

The Sept of O'Shaughnessy.

This aboriginal family, who were anciently Chiefs of Cineal Aodh, held a high position in Connaught, from the reign of Henry VIII., to that of James II., when their possessions were confiscated for adhering to his cause. Owing to the severity of William III. and his successors, not one of the family now possess property in the territory. In a description of the Province of Connaught, dated in the month of January, 1612, it is stated that ' the O'Heynes were then utterly banished, but that the O'Shaughnessies remayned a rich and hable family.' They are thus alluded to by O'Dugan, as one of those families who gave Chiefs to the district called Hy-Fiachrach Aidhne, in the 14th century.

“ Let us approach Aidhne of steeds,
And their noble Chiefs of hospitality ;
Let us trace their Kings, who are not few,
And treat of the host of the free clans.

We treat of Aidhne, a duly uncontroled.
We leave the Tribes of Connaught ;
We have melodiously sung of her nobles.
Let us record the Chiefs of Hy-Fiachra

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To other chiefs of Kineal Hugh
O'Shaughnessy whom I will not shun ;
Together with O'Cahil of the learned men ;
Smooth are his fields, and fertile his mountains.”

Fourteen of the race of Hy-Fiachrach were Kings of Connaught. Heremon, Monarch of Ireland, was ancestor of Achy, Monarch of Ireland, in A. D. 358, who married Mogfinna, daughter of Fidach, and sixth in descent from Olill Olom, King of Munster, by whom he had four sons :—

- I. Brian, from whom the Hybriunians in Connaught.
- II. Fiachrach, ancestor of the Hyfrachrians, in Connaught.
- III. Fergus.
- IV. Olill.

King Achy married, secondly, Carinna, the Saxon, and had issue—

Niall, the Great King of Ireland in A. D. 379, called Niall of the nine hostages.

Fiachrach, second son of King Achy, by his first wife, was King of Connaught and father of Dathy, who succeeded his uncle Niall as King of Ireland. This Monarch carried his victorious armies through Britain and France, and helped to cause the fall of the Roman Empire. He was killed by lightning at the foot of the Alps, and his body was brought to Ireland by his troops, and interred in the county of Roscommon, at Relig-na-Righ, or the burying-place of the Kings of Ireland ; and a large red pillar was placed over his grave, which remains to this day. He was killed in A. D. 428, and was the last Pagan King of Ireland. His real name was Feredach, but he was called Dathy, in consequence of his quickness in putting on his armour ; and is said by many ancient poetical Irish writers to have been so skilful in handling his arms and defending himself, that, if attacked by a hundred persons at once, all discharging their weapons at him, he could ward off every blow by his dexterity. He married Felia, [1] daughter of Achy, and had issue—

Achy Breac, who was father of

Eoghan Aidhne, so named from being Chief of the territory of Aidhne, called ' the land of saints.' He was reared and educated in this territory by the Oga Bathra tribe, who afterwards elected him their Chieftain. He had issue—

- I. Canall.
- II. Cormaa
- III. Sedna.

IV. Senach Ceanngamhna.

Conall, the eldest son, was father of

Goibhnenn, Chief of Hy-Fiachrach Aidhne. This warlike Chieftain in A.D. 531, fought the battle of Claonloch, in Cineal Aodh, in which he slew the valiant Maine, son of Cerbhal. He was father of

Cobhthach, who had issue—

I. Aodh.

II. Colman.

III. Canall, who was father of Ainmire, father of Duach, who married Rignach, the daughter of Cormac, of the race of Achy Breac, and was father of the celebrated St. Colman, commonly called MacDuach, to distinguish him from others bearing the same Christian-name, patron of Cineal Aodh, and first bishop of Cill MhicDuach, the church of the son of Duach, now Kilmacduach, in the county Galway.

Colman, the second son of Cobhthach, was father of

Guaire Aidhne, the Hospitable. He was King of Connaught, and from him the town of Gort was called Insi Guara, or the Island of Guara, it being his royal residence. He was father of

Artgoile, who had issue—

I. Aodh.

II. Artgoile, father of

Fergal Aidhne, King of Connaught, who died in 694, who was father of

Torpa, father of

Cathmagh, father of

Comuscach, father of

Ceadadhach, father of

Cluireach, father of

Eidhin *a quo* O'Hynes.

Aodh, the eldest son, was father of

Morrough, father of

Broinleath Dearg, father of

Tobhuigh Brenain, father of

Gabhran, father of

Eaghno, father of

Nochba, father of

Scothmaine, father of

Moltuile, father of

Cais.

Maolciarain.

Ferguli.

Conmidhe,

Donough.

Sheaghnessy, from whom the name O'Shaughnessy is derived.

Guil Buidhe O'Shaughnessy, killed at the battle of Ardee in 1159.

Randall O'Shaughnessy.

Giolla na naomh Crom O'Shaughnessy, Chief of the western half of Cineal Aodh, who died in 1224.

Rudric.

Giolla na naomh.

William.

Owen, or Eoghan-or Achy.

John Buighe. [2]

William, who was succeeded by his son

Sir Dermot O'Shaughnessy, [3] who married More Ny Bryan, called Na Pheeach or the gaudy, daughter of Bryan O'Brien, son of Teige, son of Torlough, son of Bryan, 'of the battle of Nenagh.' The 'Annals of the Four Masters' state, that this lady was distinguished for her personal beauty and benevolence. She died in 1569. Dermot O'Shaughnessy having accompanied O'Brien, King of Thomond, and Ulick na Cane, of Clan-Rickard, to the Court of Henry VIII., they surrendered their territories; and the Lord Deputy states, that they had no sterling money, as none could be had in the kingdom; but that he lent them some in harp groats; and he says, in a letter addressed to King Henry, speaking of O'Brien — 'that ther repaireth with O'Brien one O'Shaughness, a goodly gentleman dwelling between Thomond and Conn-aught,' and adds, 'We know no suite he hathe but only to see you and take his lands, and be your subject.' Henry VIII. wrote afterwards to the Council in Ireland, stating that he had created 'O'Shaghness,' a knight, and directing them to make out a patent for 'O'Shaftness,' and others, of their lands, [4] such as they have now in their possession; and in a note it is stated, that O'Shaughnessy was to have a 'Bishoprick,' or some other spiritual dignity for his kinsman Malachy Donohoo, and the Bishoprick of Kilmacduagh for his son William Shaftness. On the 3rd of December, 1543, Sir Dermot received his patent from Henry VIII., [5] which recited, that although he and his predecessors, Kings of England, were the true possessors of the lands therein named, yet, that Sir Dermot and his ancestors possessed them unjustly against the Crown until lately: being truly sensible thereof, he relinquished the same, and accordingly granted to Sir Dermot, Chief of his name, and his heirs male *in capite*, by the service of a knight's fee, all the estate which he had in the manors, lordships, lands, &c., of Gort-Inchegorie, and several other lands, with a proviso, however, of forfeiture, in case of any confederacy or disturbance against the Crown. Sir Dermot had issue [6] —

I. Sir Roger.

II. William, referred to above.

III. Dermot, surnamed Reavagh, who contended for the Chieftaincy of Cineal Aodh, of whom presently.

IV. Joan married, about the year 1560, Edmond Bermingham, 15th Lord Athenry, and Premier Baron of Ireland, by whom she had issue.

