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CASTLEHAVEN AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD.

BY JAMES M. BURKE, B.A., B.L.



THE Parish of Castlehaven in the Diocese of Ross and Barony E.D.W. Carbery, was formerly called Glenbarrahane, i.e., *gleann Beairéáin* (the glen of St. Barrahan). In a Papal document of 1199 it is written Glenberchin; in the Royal Visitation Book of 1615 it is called Glenbarrahane. Bearchan, the patron saint of the parish, is usually identified with the great prophet Bearchan Mac De. The name is found in three other townlands of the County Cork, viz. :—Curryvarrahane, parish of Ballymodan; Lickbarrahane, parish of Kilnamanagh, and Kilbarrahane, parish of Rooskeen.

Bearchan is seemingly a Lugadian name. In the Genealogy of Corca Laidhe we find together the pedigrees of Conall, Bearchan and Ceallach, which come immediately after the pedigree of Saint Fachtna (v. "Celtic Miscellany," pp. 46-49). Conall is probably the St. Conall who is said to have succeeded St. Fachtna as Bishop of Ross. From the context it is to be assumed that Bearchan was also an ecclesiastic. The pedigree states that he was great grandson of Conall Claen. In another part of the Genealogy we read that this Conall Claen had five sons to the west of Dor (or Glandore). Castlehaven is just to the west of Glandore, so it may be inferred the Bearchan mentioned in the Genealogy is the patron of Castlehaven.

Ancient Proprietors.—In the Genealogy of Corca Laidhe we read that "The Country of O'Gillamichil extends from Feith-na-h-imghona to Ceann-mara; and from Beann-Sidhain to Beal-atha-Seamann. These are its hereditary leaders, viz. :—O *Doortáin* (Doorty); O *Dunlaimh* (Dowling, Doolan); O *Hogán* (Hogan); O *Dugán* (Duggan); *Ua Meiceirí*; *Ua Keavan*; *Ua Ceairtáin*; *Ua Buairí*; *Ua Mangan*, *Mongan*; *Ua Durk*; *Ua Mohilly*; *Ua Barr*, and *Ua Rorh*. Of this territory was the man who for his means was the most hospitable and bountiful that ever came to our knowledge of this tribe, namely, the representative of Bearchan, the Great Vicar O'Gillamichil, who was usually called 'Open Purse.'"

The country of the O'Gillamichel included the present parish of Castlehaven. I am unable to identify *Féir na h-imbóga* (boggy trench of the murder), but the Genealogy states that it was west of *Tír na n-Óg*

(i.e., strand of the oak), now called Tragumina Bay, the western limit of Castlehaven parish. Dr. John O'Donovan says, *Ceann Mhara* (head of the sea) is the village of Leap which lies at the head of Glandore Harbour. I think it is the pretty inlet at the head of Castlehaven Harbour, now called *Péicín na Mhara* (little point of the sea), which forms the eastern limit of Castlehaven parish. In fact there can be no doubt that this is so, for the Genealogy describes *Ceann Mhara* as the western limit of Myross. Now, Peakeen na Mara is exactly the western boundary of Myross, and Leap is not in Myross at all, but to the north-east of it.

Beann Síodáin (peak of fairy mound) is Beenteeane (*Beann τ-Σιδάιν*) in Farrenconner, parish of Castlehaven. The northern limit *Béal áta rēamān* I cannot identify. The Rev. Mr. Quarry conjectures that it is a ford on the river Sawenose which is in the parish of Caheragh. I venture to think it was much further north, and for this reason that two of the families settled in the district were the *Ua Buaóair* and the *Ua Mhonnáin*. Ballyvoige (*Bail'uj Buaóair*), parish of Desertserges, commemorates the former, while Cloonties, parish of Fanlobbus, formerly called *Cluainne uj Mhonnáin* (O'Mangan's meadows) commemorates the latter.

Proprietors in Queen Elizabeth's Time.—Moneyvollihane, Downeen, Raheen, and Killaderry were attached to MacCarthy Reagh's castle at Gortnaclohy (parish of Creagh); while Farrenagilla, Bloed, Glannageel, Rea, Bawnacollapy belonged to the Clan Teige Eillen McCarthys; and Adrigole, Aghills, Smorane and Lettartinlis belonged to the Clann Dermot McCarthys.

The O'Donovans seem to have held Gortbrack and Ballycahane. The rest belonged to a branch of the O'Driscolls.

