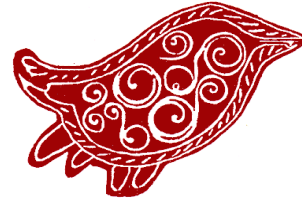


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they began to drive of y<sup>e</sup> cattle and sheepe of my land being about 5000, having descried o<sup>r</sup> army coming ; and shortly after y<sup>e</sup> roges ran all out of y<sup>e</sup> trenches.

Y<sup>e</sup> next day, being Sunday, y<sup>e</sup> army approched y<sup>e</sup> castle and divers doubted it was y<sup>e</sup> Irish army, yet at y<sup>e</sup> sound of y<sup>e</sup> trumpett we threw down o<sup>r</sup> walled gate, when we discovered o<sup>r</sup> friends y<sup>t</sup> apered to us like y<sup>e</sup> Angells of God whose mercy is most felt and magnified in o<sup>r</sup> extreamest misery ; and having glorified Him we ioyfully salutes these noble instruments of o<sup>r</sup> safty, y<sup>e</sup> ever Honored S<sup>r</sup>. Charles <sup>(51)</sup> Vavasor, Baronet, and Mr. Jepson, whose noble carity releived o<sup>r</sup> wants and brought us all safe to Bandon, about 80 souls, and fired y<sup>e</sup> castle <sup>(52)</sup> and houses w<sup>th</sup> all y<sup>t</sup> was left in them ; and though o<sup>r</sup> losse was great o<sup>r</sup> preservacōn was farr greater, for w<sup>ch</sup> blessed be God for ever. Amen.

(S<sup>d</sup>.) ARTHUR FREKE, owner  
of y<sup>e</sup> castle and Com-  
ander-in-Chief.

EDW. BECHER, Comander  
of the Company left by  
my lord fforbus.

## Stray Notes on Some Castles of the County Cork.

BY JAMES COLEMAN, H.M.C., M.R.S.A., COUNCIL MEMBER.



THE following notes on a few of the county Cork Castles, incomplete though they are, may be worth reprinting. The first *four* are from the pen of that eminent English antiquary, the late John Henry Parker, F.S.A., and are taken from his very able and interesting *Observations on the Ancient Domestic Architecture of Ireland*, read before the Society of Antiquaries, March 10th, 1859, and subsequently published in *Archæologia*.

<sup>(51)</sup> He had landed with his regiment, 1000 foot, at Youghal in February. His regiment was present at the Battle of Liscarroll, where Lord Inchiquin defeated the Irish under Lord Mountgarrett and others on 3rd September, 1642 ; thence Vavasor had gone to Bandon, of which he was Governor after Kinalmeaky's death.—(*Smith*, i., 294, and ii., 155.) On 4th July, 1643, his forces, after taking Clogleigh Castle, were set upon by the Irish army between that place and Fermoy, and were overpowered and lost over 600 men.—(*Smith*, i., 319.)

<sup>(52)</sup> On 1st July, 1643, Colonel Myn beat the Irish on the north side of the Timoleague river, and took the castles of Timoleague, Aghimilly, Rosscarbery and Rathbarry.—(*Smith*, ii., 84.)

Mr. Parker, it may be mentioned, began this essay with the notable statement, that "perhaps no country in the world possesses so complete a series as Ireland of Domestic Architecture in the full meaning of the words, that is, of human habitations; it begins with the underground abodes and the beehive houses of the earliest inhabitants of the island, belonging to the same period as the cromlechs and cairns, and is continued almost without interruption to our own day." "The square towers, which were the usual habitations," he further points out, "of the gentry in Ireland in the Middle Ages, when every house of any importance was a castle (*i.e.* built in the form of a tower, and fortified, but was not the less a dwelling-house), are generally so very plain, especially on the exterior, that, on a mere cursory observation, they are commonly said to be all alike. This, however," he adds, "is entirely a mistake; on examination, no two of them are found exactly alike; the internal arrangements differ constantly; there is generally some little bit of ornament in cutstone somewhere, just enough to indicate the date—usually this is the tracery or the arch in the head of the upper windows. But, besides this, the vault is sometimes over the ground floor, and sometimes nearly at the top of the tower, with wooden floors only under it; occasionally there are two vaults, or even three. In some instances the bedrooms are numerous, occupying a third part of the tower, excepting at the top where the state apartment usually occupies the whole space above the upper vault, having arrangements at one end for the servants, commonly near the top of the stairs, with recesses in the walls for various purposes, and almost invariably a drain for carrying off water which had been used. It frequently happens that a wall has been introduced at a period subsequent to the original erection of the tower, separating about a third part of it, evidently for bedrooms."

