

A History
Of The
Clanna-Rory, Or Rudicians,

Descendants Of

Roderick The Great, Monarch Of Ireland,

Compiled From The Ancient Records
In The Libraries Of Trinity College And The Royal Irish
Academy, From Our Native Annals, The Publica-
tions Of Several Learned Societies, And
Other Reliable Sources.

By Richard F. Cronnelly.

“ Backward cast your eyes enquiring
Upon History’s mighty page,
Who are highest there emblazoned.
Loved and blessed in every age?”— Frances.

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The Rudrician Families in the order in which an account of each is given in this history.

The Magennices
„ O’Mores
„ O’Cronnellys
„ O’Dugans
„ O’Morans
„ O’Lennans
„ O’Casans
„ M’Gowans or Smiths
„ M’Wards
„ M’Scanlans
„ O’Kennys
„ O’Lawlors
„ O’Lynches
„ O’Mannions
„ Maginns
„ M’Colreavys or Grays
„ M’Cartans
„ O’Carelons
„ O’Conors-Kerry
„ O’Conors-Corc
„ O’Loghlens-Burren

„ O'Kielys
 „ M'Shanlys
 „ M'Priors
 „ O'Ferrals
 „ O'Roddys
 „ M'Finvars or Gaynors
 „ M'Cormick
 „ M'Dorchys
 „ M'Raghnaills or Reynolds
 „ O'Quins
 „ O'Mulveys
 „ O'Neidhes
 „ O'Conarys
 „ O'Diochallas
 „ O'Maoletighs
 „ M'Keoghs
 „ O'Beices
 „ M'Maolisaa
 „ O'Dugans
 „ O'Coscridhs
 „ M'Rory or Rodgers
 „ Corca-Dallan
 „ Corca-Aulim
 „ Dal-Confinn
 „ Ciarruighe Loch an Airneagh
 „ Ciarruighe Ae, or Ai, or Nao
 „ Ciarruighe Airteach
 „ Cinel Buine
 „ Gailenga
 „ Ui liodan
 „ Owny Deisceart
 „ Eoganacht Aire Cliach
 „ O'Drennans
 „ M'Dubhains, or Duans

An Historical Account

of

The Clanna Rory,

Let us begin at the beginning—

1. Adam, the first of human beings, called in the old Irish Genealogical MSS. Adhamh, Mac Debhi, “Adam, the Son of God,” who was created A.M. 1, B. C. 3739, * left issue by his wife, Eve, according to an ancient Hebrew tradition, thirty-three sons and twenty-three daughters.

* In the following history I have followed the Chronology of the Rabhi Naason who reckons 3740 years from the creation of Adam, to the birth of Christ ; and I am fully convinced that this computation is far more accurate than the long Chronology of the Septuagint adopted by the Four Masters, and than even the calculation of Scaliger.

51. Roderick the Great, born A.M. 3352. This monarch, who governed the kingdom thirty years, died at Airgead-Ross, otherwise Rath-Bheathaidh, or Rathbeagh, on the Nore, in the County of Kilkenny, in the 80th year of his age, leaving, besides other children, Breasal Bodhiabha, and Conal Claringheach, who became monarchs of Ireland ; Conragh, the father of the monarch Elim ; the monarch Fatchna Fathach, who was the father of Conor, by his wife Neasa ; Rosa Roe, the father of the celebrated Fergus, by his wife Roigh ; and Cionga, the ancestor of the heroic Conal Cearnach, from whom are descended the O'Mores, Magennises, M'Gowans, and several other powerful families in Ulster and Connaught. It is from this distinguished monarch that the descendants of Ir, son of Milesius, took the name Clanna-Rory or Rudricians, being the common ancestor of the Irian families of Erinn, of which a full account will be given in the following pages. By the Irish writers he is called Rughraidhe Mor, which is Anglicised Rory the Great and Roderick the Great, and Latinized Rudricus Magnus. His name signifies the " red-haired king ; " and it may be here observed, that the hair worn by a great many of his descendants was of this color : the children of Rory, who left issue, were Cionga or Gionga, and Rosa Roe, who was the father of Fergus, and for distinction sake we shall call the descendants of the former the Clan Cionga, and those of the latter the Clan Fergus ; of the Clann Cionga were—

The O'Cronnellys (Clan Cionga).

The Ultonian and Conacian families of this name derive their descent and surname from Cronghilla, son of Cullenan, lord of the Conaille of Magh Muirtheimhne, in the county of Louth, and they are to be distinguished from the O'Cronghillas of Munster, descendants of Maothagan, son of Lonsigh, son of Dongal, son of Flanlaoi, son of Laoghaire, son of Criomhthain, son of Eochy More, son of Corc M'Laghaidh,

According to the learned Cathan O'Duinin, in his poem on the inauguration of Tadhg O'Donoghue, lord of Lough Lene, or Killarney.

