

**Journal of the Cork Historical and
Archaeological Society**

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Title: Castlemore, and connected castles in Muskerry, Co. Cork; illustrated by W. R. Atkins

Author: Gillman, Herbert Webb

Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society, 1892, Vol. 1, No 12,
page(s) 233-242

Published by the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society

Digital file created: June 7, 2013

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JOURNAL
OF THE
CORK HISTORICAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL
SOCIETY.

VOL. I.

DECEMBER, 1892.

No. 12.

*Castlemore, and Connected Castles in Muskerry,
Co. Cork.*

BY HERBERT WEBB GILLMAN, J.P., B.L., M.R.S.A.

(COUNCIL MEMBER.)

(*Concluded.*)



THE other MacSweeney castle, Mash-anaglas, appears to be of a much later type than those two. Its remains show a rectangular tower 40 feet from east to west, and nearly

30 feet from north to south. The east wall containing the well stair and entrance has disappeared, blown up, as is reported, about twenty-seven years ago, with gunpowder by those vandals—the house, builders wanting stones, or the treasure-seekers. So far it resembles other keeps. But it differs from them in having redans, or “spurs,” as they were termed, projecting from the north-east and south-west angles, solid on the ground floor, but with chambers on the first floor above.



MASHANAGLAS CASTLE.

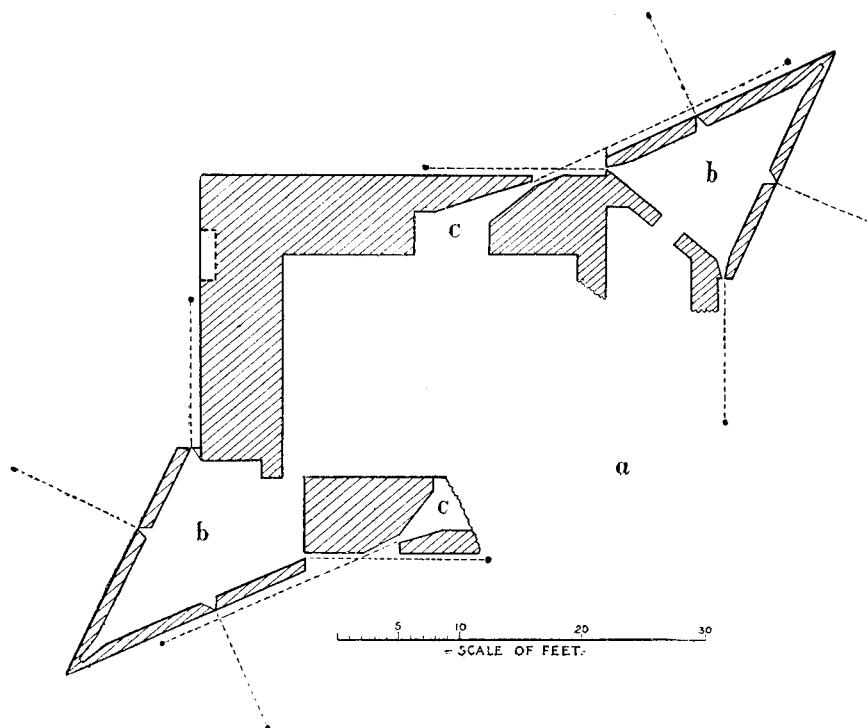
From Photograph by W. R. ATKINS, F.C.A., M.R.S.A., Member of Council.

These spurs are part of the main building and not late additions, and are crenellated for hand-guns, with small loops affording a flanking fire along all the four faces of the tower, and also other loops for fire into

the country outside. Not only this, but in the thickness of the walls of the tower itself there are smaller chambers with loops for flanking the faces of these spurs also. These features are shown clearly from the plan of the first floor given on next page; and from copy of a photograph by Mr. W. R. Atkins, and they are evidence of a great advance over older castles in the plan of defence, as they provided for full use of hand-guns, though having no other provision against cannon. Fortunately

a *fiant*⁽¹⁾ of the year 1587 gives the clue to the period when this plan of building was coming into fashion. It authorizes letters-patent for a "Lease to John Meaghe, esq., "second justice to the province of Munster, "of the castle and lands of Carrygnedye, *alias* "Temple Iogan, in the Parish of Temple "Iogan, Co. Cork," a place identified by Smith with that afterwards called Castlehyde, parish Fermoy; and the *fiant* goes on to

"has in the north-east corner a *spur* which "commandeth the sides of the castle, and in "the south-west corner a foundation of a "flanker upon the top of the castle which "commandeth the other two sides. At the "entry into the castle there is a door of iron, "double-chained, and strong for defence." The dimensions given, the "spur," and the number of stories would nearly describe those of Mashanaglas, though this latter had a



MASHANAGLAS CASTLE.

1st Floor shewing flank defence.

