

‘ Vpon the 23. of August ’

from

The chronicle of Ireland.

Meredith Hanmer

in the yeare 1571

Upon the 23. of August, being *Saint Bartholomewes Eeve*, and yeere aforesaid, to wit, Anno 1170. *Richard*, surnamed *Strangbow* Earle of Strigulia (whose original and of-spring in another place hereafter (if God permit) shall bee laid downe) landed in the Haven of Waterford, where *Dermot Mac Morogh*, *Robert Fitz Stephens*, and *Maurice Fitz Gerauld*, and *Reimond le Grosse* met him, and joyned their forces together ? *Reimond le Grosse* was made generall of the field, they tooke small rest after their arrivall ; for upon *Bartholomew* day being tuesday, with Banners displayed, in good array they assaulted the City by water and by land, the townesmen manfully defended themselves, and gave them two repulses : *Reimond* having compassed the towne, espied without adjoyning unto the towne wall (where now standeth a strong Bulwarke) an old Cabban, propped with old timber, and entred into the old wall, the which proppes they sawed asunder, then downe falleth the cabban, and withall a great part of the wall: the breach thus made, the Brittaines doe enter, and in the streets kill man, woman and child, and there left them in heapes : In *Reignald* tower, upon the wall of the tower they found one *Reignald* (I take it the tower beareth the name of him) and *Omalaghlin Ophelim*, Lord of the Decies, whose lives *Dermot Mac Morogh* saved : they found there other two, whom they put to the sword, they rifled the houses, they ransacked the City, they made havoc of all, lastly they left there a strong ward. Then according to precedent covenants, *Dermot* gave his daughter *Eva* in marriage to *Richard Strangbow*, and after solemnity thereof, they all marched with their forces towards Dublin : For *Dermot* bear them a deadly hatred, and hitherto winked at them, untill further opportunity served, for the villany and cruelty they shewed to his father; the townsmen of Dublin foreseeing his revenging mind, procured to their aid as many as they could throughout the land, they trenched, they plashed in paces, streets and narrow places, all the wayes along to Waterford, to hinder their march. *Dermot* was not ignorant thereof, whereupon he led the army from out the common and beaten way, through the Mountaines of *Glandelogh*, and came safe to the walles of Dublin. There the Citizens sent messengers to in treat for peace, and amongst others, *Laurence O Toole* Archbishop of Dublin : while they parled without for peace, *Sir Remond le grosse* and *Sir Miles Cogan* scaled the wals ; for, saith *Cambrensis*, they were more desirous to fight under *Mars* in the field, then in the Senate to sit with *Jupiter* in Councill ; they made a breach, they enter the Citie, they put all to the sword : in the meane while, *Hastulphus* the Commander of the City, with a great many of the better sort, with their Riches and Jewels, escaped and fled by the Sea to the North Ilands.

When the Earle had spent a few dales in the towne, he left *Miles Cogan* Governour therof, and by the perswasion of *Dermot Mac Morogh*, he drew his forces into Meth to be avenged of *Ororicke*, whom some call *Morice*, some *Murdich*, who was the cause of his exile and whose wife *Dermot* had formerly taken away. The Earle no sooner entred the Countrey, but the Army was given wholly to the spoile ; they robbed, they spoiled, they burned, and wasted all before them : *Roderic* King of Conoght and Monarch of Ireland, seeing his neighbours house set on fire, thought it high time to looke to his owne, and wrotte to *Dermot Mac Morogh*, contrary to the order of Peace formerly concluded, thou hast procured and allured a swarme and multitude of strangers, to invade this land; all the while thou didst containe thy selfe within compasse of thine owne territories, we winked at thy proceedings, but forasmuch as now thou not caring for thy oath, nor regarding the safety of thy hostages, hast so fondly and falsly passed thy bounds, I require thee that thou wouldest retire, and withdraw these

excourses and inrodes of strangers, or else, to begin, I will not faile to cut off thy sonnes head, and send it to thee with speed.