Castles.—Castlehaven Castle which belonged to the O'Driscolls stands on the edge of Castlehaven beach. Baltimore, Castlehaven, and Berehaven were regarded as the most important harbours in the west of the County Cork in Queen Elizabeth's time. In 1601 this castle was held by Donogh O'Driscoll and his brothers. Donogh was the grandson of Finghin O'Driscoll, who was uncle of Sir Fineen O'Driscoll, the then Lord of Collymore. Shortly after the arrival of the Spanish commander Don Juan D'Aquila at Kinsale, Zubiaur, his naval colleague, put in at Castlehaven with seven ships. The O'Driscolls forthwith delivered this castle to the Spaniards, who proceeded to munition and fortify it. "For the guard of these places Don Juan assigned that 100 of the late supplies should remain at Castle-Haven with a magazine of victualls and munition, and eight pieces of Ordnance" (v. "Pac. Hib." book ii. c. 18).



CASTLEHAVEN.



REMAINS OF CASTLETOWNSHEND.

Shortly afterwards Sir Richard Levison, who commanded the Queen's fleet at Kinsale, proceeded to Castlehaven with six warships. A hot encounter took place, and according to the "Pacata Hibernia" book ii. c. 19), the Spaniards were utterly defeated, one of their ships was sunk and three others driven on the rocks. After obtaining this signal victory the Admiral was anxious to return to Kinsale, but contrary winds kept him in the harbour for twenty-four hours, during which the Spaniards kept up a continuous fire which caused "great danger and little loss." On the night of the 8th Dec. (old style) Levison left Castlehaven Harbour.

Philip O'Sullivan Beare gives a different account of this engagement. He says that his uncle, O'Sullivan Beare, who was then in Bantry, came to Zubiaur's aid with 500 men; O'Driscoll More, O'Donovan, and the McCarthys also joined him. The Spaniards vehemently attacked the English fleet. Sixty Englishmen who attempted to spoil the corn-fields were cut to pieces. At the first favourable wind Levison quitted the harbour having lost 575 men. On the Irish side one (a relative of Zubiaur) was killed and two (one Irish and one Spaniard) were wounded ("Catholic History," tom. iii., lib. vi.).

After the battle of Kinsale Red Hugh O'Donnell proceeded to Spain to seek further aid from the Spanish king. The Four Masters thus chronicle his departure. "A.D. 1602. On the 6th of January O'Donnell with his heroes took shipping at Cuan-an-Chaislein." *CUAN AN CHAIRLEIN* (now *CUAN AN CHAIRLEÁIN*), which the Spaniards called Porto Castello and O'Sullivan Beare latinizes into Portu Castellum, is of course Castlehaven. It was in Zubiaur's ships that Red Hugh O'Donnell sailed thence for Spain. "The 8th and 20th of December [old style] information was brought that Pedro Zubiaur, who was, as it is said, a great commander of the Spanish fleet that came to Kinsale, was lately landed at Castlehaven, and hearing of Tyrone's overthrow made no stay but set sail for Spain, carrying with him O'Donnell, Redmond Burke, and Hugh Mostian."—"Pacata Hibernia."

Father Mooney in his account of the Franciscan Monasteries, gives a very interesting character sketch of Red Hugh. In Father Meehan's "Irish Franciscan Monasteries," Father Mooney is represented as saying, "I was the last to kiss Red Hugh's hand on the beach of Castlehaven."

One of the articles of Don Juan's surrender was that the Spaniards should give up Castlehaven to Carew, and Captain Harvey was dispatched to get possession of the castle. Before Harvey's arrival Donogh O'Driscoll had however contrived to take possession of it "by a sleight." The Spaniards were preparing to undermine the castle with a view to

re-capturing it, when Harvey arrived, "whereupon O'Driscoll surrendered it upon a composition to depart in safetie" ("Pac. Hib.").

At the Myross side of Castlehaven Harbour, near Reen or Galleon Point, are several remains of the entrenchments thrown up by the Spaniards, from which they bombarded a ship of Admiral Levison's that went aground there, from which circumstance the place was called Galleon Point. Near by are also mounds of earth beneath which were buried the Spaniards who were killed. Here also are remains still called Spanish Ovens, which they used for culinary purposes, consisting of a deep pit surrounded by a circular wall.

After the conclusion of the war, Castlehaven was granted to George Touchet, Lord Audley, who was created Earl of Castlehaven in 1616. Found guilty of abominable crimes, he was executed in England in 1631. The report of his trial will be found in the third volume of Cobbett's State Trials.

A Dowager Countess of Castlehaven was living in this castle in Bishop Dive Downes' time. The Audley Estates were sold in the Incumbered Estates' Court in 1851.