Again, remarking on the fact that castles and towers were the only dwelling-houses of the nobility and gentry of Ireland until the sixteenth or seventeenth century, prior to which it was not safe to live in a house that was not strongly fortified, Mr. Parker proceeds to describe several of these castles. Amongst others is Ballincollig, Carrigrohan, Dundanion, and Blarney.

#### BALLINCOLLIG CASTLE,

Near Cork, he writes, appears to be of the thirteenth century. It consists of a very tall, square tower on the summit of a rock, with considerable remains of the wall of *enceinte* (or enclosure), which has bastions and other buildings attached to it, enclosing the bailey. The ground room is vaulted, and had no entrance, excepting by a trap-door from above, so that it was probably the prison. The room on the first floor

is also vaulted ; the space within the walls is only ten feet by eight ; the entrance was into this room with a sloping road up to it, carried on arches. The windows are all small, single lights, mostly with pointed heads, some square-headed ; one has a trefoil head, with various rude incised ornaments on the surface over it, apparently a stone taken from some ancient building and used again. The second storey is also vaulted, and has seats in the jamb of the windows, a drain from a lavatory, and a small, square cupboard in the wall over it. The upper room or chief chamber has windows on all the four sides, with a stone socket for the iron rod of the casement to work upon. There is no fireplace in the whole tower, which was probably more of a keep for the last defence than a usual habitation ; it has no bartizans or projections of any kind. The bastion towers in the wall of *enceinte* seem to be of the fifteenth century ; the wall itself is very thick, and has loop-holes ; on one side there are ~~two~~ two lights, as if of a hall, and there are a fireplace and chimney ~~part~~ part of the work of the fifteenth century, and seems to show that the buildings in the courtyard were inhabited at that time.

#### CARRIGROHAN CASTLE,

Near Cork, is an oblong tower-house of the sixteenth century, much modernised, with bartizans at two of the corners, in which are small round holes for musketry, but carried on *machicoulis*. The face of the wall projects, and overhangs about six inches in each of the upper storeys, perhaps for the purpose of throwing off the wet more effectually. There are remains of outworks and a curtain wall.