Plan by WEBB GILLMAN, Esq., Lieut. R.A.

a. Part of Castle demolished.

b.b. Interior of "Spurs," giving flank defence and loopholed for musketry.

c.c. Recesses in Castle wall with loopholes for flank defence of spurs.

describe the said castle with a detail very unusual in such documents, but due, presumably, to the then novelty of the construction. It says, "the said castle being strongly "built upon the river Broad Water,⁽²⁾ and "containing 42 feet by 34, being in height four "stories, double vaulted, and covered with "thatch, as yet scarce finished. The castle

(1) *Fiant* No. 6792, of 28th May, xxix. Eliz. See Calendar annexed to the 18th Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Records (Ireland).

(2) Blackwater. *Smith*.

second spur instead of the contrivance called a "flanker" in Castlehyde. As a confirmation of the suggestion that Castlehyde and Mashanaglas, at least in its present form, were erected about the same time, it is noticeable that the first mention of the latter traceable in the published calendars of letters-patent and *fiant*s from the time of Henry II. occurs in the year 1585 in a *fiant*⁽³⁾ of Queen Elizabeth.

(3) No. 4764, 6th October, xxvii. Eliz.

From those two flants, and the style of the building itself, it may be asserted that the date of erection of Mashanaglas Castle was shortly before the year A.D. 1585.

If the conclusions as to dates, here deduced, prove to be correct, a point of some importance in the county history is established. Not only are the periods fixed within which three of the castles under discussion were erected, but also the time of the settling of the warrior clan MacSweeney in the country of Muskerry is assigned to some date shortly before A.D. 1500.

As to the castle of Cloghdha, its date, at least as it stands, is recorded on the handsome mantel-piece in the state-room. The inscription runs thus:—"Anno Dni. 1598, B.M.S.O.G., Decimo die Julii." But, as will be seen from the history of the castle, the erection in 1598 was a rebuilding or restoration of a pre-existing structure, which had been taken and partly destroyed by some Geraldines about that year. Cloghdha is a square tower, 42 feet each way, and 47 feet high from ground to allure. The door is in the west face, on the ground level, and is defended by a long, curious loophole for a hand-gun. There are mural chambers for firing from; but still machicolæ exist for defence from the top. The basement is, as usual, dark and rough, a store room; over it is the usual stone arch covering the whole interior, and without a floor of wood intervening between it and the basement. Above this arch is a room traditionally called the kitchen, but having a good mantel-piece of marble; and above this floor is the state-room with the carved mantel-piece first mentioned. In the year 1844, the whole building was floored and roofed, and otherwise restored, and the 87 stone circular stairs wholly renewed, by the then Earl of Bandon.

LATER HISTORY OF THE CASTLES.

Our local historians⁽⁴⁾ give only the usual brief notices of these castles. Smith tells that Castlemore "was built by the MacSweenys, but afterwards belonged to the MacCarthys, for one Phelim McOwen Carty "was the forfeiting person in 1641"—which last statement is one of Smith's errors. He adds that it was in repair in 1750, and inhabited by Mr. Travers. Windele briefly follows Smith. Mashanaglas is barely men-

(4) See note 6, *ante*.

tioned by the latter as a high tower built by the MacSweenys; and a letter of King James I. is quoted about the resident there in 1612, as will be mentioned presently. Windele merely states that the clan owned this castle. As to Cloghdha and Carrig Dermot Oge, Smith, who evidently did not visit either, states that the former castle is "said to have been built by the MacSweenys, who were anciently famous for Irish hospitality," of which Smith mentions as proof that "on the west side of the high road, near "Dunisky, there was a stone set up, with an "Irish inscription, signifying to all passengers "to repair to the house of Mr. Edmund "MacSweeney for entertainment; the stone "lies in a ditch," etc. It is quite plain, as suggested by Windele, that Smith never saw this stone. It still lies built into a part of the fence of a minor road in Dunisky; the inscription on it is—"1619. E.M.S."; it was an ordinary⁽⁵⁾ boundary stone; its position now is within a field's distance from the remains of Castle Carrig Dermot Oge.

Such is the information, useful as far as it goes and is correct, given by the county histories. No item of value is found in the State Papers of the different reigns till that of Henry VIII. in regard to the present subject. The name MacSweeney is not indexed once in the volume (printed 1827) of the Calendar of Patent and Close Rolls of the Chancery of Hibernia issued during the reigns from Hen. II. to Hen. VII., *i.e.*, 1172 to 1509; and though the MacCarthys are occasionally mentioned there appears nothing relevant.

There is, however, as to Castlemore, other evidence that it did not long continue (if indeed it ever was) in possession of the MacSweenys. The tradition is that it passed to the MacCarthys by the marriage of a brother of the ruling lord with a lady of the MacSweeney clan. This transference, if it took place, was before 1521-2, for, in February of that year, a patent of denization⁽⁶⁾ was granted to "Charles MacCarthy of Castlemore, with the proviso that he should not enjoy it longer than he persisted in his allegiance." The year 1521 was famous in Muskerry annals for the defeat of the forces of Desmond by the

(5) See further, as to this stone, a note at pp. 196-7 in Smith. Guy's reprint, 1892.

(6) Cox, p. 213, edn' 1689, quoted by Smith. The grant, however, is not of record in the Public Record Offices of Dublin or London, though Cox says he saw it.