Sir Roger O'Shaughnessy, called in the 'Annals of the Four Masters,' Giolla Duff, married the Lady Honora O'Brien, daughter of Morrough, the first Earl of Thomond. This lady was Abbess of the Abbey of Killowen, near Ennis. Sir Roger O'Shaughnessy died in 1569, and his death is thus recorded in the 'Annals of the Four Masters.' "O'Shaughnessy, i. e. Giolla Duv, the son of Dermot, son of William, son of John Buighe, the supporting mound of all the English and Irish who came to his place, died; he was, though not learned in the Latin or English, the most esteemed and admired man by the English of his time." He left issue [7] —

I. John, said in the 'Annals of the Four Masters' to have succeeded father, but was deposed by his uncle Dermot Riveagh.

II. William, who married the sister of William Oge Burke, of Cloghroak Castle, Esq., but died without issue.

III. Fargananim, who died unmarried.

IV. Dermot, ultimately Chief of Cineal Aodh.

V. Joan.

VI. Margaret.

On the death of Sir Roger, a great disturbance took place between the members of the O'Shaughnessy family. Dermot Riveagh (his brother) claimed to be Chief of the clan, and the case was heard by the Privy Council in Dublin, who made their award on the 21st of March, 1570, in favour of Dermot Riveagh, who was a man of fierce disposition. He had been in

England, and while there became what was then styled servant to the Earl of Leicester, the favourite of Queen Elizabeth, and had, therefore, great interest with the English Court, so much so, indeed, that he was able to procure from Queen Elizabeth the following letter addressed to the Lord Deputy Sir Henry Sidney :—

“ By the Queen,

“ ELIZABETH R.

“ Right trusty and well beloved we grete you well. Wher one Derby O’Shagnes, Lord of Kynally in that or Realme of Ireland, hath by the meanes of his Lord and Master or Coosen the Erle of Leicester humbly required as not onely to geue him leaue to returne into his country but also to recomend his petition unto yow for some order to be taken with him upon the death of his brother named Roger O’Shaghnes as being next heire unto him we being duely inforemed of his honest demeanor here and of his earnest desire to Serve us, have been content to accompt him to or service and too require yow to have favorable consideracion of his sute and as you shall fynd it mete to place and settle him in the foresaid Contry so the rather to encourrage him to persever in his fidelitie to shewe him as mucche favor as may accord with the good government of the same contry

“ Given under our Signet at or Manor of Otlands the xxiiird
of June 1570 in the xiiith yere of our Reigne.

“ To Or right trusty and wellbeloved Sr Henry
Sidney, Knight of Or Order of the Garter
and Deputy of our Realme of Irland.”

He contended against the O’Briens, and slew Morrough, third Baron of Inchiquin. According to the ‘ Annals of the Four Masters,’ in the year 1578, “ Murrough the son of Dermot, son of Morrough O’Brien, was slain by Ulick Burke, the son of Rickard, son of Ulick of the Heads, aided by O’Shaughnessy, namely, Dermot Riavach, the son of Dermot, son of William, son of John Buighe, and it was by the hand of O’Shaughnessy he was slain ;” and it also states that “ Gort was taken from O’Shaughnessy by John Burke, in revenge of the death of his brother,” who was also slain by Dermot Riveagh. However, he still held Ardemilevan Castle, and led a desperate life until the year 1579, when according to the ‘ Annals of the Four Masters,’ “ O’Shaughnessy, i e. Dermot Reavach, the son of Dermot, son of William, son of John Buighe, and his brother’s son William, the son of Giolla Duv, son of Dermot, fell by each others’ hands in a treacherous attack made by O’Shaughnessy on William in the vicinity of Ard-Maol-dubhain ; William was slain on the spot, and O’Shaughnessy was wounded, of which he died soon after.” The Annals further state that John, the son of Gialladuff (Sir Roger), was nominated O’Shaughnessy. This John O’Shaughnessy, the eldest son of Sir Roger, was born before the Lady Honora O’Brien, his mother, was married, [8] in Galway ; still it would appear that the Government were inclined at one time to acknowledge him as chief of his sept, although they had before given their decision in favour of his uncle Dermot Riveagh. In 1585 this John and his younger brother Dermot attended Ferret’s Parliament. Thus it would seem the Government of that unfortunate period endeavoured to make the O’Shaughnessy clan quarrel among themselves, by having two of its members to represent it at the same time. It would also appear that John O’Shaughnessy, finding that the laws of England were in favour of his younger brother Dermot—who had made efforts to depose him—conveyed the lands of Cineal Aodh to Sir Geoffry Fenton ‘ for the sole consideration of Sir Geffrie maintaining his title against Dermot.’ On Fenton’s death Sir Fulco Comerford, who was son of Gerald Comerford of Incholegan, in Kilkenny, Baron of the Exchequer in 1603, claimed all Cineal Aodh under his will. The following extract throws some light on the history of the O’Shaughnessy sept during the early part of the seventeenth century :—

“ Abstract of Depositions in a cause in the Chancery of Ireland, wherein Fulk Comerford was Plaintiff, and Roger O’Shaghnes, of Gort-Inchigorye, in Galway county, Defendant, touching the town and lands of Cappafennell or Capperell, in that county, A. D., 1615.

“ Donnell O’Halloran of Gilloconry, in Galway county, husbandman, deposed that Sir Roger O’Shaghnes was son and heir of Sir Dermot—that Sir Roger was married to Honora ny Brien, by whom he had four sons :—1st, John, born about four or five years before marriage, as were also two daughters, Joan and Margaret ; and 2nd, William ; 3rd, Ferganany ; and 4th Dermott, born in marriage ; that William was married, but died without male issue, and Ferganany died unmarried ; that John O’Shaghnes conveyed all the lands in O’Shaghnes county to Sir Geffrie Finton for the sole consideration of Sir Geffrie maintaining the title of John against Dermott ; that John was continually disturbed in his possession by Dermott, the defendant’s father ; that Dermott, after the death of his two brothers, and in the lifetime of John, enjoyed the greatest part of the lands of which Sir Roger had died seised, and that John was always reputed to be a bastard ; that Sir Roger, the defendant’s grandfather, enjoyed these lands (viz., Cappafennell), and had tillage there, having had at one time fourteen score of reapers in harvest cutting, of whom deponent was one.”