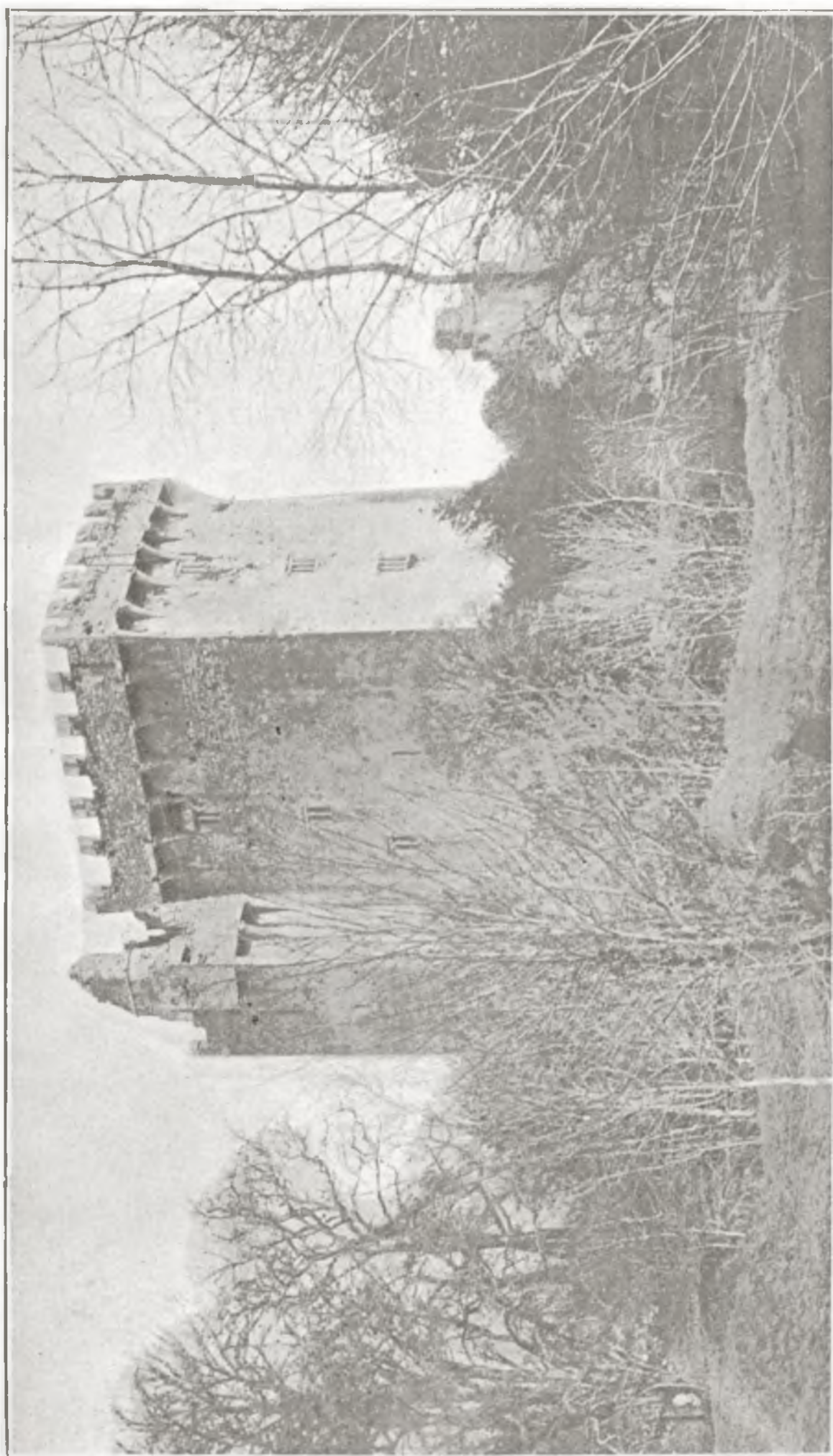
#### DUNDANION CASTLE

(Which Mr. Parker prints Dundrum), in Blackrock, near Cork, is the ruin of a square tower-house of rich and massive work, so much covered with ivy that it is difficult to make out what it has been. It is three storeys high, with fire-places in the upper ones, and a staircase in the wall obliquely. There is a servants' room or turret joined to one side. The doorway and windows are square-headed. It is most probably of the fifteenth century.

#### BLARNEY CASTLE,

Near Cork, consists of the ruins of two mansions, one a tower-house of the fifteenth century, the other Elizabethan added to the former. The walls of the earlier house are nearly perfect, with the battlements carried on corbels of the usual tongue-shape, the intervals between forming large *machicoulis* ; the alcove remains on the top of the wall behind them, and





BLARNEY CASTLE, CO. CORK.  
*(From Guy's "South of Ireland Pictorial.")*

is covered with thin slabs formed into gutters. At one corner is a watch-tower, on the parapet of which is the celebrated "Blarney Stone." At another corner, opposite the watch-tower, is a larger turret rising from the ground, at the top of which is the kitchen, with the large fireplace and chimney; this turret has a separate battlement and *machicoulis* at a lower level than the great tower. In this turret there are two rooms under the kitchen, and a separate staircase for servants; and from the room under the kitchen there is a flight of steps leading to the principal apartment in the great tower. In this principal tower the vault is over the second storey, and there has been another vault two storeys higher, and a fifth storey over the upper vault; in this room is a single-light window or loop, with sloping sides, after the old fashion. The *enceinte* has a round tower belonging to the Elizabethan work of the sixteenth century.

