



Title: Admiral Penn, William Penn, and their descendants in the County Cork

Author: J. C.

Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society, 1908, Vol. 14, No. 79,
page(s) 105-114

Published by the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society

Digital file created: March 2, 2014

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.



WILLIAM PENN.
The Founder of Pennsylvania.



ADMIRAL SIR WILLIAM PENN, KNT.
(From the original Portrait by Sir Peter Lely in the
Gallery of Greenwich Hospital.)

Journal of the Cork Historical and Archæological Society.

Admiral Penn, William Penn, and their Descendants in the Co. Cork.



THAT the famous Quaker, William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, one of the original States of the American Union, adopted the tenets of the Society of Friends whilst on a brief visit to the County of Cork, is a fact familiar to those who possess any real knowledge of Cork's past history; but there are other interesting ties and associations linking the Penns with our county that are now little known or remembered. These it is the aim of the present paper to recall, and as far as possible to record in a connected form.

Though our local historians, the late Messrs. Windele and John George MacCarthy, tell the story of young William Penn's conversion to Quakerism in Cork—an event that had considerable bearing on the destiny of what subsequently became the United States of America, if not on that of England—these writers relate little else in regard to the Penns' connection with the Co. Cork. But as MacCarthy's *Cork* has now become almost as scarce as Windele's much earlier and more extensive work, it will doubtless prove new to many readers of the *Journal*, what the former author has so graphically written relative to William Penn and his father, Admiral Penn, as here reproduced in full:—

"In his distribution of forfeited properties, Cromwell was not unmindful of his personal friends. Amongst those was Admiral William Penn. In 1654, Cromwell wrote to Ireland to direct that the Admiral should have lands to the value of £300 a year in the Co. Cork, near some fortified place. The place selected was that same Castle and Manor of Macroom which Broghill (son of the Earl of Cork) had seized for the Commonwealth. The Admiral got them, and lived at Macroom for some years. But the Castle and Manor of Macroom happened to be the property of the Royalist General MacCarthy, Lord Muskerry. On the accession of Charles II., MacCarthy, more fortunate than most other Irish Royalists of the time, got back his titles and most of his lands—amongst others, those which Cromwell had given Penn. As an equivalent, Penn got the castle and lands of Shanagarry, near Cloyne. I believe his descendants still possess these lands.

"In 1667 the Admiral, being living in London, sent his son, William, then in his 24th year, and an attaché to the Viceregal Court, to take charge of his Irish estate. Young William Penn accordingly lived in the city of Cork two or three years. It is a pleasing confirmation of his mild and

kindly character that he gave the lands to the former tenants on long leases, at rents so moderate as to bring a remonstrance from the old Admiral. While in Cork, Penn met a college friend, Thomas Lee (recte Loe), who had settled here as a minister of the recently established Society of Friends. Their intimacy resulted in Penn's becoming, as we say, a Quaker. But the Quakers, like the Catholics, were then the victims of persecution. That very year Lord Orrery had called the attention of the Mayor of Cork to the 'Conventicles' in the city and suburbs, and directed all who attended them to be seized and punished. On the 3rd September afterwards, Penn and his friends, while meeting in some such 'Conventicle,' were apprehended and brought before the Mayor. The Mayor, out of respect for Penn's rank, offered to release him upon his giving a bond not to commit a similar infraction of the law. This Penn manfully refused. Thus it happened that the future founder of Pennsylvania spent a month in the common gaol of Cork. He was released by Lord Orrery, to whom he had written a spirited and characteristic appeal. 'Religion,' said Penn, 'which is at once my crime and mine innocence, makes me a prisoner to a Mayor's malice, but a free man to myself.'

"On his release he returned to his father's house in London. But soon after, having refused to take off his hat to the King, he was turned out of doors by the cholerick old Admiral. He then became a minister of the persuasion he had embraced in Cork, and of which he rose to be the most illustrious leader and champion. The Society of Friends were only strengthened by Lord Orrery's persecution, and have been ever since, as they now are, amongst the most prosperous, the most kindly, and the most high-minded of the citizens of Cork."