Depositions to the same effect were made by the following persons, viz. :—

“ Knougher Crone O’Hyne, of Ledygane, gent., 100 years old, and upwards.

Richard Burke, of Rahaly, in Galway county, 64 years, or thereabouts ; who added that he had seen an Order of Council made by Sir Henry Sydney, between Dermot and William, brother and son of Sir Roger, ordering that William should enjoy O’Shaghnes’ lands to him and his heirs male, remainder to Dermot, Sir Roger’s brother.

Margaret, Countess Dowager of Clanrickard, 80 years old, and upwards, sister of Honora, wife of Sir Roger ; who added that they were married by a dispensation from Rome.

Manus Ward, Dean of KilmacRoweth (Kilmacduach), 80 years old, or thereabouts ; who added that he knew of the controversy between Dermot and William O’Shaghnes as above mentioned, wherein Dermot endeavoured to prove Sir Roger’s sons bastards, because their mother was abbatissa, and could not be wife.

Sir Tirrelagh O’Brien, of Dowgh, in Clare county, Knt., nephew of Honora sy Brien.

Donell O’Heyne, of Killaveragh (Kinvara), freeholder, aged 80 years.

Richard Lord Bremigham, Baron of Athenrye, nephew of Sir Roger by his mother.

Tirlagh Roe MacMahowne, of Clare county, Esq., 44 years old ; who added that he knew the defendant’s father, Dermott, to have been in suit with John O’Shaghnes, and to have held Gort-Inshyory, the Newton and Ardemoylenan, during Sir John’s lifetime, as heir of the body of Sir Roger.

Nehemias Folan, of Balladowgan, in Galway county, Esq., 60 years old ; who added that Dermott Reagh O’Shaghnes, brother to Sir Roger, being servant to the Earl of Leyster, having come from England after Sir Roger’s death, brought in question the legitimacy of Sir Roger’s sons by the Lady Honora, at which time, during Sir Henry Sydney’s Government, it appeared that the said Honora was a professed nun when the said Sir Roger had the said John by her, and that afterwards a dispensation was procured from Rome for their marriage.”

John O'Shaughnessy, the eldest son of Sir Roger, being declared illegitimate, and banished from Cineal Aodh, joined the sons of Shane na Seamar Burke, son of Rickard de Burgh, Earl of Clanricard, surnamed Sasanagh, who rebelled in 1598, and while encamped in the territory of O'Meagher at I-Kerrin, in Tipperary, were surprised by night in January, 1601, by Sir Walter Butler, and many of them slain, amongst whom was this John O'Shaughnessy. The event is thus recorded in the 'Annals of the Four Masters.'

“The sons Shane-na-Seamar, the son of Rickard Sasanach Burke, of whom we have already treated, were encamped on the estate of O'Meagher, in Ikerrin, in Tipperary, on the 1st day of the month of January. Spies and reconnoiterers came about them in that place from the Butlers, after it had been reported by some of their gentlemen, that an opportunity and an advantage could be obtained to attack them at that place where they were; so that it was on that account Sir Walter, the son of John, son of James Butler, and MacPierce, namely, James, the son of Edmond, son of James, with a number of the gentlemen of the two counties, viz., of the county of Tipperary, and of the county of Kilkenny, came to meet and join each other on a certain night, at a particular place appointed and agreed upon by them; the resolution to which they came in their consultation, and on which they agreed, was to attack the Conacian camp very early on the following morning. An unusual thing, and an evident fatality, befel that camp of the Burkes, viz., an advantage being gained of their watching, so that their enemies came amongst them, who left them stretched lifeless, with their flesh lacerated, and their gory bodies completely hacked throughout their tents and booths. On that occasion O'Shaughnessy, i. e., John, the son of Giolla Duv, son of Dermod, son of William, who had been expelled from his patrimony, like all the other insurgents, who were along with the sons of John Burke, was slain. John Oge, the son of John Burke, was taken prisoner there, and was brought to Kilkenny to be imprisoned. Redmond Burke and William, together with a number of their party, having escaped from that conflict, went from thence into Ely, but did not remain long in that territory, when they proceeded into Ulster, leaving the towns of Ormond, which were in alliance with them, till then feebly defended.” Therefore, of all the sons of Sir Roger, only Dermot the younger survived, who succeeded as—

Sir Dermot O'Shaughnessy, [9] Knt of Gortinsiguara, Chief of his name. Sir Dermot had, previous to his accession to the Chieftaincy of his sept, married Sheela ny Hubert de Burgh, and died on the 8th of July, 1606, having had issue by her—

I. Sir Roger, born in 1583.

II. Dathe.

III. Lieutenant-Colonel William, who married Eleanor, daughter of Sir Robert Lynch, Bart, of Castle-Carra, county Mayo, and had issue—

1. William.
2. Edmond.
3. Roger.
4. Dermot.

IV. Joan, who married Sir William de Burgh, Knt, son of Ulick, third Earl of Clanricarde, and by him was mother of Richard and William, successively sixth and seventh Earls of Clanricard. Sir Roger O'Shaughnessy, in a letter dated at Fidane Castle in 1647, alludes to this fact; therefore, the Clanricarde pedigree given in Lodge's Peerage is incorrect, inasmuch as it states, that the wife of Sir William Burke, by whom he had issue, was the daughter of Sir James MacDonnell. The following is the tradition of the peasantry, in the neighbourhood of Clooneene and Fidane:—“Joan, eldest daughter of Sir Dermot O'Shaughnessy, of Gortinsiguara, Knt., while out riding at Cloone, near Gort, was surprised by a party of Clan-

rickard's troops, who were out on a plundering expedition, and carried off by them to Portumna Castle, where Lady Clanrickard, taking a great fancy to her, had her married to one of her sons."