#### WALTERSTOWN CASTLE,

On the Great Island. It is rather extraordinary that of this castle, which probably existed as late as the seventeenth century, not a single stone now remains, although the four walls of its bawn are still standing and quite perfect. Its history, too, seems to have equally mysteriously disappeared, local tradition being quite dumb on this point, except as regards a *chronique scandaleuse* connected with it, the details even of which are not very clear. The only item which I have come across hitherto respecting this vanished Great Island landmark is the following one, which I found in *The Presentments for the County and City of Cork in the year 1576*, which forms part of the *Annuary* of the Royal Historical and Archæological Association, Ireland, for the year 1869:—  
 "The true name of Walter (the Mayor of Cork), who took part in the Perkin Warbeck affair, in consequence of which he was hanged, was O'Walter, now Waters. In the Great Island, in Cork Harbour, are (?) the ruins of a castle called Walterstown or Waterstown. In the 38th year of the reign of Elizabeth, James Water, *alias* Mac J. Watiarig de Ballinwatiarig, in the Great Island, county Cork, granted to Mainea (Morris?) Ronayne, Ballinwatiarig and Kelemuckerie, in said Island, on a bond for £23. October 1st, 1595, a controversy arose between Morris Ronayne, of Cork, gent., and James Walters *als.* Mac J. Watiarig, of Waterstown, gent., touching the rights of Ballinwatiarig, *alias* Waterstown, Kelemuckerie, Bally McKorane, in Barrie's Island, county Cork. Both parties submitted to the award of Thomas Sarsfield, of Cork, Alderman, and Edmond Barry, of Ballynegall, gent., etc." From the Walters this castle seems to have passed into the hands of the Lavallins, who are said to have been its last owners. A lawsuit arose



in connection with the Lavallins' property at Walterstown, which was carried for settlement to the House of Lords, the particulars of which appeal were printed in 1739. . . . Since the above was written I have secured a copy of the printed account of the protracted and complicated lawsuit, or rather series of lawsuits, in which the Lavallins became involved not very long after they became owners of the castle and lands of Walterstown, or Waterstown, as it is all through termed in this folio printed paper.

According to this document, James Lavallin, Frances his wife, James and Philip Lavallin their children, were the appellants; and Christian Gould, executrix of Elinor Baggott, widow, deceased, the respondent. In this case James Lavallin, the chief appellant, on behalf of himself and his family, sought to get rid of the monetary claims originally made on the Waterstown estate, of which he was the then owner, by Elinor Baggott, widow of his father's eldest brother, Patrick Lavallin.

The appellant's grandfather and namesake, James Lavallin, who in his lifetime held the fee-simple of the town and lands of Waterstown, and several other lands, tenements, and hereditaments in the county of Cork, and had three sons—Patrick, Peter, and Melchor Lavallin, resolved, it appears, to disinherit the said Patrick, his eldest son, who had greatly disobliged him, and did therefore by indenture, dated 22nd October, 1679, settle and convey the above premises to the use of himself for life, with remainder not to his eldest son, but to his eldest son's children, and failing them to his second son and his children, and failing them to his third son and his children.

But this Patrick Lavallin having found means to secrete or possess himself of the said Deed of Settlement upon his father's death, which happened soon after, entered upon and possessed himself of the said premises as eldest son and heir-at-law, without any opposition on the part of the other brothers, who were ignorant of their title, and both under age at the time. Patrick Lavallin next took to himself a wife in the person of Elinor Gould (afterwards Baggott), with whom he was promised a marriage portion of £2,000, as a set-off against which he agreed to settle on her by deed dated 18-19th January, 1685, the lands of Waterstown and a portion of the other Lavallin property, amounting to the yearly value of £300. Patrick Lavallin died without issue in the following year, 1686, whereupon his widow, Elinor, entered upon the lands as in her jointure, and continued in quiet enjoyment of them, till by the discovery of the above 1679 family settlement it appears that the said Patrick never had in reality any title or interest in the property. Peter Lavallin, the second son, now directed actions at law to be brought against his brother's widow, but subsequently, out of respect to

his memory, and in order to put an amicable end to the dispute, consented by a deed drawn up January 4th, 1687, to which his brother Melchor, though then under twenty-one years of age, consented to be a party, whereby the widow was in future to have a rent charge of £166 a year, and also be allowed to retain a considerable part of the fortune which her father promised, but never paid, her late husband, Patrick Lavallin. Soon after this, she got married again to John Baggott, who having been outlawed for high treason committed in the late war in Ireland, retired to France, where his wife, the said Elinor, soon followed him, and for so doing was herself also outlawed. In the year 1709 she returned from beyond the seas, and got a special Act of Parliament passed to remove the ban of outlawry, so that she might recover the yearly rentcharge of £166 on the Waterstown estate, and the arrears thereof which were due to her. In the meantime Peter Lavallin died childless, and was succeeded by his brother Melchor, against whom Elinor Lavallin, or rather Baggott, filed a bill in chancery, to recover the arrears, etc. This was opposed by him on the grounds of the original settlement of 1679, and also on the score that when the latter one was made in 1687 he was then under age.