Muskerry "rising out" under Cormac Oge, the tenth lord, as described at page 18 of this volume; and it is reasonable to infer that the grant was due to that victory, which was not displeasing to the king's ministers, even though it was gained over the Anglo-Norman Desmonds; and that the Charles MacCarthy, the recipient of the grant, was no other than Cormac, the tenth lord. He was probably residing at Castlemore in that year; the Muskerry lords moved from castle to castle; the eleventh lord died in that of Macroom.

We may be sure that the MacSweeney gallowglasses, under their own leaders, helped the Muskerry lord to victory in that fight, as well as in the other commotions and intertribal struggles of the sixteenth century; and though we find no mention of the castles, or their localities—with one exception—in the fiants of Hen. VIII., Edw. VI., and Philip and Mary, *i.e.*, 1509 to 1559, it appears clear that Castlemore was, during that period, in the hands of some MacCarthy kinsman of the ruling lord, and that Carrig Dermot Oge Castle, and the *lands* of Cloghdha and Mashanaglas, and such structures as were then existing on the last two, were in the occupation of MacSweenys, all subject of course to services to the lord of Muskerry. The exception just mentioned occurs in a fiant⁽⁷⁾ of 1545, by which a lease of the rectories of the parishes of Kilmurry where Cloghdha is situate, and of Moviddy wherein Castlemore lies, was granted, with 23 other rectories and the lands of Mourne Abbey, etc., for twenty-one years at a rent of £9, to Dermot McCormac Oge MacCarthy, "late preceptor of Mourne." He was a brother of Teige, the eleventh lord ruling from 1537 to 1565; and though it is added that the lease was "void because granted to the Earl of Desmond," it is not likely that the Geraldines intruded on those Muskerry parishes; and it is known that Mourne itself was granted absolutely afterwards to a Muskerry lord. This fiant is an instance of Henry VIII.'s policy, on his dissolution of a monastery, of granting leases of its lands and tithes to native chieftains, who do not appear to have been slow to accept the plunder of the church.

The first glimpse we get of Muskerry under Elizabeth is a commission, issued in April in

(7) No. 461, 9th July, xxxvii. Hen. VIII.

the ninth year of her reign,⁽⁸⁾ to Sir Dermot MacTeige MacCarthy, "Knight, Captain of Moskrye," to execute martial law in the country under his rule. Sir Dermot was the thirteenth lord of Muskerry, ruling 1565-1570; and this commission empowered him to search for and punish by death or otherwise felons, rebels, enemies, and notorious evil-doers, excepting those having 40s. a year freehold, etc., or any of honest name unless taken in the act, or duly convicted. It is curious to find, two months after this commission, a pardon⁽⁹⁾ issuing to the same trusted lord and his brother, the famous Sir Cormac, for some "transgression," as the phrase ran; possibly it was thought proper that he should be thoroughly whitewashed himself before proceeding to put his enormous power of martial law into execution. That there was some such reason for the government "mending their hand" is apparent from the fact of the commission⁽¹⁰⁾ being renewed after this whitewashing to Sir Dermot for execution in his country. Special instructions were, however, now attached, signed by the lords justices and council. It had been found, probably, that the commissioners were executing their powers in manner unlawful or not indifferent. Perhaps they used the opportunity to pay off old scores. The "instructions" are worth quoting, as a vivid picture of the times; they are dated 20th October, 1567, and run thus:—

1. "Proclamation to be made, that after eight days no idle person or vagabond be found within the district without just cause, or travel by night unless accompanied by *some honest man in English apparel*, on pain of imprisonment.

2. "That the Commissioner may, on reasonable or just cause, punish such idle persons *by death* or otherwise, in causes of death.

3. "The Commissioner shall arrest any person aiding an outlaw or open thief, murderer or rebel, and send him to the Governor; and shall seize his goods, which on proof shall be forfeit, two-thirds to the queen, and one-third to the Commissioner." (A tolerably good spur to the latter's zeal).

4. "Any suspected person found at night without the company of *an honest man*," (no English apparel mentioned here,) "may be used at the discretion of the Commissioner. And if found with the manner of any stealth, robbery, or murder, may lawfully be hanged." (A ticklish time for night-walkers.)

5. "Any person resisting, or without lawful cause refusing to aid the commissioner shall be reported to the Governor, who will see him grievously punished,

(8) Fiant, 25th April, 1567, No. 1019.

(9) Fiant, 28th June, 1567, No. 1084.

(10) Fiant, 20th October, 1567, No. 1196.

and some recompense of his goods given to the Commissioner." (Another spur to his zeal.)

6. "When the Commissioner travels for the punishment of malefactors, he may take meat and drink for horse and man 'in reasonable sorte,' not remaining more than one or two nights in each barony or place, so as not to be oppressive." (A very necessary restriction of the custom of 'coigne and livery'.)

7. "The Commissioner taking a *suspected* person shall examine him before 'the next gentleman of worship,' or the head officer of the next town, and finding sufficient matter of death, shall put him to death, or otherwise, at his discretion. And

8. "Any suspected person who shall 'fail of his surety' may lawfully be put to death, or otherwise punished at discretion." (That is if he could not give surety for good behaviour.)

