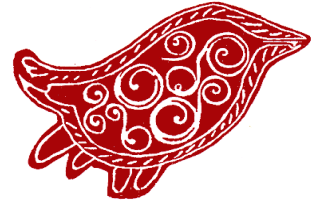


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# Lewis Dillwyn's Visit to Waterford, Cork and Tipperary in 1809

By GERARD J. LYNE

## INTRODUCTION

The diary printed below is preserved in Trinity College, Dublin (MS 967). A part, outlining Dillwyn's visit to Kerry, has already been published<sup>1</sup> and is here omitted. The remainder, while touching on Co. Waterford and, to a lesser extent, Tipperary, is concerned in the main with Cork city and county.

Without repeating what has been stated elsewhere,<sup>2</sup> it may here be observed that the compiler, Lewis Weston Dillwyn (1778-1855) was descended from a family long established in Breconshire in Wales. At the time of his visit to Ireland he was already making his name as a botanist and naturalist. He was also a successful businessman, having since 1803 managed his father's pottery in Swansea, his porcelain becoming famous for its lifelike depiction of plants, birds and animals. He served for many years as a magistrate, became high sheriff of Glamorganshire in 1818, and MP for the shire from 1832 to 1837. His family were Quakers but he himself seems to have lapsed from that faith around the time of his visit to Ireland.

He was accompanied on his visit by his lifelong friend, Joseph Woods, and by another companion named Leach. The former, who was an architect by profession, has himself left a lengthy diary of his visit.<sup>3</sup> The latter was the Devon-born William Elford Leach (1790-1836)<sup>4</sup> who later became an eminent naturalist.

The manuscript of Dillwyn's diary would seem to have been worked up from notes which he took in the course of his journey. The



L.W. Dillwyn  
(Courtesy National Library of Wales)

resulting narrative is very readable. In editing it, the present writer has made a number of minor changes in the text, including silent suppression of derivative or inconsequential matter, curtailment of lengthy botanical details and its relegation to footnotes (though all botanical and other scientific references directly relating to Ireland are preserved) and the employment of paragraphs. In addition, the author's occasional contractions have been silently expanded.

Dillwyn was a shrewd observer with an eye for colourful detail. His comments, though

often unsympathetic, are no doubt largely accurate and historically valuable. He was however, prejudiced in terms both of race and social class, while his sectarian bigotry, crude even by the standards of his age, constitutes, perhaps, his least attractive characteristic. The extent to which his intolerance blinkered his understanding becomes apparent when he attempts to analyse the causes of the social ills he so vividly describes. Not surprisingly, the conclusions he arrives at are, for the most part, quite fatuous. His work, nonetheless, will be found to contain many interesting sidelights on contemporary social conditions in Cork and in the other counties through which he passed.

#### DIARY

After a pleasant Journey in the Mail from Swansea Mr. Leach & myself reached Milford soon after 6 o'clock on the Evening of Thursday July 6th. We found that the Packet would not sail till next morning & therefore after having dined at Nelsons Hotel we walked to B. Rotchs at Castle Hall and there met Mr. Woods. After Tea we returned to Milford, & Mr. Woods promised to hold himself in readiness to join us as soon as sent for.

#### *Friday July 7th*

We were called soon after 6 & told that the Packet would sail in an hour & that a Messenger had been sent to Castle Hall for Mr Woods. Our luggage having been previously searched by a custom house Officer was sent on board last night & therefore as soon as we had breakfasted we were ready [p. 2] but we were sadly disappointed by the non-arrival of Woods for whom we waited near an hour. At length the Captain of the Packet declared he could wait no longer, & as our luggage was on board we were reluctantly obliged to embark without him. About half an hour [after] we had got under weigh we saw a Boat with six Oars & crowding Sail to overtake us. Capt. Jankins civilly laid to till the Boat came up & then Woods to our no small satisfaction jumped on board.

Our sail down Milford Haven was very fine, & after we had passed St Anns head the numerous small Islands among which we sailed presented some of the wildest rocky cliffs I ever saw, & an immense number of Shags & Guillemots which inhabit them flew around us. We chatted & laughed very merrily on Deck with 4 Irish Gentlemen who were our fellow Passengers till about Noon when it began to rain hard & we were driven into the Cabin. I then became so Seasick that I went to Bed and remained there till the Steward woke me up with the pleasant tidings that we had arrived in Waterford River. It was then ½ past 11 & [p.3] at 12 we were landed at Cheek point.

After a good deal of clamorous rapping we gained admittance to the Inn which is large & good looking without, but we found the inside so little inviting by either sight or smell that Woods's appetite failed him & he went to Bed. Leach & I were too hungry to mind trifles, & we joined two of our fellow Passengers in making a hearty Meal, but I could not help being reminded of the following Story which I heard just before I left Swansea. A Gentleman travelling in this Country whilst his Dinner was preparing at a small Inn saw a Child with a dreadfully ulcerated & scald head. Disgusted at the sight he asked her why she didn't wear a Cap. 'And to be sure', answered the Child 'isn't my Mother boiling your pudding in it'.

Our Luggage was all taken & locked up by the Custom house Officers, who told us that it could not be searched or restored till next morning. I begged them to give me a small Leather case, in which I keep my Dressing things & a few other Articles. They were excessively polite *a la mode d'Irlande*, & begged to know its contents which I told them & among [p.4] other things mentioned a pair of Shoes. They asked me if they were new (in which case I find they would have been seizable) & I gave them my word they were half worn out. 'Och', says the fellow, 'I am perfectly satisfied with your word of honor, but I shall be greatly obliged if

you'll just let me look at them'.

*Saturday July 8th*

I rose soon after 5 & whilst our Breakfast was preparing I strolled with Mr. Leach along the Banks of the River Suire where we found a variety of *Trubo littoralis*<sup>5</sup> &c. We with great pleasure left the vile Inn at Cheek Point at ½ past 7 & were driven over an Excellent Road to Waterford which is 7 Irish Miles distant. Eleven Irish are equal to Fourteen English Miles. Our Chaise which we were told is reckoned tolerable in this Country was by far the most miserable I ever saw, but it is impossible for any language to describe the appearance of our Driver. He had a peculiar *Hibernian* cast in his countenance, & his Cloathes which were apparently the Cast-offs of some English [p.5] beggar had never been mended since they came in his possession, & certainly neither they or his Skin had ever been washed since they were made. The want of a middle Rank struck me forcibly as we rode along for we rarely saw any Houses that were not either the Villas of Gentlemen or the most wretched Hovels, & the People were generally either well dressed or clothed in Rags.

On our arrival at Waterford as well as at Cheek Point we were strangely puzzled about the value of our Money. I changed a one pound Bank of England Note & they gave me a Bank of Ireland Note of the same nominal value together with two Silver tenpenny pieces. An English Shilling which they call a Hog or thirteener passes for 13d & a sixpence which is called a Pig is valued in the same proportion.<sup>6</sup> We took up our Quarters at the Commercial Hotel than which I never saw a more elegant commodious or comfortable Inn.

After we had lunched and whilst Woods went to see some Relations Mr Leach & I took a five hours [p.6] ramble on the Kilkenny side of the River. The Bridge over which we passed is very fine & of great length & is entirely built of wood. It was erected in 1794 by Subscrip-

tion & till last year paid 10 per Cent since which the Dividend has increased. The Architect is an American named Cox, who also built the Bridge at Londonderry.<sup>7</sup>

On the Rocks by the road side I found *Fumaria claviculata*<sup>8</sup> & *Cotyledon umb[ilicu]s*<sup>9</sup> [which] there grows in profusion more than two feet high. I also found a Plant by the water's edge not in flower & an *Orthotrichum*<sup>10</sup> with which I am not acquainted.

We dined capitally in an elegant Room & enjoyed a Bottle of good Claret for which we were charged 7/7. This plan of charging odd Pence & halfpence till reconciled by custom seems very odd to an Englishman. Woods was charged Seven Shillings & a halfpenny for a pair of Stockings which much surprized him till he recollected that it is the same as 6/6 English. After Dinner we walked along the Quay which is an English Mile in length & is by far the most [p.7] handsome part of the City. The Suire is a very fine River & I suppose that opposite Waterford it is as wide as the Thames at London Bridge.

We were much struck with the wide difference in the Looks of the Women in the upper & lower Ranks the former of whom frequently appeared as remarkable for Beauty, as the latter are universally for excessive ugliness.

Never before having seen or heard of any thing of the kind I was much diverted by an apparatus which I saw attached to all the Carts for the purpose of catching & preserving the Manure as it falls from the Horse that draws them. About 12 we went to Bed.

