



Rópa básadóra ar baineadh úsáid as i bPríosún Mhuinseo go dtí na 1950idí
Executioner's rope used in Mountjoy Prison until the 1950s

PIONÓIS IN ÉIRINN I GCAITHEAMH RÉIMEAS VICTORIA

Ag tús réimeas na Banríona Victoria (1837-1901), bhí amhras á léiriú faoi na modhanna pionósaithe a bhí á gcur i bhfeidhm ar phríosúnaigh chiontaithe agus faoi na fáthanna a bhí leo. Ábhar déistíne don phobal i gcoitinne a bhí sa chrochadh poiblí agus san uiríslíú a dhéantaí go poiblí ar choirpigh a raibh mionchoireanna déanta acu. Thart ar an am céanna, bhí dearcadh nua ag teacht chun cinn maidir le hathchóiriú coiriúil, agus bhí brú ar an stát athmhachnamh a dhéanamh ar an dóigh a raibh sé ag caitheamh le daoránaigh.

Leis an bhfealsúnacht úr, tháinig deireadh le haistriú daoránach go dtí an Astráil agus leis an gcrochadh poiblí sa Ríocht Aontaithe. Taobh thiar de bhallaí phríosúin na hÉireann, áfach, leanadh ar aghaidh le bású príonsúnach agus le pionós an bháis a chur i bhfeidhm. Ritheadh achtanna Parlaiminte in 1842 agus in 1861 a laghdaigh go mór líon na gcoireanna a raibh pionós an bháis ag dul leo, ach bhí daoine a bhí ciontaithe i gcionta báis go fóill á gcrochadh. Is in 1961 a cuireadh duine chun báis den uair dheireanach ar oileán na hÉireann.

Ba éagsúil déine na bpionós corpartha ag brath ar chineál an mhí-iompair ag an bpríosúnach. Socraíodh Rialacha Ginearálta Príosúin in 1882. Chuir siad síos ar an gcineál pionós chorpartha a ghearrfaí ar phríosúnaigh lánfhásta agus ar ógánaigh a chuaigh i mbun drochiompair a fhad agus a bhí siad sa phríosún.

PUNISHMENT IN VICTORIAN IRELAND

At the dawn of the reign of Queen Victoria (1837-1901) the entire method and purpose of punishing convicted prisoners was beginning to be questioned. Widespread revulsion of public hangings and public humiliation of petty criminals coincided with new thinking on criminal reform which together forced the state to review its treatment of convicts.

he be from thence conveyed to the Common place of Execution, the gallows, on Thursday, the twentieth day of July, one thousand eight hundred and Sixty-five, and that he be there and there hanged by the neck until he be dead; and that his body shall be buried within the precincts of the Prison in which he shall be last confined after his conviction.

Cuid den bharántas básaithe do Patrick Kilkenny, 1865
Section of execution warrant for Patrick Kilkenny, 1865



Saighead leathan ar mhuga príosúin a bhíodh in úsáid ag imtheorannaithe Éireannacha, Carcair Reading, 1916
Broad arrow on prison mug used by Irish internees, Reading Gaol, 1916

The new philosophy brought the end of convict transportation to Australia and the end of public hangings in the United Kingdom. However, within the walls of Ireland's prisons, the execution and corporal punishment of prisoners continued. Acts of Parliament in 1842 and 1861 greatly decreased the number of offences that carried the death penalty but people convicted of capital offences continued to be hanged. The last execution on the island of Ireland took place in 1961.

Corporal punishment varied in severity according to the prisoner's misbehaviour. General Prison Rules drawn up in 1882 outlined the circumstances under which corporal punishment was apportioned to adult and juvenile prisoners who misbehaved in prison.