Dermot despised the messenger, and would scarce vouchsafe to reade his letter ; upon the messengers returne, *Roderic* was mad, and in his rage, caused his pledges head, the sonne of *Dermott Mac Morogh* to be cut off. In this troublesome time, the Primate of Armagh called the Prelates and Clergie to a Synod ; at Armagh, assembled a Councell ; where, according to their wisdomes, they endeavoured to finde out the cause of these miseries that fell upon the land, they inquired not whether the Bishops had bought their Bishopricks for money, whether their Parsons did pray, whether their Ministers were lettered ; what whoredome, symony, or lechery, with other enormities, raigned among the Clergie, but simply, like themselves, posted over all to the Laytie, and concluded (*insipienter*) that the just plague fell upon the people, for merchandizing of the English nation ; for then they bought and sold of the English birth, such as found, and made them bondslaves ; so they served Saint *Patricke*, called the Apostle of Ireland, who was a bondman sixe yeeres in Ireland, but *Patricke* preached Christ, and the English nation reformed the land. Here the sacred letters reconcile all, *the stone which the builder refused, is become the corner stone, and why so ? the answer followeth and it is marvellous in our eyes.* But I may not so my Prelates, they synodically decreed as followeth : *that all the English men within the land, whatsoever they were should be manumised ; a worshipfull piece of worke, and no thanke to them all, for the English sword was ready to cut off the Irish heads : this reformation was but a sweeping of a house with a Foxes tayle.*

The prosperous successes of Earle *Richard*, surnained *Strangbow*, were no sooner effected, but fame flyed abroad, and flatterers carried it to *Henry* the seconds eares, and made him jealous, as Kings commonly are, that a subject as *Richard* was, should not onely in the right of his wife, content himselfe with Leinster, but most presumptuously without license, as the King alledged, attempt the conquest of a kingdome, where he formerly by grant of *Adrian*, was interessed. Whereupon the King in his jealous rage, indeavouring to stop the Springs and Water-courses, proclaimed : We, *Henry, &c. Forbid and inhibit, that from henceforth no shippe from any place of our dominion, shall traffique or passe into Ireland ; and likewise charge that all our subjects upon their dutie of allegiance, which are there commorant, shall returne from thence into England before Easter next following, upon paine of forfeiture of all their lands, and the persons so disobeying, to be banished our land, and exiled for ever.*

The Earle seeing himselfe in this distresse, being in perill to lose his friends, and to want his necessaries out of his native soile, by entercourse of Merchants, calleth a Councell ; where it was agreed and concluded, that Sir *Reimund Legrosse* should bee sent over to pacifie the King ; (who then was in Aquitaine) with these letters : *Most puissant Prince, and my dread Sovereigne, I came into this land with your Majesties leave and favour (as farree as I remember) to aide your servant Dermot Mac Morogh ; what I have wonne, was with the sword, what is given me, I give you, I am yours, life and living at your command.*

Upon the receipt of these letters, there fell of all sides, three disasters, the King was mightily incensed against Earle *Richard*, and therefore delayed Sir *Reimund Legrosse*, and gave him no answer; secondly, the death of Thomas, Archbishop of Canterbury troubled him exceedingly, and to helpe the readers memory the time, it was as the rime delivered),

*Annus millenus, centenus Septuagenus
Primus erat, primas quo ruit ense Thomas.*

The third was, that *Dermott Mac Morogh* a most bountifull Prince, died and was buried at Fernes.

Anno. 1171 *Hastulphus*, late Governour of Dublin (of whom I have formerly spoken) returneth, and entreth the haven of Dublin, with threescore saile to his aide, of Ilanders, Norwegians, and Esterlings, they forthwith landed, and unshipped themselves, and had to their Captaine, saith *Cambrensis*, one *John Wood*, some call him mad *John*, for the pranks he playd, for wood and mad beare one sense. *Stanihurst* calleth him *Pewood*, *Douling*, *Heywood*. They were all mighty men of warre, and well appointed after the Danish manner, being harnesssed with good Brigandines, jackes and shirts of maile ; their Shields, Bucklers, and Targets, were round, and coloured red, and bound about with iron, and as they seemed in armes, so were they no lesse in mindes ; iron-strong and mighty ; they marched in battaile array towards the East gate of the Citie. *Miles Cogan* the Governour, with a faire company (yet but a handfull to the number of the enemy, sallied forth, and gave them battaile, where both sides lost many a tall man. *Miles Cogan* seeing himselfe overlaid with the furious rage and multitude of his adversaries, gave backe, and retired into the towne ; by this time, *Richard Cogan* his brother had secretly issued out with a good company, at the South posterne gate, compassed the Danes, and being at the foot of the rereward, made mighty cry and shout, whereth the Danes were amazed, and the two brethren had the killing of them before and behinde. The Danes brake their array, threw their Armes away, fled towards their ships, where many also for haste were drowned. In this skirmish, *John Wood* was slaine, and *Hastulphus* taken prisoner, and put to his ransome. The prodigalitie of this *Hastulphus* was such, that he contented not himselfe with life, but braved and bragged of his exploits, in the hearing of *Miles Cogan*, and therewithal delivered, that that attempt was nothing, but a taste or prooffe of the Irish valour, and shortly, they should see another manner of forces assault them ; *What (saith Miles Cogan) is it not enough for him to have his life, but he must threaten us with further rebellion ; goe, take him, and cut off his head.* And thus the blabbe of his tongue, turned to his confusion.

