

Transcriber's Note: A note on this return by Fr James Dowling, parish priest, states that he did not know that a copy return was to be made for Bishop Doyle. He made a copy from memory; the answers to questions 9-15 under School 1 apply to all schools in the parish. He answered only questions 1-5 in relation to Schools 2-13.

Extreme length of the Parish, about 11 miles; extreme breadth of ditto, about 4 miles or less; computed number of acres in the parish, That I cannot do.

1. Knock Bally Boy

1	State the name of the place at which the school is held, and state the name of the townland	Knock Bally Boy
2	State the name of the Master or Mistress – at what time the school was first opened – and on what days, and what periods of the year, the school is held	Mistress Elizh. Demsy
3	State the religion of the Master or Mistress – and by whom (if any one) he or she was appointed to the school, and when	A Catholic.
4	State the age, character, and qualifications of the Master or Mistress, and where he or she was educated, and whether trained in Kildare Place, or elsewhere, and where	Superannuated; educated where she is.
5	State the number of pupils in attendance, on an average of 3 months preceding this return: Male Female Protestants – of the Established Church; Presbyterians; Of other denominations Roman Catholics	Males – 11 Females – 13 Protestants - Of the Established Church - Presbyterians - Of other denominations Roman Catholics - 24
6	State the average number of pupils during the last winter	I cannot.
7	State the average number of pupils, during the summer of 1823	53 [].
8	State the proportion of children in the school who can read – whether 2 in 20, 3 in 20, 4 in 20, or in what other proportion. State also the average time required in this school to teach a child to read	I cannot.
9	State the total annual income of the Master or Mistress – distinguishing salaries or annual gratuities, if any, and from what sources they proceed – the income arising from payments by the scholars – and the rates of payment required from them	That I cannot. The rates are different in this parish and higher in other parts and parishes of [this neighbourhood]. For a beginner to spell and read 2½d. per week, for writing and figures, 2d. per week. These payments are made by the parents only.
10	Describe the school-house – the nature of its accommodations – the materials of its	All the school [houses] in my parish are hedge schoolhouses, except two, which

	construction – and the probable cost of constructing one of similar size and materials at present – State the length and breadth of the school-room – State also at whose expense, and out of what funds, the school-house was constructed	were built under my inspection with good materials, lime and stone, a good roof but covered with straw, at the expence [sic] of the parishioners. All the rest are clay walls, commonly called mud [] covered with straw, also at the expence [sic] of those near it. I cannot tell what the cost of building them may be. It can't be much. The one at Killeigh cost £28.1.7; the one at Raheen could not cost less than about £20.0.0, all at the expence [sic] of the parishioners.
11	State the associations, societies, charitable foundations, or institutions, confraternities, convents, or persons in any, and what religious orders, (if any) with which each school is in connexion – and at what time, and under what circumstances such connexion was formed – state also whether the rules prescribed by such associations &c. have been faithfully adhered to, or deviated from in any and what respects, and by whom, and when	None. There is a Book society, a confraternity of monthly Comm[union]s, no religious order &c. &c. &c.
12	State the names, ranks and situations in life, of local or other patrons, or superintendents, if any, of each school, - and the nature, extent, and occasions of their superintendence – and state in particular, the nature and extent of superintendence exercised over the school by the Protestant minister and curate, or by the Roman Catholic priest or coadjutor, or by any dissenting minister, and whether they have regular days for visiting the schools, and what days	No one visits or superintends our schools but the Priests of the Parish when their other duties allow some time to do so. But lately, since this inquiry began, the Curat Minister called at one or two of them a few times.
13	State the time at which the school was taken under the superintendence, as is referred to in the previous column	What I have stated in the last column will answer this [see answer to question 12].
14	Enumerate every book and printed paper, of every description, which is or has been read, taught, or in any way used, either for amusement or instruction, within the school, at the time of making this return, or within 6 months previous to it, so far as you can learn – and state – from what sources, and in what manner, and at whose expense they have been supplied. In case the Scriptures are used, state whether it is the Bible at large, or the New Testament alone – whether the translation used to be that of the Established Church, or the Douay Version – how many copies of each are used in the school at the	The first four lines and half [of question 14] I cannot answer for, but this I can answer for, that no bad book or printed paper has been, with my knowledge, used in these schools for amusement or otherwise. The only bad books and printed papers that I saw these 2[0] years introduced at the Catholic schools were the foolish, nonsensical, ridiculous tracts sent to them from the Bible Society, which I soon committed to fire. The Holy Scriptures are not allowed to be used as a school book in the Catholic schools. The Douay Testament is in the hands of discreet, informed Catholics who can read them and