*Sunday July 9th*

Yesterday we hired a Chaise, pair of Horses & a Driver for our intended Journey of a Mrs. Murphy, who is the very ugliest of all the Women I ever saw, & the Group of which she formed part would have made a most ludicrous picture. We agreed besides every expense to pay a Guinea a day for the use of the Carriage & to give 3/9½ to our Driver [p.8] whose

name is Pat. Pat, tho' not hideously ugly in the Face is tall, thin, raw boned & knock kneed & is totally unlike any Postillion I ever saw in England. We heard an excellent character of his capability to drive & of his civility & fidelity and when we had finished our Bargain an arch looking fellow covered with Dirt & Rags cocked his Chin in my Face & whispered 'Your honour's in great luck for there isn't such another Driver as Pat in the Nation'. We agreed with Mrs. Murphy that if we didn't like either the Chaise or Horses we should be at liberty to send them back whenever we chose & the same Terence<sup>11</sup> as soon as he heard this immediately whispered me 'I'm sure your Honour'll keep them all the way for the sake of keeping Pat. Och, there isn't such another Driver in the Kingdoms'.

At ½ past 4 in the morning I awoke & roused my Companions by reminding them that we were going to *Kill-mac-thomas*. This is the name of a Village at which we intended to Breakfast, but being very hungry we stopped short at a place called Newtown Inn where we found that the [p.9] only Parlor was occupied by a Gentleman who had before passed us in a Curricule.<sup>12</sup> The Landlord told us that he was Counsellor Hobson<sup>13</sup> & we found him a truly polite & remarkably pleasant Breakfast table Companion.

As soon as Breakfast was over we went to Kill Mac Thomas (2 Miles) where the lofty appearance of the Monavullagh Mountains on our right tempted us to ascend them altho', when we left Waterford, it was our intention to have gone as fast as possible to Dungarvan. We wished our Driver to take us to the foot of the Mountains which were four Miles distant, but he assured us that the Road was 'not properly *navigable* for a Carriage'. Pat, however, politely added that we might try, if we chose & he only wished us 'to see the sense of it'. We therefore set out on foot from Kill Mac Thomas & reached the base of the Mountain in about two hours. On our way we found *Pin-guicula lusitanica*<sup>14</sup> in the Bogs & *Spergulas*

*pentandra*<sup>15</sup> among the Corn in great plenty. When we had ascended about half a Mile we separated & each took a different direction, in order that thereby we might explore the Mountain [p.10] more thoroughly. Woods ascended a sort of Gulley in the expectation of finding a Pool beyond it, whilst I climbed up to a ridge of lofty & broken Craigs on the right. The side of the Mountain was very steep & being entirely covered with Heath made the walk very fatiguing. *Saxifraga umbrosa*<sup>16</sup> is extremely plentiful both in the highest Craigs and by the side of a Rill nearly to the foot of the Mountain.<sup>17</sup>

We left the foot of the [p.11] Mountain about ½ past 5 & at 7 reached Kill Mac Thomas where at a small Inn we ordered some Mutton Chops, but Pat begged us not to wait for them as it was getting late & the Country was 'not quite as it ought to be'. We had been before informed that the Counties of Waterford & Tipperary had not, since the grand Rebellion, been so unsettled as at present,<sup>18</sup> & therefore thought it more prudent to content ourselves with some cold half famished Ducks & set off as fast as possible. We washed away our fatigue with a little Whiskey which we tasted for the first time since our arrival in Ireland & thought it excellent. It was after 10 when we reached Dungarvan where at the best Inn we ordered Supper. I was kept in a roar of laughter by an old drunken true Hibernian Chamber Maid who came into our Parlor & openly avowed that Woods had stole her tender Heart.

#### Monday July 10th

I rose this morning at 6 & employed myself till Breakfast in laying out my Plants &c. [p.12] - Soon after 10 we took a Boat & crossed the River to an Island called Conygare on which *Gladiolus communis*<sup>19</sup> is in Gough's Camden<sup>20</sup> said to grow but tho' we hunted over every part of the Island we saw nothing like *Gladiolus* nor any other plant which can be considered as at all rare except *Juncus*

acutus,<sup>21</sup> *Viola lutea*,<sup>22</sup> & one Specimen which Woods gathered of *Carex divisa*.<sup>23</sup> Mr. Leach found a single Shell of *Venus Pophia*<sup>24</sup> & *Mac-tra lutraria*<sup>25</sup> was extremely abundant about high water mark.

Dungarvan is a small dirty Sea Port & contains very little to interest a Traveller. It is said in the Post Chaise Companion<sup>26</sup> that large quantities of Potato & Birch Brooms are here shipped for Dublin, & they form what is jocosely called a Cargo of Fruit & Timber.

Having taken an early Dinner we ordered our Carriage & at ½ past 2 set out for Youghal. We first ascended a high hill [p.13] which commands a very extensive Prospect but as in all the rest of the Country thro' which we have passed there is a sad deficiency of Woods in the Landscape. The Road was excessively rugged & the Country nearly all the way dreary & uninteresting. We stopped to bait<sup>27</sup> near the next village of Clashmore & reached the Ferry side opposite to Youghal about 7 in the Evening. Here we left our Carriage (which followed us soon after) & crossed the River Blackwater which is here about ½ a mile wide & divides the Counties of Waterford & Cork into the latter of which we now entered. We went to a very comfortable Inn called the York Hotel & employed ourselves till bed time in writing &c.

#### Tuesday July 11th

I rose about 7. [p.14] I was sadly disappointed to find that the Mail arrives every day in the week except Tuesday so that the Letter which I should otherwise have received will not reach this Place till tomorrow & must then be forwarded to me at Cork. At 10 we set out & walked for 2½ hours along the Sea Shore where I gave most of my attention to Shells & collected several of which *Mya truncata*<sup>28</sup> is the most rare. Woods by the side of a Road which leads to the Sands about a Mile from the Town gathered *Erodeum moschatum*<sup>29</sup> & Mr. Leach made some discoveries in the Mollusca. He shewed me the most elegant *Actinea*<sup>30</sup> I ever

saw & which he believes is nondescript but its long *flower stalk* was so securely seated in the Crevice of a Rock that we in vain endeavoured to procure it. On the shore we saw a number of what are called Bathing Boxes, which resemble Bathing Machines except that they have no Wheels & are carried into the Sea by two Poles in the manner of a Sedan Chair.

At Youghal the Potato is said to have been first introduced into [p.15] the British Dominions by Sir Walter Raleigh to whom the Town principally belonged. The Inhabitants when the Plant came to maturity imagined that the Apples were the part to be eaten & were of course much disgusted nor was it till they afterwards accidentally turned up the ground that they discovered their mistake.<sup>31</sup>

Youghal is a neat & rather large Town pleasantly situated under a Hill close to the Mouth of the River Blackwater. The Town hall is a handsome Building & is surrounded by a public walk called the Mall which is built in the River Banks & well planted with Trees.

After an early Dinner we set out for Cork about 2 O'Clock. The road as far as Killeagh is uninteresting but about that Village the Country is better wooded & becomes more pleasant. We next passed thro' Castle Martyr. The Town is small but by far neater than any other thro' which we have yet passed for which it is probably indebted to the Earl of Shannon who has a fine Seat & extensive Park close adjoining it.<sup>32</sup> Castle Martyr is about 8 Irish Miles from Youghal.

As we drove [p.16] along Pat who had never before travelled this Road frequently called out to People whom we met, indiscriminately without any regard to their age, 'Lad, is this the right Road to Cork?' The answer generally was 'Aye, right all the way'. Pat then rejoined 'I see', & drove on.

After travelling five more Miles we came to Middleton where we stopped to feed our Horses. When we had had some Tea Leach & Woods amused themselves at a Billiard Table

& I took a walk about the Town. I returned to a small House about the Door of which as we passed by we had observed a crowd of Women sitting on the Ground. I heard on enquiry that three Children were just dead of the Small Pox & the fourth & last of the young Family was dying. I was at first pleased with an idea that these poor Wretches were come to condole with the distressed Parents, but on closer inspection I found the utmost indifference painted in their Faces, & they were only waiting till Death had finished his work [p.17] to give a Howl. They were all muffled up in Cloaks with the Hoods pulled over their Faces as is customary on such occasions, & went into the House one by one in rotation.