This large authority was not to extend "over any gentleman or freeholder who may 'dispend 40 shillings in land by the year, or 'lawfully possesseth £10 value of *his own* 'goods without fraud" (in which sentence the piling up of restrictions as to possession is remarkable). Further, it was ordered that "the constable of every parish shall give "warning to the parish priest, or curate of "the same, to publish the premises openly in "church, that the people may not be ignorant "of them"—a provision which could not have been of much practical value, since the dissolution of religious houses suspended public worship over large districts of the country.

An adequate armed force was, of course, needed for carrying out these measures, and this required money; and our castles here come into public notice. About this time, and again in 1568 and 1575, the famous Sir Henry Sydney was sent to Ireland as viceroy. His was a vigorous policy, animated by a desire to enforce order and obedience to the queen's government. For the necessary army he wanted supplies, that is, cattle, etc.; and when these were not forthcoming, he proceeded to take them at his own price. His doctrine about "cess" is part of the history of the time; he contended it was a prescriptive payment in kind for the support of soldiers. This was resisted by the chief and their people; among others, by Sir Cormac McTeige McCarthy, who, in 1570, succeeded his elder brother, Dermot, as lord of Muskerry. He, however, finding the pressure too strong for him gave way; and with his brothers and followers in May, 1573, gave a number of "cows for the army in Munster," and released all "claims for exactions and cesses for the queen's service in Munster taken from them."

A pardon⁽¹¹⁾ for their previous recalcitrance then followed. The names of the pardoned brothers are important—first, Sir Cormac himself, then his next surviving brother and tanist, Donald, and then the next brother, Callaghan McTeige McCarthy, who is described as "of Great Castell," the Castlemore now considered. The other MacSweenycastles are not mentioned in that pardon; though at the same date an Owen McTirclagh MacSweeny,⁽¹²⁾ "of Carrig, gent," was pardoned for the same reasons, and this Carrig was probably Carrig Dermot Oge.

Callaghan continued at Castlemore, where he appears twice in trouble in the year 1577,⁽¹³⁾ but on both occasions getting off with a "fine of one cow," a large number of his followers being fined to the same amount at the same time. At the very period of this last fine, the lord of Muskerry was surrendering the country to the queen (as described at p. 195 of this volume); the regnant followed next year, and it conveyed to trustees for the use of the lord, Sir Cormac McTeige McCarthy, during life, and on his death to the legatees of his will, all Muskerry, and, specifically, the "Manor of Castlemore by Moviddy," and the lands of the same, as also the *lands* of Cloghdha, besides the patronage of several churches, including Moviddy, and Aghinagh where Mashanaglas lies; but no mention is made of the castle in this latter place, showing that most probably it was not yet in existence. This is also the first direct notice of Cloghdha, that is, of the lands but not of the castle.

Callaghan's residence at Castlemore, under the lord of Muskerry, continued till 1581, when the death⁽¹⁴⁾ of his brother, Donal-ny-County, the tanist or successor presumptive to the lordship, raised Callaghan to that position; and accordingly we next hear of him at Carrignamuck, where, according to the custom of Muskerry, the tanist usually held his post. Sir Cormac, the ruling lord, died in 1583; and spite of the regnant policy, the rule⁽¹⁵⁾ of tanistry prevailed, and he was

(11) Fiants 2241 and 2264 of 4th and 8th May, 1573, respectively.

(12) Fiant of 6th May, 1573, No. 2254.

(13) Fiants 3031, of 20th May, and 3083, of 6th September, 1577.

(14) See Pedigree, p. 193 of this volume; also p. 32, for a brief account of the battle of Agharuddera, where the brave Donal received his death wound.

(15) See pp. 198-9 of this volume.

duly succeeded in the lordship by his brother, the aforesaid Callaghan as the fifteenth lord. Callaghan, however, after holding the lordship for a year gave it over to his nephew, Sir Cormac McDermot MacCarthy (sixteenth lord), in 1584, and himself continued at Carrignamuck, where State Papers⁽¹⁶⁾ show him as residing in 1584, and still there in 1601 and 1602-3. But, in giving over the lordship, he obtained several lands for himself, and among others had "Castlemore," *i.e.*, the manor, castle and lands, for his life; and he held this certainly up to 1600, and presumably till his death. The document⁽¹⁷⁾ showing this is "a note of all the lands in Muscrie Clan Desmond, and what lands and duties Cormac McTeige had upon the country, etc," dated 1600, and signed by Donogh, the son of Sir Cormac by Ellen (Leaghe) Fitzgerald; and it proves that, in the composition Callaghan made with his nephew, it was arranged that Castlemore should remain with him for the "term of his life." It is not stated in this document that the remainder, after Callaghan's death, was to the lord of Muskerry, as is asserted in regard to the neighbouring castle of Carrigadrohid, which was allowed as a residence to Sir Cormac's widow, Dame Joan⁽¹⁸⁾ for her life, with remainder to the lord. The reason for this omission must be that, out of the lands, manors and castles, being the whole country of Muskerry, bequeathed finally by Sir Cormac McTeige to his own son, Cormac Oge, as explained at p. 198 of this volume, but which the new lord, Sir Cormac MacDermot MacCarthy, managed to secure for himself by royal regrant⁽¹⁹⁾ in 1589, the castles, manors, and lands of Castlemore and Kilcrea, were relinquished by the new lord to Sir Cormac Mac-

Teige's son; and the famous will of this deceased lord was allowed its full effect in regard to these lands besides others, subject, however, to the "rents and services" due to the ruling lord. Certain it is, at all events, that after 1641 Castlemore was confiscated as the property of Cormac Oge's son; and that the native genealogists are correct in stating that Sir Cormac McTeige MacCarthy, fourteenth lord, was immediate ancestor of the MacCarthys of Castlemore, besides other families.

