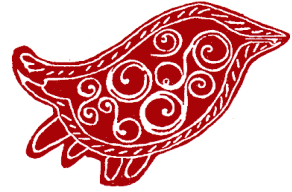


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family, was slain in battle by the Barrys in 1329. The Great Island then passed completely into the hands of the Barrys, and was known as Barrymore. "The Hodnets, however, still held property in the Great Island in the 16th and 17th centuries. In 1573 a large part of the island—that west of Belvelly—was called Hodnet's Wood. (*Journal*, July-Sept., 1915.)

During the so-called Rebellion of 1641 James Ronayne was "attainted" and dispossessed of his estates, on the ground that he had "failed to show constant good affection to the Parliament of England." Through the friendship of O'Brien, Earl of Inchiquin, however, he managed to retain Hodnet's Wood—the Earl "passing" it for Ronayne in his own name. (*Journal*, Oct.-Dec., 1915). On petitioning Charles II. (Claim, Nov. 14th, 1673) "as one of the ancient natives and inhabitants of Cork, who during that war and ever since had expressed their loyalty, services and sufferings for his royal father and line, he was restored to his estates." (*Journal*, Apr.-June, 1912; see also "Decrees of Innocency," Roll 5, folio 58.)

His name appears in the "Inrolments" in favour of the "1649 Officers"—"the '49 Lots."

In 1691, however, he lost his Kinsale estates, which were then granted to Sir Robert Southwell, of Kinsale. ("Attainders" of 1691; see also "King James' Irish Army List, 1689.")

(*To be continued.*)

West Cork Place Names.

(*Continued from page 134.*)

By JAMES M. BURKE, B.L., J.P., M.C.C.

THE PARISH OF MYROSS.

(Diocese of Ross. Rural District of Skibbereen. Area, 4,120 statute acres.)



HE Parish of Myross is bounded on the west by Bailakeenmora Bridge, and Castlehaven Harbour (Cuan an éair-teáin), and on the east by Glandore Harbour (Cuan roir), extending up to the village of Leap; on the south by the broad Atlantic, and on the north, roughly speaking, by the mail coach road from Skibbereen to Leap.

It is an ancient parish. In the Taxation of Pope Nicholas III. (1291 A.D.) it is written Mydris, and in the Genealogy of Corca Laidhe it is written mīrōr. We find mīrō or mīrō in several place names, as Mīrōe (Meath), Mīrōeac (Meevagh in Tirconnell), Mīrō botg (Meelock, Co. Fermanagh). The word probably is connected with English *mid*, Lat. *med-ius*. O'Brien gives midh-eang as slender waist. Mīrōr would therefore mean "middle headland." There are several inlets of sea in Myross, the chief being Blind Harbour, Squince and Carrigillihy Harbours, all of which will be dealt with later on.

There is an old Irish poem in which a sailor out at sea on a stormy night wishes that his ship was safe and sound in leabairō na tuimse, Cuan

cluṡmair na léime, or Cuan na ḡ Cuaimte.¹ Leadaíṡ na tuinge (bed of the ship) is the upper part of Castlehaven Harbour, being well sheltered by Lackareagh Wood on one side and Castletownshend Demesne on the other. Cuan cluṡmair na léime (the sheltered haven of Leap) is the upper part of Glandore Harbour, equally well protected between Myross Wood on one side and Droum Hill on the other.

Myross was in ancient time included in one of the tribal divisions of Corca Laidhe, i.e., Tuath O'Conneid. The Genealogy says: "Tuath O'Conneid, i.e., An Garrgha, extends from Ceann Mara to Loch an Bhricin, and from Midh ros to Beal atha solais. O'Conneid is its chieftain. The hereditary families are O'Muimhne, O'Drochrúaimnig, O'Fuaílchin, Ua Chaingi, O'Dubhchonna.

Myross was called An ḡarrḡsa (the garden). In the "Battle of Ventry Harbour" it is called ḡarrḡsa na ttréṡ (garden of the herds), and John Collins calls it Garry o g Cairbre (garden of the Carberies). Cox, in the "Carbriae Notitia," observes: "On the other side (of Glandore) lyes a small territory called the Garry (quasi the garden), which is the best land in Carbery, and off it half a league in the sea lyes a small island called the Squince."