When the case was heard before the Lord Chancellor in May, 1719, although the original 1679 settlement was then admitted, it was decreed by him that the said Elinor should recover the arrears of the rent charge, and that the latter was to continue, not only against Melchor, but also against his son James, and his heirs. This order, on a rehearing in May, 1720, was, however, altered by his Lordship so far as that the arrears and rent charge should only stand on the estate during Melchor's lifetime alone. The Master in Chancery, to whom the question of the arrears was referred, having set them down as amounting to £4,143, that sum was decreed on the 17th of May, 1721, to Elinor, with costs of suit, and also the annual payment of the £166, but during the life of the said Melchor Lavallin only. There being some other debts and encumbrances on the property besides, an agreement was now entered into, dated June, 1721, between Melchor Lavallin and his son and heir, James, that all the estate (other than the portion already sold to the Hon. Mr. Broderick and to Mr. Joseph Busteed) should be put up for sale, and after all debts and encumbrances were cleared off, £2,000 of the residue were to go to Melchor, £1,000 to James Lavallin, and the remainder to be invested in lands for the benefit of James and his heirs, until which sale, it was further agreed that James Lavallin should enjoy one moiety of the surplus rents, etc., beyond the debts and encumbrances.

Elinor Baggott, however, soon after the above order of May 12th, 1721, obtained an injunction to be put in possession of the premises,



which she accordingly was, and continued in possession till the death of Melchor Lavallin, which took place in April, 1724. By this means the articles of agreement between Melchor and his son James were never carried into execution. The estate was not let or sold, nor any money raised thereon, and James Lavallin had none of the advantages proposed thereby.

Melchor Lavallin, having made his will, devised, after payment of his debts, the residue of his estate to his son James. Elinor Baggott next brought a bill against the latter in the High Court of Chancery at the Michaelmas term in 1726, praying an account of Melchor's assets, and, on the failure or deficiency of such assets, that a competent part of her lands should be sold, not only for the payment of the arrears of the rent charge, but also of its continuance during her lifetime. This bill she afterwards amended, and upon the hearing of the case in May, June, and July, 1735, the Lord Chancellor now decreed that the money due to Elinor Baggott, as fixed on the 12th of May, 1721, was to remain a charge on the inheritance of the said lands, and referred it to a Master to compute to ascertain what was due to the said Elinor and other creditors of Melchor Lavallin and James, his son, with just allowances; and that on the return of this report an order would be made in relation to the sale of the lands for payment of the creditors.

After this decree was issued, Elinor Baggott died, having first made her will, and appointed her sister, Christian Gould, her executrix. The latter having served her claim at the Hilary term in 1735, James Lavallin applied for a rehearing of the case. This took place on the 5th May and 2nd of July, 1737, and resulted in the Lord Chancellor confirming his former decrees. In December of the same year the case was again reheard, this time at the request of Christian Gould, on the question of the amount of interest due, and was again referred by the Lord Chancellor to a Master to state the account between the parties, by the former order, with and without interest, reserving the consideration of such interest until the Master's report was furnished.

On the subsequent 4th of February the Lord Chancellor ordered James Lavallin and the other appellants to attend the said Master, which, without the evidence of several witnesses, they were unable to do. They, therefore, applied for a Commission on the 5th of May, 1738, returnable on the first day of the ensuing Michaelmas term, and upon his Lordship refusing to grant it, except upon condition of its being made returnable on the 10th of September, when they could not reasonably hope to complete the examination of the witnesses,—the appellants, James Lavallin, his wife, and children, finally made an appeal to the House of Lords to set aside the aforesaid orders and decrees, *i.e.*

those made in favour of Elinor Baggott, and transferred to her executrix and sister, Christian Gould.

