

A TREATICE OF IRELAND

by

JOHN DYMMOK

TO THE MOSTE HONORABLE KNIGHT
SIR EDMUNDE CARYE.

SIR,

I PRESENT vnto you in the sincearnes of affection these rude leaves in their fullnes of imperfection, affirminge withall that as I have deformed them (beinge abortiuelye brought forth in an other shape) so doe I likewise reteine the power to transforme my selfe into any lykeness that you shall deuise wherin I may doe you seruice, at which I reſte

Moste affectioned
and deuoted
JOHN DYMMOK.

THE realme of Irelande conteineth, from the south forelande to the northe pointe called Thorach, about 300 myles, and in breadthe, from Dublin to Saint Patriks mounte and the sea beating alongſt Connaught, 140 miles Irish, which are ſomwhat larger then our Engleſhe myles.

The cuntry lyeth very low, and therefore watriſh, and full of mariſhes, boggs, and ſtanding pooles, even in the highest mowntaynes, which cauſeth the inhabitants, but ſpecially the ſojouers there, to be very ſubiect to rhowmes, catarrs, and fluxes, for remedy whereof they drinke great quantyty of hott wyneſ, eſpecially ſackes, and a kinde of aqua vitæ, more dryinge, and leſſe inſiamyng, then that which is made in Englande.

The ayre is thicke, and nothinge ſoe piercyng as here in Englande.

The ſoile is generally fertill, but litle and badly manured, by reaſon of the great exactions of the lordes vpon their tenants. For the tenant dothe not holde his lands by any aſſurance for tearme of yeares, or lyfe, but onely *ad voluntatem domini*, ſo that he never buildeth, reparaeth or enclosethe the grownde ; but whenſoever the lord liſteth, is turned out, or departeth at his moſt advantage, which beſides the great want of graine to ſuffice that cuntrye, breadeth alſo a generall weakenes, for want of inhabiting and plantyng the people in places certain, beinge of themſelves geuen to a wanderyng and idle lyfe.

The cuntry yeeldeth great ſtore of beeifes and porkes, excellent horſes of fine feature and wonderfull ſwyftneſ, and are thought to be a kinde race of the Spaniſh Genetts. There ar many and thoſe very good hawkes, but yt aboundeth cheefly in fyſh and fowle, ſome ſtore of ſheepe, but ſmall, and thoſe bearinge a longe courſe fleze, whereof the rugges are made. Great plenty of woode, except in Leinſter, where for the great inconueniencies finding them to be ready harboures for the Iriſh rebell, they have beene cutt downe.

There are alſo many myneſ, eſpecially iron and lead, and ſome copper, but of what richneſ and goodneſ I finde not.

The cheeffe thinge wantinge in that cuntrye is cyvillitye, and dutyfull obedience of the people to their soveraigne, which groweth partly throughe a desyre in the principall kindreds and septes to shake of all forreine obedience, and to governe accordinge to their owne lawes, which is their owne willes, partly throughe the inclination of the common sorte to wildenes, being ledd by the superiours vpon whose willes they must of force depend ; but generally for lacke of execution of such good lawes as tende to the preservation of the Englishrye, in restreyninge them from marrynge, fosteringe, and allyinge with the Irish, and takinge of coynye and livery, which hath beene, and yet is, the only cause of weakninge the English pale, and of so many degenerate English at this present.

The people are of nature very glorious, francke, irefull, good horsemen, able to endure great paynes, delighted in warr, great hospitallitye, of religion for the most parte Papists, great gluttons, and of a sensuall and vitious lyfe, deepe dissemblers, secret in displeasure, of a crewell revenginge minde, and irreconsiliable. Of witt they are quicke and capable, kinde harted where they take, and of exceedinge love towardes their foster bretheren.

Of complexion they are cleare, and welfavored, both men and weomen, tall and corpulent bodies, and of hemselves careles and bestiall.

Theire principallitie or inheritance descendeth not to them by succession, but they attaine therevnto by election, makinge choice of one out of the principall famylies or septes, amongst whome he that hath shewed himselfe most valiant in all barbarous creweltie, shall sonest be preferred, first to be Thamist, which is lieuutenant generall, and next in succession, and is followed of the captaynes and forces of the cuntry. And this custome remayneth yet to this daye amonge the Irish, where no man is lorde of his owne any longer then he can defend yt against others.

The Government of the Irish is neither polliticke nor cyvill, but meare tyrannicall, as may appeare by their auncient lawes, as Brehon law, Coyny, Lyuery, &c. which had course there before the conquest. For the prince or lorde vse at their pleasure their tenants, spend vpon them with their traynes, rule after their owne lustes, coramaundinge all, and not to be gaynesaide by any ; so that the mightiest oppresse the porest, and justice is ministred accordinge to the affection they beare to the partyes offendinge or offended.

The inhabitantes generally are of fowre sortes. English Irish, meer Irish, degenerate English, and wilde Scotts.

The meer Irish, degenerate English, and Scott arc growen into one faction, by reason of the devisiion of the English race, contynewinge till within these few yeares : by which meanes the Irishrye grew to such strength, that the English, for their owne defence, were gladd to ally themselves with the Irish of contrary factions, to make them to be followed after the Irish order, and so became wholly Irish, or at the least scant good English.

Theire forces consist of thre sortes, Horsemen, Galloglass, and Kerne.

The horsemen are armed with headpeeces, shirtes of mayle or jackes, a sworde, a skayne, and a speare. They ryde vyon paddes, or pillowes without styrvps, and in this differ from ours ; that in joyninge with the enemy, they beare not their staves or launces vnder arme, and so put it to the reste, but takinge yt by the middle, beare yt aboue arme, and soe encounter.

