 'clap that wind bag in some jail and shoot a few of his henchmen'. Concludes by saying 'no more use bellyaking, get bussy (sic), you have Ireland now, put up or shut up'. 2pp
- 182** 31 March 1922 Typescript letter from CJ France of the American Committee for Relief in Ireland acknowledging receipt of McNeill's book and praising MacNeill as 'one of the chosen few, who very early in Ireland's struggle, caught the vision of a new and free Ireland'. 2pp
- 183** 19 June 1922 Manuscript letter to MacNeill from P McMahan of Limerick Corporation enquiring as to whether the Government would co-operate in a scheme to help Catholic refugees from the North. 2pp
- 184** 30 June 1922 **Professional Civil Servants:** Covering letter from the Secretary of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants (Ireland) forwarding a statement on the position of professional civil servants serving in Ireland in relation to the effects of the Treaty. 2 items
- 185** (March 1923) Typescript statement by Patrick Moore, Clonee, Co Meath, to MacNeill regarding events over the past three years culminating in the destruction of his home. States that his experiences 'has shook to a certain extent my life-long faith in our capability of ruling ourselves' and feels he is entitled to compensation. 8pp

- 186** [1922] Telegram to MacNeill stating that 'Ireland is in a crises'.  
1p
- 187** [1922] Notes given to Government Ministers outlining simple principles relating to the Army, Government responsibility and truce with England. Refers to the bombing of the Four Courts and to the fact that reconstruction is being held up.  
4pp
- 188** November 1922 Manuscript letter from Eiblin Bean MacCoursdealbha, asking MacNeill to second her nomination as a candidate for a seat in the Senate stating that 'my aim will be, as it has always been, the Gaelic ideal, because I am fairly convinced it is Ireland's only bulwark against bolshevism and anglicisation'.  
1p
- 189** June 1923 **Letters from James Gillespie:**  
Typescript letters to MacNeill demanding that the Free State Government should help those, like himself, who have been forced to leave the North. Suggests that the Boundary Commission might help to solve this problem.  
2 items
- 190** September – October 1923 **The British Colonial Conference:**  
Material related to the conference including a draft of a speech saying that Ireland 'will endeavour to play our part in a spirit of loyalty towards our sister nations and sincere co-operation for the common good' (30 September 1923). Also includes a printed letter addressed to the delegates at the conference from Philip Gilmore in relation to his son, Harry, who is being held a prisoner by the Irish Free State Government without any charges for over a year. He demands an 'inquiry into the hellish atrocities of the Irish Free State authorities and their officials'.  
2 items
- 191** 10 April 1924 Manuscript note from WT Cosgrave to MacNeill requesting him to write an article on the North-Eastern question in reply to James Craig.  
2pp
- 192** 12 July 1924 Manuscript note from Timothy O'Leary acknowledging McNeill's help in obtaining his son John's release from prison.  
2pp

- 193** 22 July 1924 Draft typescript letter from MacNeill relating to Thomas Gleeson's application for the position of permanent postman at Cratloe, Co. Clare in the face of opposition from Mr Rudden. States that 'it does not matter a pin to me personally ... but I can assure you that if Mr Gleeson does not get it, the stock of the Ministerial party will drop a further point amongst the people who count for most on the Treaty side in that part of Clare'.  
1p
- 194** (1924) Manuscript letter to Alderman Doherty from H Leahy with regard to a visit to Dublin to put the cause of Derry against partition.  
2pp
- 195** August 1939 **The Northern Council for Unity:**  
Typescript covering letter from Peter Murney enclosing a letter sent to officers of the All Ireland Council. Points out the necessity of having a well organised Ulster movement in Dublin to co-ordinate activities in the South in the furtherance of a movement to abolish partition.  
2 items
- 196** Manuscript letter from MacNeill rejecting Lord Alfred Douglas' comment that the 'Irish Loyalists were double crossed by Lloyd George, just at the moment when Sinn Féin was beaten to the ground', and also states that the Catholic church does not need a 'supernunciate' of a 'super episcopacy' to defend it against de Valera.  
5pp
- 197** Circular typescript letter relating to the efforts of M Van der Vlugt to publish a magazine for Ireland, the aim of which is national unity and the dissemination of international news in Ireland. States that an advanced payment of £3000 is necessary to start the magazine.  
1p
- 198** Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill relating to the sale of the Belfast and Northern Counties Railway to the Midland Company of England. States that the whole Irish Party supported this 'disgraceful and disastrous transaction' and 'nothing but a thorough nationalising of education will ever remove the pall of stupidity from the minds of the commercial classes in Ireland'.  
2pp