V. Julia, who married Teige O'Kelly, Esq., of Gkdlagh Castle, county Galway.

VI. Honoria, who married Johnock Buirke, Esq., of Tully.

Sir Roger O'Shaughnessy had a patent to hold a fair, dated 1607, at Gortinsignara, and was made a freeman of Galway in 1611. On the breaking out of the insurrection in 1641, he appears to have aided the Earl of Clanricarde, and by his order hanged two cow-herds for having killed a minister in the country. His first wife was Ellis Lynch. He married, secondly, in 1642, Julia, second daughter of Charles MacCarthy, of Muskerry, and relict of David Barry, Viscount Buttevant, and Baron of Ibawne. Sir Roger possessed a castle near Timolegue Abbey, in Cork, where his family then were residing and besieged, which is shown by the following extract from a letter written by the Marquis of Clanricarde to Lord Inchiquin : — " The bearer, my noble kinsman Sir Roger O'Shaughnessy, has by my licence taken his departure out of this Government into Munster, to take care of his lady, family, and estates, in these parts, which, by reason of his long absence, doth, and may suffer by the general unhappy distemper in this kingdom. I could not let so much worth and merit pass from me, without giving your Lordship notice, that in his own person, his son and followers, he hath constantly, and with much forward affection, being present and assisting to me in all my proceedings and endeavours for his Majesties service." The son alluded to was Dermot who had raised fifty foot soldiers for Clanricarde ; and Sir Roger's brother was a captain in this levy. Sir Roger wrote a letter from his Castle of Fidane, in 1647, to his daughter Julia, wife of the Chief of Clancahill, in Cork, of which the following copy is inserted here, as a proof that Sir William Burke, or De Burgh, Knt., had issue by Joan, daughter of Sir Dermot O'Shaughnessy, Knt. : —

" For my uerie loueinge Daughter Mrs, Gyles Donouane, at Castledonouane theise.

" Daughter,

" I have received yours of the eighteenth of Ffebruarie last and as for your troubles you must be patient as well as others and for my parte I taste enough of that fruit ; God mend it amongst all, and send us a more happie tyme. As for the partie lately commanded to the cuntree of Kiery who may be expected to return that way, they are conducted by my Nephew (your Coussen) Lieut. Collonell William Bourke, to whom I have written by the bearer in your behalfe. I am most Confident he will not suffer any wrong to be don into your Dependents, Tenants, or yourself. And if in gase you should expect the whole Armye you may certifie me soe much with speed and I shall take that Course that shal be befittinge. In the meane tyme beseeching God to bless and keepe you and yours—

" I am,
"Youre assured loveing ffather,

" R. O'SHAGHNISSYE.

" Fedan, 14 Martii, 1647."

The Arms on the seal of this letter were — A tower carenelled in pale between two lions combatant ; the crest, an arm in armour embowed, grasping a spear.

Sir Roger, who died in 1650, left issue by his first wife—

I. Sir Dermot.

II. Julia, married Daniel O'Donovan, of Castle Donovan, Chief of Claneahill, county Cork, by whom he had issue—

1. Colonel Daniel, an officer in King James's army, and great grand-father of the late General O'Donovan, of Bawnlahan.
2. Cornelius.
3. Murrough.
4. Richard.

Sir Dermot O'Shaughnessy, the eldest son, was one of the Members of the Catholic Confederation of Kilkenny, from the county of Galway, in 1642. About September, 1651, while in Galway, General Ludlow, the regicide, passing Gortinsiguara, on his way to Limerick, stormed and burned its Castle, of which he gives the following account : —“ Having put a garrison into this place, and sent back Commissary-General Reynolds, with his party, to Portumna, I marched with my Horse towards Limerick, and came to Gourtenshegore, a castle belonging to Sir Dermot O'Shortness, who was then gone to Galway, but had left his tenants with some souldiers, and one Foliot an English man to command them in the castle. At my coming before it, I summoned them to submit, offering them, that in case they would dismiss their souldiers, and promise to live quietly in the obedience of the Parliament, I would leave no garrison in the place, nor suffer any prejudice to be done to them. They, pretending they had already submitted to Sir Charles Coote, refused to deliver the Castle to any other. Though I took this to be only a pretence, yet, to leave them without excuse, and to prevent all exceptions, I sent to Sir Charles Coote to desire him to let me know how the matter stood, and to direct them to deliver the place to me. Having received an answer to my letter from Sir Charles Coote, I sent it to them, telling them that now I expected their obedience ; but, instead of that, they sent me a defiance, and sounded their bagpipes in contempt of us, to which they were chiefly encouraged by one of the country, whom I had sent to bring in to me some iron bars, sledges, and pickaxes, and who, under colour of going to fetch them, ran away to the enemy, and acquainted them with our want of Artillery, and instruments to force them. I gave orders to take up all the horses from grass, to bridle and saddle them, and to tie them to the tents of their respective troops, commanding two troops to mount the guard, and to send out scouts to discover if any enemy were near. The rest of the men I drew into several parties, and assigned them their particular attacks. Every souldier carried a fagot before him, as well to defend himself, as to fill up the enemies trenches, or to fire the gates, as there should be occasion. On one side of the wall there was an earth-work, about eleven foot high, with a trench of equal breadth without. The wall of the Court was about twelve foot high, well flanked. On the other side the place was secured by a river. Upon our first approach, the enemy shot very thick upon us, and killed two of our men, which so enraged the rest, that they ran up to the works, and helping one another to the top of them, beat off the enemy, following them so close, that by means of some ladders which those within had made use of, they got into the Court, and put to the sword most of those they found there, the enemy not daring to open the gate to receive their friends. Those of ours who had entered the Court, having no instruments to force the house, made use of a wooden bar which they found, and with which they wrested out the iron bars of a strong stone window, about six foot from the ground, and forced the enemy by their shot out of that room, where, being entered, they put to the sword those that were there. Lieutenant Foliot finding his case desperate, resolved to sell his life at as dear a rate as he could, and charged our men, who were nine or ten in number, with a tuck in one hand, and a stiletto in the other, defending himself so well with the one, and preseing them so hard with the other, that they all gave ground ; but he, closing with one of them whom he had wounded, and probably might have killed, gave an opportun-