The Protestant Church is kept by far neater than any I had seen in Ireland & is surrounded by stately Trees of which there is also a handsome Avenue from the Entrance of the yard to the Door. It adds much to the beauty of Middleton which consists principally of one very wide street & gives title to a Viscount who resides in the immediate neighbourhood.<sup>33</sup> Public Houses are by far more numerous in this Country than in England, & at Middleton as well as every other Town & Village thro' which we have passed 'Licensed to sell Spirits & Porter' is painted over about every third Door. Among the dead<sup>34</sup> Letters in the Post Office window I observed one with the following singularly vague direction 'To the Widow Murphy, County of Cork, Ireland'. Except Yorkshire, this County is, I believe, the largest in the British Dominions, & is very populous. [p.18]

We set out from hence a little before 7 & reached Cork 12 Irish Miles distant at ½ past 10 O'Clock. The road passes thro' the most beautiful country which we have yet seen in Ireland, & the latter part of the way by the Riverside is particularly handsome. The Grounds at Dunkettle & Lota<sup>35</sup> are charming, & command some delightful views. Near the latter place the Road winds close by the edge of a broad Creek between two fine hanging

Woods. The entrance into Cork is over a handsome new Bridge<sup>36</sup> into a very wide street, both bearing the name of St. Patrick, & being well lighted they convey an idea of opulence well suited to such a large commercial City. We drove to M'Dowells Hotel which is the principal Inn & as soon as we had supped being well tired we went to Bed. [p.19]

*Wednesday July 12th*

We did not rise till near 8 O'Clock. As soon as we had Breakfasted I went to the Post Office & there found Letters. That from Dr. Stokes<sup>37</sup> enclosed introductory Letters to Mr. Hinckes<sup>38</sup> & Miss Hutchins.<sup>39</sup> The former is lecturer & chief Manager to a Scientific Institution lately established here<sup>40</sup> & on him we immediately called but found to our no small disappointment that he was in Dublin & will not return till Monday. We rambled about the City till 12 & then went in our Chaise to the new Botanic Garden which is now nearly completed & is under the Direction of Mr. Drummond<sup>41</sup> to whom we introduced ourselves. The garden which is extensive & judiciously laid out belongs to the above mentioned Scientific Institution for the general purposes of which about £2000 has been subscribed, & a grant to the Society of £2000 a year. Mr. Drummond is a long headed [p.20] young Scotchman with a broader dialect than I ever before heard, & is an excellent Botanist. Considering that he has been in Ireland but a year his Discoveries have been very numerous & bear ample testimony to his zeal & perseverance. In the Garden he shewed us a Plant which one of the Laborers in the Garden brought him from the neighboring Fields, but which he has since sought for in vain.<sup>41a</sup> We all united in opinion that it is quite new to the British Flora. He took us to a place called Black Rock on the River's side about a Mile from the City.<sup>42</sup>[p.21] Mr. Drummond dined with us at our Hotel, & after Dinner we accompanied him to see the Library & Collections of the Institution which as well as the Gardens are yet in their Infancy. The Society's

house<sup>43</sup> adjoins that of Mr. Hinckes & we accepted a polite invitation from Mrs. Hinckes<sup>44</sup> to drink Tea with her. We afterwards walked with Mr. Drummond & young Mr. Hinckes to a place just without the City called Sundays Well. We returned home by *the Dyke*<sup>45</sup> which is the finest public walk I ever saw being quite strait, one Mile in length & thickly planted with large Trees on both sides.

Mr. Leach this afternoon took a Cork Bank Note for £1-14-1½ which [p.22] seems a very strange sum till we recollected that it is equivalent to a Guinea & a half English. These Notes are in common circulation as are also others for *three shillings and nine pence halfpenny*.

We reached our Inn about ½ past 10 & in an hour after went to bed.

#### *Thursday July 13th*

Mr. Woods went to Breakfast with some of his Relations & whilst I busied myself with writing Leach walked to Black Rock where with the assistance of a Ladder he gathered a few Specimens of *Dianthus plumarius*. This being the anniversary of my Wedding I could not help much regretting my absence from the best of Wives, for whom I walked into the City & purchased a trifle as a memorandum of my affectionate remembrance. At 12 I ordered the carriage & went with Mr. Leach to the Botanic Garden from whence Mr. Drummond accompanied us to some neighbouring Fields where we again sought in vain for the supposed new *Crepis*.<sup>46</sup> As some compensation for our trouble we however found *Pimpinella magna*<sup>47</sup> growing in great abundance. From here [p.23] Leach & I drove to Black Rock Castle<sup>48</sup> which is delightfully situated on a rock that projects into the River Lea about 2 Miles below Cork. The Banks of the River on both sides are nearly covered with Woods & handsome Villas, & the Scenery which is equally beautiful reminded me of the Thames at Lambeth. A little below the Castle the River widens into a noble Sheet of Water which is called the Lough & is 3 Miles

long & 2 wide. Mr. Drummond had been informed that *Dianthus plumarius* grows about the Castle but we could not find it. It however certainly grows on the Rocks in the Diamond Quarry, so called from some Chrystals that are found there, on account of which this part of the Rocks is now walled in & no Persons are admitted.

On my return to the City I called on James Abel<sup>49</sup> at whose House my Father was entertained when he landed here from America. He received me so kindly & so pressingly urged me to dine with him next day, that I regretted it was out of my power to accept his invitation. About 4 Cooper Penrose<sup>50</sup> called on us & insisted on our accompanying Mr. Woods to dine with him at his Villa which [p.24] is beautifully situated on the North bank of the City [sic] about 1½ Miles from the City. He has a fine collection of Pictures for which he has been building a Gallery as also five other Rooms for Statuary, & they are all very tastily lighted by Cupolas from the Ceiling. We returned to our Inn about 11 O'Clock well pleased with the hospitality & polite attention of Mr. Penrose & his Son.

#### *Friday July 14th*

Cork is a large & handsome City & is said to contain about 80,000 Inhabitants.<sup>51</sup> A Street called the Parade, as also St. Patrick's Street, are very wide & handsome & the former is ornamented with an Equestrian Statue of King George 2nd.<sup>52</sup>

About 10 we ordered our Bill & found the charges so exorbitant that even any English Tavern Keeper would have blushed to have made them. Mr. Leach & I slept in the same Room in two beds scarcely larger than Coffins, for which we were each charged 2s.8½d. per night. We were charged 4s.4d. a day for our tiny sitting room, & so enormously high for [p.25] all we ate & drank that I shall certainly warn all my Friends who dislike imposition against ever going to Mac Dowels Hotel at Cork.



It was not 11 O Clock when we set out but tho' the distance is only 13½ Irish Miles or about 17 English Miles we did not reach Bandon till 4 in the afternoon. Pat, let the Road be ever so good, always drove very slowly but it was here very rough & hilly which annoyed him greatly & he called one part of it 'The Devil's own half acre'. The country thro' which we passed is uninteresting except about Innishannon which is a pretty & neat tho' very small Town. By the Road side about two Miles from Cork we gathered *Hypericum calycinum*<sup>53</sup> in the spot described to us by Mr. Drummond but I confess myself extremely doubtful whether it has *any* claim to a place in the British Flora. By the road side we also gathered *Euphorbia hyberna*<sup>54</sup> which is extremely common in this Country, but has long since been out of flower. [p.26]

I had often heard of the wretchedness of an Irish Cabin but had no idea that any of them were so wretched as are most of those which we passed this day. They are built with Mud roofed turf, & have rarely any window whatever; some of them are without any Chimney & in others the Smoke is let out by a hole cut in the roof. The insides were generally filled with Smoke of which we frequently observed more issuing from the Door than from the Chimney. We were told that these poor Wretches prefer a Room when thus filled, & think it warmer & more comfortable. I never in my life saw so many Blind People as since I came into this country, which may perhaps be attributed to this singular predilection & in almost all the old people I observed. 'The Eyes with scalding Reum were galled & red.'<sup>55</sup>

While our Dinner was preparing at Bandon we walked about the Town which is rather large & very populous. We left it soon after six but tho' the distance is only 9 Irish Miles it was near 10 before we arrived at Cloghnikilty where at a small Inn called the *Saint* [p 27] *George revived* we stowed ourselves for the Night.

#### Saturday July 15th

We rose & breakfasted about 6 & soon after set out to examine the Shores of Cloghnikilty Bay. In the Meadows close to the Town & also in several other places we gathered *Bartsia viscosa*,<sup>56</sup> which there grows very luxuriantly & we saw *Rubia peregrina*<sup>57</sup> in equal abundance. About 9 we left Woods on the Banks of the Haven & Leach & I continued our walk till we reached the open Bay. From hence we rambled round what is called the Island<sup>58</sup> in search after Shells & Insects, & we were more successful than in any of our former *Hunts* in this Country. *Scarabaeus humens* & *S. Globosus*<sup>59</sup> were plentiful on the Sand hills by the Seaside, on which *Viola lutea* grows in great abundance & *Asplenium marinum*<sup>60</sup> grows in the Rocks. It seems to be a very good Beach for Shells & I found some with which Mr. Leach as well as myself were unacquainted. From Cloghnikilty Bay an Arm of the Sea runs up to the Town, but its Banks are tame & the neighbourhood totally devoid of Beauty. The Town [p.28] contains very few decent Houses but it is large & very populous as are all the others thro' which we have passed in this Country.

We returned to our Inn about 1 O Clock at which hour we had ordered Dinner & about 2 set out for Dunmanway (11 Miles distant) which Town we reached at 7 O Clock. The Road was so rocky as in some places to be almost impassable & the Country quite uninteresting. By the Road side all the way we again observed *Bartsia viscosa* & *Euphorbia hyberna* in great abundance. As soon as we had drank some Coffee (which was the namesake of our Landlord) we walked to a range of high rocky hills about a Mile Northward from the Town. On a Bog at the foot of the Hill we gathered *Carex curta*<sup>61</sup> & even the Stone Walls by the road side were almost covered with *Saxifraga umbrosa*. We ascended about half up the Hill & remained there till it was too dark to botanize any longer without finding any other Plant which can be [p.29] considered as at all

rare [other] than *Bryum alpinum*.<sup>62</sup>

The wildness of the Scenery & the stillness of the evening interrupted only by the chattering of a Fern Owl tended to tranquillise & dispose the Mind to Meditation. It was near 10 when we reached our Inn, where after having completed our Journals, & drank a bottle of thin Claret, we went to Bed.