The Ultonian O'Cronnellys were princes of the Conaille Murtheimhne, a large division of the province of Ulster, comprising nearly the whole of the present county of Louth, together with large portions of the adjoining counties of Armagh and Monaghan, deriving its name from the celebrated Irian chieftain Conall Cearnach or Conall the victorious, one of the bravest warriors of the Red branch of Emania, from whom the family under notice derive their descent, according to the following pedigree of the representative of the Conaille :—

- 80. Conal (33 M'Genis's pedigree)
- 81. Cu.Ulladh, born 576
- 82. Cas, 606
- 83. Cu-Sleibhe, 636
- 84. Conal, 666
- 85. Fergus, 698
- 86. Breasail, 726

87. Cinaeth, 752
88. Nial, 780
89. Buan, 810
90. Culenain, 840
91. Cronghilla, 870, ob, 935
92. Cinaeth, 900, ob. 965
93. Matudan, 930, ob. 995
94. Cronghilla, 960
95. Rory, 990
96. Angusliath, 1020
97. Conall, 1050
98. Bryan Roe, 1080
99. Gillananeev, 1110
100. Cu-Ulladh, 1140
101. Cinaeth, 1170
102. Gillachriost, 1200
103. Eoghan 1230
104. Cathal, 1260
104. Eoghan More, 1290
105. Eoghan og, 1320
106. Bryan, 1350
107. Cosgniadh, 1380
108. Eoghan, 1408
109. John the Prior, 1439
110. Gillachreest. 1468
111. Donal, 1500
112. Tadg, 1533
118. Richard, 1561
114. Donal Buidhe, 1592
115. Donal, 1628
116. Tadg, 1652
117. Tadg, 1681
118. Riocaird, 1710
119. Tadg, 1741
120. Riocard, 1773
121. Tadg, 1804, still living
122. Richard, 1833, still living

At the period of the Anglo-Norman invasion the lordship of the O’Cronnellys was comprised in the district denominated Conaille-Cuailgne, signifying the Conalians of Cooley, which embraced all the lands which lay between the river Glyde and the Newry river, bounded on the north-east by a line drawn from Carrickmacross to Newry by Crosmaglen, Cullyhanna, and Sliabh Gullion. Crich Cuailgne, which was the more ancient name of this territory, derives its name from Cuailgne, son of Breogain, who was slain by the Danani at the base of a mountain in this territory, called after him Sliabh Cuailgne, and now known as Slieve Gullion. This mountain is situate towards the south-east of the present county of Armagh, and the cairn or monumental heap raised over the chieftain by his followers may be seen on the summit of the hill at the present day. This is also the burial place of Finn M’Cumhal, generalissimo of the Irish army in the reign of Cormac Mac Art, monarch of Ireland. Magh Muirtheimhne, above mentioned, derives its name from Muirtheimhne, son of Breogan, and uncle to Milesius, and comprised in ancient times the level country south of the

river Glyde, This was also called Machaire Conall, or the level land of Conall (Cearnach), but it is to be observed that Conaille Muirtheimhne was much more extensive at the period of the Anglo-Norman invasion, the Conaille having previously extended their possessions to the north-west into Oriel, and south in North Bregia.

Historical Notices.

A.D. 985. — Croinghilla, son of Cuilenain, lord of Conaille Muirtheimhne, died.

A.D. 969.— Cinaedh, son of Croinghilla, king of Conaille Muirtheimhne, was slain at Cillmona by Donal O'Neill according to the Annals of Ulster. By the Four Masters this affair is recorded under A.D. 976. Cillmona, or Kilmony, here mentioned is probably the same with Kilmony, near Rath-Hugh-MacBrie, which gives name to a parish in the barony of Moycashel, county of Westmeath. .

A.D. 988.—Gillachreest, the grandson of Cuileanain, was slain in a battle fought between his own people and the men of Oriel.

A.D. 989.— Conghalach, son of Croinghilla, son of Cuilenain, lord of Conalle, and Ciarcelle, lord of North Breagh, slew each other.

A.D. 995. — “An army by the Conaille and Mughdhoma and the north of Breagh to Gleanrigh,” say the Four Masters, “but they were overtaken by Hugh, son of Donal, lord of Oileach, who gave them battle in which they were defeated, and the lord of Conaille, i.e., Matudhan O’Cronghilla, and two hundred along with him were slain.” The Annals of Ulster are manifestly in error in calling the above Matudhan *Mac* or “son” of Croinghilla; instead of *Ua* or “O” as given by the Four Masters. This Matudhan was, in all probability, the brother of Cu-Cualgne, who, with his sons Maolmuire and Bryan, is mentioned by the Annalists under A.D. 1013, the year in which the battle of Clontarf was fought, according to the chronology of the Four Masters. The name Cu-chualgne signifies the champion of Cualgne or Cooley, literally the “hound of Cualgne,” allusive perhaps of his speed in the chase, or of his valour in the battle-field. The word *Cu* is sometimes made to signify an ambassador, and is prefixed with that signification to the Irish names of the several provinces of Erin, viz., Cu-Chonnaght, Cu-Ulladh, Cu-Midhe, Cu-Mumban, Cu-Laighen, &c.