Callaghan, after moving in 1583 to Carrignamuck, and obtaining Castlemore for his life, seems to have left this latter in charge of MacSweenys,⁽²⁰⁾ for we find two gallowglasses of that clan mentioned as apparently in charge there in 1585; and this condition of affairs continued to at least 1601,⁽²¹⁾ when there appear no higher persons in that post than followers of the MacCarthys. But in the interval there occurs in the State Papers express mention of this castle as well as of two others. The *fiant* of 1585, just quoted, affords the first record as to Mashanaglas, and then, as being the post of "Donell McOwen MacSweeny, gent.," and his men. This leader was the famous chief warder of Blarney Castle, often mentioned in the will of Sir Cormac, copied at pp. 196 *et seq.* of this volume; and, as there stated, he was moved by the new lord to Macroom first, and thence to Mashanaglas. It has been already noticed that in a *fiant* of 1577 no mention is made of this last castle, because, most probably, non-existent then; and the peculiarity of its structure limits the date of its erection to a date about 1585; and we may, with little risk of error, fix this date in the year 1584-5, that in which Chief Warder Donell moved thither—an interesting point to arrive at in the history of these structures. The same Donell appears still there the following year, 1586,⁽²²⁾ as the recipient of a pardon, with some of his gallowglasses and others—the pardon not to cover the murderers of the family of an English settler named Wager. This castle is not mentioned, but the manor of Castlemore by Moviddy and its lands, as also the *lands* of Cloghdha (without hint of a castle there) are mentioned in the sur-

⁽¹⁶⁾ *Fiant*s of Elizabeth, 4564, of 31st December, 1584; 6539, of 29th May, 1601; and 6764, of 3rd March, 1602-3, mentioning Callaghan's wife, Shilie.

⁽¹⁷⁾ Part of this document is quoted from the *Calendar of the Carew MSS.* at p. 180 of Mr. W. A. Copinger's valuable notes to the reprint of Smith's history now in course of issue by Messrs. Guy. This reprint, containing the notes of Dr. Caulfield and Crofton Croker, and the editing and notes of Mr. Copinger and Mr. Day, is an important addition to material for our county history.

⁽¹⁸⁾ See p. 199 of this volume for account of the manner in which this lady was extruded from the benefits of her husband's will. Carrigadrohid must have been assigned to her by the new lord as a set-off against her loss of Blarney.

⁽¹⁹⁾ See *Fiant*s 5330, of 2nd May, and 5333, of 9th May, xxxi. Eliz.

⁽²⁰⁾ *Fiant* 4764, 6th October, xxvii. Eliz.

⁽²¹⁾ *Fiant*s 6539, of 29th May, and 6571, of 30th August, xliii. Eliz.

⁽²²⁾ *Fiant* 4946, of 8th December, xxix. Eliz.

render and regrant of 1589, obtained by the new lord of Muskerry,⁽²³⁾ Cormac McDermod, and by which he defeated the main bequests of the late lord's will. This exclusion of Mashanaglas is noticeable, and in 1600 the *Carew MSS.* (Lambeth, No. 635) mention the then possessor, Owen, as "a freeholder to him and his heirs for ever"; nevertheless it was still subject to the lord of Muskerry, who, in 1620,⁽²⁴⁾ appears as claiming service custom there, and free quarters there for himself and wife, and it was among the property "restored" to the MacCarthy, earl of Clancarty, after the restoration of Charles II. Subject thus far to the lord, this castle and Castlemore appear still under MacSweeney wardership in December, 1591,⁽²⁵⁾ when a Brian McFirr MacSweeney is stationed at Castlemore, and Neale MacDonell MacSweeney at Mashanaglas. The last name suggests the previous death of Chief Warder Donell, and the succession of Neale, a son of his, to the post.

In the foregoing, no reference has been made to the great rebellion of the Earl of Desmond, 1580-3, nor to the fight before Kinsale in 1601, during Tyrone's rebellion. Muskerry was outside the scenes of those operations; and was generally well able, by its "rising out," and with help of its gallow-glasses, to repel attempts at ravages within its borders. One, however, of the castles now being discussed, suffered shortly before the events last mentioned—namely, the castle of Cloghdha. It has been already stated that the date, 1598, and the initials of Brian MacSweeney, are carved on the mantel-piece in the chief apartment; and light is thrown on this by two State Papers,⁽²⁶⁾ in the Public Record Office of London. The first is a petition addressed "to the Lords of the King's Council," from "Brian McOwen MacSweeney, of Cloghdha, in the co. of Cork, gentleman,"—a brother of Chief Warder Donell. He complains of some alleged fraudulent dealings of Henry Beecher, His Majesty's Escheator in Munster, who, he