The Penns, it is hardly necessary to state, were a purely English family, known to have lived for centuries back at the village of Penn, in Buckinghamshire. From these came the Penns of Penn's Lodge, near Myntie on the edge of Bradon Forest. From William Penn, buried in Myntie Church in March, 1591, came Giles Penn, a captain in the Royal Navy and English Consul in the Mediterranean, who had issue William, afterwards Admiral Penn, who was born in 1621. Admiral Penn's family was not, however, the first of the name in Cork, as it appears from Dr. Caulfield's *Council Book of Kinsale* (page 312) that in 1610 there was a surgeon named William Penn living in Cork City.

Windele refers to the erroneous statement that Admiral Penn was born at Macroom Castle—an error still perpetuated in a local railway guide. But to Bristol belongs the honour of his birth, as shown by the inscription erected to his memory by his widow in the noble Church of St. Mary Redcliffe, in that city, which is as follows:—

"To the just memory of Sr. Willm. Penn, Kt., and sometimes Generall; borne at Bristoll, An. 1621; son of Captain Giles Penn, severall yeares Consul for ye English in ye Mediterranean; of the Penns of Penn's Lodge, in ye county of Wilts, and those Penns of Penn's Lodge, in ye County of Bucks; and by his mother from the Gilberts, in ye County of Somerset, originally from Yorkshire. Addicted from his youth to maritime affaires, he was made Captain at the yeares of 21, Rear-Admiral of Ireland at 23, Vice-Admiral of Ireland at 25, Admiral to the Streights at 29, Vice-Admiral of England at 31, and General in the first Dutch Warres at 32. Whence retiring in Ao. 1655, he was chosen a Parliament man for

the town of Weymouth, 1660, made Commissioner of the Admiralty and Navy; Governor of the town and fort of Kingsail, Vice-Admiral of Munster, and a member of that Provincial Counsell; and in Anno. 1664 was chosen Great Captain Commander under his Royal Highness in yt signal and most evidently successful fight against the Dutch fleet. Thus, he took leave of the sea, his old element, but continued still his other employs till 1669, at what time, through bodily infirmities (contracted by ye care and fatigue of publique affaires), he withdrew, prepared and made for his end, and with a gentle and even gale, in much peace, arrived and anchored in his last and best Port, at Wanstead, in ye County of Essex, ye 16th Sept., 1670, being then but 49 years and 4 months old. To whose name and merit his surviving lady hath erected this remembrance." (*Memorials of Sir W. Penn.*) His more famous son, William Penn, was born in St. Katherine's Parish, near the Tower of London, on the 14th of October, 1644.

In explanation of Admiral Penn's services to Cromwell and the Stuarts alike, Clarkson's *Memoirs of Penn* (1813) states that "though thus engaged both under the Parliament and the King, he took no part in the Civil War, but adhered to the duties of his profession, which, by keeping him at a distance from the scene of civil commotion, enabled him to serve his country without attaching himself to either of the interests of the day."

Be this as it may, Cromwell must have deemed his services of no ordinary kind when he rewarded him with the valuable confiscated lands in the County Cork, as specified above by Mr. J. G. MacCarthy.

In what these services consisted, so far as Ireland was concerned, some idea may be gathered from the Admiral's own words set down in characteristic nautical style, as chronicled in the *Memorials* of him written by his descendant, Granville Penn (London, 1833)—words that vividly recall to recollection an almost forgotten episode in the history of Youghal, viz., its siege by Lord Castlehaven in 1645, as follows:—

"July 4th, 1645. In the morning we were fair by the harbour's mouth of Cork. At one in the afternoon we anchored in Cork bay. Before three, Col. Ridgeway, Capt. Whitcraft, commanders of the fort, with three other gentlemen, came on board (i.e., his ship, the *Fellowship*, man-of-war of 300 tons, 110 men, and 28 guns). I sent my lieutenant up in our pinnace to Cork with a letter to my Lord of Inchiquin. About six Colonel Ridgeway, with the other gentlemen, went on shore. At midnight my lieutenant came from Cork, who brought me word that my Lord Inchiquin determined to be on board us the next day, and then would consult about the affairs of these parts.