The Respondent's case reveals the fact that Waterstown Castle was standing in 1685, as it is distinctly specified in Patrick Lavallin's marriage settlement, together with the townlands, etc., as being then held and owned by him, and as assigned to her as her jointure. It also clearly explains how it was that Patrick Lavallin was disinherited by his father. This deed, drawn out by the latter in 1679, was made simply on account of Patrick Lavallin being at this time under accusation on account of the then Popish Plot, and was only intended to be made use of in case that he was convicted thereof, and to secure the estate in the family, and from being forfeited; but he being acquitted, the said settlement was accordingly revoked by his father. On the latter's death Patrick Lavallin got into possession of the estate, and was in actual possession of the same at the time of his marriage settlement, having, furthermore, procured letters-patent thereof to be passed to him and his heirs on the Commission of Grace in 1684. He, moreover, produced the deed of revocation by his father on the treaty of marriage between him and Elinor Gould, to satisfy her friends of the title which he had to the said lands. It was further pointed out by the respondent that Peter, and Melchor Lavallin entirely acquiesced in his enjoyment of the said lands and premises in his lifetime, and that Melchor Lavallin was privy to, and well apprised of their settlement on him. She next affirms that Melchor and Peter having, after their brother's death, given the said Elinor some disturbance in the enjoyment of her jointure, she applied to the High Court of Chancery in Ireland, and by order of that Court quieted in the possession thereof; an indictment of forcible entry found against the said Melchor for his wrongful entry on part of the said (Waterstown) jointure lands; and restitution awarded her. The whole of her marriage portion not having been received from her father, Ignatius Gould (who, it appears, was also outlawed), respondent admitted that the agreement was made on this account for her acceptance of the £170 above-mentioned by way of rent-charge, to be paid half-yearly, and her yielding up possession of the said jointure lands to Peter Lavallin, who subsequently made several payments to her on account of the said rent-charge, as did likewise Melchor Lavallin, who succeeded in their possession upon Peter's death. It was only when she left Ireland, and was outlawed, that, taking advantage of her absence in this way, he refused to pay her rent-charge. In 1701, when she returned to Ireland, and endeavoured through her trustees to recover some of the arrears and rent-charge due to her, the said Melchor then proposed to secure the rent-charge and pay £600 arrears then due; and by that means

amused the said Elinor, until he himself had caused a "discovery" to be made to the said trustees, from which time he refused to make any payment whatever to her.

What follows is a recapitulation of the various lawsuits that ensued (those already mentioned), in reference to one of which, the altered decree exempting James Lavallin from payment of a rent-charge to Elinor Baggott, the respondent states that the said Elinor, though dissatisfied therewith, yet being very much harrassed and exhausted by the fatigue and expense of prosecuting her right, and the said Melchor being likely to live, made up the the said decree, sued forth a sequestration, and received some small sums out of the said premises. The respondent likewise specifies Melchor Lavallin as having directed that all his debts should be paid out of his worldly substance (except the debts mentioned in the deed of assignment of a judgment of £4,000 made to Timothy Sullivan), and that the said James Lavallin, after the death of Melchor, possessed himself of all his effects, to a very great value, and also possessed and enjoyed the said jointure lands of Waterstown, and all his father's other real estate.

The decision of the House of Lords, pronounced in 1739, was given, very equitably it would seem, in favour of the respondent, with £150 costs; so that the long deferred payment of Patrick Lavallin's widow's rent-charge and arrears on the Waterstown estate was, it must be supposed, ultimately made.

This, no doubt, involved the sale of the property, which now forms part of the Smith-Barry estate, and with it very likely the knocking down of the castle at Walterstown, which, probably, during this prolonged litigation, fell into a ruinous condition, whilst its stones must have been removed for building purposes elsewhere. It is, however, very strange that there should be no local recollection of this extraordinary lawsuit, and no information available in its neighbourhood, as to when this castle actually disappeared. The name Lavallin too has vanished from the Great Island; but there are still one or two families of the name, I believe, in the city of Cork.

#### BELVELLY CASTLE.

Of the history of this fairly-well preserved, and still imposing structure, built, no doubt, to guard the entrance to the Great Island from the *land* or county Cork side (where a ferry or ford has long since given place to the bridge which now connects them), very little is known. Likewise, its builders, the Anglo-Norman Hodnetts, appear to have gradually sunk into comparative insignificance, although they managed



not only to survive, but to preserve, some portions of their property in this neighbourhood, and also near Clonakilty, down to relatively recent times.