says, procured letters-patent for certain lands, in 1610, without satisfying a mortgage therein, held by the complainant, securing to him the "number of sevenscore in-calf cows, "to be paid in one entire payment, in "the city of Cork." Petitioner urges that he "carried himself dutifully to the loss of "his blood, and the death of many of his "servants and followers, in the late rebellion "in Munster; and that, in Nov., 1598, James "Fitzgerald, attainted, son of Sir Thomas, of "Desmond, accompanied by Owney McRorie "and Captain Terrill, took, by force, his "castle of Cloghdha, and burned and defaced "it, and took all petitioner's goods and "cattle, and those of his tenants, to the "value of £2,000, besides many other preys, "spoils, burnings, and killing, of petitioner's "towns and villages,"—evidently the issue of a sudden and successful foray. Brian states further, that he was driven to rebuild the said castle; and prays, in consideration of the whole circumstances, that the surrender of his lands may be accepted, and a regrant made—apparently of Cloghdha, and of the other mortgaged lands. The date here mentioned tallies fairly well with that inscribed in the castle fireplace, and shows the rebuilding of Cloghdha, on the site of an older pile. But its subsequent history, in native hands, is short.

Brian's surrender⁽²⁷⁾ had been made, or offered, on 23rd March, 1610; but, whether a regrant followed or not, he lost his lands within three years, for, among the records of the reign of James I., there is a grant—dated 18th February, 1613, to one Edward Southworthe, gent., of "the castle, towns, "and lands of Cloghdha, othw. Clogheendha "and Ardra" (in the same parish), "being "half a plowland." This grant would seem to have been made irrespective of the overlordship of the lord of Muskerry; indeed the *Carew MS.* before quoted describes Brian as a "freeholder"; and it seems that the lord, by sale, parted with his claim to rents or services, for the name does not again appear among the lord's lands, nor is it mentioned in the list of those restored to the Earl of Clancarty after 1660, nor among the forfeited lands sold in 1702-3. Cloghdha, therefore, disappears at this point from the MacCarthy and MacSweeney history.

(27) Calendar (printed) of Letters-Patent of James I., *sub annis.*

(23) Fiant 5330 and 5333, before quoted; also p. 199 of this vol.

(24) P. 35 of this vol.

(25) Fiant 5688, of 7th December, xxxiv., Eliz.; and see MacSweeney *Ped. infra.*

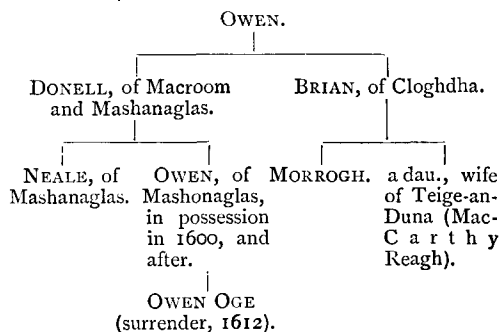
(26) *Calendar of State Papers, Ireland*, vol. for the year 1611-14, paper No. 167, dated 30th June, 1611, enclosing the following paper, 168, undated. [Pub. by Dep. Keeper of Records, London.]

Mashanaglas appears, in 1601, in possession of Owen McDonell MacSweeny, a brother⁽²⁸⁾ of the Neale before recited. A fiant (6467, 17th February, 1600-1), showing this is a pardon to about 300 persons, including the said Owen and about 84 of his people, and also his cousin Brian, of Cloghdha. The offence is not stated, but is alluded to as some "act of rebellion." Castlemore is not mentioned in this document. The latter "Great Castle" appears, however, in later fiant (6539 and 6571, before quoted) of the same year.

In the first year of James I. (1604), Owen MacSweeny was still in Mashanaglas, as shown by a pardon issued on 7th December of that year, to about 100 persons, including him, and Brian of Cloghdha, and the latter's son, Morrogh. Owen must have been restored to royal favour, for in 1612 James I. is reported⁽²⁹⁾ to have sent a letter to the Lord Deputy Chichester to accept a surrender, and make a regrant of Owen's lands, in consideration of his "dutiful and loyal" behaviour, and his sufferings, owing to the "malignity of his countrymen."

In 1619, it appears that the Geraldines tried to interfere with him as they did with Brian, of Cloghdha, for, under date 23rd June of that year, a grant⁽³⁰⁾ from the king, issued to Thomas Fitzmaurice, Baron of Kerry and Lixnaw, conveying to him "the castle and "three plowlands of Mashanaglas, in Muskerry

(28) The MacSweenys connected with the present castles appear to have been related thus (according to the fiant):—



NOTE.—This bit of pedigree was compiled from the *fiant*s before the writer saw the *Carew MS.* at Lambeth. It agrees with the latter, and partly adds to it. This illustrates the use of the fiant to an Irish genealogist.

(29) Smith, edn. 1892, p. 158. Guy's re-issue.

(30) Calendar of Fiant, Jac. I., *sub anno*.