"5th. At one in the afternoon my Lord Inchiquin, Col. Ridgeway, and about half a score commanders came on board and dined with me. After dinner his lordship gave me an order, under his own hand, to go to Kinsale, and there taking in 100 soldiers, which the Governor would put on board me, I was to transport them to Youghal, for the strengthening of that place, being now besieged by the rebels.¹ I was also to dispatch the *Duncannon* frigate with what speed might be, and send her away. The *May Flower* was to stay a while at Cork, for the taking in of such

¹It may be no harm to point out that these "rebels" were the Confederate Catholic Loyalists, fighting "Pro Deo Rege et Patria," under the leadership of an English nobleman bearing an Irish title, viz., Lord Castlehaven, Youghal being one of the few places in our county which he did not succeed in capturing in his campaign at that time.

soldiers as my lord should send on board him for the relief of the said besieged town of Youghall. My lord also requested me to furnish the town with what ammunition I could possibly spare.

"About four of the clock we saw Captain Claxton open off the harbour's mouth, who came then from Youghall, bringing with him the Ladies Broghill, Barrymore, the Lady Smith,² and many other women of quality, together with their children and the best of their household stuff. My lord went on board Claxton. His lordship and Sir William Fenton,³ who came then from Youghall, took the ladies up to Cork in my pinnace, having the barge to bring up as many as conveniently she could.

"6th. No business; not a boat stirring, but one or two that returned from Cork after the carrying up of my lord, &c. At eight in the evening we weighed and plyed for Kinsale. As we were weighing came in a boat from Youghall, by which we had news, that yesterday the town sallied out twice upon the enemy, and that at the last sally had slain 300 upon the place, which caused the rebels to raise their close siege and to sit down about three miles distant from the town.

"7th. Came to an anchor in the outward Cove of Kinsale. I immediately went on shore to speak with the Governor about the soldiers. The *Duncannon* frigate being already dispatched by the carpenters, I ordered the 100 soldiers to be put on board of her and another small vessel which was being assigned for Youghall.

"8th. We were under sail by six in the morning. About five in the afternoon we came to anchor in the Bay of Youghall, where we found Capt. Phillips, who that morning had landed the soldiers that were shipped on board him by my lord for the strengthening of that town. Capt. Boyle, one of the commanders of the town, came on board of me, and told me the condition the town was in. Capt. Bray and Capt. Hewett did ride before the town, as was adjudged most convenient.

"9th. In the morning I went ashore and dined with the Governor and Sir Percy Smith. I told him the cause of my coming, which was to assist him in what I might. He presently desired me to order the *Nicholas* to ride at the south end of the town and the *Duncannon* at the north end, that they might play upon the enemy with their great guns, if they should fall (as was much expected and feared) on either end of the town. This I consented to, though unwillingly, and ordered them to ride at these places, but to have a special care of their ships. At five in the afternoon I came from the shore. The Governor gave me five guns.⁴ I answered three in the barge. At the firing of the last gun, the piece not being well sponged, took fire, as one of our men was ramming home the cartridge, and so unhappily blew off one of his hands.

"10th. Sir Percy Smith, Governor of Youghall, with four of his field officers, coming on board our ship, took Captain Phillips in the way. I took our pinnace and went unto them. We all came on board our ship, and

² Lady Broghill was the daughter-in-law of the first Earl of Cork; Lady Barrymore was his daughter, the widow of the first Earl of Barrymore, who died Sept. 2nd, 1642; and Lady Smith was the wife of Sir Percy Smith, Knight, Lieutenant-Colonel and Deputy Governor of Youghal, whose mother was sister of the Earl of Cork.

³ Sir William Fenton, Kt., of Michaelstown (Mitchelstown) was the son of Sir Geoffrey Fenton, Secretary of State and Privy Councillor in Ireland, and brother of Catherine, Countess of Cork, second wife of the first Earl and mother of Lord Broghill.

⁴ As a salute, presumably.



MACROOM CASTLE, CO. CORK.



SHANAGARRY CASTLE.
(Photo by Rev. J. O'Riordan.)

there they dined with me. After dinner Sir Percy gave me a letter, wherein we were specified the particulars of their several wants of ammunition, as also to have the barge to do them service. I answered him for the present that I could do nothing of myself, nor was I able to furnish him so as I desired myself; I would, therefore, consult with the rest of the squadron, and so make return to him.