	period of making the return – what was the greatest number of each at any period within the 6 months next preceding, (as far as you can learn) - and state any causes which may have led to the increased or diminished use of them within the school	able to purchase them. There are a good many who have them, but can't at present ascertain the number.
15	State whether any steps have been taken in the school, by whom, at what time, and in what manner to induce Roman Catholics to become Protestants, or Protestants to become Roman Catholics - state fully your observations as to any increase, diminution, or secession of pupils, which has taken place, either within the present year, or at any period, during the last few years – the causes to which such are to be attributed – the mode in which they have been effected – your opinion as to the probability of their being permanent – the sentiments and dispositions of the people as to the attendance of their children at the school – the extent and degree to which any endeavours to induce such increase or diminution have been successful or otherwise – and any further general observations which you may deem it expedient to offer.	I never could find that any steps have been taken in either Protestant or Catholic schools for the above purpose. I always understood and know by experience that the Prot[estant]s and [Catholics] frequented the same schools, both with Prot[estant]t and Cath[oli]c masters and mistresses, without ever thinking of one converting the other, and got their education, such as it was, in the greatest harmony and brotherly love, until the late Rich[ar]d Digby erected his nine schools and new doctrine to convert, at least, this parish and put down both Prot[estant]s and Cath[oli]c[s]. I have said more about his proceeds, but at present, can't recollect it. I can't say this is literally [sic] and verbatim a copy [sic] of the return I sent, but this I can say, that the substance is. Had I got notice that should a thing would be required, I should have been more particular, and had note the comm[issioners] sent me a second form, I do not see how I could send this to your Lordship with any satisfaction or regularity.

2. Balnagar

1	State the name of the place at which the school is held, and state the name of the townland	Balnagar School
2	State the name of the Master or Mistress – at what time the school was first opened – and on what days, and what periods of the year, the school is held	Michael Ford.
3	State the religion of the Master or Mistress – and by whom (if any one) he or she was appointed to the school, and when	A Catholic.
4	State the age, character, and qualifications of the Master or Mistress, and where he or she was educated, and whether trained in Kildare Place, or elsewhere, and where	Above 40 years of age; educated where he is.
5	State the number of pupils in attendance, on an average of 3 months preceding this return: Male Female	Males – 36 Females – 16 Protestants - Of the Established Church -3 - Presbyterians –

	Protestants – of the Established Church; Presbyterians; Of other denominations Roman Catholics	- Of other denominations - Roman Catholics -39
--	--	---

3. Dalgan

1	State the name of the place at which the school is held, and state the name of the townland	Dalgan School.
2	State the name of the Master or Mistress – at what time the school was first opened – and on what days, and what periods of the year, the school is held	Owen Grimly.
3	State the religion of the Master or Mistress – and by whom (if any one) he or she was appointed to the school, and when	A Catholic.
4	State the age, character, and qualifications of the Master or Mistress, and where he or she was educated, and whether trained in Kildare Place, or elsewhere, and where	Superannuated; educated in the neighbourhood.
5	State the number of pupils in attendance, on an average of 3 months preceding this return: Male Female Protestants – of the Established Church; Presbyterians; Of other denominations Roman Catholics	Males – 15 Females – 30 Protestants - Of the Established Church - Presbyterians - Of other denominations Roman Catholics - 45