"Bar, Cork Co., to hold for ever, unless "the same or any part thereof had been held "by Knight's service." The reason for such a grant to Fitzmaurice is obscure, though Brian had married a widow Fitzmaurice; but it appears that it took no effect, for, as before stated, the lord of Muskerry claimed customary services there in 1620, and in the forfeiture after, of 1641, Owen MacSweeny, that is, Owen Oge, is recorded in the text accompanying the Down Survey, as the forfeiting proprietor. The entry there is:—"Ahinagh "Parish—Forfeiting proprietor, Owen Mac- "Sweeny, Mashanaglashy, 1209a. or. 32p.; "lands profitable, 1209a. or. 32p.;" and it states that "on the lands there is "a good house and castle, and also very "good timber trees." The over-lordship, however, of the Muskerry lord had not lapsed; and, accordingly, when, under the famous Act of Settlement of Charles II., a certificate,⁽³¹⁾ dated 15th August, 1666, was issued to restore Donogh, Earl of Clancarty, and his son Charles, Viscount Muskerry (the new titles of the lords of the country), to part of their estate, there appear among the lands so restored, "the castle and 3 plowlands of Mashanaglas, 1209 acres,"— a description, the same as that in the grant of James I. The earl, as in other instances, most probably reinstated the old "tenant" or his heirs, subject now to rent in money; and the land so continued in the comparatively quiet times, till the coming of James II. But when Donogh, the fourth earl, was attainted after 1690, and all his "estate" forfeited after the downfall of James II., Mashanaglas, lands and castle, came to the hammer, and were sold by auction at Dublin, in 1702. The record of the sale⁽³²⁾ is as follows:—"Folio 64, No. 7, Mashana- "glas, No. of acres, Irish (whereof 5 make "about 8 English), 567." (What had previously become of the rest is not stated). "Yearly rent in 1702, £52 10s. od.; real "value per acre, £76; neat value to be put "up at, £988; tenant's name, John Top- "ham. Description, &c., in the P. Aghinagh, "dist. from Cork, 16 m., and from Macroom, "1 m., is arable meadow and pasture, joins "R. Leigh and Sullane, both which afford

(31) Fifteenth Report (1825), of the Record Commissioners, p. 240.

(32) *Book of Postings and Sales*, the copy in the British Museum is quoted from.

“plenty of fish, has on it the walls of a very good old castle, a good stone house joining to it, with outhouses, and 20 cabbins. Estate or interest claimed:—Allowed to John Topham a lease of 31 years, from 1st May (76), at £50 per ann., and 12d. per £ receiver’s fee, over and above taxes. Purchaser’s name and abode, John Webb, of Kurrykepane, in the Libtyes of Corke. Sold for £988; tyme of sale, 7th December, 1702; paid for, $\frac{1}{5}$ money, rest debts.” Note added, “since conveyed to Daniel Conner.” So ends the native history of Mashanaglas. From a private letter, it appears that the Daniel Conner, just mentioned as the purchaser, was ancestor of the well-known family at Manch, co. Cork. The property now belongs to Mr. Charles John Sugrue, of Seapoint, co. Dublin, whose father purchased it in 1852.

Castlemore, after the death of Callaghan McT. MacCarthy, reverted, as before stated, to Cormac Oge MacCarthy, son and heir of Sir Cormac McTeige, the fourteenth lord. From him it passed quietly to his son, who is named in full in the patent⁽³³⁾ of 8th December, 11th James I. (1614), granting to “Michael Newley, the wardship of (Charles) McCormac Oge McCormac McTeige MacCarthy, son and heir of Cormac junior McCormac McTeige MacCarthy, late of Kilcrea, in Cork co., gent. deceased, for a fine of £2 Ir., and an annual rent of £1 13s. 4d., returning thereout £1 for his maintenance and education.” This Charles, or his son, is mentioned as “Charles Oge Carthy, of Castlemore,” in the will⁽³⁴⁾ dated 6th October, 1640, of his cousin Charles McTeige MacCarthy, of Ballea, who appointed the said Charles one of his executors; and, according to the text of the Down Survey, the same Charles Oge was the forfeiting proprietor after 1641. Castlemore never came back to the MacCarthy family. It is not among the lands “restored” by the Act of Settlement to the Earl of Clancarthy; indeed, all right in it appears to have practically passed from the Muskerry lord in the settlement of 1584; and being, with other adjacent lands, in the king’s hands as forfeited, it was disposed of by letters-patent, passed under the Act of Settlement, dated 11th July, 1666,

(33) *Calendar of Patent Rolls*, James I., p. 261.