#### Sunday July 16th

It is commonly supposed that there are no Bugs in this Kingdom, & that they were all turned out by St. Patrick. If, however, they ever were banished they have returned with a vengeance for in my Life I never was so plagued by them as I have been at Cork, at Cloghnikilty & at this place. I was also teased by a large number of the Insects usually called *Death watches* [p.30] & which arranged about my bed beat their monotonous noise all night. In the morning I found them on the walls of my Chamber by Dozens & ascertained that they belong to the Genus *Dermestes* but neither Mr. Leach or myself knew the Species.<sup>63</sup>

After Breakfast our Landlord was our guide to see a Spa & a Lake which he told us are always visited by Travellers.<sup>64</sup> They are both within ½ a Mile from the Inn. The former is a small Stream of strong chalybeate water which issues from a Rock, but neither that nor the Lake are worth going an inch to see. If Service had been performed at an early hour in any place of worship that appeared at all decent, it was my intention to have attended but [I] found it impracticable without detaining my Companions longer at Dunmanway than they would have liked. It is a better tho' not so large a Town as Cloghnikilty. At 10 we set out for Bantry which by the new Road is about 12 Irish Miles distant; & for the sake of botanizing we [p.31] walked a great part of the way. In a deep Valley we passed the Ruins of a large Castle<sup>65</sup> & as we approached Bantry the Country became more & more mountainous & the Scenery more bold & interesting. From the

Summit of a high Hill we enjoyed a grand & impressive view of Bantry Bay which is surrounded by wild Mountains many of whose frowning Summits were buried in the Clouds.<sup>66</sup>[p.32] Several different species of Tabani<sup>67</sup> flew about in such immense numbers over the Bogs that tho' we killed them by Scores it was impossible to prevent them from settling on & stinging our hands & Faces. We reached Bantry about ½ past 3 & I went immediately to the Post Office [at] which I was much gratified by receiving a letter from my dear Mary.

Soon after our arrival, in the neighbourhood of the Inn to my no small surprize

‘— a Yell began,

Redoubled then from House to House it ran’.<sup>68</sup>

As soon as I reached the Door I found that a Funeral had just entered the Town & that the Noise I heard was an Irish howl. The Body had been brought from the Country & was followed by a Throng of People who made a low doleful noise which tho' intended to mimic Grief most resembled that of a pack of Hounds in full cry. A Bystander who seemed to be a Shopkeeper of the Town told me that the greater part of the Howlers did not even know the name of the Deceased & that ‘the Devil of a wet Eye was there amongst them’. All the lower orders whenever a Funeral passes their Door accompany it for a short distance[p.33] & make a Howl — if they did not they think others would not howl when they die & the idea of the horrid Yell that will be made when they are no more sweetens even their Beds of Death. Tho' it was nearly drowned by the Howl yet I heard something like chaunting & was told it proceeded from a woman hired for the purpose who was rehearsing in rhyme the virtues & hospitality of the Deceased.<sup>69</sup>

I had an introductory Letter to Miss Hutchins<sup>70</sup> who is well known by her numerous Discoveries in Natural History, & which I immediately sent by a Messenger to Ballylickey about 3 Miles distant. By the return of the

Messenger we received a polite & pressing invitation from her Mother, Brother & Self to spend tomorrow with them. After Dinner we strolled along the Banks of the Bay where in half an hour I left my companions & returned to our Inn having several Plants to lay out as well as a good deal of letter writing & journalising to do which employed me till ½ past 11 when I went to Bed. [p.34]

*Monday July 17th*

A younger Brother of Mr. Hutchins's who is now on a visit to his Friends from College<sup>71</sup> called on us just as we were getting into our Carriage & conducted us to Breakfast at Ballylickey. The House surrounded by a Plantation of Trees is delightfully situated at the head of a small Cove about three Miles North of Bantry & commands a beautiful prospect of the Bay & its surrounding Mountains. I busied myself till Noon in looking over a part of Miss Hutchins's extensive & well arranged collection of Algae & we then, accompanied by her younger Brother, embarked on board the Family pleasure Boat for a Sail on the Bay. We landed on rather a large Island called Whittie [Whiddy] the Shores of which are very Steep & Rocky & I there gathered several Marine Algae which I never saw growing before.<sup>72</sup> [p.35] Since the French appeared on this Coast the summit of the Island has been strongly fortified as have also many others of the numerous Islands in this heavenly Bay. When we reembarked about three in the afternoon there was a fresh but not favourable Breeze & the different Tacks which we were consequently obliged to make afforded us a delightful variety of views. We returned to Ballylickey & after Dinner employed ourselves till 10 O Clock in examining different Parts of Miss Hutchins's extensive Collections.

The master of the Family at Ballylickey is Mr. Thomas Hutchins who about 10 years ago lost the use of his Limbs so that he is obliged to be carried from one Room to another, & with

him an aged Mother & his Sister reside. The liberality, politeness & hospitality of all these we have great [p.36] cause to remember & Miss Hutchins amazed me by the extent & depth of her botanical knowledge. She naturally possesses very strong senses & pleasing unaffected manners, & having expected to see something of the Lady Wilson kind,<sup>73</sup> I was surprised to find her aged not more than 30,<sup>74</sup> & her Person far from ordinary. It was past 11 O Clock when we got back to our Inn where I was again gratified by receiving another Letter informing me of the welfare of my Family.

*(The Kerry portion of Dillwyn's diary which follows at this point is here omitted. The diary resumes as he is leaving Killarney en route to Millstreet.) [p.81]*

*Thursday July 27th*

We rose & were ready to start at 6 O Clock this morning but it was 7 before our Luggage was properly stowed in the car which we had hired for the purpose of conveying it. We then bid good by to Mr. Woods<sup>75</sup> & our Landlord whose House we all agreed to recommend whenever an opportunity offers. After a sultry & fatiguing walk<sup>76</sup> of 6 Irish Miles we reached a wretched Hovel called an Inn which is the only House of Entertainment between Killarney & Mill Street. We expected as it is a regularly licensed Inn that we should have found things tolerably comfortable, but there are only two Rooms one of which is used to cook Victuals, feed Pigs &c. & the other is a Bed Room. We were shown into the latter & there made a Breakfast on new Potatoes, Eggs & Milk which with Water from a neighbouring River are the only Eatables or Drinkables of any kind that the House affords. After Leach had bathed & I rested myself nearly an hour we again set out & reached Mill Street about ½ past 3, but tho' [p.82] the distance from Killarney is only 15 Irish or about 20 English Miles yet the Weather was so sultry & the Road so excessively dusty that we found ourselves greatly fatigued. The

Road is new & so remarkably straight that it appeared in a Line before us all the way.<sup>77</sup> but the most remarkable thing is that all the Bridges are whimsically built as crooked as possible.

The Country through which we passed except in the immediate neighbourhood of Killarney is very uninteresting & not a Tree was to be seen altho' it is said that the whole Country was so thickly wooded a Century ago that a Squirrel might pass from Killarney to Cork by leaping from Bough to Bough.<sup>78</sup> I saw no rare Plants except *Bartsia viscosa* & *Euphorbia hyberna* which grow almost everywhere in the Counties of Cork & Kerry, & *Utricularia minor* which we found in a Bog by the Road side about 2 Miles from Killarney.

Mill Street is a small Town or rather Village which has nothing to boast of except the best Inn that we have met with in any of the small Irish Towns, & we were told that 50 years ago it was reckoned the best [p.83] in the whole Kingdom.<sup>80</sup> Here as in every other Town & Village there is a Barrack for two or three Companies of Infantry it having been found that no Law can be at all enforced in Ireland without the assistance of a Bayonet. We were a good deal diverted with the pranks of a recruiting Party, one of whom dressed as a Zany<sup>81</sup> chased the Crowd about with a small Cushion which was suspended by a long String from the end of a Stick, & the remainder of the Party were fitted out to Burlesque a Military Band. The Cymbal Man with a pair of Pewter Plates, & the time Drummer with an old Tin Kettle had their faces sooted & were ornamented to *imitate* the Duke of Yorks Blacks, & the appearance of the rest of the Band was equally ridiculous & absurd. They afterwards made a Dance in the Street but our Boots told me that they got no recruits & added 'We a'nt gulled so aisy'. In the Evening we dispatched a Messenger to Mallow with orders to bring a Chaise tomorrow, & being a good deal fatigued retired to Bed soon after 8. [p.84]

*Friday July 28th*

Such a Flight of Hawks & Pidgeons in the

shape of Counsel & their Clients arrived at the Inn on their way from Tralee Assizes that we were obliged to admit three of the former into our Sitting Room, & as the morning was too wet for walking they served to make it pass very pleasantly. The Servant Maid whose arrival at Killarney under a Military Escort I have before mentioned also arrived here on her return protected by a Kings Messenger & a party of the 1st. Dragoon Guards.<sup>82</sup> She is a pretty young Girl & seemed delighted with the idea that the Murderer on her Evidence would suffer for his crime next morning. He is to be hung with Murphy the murderer of Mr. Tisdall<sup>83</sup> who whilst on his Trial struck one of the Evidences from the Dock & appeared so hardened after having received Sentence as to have shocked the whole Court. His Body is to be given for Dissection to the County Hospital which in this Country is dreaded more than hanging & even this Monster has petitioned to be allowed Christian Burial!