Lettertinlis Castle. Smith says that this castle belonged to the McCarthys. It was probably held by the Clan Dermot branch of that sept. Returning from the siege of Dunboy, Carew, on June 28th, 1602, captured Lettertinlis Castle, which was then held by Conor, son of Sir Fineen O'Driscoll. "After the souldiers had made pillage of the goods, wee burned and destroyed the castle and stone hall, and rode thence to Tymolagg" ("Pac. Hib.," p. 580). Only the mere site of the castle now remains, about two miles distance from Castlehaven Castle.

In the winter of 1855 a large "school" of whales invaded Castlehaven Harbour, several of which were killed by the natives.

Castle Townshend. According to Smith this village was anciently called Sleughleigh. It takes its present name from Colonel Richard Townshend, an officer of the Long Parliament, who rendered great service to Cromwell. Within the demesne are the ruins of the castle which he is said to have built.

Smith relates that in 1690, during the Jacobite War, "five hundred of the rebels under young Colonel O'Driscoll, attempted to burn the mansion house of Castletownshend in West Carbery; but they missed of their aim, and were so well received by the garrison, consisting of about 35 men, that 12 of them dropped upon the first volley, and under a second attack, O'Driscoll, Captain Teige Donovan, Captain Croneen, and about 30 others were slain, and so many more were wounded that they were forced to retire with loss and shame."

"In this attack," says Story, "one Captain Mac Ronaine, with drawn

sword endeavoured to hinder his men's retreat, but he being killed they got away. Several of them had bundles of straw on their breasts to resist the shot, but notwithstanding they were killed on the spot." The mansion house was afterwards captured by Mac Fineen O'Driscoll, and subsequently re-captured by Colonel Culliford.

A short distance from the castle is situated the parish graveyard in a secluded glen. In the graveyard are the remains of a chapel, which is said to have been St. Barrahan's, and near by is his holy well.

The castle opposite Castlehaven, viz. :—*Καστήν* (Raheen), is in the parish of Myross. It belonged to the Clancahill O'Donovans, whose district was divided into (1) the Manor of Castle Donovan, (2) the Manor of Rahyne. The nuncupative will of O'Donovan of Rahine, 1629, is still extant. He bequeaths his body to be buried in Timoleague Abbey.

Local Names and Antiquities. Ardgeehane, *Ἄρθο Ἰαοτάη*, hill of the breeze; Adrigole, *Ἐαδαίη τὰ ἰαδαίη*, between two (river) forks; Burryroe, *Βορρηαίτε μῦατ*, red ridges; Bawnishal, *Βάν ἱρεαλ*, low-lying field; Ballycahane, *Βαίλ' υἱ Κατάη*, O'Kane's land; Cullinagh, *Κυλλολληεαδ*, holly-wood; Drishane, *Δρηρεάν*, bramble place.

Farranagilla. In the McCarthy Reagh Inquisition of 1636, this is written Farran-mac-gully-michil, while in the Copinger grants it is Farrangilleevihil, i.e., *Ἐαράνη υἱ Ἰωλλανηίη*, O'Gillamichael's land.

Farranconner, *Ἐαράνη Κοηόβαίη*, Conogher's land; Farrandaw, *Ἐαράνη Δαβιό*, David's land; Fahoura, *Ἐαίττε μῦβραδ*, exercise green of the yew tree; Forenaught, *Ἐόμνοέτ*, cold bare land; Glasheenaulin, *Ἰλαίρη ἀλυηη*, beautiful streamlet; Yokane, *Ἰεοάν*, a neck of land; Reendacussane, *Ῥηη σα κυράη*, headland of two covelets; Gorteenaloman, *Ἰοητεῖη ηα λομάν*, little field of the stripped trees (or of the ensigns); Crosslea, *Κρορ ἡατ* (grey cross) or *Κρορ ῤηζε*, a by-road; Gortbrack, *Ἰοητ βρεαδ*, speckled field; Gortacrossig, *Ἰοητ α' ἐποράη*. I am informed by Canon Lyons that *Κροραδ* was applied to a buffoon who went around on feast days wearing a cross and publishing mock sentences of excommunication.

Lettertinlis, Lettertanlis or Letter, is probably *λεῖτηη α' τ-ρεαν* (or *τ-ρηη*) *ἡη*, marshy slope of the old lios.