ity to another to run him through the body, by which wound he fell, and the house was quickly cleared of the rest. Most of the principal of the enemies being got into the Castle, our men fired a great number of faggots at the gates, which burned so furiously, that the flame took hold of the floors, and other timber within, through the iron grate, which, being perceived by those in the Castle, they hung out a white flag, begging earnestly for mercy, and that we would take away the fire. I commanded my men to leave shooting, and acquaint the besieged, that if they expected any favour from us, they must throw down their arms, which they presently did. Whereupon I ordered the fire to be taken away, and gave a souldier twenty shillings to fetch out two barrels of powder that was near the fire, which continued to burn so fiercely, that we could not put it out, but were obliged to throw up skains of match into the chambers, by which those in the Castle descended to us, being about four-score in number, besides many women and children. We secured the men until the next morning, when I called a Council of War, and being pressed by the officers, that some of the principal of them might be punished with death for their obstinacy, I consented to their demand, provided it might not extend to such as had been drawn in by the malice of others. Those who were tenants to Sir Dermot O'Shartness and countrymen, I dismissed to their habitations, upon promise to be-have themselves peaceably, and to engage against us no more ; the rest of them we carried away with us. While we were spending our time in sending to Sir Charles Coote, and expect-ing his answer, I had sent out a party of horse to find out some of the enemies that were marched towards the barony of Burren ; and though they could not overtake them, yet. they met with four or five hundred head of cattle, and seized them, which proved a great refresh-ment to our party, and to the army that was besieging Limerick, whither we returned and gave an account of our proceedings to the Deputy, who expressed himself well satisfied with the same." Shortly after, the Castle being taken by the Parliamentarian troops. Sir Dermot O'Shaughnessy went on the Continent, and served Charles II. during his exile ; but on the Restoration he was restored to his family mansion of Gortinsiguara, and 2,000 acres of land.

" That the town and lands of Gortinshigory, in the county of Galway, formerly the estate of Sir Dermot O'Shaughnessy, and other lands and tenements, and hereditaments, hereinafter mentioned, were seized and sequestered on account of the rebellion, which broke out in Ireland on the 23rd October, 1641, and were, by an Act of Parliament 14th & 15th Car. 2di., intituled ' An Act for the better Execution of his Majesty's gracious Declaration, for the Settlement of his Kingdom of Ireland, and Satisfaction of the several Interests of Adventurers, Soldiers, and others, his subjects there ; ' and also by another Act, 17 Car. 2di., ' For the Explaining of some Doubts arising upon the said former Act, and for making some Alterations and Additions thereto, and for the more speedy and Effectual Settlement of the said Kingdom, ' vested in his said Majesty, his Heirs, and Successors, to the intent to be settled, confirmed, restored, or disposed to and for such Use and Uses, and in such Manor, as in and by the said Acts of Parliament is declared, limited, and appointed by a Clause in the said last-mentioned Act." It was further enacted, " That fifty-four persons therein named (of whom the said Sir Dermot O'Shaughnessy was one) should, on the Terms in the said Acts mentioned, be restored to such of their principal Seats as they should make choice of, and 2,000 Acres of Land thereto adjoining. That Sir Dermot having made choice of his said principal seat of Gortinshegory and 2,000 acres of land, pursuant to the said Clause, obtained a Certificate thereof dated 8th March, 1666, from the Commissioners for putting the same Acts into Execution, in order to have an effectual Grant of the said Lands by Letters Patent, as directed by the Acts ; but that he never obtained any Grant pursuant to the Certificate, so that he was only entitled to a Trust or equitable Estate in the said Lands the legal Estate thereof remaining in the Crown." Sir Dermot, as a transplanted person, was likewise entitled to other lands and also as a purchase in 1662-3. ' Dame Margaret Shaghnessy ' and ' Sheela Shaghnessy ' were returned on what was called the Roll of Innocents.

Sir Dermot married the Lady Margaret Barry, [10] daughter of the Right Hon. David Baron of Ibowne and Viscount Buttevant, by his second wife Julia, [11] second daughter of Cormac McCarthy, of Muskerry, General of the Provincials, &c., and had issue at his death in 1673 —

- I. Roger, of whom presently.
- II. Charles, of whom hereafter.
- III. Margaret, who married Hugh O’Conor, Esq.
- IV. Julia.
- V. Hester, who was betrothed to Colonel Rupert Forster of Clooneene, but died unmarried.

Roger O’Shaughnessy, Esq., the eldest son, married the Lady Helena O’Brien, daughter of the Right Hon. Conor, Lord Viscount Clare. [12] Their marriage articles, dated on the 19th of October, 1667, [13] were duly executed between the Lord dare and Colonel Daniel O’Brien, his eldest son and heir apparent, of the first part, and Sir Dermot O’Shaughnessy of the other part ; whereby Sir Dermot, in consideration of the intended marriage, and of a considerable sum of money agreed and secured to be paid to him as the portion of the said Helena, did for himself, his heirs and assigns, covenant and agree to and with the said Lord Clare and Daniel O’Brien, their heirs or assigns, that the said Sir Dermot, his heirs and assigns, should, on or before the 1st day of May next, convey unto four trustees, two whereof to be of the nomination of Lord Clare and Daniel O’Brien, or either of them, and the other two of the nomination of Sir Dermot, his heirs or assigns, a good estate in law, in fee simple, of and in the Castle and Island of Fidane, and 12 quarters of land more, with all their rights, members, appendances and appurtenances lying and being in the Barony of Kiltarton, in county of Galway, to the use of the said Roger and Helen for their lives and the life of the survivor of them, as a jointure for the said Helena ; remainder to the heirs male of the bodies of the said Roger and Helena ; remainders to the heirs male of the body of Sir Dermot ; remainder to the heirs male of the body of Sir Roger O’Shaughnessy deceased, father to Sir Dermot ; remainder to the right heirs of Sir Dermot ; and also that the said Sir Dermot should, on or before the said 1st of May, convey unto the said trustees a good, sure, and indefeasible estate in fee-simple of and in 35 quarters of land more, whereof Gortinshigory and the lands thereunto belonging were to be part, in the said county of Galway, to hold the said 85 quarters of land to the trustees and their heirs, to the use of Sir Dermot for life ; remainder as to 12 quarters thereof to the use of Lady Margaret O’Shaughnessy his wife, for her life, &c., &c. Soon after the signing of those articles the marriage was solemnized ; and by indenture bearing date the 10th of September, 1668, the year after, made between Sir Dermot O’Shaughnessy, William O’Shaughnessy, Esq., and Captain Francis Forster, of Clooneene, of the first part ; the Right Hon. Conor Lord Viscount Clare, the Hon. Colonel Daniel O’Brien, his eldest son Marcus Lynch, Barrister-at-law, and Donough O’Brien, Esq., of the second part. Sir Dermot made a further settlement of these and other lands. Roger O’Shaughnessy was a Captain in Lord Clare’s Tellow Dragoons, and, although then in ill health, proceeded with his company from Limerick, where it was stationed, to take part in the coming battle of the Boyne ; but when within a few miles of the scene of action, having fallen in with the retreating Irish army, [14] and his health becoming worse, he slowly proceeded to Gortinsiguara, where he died on the 11th of July, 1690, ten days after the battle. Although dead, he was attainted on the 11th of May, 1691, and an inquisition was held in the town of Galway, on his lands, on the 5th of September, 1696. King William III. granted the O’Shaughnessy property *in custodiam* to Gustavus, first Baron Hamilton, who shortly after having received from the Crown a grant of other lands, King William, by Letters Patent, bearing date the 19th of June, 1697, granted it to Sir Thomas Prendergast, in consideration of ‘ his good and acceptable services ’ in discovering the Assassination Plot. Sir Thomas Prendergast having had the estates undervalued, he received a subsequent patent, dated the 20th of September, 1698, reciting the former grant, and stating that the King was informed at that time that the O’Shaughnessy estates were worth £500 per annum, but that they had since