That the O’Cronnellys sank into obscurity at an early period of Irish history appears from the fact of their not having been mentioned by the Annalists since the period of the Anglo-Norman invasion, and of the O’Carrolls, princes of Farney, having extended their conquests to the bay of Dundalk, a few years previous to that event. The O’Cronnellys became subordinate to O’Carroll, from whose grasp they were fast escaping when the vain-glorious De Courcy, in his march through Ulidia in 1177, gave a deadly blow to their growing power, which left them ever afterwards unable to take their place among the princely families of Ultonia.

Upon the defeat of the Ultonians in 1177, one of the chiefs of the family under notice was given as an hostage for the future fealty of the Conaille to DeCourcy, by whom he was sent to England, where he became the ancestor of the Granleys of Granley, one of whom, a Carmelite friar, was elected Archbishop of Dublin, in 1397, at the instance of Richard II. This prelate came to Ireland in the following year and was appointed Lord Chancellor by King Richard, who sent his protege on a mission to the continent, and furnished him with letters of protection. He died at Farrington, in England, on the 25th of May, 1417, and was buried with great

solemnity in the New College, Oxford, where “ a fair stone, adorned with brass plates, bearing the figure of a bishop clothed in his sacred vestments,” was placed over his remains to perpetuate his memory. “ He was,” says Marleburgh, “ liberal and fond of almsdeeds, a profound clerk, and doctor of divinity, an excellent preacher, and a great builder and improver of such places as fell under his care. He was fair, magnificent, of a sanguine complexion, and tall of stature, so that in his time it might be said to him, ‘ Thou art fair beyond the children of men, grace is through thy lips because of thy eloquence.’ ”

The period of the settlement of this family in Galway is unknown, but there are reasons for supposing that it took place soon after the period of the Invasion. Here a branch of the sept became *erenachs* or managers of the lands and revenues of the various churches founded by or dedicated to St. Grellan, the patron saint of the race of Colla da Crich, in Hy-Many, and *coarbs* or successors of the saint in several of these churches. The *coarbship* as well as the *crozier* of St. Grellan came into the family of O’Cronnelly by the marriage of one of its members with the only daughter and heiress of the last of a long line of *Erenachs* of the Church of St. Grellan at Cill-Cluane or Killclony, in the parish of that name, barony of Clonmacnoon, and county of Galway, vestiges of which remain. Figures of the *crozier* of St. Grellan were borne on the standards of the princes of Hy-Many as we are informed in the Book of Lecain. Dr. O’Donovan has the following notice of this relic and its possessors in a note to the “ Tribes and Customs of Hy-Many,” a tract on the Book of Lecain, published for the Irish Archæological Society in 1843, with a translation and copious annotations by the learned doctor. “ This *crozier* was preserved for ages in the family of O’Cronghaile or O’Cronnelly, who were the ancient *Comorbas* of the saint. It was in existence so late as 1836, it being then in the possession of a poor man named John Cronelly, the senior representative of the *Comorbas* of the saint, who lived near Ahascra, in the east of the county of Galway ; but it is not to be found now in that country. It was probably sold to some collector of antiquities, and is not now known.” We believe that one of the rings belonging to this relic has been lately discovered, and that it is now in the possession of a gentleman in Dublin.

The head of the Galway branch of this family in the second quarter of the 17th century was Daniel O’Cronnelly, commonly called Donal Buidhe, or the yellow, who was an officer in the army of Charles I. He was present at the battle of Edgehill, October 23rd, 1642, and distinguished himself at Marston Moor, where

———“ With traitors contending
Some heroes enriched with their blood the bleak field.”

On the defeat of Charles II. at Worcester in 1651, he returned to his ancestral home at Killeenan, near Rahasane, in the county of Galway, where he died in or about 1659. His remains were interred in the now ruined church of Kileely where an oblong stone slab marks his last resting place.

According to a tradition in the family, the O’Cronellys possessed the greater portion of the parish of Killeenan, together with the lands of Lavally, Ballynasteage, and Kileely, all in the barony of Dunkellin, and county of Galway ; these, however, have long since passed into other and various hands, and the lineal descendant of Matudhan, prince of Crich Cualgne, and of Donal of the Moor, holds the initiatory grade in the Irish constabulary force. A branch of this family were chiefs of a district in the barony of Loughrea, and had their residence at Cathaer-Cronghilla, now Cahircronelly.

Arms — Two *croziers* in saltire.

O'Dugans (Clan Cionga).