The Chaise for which we had sent to Mallow arrived soon after 12 & enabled us to proceed on our Journey at 2 O Clock. The Country thro' which we passed till we [p.85] arrived within 4 Miles of Mallow is very tame but it then becomes woody & is far more beautiful. The Ruins of a large Castle called Drumaneene which is said once to have been very strong forms a handsome object from the Road.<sup>84</sup> It was about ½ past 6 when we reached Mallow & therefore so late when we had finished Dinner that as my Cold was still a good deal troublesome I did not think it prudent to venture out.<sup>85</sup> It seems to be a rather large & good Town, but the King[s] Arms at which we quartered & which is the first Inn, is not half so clean or comfortable as that at Mill Street.

*Saturday July 29th*

Mallow is noted for its hot & cold Spa & Mineral Springs & may be considered as the Cheltenham of Ireland.<sup>86</sup> The People at our Inn told us that the town is full of Visitors & of

this there is every appearance for in a rather long walk which we took before Breakfast we found the Roads in the neighbourhood thronged with Chaises, Jaunting Cars & Equestrians. We stopt & drank a Glass or two both of the *mineral water* & of the *Spa* the former of which Mr. Leach thinks is impregnated with Sulphate & the latter with [p.86] carbonate of Iron. After Breakfast we rambled in & about the Town for two hours & visited the Ruins of its Castle<sup>87</sup> which are very handsome & beautifully situated at the Entrance to the Grounds of Denham Jephson,<sup>88</sup> Esq. We walked into the Park which is small but pretty & close to the old Castle. I saw a House which from its shabby appearance I mistook for that of his Steward<sup>89</sup> but on enquiry found that it is the Mansion of Mr. Jephson himself who appears to be as unpopular as is possible in this his native Country. If report says true he is a sort of Tom Morgan<sup>90</sup> who delights to dine with others but very rarely gives a Dinner himself, & I wonder how he got into Parliament for he seems too stingy to purchase & too disliked to obtain a Seat in any other manner. In the neighbourhood of Mallow I found no rare Plant besides *Sedum rupestre*<sup>91</sup> which grows plentifully about the old Castle.

At 12 we set out for Mitchelstown in a Chaise which of all that I had ever seen was the very worst — the Panels were broken — the Lining was [p.87] torn to pieces & covered with filth & there were but three instead of four Glasses to the Windows, & only one Door would open. When we had gone a short distance I complained to our Driver & told him that his whole Apparatus would scarcely sell in London for three half pence. An Irishman, especially when he expects to get something by you will never contradict anything, & he therefore said it was likely enough but added 'and yet wasn't the Carriage all the morning at the Coachmakers to make it *aisie* for your Honour'. It is true enough that when we complained at Mallow of the Chaise not being

ready we were told it was repairing but what on Earth the Coachmaker could possibly have done to it I am at a Loss to imagine.

Immediately on leaving Mallow the Gualtee [Galtee]<sup>92</sup> Mountains appear in the Distance, but the Country thro' which we passed was not at all particularly interesting. When we had travelled about eight or nine Miles we passed thro' a small Town or Village called Kildorery where we were grieved to see the still smoking Ruins of a long Row of [p.88] Houses which had been burnt the preceding Night. The entrance into Mitchelstown thro' the extensive & well wooded Demesne of Lady Kingston<sup>93</sup> is very handsome, & the Mansion<sup>94</sup> which stands on a declivity with the River below commands a fine view of the surrounding Park & of the Gualtee Mountains. Whilst our Dinner was preparing we strolled about the Town, which consists principally of one wide Street lined with tolerably good Houses, but I was most pleased with the appearance of a row of rather handsome Tenements at the edge of the Park in the centre of which is a Chapel. They were built by the first Earl of Kingston for the support of 12 decayed gentlemen & as many decayed Ladies each of whom received £40 per Annum & a Chaplain also receives a hundred a year for the performance of daily service in the Chapel.<sup>95</sup> I thought I never saw a place that appeared more comfortable, or so far as I could judge a set of Inhabitants who appeared more content & happy.<sup>96</sup> Till we arrived here there has been no established charge for posting by the Mile but the Landlord makes [p.89] as good a Bargain as he can by the Job. From Mill Street to Mallow which is 17 Miles we were charged £1.14.1½ & £1.8.2 from thence to this place, of which the distance is 14 Miles. For this last Stage I gave the Driver 4 ten pennies which I was informed is 10 more than he usually receives & for which he thanked me most humbly & wished 'long life to my Honor', but added 'indeed its less than I ever received

before'. I was angry & calling him a Rascal told him he wished to impose on me to which the fellow coolly answered 'Heaven bless your Honor I'm perfectly satisfied but all you English Travellers are so liberal that I thought to be sure I should have got six shillings'. This is constantly the case with every Irishman & they at every turn try to cheat you but mostly in this *civil* way, & two Drivers following used almost exactly the same words.

It was our intention to have stopped & ascended the Gualty Mountain from this Town, but my Cold was so troublesome & we heard so much of Murders & robbery in the neighbourhood<sup>97</sup> that we determined on proceeding without delay to Clogheen. Our Chaise [p.90] from Mitchelstown was still worse than the last & I never before saw such a mass of rags & tatters in the shape of a Carriage. Neither of the Glasses had any String by which they could be pulled up, nor did they at all fit the Windows so that I feared they would fall out, & one of them had scarcely any Frame. Yet tho' there is no Post Horse Duty in Ireland we were charged for this miserable vehicle 16 pence a Mile, & if there had been three of us the charge would have been 19½ d.

We passed thro' a small Town called Ballyporeen, & saw many handsome Seats by the road side of which that of Lord Lismore has the most extensive Grounds.<sup>98</sup> When we left Mitchelstown the Gualty Mountains were near us on the left, & those of Kilworth soon appeared at a short distance on the Right, together forming a fine mountainous tract. We arrived at Clogheen at ½ past seven & were driven to a comfortable & commodious Inn. It is a small but tolerably neat Town, about which we walked till our Tea was ready, & afterwards when we had finished our Journals retired to Bed at ½ past 11. [p.91]

#### *Sunday July 30th*

We were called at ½ past 3 & at four set off in a Chaise for Clonmel. The Country thro' which we passed was far more interesting than

any we had seen since we left Killarney, & at the Bridge of Ardvinnane [Ardfinnan] we admired the Ruins of a Castle situated on the top of a Rock which seemed to be marble.<sup>99</sup> When we had gone about 8 Miles we drove by the side of Lord Donoughmore's Grounds<sup>100</sup> & from thence to Clonmel the Country is truly beautiful. It was scarcely ½ past 6 when we reached Clonmel where Mr. Leach meant to have taken a place in the Dublin Mail but he changed his Mind & determined on accompanying me to Swansea. We therefore secured places in the Waterford Mail which starts at 9 in the morning, & having Breakfasted we strolled about the Town which is I think the largest & the best of any we have seen since we left Cork. The Assizes for the County of Tipperary were to be held here next day & we saw the Sherriff set out in state to meet the Judges. The Javelin Men cut an odd figure being all wrapped up in large great coats tho' the weather was very hot & dressed in large Livery Cocked Hats turn'd to one side *al la* [p.92] *militaire*. In consequence of the disordered state of the Country we heard that the Jail is crowded with Felons belonging principally to two hostile Factions called Caravets & Shanavelts [*sic*] into which the Peasantry are unhappily split, & of these the former wear a large Neckcloth & the latter a ragged Waistcoat as their distinguishing Badges.<sup>101</sup> When an Irishman for his *recreation* attends a Fair he always carries a Cudgel with which to break as many heads as possible is his greatest delight; & it was in Clonmel Fair that this Feud which has now spread so wide is said to have originated. They frequently murder those who attempt to oppose them as well as one another, & almost every Night they break open some House in search of Arms but whether they collect them for the purpose of attacking each other, or to subvert the Government has not yet, I believe, been clearly ascertained.<sup>102</sup>

I saw almost everywhere so many articles of French Manufacture that I am inclined to fear there is too much communication between this

Country & France, & I particularly remarked that an Almanack printed at *Marseilles* for the present Year was nothing at all extraordinary.

It appeared to me from their looks that many of the miserable Wretches who we saw prostrate in Killarney Cathedral<sup>103</sup> at the same [p.93] time that they were receiving remission of Sins for the past week were planning others for the next, & that many of them would with less hesitation rob or even commit Murder than omit one superstitious Rite at Mass. Of this I had here some proof, for having given the Clogheen Driver a Guinea from which he was to bring me some change, the Rascal set off & kept out of the way till the Mail, in which he knew I had taken my place, was gone. I sent after him, & he was discovered busy with his Beads at Mass, but tho' the Messenger told him I was just going, he refused to move from his Devotions or restore his Plunder. To their Religion in my opinion at least half the Robberies in Ireland may be attributed for the Rogues with a small part of their Plunder purchase absolution & then keep the remainder without any fear of endangering their Souls hereafter.