Every Horsman hath two or thre horses, and to euery horse a knave : his horse of service is allwaies led spare, and his knave, which caryeth his harness and speare, rydeth vpon the other, or els vpon a hackeney.

The Galloglass ar pycked and scelected men of great and mightie bodies, crewell without compassion. The greatest force of the battell consisteth in them, chosing rather to dye then to yeelde, so that when yt cometh to handy blowes they are quickly slayne or win the feilde. They are armed with a shert of maile, a skull, and a skeine : the weapon they most vse is a batle axe, or halberd, six foote longe, the blade whereof is somewhat like a shomakers knyfe, and without pyke ; the stroake whereof is deadly where yt lighteth. And beinge thus armed, reckoninge to him a man for his harnesse bearer, and a boye to carry his provision, he is named a spare of his weapon so called, 80 of which spares make a battell of Galloglass.

The kerne is a kinde of footeman, sleightly armed with a sworde, a targett of woode, or a bow and sheafe of arrows with barbed heades, or els 3 dartes, which they cast with a wonderfull facillity and nearnes, a weapon more noysom to the enemy, especially horsemen, then yt is deadly ; within these few yeares they have practized the muskett and callyver, and are growne good and ready shott.

Some will have the Dalonyes or horsboyes to be a fourthe sorte, for that they take them into the fight: they are the very skumme, and outcaste of the cuntrye, and not lesse serviceable in the campe for meatinge and dressinge of horses, then hurtfull to the enemy with their dartes.

THE SERVICES OF THE IRISHRIE DUE TO HER MAIESTY, THE SEVERALL EXACTIONS LEUIED BY THE IRISH LORDS UPON THEIR TENANTS, AND OF WHAT NATURE AND QUALLITYES THEY BE.

The Irish taxes or services are of two sortes, either made vnto the queene by the gentlemen towards their defence and mayntenance of her forces in the cuntrye, as Risingeout, Bonaght, and Soren, or els by the lord upon his tenant, as Coynye, Lyuerye, Cashery, Teignie, Cuddy, Blackrents, &c.

Of the first sortes, Risingout, is a certain number of horsmen and kerne, which the Irishrie and Engleshrye are to finde in her majesties service, at euey generall hostinge, for defence of the cuntrye against any forreine enemy, or other invadors, which numbers are also to be vittelled by them for certen daies, some more, some lesse.

Bonaght is of two sortes : Bonaght bonny, and Bonaght beg.

Bonaght bonny is a certen payment or allowance made vnto her Maiesties Galloglasse, or Kerne, by the Irishry onelye, who are severally bounde to yeeld a yearely proportion of victualls and money, of their findinge, euey one accordinge to his abillitye, so that the Kerne and Galloglasse are kept all the yeare by the Irishry, and devided at tymes among them.

Bonaght beg, or litle bonagh, is a proportion of mony, ratably charged vpon every plowland, towards the findinge of the Galloglasse.

Soren is a kinde of allowance over and above the bonaght, which the Galloglass exact vpon the pore people, by waye of spendinge monye, viz. 2s. 8d. for a daye and a night, to be devided betweene three spares, for their meat, drinke, and lodginge. And as the Bonaght is fownde by the lordes for the Queenes service, so also euey particuler lorde hath a certen number for their owne defence, some more, some lesse, and are maynteyned vpon their tenants.

Of the second sorte, Coynye is as much to saye as a placinge of men and boyes upon the cuntrye, vsed by a prerogatyve of the Brehon law, whereby they are permitted to take meate, drinke, aqua vitae and money of their hostes, without paye-makinge therefore. As many as keepe idle men, take yt owtragingly where they come, and by the custome of the cuntry yt was lawfull to place themselves vpon whome they would. It is the beggeringe of the cuntry and an intollerable evill without measure.

Lyvery is horsemeat, exacted for the horses of those which take coyny, or otherwyse send them to the pore tenants to be fedd. The tenant must finde the horses and boycs and geve them as much corne and sheaffe otes wheat and barley as they will have, and yf there be two or thre boyes to a horse as sometymes there be, the pore tenant must be content therewith and yet besydes rewarde the boyes with mony.

Joye is when their idle men require meat and drinke out of meale tymes, or where they take mony for their coynye of the hoste to goe a begging to their neighbour, it is as much to saye as a benevolence. The contynuance of these and other Irish exactions is the very roote and fowndacion of the rebellions which have beene from tyme to tyme in that cuntry, both for that yt geveth a meane to the lord to mainteine so many idle persons in armes to attempt any villany at his comaunde, and also for that yt draweth the obedience of the subiect from his prince, vnto the capten, and maketh the common sorte to stande in awe or know no other superiors then their Irish captaynes which thus exacte upon them.

Cashery is certeine feastes which the lorde vseth to take of his tenants after Easter, Christmas, Whitsontyde, Michaelmas and all other tymes at his pleasure ; he goeth to their howses with all his trayne and idle men of his cuntrye, and leaveth them not till all they have be spent, and consumed, and holdeth on this course till he have visited all his tenants one after other.

Teignie is reare-suppers and chamber drinkinges which they bestow of their lords and other gwestes in their chambers after dinner or supper. It is ever vsed by the mer Irish and English Irish wheresoever they be in the cuntrye. And so when they come to any gentlemans howse they are served before dynner or supper with a kinde of refreshing by the name of Teignie.

