

14 C 17

Ordnance Survey of Ireland: Letters, Fermanagh

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861 et al.

Assorted letters, notes and maps, relating to the history, traditions, antiquities and topography of the County Fermanagh, with particular reference to its genealogy, place names and early lordships.

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14 C 17/1

[O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861].

Title page and index to the Ordnance Survey letters of County Fermanagh.

[1834]

10p.

24 cm (i-ii); 23 cm (ii-x)



P. 11

1+

1770

Letters
Containing information relative
to the
Antiquities
of the
County of Fermanagh
collected during the
progress of the
Ordnance Survey.
in
1834-5

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1854-5

Fermanagh
Letters
1 Vol.

RIA

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END

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O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, in which he describes his hazardous journey from Maghera to Enniskillen.

10 October 1834

2p.

23 cm

O'Donovan outlines his intention of writing and traveling 'all day and all night until I am done here.'

RIA

Friday Evening
Enniskillen, October 10th 1834,

Dear Sir, Before I tell you a word about Lough Erne, I must amuse you by a detail of my travels since I left Maghera.

It is with great difficulty I got a seat on the coach from Maghera to Derry, because all the Clergyman of the District went on it to attend a Convocation in the immortal city. As we passed through Glenshane, wind-driven showers wet us to the skin and shattered our umbrellas. I am not at all surprized that the ancients called this the valley of storms. (Glenn íon) We arrived in Derry about four o'clock P.M. I engaged a seat to Enniskillen upon the Fair Trader, or as it should be styled the Foul Trader. At first it drove on at a rapid rate carrying about 28 passengers, 10 inside and 18 on the outside - noisy and half inebriated fellows! The coach started from Derry at 4 o'clock P.M. and drove against the wind and rain. I spread out my umbrella expecting that it would afford some shelter against the wind and rain, but it only served to collect the passing shower and drop it ~~into~~ upon my legs and thighs and into my shoes. Before we ~~had~~ reached Strabane my

14/10/17/20

fact ^{had} got numbed with cold. At Strabane I descended to get a glass of Whiskey ^{as much} to put the chilled stream of life into artificial circulation, but seeing a group of rough Country customers rush, in fighting confusion, to occupy the seats of those who remained that night in Strabane, I was obliged to give up looking for the cordial, which was several doors off, and ascend again. I was however done out of my former seat, and there was no regaining of it except by force of arms (nam fortiori, nam latro et n-uccap). Bad as my former seat was, I was now thrown into a worse one: on the tip-top of a trunk that towered magnificently over the level of the upper seats on the Fair Trader. Delightful seat! Here I became the sport of every squall, the victim of the rain! I was however determined to imitate the magnanimity of the stork, to glory in the roar of elements.

"Like the bold stork to seek the wintry shore,
"Cling to the cold and rest upon the storm.
"Leave ease, and courts and palaces to slaves."

All was well, and our company very noisy. But ~~When~~^{as} we had arrived within two yards of Beacon Bridge between Strabane and N. J. Stuart, the lofty vehicle was sublimely upset and ~~slightly~~^{splendidly} thrown into the ditch! I was pitched from my

3
towering and sublime elevation far beyond the
rest. The accident was so sudden, and the fall
so steep that I knew not for some minutes what
had occurred; - whether we were carried into the
firmament by some unknown power - or whether
old Nick had come to carry us all ^{cold} drunk
and sober as we were to warm up! At last I observed
that it was an accident ~~was~~ brought about by the negli-
gence of the driver, who let the right wheel slip
into the dyke, within two yards of a dangerous
and steep bridge! My feet were so numb with the
cold that I knew not whether I was killed or not.
However I asked myself the following questions:

Am I killed? am I am crippled? Are my
brains dashed out? I got up and found to
my great satisfaction that no vital part was
~~struck~~ ^{injured}, and no injury done except a slight
bruise of my left side and arm, which re-
main very sore yet. No material injury hap-
pened, but if the vehicle had advanced about
three yards further, we would have been all
dashed to ^{death} ~~pieces~~ again, and over the bridge!

I thank providence for our escape. I went to bed
and got up at half past five in the morning, but
had to drag the girl out of bed to get my shoes;
I went down to the Coach Office about 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ o'clock -
but there having been too many passengers going to the
fair of Enniskillen, she (i.e. the coach on which I had engaged
a seat at Derry) started a quarter of an hour

14/17/2(11) before

4 before the usual time (i.e. before the hour I was told in Derry). I missed the seat for which I had paid! I set out in a rage, and walked from Derry to Enniskillen, a distance of 22 Irish miles. I arrived a few hours after the Coach, without feeling in the least fatigued, expectation having animated me all along.