Knockdruma, *Κηοκ Δρηομα*, hill of the ridge. Here are the splendid remains of an extensive *καίτηη* or *καίρεαλ*. The circumvallating wall is nearly 320 feet in circumference, 10 feet thick, and eight feet broad. On the eastern side of the enclosure is a pillar-stone with a cross engraved on it. Near the south-western angle are three semi-subterranean chambers, hewn out of the solid rock, and communicating with each other by means of narrow circular apertures. In the centre are

the remains of what appears to have been a *clochán* (bee-hived shape stone house).

This *cahir* must have been the residence of some Lugadian chieftain. Miss Stokes describes these huge stone fortresses in her "Early Christian Art," part ii. pp. 33-38. "They may have been in existence two centuries before the introduction of Christianity into Ireland; but at all events, they appear to have continued in use after the introduction of Christianity, and many instances are recorded in the 'Lives of the Saints' of a king or chieftain on his conversion to Christianity offering to God his *caíh* or fortress, so that the missionary and his followers might erect their little cells and oratory within the area of the amphitheatre" (p. 37).

The pillar-stone with the cross engraved on it leads to the belief that a monastic cell was also erected at Knockdroma. It perhaps marks the grave or bed of some missionary.

Over the roof of one of the semi-subteranean chambers is a ventilating hole. This leads one to infer that these chambers were probably used as winter retreats. There is also a rude kind of ventilating shaft at the western end.

The remains of the *clochan* to which I have referred are quite close to the entrance to these chambers, and everything indicates that they were used in connection with each other. These chambers may have also been used as granaries and kitchens.

Brade. We often find the word *Bráírd* in connection with hills, as *Bráírd Aibáin* in Scotland. The Four Masters (anno 1586) mention a mountain called *Bráírd ríab* (now Brawleeve, *Bráírd ríab*). [In O'Donovan's grants Brade is written Bra.] It is perhaps the same word as *Bráírd* (neck, breast, gorge).

In this townland is a ruined little church called "white church," and a pretty little graveyard, where the Jervoises and Powells are buried.

There are several lakes in this district, such as Loch Banousal (*Beán uaral*, a lady); Doolough, (*Doib loe*, black lake), and Aghills. The latter is said to be so-called from *ajéil*, which is stated to be the Irish for a species of fresh-water eel found in this lake. Shell-fish and wrinkles are also mentioned as having been found there. There is a local saying:

"Dá loe deuz na h-ajéillí
Aíur doib loe an t-Shreolane."

"The twelve lakes of Aghills,
And the black lake of Shreelane."

Dr. Joyce refers Aghills to *Eócoill* (a yew wood). Canon Lyons suggests it is cognate with the Lat. *collis*. If so, it is same root as English *hill* and German *huegel*.

In Lettertinlis is Lough na Luracann (λοε̄ ηα λιαε̄ριαηάν). The luricawn, leprechaun, cluricawn or Loghrey-man is well-known to folklorists. His red cap and Liliputian pipe are familiar to old peasants. I was gravely informed a few weeks ago that the luricawns and the ηηά ρ̄̄ε̄ had now all left Ireland.

In Castletownshend are, what is called Nelson's monument, a pile of stones which was erected to commemorate the battle of Trafalgar by some mariners belonging to a war sloop which was stationed in Castletownshend at the time of Nelson's victory, and Swift's tower, where the Dean is said to have written his "Carberiaë Rupes."

In Gortbrack a great murder was committed during the Cromwellian wars, the details of which are to be found in McCarthy's "History of the McCarthys of Gleannachroim."

The Ordnance Map marks the disused graveyard of Kilcloonagh in Bawnishal. Now, a Papal document of 1199 mentions a parish of Cluainechi (Cluaine eic̄) between Glenbarrahane and Aughadown. This may be the place. A holy well is marked in Crosslea. This probably explains the name.

In Scobawn (Scó̄t̄ bán, white flower) are Portaduna (Πορτ̄ ᾱ ε̄ύηᾱε̄, landing-place of the Dun), and Lisnacaheraghmore (Lior̄ ηᾱ αε̄τᾱριαε̄ η̄ό̄η̄, the lis of the big cahir). It was doubtless the cattle garth of the Caher of Knockdroma.

Near Toe Head (Toe, Τυαε̄, tribal land) are Duneendermotmore; Tranadough (Τριά̄ξ̄ ηᾱ τ̄μηαε̄, strand of the sand heaps), and St. Bartholomew's well. At Toe Head a great tithe riot took place in 1823, and several lives were lost.

Among the inlets of the sea are: Coosnagoloor (Cuar̄ ηᾱ ζ̄-κολ̄ύ̄ρ̄, Pigeon Cove); Coosnagroghoge (Cuar̄ ηᾱ ζ̄-ε̄ρο̄ε̄δ̄ξ̄, Pollock Cove); Coosnamarc (Cuar̄ ηᾱ η̄ βᾱρ̄ε̄, Boat Cove).