Blackrents (as I take yt) are in this sorte, when a murder or felony or other trespasse is committed, the party offendinge being brought before the Lo : Brehon or Judge, is allotted to paye to the wyfe or childe of the party murdered, or to the party agreeved, a kinde of satisfaction, termed by them an Iriach : moreover the Judge awardeth to the lo : of the soyle or cuntry where any such outrag is comytted by way of a fync a certeine number of kowes, or corne &c. and to himselfe a porcion for his judgment, what the lord reapeth hereby is called a black-rent ; by this custom many murthers and thefts ar committed boldly and smothered without due execution of Justice.

THE PRESENT GOUERMENT OF THAT CUNTRY.

For the present gouerment of that cuntry, yt is devided into three partes, Ecclesiasticall, Martiall and Cyvill or Justiciall.

The Ecclesiasticall estate is composed of fowre Archbushoppes and 29 Bushoppes, disposed into severall cuntries in every province, besydes Deanes, Suffraganes and Parsons.

The martiall gouerment is distributed into thre partes of that cuntrye. The lo. Deputy is lieutenant generall over the whole, assisted by two presidents for his more ease, as well in the

true administration of Justice, as for the ready repressing of such disorders as might happen in the upland cuntry ; one of them placed in Munster, the other in Connaught, and both corresponde with the lo : Deputy, residing at Dublin for the moste parte.

The martiall gouerment is not of yt selfe alone, but mixed with cyvill, (vntill such tyme as the cuntrye may be reduced vnto that obedience, as Justice may haue course of yt selfe with out forces to suport yt) and the lo : Deputy assisted with a counsell of the moste choyce and sceleat men for their knowledge and experience in the affayres of that cuntrye. Echo of the presidents have also a particular counsell appointed vnto them for the decydinge and determyning of matters in their chardge, and are chiefly dyrected from the lo: Deputy and counsell at Dublin as they are directed from tyme to tyme by her Maiestie and counsell in Englande.

The cyvill gouerment (for that which is meere civill as where the law and Justice onely have course) is of two sortes. First the high cortes which are named the courtes of Justice, as the King's Bench, Comon Pleas, the Chancery, the Exchequer, and the Star Chamber. For courte of wards there is none yet established theare, but the receipt is chargable vpon the auditor, and their landes certefyed by the shriffes and exchetors : and these courtes are kept ordinarylie at Dublin fowre tearmes in the yeare according to the course held in England ; and all causes decidable by lawe, are in these courtes, according to their severall natures and quallities, decided and determyned.

The second sorte comprehendeth in yt the pollycy and gouerment of citties, townes, burrowes, and corporations. These for the moste parte stretch no further then their owne particuler prescinctes or liberties, and are chiefly busyed in ordering particuler causes betweene their burghers, and to supply the common wants of their townes, or els how to containe those over whome they have chardge in dutyfull obedience by punishing offenders and sup-orting such as lyve orderly, against the mallice and injury of the disordered sorte. Of this nature also are court Barons court Leetes and court hundreds. All these are greatly holpen by the circiuts of the principall officers of the highe courtes, which every yeare twice are to ryde in visitation about the cuntry to keepe sessions and assises, according to the manner of Englande.

OF THE DEVISION OF THAT CUNTEY.

That cuntry yet to this present reteineth that auncient dyvision as yt did before the conquest, savinge that those provinces which heretofore were divided into Cantreds and Betaghs townes euery one conteinge 960 acres of arrable lande besydes woodds, boggs, and past-ures, and to euery cantred 30 betaghes townes ; are now devided into severall counties and English shires.

The Provinces are Leinister, Munster, Connaght, Vlster and Meathe, so called as lyinge in the midst of the cuntry, and composed of a parte of euery Province, or els for that yt conteyneth but 18 cantreds, whereas the other contein 34 and 35 apiece.

LEIMSTER.

The Province of Leimster conteyneth all that portion of lande which was first conquered by our nation, includinge all that grownde from Dublin southwarde to the ryver of Suyre and the Cytty of Waterforde, which parteth yt from Munster. The ryver of Shenin in Mac Coughians cuntry devideth the west parte from Connaght and Meath ; northward yt endeth with the Barony of Balrothry and the ryver Boyne, and on the east syde is bownded with the sea. It is devided into seaven shires. The county of Dublin, Kildare, Catherlogh, Wexforde, Kilkenny, King's County and Queenes County.

They have gone about of late to add two other shires the counties of Wiclo, and Fernes ; but bycause these two shires are yet vnperfett, not having sufficient freholders and gentlemen to chose shriffesand other principall officers or to make a jury for the Queene, they may be well omytted.

THE COUNTY OF DUBLIN.

The county of Dublin conteyneth all the lande from Balrothery neare the province of Meath to Arcklo, a principall castle of the earle of Ormonds, which is the length of the shire, and includeth the growndes called the Kinges landes, the mowtaines of the Obirnes, O'tooles, and Banilagh, called Pheagh Mac Hughs cuntry, also Shilogh, Ferderrogh and the crosse of the cuntry which is the liberty of the Archb: of Dublin, also his Ilandes of Lambaye, Eye and Dalky.

It bowndeth, East, on the sea ; West, County Kildare ; North, County Caterlogh ; South East, Meath.

THE COUNTY OF KILDARE.

The county of Kildare is placed betweene the counties of Dublin, Catherlogh, the Kinges and Queenes county, and Meath, yt hath not in yt many townes of importance, but dyvers proper villages which lye scattered about the cuntry.

It bowndeth, East, Dublin ; West, K. and Queens County ; No. Meath ; So : Carlogh.

THE COUNTIE OF CATERLOGH.

This county is a long slipp of grownde lying for the moste parte betweene the two ry vers of the Slane and the Barrow. It conteineth dyvers baronyes anciently inhabited by the Engleshe and after gotten from them by the Cauenaghs. It hath in yt certeine highe mountaines vpon the easte parte, the rest of the cuntry is more playne, and a third parte of the whole, accounted to belong to the Erle of Ormond, and Sir Edmund Butler ; one Barony called Idron, belonging to Sir Dudley Bagnoll.