Shortly after, the Irish and country birth, lying aloofe, wayting for all opportunities and understanding of some unkindnesse and displeasure conceived by King *Henry* the second, against Earle *Richard*, and in that quarrell generally against all the Brittaines and invaders of Ireland ; they put their heads together, they plot, they draw their draughts and devices, to lay siege to recover the Citie of Dublin, and the chiefest instrument was *Laurence O Toole*, Archbishop of Dublin, who wrote unto *Roderic*, King of Connaght, & unto *Gotred*, alias *Godfrey*, King of Man, and to all the Princes of Ireland, that it would please them (some in regard of neighbourhood, othersome in regard of naturall affection unto their native soile and distressed country men of Irish birth) put to their helping hand, join their forces together, lay siege to the Citie of Dublin by sea and by land, relieve their brethren, rid them from the Brittaines hands and restore them to their former liberty. The Bishop for the good opinion that was held of his learning, gravitie, and sanctitie, prevailed, insomuch, that *Gotred*, King of Man, came into the harbour of Dublin, with thirty saile. *Roderic* the Monarch and forces of Ireland came by land, and incamped within sight of the towne. Within the towne, were Earle *Richard Strangbow*, *Maurice Fitz Gerald*, *Remond Legrosse*, lately arrived from out of England, *Miles Cogan*, *Richard Cogan*, with other worthy men and Citizens, to the number of thirty thousand fighting men. As they were prepared for battaile, (as commonly one mischiefe falleth in the necke of another) *Donald*, the base sonne of *Dermot Mac Morogh*, came in post to the Earle, and delivered how that *Robert Fitz Stephens* in his Fort of Carreck by Wexford, was besieged with three thousand men of Wexford and Kinsele, by the conduct of *Donald*, Prince of Limeric, sonne in law to *Dermot Mac Morogh*, who before time in his extremity, and in the warres betweene him and *Roderic* the Monarch, for chiefery, (at the request of *Dermot Mac Morogh*, was relieved by *Robert Fitz Stephens*, and so aided, that he foiled his enemy ; and thus good is recompenced with evill. In this perplexitie and doubtfull danger, *Maurice Fitz Gerald* full of courage, turneth him to the Earle, and the martiall men in these words : you most valiant men, wee came not into this land, neither were we procured hither to be idle, or to live deliciously, but to try fortune, and to seeke adventures ; wee stood sometime upon the top of the wheele, and the game went of our side, now mee thinkes fortune