In Dr. Caulfield's *Cork Wills and Inventories*, proved September 12, 1582, *temp.* Elizabeth, a note (page 6) to the Will of Christopher Galway, of Cork, alderman—who left to his brother Francis, the lands, etc., of Downenygawle (Donegal) or the Great Island; and left to John FitzEdmund Oge Hodnett, the mortgage he had upon Ballynacrussy (now called Ballinacrusha) from the said John—is appended by Dr. Caulfield, as follows:—"The Hodnetts were formerly a powerful sept, and proprietors of the Great Island, which was wrested from them by the Barrys, (whose stronghold, Barry's Court, is only about a couple of miles from Belvelly Castle)." The condition of the following mortgage of Hodnett's Wood at this period (1573) is, as Dr. Caulfield further remarks, highly curious:—

"*Sciant, etc., quod ego Edmundus Hodnet, meæ nationis Capitaneus de Castro de Bellvellie in Magna Insula, in dominio Barrymore, dedi Geraldo fitz Willielmi juvenis mac Coter, de predicta insula unum caruc' nuncupat' Hodnet's Wood, etc., quiquidem caruc' jacet a Ballyncurrig ex parte oriente, usque ad mare ex parte occident' atque a Ballynacrussy et Burgesshe ex parte austn, usque ad terram Castro de Belvelie ex parte boreale. Hend', etc., sub conditione sequenti quod quo cunque ego E. H(odnett) hed', etc., solverent sexdecima bonas vaccas lactiferas; sex boves caballos, viginti quatuor oves, et etiam a brassem pan valentes quinqva quinta tres solidos, et quatuor denarios, quod deinceps liceat mihi, E. H(odnett) hed', etc., intrare et habere. Dat sexto die Augusti, 1573.*"

In the following century Hodnett's Wood seems to have again passed (temporarily, at least) out of the Hodnetts' hands, for in the copy of the will of Sir J. Fitz E. Gerald, knt., of Ballymaloe, dated 1st September, 1640, printed on page 269 of the *Journal of the Royal Historical and Archæological Association, Ireland* (April, 1880), it is stated that amongst many others to whom this land-grabbing knight bequeathed properties that were formerly their own inheritance, was Mr. John Hodnett, named from Belvelly, barony of Barrymore, to whom he left the ploughland of Listwill (?) with the *half ploughland of Hodnett's Wood*.

#### MONKSTOWN CASTLE.

Respecting this interesting and beautifully situated old castle, I have only to observe just now that its future historian will, it is to be hoped, endeavour to consult the Shaw family document alluded to by Mr. Gibson, on page 409, vol. ii., of his *History of Cork* (now probably in the possession of Captain Shaw, London, of Fire Brigade

fame), portions of which are reproduced by Mr. Gibson. It may be also well to point out here that the inscription on the upper or horizontal part of the table-tomb of John Archdeacon, the founder of Monkstown Castle, located outside the south wall of the old chapel, in the graveyard close by the Castle, is now, saving a few words, quite illegible; but that a copy of the original Latin will be found on page 224, Historical Notes to Smith's Cork, printed in the August (1892) number of the *Journal*—beginning with the words *Hic jacet Domina*, and ending with the line *Proh: dolor*, etc. The remaining words *Hic jacet*, etc., to *premunt*, on the front or vertical part of the tomb, are still easily distinguishable. Inside the old chapel is a detached incised gravestone, lying flat near the altar end, which deserves, I think, having some steps taken for its preservation. It bears no inscription, but the fact that one half of its incised portion being an exact *fac-simile* of the shield, chevron and three mullets, which figure in Dean Davies' bookplate, on page 185 of the Notes to Smith, in the July (1892) number of the *Journal*, is a notable one, and may serve to throw some light upon its original purpose.

#### AGHAMARTA CASTLE.

Although standing amidst very charming grounds and scenery, about midway on the old or upper road leading from Crosshaven to Carrigaline, Aghamarta Castle is now scarcely worth a visit, so much has it suffered through seemingly wilful dilapidation, even since Sainthill and Lewis wrote their descriptions of it in the thirties, or thereabouts. Taking it as it now stands, one finds it difficult to credit the former writer's assertion that one of the finest views in Cork harbour was to be had from the top of it; in fact, though I have visited it quite recently, I have failed to discover whether access is still to be had to this portion of it, having been partly deterred from further investigation by the unromantic purpose to which this still venerable structure is applied: viz., as a receptacle for what are euphemistically termed "black diamonds."

#### CAHERMONE CASTLE.

Though not a large, imposing, or particularly remarkable building, Cahermone Castle, which stands about a mile from Middleton, a little to the north of the main road leading from the latter town to Youghal, will repay a visit. Its ancient moat still partly surrounds it; the old castle garden is pretty nearly in the same condition as when the castle was inhabited; whilst a very interesting relic of its former proprietors yet remains in the shape of the monograph, still quite perfect, which is cut into the lintel-stone over the entrance to the garden just named.