The O'Dugans of Hy-many derive their descent and surname from Dubhagain, a chieftain of Sodan, in the barony of Tiaquin, Co. Galway, of the race of Soghan Salbhuidhe, son of Fiacha Aruidne, prince of Ulidia. This family possessed one of the six divisions of Sodan, of which an account will be found in the article on the O'Mannions ; and became hereditary bards and historiographers to the O'Kellys, princes of Hy-Many, in the Counties of Galway and Roscommon. To this family belonged the celebrated John More O'Dugan, author of a valuable topographical poem on the Irish chiefs of the 14th century, and other pieces. This industrious writer, who was chief bard and historiographer of Hy-Many, died at an advanced age in 1372, in the abbey of Rinndun, or Randown, now known as St. John's, on the Shannon, in the County of Roscommon. The O'Dugans were the chief compilers of the valuable work known as the Book of Hy-Many, otherwise the Book of the O'Kellys, which is supposed to be in the possession of some English collector of rare books and manuscripts. Of the same stock with the O'Dugans were the O'Morans, O'Lennans and O'Casans of Sodan, but neither pedigrees nor notices of them have been preserved.

Arms— Quarterly Azure and ermine ; out of the first and fourth a griffin's head or.
Crest — A talbot statant ppr. collared or.

MAC WARD (Clan Cionga).

The Mac anBhairds or M'Wards as the name is now Anglicised, are of the Irian or Rudrician race, deriving their descent from Sodan Salbhuidhe, son of Fiacha Aruidhe, a quo Dal-Aruidhe in Ultonia, of the race of Conal Cearnach ; and their surname from the office of chief bard enjoyed by a remote ancestor. The M'Wards were hereditary chief bards and ollamhs in poetry and minstrelsy to the O'Donnells, princes of Tirconal, and the O'Kellys, lords of Hy-Many, in Galway and Roscommon. The Tirconnelian family gave name to Ballymacward, in the County of Donegal, and the Hy-Manian branch to a town of the same name in the County of Galway which became the principal residence of the chiefs of the sept. The following notices of this family are collected from the " Four Masters" O'Reilly's " Irish Writers," and various other sources :

A.D. 1173.— Milesius M'Ward, bishop of Clonfert, died.

A.D. 1408.— M'Ward of Cuil-an-urtaim or Coolurtaim, in Hy-Many, died.

A.D. 1461. — Thomas, son of Evastine or Augustine M'Ward, died.

A.D. 1478.— Geoffrey M'Ward died of the plague.

A.D. 1495.— Hugh M'Ward of Tirconal died of the plague.

A.D. 1507.— Gilpatrick, son of Hugh M'Ward of Oriel, and his kinsman, Tuathal Boy, son of Adam Garbh M'Ward, were slain by the O'Connollys.

A.D. 1509.— Dermot, son of Flan M'Ward, died, and in the year following Owen Roe M'Ward of Tirconal, ollamh in poetry to O'Donnell, died at Inis Mac An Duirn, in Donegal.

A.D. 1541.— On the 20th of December, Owen Roe M'Ward, son of Fergal, ollav in poetry to O'Donnell, president of the schools of Tirconal, and the keeper of a house of hospitality, died.

A.D. 1550. — Fergal, son of Donal Roe Mac Ward, a learned poet and the keeper of a house of hospitality died.

A.D. 1572. — Owen Roe, son of Fergal, son of Donal Roe M'Ward, was hanged by Conor, son of Donogh O'Brien, Earl of Thomond. This Owen, say the Four Masters, was learned in history and poetry.

A.D. 1576.— William. Oge M'Ward, son of Cormac, ollamh in poetry to O'Donnell, “ a very learned man,” died at Dromore on the 22nd February. In 1609 Eoghan, son of Geoffrey, son of Eoghan, son of Geoffrey M'Ward, ollav in poetry to O'Donnell, died at an advanced age. He was the author of a beautiful elegiac poem on the death of the Tirconnelian and Tironian princes who died at Rome in 1608, namely, Rory Fitz-Hugh, Earl of Tirconal, and his brother Cathbar O'Donnell, and Hugh Fitz Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone. The poem which commences thus : —

“ *Woman of the piercing wail,* ”

is addressed to the lady Nualla, the sister of Rory, who is represented as weeping alone over the tomb of her brother and their illustrious friend, the prince of Tyrone. In 1635 died the learned Hugh Ward, a native of Donegal. This distinguished writer completed his studies at Salamanca, entered the Irish College at Louvain, where, whilst lecturer in divinity and professor of ecclesiastical history, he wrote the life of St. Ronaldus, bishop of Mechlin. The Netherlands found him a grave.