become of less value ; and that as it was his Majesty's intention that £500 a year should be the sum allowed to Sir Thomas for his services, several other lands, to the clear yearly value of £334 0s. 2½*d.*, situate in the counties of Galway, Roscommon, Tipperary, and Westmeath, were granted to him. Captain Roger O'Shaughnessy of Gortinsiguara and Fidane Castles, had issue by his wife Lady Helena O'Brien—who afterwards married Captain Hugh O'Kelly, a distinguished Jacobite officer who had served all through the great War of the Revolution in Ireland, and was a relative of The O'Kelly of Mullaghmore Castle, county of Galway, who was killed at the battle of Aughrim, and was the husband of Sarah, daughter of Captain Francis Forster of Clooneene, by his wife Mary, daughter of Sir James O'Donnellan, Chief Justice of Connaught, in 1637—two children.

I. William, who was educated in France, where he joined the army, became a Major-General in the Irish Brigade, and having taken part in the romantic rescue of the youthful Princess Maria Clementina, afterwards wife of James III., as shown in Chapter I.I., was knighted by his Holiness Pope Clement XI. in 1719. Sir William O'Shaughnessy, or the Chevalier O'Shaughnessy, as he was called on the Continent, was on the 10th of July, 1691, appointed by King Louis XIV. a Captain in the regiment of his first cousin the Hon. Daniel O'Brien, who afterwards succeeded his father as Lord Clare. In this rank and in the same year he was present at the siege of Montmelian ; in 1692 he served with the army of Italy ; in 1693 at the great battle of Marsaglia, in Piedmont ; in 1696 he took part in the conclusion of the military operations beyond the Alps, which were brought about by the siege of Valenza, at which he was appointed Commandant of the 3rd battalion of his regiment, and in 1697 was attached to the army of the Meuse. On the reform which took place in 1698, of the second and third battalions of his regiment, he was, on the 1st of April, appointed Captain of Grenadiers in the battalion which was kept on foot. After the breaking out of the War of the Spanish Succession in 1701 and 1702, he was actively engaged with the army of Germany. In 1703, Captain O'Shaughnessy distinguished himself by his military ability at the reduction of Kehl, the battle of Munderkingen, and the first battle of Hochstedt. In 1704, he took part in the second battle of Hochstedt, better known to the readers of English history as that of Blenheim, and inseparably associated with the memory of the famous Duke of Marlborough, as Waterloo is with that of the Duke of Wellington. In 1705, he was employed with the army of the Moselle, and in 1706, at the memorable battle of Ramillies. The Major of his regiment, the gallant John O'Carroll, another brave Irishman of the Brigade, having died from the effects of his wounds, as did also the Colonel, Lord Clare, received in this battle. Captain O'Shaughnessy was on the 4th of July appointed Major of the Regiment of Clare, and on the 12th of September was made Lieutenant-Colonel. He served with the army of Flanders in 1707, at the battle of Oudenarde in 1708, at that of Malplaquet in 1709, in which Brigadier-General Sir Thomas Prendergast, to whom the O'Shaughnessy property had been granted, was killed (see Chapter XLVI). He took part in the attack of Arleux in 1711, at the battle of Denuai and the sieges of Douai, Quesnoi, and Bouchain in 1712, and in Germany, in the campaigns of Landau and Friburgh. He was appointed Brigadier by brevet on the 3rd of April, 1721, and was, as appears by letters of the 15th of September, 1733, employed with the army of the Rhine, and at the siege of Kehl in October the same year. It appears by letters of the 1st of April, 1734, that he was at the attack of the lines of Etlingen, and at the siege of Philippsburgh, in which the Marshal Duke of Berwick was killed, and his cousin Lord Clare wounded by the same ball Lieutenant-Colonel O'Shaughnessy was appointed *Maréchal-de-Camp* or Major-General by brevet on the 1st of August, in which capacity he finished this campaign. He continued as *Maréchal-de-Camp* with the army of the Rhine, by letters of the 1st of May, 1735, and was present at the engagement of Clausen. He was attached to the Army of Flanders by letters of the 21st of August, 1742, and commanded at Cambray during the winter, where he remained while the campaign of 1743 lasted. On the 1st of November he was appointed to command at Gravelines, and here he died on the 2nd of January, 1744, having attained the ripe old age of seventy years—as he was about being created a Count and

Chevalier of the Royal and Military Order of St. Louis, in reward of the many great services which he had rendered to the country of his adoption. This veteran soldier having died without issue, the representation of his sept devolved upon his cousin-germain, the Rev. Colman O'Shaughnessy, afterwards Lord Bishop of Ossory.

II. Helena, who married Theobald Butler, Esq., eldest son and heir of Pierce Butler, Esq., of Ballygegan, representative of a junior branch of the noble House of Ormonde, by whom she had issue —

Charles O'Shaughnessy, Esq., of Ardemilevan Castle, the second son of Sir Dermot O'Shaughnessy, Knt, of Gortinsiguara Castle, and his wife Lady Margaret Barry, daughter of the Right Hon. David Viscount Buttevant, married Eleanor Lynch, of Rafiladown, county Galway, and died in 1721, having had issue—

I. Joseph, who died in 1732, during the life of his first cousin Major-General William O'Shaughnessy of the Irish Brigade, Chief of the sept, having had issue—

1. Elizabeth, who married James Butler, Esq., of Doon, county Galway, by whom she had issue —

2. Mary, who married Murtoogh Cam MacMahon, Esq.

II. Colman, who became Catholic Bishop of Ossory, and succeeded to the Chieftaincy of his sept, on the death of his cousin-germain Major-General William O'Shaughnessy of the Irish Brigade, head of his sept, who died without issue in France, in 1744, as stated above, but being a Catholic he could not succeed in recovering the property of his family, as his Lordship would not be recognised in law as heir to the O'Shaughnessy estates. After having made an unsuccessful attempt to recover the property in the fifteenth and sixteenth years of the reign of George II., he resided for some time privately with the learned Rev. Edmond Burke, author of the 'Hibernia Dominicana,' who thus notices the sept of O'Shaughnessy—