- 199** Circular letter to members of the Oireachtas relating to the Inter Parliamentary Union. Invites members to consider forming a branch of the Union in Ireland. 1p
- 200** July 1911 **Appeals:** Letters to MacNeill requesting his help in acquiring jobs or in financial and other matters. Includes letter from William MacCabe regarding a dispute over a will (1921) and a statement relating to the ill-treatment of Patrick Burke, who died shortly after his release from an English prison (4 October 1924) and a covering letter relating to the case of a German man who was forced to leave Derry on account of his nationality to live on the Isle of Man and who is now missing. 113 items

#### **D. PRIVATE LIFE, 1912-42**

##### **I. Letters from family and friends**

###### **a. Niall MacNeill**

- 2 letters to MacNeill from his son, Niall, of the Ordnance Survey Office, Dublin, relating to the drawing up of Parish boundaries on maps and the unsuitability of countries as territorial units.
- 201** 29 March 1933 Includes extracts from the *Irish Press* entitled *Learscoil nua Gaelge*. 2pp
- 202** 13 October 1939 2pp

###### **b. Charles and James MacNeill**

- 203** 4 November 1918 Letter from his brother Charles with regard to industry in Limerick. Encloses notes taken from the *Parliamentary Gazateer* of Ireland 1845, giving statistics relating to person's occupations. 6pp
- 204** Letter from MacNeill from his brother James regarding negotiations with the Dominions. 2pp

**c. Letters from friends**

- 205** May 1918 Letters to MacNeill mainly of a social nature, including a letter from John J Webb congratulating him on his reappointment to the Chair of Irish History in UCD (30 May 1918) and a letter from John Whyte enclosing a photograph taken in 1904 of [Eoin MacNeill, Douglas Hyde and Fr O'Growney] the founders of the Gaelic League. 17 items

**d. Death of James MacNeill**

- 206** December 1938 Letters to MacNeill from Michael Fogarty Bishop of Killaloe and Patrick J Coleman, Hon. Secretary of St Malachy's Old Boys Association, extending their sympathy on the death of MacNeill's brother James. 2 items

**e. Ministerial Pension**

- 207** January–July 1939 Correspondence relating to MacNeill's application for a Ministerial pension, including a list of the Ministerial positions he held and copies of forms relating to the Ministerial Parliamentary Offices Act. 8 items

**f. Application for Teaching Position**

- 208** (1892) Draft manuscript letter from MacNeill, applying for a teaching post, in which he claims that 'the Irish language is and has been for a number of years my chief study, to which I have devoted almost my entire time'. 3pp

**g. Personal Memorabilia**

- 209** 1936–37 Material, including caricature sketches, a receipt, and a lecture programme of the Yorkshire Society for Celtic Studies. 3 items



## E. PRINTED MATTER 1921-23

## a. Republican Leaflets

- 210** 1921-23 Leaflets and other printed matter (mostly *Daily Bulletin*) relating to republicanism and Irish independence. Includes an extract from *Poblacht na hÉireann* reporting on the Civil War (21 October 1922). 8 items

## b. Press Cutting

- 211** 25 December 1922 Extract from the *Newry Telegraph*, of an article entitled 'Ireland's future, North and South'. Includes a statement from Eoin MacNeill, who remarks 'it is only enmity and suspicion, not history or geography, or race or creed, or tradition or culture or economic welfare that decrees a little stream in Omeath to be a dividing line between two Irelands inhabited by one people'. 2pp