

**HULL, 1880
BOOK 466, PAGE 75**

JOHN BOYLE O'REILLY

**FAMOUS IRISH PATRIOT, POET AND EDITOR
SUMMER HOME BECAME HULL PUBLIC LIBRARY**

John Boyle O'Reilly was born June 28, 1844 in County Meath, Ireland. He enlisted in the British Army where he was convicted for activities in support of a United Ireland. He was sent to a penal colony in West Australia. He escaped and eventually made his way to Boston. He became a leader in the Irish Catholic community, was the editor of the "The Pilot" and authored several books of poetry and a novel. In 1880, Mr. O'Reilly purchased the Hunt Estate in Hull to be used as a summer residence. In 1889, O'Reilly had the old house demolished and a new one built. This property is presently the Hull Public Library.

O'Reilly was considered an important figure in helping to assimilate Boston's Irish Catholic immigrants with its Protestant Yankee citizenry in the 19th century. In 1889, he was invited to be the keynote speaker at the dedication of the National Monument to the Forefathers in Plymouth.

He died in Hull on August 10, 1890. There is a monument created by Daniel Chester French in his honor in the Fenway section of Boston.

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