O'Manion or Mannion or Manning
(Clan Cionga)

The O'Mainins, or O'Mannions, or Mannings, as the name is sometimes Anglicised, deduce their descent from Sodhan Salbhuidhe, i.e. of the “ yellow heel,” son of Fiacha Araidhe, a quo Dal-Aruidhe, in the province of Ulster, This Sodhan settled in the country forming the now barony of Tiaquin, in the county of Galway, in the third century, and gave name to the families and lairds subsequently known as the six Sodhans or Soghans, the head chief of which was O'Mannion. There is no pedigree of the race of Sodhan preserved by the Irish Genealogists, nor can we ascertain with any degree of accuracy the exact extent of their possessions. The castle of Clohair or Clogher, was the principal residence of the head of the family under notice until about A.D. 1352, when O'Kelly, lord of Hy-Many, dispossessed the then “ O'Mainin,” who removed to Menlagh, in the parish of Killascobe, which continued to be the residence of the chiefs of the sept down to the middle of the 17th century, when their castle of Menlagh O'Mainin was dismantled by the parliamentary army. Here they founded a religious establishment of some sort, the site of which is marked by the present chapel of Menlagh, or Menla, or Minlow. Very few notices of this family are preserved by the annalists. In A.D. 1135, the Hy-Many and the O'Mainins were defeated by the Siol-Murray. In 1352 the O'Mannion was hanged by O'Reilly ; and in 1377 O'Mannion chief of Sodhan, was slain in the battle fought at Roscommon. For interesting notices of this family and their possessions in the 16th and 17th centuries the reader is referred to the “ Tribes and Customs of Hy-Many” a tract of the Book of Leacan, edited for the Irish Archæological Society by the late Dr. O'Donovan.

Maginn (Clan Cionga).

The Maginns derive their descent from Fiacha Aruidhe, prince of Ultonia, whose descendants through his son Sodhan Salbhuldhe, became possessed of the six Sodhans, in the county of Galway, districts comprehended in the now barony of Tiaquin, Hugh Magin of this family became abbot of Boyle on the 28th of December, 1171 ; he died the following year. Andrew Magin was Archdeacon of Dromore in 1244. Andrew Magin was Erenach of the same establishment in 1427, he died in 1428. Arthur Magin was Erenach of Dromore from 1526 to 1529. John Magin was canon of the diocese of Dromore from 1442 to 1464. John Magin was canon in 1524.

Arms — Sable two pales argent, in chief or.

Crest — A cockatrice displayed vert.

The Clan Fergus (son of Rosa, son of Rory).

The fourth son of Roderick the Great, was,

62. Rosa Roe, or the Red-haired, born A.M. 3389, who married Roigh, the daughter of an Utonian prince by whom he had a son called,
63. Fergus, of Tain Bo Cuailgne notoriety, born AM. 3414, B.C. 336. Fergus took an active part in the disturbances occasioned by the treacherous and unmanly conduct of his kinsman, Conor Mac Neasa, towards the unfortunate children of Usneach, with the youngest of whom, a prince named Naois, the fair Deirdre Bhreag-ni-Mhananain, the daughter of Felim Mc Doill, and the source of Ulad's many woes, who was under the protection of King Connor, fell in love, and eloped into Alban or Scotia Minor. This so incensed the son of Neasa, to whom the fair Deirdre was betrothed, that he set a large price on the heads of the brothers, and wrote a letter to the King of Alban in which he demanded the surrender of the refugees. The Scottish Monarch seemed willing to comply with this demand, and means were adopted soon afterwards for the conveyance of the exiles back to the court of the king of Ulster. In the meantime the friends of the sons of Usneach interceded in their behalf, and the King promised that if they should return to his court and ask forgiveness for the crimes they had committed against his Majesty it would be granted them, and to prove his sincerity he delivered his own son Cormac Conlongas, and Fergus, the son of Rosa Roe, into the hands of the chiefs of the deputation as hostages for the security of the exiles. Relying on the sincerity of the King, Fiacha, one of the sons of Fergus was dispatched by the Ultonian nobles to conduct the children of Usneach to the palace of Emania. This young prince found themselves and their attendants ready for embarkation, and in extreme grief in consequence of the demand made by their bitter enemy, the King of Ulster, and of the compliance of the Scottish Monarch ; but they were soon comforted by young Fiacha, who explained the object of his visit, and assured them of forgiveness from the offended King. The whole party then embarked for their native province, and landed safely in Belfast Lough, whence they set out for the residence of King Connor. But these gallant knights were doomed never to set foot on the court-yard of Emania the splendid, or tread the long halls of the palace of queen Macna, where the Red Branch waved over them in other days, and skilful harpers swept the Clarsech's trembling chords as they quaffed the nut-brown ale at King Rosa's festive board. Whilst the unsuspecting brothers were plodding their weary way from their landing place, the