wheelles about, let us not be dismayed, for that which is low now, will be up againe, and so we must tarry and take our time ; such is the mutability among the sonnes of men, the fickle and uncertaine course of humane causes, so that prosperitie and adversitie, enterchangeably doe follow the one after the other. After day, commeth the night, and when the night is passed, the day dawneth againe ; the sunne riseth and spreads his beams over the face of the earth, holdeth his course to his fall, passeth the night season, and riseth againe ; we who before this time have made great triumphs, and had the wings of fortune to flye withall, and are now clouded and inclosed by our enemies on every side, our victuals are scant, the King our Sovereigne Lord frowneth upon us, we are barred of release by sea and by land, our friends cannot helpe us, our enemies are ready to devoure us : plucke up your hearts, if God be with us, we care not who is against us ; but alas my brother *Fitz Stephens*, whose valiantnesse, and noble enterprise brake the ice, and made way for us into this Iland, is now shut up in a weake hold, and feeble place, with wife and children, too weake and slender to keepe out so great a force. O trayterous *Donald* of Limiric, O trecherous and halfe-hearted people of Kensele and Wexford ! peace is war, truth is trechery, and truth is falshood among them: why then doe we tarry, why doe we linger? is there any hope of reliefe from our native soile ? no, no, the matter is now otherwise, and we our selves are presently in a worse case, for as our nation at this present is odious and hatefull unto the Irish men, so are we also misled with some disgrace in our country, wherefore in so much as fortune favoureth the forward and couragious, and discourageth the dastard and faint-hearted, while our wits are fresh, while our bodies are able, while wee are all on heart, let us give the on-set ; though we are not so many in number as they are, our courage and valour is knowne to exceed theirs, they are but naked wretches, and unarmed people. *Reimond Legrosse* immediately breaketh out in these speeches. My uncle *Maurice* hath gravely delivered his minde, he hath pithily advised us, and prudently councelled us : this is no time to sit in councell, to spend time in speeches, or to use delayes, the danger is at hand, the enemy is at the doore, wee are compassed by sea and by land, there is no flying, we must fight it out ; our provision is spent, England dares releeve us no more, Ireland defieth us, the Kings Maiestie (I know) dispraiseth not our activities, and yet graceth not our successes ; he discommendeth not our valour, yet envieth all our glory, though in words he reporteth well of our service, yet in deeds secretly hindereth the course thereof ; lastly, he feareth that which we meant not, and doubteth of that which we thinke not of ; wherefore all doubts and delaies set apart, let us, as becometh men of our sort, try the course of fortune, and prove the force of the enemy ; let that appeare unto them which is knowne unto us ; of what race we came, and of what stock wee are descended. *Camber* the first King of Cambria our native Country, was our Ancestor, and the sonne of that Noble *Brutus*, the first and sole Monarch of Brittain, whose Ancestor was *Troos*, the founder of that most antient City of Troy, who descended from *Dardanus* the son of *Jupiter*, from whom is derived unto us, not onely the stemme of antient Nobility, but also a certaine naturall inclination of valiant minds and couragious stomachs resolutely to follow all exploits of prowesse and chivalry ; and shall we now like sluggarts, degenerate from so noble a race, and like a sort of Cowards, be afraid of these naked and unarmed Raskals,, in whom there is no valour, by reason of knowledge or experience in Armes ? Shall such a rable of savages pinne us up within the wals of little Dublin? When in times past all the Princes in Greece kept warres the space of ten yeeres and odde months, against our Ancestors in the famous City of Troy ; and could not prevaile against them, untill they used treasons, and practised treacheries which bred unto them a more infamous victory, then a glorious Triumph? Let it never be said, that the blood of the Trojans shall be stained in our pusillanimity, and receive reproach by our peevish dastardy : Fortune, though she be pourtraied to be blind, as ever void of right judgement, and to stand upon a rolling stone, as being alwaies flitting and unconstant ; yet for the most part, shee helpeth such as be of couragious minds, & valiant stomachs ; you wil say, we are but a few, and the enemy infinit in number ; what then ? Victory consisteth not in multitudes, neither conquest in numbers : Did not *Thomiris* the *Scythian* Queen with hundreds, overthrow *Cyrus* with thousands, and tooke him and slew him? Did not *Laomedes* the Spartane encounter (having but foure thousand Souldiers) with mighty *Xerxes*, who brought

five hundred thousand to the field, and overthrew him? Did not *Alexander* with a few Macedonians overthrow *Darius*, the great Monarch of Persia? Did not he take him, his wife, and daughters prisoners, and make a Conquest of Persia? Have not wee in our persons (all praise be given to God, the giver of Victory) even you, right honorable Earle at Waterford, my uncle *Fitz Stephens* at Wexford, my selfe at Dondorogh with a few given many the foile; what remains, sith time shall sooner faile then matter want? let us like men shew resolute minds in this service. And to conclude, my mind then and opinion is, that we doe issue out upon them as secretly and as suddenly as we may, and give the onset.