“ F. Colmanns O'Shaughnessy, S. Theologiæ Magister Alumnus Atheniensis Cænobii oriundus e præclarissima Familia do Gort in Galvicensi Agro, Conaciæ cujus Nobilitatem antiquitatem et Integritatem qui non novit Hiberniam non novit. Lovanii in Ordinom Fratrum Prædicatorum ex Officiali Militari Cooptatus ibidem Studia confecit atque docore incepit Anno 1706. Missionibus Apostolicis Hiberniæ maturus eoque profectus laudabiliter se gessit Sermono et peculiari Morum Candore in plurimis Conaciæ Regionibus ingenti cum Animarum Fructu prædicans. Die 30 Aprilis, 1726 in Comitibus Dublinii celebratis electus fuit Provincialis in locum Stephani nosiri Mac-Egan Episcopi tunc Clonmacnoisensis nuperrime laudati. Anno 1736, a Clemente XII., Pontifice Maximo renunciatus fuit Episcopus Ossoriensis vulgo Ossory in Lagenia sub Metropoli Dubliniensi atquo Dublinii in Monialium nostrarum Acadibus Sacris consecratus a D. Joanne Linegar ejusdom Urbis Archipræsulo assistentibus F. Stophano Mac-Egan mox laudato Midensi et F. Michael Mac-Donoghy Kilmorensi Episcopis ex ordine nostro ut ex nupcr dictis liquet assumptis. Anno 1744 defuncto Patruclæ suo Tribune Gulielmo O'Shaghnessy in Galliarum Partibus quo pater ipsius Rogerius Regem Jacobum secutus fuerat Anno 1691, cam ob Causam Castro suo Allodiali Gortensi amplissimisque circumjacentibus Prædiis ultra Summam bis Mille et quinquies centum Librarum Sterlingarum id est decies Mille Scutorum Romanorum annuatim valentibus privatus a Principe Arausicano nuncupato Gulielmo III. qui eadem concessit Equiti Thomæ Prendergast durante duntaxat vita laudatorum Rogerii et Gulielmi O'Shaghnessy isto inquam Gulielmo defuncto Colmanus noster O'Shaghnessy etsi jam Episcopus Litem inchoavit qua Familise suæ Primpilus Dublinii in Curia Communium Placitorum contra tunc et adhuc existentem Equitem Thomam pariter Prendergast primo dicti filium ad Bona ilia

hæreditaria recuperanda atque Præsule nostro e vivis sublato in jure successit Germanus ipsius Frater Robocus OShaghnessy Armiger hujusque nunc succedit Filius Josephus O'Shaghnessy Armiger. Eques autem Thomas Prendergast acriter se defendit non quidem Justitia Causæ suæ sed Pecunia et Potentia unus quippe est o Senatoribus Regni in Parlamento sedens insuperque Regni a Sanctoribus Consiliis ad Differentiam Domini O'Shaghnessy qui Fidci Catholieæ est Cultor suisque hæreditariis Bonis exutus." — pp. 505, 506.

The Lord Bishop of Ossory died in France in 1748.

III. Roebuc, or Robert, who became Chief of his name, on the death of his elder brother Colman, Lord Bishop of Ossory. He married Eleanor, eldest daughter of Ulick Burke, Esq., of Ower, and his wife Catherine, daughter of Stephen Lynch, Esq., of Doughieska, by his wife Eleanor, daughter of Sir John Browne, of the Neal, ancestor of the Lords Kilmaine. This Chieftain claimed the estates of his sept in 1744, and died on the 8th of August, 1754, having had issue —

- I. Joseph.
- II. William.
- III. Mary.
- IV. Catharine.
- V. Ellis.
- VI. Eleanor.

Joseph O'Shaughnessy the eldest son, who succeeded his father as Chief of Cineal Aodh, also claimed his hereditary estates, and a protracted lawsuit ensued in consequence. On the 15th of June, 1769, the Court decided against him. The unfortunate Chieftain then became a Protestant, in name only, bought his younger brother William's claim, and, being assisted by his friends and relatives appealed to the English House of Lords to have the decision reversed ; but on the 16th of February, 1770, his case was dismissed, and thus this ancient and aboriginal sept were unjustly deprived of their inheritance ; a family of whom De Burgo says, in his ' Hibernia Dominicana,' — ' Cujus nobilitatem antiquitatem et integritatem qui non novit Hibemiam non novit.'

Arms — Argent, a castle triple-towered azure.

Supporters — Two Uons, or.

Crest — Over an Esquire's helmet an arm in armoir, the hand holding a long spear, all p p r.

Motto — Portia et stabilis.

[1] Olill Molt, Monarch of Ireland, was son of King Dathi, by his wife Ethnea, daughter of Courach Cas ; and Fiachrach Elgad was his son by Rusina, daughter of Artich Uetlethan.

[2] This Chieftain is called in the ' Annals of the Four Masters,' *John Buighe*, but is mentioned in many Irish Genealogies as *Owen Buighe*. This, however, makes no difference, as *Owen* is the old Irish for *John*.

[3] Hardiman, in his History of Galway, page 216, Note h, speaking of this Sir Dermot, says : — ' Sir Dermot, the *seventh* in descent from Seachnasy.' This is altogether incorrect, as it may be seen by the above pedigree, which is the authenticated one, that he was the *tenth* in descent from Sheaghny.

[4] It appears by the Patent Roll, 33-35, Henry VIII., that the King wrote to the Lord Deputy and Privy Council of Ireland, on the 9th of July, 1533, stating—" We have made the Lord of Upper Ossory, McNemarrowe, O'Shaftness, Denys Grady, and — Wise, Knyghtes, and wall, that by virtue and warraunt thereof, youe shall make out unto McNemarrowe O'Shaftness, and Denys Grady, several

patentes of all such lands as they nowe have.”

[5] The patent was for the following lands: — All the manors, lordships, towns, and townlands of Gtynchegory, Dromneyll, Dellyncallan, Ballyhide, Monynean, Ardgossam, Ballyegyn, Kapparell, Clonehage, Tollenegan, Lyckenegarische, Crege, Karrynges, Tirrelagh, Rathvilledowne, Ardmylowan, one-third part of Droneskenan and Rath, the moiety of Flyngeston, Ardvillegoghe, Domlebalehue, Cowle, and Beke.