vengeful Conor, and Eoghan, son of Durtheacht, chief of Fearnmoy, were plotting their destruction at Eamhain ; and the latter when he received private notice of their landing, set out to meet them at the head of a chosen party of soldiers, and coming up with them on the confines of Dalriada, slew all the men of the party, including Fiacha, son of Fergus the hostage. Conor was highly pleased at Eoghan's success, and he now fondly hoped that the Ultonian nobles would strike off the heads of the hostages, Fergus M'Rosa and Cormac Conlongas, whose lives became forfeited, as the former stood in the way of his own sons, Fachtna and Maine, to the throne of Ulster, and the latter was a source of shame to him, being the product of incestuous intercourse. Their lives were spared however, and both these princes, burning with hatred and revenge towards the king of Ulster, retired to Connaught, where they were kindly received by Oilioll aud Meabh, King and Queen of that province, who assigned them apartments in the palace of Rathcruaghan, whence they made frequent predatory excursions into Ulster, out of which they always returned with great spoils after laying waste a large tract of country. Meva, above mentioned, was the daughter of Eochy Feidhlioch, monarch of Ireland, who gave her in marriage to his chief favorite Tinne, son of Conragh, son of Roderick the great, with the province of Connaught as a dowry. This prince was slain at Tara by Monire, a Lagenian prince, in a personal quarrel, and Meva soon afterwards married Oliol Mgre, the son of Rossa Ruadh, by his wife Matha Muireasg, a Lagenian princess, to whom she bore the seven Maine, princes of unblemished valour and virtue. Oiloil More was far advanced in years when the exiled Fergus sought shelter beneath his roof, and the fair Meva, who still wore the weeds of youth, having conceived a violent affection for the son of Rosa of the comely countenance, strayed from virtue's path in an evil hour, proved with child by Fergus, and was delivered of three male children at a birth. The names of these princes were Ciar, aquo Ciarruighe Luachra, Ciarruighe Chuiric, Ciarruighe Aoí, and Ciarruighe Coinmean ; Corc a quo Corc Modhruadh or Corcumroe ; and Conmac, a quo Conmaicne-Mara, Conmaicne Cuil Talaigh, Conmaicne Magh Rein, Conmaicne Cinel Dubhain, &c. Fergus was slain by an officer belonging to the court of Oliol More, as he was bathing in a pond near the royal residence, and he was interred at Magh Aoi, Ai, or Nai ; where being invoked by Eimin and Muirheartach, two of the chief bards of Erin, *temp.* Dermot M'Carroil, monarch of Ireland, he appeared to these senachies in awful majesty, and recited the Tain bo Cuailgne, or the history of the cattle spoil of Coely in Louth, of which, it would appear, no account had been preserved among the Irish bards.

The descendants of Fergus throughout Ireland are known to the Irish historians and genealogists as the Clan Fergus, but for distinction's sake we shall call his posterity by Meva after the sons borne to him by that heroine. A history of the descendants of his other children by other wives will be given also, with an account of the lands which they possessed in various principalities, and the pedigrees of their chiefs.

The Clan Corc — O'Connor Corc.

- 54 Corc, the son of Fergus, settled in Clare soon after the death of his illustrious parent, and became the proprietor of an extensive tract of land in that principality, From him descended the O'Connors Corc, who derive their surname from Conchobhair, or Conor, son of Melaghlín, lord of Corcumroe, who was slain by the people of Umalia, in West Connaught, in 1002. The territory Corc Mogh Ruadh, or Corcumroe, a name derived from Mogh Ruadh, great grandson of Fergus, was co-extensive with the diocese of Kilfenora, and comprised in ancient times the present baronies of Corcumroe and Burren. In the beginning of the eleventh century the O'Connors and the O'Loghlens, the dominant families of the race of Corc, divided this territory equally between themselves, when the

sub-division forming the now barony of Corcumroe fell to the O'Connors, who were the descendants of an elder brother, and that forming the barony of Burren to the O'Loughlens, who were the descendants of a younger brother of the same illustrious house ; O'Connor's sub-division was sometimes denominated Western Corcumroe, to distinguish it from O'Loughlen's territory which in after times obtained the name of Boirinn or Burren. The following is the pedigree of Donogh O'Connor Corc, compiled from authentic sources ;—

54. Corc Dosethe
55. Ollaman
56. Mogh Ruadh
57. Leatbain
58. Finanghai
59. Hugh Gnaoi
60. Athchuirp
61. Neachtain
62. Onchin
63. Osgar
64. Erc
65. Erc
66. Mesin Saling
67. Mesindon
68. Osgar
69. Conbruic
70. Bric
71. Tail
72. Amergin
73. Senaig
74. Felene
75. Felim
76. Dubh da Loch
77. M'Laoch
78. Reanhtaibhrach
79. Duibhruibh
80. Flaherty
81. Samhradain
82. Ardga, aquo Cinel Ardga
83. Melaghlin
84. Conor
85. Flan or Felim
86. Conor Mor
87. Loughlen
88. Cathal
89. Cathal
90. Cathal
91. Donal
92. Felim-an-Einigh
93. Conor
94. Bryan
95. Conor
96. Donogh

Accounts of the most notable chiefs of Corcumroe will be found in the following notices of the O'Connors Corc, collected from various sources

A.D. 1113.—Melaghlin O'Connor, son of Connor, son of Melaghlin, lord of Corc, died.

