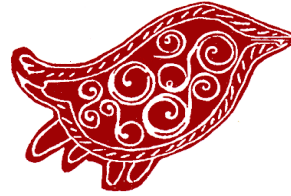


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Notes and Queries.

Dr. Reeves. [The fact that this distinguished Irish antiquary was a native of our county is an additional reason that an obituary notice of him should appear in our columns. We are indebted to the *Athenæum* of the 16th ult. for what we have here recorded of his life and labours.] Dr. WILLIAM REEVES, bishop of Down, Connor, and Dromore, was born at Charleville, county Cork, in 1816. He was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and was ordained in 1838, afterwards becoming perpetual curate of Kilconriola, vicar of Lusk, and dean of Armagh, before he succeeded Dr. Knox as bishop of the See which, as he used often to point out, is conterminous with the two ancient kingdoms of Dalriada and Dalnaraidhe. In 1847, while resident at Ballymena, the chief town of the parish of Kilconriola, county Antrim, he published *The Ecclesiastical Antiquities of Down, Connor, and Dromore*, a quarto, showing at once great research and minute local knowledge. Ten years later he edited, with copious notes, *St. Adamnán's Life of St. Columba*, with notes containing exhaustive researches into every point of the history of the saint and his island. Carlyle, who was minutely acquainted with the book, commended it for its thoroughness, and for the light which its editor had thrown upon life in the west in the sixth century. At the same time Reeves had worked at *The Acts of Archbishop Cotton in a Visitation of Derry in 1497*. He printed, in 1851, an account of the beautiful Ultonian manuscript, known as *Codex Maelbrihte*; and, the year before, a *History of the Churches of Armagh*. He also described the *Book of Armagh*, the most ancient manuscript in Ireland, containing much Irish, and purchased it from Mr. Brownlow for the University of Dublin. A treatise on the Rule of the Culdees, an Account of the Isle of Sanda, an Essay on Octavian del Palacio, a Short History of Lusk, an Account of the Bell of St. Patrick, and many other historical essays were the product of his marvellous industry. He copied most of the *Codex Kilkeniensis*, and filled several folio volumes with a transcript of the Records of the See of Armagh. He was editing the *Book of Armagh* at the time of his death. He had collected materials for a life of the Rev. Samuel Burdy, the biographer of Skelton, and generously placed them at the disposal of the writer of the life in the *Dictionary of National Biography*. He was unsurpassed in knowledge of the ecclesiastical and local history of the north of Ireland. In general learning he was the worthy successor of Jeremy Taylor and of Bishop Percy of the *Reliques*, and in special Irish knowledge surpassed Sir James Ware. It is to be regretted that his industry did not include a study of the Irish language; out of Irish palæography his knowledge was exhaustive. He was a most generous man of learning, and no scholar ever

consulted him in vain. He died in Dublin on Tuesday, January 12th, 1892.

Colonel Agmondesham Muschamp. Your correspondent, Mr. Brown, is mistaken in giving the death of Colonel Muschamp as having occurred in 1648, as he "was governor of the forte of Cork on February 20, 1654" (*vide* Council Book of the Corporation of Cork, appendix B. p. 1157). As this volume, which is now becoming scarce, may not be within Mr. Brown's reach, I copy the extract, dated February 20th, 1654:—"The examⁿ. of Capt. Peter Carew, aged 45, Eng. Prot., at the declaring of Cork for the Parliament, a Capt. of Foot in said City. That about 2 months before the declaring, exam^t. with Captⁿ. R. Burnhill, &c., &c., had several meetings to contrive to surrender Cork, which, by the blessing of God, was effected with the assistance of Colls. Gifford, Townsend, and Warden, then imprisoned by Lord Inchiquin, and that one Sergeant Hugh Buckland, then in the forte of C., under command of Coll. Agmondisham Muschamp, then Gov^r. thereof, was of the Council 4 days before, and did assist by removing a sentinel and giving an opportunity for the placing of a Ladder and entrance by a porthole, which was effected by the industry of Capt. Robt. Mihill, with a small party of men (said Muschamp being absent), who took the Lieut., Ensign, and about 20 men that kept the same." There is a foot-note (page 18) in the *Journal of the Very Revd. Rowland Daires, LL.D., Dean of Ross*, by Dr. Caulfield (Camden Society, London, 1857), which fully answers Mr. Brown's query:—"Denny Muschamp, of Horsley, in Surrey, Muster-Master-General of Ireland, married Elizabeth, daughter of Michael Boyle, archbishop of Armagh, son of the before-mentioned Richard, archbishop of Tuam (p. 13), and therefore a relation of the journalist's wife. His only daughter, Mary, was married to Sir Thomas Vesey, the first baronet (eldest son of John Vesey, D.D., archbishop of Tuam), and was mother of John Denny Vesey, first Lord Knapton."—ROBERT DAY (3, Sidney Place, Cork).