It bowndeth, West, on Wexforde ; North, Kildare ; South, Kilkenny ; East, the Queene's County.

THE COUNTY OF WEXFORD.

The county of Wexford was the first cuntry where the Englesh sett footing and conquered. This shire is the largest of any one in that Province of Leimster, and one parte thereof inhabited still with the auncient Irish, which was the cause that Sir Hen. Sidney, and Sir Will. Drury would have made two other shires within yt. The north parte should have bene called Femes, and that to the southe neare Dublin, Wiclo ; but findinge that there were not sufficient, and sewer gent, to be shriffes, nor freeholders to make a Jury for her Maiestie, yt hath bene let fall. The south parte as the more cyvill is contained within a ryver called Pill, where the auncientest gentlemen descended of the first conqueror doe inhabite. The other without the ryver is inhabited by the originall Irish, viz. the Cavonaghs, Murroghs and Kusclighs who possesse the woddy parte of the cuntry.

It bowndeth, East, the ocean ; So : County Dublin ; No : river Barow ; West, Caterlogh.

THE COUNTY OF KILKENNY.

This county hath the moste of cyvillity of any other the border counties, beinge well replenished with fayre castles, howses and seates, with Englesh manner of enclosing their groundes. This cuntry thoughe yt containe in yt both the vpper and neather Ossery, yet such

mortall mislyke there is betweene them of the county of Kelkenny and Mac Gilpatrik, lo: of the vpper Ossory, that he will not suffer any tryalls of his cuntry to be made in that county, but in the Queene's county and holdeth himselfe to be a member thereof. It bowndeth, East, river Barow ; South, ryver Suyre; North, Queene's County ; West, county Tipperary.

THE QUEENE'S COUNTYE.

This county conteineth in effect, all the landes betweene ye ryver Barow and Ormond, including all that which did belonge to More Odowen, vpper Ossory, and Slynarg. The soile is fruitfull and exceeding pleasant. It is watred on the one syde with the ryver Barow. The ryver Neor runneth through another parte of it. It is well sorted with woodes and playnes. This cuntry was planted by the erle of Sussex with a mixt people of Englesh and Irish, and in the tyme of Kinge Phillip and Q. Mary, gaue yt to name the Queenes county, and the cheeff towne Maryburrow. The inhabitants haue beene contynewally molested with the first inhabitors the O'Mores that yt hath in manner wasted the whole cuntrye vpon them and at this daye are growne to stronge numbers and very daungerous.

It bowndeth, East, Barrow; So: Kilkenny; No: Kings co. and mountayn SHboam; West, Tipperary.

THE KINGE'S COUNTY.

This county beinge aunciently called Ophaly, was inhabited by the O'Connors a wicked and rebellious people, who for their sundry treasons and rebellions, were by the erle of Sussex in the tyme of Queene Mary banished and disherited their cuntry converted to shire grounde and called the King's county, and the cheiffe towne thereof, Phillipstowne. The shire conteyneth all the grounde betweene the county of Kildare and the ryver Shenin includinge Claneboye and O'Dempsies cuntry on both sydes the Barrow, also Ballinies and Ferall which is lykewise O'Dempsies cuntry, the Shenogh or Foxes cuntrye, and Phelim Mac Couglians cuntry, to the brinke of Shenin neare Mellike. This cuntry in the beginning of her Maiesties reigne was very well quieted by a proscription of the O'Connors made by the erle of Kildare, who in manner wholly did extirp that race, yet of late they have increased to such numbers as they have beene able to make stronge forces in this last rebellion.

It bowndeth, East, Kildare ; West, Shenin ; So : Que., county ; No : Meath.

ELYE.

This small terrytory or compas of grownde hath beene counted parcell of Munster, as belonginge to ye county of Tipperarye, but for that O'Carrell who is lo. of this cuntry and his ancestors would never yeeld to be of that cuntry as for that he and his father did allwaies consent to be vnder the Englesh goverment, viz. under the lieuetenant of the Kings county, and yeeldeth now by composition vnto her Maiestie £100 per ann and to be ordered by the Queenes lieute of the Kings county in all controversies so as yt is accounted parcell thereof, and so of Leimster.

It bowndeth with Ossory and a part of the Qu : county to the south ; with Ormond to the west; with de la Mac Coghnan to the North ; and with the mowntaine Slibown to the Easte. It hath small piles of litle importance, the chiefest whereof is Limwaddon.

MEATHE.

This Province hath his name of *Medium*, the midle parte of the cuntrye, and conteyneth properlye but one shire, vnder the name of Meath, being in the beginning a porcion appointed for the Kinges demeines : But being since devyded into many Baronyes and cuntries, and

now lately in the tyme of K. Hen. 8. made and devided into two shires or counties Eastmeath and Westmeath. And by cause the two other Irish cuntries, the one belonging to the O'Reilies, the other to the O'Farrals be now converted to shire grownde by the names of the county of Cavan and of Longforde, I hold yt not amisse to laye these two counties vnto Meath, and so conteine them all fowre in this midle province, althoughe the county of Cavan be held of many to belonge to ye province of Vlster. These counties haue many goodly Loughes and meares of fresh water especially Westmeath, whereof the greater parte fall into the Shenin aboue Athlone, the rest into ye ryver Broschenagh, which also falleth into the Shenin beneath Athlone, neare Mellike. These waters make the cuntry besydes the fertillity of the soyle to abound in great store of very good fishe.

EASTEMEATH.