The Mail Coach in which we set off for Waterford had two Guards & the Coachman told us that he has still three Slugs in his Body which he received from the Blunderbuss of a Robber. Mr. Leach preferred riding in the Box & I was stowed in the Inside with the following fellow Passengers — 1st. a Mr. Wilder<sup>104</sup> the son of a Revd. Doctor who was travelling for his pleasure & I found [p.94] him an extremely pleasant Companion. The second was an American who had served in the English Army in Ireland, but has now settled in Limerick County, & he proved to be well informed & very good humoured. The third was a holy Father with a bloated countenance & scarlet Gills, but who both in loyalty & liberality seemed rather above the common run of his Tribe. Recently committed Atrocities form a general subject for conversation in these parts,

& I heard of so many Murders that I began to believe what a Gentleman told me at Cork was literally true. On looking over an Irish Paper I had happened to remark what a great number of Atrocities it recorded when he told me that even Murder is so frequent that it is rarely noticed unless the sufferer was a Gentleman, or the perpetration attended with some interesting particulars.

The Road from Clonmel to Carrick passes thro' a mountainous, well wooded & delightfully diversified country, which is ornamented with numerous handsome Villas. I think it well worth a Traveller's while to go several Miles round rather than miss seeing the beautiful Scenery which this Road every where commands. We stopped to change Horses at Carrick which is a large and [p.95] straggling but tolerably good Town. It contains an immensely large square plot of bare earth regularly surrounded on all sides with the most wretched Hovels as if intended to burlesque this fashionable mode of erecting Houses. There is also the remains of an old Castle which formerly belonged to the Duke of Ormond, & is now occupied by one of the Family named Butler.<sup>104a</sup>

The Country between Carrick & Waterford is very beautiful, & the Road commands some fine Views of the River Suire but I do not think these at all equal to those of the last Stage. We passed by the House & fine Park of Lord Besborough<sup>105</sup> & on the opposite side of the River we saw part of the magnificent Demesnes of Curraghmore the Seat of the Marquis of Waterford.<sup>106</sup> We reached Waterford at a little after three & the Priest pointed out to us the Ruins of 61 Hovels which formed a Street near the Hall where the Assizes are held. They had been burnt on Friday & the Fire obliged the Judges who were then trying some Caravats to quit the Court, but suspecting that it was purposely made to facilitate the Escape of the Prisoners they gave orders for securing them which proved effectual. We were told that

Seven were yesterday condemned & that 40 [p.96] more of the deluded Wretches remain in the Jail to be tried by a Special Commission!<sup>107</sup>

Mr. Wilder whom I have before mentioned being on his way to Wales requested to make Party with us, & we together enjoyed an excellent Dinner at the Commercial Hotel which is almost the best Inn I ever met with. One of the Mail Guards who I was fool enough to think honest because at Clonmel he had been active in endeavouring to recover my change from the Clogheen Driver here played me a nearly similar trick & set off with four tenpennies which I could not recover! Whilst we were at Dinner a Waterman came in & begged us to let him have the Honor of conveying us in his Boat to Cheek Point as he assured us that a Packet would positively sail at 7 o Clock. We agreed to give him half a Guinea which was what he demanded, on his promising that neither he or his Men should ask for anything more, & then suffered ourselves to be hurried away & were rowed down the River, the Banks & windings of which are very beautiful. About 7 we reached Cheek Point & then to our great surprize found there was no Packet in the River! The Boatmen [p.97] pretended they had been deceived in Waterford, but the fact was that they wanted a Job & neither knew nor cared any thing about the Packet & the People at Cheek Point told us it is their common Trick. We hesitated whether we should pay them, & they certainly should not have had a stiver from me, but my Companions yielding to their importunity at length gave them the half guinea accompanied with a good deal of richly merited abuse. The more however that we abused them the more civil the Rascals were, & as soon as they had got the half guinea they exerted all their rhetorick to induce us to give them still more — 'Just a drop o' something to drink your Honors health' — till finding us inexorable they suddenly took to their Boat & rowed off. It was no pleasant thing to spend the Night at the vile dirty Inn

at Cheek Point, but as it began to rain hard we thought it preferable to returning to Waterford & therefore making the best of our bad Bargain we ordered some Tea & retired early to Bed.

#### *Monday July 31st*

I rose about 5 o Clock from a horribly hard Straw Mattress, all the better Beds having been preengaged by other Company, & found [p.98] that two Packets had just arrived one of which would sail again as soon as the tide served. At ½ past 9 the following passengers embarked on board the Berwick Packet, Capt. Steele — A Conought Lady with her Nursery Maid & 5 Children & her Brother who served as their Escort; a very pleasant rattling young Man of Fortune named Croker from Mallow<sup>108</sup> with his Servant; a younker on his way to Marlow College;<sup>109</sup> our party consisting of Mr. Wilder, Mr. Leach & myself. The Vessel immediately dropt down the River, & passed between the two small Towns of Passage in Waterford County, & Ballyhack in the County of Wexford, which are prettily situated on the opposite shores of the River. We soon afterwards passed Duncannon Fort which is a strong fortification built on a projecting Rock,<sup>110</sup> & on the other side of the River we saw New Geneva Barracks<sup>111</sup> forming an extensive Range of Buildings. Till we had passed the Fort the sailing had been delightful, but the Haven there becomes much wider & the Tide & Wind sitting in opposite directions occasioned a heavy Sea which made the Packet rowl & pitch so terribly that before we passed the Light House [p.99] at Hook Point every Passenger was Sea Sick except myself. I held out & kept on Decks till after five o Clock, when the same befell me, & with an emptied Stomach I soon after went to Bed.

#### *Tuesday August 1st*

After a comfortable night's sleep I woke about four & was rejoiced to hear from the Steward that we had arrived at the entrance of Milford Haven, & soon after 5 o Clock we were safely landed at the Town. With some difficulty we



got our Luggage cleared from the Custom House in time for the Swansea Mail, in which we set out at ½ past 7, & at 8 in the Evening my Journey ended.

## NOTES AND REFERENCES

- 1 G.J. Lyne, 'Lewis Dillwyn's visit to Kerry, 1809', in *Kerry Arch. and Hist. Soc. Jn.*, 15-16 (1982-3) 83-111.
- 2 See *Dict. of Nat. Biog.* under 'Dillwyn, Lewis Weston'.
- 3 Woods' diary is today held by Cambridge University Library (Add. MS 4342). The authorship of the diary, which is anonymous, was identified by Professor Michael Mitchell of University College, Galway, whom I wish to thank for having brought it to my attention.
- 4 See *Dict. of Nat. Biog.* under 'Leach, William Elford'.
- 5 *Littorina littoralis* (Flat wrinkle).
- 6 The Irish currency continued to fluctuate against the British until 1826, when the two were finally amalgamated. Dillwyn's estimates of their relative values in 1809 would seem to have been correct (See F.J. Hall, *The Bank of Ireland 1783-1946* (Dublin 1949) 106-109.)
- 7 Waterford's bridge, designed by Lemuel Cox of Boston and completed in 1794, was constructed throughout of oak. The only bridge in the city spanning the Suir, it was over eight hundred feet long and rested on forty sets of piers. It continued to function as a toll bridge until the 1890s. (*Irish Builder*, xv (1873) 41; xxxiii (1891) 115; a contemporary illustration of the bridge appears *ibid.*, facing p. 105).
- 8 *Corydalis claviculata* (White climbing fumitory).
- 9 *Umbilicus rupestris* (Dandy pennywort).
- 10 Generic name of a moss.
- 11 A reference, presumably, to the classical comic dramatist of the name.
- 12 A light open two-wheeled carriage, usually drawn by two horses abreast.
- 13 Perhaps Samuel Hobson of Angleville, Co. Cork; graduate of TCD; called to the Irish Bar, 1778; (G.D. Burchaell and T.U. Sadleir, *Alumni Dublinenses* . . . (Dublin 1935) 403); also, E. Keane, P.B. Phaire and T.U. Sadleir, ed., *King's Inns admission papers 1607-1867* (Dublin 1982) 230).
- 14 Pale butterwort.
- 15 *Spergula arvensis* (Corn spurrey).
- 16 *Saxifraga spathularis* (St. Patrick's cabbage).
- 17 Dillwyn lists the following plants also encountered on the mountain: *Saxifraga stellaris* (Starry saxifrage); *Saxifraga hypnoides* (Mossy saxifrage); *Festuca vivipara* (Viviparous fescue); *Hymenophyllum tunbrigense* (Tunbridge filmy fern); *Rhodiola rosea* (Rose root). He also lists the following mosses, 'besides several of the more common species': *Bartramia ityphylla*; *Andreaea Rothii*; *Fontinalis squamosa*; *Hypnum splendens*; *Trichostomum fasciculare*; *Trichostomum lanuginosum*; *Trichostomum capillaceus*.
- 18 See below, nos. 97, 101.
- 19 Common gladiolus.
- 20 W. Camden, *Brittania* . . . translated from the edition published in 1607, enlarged by the latest discoveries by R. Gough (London, 1789).
- 21 Sharp rush.
- 22 Mountain pansy.
- 23 Divided sedge.
- 24 Striped venus (a bivalve).
- 25 *Lutraria lutraria* (Otter shell).
- 26 W. Wilson, *The post-chaise companion or traveller's directory through Ireland* (Dublin 1784-).
- 27 To feed a horse, esp. on a journey.
- 28 Blunt gaper (a shellfish).
- 29 Musk storksbill.
- 30 A garden plant.
- 31 The same tradition was recorded by another visitor to Youghal a year later (H. Townsend, *A general and statistical survey of the county of Cork* . . . (Dublin 1810) 621-2).
- 32 Castle Martyr was the seat of Henry Boyle, 3rd earl of Shannon. His residence, described as a 'spacious mansion' and 'truly noble seat' was built by his ancestor Henry, speaker of the Irish House of Commons, and stood in a demesne of one thousand acres, tastefully laid out in lawns and shrubberies (*ibid.*, 628; S. Lewis, *A topographical dictionary of*