And for so much as *Roderic* of Conoght, is the generall of the field, in whom lyeth the chieffest force, and on whom all the rest doe chiefly depend, it shall be best to begin with him, and if we can give him the overthrow, all the rest will flie, and we shall obtaine a glorious victorie; but if we shall fall into their hands and be slaine, yet shall we leave an honorable report and an immortall fame to our posteritie. He had no sooner ended his speech, but every man armed himselfe to goe forth, and give the onset: They divided the Army in three battailes; and although at the first, they contended for the Vanguard, yet quickly they were accorded and marched forward. *Reimond le Grosse* resolutely given, with twenty Knights, and souldiers well appointed, tooke the Vanguard. *Miles Cogan* with thirty Knights, and many a worthy warriour, kept, the maine battaile. Earle *Strangbow*, and *Maurice Fitz Gerrald*, with fourty Knights, Gentlemen and common souldiers, took the Rereward, in every ward were placed some of the Citizens, and other some with martiall men, left at home for the guard and safety of the City: early in the morning when the enemy was unarmed & out of order, little thinking that so few within durst attempt to give the onset to so many without, they fell upon them, killed without mercy, and the rere was so forward, that they came with the Vanguard by wheeling about to the slaughter of the enemy. *Rodric* all this while trusting to his troupes and multitude of people, feared nothing, he took his ease and pleasure, and was bathing himself; but when the larum was up, & that he saw his men on every side fall to the ground, never tarried, called for man nor Page to array him, but tooke his mantle and ranne away all naked, and hardly escaped with life. The Brittaines pursued after, and had the killing of them all that day, in the evening they returned into the City, not onely with the honour of the field, but rich booties, and praies of victuals, armour and other pillage, as much as man and beast could cary: Immediatly, also the rumor hereof, the other Campes were dispersed, namely, *Laurence* the Archbishop whom it had beseeemed better to have beene at home with porthouse, then in Cainpe with rebels) *Mathelan Machalem*, *Gillemehelmocus*, *Otuetol*, *Ororic* Prince of Meath, *Ocarol*, alias *Ocarvell* Prince of Uriell, *Mackfalin*, *Ochadese*, with many other great Commanders, where every man shifted for himselfe; of *Gotred*, alias *Godfray* King of Man that came by Sea, I find nothing, for upon this disaster he tooke him to the seas the next day, without any further deliberation; *Milies Cogan* is left to governe Dublin, and the Earle with his Army marched towards Wexford, to raise the siege at the Carreke, to relieve *Robert Fitz Stephens*; as he passed by Odrone, the forces of Leinster, by the conduct of *Donole Obrene* Prince of Limerik, and *Donald* Prince *Osery* set upon him, and fought a cruell fight, but he went on with the losse of one man. As he came to the borders of Wexford, certaine messengers met and informed him of the mischance that happened to *Rober Fitz Stephens*, and the firing of the Towne of Wexford; adding moreover that the Wexfordians were fully determined, if the Earle came any further towards them, they would cut off all the heads of *Fitz Stephens* and all his company, and send them unto him; whereupon with heavy cheere and sorrowfull heart lie changed his mind & turned to Waterford. But afore I proceede any further, I am to deliver the manner of the treachery and villany shewed unto *Robert Fitz Stephens*: *Donold* of Limric, sonne in Law to *Dermot Mac Morogh*, while his father lived, he was one that favoured the Brittaines, and not without cause; but now forgetting humanity returneth to his vomit, bends his course towards Wexford, and while other states of Ireland by East and by North, with might & maine practised the rooting out of the Brittaines, he flies to the South, and raiseth Wexford & Kensile to lay siege to the Carreke, the Fort of *Robert Fitz Stephens*. First they begin with force, and seeing that failed them, they fall to guiles and

subtilities, under color of peace, pretending nothing butt pure love, tender affection and safe-guard of his person, and all that were with him ; they bring with them two Bishops, the one of Kildare, the other of Fernes, in their formall moods, with other religious persons (O damned Prelats) and they had with them the Masse Booke, the host, with certaine Reliques ; upon these they take corporall oathes, and sweare with great solemnity and protestations as fol-loueth : (*For the good will and effection wee beare, unto you*) whom we have alwaies found a curteous and bountifull Prince, we are to signifie unto you this much ; how that Dublin is taken, *the Earle Strangbow, Manrice Fitz Girald, Reimond le Grosse, Miles Cogan*, with all the English are put to the sword, and now *Roderic* the Monarch, with all the power of Conoght and Leinter posteth hither to rase even with the ground, all the Forts, Holds, and Castles, which the Englishmen have, and especially to apprehend you *Robert Fitz Stephens*, and *William Not*, that were the forerunners into this land of all this mischief ; wherefore this for truth and be well advised what to doe, if they take you there is no mercy ; if you will put yourselfe with your company and goods into our hands, in the faith of Christianity we sweare we will safely transport you and yours unto Wales, so shall you not lose so much as a haire of your head ; wherefore the great Army being at hand, yeeld, come forth and shippe your selfe for Wals. *Robert Fitz Stephens* (who would not in this case give credit) yeelded himselfe into their hands, immediatly (more like Jewes then Christians) they strippe them out of all that ever they have, they hang one, they throw another over a rocke, they breake anothers necke, one hath his eyes puld out, another hath his tongue cut, some they scourge with thongs, other some they take, and with sledges breake their Armes and thighes, the greatest kindnesse they shew is iron and imprisonment, the which *Robert Fitz Stephens* endured ; now leaving these bloody Massacres and themselves, I will turne to Waterford after Earle *Strangbow*. When Earle *Strangbow* came to Waterford, he found there *Hervie Monte Marisco* newly arrived out of England, with letters from the King, requiring him forthwith to repaire unto his Majesty. *Strangbow* together with *Hervie* tooke the first wind and went for England, and found the King at Newham not farre from Glocester, where he was in readinesse with a great Army to saile out into Ireland, where after sundry altercations pas betweene them, at length (as they say) by meanes of *Hervy*, the Kings displeasure was appeased, and it was agreed that the Earle should sweare alleageance to the King, and yeeld and surender unto him the City of Dublin, with the Cantreds thereunto adjoining, as also such Townes and Forts as were bordering upon the Sea side, and as for the residue he should have and reteine to him and his heires, holding the same of the King and his heires.