Eastmeath conteyneth all the lande betwene Balrothety in the County of Dublin and the ryver of Boyne near Droghdagh and then not far from Droghdagh extendeth yt selfe over that ryver and containeth all the lande to the border of Cavan and to the halfe Barony of Fower, and from thence yt breadeth to the Kinges county and the countie of Kildare. It bowndeth, East, the sea ; West, Cavan; So :, King's county ; No:, Louth.

WESTMEATH.

The county of Westmeath containeth all the landes from the Reedmore beyond Aboy to the ryver of Shenin, and in bredth from the Kings county to the county of Longforde comprehendingc mac Coughlan, mac Gall, and also Omylaghlins cuntrye. It bowndeth, East and South, Kings county ; North, Cavan ; West, Shenin.

THE COUNTY OF LONGFORDE.

This county is a large quantity of grownde possessed by a people called O'Farralls, and was in tymes paste devided betweene two of the strongest of that name, the one which posseseth the south parte thereof is called O'Farrall Buy, which signifyeth yellow O'Faroll ; the other O'Farrall Ban, which is white O'Farrall, both which sir names doe yet holde the cuntrye, so as both conjoynd together doe make the county of Longforde. It bowndeth, East and South, Westmeath; West, County Letrim; North, County Cavan.

THE COUNTY OF CAVAN.

This county conteyneth all the lands called heretofore, O'Reilies cuntry alias the Breny, which beinge vnder one capten heretofore, and called the east breny, and the west breny, was devided into seaven baronies, who have their severall freeholders, no one of them dependinge on the other, but all imediatly from the Queene. They are a stronge nation able to make of their owne sirname 400 horse ; they are sayd to be aunciently descended from the Riddleys of England. This cuntry conteyneth 30 miles in length and 30 in breadth. It bowndeth, East and North, Fermanagh ; West, County Letrim ; South, Westmeath.

MUNSTER.

The Province of Munster containeth all that cuntry from the ryver of Suyre, westwarde alonge the sea vnto the mouth of Shenon, and bowndeth on the east syde vpon Kilkenny on the west, and south side, the mayne ocean ; and on the north sydc, with the ryver of Slienin, which devideth yt from Connaght. It is the most commodious of all the other Provinces in soile, good havens, ryvers and townes. This Province accordinge to the ancient distribution is devided into three partes, Desmond, Thomond, and Ormonde ; but Thomond beinge now

annexed vnto the government of Connaght, the reste at this present is devided into fyve counties, viz. Waterford, Corke, Limrike, Typerary and Kyrrye.

THE COUNTY OF WATERFORDE.

The county of Waterford conteineth all the lande betweene the ryver Suyre which falleth into the sea beneath Waterford, and the ryver Yoghall called the great water. It includeth all the cuntry called the Denes, the Bishoprick of Rismore vnited to the sea of Waterford, Prendergast's lande, who was one in the first conquest and a moste famous capten ; The white Knightes cuntry called Glangibbon.

It bowndeth, East, ye ocean ; North, Yoghall ; South, County Corke ; West, Lymerik.

THE COUNTY OF CORK.

The county of Cork conteineth all the lande adjoyning to the sea, from the ryver of Yoghall to the baye of Dingle and the ryver of Maigne, the cuntry of Kerry-wherry, Kilaloe, Barry-Roes cuntry, the Bishoprike of Ross, the cuntry or Carbrye on both sydes the leape, O'Mahons and Ordiscalls cuntry. The Bantry, OSiluan bent, OSiluan more and all Desmond ; all which by amongst ye coaste. In the midle of the shire lyeth Muskry, devided betweene Sir Cormoc and Sir Dermot mac teig Clancark, allso O'Challagon, O'Heift, Mac Auly, Mac Donoho, followers of the erle of Cleneare, and includeth the landes of the two vicounts Barry and Armoyle.

It bowndeth, East and South, the ocean ; West, mountaine Shilogher ; North, Lymerik.

THE COUNTY OF LYMRIKE.

The county of Lymrike conteyneth all the lande from the mowntaines neare the Redsherd ioyning to the county of Corke, vnto the Shenin, as well above lymryche as beneath, in a manner as farr as Carigfoyle, and from the farthest parte of Mac Bryan Ogannoghs cuntry and comprehendeth in yt Glanwillim, Canolokerry, alias the knight of the vallyes cuntry, and Cosmoy.

It bowndeth, East, Typperary; West, Shilogher; South, Cork; North, Shenin.

THE COUNTY OF TIPPEARY.

This county beinge devided into two, the one the crosse of Tipperary, the other the county Pallatyne, is a large circuite of lande and hath two shriffes, that of the crosse is under the Archb : of Cossell, and hath large liberties, but not lyke the county Pallatyne belonginge to the erle of Ormond. In the crosse the Queene maketh the shriff her head officer. The Pallatyne is gouerned by sceneshall Justice, a shriffe, and dyvers other meaner officers, which two countyes lye onelie by observation and custom. The whole cuntry conteineth all the landes in manner from the towne of Callane in the County of Kilkenny to Mac O'brien O'Gannoghs cuntry in the county of Lymrike, O'Mulreans cuntrey Mac Bryan Ara, O'Downies cuntry, vpper and nether Ormond, Constinagh, Cosehi, Muskry whirke, a great part of Harlow, and by auncient devison O'Carralls cuntry Elye, though he disclame from yt.

It bowndeth, East, Kilkenny ; So :, Lymrik ; We :, Shenin : No :, Ki. County.

THE COUNTY OF KERRY.