"11th. I called a council of war. The commanders being come on board, I showed them Sir Percy Smith's letter, as also another from my Lord of Inchiquin to the same purpose. We consulted, and at last agreed to spare them out of each of our stores what proportion of ammunition we could, as also our barge, as appeareth by our joint subscription, bearing the date *stantis*.

"12th. In the morning I sent my lieutenant on shore with a letter to Sir Percy Smith, to tell him that the enemy had removed their forces, which they in the town could not discover so well as we, being close besieged. Afternoon my lieutenant returned from the shore, and came on board Captain Phillips, where I was, Captain Boyle being with him, who informed me it was the Governor's request that one barge might be spared to carry him up to Cork, he having letters from the Governor to my Lord Inchiquin. I caused Captain Phillips to send up ten of his men with twelve of mine, and so Captain Boyle and our purser went up in the barge to Cork about six in the afternoon. This remove of the enemy caused me to retain the ammunition we agreed to spare as yet on board, lest the rebels should fall upon some other place that might have as much, if not more, occasion to use it.

"13th, Sunday. I received a letter from the Governor, whereby I understood that the rogues were yet within two miles of the town with their whole army, which was as bad, if not worse, than if they had begirt the town. He desired me not to depart the road until I heard further from my Lord of Inchiquin, the boat which brought my last being rebound to him with letters from Sir Percy. I willingly consented, not intending to quit this place till I should see them (by God's goodness) better able to shift for themselves. Some of the enemy's horse appeared on the east side within the harbour, at whom Captain Bray and Captain Howett made some shot, but did no execution, as we perceived.

"14th. After dinner I went on shore, and there received a letter from my Lord Inchiquin, whereby he desired that if so be the enemy had raised their siege, I should immediately cause the 200 men which came from Kinsale and Bandon Bridge to be transported to Kinsale again, and then expect further orders from his lordship. Sir Percy also received a letter from him, declaring his intent to fall upon the enemy's quarters the next morning by break of day; and therefore desired him to issue out of the town all the musqueteers he could well spare; that so, if it pleased God he should put them all to rout, they might be able to pursue. Sir Percy acquainting me with the design, I was willing to add my endeavours for the furtherance thereof, and therefore willed him to send out what he thought fitting, and I would that night send on shore a 100 able men to keep the town, which was accordingly performed; every man, with his musquet, bandaleers, &c., to that number marched into the town for the guard thereof. But my lord came not as was expected.

"15th. In the morning Capt. Boyle returned from Cork, by whom

I had a letter from my lord, and acted according to the tenour thereof. About ten I went on shore, and perceiving the late intended design did not go forward, I commanded the seamen on board their several ships, the Governor being willing to discharge them.

"16th. About eight in the morning the barge went on shore, and carried all the ammunition formerly agreed upon by a council of war; the powder only excepted. At ten the *Charles*, my Lord of Inchiquin's frigate, came by us. I sent one pinnace on board of her, and coming from Milford Haven, brought me a letter from my Admiral, whereby he acquainted me of 24 barrels of powder, 2 packs match, 1,000 lbs. small shot, sent by the said *Charles* to my Lord President; the frigate never anchored here, but plied away for Cork. As I was going on shore to Sir Percy Smith, I called on board of Captain Bray to know the reason of his shooting in the morning; and being on board his ship, we espied some men digging almost on the top of a hill, as if they would there make some work and plant great guns to beat the shipping out of the harbour. But having viewed it well, we considered it could not any whit annoy us, or do them any good. Many poor people going out this morning to cut grass for their cattle were killed or wounded by the rebels. After dinner the Governor and I went into the fort, and caused some shot to be made at the rebels working on the hill at the eastern side; but seeing it was but vain expense of powder, they being without the carrying of our guns point blank, gave them over.

"17th. By break of day the enemy had made a fort of cannon-baskets on the east side, opposite to the town fort, and having drawn down three guns into their work, shot at the *Duncannon* frigate, she at them again; but by an unexpected accident (as we after were informed) the powder of their store took fire, which being blown up, she immediately sunk, and being but little more water than she drew, her stern was above water when her bilge lay on the ground. All those which were afore the mast suffered, in number 18, with one woman, she with two of the 18 being, as was reported, in the powder room when the powder took fire. Seven more of the company were very much scalded and bruised, but, God be praised! we have hope of their recovery.