A.D. 1171.— The western half of the territory of Corcumroe was plundered by the Siol Murray (O'Connors of Connaught) and by the O'Flaherties of west Connaught.

A.D. 1174. — Melaghlin O'Donagan, lord of Ara, was slain by O'Connor, lord of Corc.

A.D. 1175. — Mian-liath Dearg O'Connor, the son of O'Connor Corc, was slain by O'Brien.

A.D. 1200.—The English of Limerick under de Burgo, laid waste a great part of Corcumroe, and put a great number of the inhabitants to the sword.

A.D. 1190.— The English entered Corcumroe and inflicted unheard of cruelties upon the inhabitants.

A.D. 1202. — Dermot, son of Art 'Melaghlin, was slain by the son of O'Connor Corc.

A.D. 1217. — Nial O'Connor Corc, the grandson of Lochlain, died.

A.D. 1275. — King Edward I. by letters patent dated January 26, granted the whole of the county of Clare to Thomas le Clare, son of the Earl of Gloucester.

A.D. 1365.— Felim O'Connor, called the " hospitable," son of Donal, lord of Corc, died.

A.D. 1422. — Roderick O'Connor, lord of Corcumroe, son of Connor, was slain by his own people, namely, by the sons of Felim, at his own residence, Caislan-na Dumhcha or Dongh Castle, in the barony of Corcumroe. Cotemporary with this Roderick was the learned Gilla na neey O'Heerin, author of a topographical poem on Leath Mogha, in which the following mention is made of O'Connor Corc.

The country of Fear — Ardga of gold,
Corcumroe of the glittering battle hosts ;
O'Connor obtained the soil.
The heights of delightful Conagh.

Feara Ardga, mentioned in the poem, was the tribe name of the O'Connors Corc, derived from Ardga 82 of the pedigree.

A.D. 1431. — Murtoogh O'Connor, lord of Corcumroe, was slain by the children of his own brother.

A.D. 1471. — Connor O'Connor, son of Bryan Oge, lord of Corcumroe, was slain by the sons of his brother Donogh,

A.D. 1482.— Felim O'Connor, son of Felim, lord of Cinel Ardga, otherwise Fear Ardga, was slain by the sons of Conor O'Connor.

A.D. 1485— O'Connor, lord of Corcumroe, died.

A.D. 1490. — Con, son of Donal O'Connor, lord of Corcumroe, was killed by Conor, son of Murtoogh, and by Cathal, son of Cathal.

The O'Connors of Corc fell into decay in the early part of the 16th century, and their extensive possessions passed to the Fitzgeralds, Gores, Stackpooles, and other English families, and the descendants of the Prince of Ullad, and of the celebrated Meva, queen of Connaught, became tillers of the fields of Corcumroe for alien lords, and dwellers in miserable huts constructed in the shelter of the cloud-supporting hills from whose gorse-clad slopes and Cairn-crowned summits ten-thousand voices proclaimed their ancestors Kings of Cinel Ardga.

Had Meva known that fortune had
For Fergus' race such ills in store,
That Irian prince would ne'er be led
To wrong the bed of Oilial More.

The Clan Corc — O'Loghlin Burren.

The O'Loghlin Burren derive their surname from Lochlain, son of Melaghlin, son of Ardga, 82 of the pedigree of O'Connor Corc. They were formerly chiefs of Eastern Corcumroe, an extensive territory in the county of Clare, comprising the whole country forming the barony of Burren, and are mentioned as follows in the topographical poem of Gilla na neev O'Heerin, written in the early part of the 15th century.

O'Loghlin, a hero commanding battalions
Roles over the fertile fountful fields of Burren ;
Over Teallach Corc, his rightful inheritance
The land of the cattle and wealthy port.

Teallach Corc, mentioned in the poem, was the tribe name of the family under notice ; the "wealthy port" is the old harbour of Burren, at New-Quay, in the parish of Abbey ; there are still some remains of the old quay a little to the west of the new quay, whence the village has its name, which was built in 1828 by the late fishery board.

The following pedigree of the O'Loghlin Burren is preserved in the Genealogical MS. of Duaid M'Firbis :

82. Ardga (vid. O'Connor's ped.)
83. Melaghlin
84. Lochlain, aqno O'L.
85. Melaghlin
86. Amhlaoimh
87. Melaghlin
88. Aomhlaobh
89. Congal
90. Donogh
91. Adhnaig
92. Brian
93. Mnrchad
94. Brian
95. *

It is to be regretted that the industrious M'Firbis did not continue the pedigree of the O'Loghlen Burren down to his own day, (1666), for there are doubts as to whether the present chief of the sept, can be correctly *connected* at this day to any of the above remote generations.