The county of Kerry conteineth the landes which lyeth betweene the ryver of Maigne and the Shenin, and includeth the moste parte of the mowntayne Shilogher, which is the moste easterly parte of the cuntry. This cuntry was a Pallatyne to the Erle of Desmond, the lyberties and royalties whereof (he beinge a man of small discretion) caused him to grow insolent aboue

measure, forbidding the lord President and counsell of the Province to have any dealinges in his jurisdiction, which was the very originall grownde and cause of his rebellion and overthrow.

It bowndeth, West, ye Sea ; East, Corke ; No :, Shennin ; So :, River Maigne.

CONNAGHT.

This Province hath been otherwise devided then now it is, by reason the : O'Reilies cuntrye (now county of Cavan) and O'Faralls cuntry (now the county of Longford) were held parcell of yt and Thomond or the county of Clare was accounted of Munster. The word Thomond signifieth north Munster, and was in the commission of the presidents of Munster in Sir . Warham Sent-ligers, Sir. John Perotts, and Sir . Will. Druries tyme. But Sir . Hen. Sidney consideringe the notable bownde yt hath from the rest of Munster, did establish yt under the government of Connaght, as yt is at this present. The Province conteineth all the lands circuited with the great ocean, betweene the ryver of Erne nere Asserow in O'Donells cuntry, and the ryver of Shenin where yt falleth into the sea, beneath Lymryke. It is in manner an Iland, bycause to the north and the west, yt hath the sea, to the south and easte the Shenin, and to the northeast the loughe and ryver of Erne, onely one small slipp of grounde betweene the Shenin and the Erne leaveth that parte vnclosed. It is devided at this present into sixe countyes. Clare, Sligo, Mayo, Gallwaye, Roscommon and Letrim.

THE COUNTY OF CLARE.

This county of Clare alias Thomond beareth ye name of the Castle of Clare now belonginge to the erle of Thomond. It conteineth 6 baronyes and hath in yt 2 small bishoprickes, Kilmakoa and Killaloe, the one vnder the archb : of Cassell, the other vnder the archbp. of Toam.

It bowndeth, East and North, Shenin ; West, the Sea ; South, Gallway.

THE COUNTY OF SLIGO.

Sligo conteyneth all the grounde betweene ye ryver of Erne and the playnes of Connaght by the skirtts of the Mowntaynes of Benbulharn and Corleus to the ryver and lough of Boyle in Mac Dermons cuntry, and from thence northeast by the ryver of [*defective in MS*] which devideth the county Mayo from the county of Sligo.

It bowndeth, West, Mayo ; East, the Earn ; Nor :, the Ocean ; So :, county Roscommon.

THE COUNTY OF MAYO.

This county conteineth all the lands and cuntrye of Mac Willim Ervter, and the landes of the O'Mayles, Mac Donnell, Mac Mornce Mac Jordan, Mac Gustelo. This country hath certaine Ilandes both fertill and commons for fishinges, for which purpose both English marchaunts and strangers have great entercourse and trafficke there.

It bowndeth, East, County Sligo ; West and North, ye Ocean ; South, Gallway.

THE COUNTY OF GALLWAYE.

This countye conteineth a great quantitie of lande, lying in manner square, betweene Mayo and Thomond. It hath heretofore had many ancient noblemen descended of English ancestors, but by the revolucion of tyme, duringe the cyvill dissentions in England, they turned into wilde Irish, and with their manners they have also changed their names. The 2 principall byshoprikes of Connaught lye within this county the archb : of Toam, and the bush : of Clonfert. The thre Islands of Arran are counted parcell of this county and lye within a

kennynge of Gallway town.

It bowndeth, East, Shenin ; West, the sea; North, Mayo ; South, Clare.

THE COUNTY OF ROSCOMMON.

The county of Roscommon conteyneth all the playnes of Connaght, beginning at Munster Boyle neare the mountaynes of Corleus, and stretcheth alonge by the Shenin to the ryver of Suce. This cuntry is under the diocesse of the Bushopp of Elfine.

It bowndeth, East, Shenin ; West, Mayo ; North, Gallway ; South, Sligo.

THE COUNTY OF LETRIM.

This county counteineth all O'Rurkes cuntry called the breny O'Rurke, also yt conteineth parte of Mac Guynies landes lying vpon the west syde of the loughe Erne, and Mac Glanes cuntry lyinge on Bondroies. It hath no other principall person inhabitinge there but O'Rurk and other of his name and frcholders wholly depending upon him. O'Rurk and O'Connor Dun of the county of Roscommon, haue in their severall antiquities beene kings of Irelande.

Therefore they reteininge the memory of their former greatnes, doe aspire and conspire with all lewd disposed persons, O'Rurke hath beene allwayes a reteyner of Scotts in all rebellions. It hath in yt no townes or castles of any worth but onely Leitrim.

It bowndeth, North, county Sligo ; West, Shenin ; South, county Longford ; East, county Cavan.

VLSTER.

The Province of Vlster lyeth in the farthest north parte of Irelande. It is devided from Meath by the ryver Boyne on the southe east parte, with the Breny which is O'Reilies cuntry on the south part, and southwest parte it bowndeth vpon Connaght, namely vpon O'Rurks cuntry and O'Connor Sligo. The rest is altogether environed with the sea and conteineth in it 9 countyes, Louthe, Downe, Antrim, Monahan, Fermanagh, Tyrone, Dunegall, Colvan, and Armagh. Some attribute the county of Cavan for a tenth.

THE COUNTY OF LOUTH.

This county beinge anciently called Iriell, lyeth betweene the ryver of Boyne and the haven of Carlingforde ; this county hath the moste daungerous borderers and neighbors of any county, for it lyeth on the Mac Mahons in the county of Monahan, vpon the O'Neiles of the Teenes and O'Hanlons of the county of Armagh. By meanes of whose incursions the cuntry nearest vnto them lyeth waste. It is part of the English pale and beareth in all contributions and cesses a part with the rest of the provinces.