- Ireland, I (Dublin 1837) 304; M. Bence-Jones, *Burke's guide to country houses: 1: Ireland* (London 1978) 72-3).
- 33 A reference to George Brodrick, 4th Viscount Midleton. The nobleman in question would seem at this period to have been an absentee. His family seat, Cahirmone, was, in any case, occupied by his agent. (Townsend, op. cit., 625; Lewis, op. cit., ii, 369.
- 34 That is, unclaimed.
- 35 Dunkathel (Dunkettle), Glanmire, Co. Cork, a fine Palladian style mansion built post 1780 by the wealthy Cork merchant and MP, Abraham Morris. Nearby Lota, another fine Palladian house, was built in 1765 to the design of Davis Duckart. There is a number of fine eighteenth and early nineteenth-century houses in this area (Bence-Jones, op. cit., 115-16, 191).
- 36 For a note on this bridge see Townsend, op. cit., 699-700.
- 37 Probably Whitley Stokes (1763-1845) doctor of medicine, who was at this time registrar of TCD.
- 38 Rev. Thomas Dix Hincks (1767-1857); Presbyterian minister; founder-member and secretary of Royal Cork Institution (See R. Desmond, *Dictionary of British and Irish botanists and horticulturists* . . . (London 1977) 310).
- 39 See below, n. 70.
- 40 The Royal Cork Institution was founded in 1802. It obtained a royal charter in 1807 and an annual grant of £2,000 from the government. Professors were appointed and lectures given in Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Natural History and Agriculture, and a library and botanic garden established. The government grant was withdrawn in 1830 and the Institution finally became defunct in 1845, when its collections, etc., were transferred to the new Queen's College (see this *Journal*, xliii (1943) 53-4; also, Townsend, op. cit., 2nd ed., II (Cork 1815) 172-84).
- 41 James Drummond (c. 1784-1863) of Hawthornden, Midlothian; curator, Botanic Gardens, Cork (1809-29). See Desmond, op. cit., 196.
- 41a See below, n. 46.
- 42 He adds that they there saw *Dianthus plumarius* (Common pink) growing 'rather plentifully', and also *Hypericum dubium* [*Hypericum maculatum Cranta*] (Imperforate St. John's wort).
- 43 Situated in the South Mall.
- 44 Probably the future Rev. William Hincks (1794-1871) professor of Natural History at Queen's College, Cork (1849-53). See Desmond, op. cit., 310). He adds that Hincks showed them *Sedum dasyphyllum* (Thick-leaved stonecrop) growing at Sundays Well and *Sedum rupestre* (See below, n. 91) 'on the Bason Rocks'.
- 45 Modern Mardyke.
- 46 Hawksbeard (family Compositae). Four species are noted as native to Ireland (see M. Scannell and D. Synott, *Census catalogue of the flora of Ireland* (Dublin 1972). Earlier Dillwyn expresses the belief that this specimen belonged to the 'same Genus' as *Crepis tectorum*.
- 47 *Pimpinella major* (Greater Burnet saxifrage).
- 48 Built by the citizens of Cork in 1582 to guard against pirates, Blackrock castle was a frequent venue in the early nineteenth century for civic receptions. The original castle was destroyed by fire in 1827 (See this *Journal*, xx (1914) 168-75; xxi (1915) 102).
- 49 Probably James Abel (1751-1818), a Quaker merchant of Cork. His diaries are today preserved in the archive of the Society of Friends in Dublin. For note on Abel see O.C. Goodbody, *Guide to Irish Quaker records 1654-1860* . . . (Dublin 1967) 125.
- 50 Cooper Penrose (1736-1815), head of a wealthy Cork Quaker family. His imposing mansion, Woodhill, situated on the wooded north bank of the Lee, was completed c. 1780 (For a detailed study of Penrose and his family see H. Read, 'The Penroses of Woodhill', in this *Journal*, lxxxv (1980) 79-98).
- 51 This agrees with Townsend's estimate based on the hearth-money returns. (*Statistical survey*, 1st ed., 700).
- 52 Erected by the citizens of Cork on Tuckey's Bridge, Grand Parade, in 1762, the statue was removed in 1867 (A. Ó Coindealbháin, 'The walls of Cork', in this *Journal*, xlviii (1943) 62; also, note by H. Ryan, *ibid.*, xlix (1944) 60).
- 53 Rose of Sharon.
- 54 Irish spurge.

- 55 Source not identified.
- 56 *Parentucella viscosa* (Yellow bartsia).
- 57 Wild madder.
- 58 i.e., Inchidoney.
- 59 Both the scientific labels above are now obsolete. They probably refer to chafers and dung beetles, respectively.
- 60 Sea spleenwort.
- 61 White sedge.
- 62 A moss.
- 63 In a marginal note he seems to identify this beetle as *Ptinus* [*?fatidicus*] (Spider-beetle?) of Linnaeus or *Dermestes tessellatus* (Death-watch beetle) of Fabricius.
- 64 Lewis notes the existence at Dunmanway of 'a chalybeate spring which is efficacious in cutaneous [i.e., skin] diseases', and notes also nearby a 'small but very beautiful lake in which Sir Richard Cox was drowned' (op. cit., 1, 586). In the 1840s Dunmanway is listed among the watering places of Co. Cork 'in little estimation at the present day'. (A. Knox, *The Irish watering places* . . . (Dublin 1845) 156-7).
- 65 Castle Donovan, which stands at the head of a glen on the roadside half-way between Bantry and Dunmanway. It consists of a tall square keep on a low rock and probably dates from the sixteenth century (J. Coleman, 'The old castles of south-west Cork', in this *Journal* xxvii (1922) 63-6, which includes an illustration of the castle).
- 66 Dillwyn adds at this point that 'In a Bog near the top of a Hill about two Miles from Dunmanway' he gathered the following plants: *Utricularia intermedia* (Intermediate bladderwort); *Carex curta*; *Pinguicula lusitanica*; *Saxifraga umbrosa*; *Bartsia viscosa* (which grew 'on every heath'); *Euphorbia hyberna* (which was 'very abundant'); *Hymenophyllum tunbrigense*; *Splachnum ampullaceum* and *Sphagnum capillifolium* (mosses); *Carex limosa* (Bog sedge); *Carex dioica* (Diocious sedge) and *Lobelia Dortmanna* (Water Lobelia) which 'abounds in a large lake by the Road side', about three miles from Bantry (presumably Lough Bofinna).
- 67 Variouslly termed in English, clegs, horseflies or gadflies.
- 68 Source not identified.
- 69 Dillwyn's account, above, strongly resembles the description given by Croker, writing a decade or so later, of the prodigious crowds customarily attending the funeral of 'an opulent farmer or a resident landlord'. Croker, however, adds that 'everyone who meets the procession, turns to accompany it, let his haste be ever so great, for a mile or two, as nothing is accorded more unlucky or unfriendly than to neglect doing so'. (T. Crofton Croker, *Researches in the south of Ireland illustrative of . . . the manners . . . of the peasantry* (London 1824) 171-3).
- 70 Ellen Hutchins (1865-1815) algologist and bryologist (for notes on her and her family see 'Dillwyn's visit to Kerry', loc. cit., 86).
- 71 Probably Samuel Hutchins, b. 1787; enrolled TCD, 1807; called Irish Bar 1818. (Burtchaell and Sadleir, *Alumni Dublinenses*, 422).
- 72 He lists the following algae: *Fucus tomentosus* [*Codium tomentosum*]; *Fucus esculentus* [*Alaria esculenta*]; *Conferva paradoxa* [*Enteromorpha paradoxa*]. He also notes that the 'red variety of *Anthyllis vulneraria*' (Kidney vetch) was plentiful on the island and elsewhere in the neighbourhood, and that they found there several molluscs new to them.
- 73 Source not identified.
- 74 She was, in fact, aged twenty-four.
- 75 Woods, who had undertaken the tour partly for the restoration of his health, decided to remain in Killarney for some weeks. He subsequently undertook an extended tour of the west of Ireland.
- 76 The travellers had failed to secure one of only three carriages in Killarney because, as Dillwyn says, they could be more profitably hired out by their owners 'for pleasuring about the lakes' (See 'Dillwyn's tour of Kerry', loc. cit., 82-3, 110).
- 77 The early roads in these areas were primarily military in purpose and were 'laid out in straight lines without any reference to the nature of the country', running 'directly over hill and valley from one military point to another'. Very steep gradients were common (S. O Lúing, 'Richard Griffith and the roads of Kerry', in *Kerry Arch. and Hist. Soc. Jn.*, 8 (1975) 98). For this reasons they were popularly known as 'gunbarrel' roads.
- 78 Variants of this tradition employing the motif of the squirrel are common in the folk memory of

many areas within these islands. In the case of the Killarney-Cork area it would seem to have some foundation in fact (E. Mc Cracken, *The Irish woods since Tudor times* (Newton Abbot 1970) 47).