Ceann Mara (head of sea) is preserved in Beal-Keenmara bridge, still the western boundary of the parish. Loṡ a bhricin (troutlet lake) is still preserved in Loughavrikeen, east of Glandore. Míṡṡṡ is the townland of Myross, and Úéal áta rotair² (ford of light) is Assolas, a ford over river Saivenose in townland of Drominidy near Drimoleague. For O'Conneid there is a variant, O'Cendidig, which is probably correct, as the name Mackennedy still survives in the parish. O'Muimhne is Meany or Meeanig. The latter is here used only as a nickname of a branch of the MacCarthys. Ua Dubhíhonna is Doheny, and Ua Chaingne is Cagney. The other names are obsolete.

In subsequent times Myross passed away from the O'Driscolls to the O'Donovans, and in the reign of Queen Elizabeth it was part of the Manor of Raheen, owned by the Clan Cahill O'Donovans, whose castles were situate at Castle Donovan (parish of Drimoleague) and Rahine (par. Myross).

The O'Donovan (Clan Cahill) Inquisition of 1607 mentions inter alia the following places in Myross, viz., "Meal-i-currane, Coublach, the Manor of Raheen, Stackane Aghenesky, Ryne, Castell and half-plowland of Castle Ivire, Ballycahane,³ Ballyvickadane,³ Gortbrack.³

The O'Donovan grant (temp. James I.) mentions Rahine, Cowlebla, Castel-Iver, Stuckin, Agheneskine, Kealog,³ Shanvállivickeagh,³ Fore-naght,³ Gortbrack,³ Ballicahan,³ Ballymacadam,³ the two islands called the High and Low Islands, Garrigillihie, Slughtea,⁴ viz., Ballincalla, Cahirgeall, Beallavaddy, Kilnelahragh, Cwoscronen, Fonigloghe, Meadull, Ballinatony, Ballincaslaine,³ Mirous, Meaulicarrane, the island of Briddie called the Sconice island; the creeks of Castlehaven, Squince, Conkeagh,⁵

¹ The harbour of the harbours, i.e., Cork Harbour.

² So called from the custom of keeping during the night at certain fords fires for the guidance and protection of wayfarers.

³ These are in adjoining parish of Castlehaven. Ballincaslaine (baít an cairtéam), old name for village of Castletownshend.

⁴ Sluicté aeóla (Race of Hugh).

⁵ Cuan caoṡ (Blind Harbour), mentioned above.

and the western part of Glandore. Practically all these names still survive, and will be dealt with later on.

The Inquisition refers to a half-plowland of Castle Ivire. From the Inquisition of Sir Donogh McCarthy Reagh (1576 A.D.) we learn that he owned the other half. The name Castle Ivor is preserved in Castle Eyre, where there exist the scanty remains of the castle which took its name from its builder, Ivor⁶ (Imhar) O'Donovan, who lived in the 13th century. Cathal O'Donovan was alive in 1254, when he and the redoubtable Fineen Reanna Roin McCarthy slew Dermot O'Mahony in revenge of his (Cathal's) father, killed at Inis an bheil (Phale). Cahill had two sons, Teige a quo the Clan Cahill and Ivor, above mentioned, a quo the Sliocht-Ivor. The latter were dispossessed by the former in the chieftaincy of Donnell na g Croiceann, who ruled his clan from 1560-1584. John Collins says that the O'Donovans (Deal)⁷ are now the sole survivors of the race of Ivor.

John Collins says Ivor built Castle Ire in 1251. This may be true. The Annals of Innisfallen record the death of Ivor's son at the hands of Geollamochuda O'Sullivan in 1582. The castle overlooks Loch Cluhir (i.e., sheltered lake), and Ivor's magic ship appears there every seven years. John Collins assures us that he knew a man who had testified that he had seen it in 1778. This was the year of the death of Donnell O'Donovan of Bawnlahan, the last representative of Donnell na g Croiceann, who extirpated Ivor's race.

TOWNLANDS.

Ardra, ἀρο ράτ (high rath).

Ballincolla, βαλ αν ελα (place of ferry). The ferry used to run from this place to the Glandore side.

Bawnlahan, βαύαν τεαταν (broad enclosure). The O'Donovans used to live here. It was also called Castle Jane, being so called after Jane Becher of Hollybrook, who at the age of 15 married, in the year 1763, Donnell O'Donnell, then aged 60 years. He was living at Bawnlahan when Smith wrote his *History of Cork*. Smith describes him as a worthy, courteous gentleman. He died 1778, and was buried in Myross. Jane died 1812.