"About ten of the clock I went with Captain Phillips on shore, and dined with the Governor. Afternoon word was brought the Governor that two of the enemy's boats were coming down the river, as was supposed, full of provisions of ammunition for the enemy on the eastern side. I being at that time with the Governor, immediately caused our barge to pursue them, but ere our barge could come near to fetch them up, they were on shore, where our men durst not go, the enemy having a party of men on the shore side ready to secure them. The Governor, myself, Lieut.-Colonel Loftus, Lieut.-Colonel Badnedge, with some others, were upon the wall, taking upon us to view the pursuit of the barge; the enemy made a most unhappy shot from their fort on the other side of the water, which killed the two lieut.-colonels and two soldiers; five others were carried away supposed to be dead, but were presently found indifferent well, having no great hurt. Only the Governor and myself escaped unhurt, but with the stones which flew thick about our ears, for which deliverance God make me ever thankful. We quit the fort, and went into a house hard by. I requested Sir Percy Smith to dispatch a messenger with this sad news to

my Lord of Inchiquin, as also for some other officers in the room of those gentlemen that were slain, which he did the same night.

"In the afternoon the *Duncannon's* men that were scalded and hurt were brought on board our ship. I gave orders to Captain Howett to speak to his men to endeavour the saving of such sails and rigging as were not burnt; also that the gunner would get as many guns out of her as he could come at on the starboard side, she heeling to port, and her guns on that side being all under water. For that purpose I had taken order that Captain Bray's carpenters should be assisted by cutting her ports wider, that her guns might be the easier gained. But the *Duncannon's* men answered that they had already lost all they had in her, and would not now hazard the loss of their lives also; the enemy's work being so near, and they having no shelter for themselves if the enemy should ply them with caseshot, as might be in all probability. Captain Howett, whom I employed in this business, is best able to render an account hereof.

"18th. In the morning I sent the barge on shore to assist the *Duncannon's* men to save what might be, without any eminent (sic) or apparent danger, procured out of her, but their answer was as before. After dinner I sent the barge on to Captain Bray, for fear the enemy bringing guns to the point, as we supposed, to beat him out of the harbour; he should not have a boat on board to carry out an anchor if such occasion were.

"19th. In the morning by break of day the enemy had planted guns on the eastward point of the harbour's mouth, and made divers shot therewith at Captain Bray, he at them again; but before he could get his anchors on board two of his men were killed and two hurt by the rogues, who shot her between wind and water, and several times in the hull. At last weighed, set sail, and coming forth, anchored by us.

"About nine, the barge carried the twenty barrels of powder (allotted by a council of war, the 11th present, for the town of Youghall) on shore, and took a receipt of the Governor for them, which I received; with a letter also from him, desiring to take notice, that when he had occasion to speak with us, or have any recourse to us, the signal should be a fire on the top of the abbey tower, near the point on the west side of the harbour's mouth. About three, afternoon, the *Charles*, my lord president's frigate, returned from Cork, and anchored by us, having on board her the powder, bullets, and match that was sent by my admiral from Milford unto my lord, who ordered it for this town. About five, a small vessel arrived from Cork, with beef and bread sent by our purser for us; the master of the vessel told us that three days since my lord took 500 head of cattle and other provisions from the rebels, and killed a hundred of those that were to conduct it to the camp before Youghall. At nine came in a small vessel from Cork, and brought three letters from my lord: one for Sir Percy, another for my admiral, and the third for myself.

"22nd. At one Captain Claxton came open of the bay, but anchored not, being bound for London. I sent a letter by him to the Right Hon. the Committee for the Admiralty, enclosed in one for Mr. Jessop.

"26th. In the morning I received a letter from the Governor, wherein he desired that six of our gunners might be sent on shore. I caused two of each ship to be sent, with a week's provision, and gave our two money to drink. A letter came to me from Mr. John Miller, mayor (mayor)

of the town of Youghall; I answered his and the Governor's, and sent another to Lieut.-Colonel Finch concerning some goods belonging to Lieut.-Colonel Loftus, lately slain.