A Table of the O'Loghlen Burren from A.D. 1045 to 1600

Conghalach died 1045	O'Loghlen Burren died 1448
Adhnaigh died 1060	Adhnaigh fl. 1480
Amhlaoibh died 1132	Rory Fitz Adhnaigh fl. 1503
Murtogh flourished 1160	Conor Fitz Rory fl. 1520
Donal fl. 1200	Melaghlin Fitz Rory fl. 1540
Conor died 1250	Anthony Fitz Malachy died 1590
Melaghlin killed 1380	Rossa Fitz Anthony fl. 1590
Irial slain 1395	Fitz Rossa fl. 1610

Historical Notices.

A.D. 1160. — Murtogh O'Loghlen mustered an army for the subjugation of Meath and Breffny.

A.D. 1359.— Richard O'Loghlen, bishop of Kilfenora, died on the 3rd day February. This prelate was consecrated on the 16th of July, 1316. The bishops of this See were sometimes styled bishops of Corcumroe.

A.D. 1231. — Conor O'Loghlen, lord of Burren, led an army into Connaught as far as Lough Key, in the county Roscommon.

A.D. 1395 Irial O'Loghlen, lord of Teallach Corc, was slain by MacGirr-an-Adhister, one of his own people, in revenge of his foster brother, Malachy, lord of Burren, who was slain by Conor.

A.D. 1684,— Torlogh, son of Anthony O'Loghlen Burren, was taken prisoner in March by Torlogh Fitz Donal O'Brien, and he was afterwards put to death in Ennis by Captain Brabazon.

A.D. 1585 Rossa, son of Anthony O'Loghlen Burren attended Sir John Perrott's memorable parliament, convened in Dublin at the desire of Elizabeth.

A.D. 1598.— Torlogh Buidhe, or the Yellow, O'Loghlen, and Bryan, son of Rossa, son of Anthony O'Loghlen, were slain at Coili-Ui-Fiachrach or Killeveragh, near Kinvarra, by a party of O'Donnell's people.

A.D. 1756. — Bernard Loghlen, a native of Clare, was prior of Lorha.

The chief representatives of this sept are, Sir Colman M. O'Loghlen, bart., son of Sir Michael, who was an eminent lawyer and Master of the Rolls in Ireland ; and his cousin, Colman Bryan O'Loghlen, Esq., Sub-Inspector of the Irish Constabulary, son of the late Bryan Loghlen, Esq., of Port, Co. Clare.

Arms — A man in armour shooting an arrow from a cross-bow.

Crest — On a ducal coronet an anchor erect entwined with a cable.

The O'Drennans, or the descendants of Sedna, of the race of Corc, son of Fergus, who were chiefs of the country lying around Sliabh Eisi, on the borders of Clare and Galway. The O'Drinans, or Drennans, were formerly hereditary chief Brehons or judges of the principalities of Hy-Many and Hy-Fiachra Aidhne, in South Connaught, and had their chief residence at a place called Ard-na-Cno, in the parish of Killiny, and barony of Kiltarton, as we are informed in the Book of Lecain : " To the Aes Brengair belongs the stewardship of the arch-chief of Hy-Many, and it is the office of the Ui-Draighnen to distribute justice to the tribes." The O'Drennans obtained extensive lands from the lords of the above mentioned territories in consideration of their services as judges ; and they erected for themselves several handsome residences in Hy-Many and Aidhne, vestiges of which remain. The name of their principal residence of Ard-na-Cno is happily preserved to this day in the townland of that name, in the above named parish and barony. In the townland of Cahirpeake, in the barony of Dunkellin, are the ruins of an ancient stronghold called Cahir Drinan, or the fortress of O'Drinan, who was chief of Tuar, the district in which it is situate. Several families of this name are to be met with in various parts of the counties of Clare and Galway at the present day, but they are all in narrow circumstances, none of them being above the condition of struggling small farmers. O'Drinan is sometimes made Thornton in Clare and Galway. The following mention is made of the O'Drennans in the topographical poem of Gillananeev O'Heerin :—

“ The lands around the fair Sliabh Eisi
In the sweet-streamed Cinel Sedna ;
A tribe who have cemented their people.
Of their country is O'Draighnen.”

The late Dr. Drennan of Belfast, author of the " Wake of William Orr," " Erinn," and other popular songs ; and his poetic sons, William Drennan and J. S. Drennan, M.D., were of this family.

The Mac Dubhains or Duans, of Clare, descendants of

Dubhain, son of
Cuagain, son of
Mulquin, son of
Finn, son of
Luachan son of
Onchon, son of
Finloga, son of
Findir, vide O'Ferral's pedigree.

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