4. Killeigh

1	State the name of the place at which the school is held, and state the name of the townland	Killeigh School.
2	State the name of the Master or Mistress – at what time the school was first opened – and on what days, and what periods of the year, the school is held	James Mitchell.
3	State the religion of the Master or Mistress – and by whom (if any one) he or she was appointed to the school, and when	A Catholic.
4	State the age, character, and qualifications of the Master or Mistress, and where he or she was educated, and whether trained in Kildare Place, or elsewhere, and where	About 40 years of age; educ[ated] in the [neighbourhood].
5	State the number of pupils in attendance, on an average of 3 months preceding this return: Male Female Protestants – of the Established Church; Presbyterians; Of other denominations Roman Catholics	Males – 42 Females – 40 Protestants - Of the Established Church - 12 - Presbyterians - Of other denominations Roman Catholics - 70

5. Annaharvey School

1	State the name of the place at which the school is held, and state the name of the townland	Annaharvey School.
2	State the name of the Master or Mistress – at what time the school was first opened – and on what days, and what periods of the year, the school is held	Robert Fox.
3	State the religion of the Master or Mistress – and by whom (if any one) he or she was appointed to the school, and when	A Catholic.
4	State the age, character, and qualifications of the Master or Mistress, and where he or she was educated, and whether trained in Kildare Place, or elsewhere, and where	About 35; educat[e]d in this neighbourhood.
5	State the number of pupils in attendance, on an average of 3 months preceding this return: Male Female Protestants – of the Established Church; Presbyterians; Of other denominations Roman Catholics	Males – 30 Females – 27 Protestants - Of the Established Church - 15 - Presbyterians - Of other denominations Roman Catholics - 42

6. Miliharo School

1	State the name of the place at which the school is held, and state the name of the townland	Miliharo School.
2	State the name of the Master or Mistress – at what time the school was first opened – and on what days, and what periods of the year, the school is held	John Wilson.
3	State the religion of the Master or Mistress – and by whom (if any one) he or she was appointed to the school, and when	A Catholic.
4	State the age, character, and qualifications of the Master or Mistress, and where he or she was educated, and whether trained in Kildare Place, or elsewhere, and where	About 40; educated in the neighbourhood.
5	State the number of pupils in attendance, on an average of 3 months preceding this return: Male Female Protestants – of the Established Church; Presbyterians; Of other denominations Roman Catholics	Males – 28 Females – 25 Protestants - Of the Established Church - 2 - Presbyterians - Of other denominations Roman Catholics - 52

7. Killinmore

1	State the name of the place at which the school is held, and state the name of the townland	Killinmore School.
2	State the name of the Master or Mistress – at what time the school was first opened – and on what days, and what periods of the year, the school is held	James Feagan.
3	State the religion of the Master or Mistress – and by whom (if any one) he or she was appointed to the school, and when	A Catholic.
4	State the age, character, and qualifications of the Master or Mistress, and where he or she was educated, and whether trained in Kildare Place, or elsewhere, and where	Above 40; educat[e]d near this place.
5	State the number of pupils in attendance, on an average of 3 months preceding this return: Male Female Protestants – of the Established Church; Presbyterians; Of other denominations Roman Catholics	Males – 19 Females – 7 Protestants - Of the Established Church - Presbyterians - Of other denominations Roman Catholics - 26

8. Kilerin

1	State the name of the place at which the school is held, and state the name of the townland	Kilerin School.
2	State the name of the Master or Mistress – at what time the school was first opened – and on what days, and what periods of the year, the school is held	Denis Mahon.
3	State the religion of the Master or Mistress – and by whom (if any one) he or she was appointed to the school, and when	A Catholic.
4	State the age, character, and qualifications of the Master or Mistress, and where he or she was educated, and whether trained in Kildare Place, or elsewhere, and where	About 20 y[ear]s; educated in this parish.
5	State the number of pupils in attendance, on an average of 3 months preceding this return: Male Female Protestants – of the Established Church; Presbyterians; Of other denominations Roman Catholics	Males – 31 Females – 24 Protestants - Of the Established Church - Presbyterians - Of other denominations Roman Catholics - 55

9. Raheen

1	State the name of the place at which the school is held, and state the name of the townland	Raheen School
---	---	---------------

