

## Michael Fitzgerald (Jnr.) and Marianne Gately



*Marianne Fitzgerald*

We have no further record of Michael (Jnr.) until we see his Royal Irish Constabulary record. He joined his father in the force on 16th May 1889 in Athlone. He was recommended by one D. J. Purdon (I can find no record of this gentleman). His first allocated duty must have been Westmeath as there is an entry for his transfer to Roscommon on 9/11/1889. His next transfer was to the eastern region of Co. Galway on 1 May 1895.

The other details in his RIC record are:

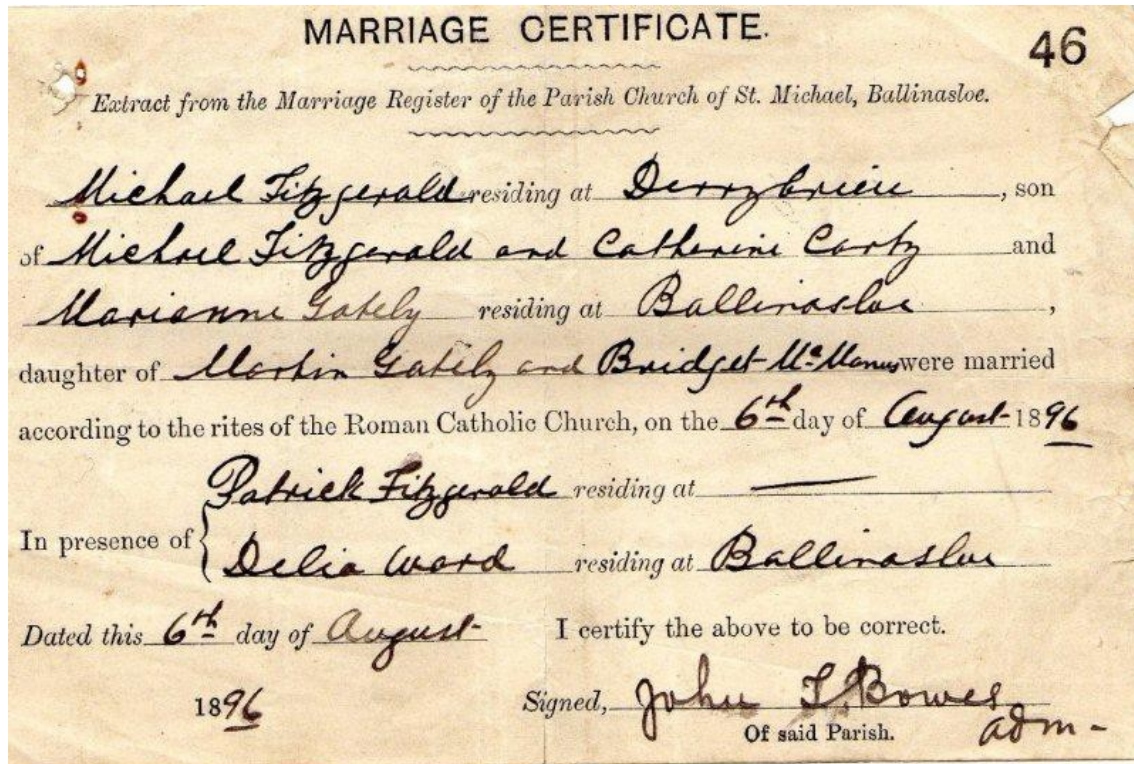
P. A. Sergeant	1.4.1908	(Promoted Acting Sergeant?)
Promoted Sergeant	Date unclear	(must be before 1911 – see census detail in text)
G. r. (?)	31.12.1895	
ar. (?)	20.12.1898	
His height is given as	5' 8"	

To complete the record there are three citations of rewards etc.. and one punishment (12.3.1890). The handwriting is too small for me to read clearly but the reference numbers refer to documents that did not survive the Four courts fire in 1922.

The disbandment of the RIC after the Irish Free State came into being saw him disbanded and the

date of this is given as 10/ 4/1922.

There is also the record of his marriage to someone from Roscommon 6.8.1896



Marriage Certificate - Michael Jnr. and Marianne Gately

The someone he married was Marianne Gately and they married on 6<sup>th</sup> August 1896 in St. Michaels church, Ballinasloe where his parents had married some 31 years earlier. As you can see the certificate is very detailed. It gives not only the fathers' names but also the mothers'. A great improvement on 31 years earlier. The witness Patrick Fitzgerald is recorded with no given address. I have a theory that he might have been one of Michael's RIC colleagues. There are too many Patrick Fitzgeralds listed in the RIC to ever be sure. I think Delia Ward with her brother and sister ran a Public house in Main Street Ballinasloe.

The civil record of the marriage gives Michael (Jnr.)'s occupation as Policeman and his father's too. Marianne's occupation is given as "schoolmistress" living in Creagh. I think the school house is just standing with the roof caving in at one end. (2011 Googlemap image). It might not be where she taught of course though with transport always difficult it is likely she lived close to where she worked.