(34) Proved Dio. of Cork and Ross, and now in P.R.O., Dublin.

and enrolled next day, granting to Thomas Crook and John Bayly, the following lands:—“Killbrinane, 208a. 3r. 8p., at yearly rent of £3 3s. 5d.; Castlemore, 234a. 3r. 8p., at rent of £3 11s. 4d.; Inshirahilly and Knockarblaghline (now Crookstown), 273a. 1r. 8p., at rent of £4 3s. od.; of Garrandahow and Killcondie, 184a. 3r. 24p., at rent of £2 5s. 2¼d.; and Cloghduffe, 240 acres, at rent of £3 12s. 10¾d., all in Bar. Muskerry, co. Cork. Total quantity, 1105a. 3r. 8p., plantation measure, being 1791a. or 26p., statute.” The original letters-patent are now in the possession of Captain Richard Tonson Rye, of Ryecourt, who has kindly lent them for exhibition to our society. The style and penmanship of the document were very elegant; and the illumination at the head was partly coloured and partly gilt. Thomas Croke, one of the grantees, was a descendent of Sir Thomas Croke, who settled at Baltimore, co. Cork, in 1608, and whose family remained there till after the sacking of the town by pirates, in 1631, as recorded in Smith’s *History of Cork*.

Thomas Croke, the grantee, had been sheriff of Cork city, in 1662; and the other grantee, John Bayly (or Bayley), became sheriff in 1671, and mayor in 1674, and again in 1679. Subsequently to the grant, Croke and Bayly, “by two indentures,⁽³⁵⁾ dated the last day of February, 1666-67, in performance of a private agreement for the division of the premises between them, according to their respective interest therein, for avoiding all future differences, came to the division, whereby Croke, for the sum of £50, assigned to Bayly and his heirs, Castlemore and Cloghduffe; and Bayly, for the sum of 5s., assigned to Croke and his heirs, the rest of the premises.” T. Croke settled at Inshirahilly, now called Crookstown, and founded the family of that place, which remained there till about 1770. John Bayly settled at Castlemore; and his great work of draining the lowlands, between that place and Kilcrea, to the east, is fully described by Smith. His daughter Ann, married George, son of Christopher Rye, sheriff of Cork, in 1661, and mayor of that city for the two consecutive years, 1667 and 1668. By John Bayly’s will, dated 16th December, 1718, he “devised to the said

(35) Quoted from the Fifteenth Report, dated 1825, of the Commissioners on the Public Records of Ireland.

“Ann Rye, by the name of his daughter Ann, wife of George Rye, esq., the castle, town, and lands of Castlemore, being one plow-land,” besides several other lands fully set out in the will. Thus Castlemore passed into the hands of the Rye family, and still continues therein. It was inhabited up to about the end of the last century; Smith mentions a Mr. Travers as being there in 1750; he was a connection of the family, and held under a family arrangement. What Castlemore now is has been shown in the foregoing drawings.

One word more. In studying these relics of a bygone age, one is struck with the advances, since their time, made by the inventive power of man. These castles were built strong enough to defy, and generally did defy, the attacks of enemies using the military engines of their period,—the “sow,” the battering-ram, and the mine. But they fell at once before a force using cannon; and on their thus failing

to be useful, they fell into disuse, and the fashion of their building became obsolete. Fortified structures now scarcely raise their battlements above the level of the glacis, instead of towering high from some rock, like those mediæval castles. Will those of the present day, so strong in our view, themselves fall into disuse before some engine of destruction still in the future? and, will the members of this society hereafter be studying the ruins of Camden and Carlisle forts at our harbour, as we study Blarney Castle? Byron’s famous lines occur to one ruminating on such things:—

Out upon time! it will leave no more
Of the things to come than the things before!
Out upon time! who for ever will leave
But enough of the past for the future to grieve;

Remnants of things that have passed away,
Fragments of stone reared by creatures of clay.

(THE END.)

The Private Bankers of Cork and the South of Ireland.

BY C. M. TENISON, B.L., M.R.I.A. (HOBART, TASMANIA.)

(Continued.)

ROBERTS AND COMPANY.



JOHN LESLIE, who had been a partner in Falkiner’s bank, joined, in 1799, Mr. Thomas Roberts, who, a year or two previously, had established a bank in Patrick Street. The partners in 1799 were “Thomas Roberts, James Bonwell, and John Leslie, esquires.” Mr. Roberts, who was created a baronet 20th September, 1809, was son of Randall Roberts, and grandson of Thomas Roberts, of Brightfieldstown, co. Cork. Sir Thomas was born 1738, and died 1817; having married, 1765, Amy, daughter and co-heir of William Johnson, of Lissard, co. Limerick. Upon his death in 1817 the bank was continued by his son Walter (“Sir Walter Roberts, bart. and Co.”); but he soon retired from the business, which was carried on by Leslie (“Leslie and Co.”); and, as such, had an eventful career and end (*See Leslie and Co. post*). The large business done by Roberts

and Co. can be understood from the fact that the firm paid, for the year 1803, stamp duty on a note circulation of 128,000 notes of sums under three guineas, and of 3,000 notes under ten pounds.

Of James Bonwell, at one time a partner in Roberts and Co., I have no information.

LESLIE AND COMPANY

This somewhat celebrated concern was, as above stated, a continuation of the business of Roberts and Co., carried on, upon the retirement of Sir Walter Roberts, by Charles Henry Leslie and John Leslie. What relationship subsisted between the partners I have not discovered; but Charles Henry Leslie was son of Charles Leslie, M.D., a well-known physician in Cork (by Anne, daughter of Trayer Lawton). He married Lucia, daughter of Kevan Izod, of Wilton, near Cork, and had issue. (There was a Charles Leslie, a goldsmith and *quasi* banker