It bowndeth, East, the sea ; West, the Breny ; Nor :, Armagh ; Sou :, Meath .

THE COUNTY OF DOWNE.

This cuntry conteineth all the landes betweene the haven of Carlingford to the Bay of Knockfergus, viz. Litle Ards which lyeth on the north syde of the ryver of Strangford, it is a fertill champion cuntry of the inheritance of the lo : Savadge. Great Ards, belonginge to con mac Neile og. South claneboy which reacheth from the Duffrin to the ryver of Knockfergus Kilulto, lyinge vpon lough Eaghe and Cranbraselo. Before the Barons warrs in England yt was well inhabited by Englesh, and there still remayneth an olde decayed castle bearing the name of one Sir . Nicholas Tracy. Killwarlen which is mac Roris cuntry, the Duffrin which in times paste was the inheritance of the Mandevilles, and now belonginge to the Whites, Neromy also Newry, and Maurice Eagh, both the inheritance of Sir. Hen : Bagnall whose

father Sir. Niclas at his commge thither fownde yt waste and Shane O'Neill dwelling within halfe a myle, robberyng and spoylinge so as no man could travell safely; he builded the Newry through which the country was brought to more cyvillity. Maurice Eaugh was then governed by Sir. Hugh mac Guinies who was brought by Sir. Nic : Bagnoll from being O'Neiles Bonaght, to take his landes to him and to his heires males from her Maiestie and to depend onely vpon her so as in this place of Vlster onely, the rude manner of Thomiship was taken awaye. He is of late revolted and at this present in Rebellion. It bowndeth, East, the sea ; West, Armagh ; Nor :, Lough eaugh ; Sou :, Carlingford.

THE COUNTY OF ANTRIM.

This cuntry comprehendeth all the land betweene the baye of Knockfergus and the ryver of Ban conteyninge North Clanneboy, the Route, the Glynnes, Iland Maggi and Bryan mac Carraughs cuntrye North Clanneboy is devided into two partes ; the ryver of Kellis being the meare bownde. The south parte thereof was geven for a rent to the sonnes of Brian Mac Phelim O'Neile who were all pencioners in Ireland to her Maiestie and the eldest Shane mac Bryan yet livinge was cheeffe. The north part beyond Kellis to the ryver of Ban, by loughe Eaugh was assigned to the sonnes of Hugh mac Phelim elder brother to Sir. Bryan whose eldest sonne and cheife of that parte is Hugh Og mac Hugh.

The Route is properly the inheritance of one Mac Willi descended from a Welsh ancestor in the tyme of the first conquest. This cuntry is pleasant and fertill. The Scotts were once banished, but since these late rebellions permitted agayne so as the ancient inhabitants being ye O'Harries and the O'Guines pay servises and rent to the Scotts and depend of them, of which Surilly buy is chiefe.

The Glynnes so called by reason of the rocky and woody dales both neare to the iles of Raughlines and the iles of Ira and Iura, yt beginneth from the haven of Olderfleet to the Route stretching in length 24 miles, being backed on the one syde with very steepe boggy mowntaynes, and the other syde with the sea ; where yt hath many small creekes, betweene the rockes and the thicketts where the Scotts gallies doe comonly lande on either ende are very strayte and narrow passages into this cuntry, which be opposite to Kentire in Scotland which is 18 miles distant. It was aunciently the land of one Misset an English gentleman, whose daughter one of the Clandonnels an ancestor of Angus mac Conell of Kentire married, and so clameth the inheritance. They were once all banished and expelled, but since by instructions from her maiestie yt was devided by Sir. John Perrot, betweene Angus mac Connell cheife of his name and Sourly Buy his uncle bysides the land in the Route. The ile of glimes conteyneth seaven Baronyes of which the Raughlines beinge six miles, is counted half a barony, the rest are Larnparke, Glanan, Redbay, Lade, Carye and Mowbray. These people having continuall supplies out of Scotland, have beene and are causers of great vnquietnes and disloyaltie in Ireland, and better followed by the weaker septes, (for that they are lesse spent upon and better defended) then by the Irish or English.

Iland Magi is a porcion of land invironed with sea, thre miles from Knockfergus, the headland whereof maketh Olderfleet haven ; it is fyve myles long, and but a myle broade, very fertill and without woode, but wasted : it is the inheritance of the now erle of Essex.

Bryan Mac Carvughs cuntry was parcell of north Clanboy, won from him by a bastard kinde of Scotts the Clandonnels, it is a stronge piece of grownde lyinge on the North syde of the Ban : it is very hard to hurt him, by reason of the fastnes of his cuntry, having frendes on either side the Ban, which maketh him so obstynate and carelesse, as he would never appeare, but yeeldeth what releeffe he can to the Scotts, he stayeth onely vpon his owne strength, the cuntry is the fastest and safest grownde in Ireland.

THE COUNTY OF MONAHAN.

This county was anciently called Iriell, given at the conquest tyme to one Gerald Fitzvrsus or Bearsonne supposed to be one of the 4 knights that slew sanct Thomas of Canterbury. His ofspringe are become meare Irish, calling themselves mac Mahons which signifieth the sonne of a beare, Mahon in Irish being a beare. It conteyneth the cuntries of Iriel, Bartry and Ferny, which are held by 3 capt. of his owne simame, of which the last bordcreth vpon the county of Louth, and being parcell of ye auncient inheritance of the crowne was given to Water erle of Essex the title whereof remayneth in the now erle. It bowndeth, East, South West, Loghearne ; No :, Armagh ; So :, Cavan.