Strangbow was no sooner knowne to be in England, and *Reimond* at Waterford, but *Ororic Monoculus* one eyed Prince of Meath, mustred a great number of Souldiers, and laid siege to the City of Dublin. *Miles Cogan* the Governour withall his companv (while the enemy was carelesse) upon a sudden issued out and fell upon them unawares, and made a great slaughter of them, among whom both *Ovoric* and his sonne were slaine.

In the British Chronicles copied by *Owen Cretten* out of the Abbies of Conwey in North-wales, and Stratflur in South-wals, I find recorded that when King-*Henry* the 2. made preparation for the conquest of Ireland, *Richard Strangbow* Earle of Strigale, Marshall of England, being reconciled to the King, had all his Lands in England and Normandy restored unto him againe, and thereupon the King made him Seneshall (Steward, saith he, of Ireland) Then came *Rees* prince of South-wales and offred the King to further his Conquest, 300. Horses, 400. Oxen, and for performance of all services gave him 14. pledges ; when they were presented, the King made choice of 30 principall horses, gave backe all the rest, confesing himself greatly pleased at his hands.

Anno 1172. upon Saint Lukes day the 18. of *October*, *Henry* the 2. the 17. yeere of his raigne, the 41. of his age, entred the Haven of Waterford so writeth *Cambrensis* that lived then, and being landed to the hartly joy of the English, and fained welcome of the Irishmen, had by them of Wexford formerly spoken of, *Robert Fitz Stephens* in Irons presented before

him, whom the Wexfordians (herein I commend *Stanihursts* indifferent dealing) rather of malice & cankerd spight, then for just cause, did charge with many hainous crimes. The King advisedly to pacific the rage of furious people, for the present time, committed him to prison, whence shortly after, he was with honour and credit, discharged, and advanced to his great preferment.

After that the King had a little rested himselfe, and the messengers scattered themselves with newes over the land, the Princes were amazed, they knew the King's greatnesse was such, if faire meanes would not, force should constraine them, and therefore in policie resolved themselves to yeeld allegiance, homage and fealtie : Whereupon *Dermot Mac Carty*, Prince of Corke, began, became Tributarie, sware faith, truth, and loyaltie to the King of England. And the King thereupon gave the Kingdome of Corke to *Robert Fitz Stephens* and *Miles Cogan* as hereafter more at large shall appeare.

From Waterford the King raised his Army, and marched towards Lismore, where he tarryed two daies, and from thence he marched to Cashill, not farre from the Shure, and thither came to him, *Donald O Bren*, Prince of Limric, who submitted himselfe, became tributarie, and swore fealty ; whereupon the King as hee had formerly done with Corke, appointed a Governour for Limric : then also came in *Donall*, Prince of Ossorie, and *Omelaghlen Ophelin*, Lord of the Decies, with all the chieftaines of Mounster, submitting themselves, as others had formerly done, surrendring unto the Kings hands, their territories, and holding them againe at his pleasure. Thence the King returned to Waterford, left there his household, and *Robert Fitz Barnard* governour of the towne, and marched with his army towards Dublin. In his journey there came unto him of the chiefest commanders of the land, *Omathelan*, *Machelan*, *Ophelan*, *O Mac Chelweie*, *Gille Mac Holemoc*, *O tuell helly Ocathdhessy*, *O Caraell* of Uriell, and *Roric* the sonne of *Monoculus* of Meth, but *Roderic* the Monarch came no neerer then the Shanon, where *Hugh de Lacy*, and *William de Adelme* by the King's command met him, and hee desiring peace, submitted himselfe, swore allegiance, became tributarie, and did put in (as all others had done) hostages and pledges for the performance of the same. Thus was all Ireland, saving Ulster, brought in subjection, and every Prince of the other parties, in his owne person, saving *Roderic* King of Connaght, submitted himselfe : but he subtilly alledged, that he submitted Connaght but not the command of all Ireland, the which he reserved for the Monarch and his successors : but of this hereafter if God permit.