79 Lesser bladderwort.

80 Dillwyn's opinion of the Millstreet inn is corroborated by no less a personage than Daniel O'Connell who claimed that in his youth it was 'by far the Best inn in Munster'. It was kept by his cousin Mrs. Cotter and was 'the regular end of the first day's journey' from Tralee to Cork. The improvement of the roads, however, later led to its decline. (W.J. O'Neill Daunt, *Personal recollections of . . . Daniel O'Connell . . .* (London 1848) 149).

81 Clown.

82 The girl and her escort had earlier been encountered by Dillwyn in Killarney. She was a witness in the trial of Michael Mulvahill for the murder of James Wall and John Scanlan (See 'Dillwyn's visit to Kerry', loc. cit., 101).

83 The Rev. Fitzgerald Tisdall, rector of Kenmare, etc., was murdered at the Priest's Leap, between Bantry and Kenmare, on Palm Sunday, 26 March 1809 (*ibid.*, 87-8).

84 Dromaneen, a late Tudor castle of the O'Callaghans, occupies a 'strikingly bold' position on a rock above the Blackwater, c. three miles west of Mallow (H.F. Barry, 'The manor and castle of Mallow . . .', in this *Journal*, iiA (1893) 43-4).

85 Dillwyn developed a 'violent cold' on arrival in Kenmare, ten days previously.

86 Mallow developed as a fashionable watering place in the early eighteenth century. The waters were considered particularly efficacious for consumptive and scrofulous conditions (Lewis, op. cit. ii, 339; also, K. Myers, 'The Mallow spa', in *Mallow Field Club Jn.*, 2 (1984) 5-17; also, C. Cooper, 'A note on Mallow spa', *ibid.*, 18-19).

87 Mallow castle, belonging to the earls of Desmond, played a prominent part in the Elizabethan and Cromwellian wars. It was rendered uninhabitable in 1689. See J. Copps, 'Historic walk through Mallow', loc. cit., 1 (1983) 19; also, Bence-Jones, op. cit., 199-200; Lewis, op. cit., II, 338.

88 Denham Jephson 'the Younger' (d. 1813), MP for Mallow (1768-1812). Dillwyn's estimate of his

character contrasts sharply with that of a recent commentator who describes him as 'a kindly man . . . generous to a degree' (J. Copps, 'Mallow castle and the Jephson family', in *Mallow Jn.*, 3 (1985) 47. Townsend states that Jephson's residence was 'celebrated for the . . . neat and admirable arrangement of the grounds' (op. cit., 1st ed., 515).

89 This house was greatly enlarged and embellished by Jephson's successors in the 1830s (Lewis, op. cit., ii, 340; Copps, 'Mallow castle', loc. cit., 48-9).

90 Source not identified.

91 *Sedum anglicum* (English stonecrop).

92 Dillwyn's spelling is an accurate phonetical rendering of the original Irish.

93 Caroline, dau. of Richard Fitzgerald of Mount Ophaly, Co. Kildare; relict of Robt., 2nd earl of Kingston, who d. 1799.

94 Built in 1776 by Robt., 2nd earl of Kingston, on the site of the castle of the Geraldine White Knights, one of whom had married the first Lord Kingston. Not to be confused with the modern Mitchelstown Castle, built by the 3rd earl of Kingston in the 1820s (Bence-Jones, op. cit., 207).

95 This charity, known as Kingston or Mitchelstown College, was founded by James, 4th baron Kingston (1693-1761) who endowed it with a sum of £25,000. It was confined exclusively to members of the Established Church with preference being given to former Kingston tenants. (Townsend, op. cit., 1st ed., 532-3; Lewis, op. cit., ii, 373).

96 Dillwyn is here referring, not to the town in general, but to the inmates of the 'College'. Townsend observes with regard to Mitchelstown that 'the apparent is better than the real condition, as the suburbs and back lanes are full of very indigent inhabitants' (op. cit., 528).

97 These reports were correct. Armed bands, apparently connected with the 'Caravat' and 'Shanavest' movements, were actively engaged at this time in highway robberies, etc., especially in the neighbouring parts of Tipperary (see below, n. 101).

98 A reference to the seat of Cornelius O'Callaghan, 2nd Viscount Lismore (1775-1857) of

Shanbally, Clogheen, Co. Tipperary. Not to be confused with Shanbally Castle, which was built in 1812 (Bence-Jones, op. cit., 257).

99 Ardfinnan Castle, originally built by King John as lord of Ireland in 1185. It occupies a 'picturesque and elevated site' on a rock overlooking the Suir (C.A. Empey, 'The Norman period 1185-1500', in W. Nolan and T.G. Mc Grath, ed., *Tipperary: history and society* (Dublin 1985) 6-7); also, Lewis, op. cit., i, 50).

100 A reference to Knocklofty, an imposing eighteenth-century house, seat of Richard Hely-Hutchinson (1765-1825) 1st earl of Donoughmore (Bence-Jones, op. cit., 179).

101 The 'Caravat' and 'Shanavest' movements had roots in the contemporary social structure of rural Ireland far more complex than Dillwyn suspected. For a fascinating study of this subject see P.E. Roberts, 'Caravats and Shanavests: Whiteboyism and faction fighting in East Munster, 1802-11', in S. Clark and J.S. Donnelly, Jr., ed., *Irish peasants: violence and political unrest 1780-1914* (Manchester 1983) 64-101.

102 The contemporary Dublin press notes only the address of the presiding judge at the opening of Clonmel assizes. Lord Norbury adverted at length to the many cases of murder and violence on the calendar, and condemned the local gentry — who, he claimed, were themselves divided into factions — for failing to maintain order. (*Dublin Evening Post*, 5 Aug. 1809).

103 Dillwyn, while in Kerry, had out of curiosity attended Mass at Killarney Cathedral where he was much struck by sight of 'the whole Congregation . . . prostrate on the Stone Floor . . .' during the service ('Dillwyn's visit to Kerry', loc. cit., 100).

104 Perhaps a son of the Rev. Dr. Theaker Wilder (1717-92) of the family of Castle Wilder, Co. Longford. Only one of his four sons, Henry, may still have been living in 1809 (J.B. Leslie, *Raphoe clergy and parishes . . .* (Enniskillen 1940) 135).

104a The structure in question consists of a two-tower fifteenth-century castle adjoining a house built c. 1568 by Thomas Butler, 10th earl of Ormond (Bence-Jones, op. cit., 57).

105 Bessborough, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny, seat of Frederick Ponsonby, 4th Baron Bessborough

(1758-1844); a large house designed by Francis Bindon and built for Brabazon Ponsonby, 1st Earl of Bessborough, in 1744 (*ibid.*, 41).

106 Curraghmore, home of the De La Poer Beresford family, Marquesses of Waterford. (For note see *ibid.*, 97-8).

107 The contemporary Dublin press notes only that the presiding judge at Waterford assizes, Lord Norbury, in his opening address condemned 'outrages . . . committed by associations of ruffians under various denominations . . . such as Caravats and Shanavests, affecting to be hostile to each other but agreeing in . . . the defiance of all laws . . .' (*Dublin Evening Post*, 3 Aug. 1809).

108 Probably a member of the Croker family of Quartertown, near Mallow, one of whom, John Dillon Croker, m. (1811) Eliz., dau. of Wm. Roberts of Union Island, Co. Cork. (See 'The family of Croker', in *The herald and genealogist*, ed. J.G. Nichols, VIII (London 1874) 382. It is recorded that the family owned a flour mill in Mallow in the early nineteenth century (E. Bolster, *A history of Mallow* (Cork 1971) 63).

109 The Royal Military College was located at Marlow, Bucks., before moving in 1812 to Sandhurst.

110 For the history of this fort see P.J. Sinnott, 'Duncannon', in *Old Wex. Soc. Jn.*, 3 (1970-71) 63-80.

111 For information on the origin of New Geneva see H. Butler, 'New Geneva in Waterford', in *Roy. Soc. Antiq. Ire. Jn.*, 77 (1947) 150-155.

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