THE COUNTY OF FERMANAGH.

This cuntry comonly called Mac Guyres cuntrye lyeth vpon the east syde of the great loghe earne and stretcheth northwards to O'Donels cuntry called Terconnell, Mac Guyre is one of O'Neils Vraughts, he hath not any of name vnder him, but his owne kindred : he is under the bushop of Clohn in the county of Tyrone. This cuntry is very stronge of woodes and boggs especially neare the great lough earne. It bowndeth, East and North, Tyrone ; West, O'Rurks cuntry ; So :, Mac Mahon.

THE COUNTY OF TYRONE.

The county of Tyrone conteineth all the lande betweene the blacke water and the ryver of Liffer. This was the porcion assigned to Turlogh Lenogh O'Neil in the treatye betweene him and Water erle of Essex, who before had commaund over all the landes southward to the English pale. It bowndeth, East, county Colran ; West, Mac Guyre ; No :, Fermanagh ; Sou., Armagh.

THE COUNTY OF DUNEGALL.

The county of Dunegall conteineth all Terconnell, which belongeth to O'Donell, and that sirname, and O'Dogherties cuntrye from the ryver of Fyn northward to the sea, and from the easte sea to the ryver of Earne neare the county of Slygo. It is the largest shire in all the province of Vlster. O'Donell is capten and governor of the cuntry, whose strength lyeth in the sept of the O'Chaloganes and Mac Swynes stronge nations of Galloglass. O'Doherties cuntry is a promontory almoste environed with sea, namely with lough Swilly and loughfoyle on the north parte. It is governed by a capteine called Sir. John O'Doghertye, who beinge not able to defend himselfe is forced to contribute to O'Donell and O'Neile, *alternis vicibus*. His cuntry lyinge vpon the sea neare the Ilands Ira and Jura of Scotlande, is continually invaded from thence, and thereby forced to be at their pleasure. It bowndeth, North and East, the ocean ; West, Lough earne ; South, ryver Fyn. '

THE COUNTY OF COLRAN.

This county beareth the name of the castle of Colran in the north syde of the Ban, and not of the abbey of Colran which is in the route. It conteineth all the lands betweene the river Ban, and Loughfoyle alongst the sea coste. The capteine thereof is O'Chane and no other of that name in y t but himselfe savinge his freeholders vnder him. O'Chane is cheefest of O'Neils Vraughts, and createli him O'Neile by castinge a shooe over his heade, vpon a hill in the county of Tyrone, a place allwaies assigned for that purpose. It bowndeth, East, the sea; West, co. Tyrone ; No: Loughfoyle ; So: Ban.

THE COUNTY OF ARMAGHE.

This county conteyneth all the landes betweene the ryver of Dondalke and the blackewater, savinge a small porcion called Conray lyinge neare to Carlingford, which is parcell of the county of Louthe. It is devided into these cuntries, Oriagh, which is O'Hanlons cuntry, Clanbraselo, Clancane, Clanowle, Muckro, Tyragh, Fewes, and Oneilon, moste of these have severall captaynes.

O'Hanlon's cuntry reacheth from the Newry to Armagh, for the moste parte without woode. Clanbraselagh is a very boggy and woody cuntry, lyinge vpon the syde of the lough Earne. Clancane alias Clancumcane is a very stronge cuntry allmoste all wood and bogge and two deepe ryvers, the one called the blacke water, the other the litle Ban, both which doe fall in this cuntry into the lough Earne.

Clanowlo, lyeth betweene Armagh and the Blackewater near to the ryver. It is boggy and woodye, but the reste towards Armagh is champion and fertill : upon that parte of the cuntry was the bridge and forte of Blackewater. Muckro and Tragh, lyeth betweene Armagh and Mac Mahons cuntry.

Fewes bordereth vpon the English pale, within 3 miles of Dundalke ; it is a strong cuntry of woode and bogge ; the captayne thereof is Turlogh Mac Henry O'Neile, brother to the erle of Tyrone.

Oneilon is likewise a woody lande lyinge betweene Armagh and Clancane.

It bowndeth, East, county Monahan ; West, ryver of Newry ; North, Blackwater; South, county Louth.

A PERTICULER OF SUCH STRENGTHS AND FASTNESS OF WOODE AND BOGGE AS ARE IN EVERY PROVINCE OF IRELANDE.

In Leinster.

Glandilore, a fastnes in Pheagh mac Hughes cuntry.

Shiloghe, in the county of Dublin.

The Duffrin, in the county of Wexford.

The Dromes and Leverogh in the county of Caterloghe.

The great bogge in the Kinges county called the Tougher.

The fewes in the county of Kildare.

The woodes and boggs of Munsterevan, Gallin and Slymarge, in the Queene's county.

The Roure near St. Mollines.

Parte of Consteragh joyninge vpon Kylkenny.

In Munster.

Glan garuf, in O'Siliuan Mores cuntry.

Glanrug, and Leanmore, in Desmond.

Olinglaskilmore, in the county of Lymerike.

Dromfinien, in the county of Corke on Blackwater.

Arelow, and Muskry quish, in Tipperary.

Kilhuggi in Typperary, bordringc on Lymrike.

In Connaght.

The woodds and Boggs of Kylbigher.

Kilcallon in mac Williams cuntry.

Killaloe in the county of Letrim.

The woodes and boggs near the Corleus.

In Vlster.

The woodds and boggs of Clanbraselagh.

Clancane in the county of Armagh.

The woods and boggs of Kilvlto, Kilwarlen, Kiloutry, South Claneboye, in ye county of Downe.

Author: Irish Archaeological Society ; Cormacan, mac Maoilbrighde, called Cormacan Ecces
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