Christmas drew on, which the King kept at Dublin, where hee feasted all the Princes of the land, and gave them rich and beautifull gifts, they repaired thither out of all parts of the land, and wonderfull it was to the rude people to behold the Majestic of so puissant a Prince, the pastime, the sport, and the mirth, and the continuall musicke, the masking, mumming, and strange shewes, the gold, the silver, and plate, the precious ornaments, the dainty dishes, furnished with all sorts of fish and flesh, the wines, the spices, the delicate and sumptuous banquets, the orderly service, the comely march, and seemly array of all officers : the Gentlemen, the Esquires, the Knights, and Lords in their rich attire (such as rugged Mantles and Irish Troosses were never acquainted withall) the running at Tilt in compleat harnesse, with barbed horses, where the staves shivered and flew in splinters, safer to sit, then upon an Irish Pillion that playeth crosse and pile with the rider, the plaine honest people admired, and no mervaile : but now to more serious matters. *Henry 2.* having thus conquered Ireland (with the envy of the French and forraigne Princes) without one drop of sweat, without drawing of sword, or shedding of one drop of English bloud, (as it became his Princely calling) turned himselfe to reforme the state of Ecclesiasticall, and the misdemeanours of holy Church, whereof *Cambrensis* writeth :

‘ in the yeere of *Christs* incarnation 1172. and in the first yeere, when *Henry* the most Noble King conquered Ireland, *Christianus*, Bishop of Lismore and Legate of the Apostolike See ; *Donatus* Archbishop of Cashill ; *Laurence*, Arch-bishop of Dublin ; and *Cathol-*

icus, Arch-bishop of Teumond, with their suffragans, and fellow Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Deanes and Archdeacons, and many other Prelates of the Church of Ireland, by the commandment of the King, did assemble themselves, and kept a Synod at Cashill, and there debating many things concerning the wealth, estate, and reformation of the Church of Ireland, did provide remedies for the same. At this Councell, in behalfe of the King (whom he had sent thither) there was *Raffe*, Abbot of Buldewav, *Raffe* Archdeacon of Landafte, *Nicholas*, the Kings Chaplaine, with divers other Clerks ; sundry good Statutes and wholesome lawes were there devised, which were after subscribed and confirmed by the King himselfe, and under his authority, which were these that follow.

First, it is decreed that all good and faithfull Christian people throughout Ireland, shall refraine and forbear to marry with their neere kinsfolkes and cousins, and match with such as lawfully they might doe.

Secondly, that children shall be catechized without the Church door, and baptized in the font appointed in the Church for the same purpose.

Thirdly, that every Christian doe truely and faithfully pay yeerely, the tithes of his Cattell, Corne, and all other his increase and profits, to the Church or Parish where he is a parish-ioner.

Fourthly, that all the Church lands and possessions throughout all Ireland, shall be free from all secular exactions and impositions, and especially that no Lords, Earles, or Noble men, nor their children nor family, shall extort or take any cony and livery, cosheries or cuddies, or any other like custome from thence, forth, in or upon any of the Church land and territories ; and likewise that neither they, nor any other person, doe thenceforth exact out of the said Church lands, old wicked and detestable customes of cony and livery, the which they were wont to extort upon such townes and villages of the Churches, as were neere, and next bordering upon them.

Fiftly, when earik or composition is made among the laye people, for any murther, that no person of the Clergie, (though he be a kinne to any of the parties) shall contribute any thing thereunto, but as they bee guiltlesse of the murther, so shall they be free from paying of money for any such release for the same.

Sixtly, that all and every good Christian, being sicke and weake, shall before the Priest and his neighbours, make his last Will and Testament, and his debts and servants wages being paid, all his moveables to be divided, (if he have any children) into three parts, whereof one part to be to the Children, another to his Wife, and the third part to be for the performing of his Will ; and if so be that hee have no children, then the goods to be divided into two parts, whereof the one moytie to be to his Wife, and the other to the performance of his Will and Testament. And if he have no Wife, but onely Children, then likewise the goods to be divided into two parts, whereof the one to himselfe, and the other to his children :

Seventhly, that every Christian dying in the Catholike faith, shall be reverently brought to the Church, and to bee buried, as appertaineth.

Eightly and lastly, that all the divine Service in the Church of Ireland, shall be kept, used, and observed in the like order and manner as it is in the Church of England ; for it is meet and right, that as by Gods providence and appointment, Ireland is become now subject, and under the King of England : so the same should take from thence, the order, and rule, and manner how to reforme themselves, and to live in better sort.'