Manuscript by a Monk of Kilcrea. The reproduction of Mr. Geoghegan's famous poem in the pages of the Journal has reminded me that it is not "one of the things generally known" that there is still to be seen, in the public library at Rennes, in the north of France, an Irish manuscript, bearing a marginal note to the effect that it "was written on Maundy Thursday at Cill Creidhe" (now Kilcrea), and therefore presumably the work of a monk in the abbey there. This manuscript is considered to be a transcript of the Irish version of *The Travels of Sir John Maundeville* (an English knight, who set out on his journey in 1332, and visited, amongst other places, the Holy Land), the author of this Irish version being one Finghin or Florence O'Mahony,

of Rossbrin, in the parish of Schull, barony of West Carbery, county Cork, who wrote it in 1472 or 1475. A distinguished French *littérateur*, the Abbé Hamard, of Rennes, examined this MS. at my request in February, 1891, and has informed me that it consists of 125 pages quarto; that it was made the subject of a communication to the Royal Irish Academy by the late Dr. Todd, in 1867, from information supplied by M. de Robiou, president of the Rennes library; that Mr. John Abercromby contributed a paper, on that portion of it relating to Maundeville's travels, to the *Revue Celtique* for 1886; and that it was minutely studied by Professor Whitley Stokes in 1890, who had the pages numbered 75 to 90 photographed, which contain the life of a St. Colman (*not* him of Cloyne), which he will probably publish some day. There is also in the Rennes library another MS., by an unknown Irish writer, in Latin, which bears the sufficiently descriptive title *Tabula Cronologica Omnium Coloniae Milesiae Regum*. J. COLEMAN (Southampton).

An Old Irish Song. Mr. Fitzgerald, of Ballykneally, mentions to me—"At page 348, 1st vol. of Hardiman's *Irish Minstrelsy*, the original "words of the favourite rustic ballad 'Youghal Harbour' will be found, but they will not, perhaps, be thought to bear out the free translation "and nice lines which your correspondent has "quoted." I looked at the ballad in Hardiman. It is in the Irish language and characters, no translation being given. C. G. DORAN.

Province of Munster. The early division of Munster was into two provinces—*Desmond*, or South Munster, including the now counties of Cork, Kerry, and Waterford; *Thomond*, or North Munster, comprising Clare, Limerick, and part of Tipperary. Keating (*History of Ireland*, before the Norman Invasion) states that Oilioll Ollum, King of Munster in the second century, divided Munster into five parts. These were *Thumond*; *Urmhumha* (Ormond); *Meadhon Mummhoin* (Middle Munster); *Jarmhumhoin* (West Munster); *Ceasmhumhain* (South Munster). The two provinces were then called, in general, *Da Coigeadh Mumhan*, from the word *Mumho*, signifying "great," or of large extent. In describing a battle between the men of Munster and Leinster, he speaks of the former as "Momonians," and the latter as "Lagonians." Keating's *History of Ireland* is described by D'Arcy Magee, as "a semi-historic work, full of faith in legends and historic traditions." M. C.

The O'Gorman Mahon. Though not properly belonging to your immediate district, perhaps you would allow the following into your Notes and Queries, as it relates, more or less, to archaeology:—How is it that the late O'Gorman Mahon came to have the chieftain term "The" added to his name? Many years ago I read in some newspaper—I cannot now recollect name or date—that Mr. Mahon had married the eldest

daughter of the last O'Gorman, of Causeway, Ennis, County Clare, and was therefore called The O'Gorman Mahon. I have looked through some O'Gorman pedigrees, but could not find, to my satisfaction, this particular "O'Gorman," neither could I find the particular family of the "Mahons" to which the late M.P. belonged. Mr. O'Hart, in his valuable work, mentions the fact, but I cannot find that he gives any information on the subject, or as to either of the families mentioned. An early volume of *Notes and Queries*, soon after the passing of the celebrated Ecclesiastical Titles Bill of Lord J. Russell, has a squib on the necessity of Government promulgating a Bill for restraining people from assuming ancient Irish titles. This squib evidently pointed to The O'Gorman Mahon or some such title, as it mentions the marriage with a chieftain's daughter as the ground of the claim, but no names were given. I always understood that, by Irish law, females were incapacitated from succeeding to a chiefship. Any information on this genealogical or legal question will much oblige. MAC CAHIR MOR.

Kilcrea.

Like to the dead within thy holy round

Art thou, the skeleton of what thou wast,

Save that for thee, from ruins of the past
To rise again, no final trump shall sound.

Time, who must ope on one tremendous day

His mighty gulph, whence nothing now can
'scape,

Shall yield whate'er he holds of human shape,
But gives not what of thine he takes away.

Old abbey! in the shadow of thy tower,

Beneath the green fresh ivy mantling thee

(A robe of youth upon an aged frame),

Thou hast in thy calm loneliness the power

To make me lose all bitter memory,

And breathe a benediction on thy name.

J. P. D.

Arms of Munster. Can any reader give the origin of the adoption of the three crowns as the arms of Munster? Speede's map of Mounster (1610), reproduced in your Journal last month, has the Irish arms—a harp surmounted by a crown. A. C.

Curious Traditions. Recently an account appeared in the London *Graphic* of seven stones placed side by side, to which the tradition is attached that whoever tries to move them is sure to be killed. Some have tried, and been killed. They are stated to be situated at Castlehaven, near Bandon, County Cork. Can this be Castlehaven in the barony of West Carbery? A writer in *Chambers' Journal*, some years ago, quotes from an old work an account of "Ivor's ship," which periodically made its appearance on a lake near Glandore. Can any reader inform me in what works these two accounts are more fully published? COLLECTOR OF FOLK LORE.