Smorane, this word is said to be derived from Σμη̄ρί̄αν̄ (burnt land). Others refer it to Σμη̄ρί̄αν̄ (which correctly represents the word as pronounced by the people), the name applied to water impregnated with oxide of iron.

There are several place-names here which I cannot explain, such as Lisarankin (also called Lisarohane), Bluid, Killahangal, Farrandeligeen, Moneyvollihane, etc.

Bluid. The Four Masters (anno 1598) mentions ῡ̄ η̄-Blor̄ε̄, which was held by some Dalcassian septs, and is still the name of a deanery in East Clare. Dr. O'Brien says it was the old name of the Barony of Lower Ormond in Tipperary. It looks the same word as Bluid.

Farrandeligeen may be Ψε̄ᾱριᾱη̄ ε̄ε̄λ̄ξ̄η̄, land of little thorns, and Moneyvollihane, Ω̄ῡη̄' ᾱ' η̄ολ̄ε̄ά̄η̄, owl's thicket.

Horse Island seems to have been formerly used as a cemetery. The practice of burying the dead in islands near the coast seems to have largely prevailed formerly. The Skeams Islands and Low Island (off Myross) were similarly used.

About 150 years ago there was a linen manufactory at Killahangal. Dr. John O'Donovan writes this name as *Ṣjolla h-ahṣjil*. *Ṣjolla* (which originally means a servant) enters into many Irish surnames, such as Gillmichael (servant of St. Michael), Gillmurry (servant of Mary), Gillchrist (servant of Christ), Mac Gilla Patrick (Fitzpatrick) (servant of St. Patrick), etc., etc.

In Lettertinlis, the O.S. marks Lisfahy (probably Fahy's garth). *Ṙat̄ar̄* was a common name of the O'Driscolls, an offshoot of whom were called the *Clanṣ Ṙat̄ar̄*. From the McCarthy Reagh Inquisition we learn that part of Collybeg (conterminous with the present parish of Aughadown, and held by a younger branch of the O'Driscolls), was called Slught-Fahy (i.e. *Sl̄ṡ̄ar̄ Ṙat̄ar̄*, race of Fathadh).

When Mathew O'Finn was Bishop of Ross (1309-1331) he recovered some of the diocesan property, which was wrongfully withheld by Barrett and Carew. From the latter he recovered 150 acres of wood and 150 acres of pasturage in Fornath, Corkbeg, Tyrofynachta and Knockhanly. The first two seem to be identical with Forenaught and Currabeg, neighbouring townlands in the parish of Castlehaven.

Rea is *Ṙeṣ̄*, a mountain flat, and Bawnagolluppy is *B̄ar̄un ṣ colb̄ar̄*, the enclosure of the three year old heifers.

NOTES.

Many, in fact most, of the tribe-names mentioned in the Genealogy of Corca Laidhe as occupiers of O'Gillmichael's land have become extinct. *Ua Ṙeṣ̄eṣ̄eṣ̄* is probably still preserved in Mac Eady or Eady, a surname that still survives in West Cork. *Ua B̄iṡar̄* survives as a nick-name of some families of the O'Sullivans. *Ua C̄eṡar̄* (O'Carty) which is entirely distinct from *Ṙac C̄ar̄ar̄* (MacCarthy) is also obsolete. It is probably preserved in Carty's Island in Roaring Water Bay, also in Cloontycarty (*Cl̄uṡar̄ ṡ Ṙ̄eṡar̄*, O'Carty's meadows) near Macroom.

The name Dorc was preserved in Twovintirrydurk (i.e., tribal land of the O'Dorc people), a district mentioned in the McCarthy Reagh Inquisition.

In Carew's account of his march to Dunboy we read:—"The 26th (April 1602) we departed Rosse over the Leape to Glanbrean (Glenbarrahane) where we encamped, and I went to Castlehaven to vewe the castle and harbor, not removing Captain Gawen Harvey's company (which had the guard hereof), and the same night the Lord Barry and the White Knight sent out a part of men to the Downynge (The Downings, par. of Ross), which was possessed by the rebles, who predeed the town and kylled one of the ward."

"Great O'Donyvane, as the Irish call him, whose father was a notorious reble, doth much spoyle about the Leape, Castlehaven, Bantry, etc."—(Letter of Rev. Urban Vigers, dated July, 1642. "Cork H. & A. Jour.," July, 1896.)