Gelasius, Primate of Armagh, was not at this Synod, but at his coming to Dublin, hee concurred with his Collegues, and confirmed the premises. He was a man of great learning, godly life, and great age ; when by reason of age, sight, and strength, and stomacke failed him, as he travailed, he had with him alwaies, a white Cow that gave him milke, and was his onely sustentation, *Gilbert* succeeded this *Gelasius* in that See. The Antiquaries of that time have recorded, that the winter during the Kings abode in Ireland : there rose such stormes and tempest by sea and by land, that no newes could be heard either out of England or Normandie, neither shippe or Barke crosse the seas, untill mid-Lent, at what time with an easterly winde, there came out of England, and Aquitaine in France, newes unto the King, how that there came into Normandy in France, two Cardinals from *Alexander* the third, to wit, *Albertus* and *Theodinus*, to enquire of the death of *Thomas*, Archbishop of Canterbury : Whereupon the King sent in post before him, to signifie that he was returning with all speede, and that he would conferre with them in Normandie, and leaving Ireland, hee was very sorry that time and leisure served not to lay things in better order for the stay of the land. And also suspecting the greatnesse of *Richard*, Earle *Strangbow*, whom at that time he tooke with him into England ; hee appointed to governe Dublin, *Hugh de Lacy*, to whom he had given in Fee, the territorie of Meth, with twenty Gentlemen to his Guard. *Robert Fitz Stephens* and *Morice Fitz Girald*, with twenty others to attend their persons. Likewise he left Governours over Waterford, *Humfrey de Bohune*, *Robert Fitz Bernard*, and *Hugh de Graunt* with forty persons to their guard.

Lastly, he assigned over Wexford, *William Fitz Adelme*, *Philippe de Bruesa*, and *Philip de Hastings* with twenty to their guard, and tooke shipping at Wexford, Munday in Easter weeke, by six a clocke in the morning, with full saile, and landed the same day about noone, at Saint Davids in Wales; so writeth *Cambrensis* in his Vaticanall historie, and in his Itinerarie of Cambria. What time the King was in Ireland, there tell a great plague in his army, which was some cause of his departure from Dublin to Wexford. *Cambrensis* out of the mouth of the common people, attributeth it unto certaine Archers, cessed at Finglas, that cut downe the trees of the Churchyard, and therefore were they justly punished, and left their bones there every one ; but the British Chronicle, and Holinshed also, more likely to be true, affirmeth that there fell a plague among the Kings souldiers in Ireland, by reason of the change of the ayre, and victuals and concourse of people, corrupting the same.

The names of the men of account orderly as they came to the conquest of Ireland.

Dermot Mac Morogh, Prince of Leinster, after his returne out of England wintred at Fernes, expecting the coming of these Conquerours. (*anno*. 1170)

Robert Fitz Stephens, the Kings Constable at Abertivy :

David Barry.

Hervie de Monte Marisco, married *Nesta*, daughter to *Maurice Fitz Girald*.

Willim Nott.

Maurice Prendregast.

Meilerus.

Maurice Fitz Girald.

Reimond le Grosse, nephew to *Robert Fitz Stephens*, married with *Basilia*, the sister of Earle *Strangbow*.

William Ferrand.

Richard Strangbow, Earle of Penbroke.

Miles Cogan } brethren & nephewes to *Robert Fitz Stephens*,

Richard Cogan } and *Maurice Fitz-Girald*

Henry 2. King of England, &c. (*Anno*. 1172)

Hugh de Lacy.

William Fitz Adelme.

Raffe Abbot of Bulldewa in Normandie.
Raffe Archdeacon of Landaff.
Nicholas, the Kings Chaplaine.
Humphrey de Bohune.
Robert Fitz Bernard.
Hugh de Grandevilla.
Philip de Brensa.
Philip de Hastings.
Silvester, Giraldus, Barry, Cambrensis.
John Ridensford.
Girald } the two sonnes of *Maurice Fitz Gerald*.
Alexander }
William Makrell
Philip Mercros.
William Morice, Fitz Girald his eldest sonne, married with *Elen*, sister to Earl *Strangbow*.
Griffin the sonne of *William Fitz Girald* the elder brother.
Philip Welsh
Adam Herford, }
. . . . *Herford* } brethren.
. . . . *Purcell*, Lieuetenant of the Army, slaine by Waterfordians.
Nich. Wallingford a Prior, afterwards Abbot of Malmesburie.
David Welsh nephew to *Reimond*.
Jeffrey Welsh
Reimond of Kantan.
Reimond Fitz Hugh.
Milo of Saint *David*.
Robert Poer.
Osbert of Hertford.
Willin Bendoger.
Adam of Gernemie.
Hugh Tirell.
John de Courcey.
Hugh Cantwell.
Redmond Cantimore.

The chronicle of Ireland. Collected by Meredith Hanmer in the yeare 1571 (1809)

Author : Hanmer, Meredith, 1543-1604

Subject : Ireland — History To 1603

Publisher : Dublin Printed by the Society of Stationers, 1633. Reprinted at the Hibernia Press,
for the Proprietors

Language : English

Digitizing sponsor : MSN

Book contributor : PIMS - University of Toronto

Collection : toronto

Source : Internet Archive

<http://www.archive.org/details/irelandchronicles00hanmuoft>

Edited and uploaded to www.aughty.org

August 23 2010