"28th. In the morning I wrote unto Captain Phillips, as before to Captain Bray, for what minion or falcon shot he could spare, together with paper royal; who sent me 20 falcon shot and one quire of paper. I spared 30 sacre shot and of paper one quire, being all the paper the Governor had left. Having these things in a readiness, I durst not send them, discovering three bodies of the enemy's forces upon the hills near the town. In the afternoon I went on board Captain Phillips, and stayed supper with him; about eight I came on board of our own ship again, and half an hour after the watch was set, we espied a light upon the tower (St. Mary's) according to the signal given by Sir Percy Smith; and, not long after, another. I sent our yawl ashore, and with her 30 sacre, 30 minion, 20 falcon shot, and two quires of paper, with a letter to the Governor.

"29th. In the morning, about four of the clock, we espied a boat between the isle (Capel Island) and the main, which not coming to speak with us, we shot at; the enemy made three or four shot at her also. I sent out our pinnace to meet with her; but she bore up and came on board, being laden with pilchards, bound in for Youghall to deliver some of them there, but the wind being NNW. out of the harbour she could not get in. I took in so many as filled seven hogsheads, preserving them with salt I had of mine own, knowing the necessity of the town for want of provisions. About ten at night a fire was made as a signal for our boat to go on shore; but it being a very light night, and the enemy having lined the shore on both sides with musqueteers, besides their great guns, with a boat lying at the harbour's mouth, rowing with eighteen oars, and we not having any boat convenient (our yawl being then on shore), I durst not adventure to send any.

"30th. About seven in the morning, our barge endeavouring to get ashore, was hindered by the enemy's approach to the western point of the harbour's mouth, and so was forced to retire on board again. At ten in the morning came in a vessel from Cork with beef and bread for us. Our yawl coming out of the harbour, the enemy's boat chased her; we sent out our barge to her relief; the enemy made many great and small shot at her from both sides of the harbour's mouth; but God be praised! she came on board without any harm. She brought me a letter from the Governor, with a packet to my Lord Inchiquin, which I hasted away by the master of the vessel that brought us our provisions, with a letter of my own to his lordship. About three in the afternoon I sent some oils for medicaments the Governor wrote for, with 20 falcon shot, and a letter in the yawl, ordering the barge, for the more safety, to go along with her. But drawing near the shore the enemy plied them very thick with great and small shot, and their boat ready in the harbour to surprise them, they durst not attempt the going in, but returned on board again. There were also some letters from the Lord President to the Governor, which I sent by the yawl, and would gladly have had delivered, but it could not be. Yet I returned not those letters back to my lord, in hope we should be able ere long to work our passage. I sent Captain Phillips his pinnace to cause our barge (then coming on board) to make

for the western side of the harbour, to intercept three boats of the enemy's which were making thitherward, but the barge came too late. The enemy plied the town very hard this afternoon and all night. I ordered our barge and pinnace to guard the westward side of the harbour, and Captain Phillips's long-boat and pinnace the eastward; gave them a word and signal to know each other at a distance, charging them to be assistant to each other in what they might.

"31st. In the morning, the boats returned early from watch; but in regard I saw so many of the enemy's boats abroad, I caused our boats to be manned with a fresh crew, and sent them out again about noon. Two of the boats belonging to the enemy gave chase to Captain Phillips's long-boat, his pinnace and mine being then on board; and the barge being far to the westward, like to be engaged, we dispatched our pinnace for her relief, which the enemy seeing, they immediately retreated. Some shot were made the whole day between our boats and the enemy by the seaside, without any visible or apparent detriment on either side. This night, about ten, and to all night, the enemy and the town were at hot service.

"August 1st. In the morning, early, the boats came from watching. I sent a fresh crew in them, having continued all day abroad scouting to and again; many shot passing between them and the shore, but not a boat of the enemy's stirring. About seven they came on board; I caused them to be new manned, and, after the watch was set, sent them away to scour up and down, looking for the enemy's boats, and so to spend the whole night. The enemy made not many shot at the town this day.