Cooldurragha, Cúil τορκα (dark nook).

Maulycorrane. Dr. John Donovan says it is *Meall uf Corran* (O'Curran's Hill). There is a *tuor uf Corran* in parish of Kinneigh.

Reen, Rinn (headland), of which townland more infra.

Raheen, Ρατίν (little rath). Here is a ruined castle of O'Donovan's built by Donnell O'Donovan, chieftain of Clancahill, 1584-1639. His will, in which he directs his body to be buried in Timoleague, is still extant.

Ballinatona, Βαίτε να τόνα (place of the bottom).

Skahanagh, Σκαεάναε (place of white thorns).

Listarkin, τιορ τορκαμ (place of the little wild boar). In this townland is the ruin of Castle Eyre.

Cahergal, Κατρη ξεα (white stone fort).

Cappagh, Σεραε (a plot of land laid out for tillage; a decayed wood; a hamlet occupied by relatives).

⁶ Ivor was also called *Σιουτα μαθαε*.

⁷ i.e., *Θαυτ* (blind). John Collins says the nickname arose from the fact that all the brothers were slain in Cromwell's time, except one who was spared because he was blind.

Clontaff, *Cluain a cāta* (meadow of the battle). The village of Union Hall is partly situate in Clontaff, partly in Listarkin, partly in Kilbeg and Ballincolla. It got its name from a house built by one of the Limericks to commemorate the passing of the Act of Union. The old name is *Ḫρέαν τράϊς* (Rotten Strand). Some would maintain that this is a most appropriate name; others say that it was so called in consequence of the number of corpses that were allowed rot there after a battle fought in the vicinity about 400 years ago—perhaps the time the Clancahill overcame the Clan Ivor. At all events, countenance is given to the tradition by the name *Cluain a cāta*, and also by the fact that in Listarkin there is a well called *τοβάρ να ζσαοτάν* (the well of the guts). I hear that Union Hall was, too, called *τράϊς α Ḫρόϊν* (the strand of lamentation). If that be so, it would further strengthen the tradition.

Carrigillihy is probably *Καρράϊς οὐλίγτε* (hidden rock).

Cooscroneen, *Κυαρ Κρόϊν* (Cronin's Cove).

Ardagh, *ἀρθαδ* (height). Old grants and documents mention Ardagh Maggeanie, Ardagh Mac Kanneth in West Cork. Now this is, I think, Ardagh in parish of Myross. Mac Kannith probably represents *Mac Cathna*. Now, the Genealogy informs us that Eiderscel (the progenitor of the O'Driscoll's, who flourished circ 950 A.D.) had a son, Cathna, from whom sprung the Clann Finn of Garrdha (i.e., Myross). Cathna, too, was father of Mac Craith, who built *Teampull mor Fachtna i Ros ailithre* (St. Fachtna's Cathedral at Rosscarbery). I shall devote the next two papers to the place names of Myross.

(To be continued.)

Necrology.

Coroner James Byrne, J.P., M.R.S.A.I.—The Society has sustained a great loss by the death of Coroner Byrne, one of its original members, who died at his residence, Ballyhooly House, Ballyhooly, on Friday, 29th December, 1916, at the ripe age of more than four score years.

Coroner Byrne was famous for his success as a breeder of cattle, again and again winning prizes at the Dublin Shows. He established the famous herd known as the Wallstown herd at his residence at that time, Wallstown Castle. He was always untiring in his efforts to improve the breed of milch cows in the county.

However, it is not as a successful breeder of cattle, or as a much respected Coroner we bear tribute to him, but as an archæologist of very high order. His contributions to the *Journal* always bore the impress of keen thought and well trained ability to write as an authority on the ancient remains in his district. With a mind full of historic and legendary lore, in addition to having a great acquaintance with ancient and modern Gaelic, he was able in prose and poem to cast a halo of romance around the objects and place-names of the eastern area of Cork.

It was a most delightful experience to go upon an archæological excursion with him. Every dolmen, circle, monolith, tumulus, rath, and ancient building unfolded its history—

“ They stand, but stand in silent uncommunicative majesty.”