2	State the name of the Master or Mistress – at what time the school was first opened – and on what days, and what periods of the year, the school is held	Philip Devine.
3	State the religion of the Master or Mistress – and by whom (if any one) he or she was appointed to the school, and when	A Catholic.
4	State the age, character, and qualifications of the Master or Mistress, and where he or she was educated, and whether trained in Kildare Place, or elsewhere, and where	About 40; educated in W[est]meath.
5	State the number of pupils in attendance, on an average of 3 months preceding this return: Male Female Protestants – of the Established Church; Presbyterians; Of other denominations Roman Catholics	Males – 33 Females – 25 Protestants - Of the Established Church – 6 - Presbyterians - Of other denominations Roman Catholics - 52

10. Clonegown

1	State the name of the place at which the school is held, and state the name of the townland	Clonegown School.
2	State the name of the Master or Mistress – at what time the school was first opened – and on what days, and what periods of the year, the school is held	Peter Kilduff.
3	State the religion of the Master or Mistress – and by whom (if any one) he or she was appointed to the school, and when	A Catholic.
4	State the age, character, and qualifications of the Master or Mistress, and where he or she was educated, and whether trained in Kildare Place, or elsewhere, and where	About 20 y[ear]s; educated by P. Devine.
5	State the number of pupils in attendance, on an average of 3 months preceding this return: Male Female Protestants – of the Established Church; Presbyterians; Of other denominations Roman Catholics	Males – 32 Females – 16 Protestants - Of the Established Church - Presbyterians - Of other denominations Roman Catholics - 48

11. [Balmacren]

1	State the name of the place at which the school is held, and state the name of the townland	[Balmacren] School
2	State the name of the Master or Mistress – at what time the school was first opened –	Charles Dunne.

	and on what days, and what periods of the year, the school is held	
3	State the religion of the Master or Mistress – and by whom (if any one) he or she was appointed to the school, and when	A Catholic.
4	State the age, character, and qualifications of the Master or Mistress, and where he or she was educated, and whether trained in Kildare Place, or elsewhere, and where	About 25 y[ear]s; educated [] by his father.
5	State the number of pupils in attendance, on an average of 3 months preceding this return: Male Female Protestants – of the Established Church; Presbyterians; Of other denominations Roman Catholics	Males – 22 Females – 13 Protestants - Of the Established Church - 2 - Presbyterians - Of other denominations Roman Catholics - 33

12. Clonegown

1	State the name of the place at which the school is held, and state the name of the townland	Clonegown School.
2	State the name of the Master or Mistress – at what time the school was first opened – and on what days, and what periods of the year, the school is held	Michl. Jackson.
3	State the religion of the Master or Mistress – and by whom (if any one) he or she was appointed to the school, and when	A Protestant.
4	State the age, character, and qualifications of the Master or Mistress, and where he or she was educated, and whether trained in Kildare Place, or elsewhere, and where	More than 30 y[ear]s; can't say where educated.
5	State the number of pupils in attendance, on an average of 3 months preceding this return: Male Female Protestants – of the Established Church; Presbyterians; Of other denominations Roman Catholics	Males – 24 Females – 12 Protestants - Of the Established Church - 10 - Presbyterians - Of other denominations Roman Catholics - 26

13. Clonegown

1	State the name of the place at which the school is held, and state the name of the townland	Clonegown School.
2	State the name of the Master or Mistress – at what time the school was first opened – and on what days, and what periods of the year, the school is held	Mrs. Pool.

3	State the religion of the Master or Mistress – and by whom (if any one) he or she was appointed to the school, and when	A Protestant.
4	State the age, character, and qualifications of the Master or Mistress, and where he or she was educated, and whether trained in Kildare Place, or elsewhere, and where	Cannot tell her age or education.
5	State the number of pupils in attendance, on an average of 3 months preceding this return: Male Female Protestants – of the Established Church; Presbyterians; Of other denominations Roman Catholics	She returned Protestants of the Established Church - 8 Roman Catholics – 19

Jas. Dowling, Roman Catholic Parish Priest