"2nd. The boats, having spent the night in coasting and watching for the boats which belong to the enemy, came this morning early on board; which, with a fresh gang, I sent away again. At ten, Captain Bray arrived here from Cork, and anchored by us; he brought some provisions for the town sent by my lord; the particulars I have in a note by itself, but we cannot as yet with safety adventure it in. Very few shot either from the town or rebels this day save some great guns in the morning. Our men being almost quite tired with continual watchings in the boats, both night and day, and the rebels not daring to send a boat out, I kept ours on board this night.

"3rd, Sunday. About one in the morning the barge came from Cork, which brought me four letters from my lord president. At two, I sent our boats again to coast along the shore, but seeing none of the enemy's boats to stir, about nine they came on board again. At ten, I dispatched away a letter to my lord by our barge.

"4th. About one, afternoon, the *Charles* frigate came to an anchor here. She brought provisions for the town, which we took in. Not long after the soldier being close besieged within the town, and we able to do him no good without, nor at present to gain so much as intelligence of their condition, it was unanimously agreed upon, for the soldiers' encouragement, as if some extraordinary news were now arrived to us, to fire some guns on board each ship. Whereupon we shot seven, the *Mayflower* and *Nicholas* five a piece.

"To Captain Swanley, Admiral of the Irish seas.⁵

"Sir—I profess in the presence of Almighty God, who knows the secrets

⁵ This letter would appear to have been written on the 4th of August, 1645, shortly

of all hearts, I have been as industrious, both night and day, for the advantage of this place, as might be imagined; yea, more than was by my Lord of Inchiquin and the Governor expected, as by divers expressions in sundry letters, they have manifested. But now the enemy hath quite blocked up the harbour, having planted great guns, whereof they have store (from whom God knows); so that we cannot pass in or out to relieve the distressed place, nor gain any intelligence from it; but if God give a blessing to it we are now upon a design to effect, and make no question of compassing it. I confess it is somewhat desperate, yet I know a desperate disease requires desperate cure.

"Sir, it is my most earnest desire to hear from you with all speed, having sent this frigate for that purpose; as also to receive such convenient supplies as may be made, both victualling and ammunition; or else a speedy order to quit this place, which cannot, without great hazard, yet be done. One of the two must in all celerity be performed, for I have not a fortnight's provision on board. The enemy is very careful to take all advantages; and God be praised! the party in the town is as careful to give as few as possibly may be. The great guns have for this four or five days plied it hard on both sides. They have had six of our gunners on shore about this work, with whose help (I giving directions) they have recovered two of the best guns out of the *Duncannon*, which I have sent, and 142 shot, into the town, to the shame of the *Duncannon's* men be it spoken. Nor yet are all the *Duncannon's* men to blame; the captain and master, having been very active, are much deserving.

"I desire your pardon if once more I urge speed in your dispatch; such important consequences as these admit not of the least delay, without eminent and apparent danger. Therefore pray, Sir, take advantage of the first opportunity (if there be no supply from England) to order me one way or other, as you in your wisdom shall conceive most conducing to the public good of the state, and the particular of this place.

"For the design of the relief of the town, Captain Clarke will be able to give you an account, viva voce. We have taken occasion by his coming to discharge some guns out of policy, as if he had been the messenger of some good tidings; thereby to hearten the town (if God see good); and to abate the courage of the enemy, for suppressing of whose boats we have our boats abroad, night and day; which calls for a necessary expense both of match and powder, and I desire it may be taken into serious consideration, as also a return may be made by Captain Clarke for the fortnight's provision the *Duncannon's* men have had.

"Sir, I am loth to be tedious, considering yours, as mine own affairs, may call you aside; yet I beseech you to take some thought for my supply, and that with great haste; for which, as for the favours formerly received, I do, and shall ever acknowledge myself, engaged; and craving pardon for the importunity, I take leave to be, Honoured Sir, your humble servant to be commanded,

WILLIAM PENN."

after which time Lord Castlehaven abandoned the siege of Youghal, in consequence, he states in his Memoirs, of Lord Inchiquin having succoured the town with men and provisions sent in boats and ships from Cork. Admiral Penn left Youghal, doubtless, as the result of this letter before Castlehaven retreated from it to Cappoquin. Both seem to have been utterly wearied of their tedious operations at Youghal.

(To be continued.)