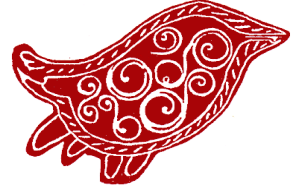


Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society



www.corkhist.ie

Title: Notes and queries: Rev. Charles Bunworth's harps

Author: Cn

Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society, 1901, Vol. 7, No. 49,
page(s) 61-62

Published by the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society

Digital file created: December 22, 2013

Your use of the JCHAS digital archive indicates that you accept the Terms and Conditions of Use, available at <http://www.corkhist.ie/info/tandc.pdf>

The Cork Historical and Archaeological Society (IE-148166, incorporated 1989) was founded in 1891, for the collection, preservation and diffusion of all available information regarding the past of the City and County of Cork, and South of Ireland generally. This archive of all content of JCHAS (from 1892 up to ten years preceding current publication) continues the original aims of the founders in 1891. For more information visit www.corkhist.ie.

am told her mother was a Miss Rowley. A George Rumley, of Rostellan, was one of the securities in the marriage licence bond, and also a witness of the marriage. He is apparently the George Rumley, of Rostellan, gent., whose will, dated 7 August, 1784, was proved 23 June, 1795. His wife's Christian name appears to have been Rose, and they appear to have had, at least, two sons and one daughter, viz., John Rumley, apparently predeceased his father; William Rumley, and Mary Rumley, who married, prior to her father's death, John Fitzgerald. A nephew of George Rumley's is also mentioned in the will, viz., George Recraft or Ryecraft. Am I right in thinking that this family was of French extraction, and that the name is a corruption of "Romilly"? The armorial bearings of the Rumley family might throw some light on this latter point.

E. E. WEST.

Ring Posy.—In the "Comedies, Tragi-Comedies, and Poems, by William Cartwright, London, Printed for Humphrey Moseley, and are to be sold at his shop at the signe of the Princes Arms, in St. Paul's Church Yard, 1651," at page 317 in a poem "On the Nativity, For the King's Musick," I find the following:—

" Hark,
 'Tis the Nuptiall Day of Heav'n and Earth;
 The Father's marriage, and the son's blest Birth.
 The Spheres are giv'n us, as a *Ring*; that Bliss
 Which we call Grace is but the Deities Kiss.
 And what we now do hear blest spirits sing,
 Is but the *happy Po'sie of that ring.*"

ROBERT DAY.

Coach and Six Lane, Cork.—Smiles's "Huguenots in England and Ireland" gives the following singular origin of the name of this cul-de-sac off the North Main Street, Cork:—"The Irish could never pronounce the French (Huguenot) names, and some curious misnomers have been the consequence, now identified with the topography of Cork. A Huguenot of the name of Couchancex having resided here more than a century ago, when it was a fashionable quarter, the place was called after him, and has thus become metamorphosed into 'Coach and Six.'"

CN.

Rev. Charles Bunworth's Harps.—In a note on the Rev. C. Bunworth in a recent number (46) of this "Journal," it was stated that several harps had been from time to time bequeathed to him by some of the last representatives of that long extinct class—the Irish harpers. What became of these harps is told in the following extract from a notice of Mr. Bunworth (in which is related the story of the banshee that heralded his death) given in the edition of "The Fairy Legends," by Croker, published by Tegg, London, about 1862:—"What extended the fame of Mr. Bunworth far beyond the limits of the parishes adjacent to his own, was his performance on the harp and his hospitable reception and entertainment of the poor harpers who travelled from house to house about the country. Grateful to their patron, these itinerant minstrels sang his praises with tingling accompaniment of their harps, invoking, in return for his bounty, abund-

ant blessings on his head, and celebrating in their rude verses the charms of his daughters, Elizabeth and Mary. It was all these poor fellows could do; but who can doubt that their gratitude was sincere when at the time of Mr. Bunworth's death no less than fifteen harps were deposited in the loft of his granary, bequeathed to him by the last members of a race which has now ceased to exist. Trifling, no doubt, in intrinsic value were these relics, yet there is something in gifts of the heart that merits preservation; and it is to be regretted that when he died these harps were broken up one after the other and used as firewood by an ignorant follower of the family, who, on their removal to Cork for a temporary change of scene, was left in charge of the house."

CN.

Inchiquin Castle.—In volume i., page 181 of this "Journal" (1892) appeared a brief but very interesting notice of the Old Castle of Inchiquin, which, comparatively near as it is to Cork, and still more so to Youghal, is still seemingly all but unknown, and rarely if ever visited even by archæologists. No mention of it is made in Lewis's "Topography of Ireland," and our local historian, Windele, barely alludes to it as "one of the not many round or circular castles that are still to be found in Ireland." As a good many interesting particulars relative to Inchiquin Castle occur in a privately-printed book now become rather scarce, viz., the "Old Countess of Desmond," which we owe to that one-time Cork citizen and famed numismatist, Richard Sainthill, who was always so careful to let the world know that he was "of Topsham, Devon," and not a mere Irishman, yet was fated to find a neglected Irish grave at Rathcooney, near Cork city, without even a word to indicate that he there sleeps his last sleep,—the following extracts from this book will probably prove new to most readers of the "Journal":—

"The old Countess of Desmond," writes Sainthill, "having resided in Inchiquin Castle probably from 1529, when her husband became Earl, and certainly from 1534, when as his widow it became part of her jointure, until her death in 1604, a period of seventy or possibly seventy-five years, has invested its ruins with a very peculiar interest; and when visited its circular form and massive walls increase that interest, as leading to the belief that it was of early Anglo-Norman erection. The learned historian of Youghal, my valued friend, the Rev. Samuel Hayman, states that when Milo de Cogan and Robert FitzStephen, to whom Henry II. granted the Kingdom of Cork, divided their portion in 1180, FitzStephen's share was the three eastern cantreds, including the fertile district of Imokilly, of which Inchiquin was a sub-denomination. FitzStephen conveyed a moiety of these estates to Maurice Fitzgerald, with which came the manors of Youghal and Inchiquin, the latter to be holden by him and his heirs at a hundred shillings, when the legal service was proclaimed. The first of these documents relating to Inchiquin Castle during the reigns of King Edward I., II., and III. extracted from the Rolls by the Rev. Mr. Hayman (and given in extenso in the "Old Countess of Desmond") shows the transfer of Inchiquin from the Fitzgeralds to the De Clares, on March 1st, 1286. The second is highly interesting as establishing the fact that Inchiquin Castle was in existence in 1322, in the same form as it now remains, viz., "a round tower built of stone." The third Roll states the continued existence of the tower or castle, which was built, I think, most probably (continues Sainthill) by Maurice Fitzgerald, to whom the first Norman owner of the land, FitzStephen, conveyed it. If the latter had erected it for the command of the country, it seems unlikely that he would have parted with that portion of