[6] Hardiman in his ‘History of Galway,’ page 216, says :— ‘ Sir Dermot had two sons, Sir Rory and Dermot’ This statement is erroneous, as it is shown by the above pedigree, that he had three sons and one daughter. That William was his son is beyond all doubt, as it is proved by the documents which passed between his father, Sir Dermot, and Henry VIII., relative to the Bishoprick of Kilmacduach, which O’Shaughnessy was desirous of obtaining for his son William.

[7] Hardiman, in his ‘History of Galway,’ page 216, in mentioning Sir Roger O’Shaughnessy’s issue says :— “ Sir Dermot had two sons, Sir Rory and Dermot ; the former was married to the Lady Onora ny Brien, and had two sons, William and Darby. After his death his widow, his brother Dermot, and William, his eldest son, &c., &c.” With regard to Sir Dermot having two sons, see note to the issue of the first Sir Dermot O’Shaughnessy. Hardiman was also mistaken in saying, that Sir Rory, by whom he means Sir Roger, had two sons by the Lady Honora O’Brien, as his issue by that lady, as may be seen by the above pedigree, were six children, four sons and two daughters ; and he was further wrong in stating, that William was the eldest son, as it is proved beyond contradiction by various documents, and the Annals of Ireland, that John O’Shaughnessy, who conveyed the lands of Cineal Aodh to Sir Geoffrey Fenton, was the eldest son of Sir Roger. William was, no doubts the eldest legitimate son ; but John, before his banishment, was acknowledged by his tribe and the Government, as the lawful Chief of Cineal Aodh.

[8] It was found by an Inquisition, proved by the examination on oath of several witnesses at Gort, on the 29th of May, 1615, that Sir Roger O’Shaughnessy, and the Lady Helena O’Brien, were lawfully married in the house of William Skerret, at Galway, a dispensation having been first obtained from the Pope.

[9] Hardiman mentions this Sir Dermot as being the son of Dermot, who was the younger son of the first Sir Dermot. As previously shown, Dermot, the youngest son of the first Sir Dermot, who submitted to Henry VIII., was Dermot Rievagh, who was, consequently, the uncle, and not the father of this Sir Dermot, who married Sheela ny Hubert de Burgh.

[10] John O’Donovan, Esq., LL.D., in his Addenda to ‘ The Genealogies, Tribes, and Customs of Hy-Fiachrach,’ page 381, most incorrectly calls this lady ‘ Joan, daughter of Lord Barrymore ;’ but all the authenticated documents of the family of O’Shaughnessy, and the Roll of Innocents, prove, beyond doubt, that she was the Lady Margaret Barry, daughter of Viscount Buttevant.

[11] Viscount Buttevant’s first wife was the Lady Helena Roche, youngest daughter of David Viscount Fermoy, by the Hon. Ellen Butler, daughter of the Right Hon. James Lord Dunboyne, by whom he had issue—

I. David, who married Elisabeth, daughter of Richard Lord Peer, and dying in his father’s lifetime left a posthumous child,

1. David, who succeeded his grandfather, as Viscount Buttevant, on the 10th of April, 1617, and was advanced by Privy Seal, dated at Westminster, 30th November, 1627, and by patent dated at Dublin, on the 28th February, to the dignity of Earl of Barrymore.

II. Honora, who married Gerald Fitzgerald, Esq., of Decies, as his second wife, by whom she had no issue ; and secondly, Patrick Browne, Esq., of Mulrankerne, county Wexford, by whom she had issue

—
1. William.

2. Walter.

III. Ellen, married first, John, son and heir of Richard Lord Poer, of Carraghmore, by whom she had issue one son, who succeeded his grandfather. She married, secondly, the Right Hon. Thomas Earl of Ormonde, by whom she had no issue ; and thirdly. Sir Thomas Somerset, third son of Edward Earl of Worcester, created in 1626 Viscount Cashel, Knight of the Bath, and Master of the Horse to Anne, Queen Consort of James I. of England, and by him had issue—

1. Elizabeth, who died unmarried in 1642.

IV. Honoria, married James Tobyn, Esq., of Eumpshinagh, county Tipperary.

V. Eleanor, married Sir John Fitzgerald, of Ballymalve, county Cork, Knt

VI. Catherine, married Eichard Burke, Esq., of Denymaclaughlin Castle, county Galway.

VII. Margaret, who married the Right Hon. Robert Dillon, Earl of Roscommon.

[12] John O'Donovan, Esq., LL.D., in the Addenda to ' The Genealogies, Tribes, and Customs of Hy-Fiachrach,' page 883, says — “ He married in 1688 Helena, the daughter of Conor Mac Donogh O'Brien, of Ballynue.” This is an error on Dr. O'Donovan's part ; and it is curious how a man so well acquainted with Irish history could have made such a statement, as their family documents, and those of Lord Clare, prove that Captain Roger O'Shaughnessy's wife. Lady Helena O'Brien, was the daughter of Lord Clare. However, he appears to have heard of the marriage between the O'Shaughnessy and Clare families, as in Note 7, page 41, of ' The Tribes of Ireland,' a Satire by Aenghus O'Daly, which O'Donovan edited, he says that Colonel William O'Shaughnessy was married to the daughter of Lord Clare. This assertion is also an error, as that lady was his mother, and not his wife. It may be here remarked, that Roger O'Shaughnessy was obliged to go to law with his father-in-law, Lord Clare, for the recovery of his wife's fortune. One of his counsel on this occasion was the celebrated Sir Toby Butler.

[13] Dr. O'Donovan, in his Addenda to ' The Genealogies, Tribes, and Customs of Hy-Fiachrach,' page 883, and Hardiman, in his ' History of Galway,' Note h, page 216, incorrectly state, that he married in 1688. His marriage took place in 1667, as stated above ; and his son was grown up at the time these writers assert he was married.

[14] Hardiman in his ' History of Galway,' incorrectly states, Note h, page 216, that O'Shaughnessy was present at the battle of the Boyne, thus : — “ He afterwards joined King James's forces, and was engaged at the battle of the Boyne, from which he returned home sick, though not wounded, and died in the Castle of Gort.” The family papers of the O'Shaughnessys and their relatives, at this period, prove, beyond doubt, that O'Shaughnessy was not present at the battle of the Boyne. It is an historical fact, that all the regiments which marched from Limerick to take part in this battle, did not arrive in time to do so.

The Irish chieftains; or, A struggle for the crown (1872)

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