I called upon Thomas Maguire, and Mr. Stothers. I shall set to work now with every energy and vigor - and shall write and travel all day and all night until I am done here, but a month will never do me, the country being too interesting to get through it in so short a time.

I have caught a slight cold, and will remain within ^{doors} tomorrow to arrange all my papers. I shall have a great many ^{further} questions ^{to ask} about the Annals of the Four Masters; O'Keefe has done his business right well and satisfactorily. What are you doing with Derry?

Yours invariably

John O'Donovan

O'Keefe has not sent me all the passages from the Annals about Enniskillen. Let him do so immediately that I may lose no hint.

END

14 C 17/3

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, concerning the location and genealogical history of the ancient territories or lordships of Co. Fermanagh, as outlined in the 'Annals of the Four Masters.'

12 October 1834

2p.

30 cm

RIA

14/c/17/3(1)

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Emiskillen October, 12th 1834.

Dear Sir,

I remained within all day yesterday to make an Index to the extracts from the Annals. They throw great light upon the topographical names of the County, but I have not, I am convinced, got the half of them yet. O'Keefe has extracted only those passages which occur under, Firmanagh, Loch Erne, Inis beithinn and Achad wechair, but there are many other places in Maguire's Country certainly (to my own knowledge) mentioned which O'Keefe has not sent. I can not do without the whole, and I beg that you will get him to send me all the passages relating to the following places, taking special care to avoid repetitions.

1. Cuil territory: now the Barony of Coole. This territory is frequently referred to as the residence of Claspidy, Maguire's head physician, and as the territory of a collateral or dynast branch of the Maguires. Perhaps this territory will be found in the Index under the name Cul, Cuil, and Fir or Feara Cul.

2. Tuath Ratha now called Trooy and Toora. This was the principality of O'Flannigan a tributary chief to Maguire. Tuath ratha is very often mentioned in the Annals.

3. Tuath Luirg, sometimes called Fir and Feara Luirg. It is now called the Barony of Lurg, situated in the north of Fermanagh. This was the patrimonial inheritance of O'Madduin, who

6 was also tributary to Maguire. The following curious passage occurs in the Annals under the year 1309 respecting this place. "O'Maolduin (Dannell) Lord of Tuath Luig, was slain by the sons of Miall O'Donnell, who carried the spoils of his territory with them to Baddhba, one of the Islands of Lough Erne. ~~Philip~~ To avenge the death of his ^{brother} O'Maolduin, Philip Maguire, Lord of the seven Tuathas (i.e. Lord of the territories into which his ^{kingdom} ~~territory~~ of Fermanagh was divided) sailed with a large fleet to the island upon which the sons of O'Donnell were, and a naval engagement took place on that part of the Lough (near the island) called ^{division} Frionnloch, in which Miall age O'Donnell was slain."

The Muldoons are numerous in the Co. yet.

4. Machaire Stefanach, now the Barony of Magherastephena. This frequently occurs in the Annals, but O'Keefe has not sent me a word about it.

5. Clann Chonghaile, now the Barony of Glen Auley. Do the Annalists give Clann Amhlaoibh. if so where is it situated?

6. Tir Enda. I am inclined to think that the Tir-Enda of the Annals is the barony of Tirkenedy in the Co. of Fermanagh. Where does Harris or the Abbe Ma-Geoghegan place this territory?

6 1/2 Enoc Ardagh, now the Barony of Knoeshimny.

7. Airidh Broscaidh now Derry Bush.

8. Airidh Maolain now Derry in Glen.

9. Oilean na Tríonóide i.e. Trinity Island. There is an island of this name in Lough Ke, and another in Lough Erne.

10. Oilean na-naomh: do the Annals give any such island. There is an island in Lough Erne called Iris mac-Saint. What does Archdall or Colgan say about this?

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11. ^{Beldan} Bel-atha-charbaid, or Ath-charbad. This is
the now Belturbet!

12. ^{ea} Rop-anther now Roporry

13. Bel Lice now Belceek

14. Loch Meilge, now Lough Melvin.

15. Machaire na croise or Machaire Croise,

16. Cluain-Eois, now Clonas.

17. Bill Laibre, now Killesher

18. Clavinimish, now Breenish

19. Inis Caoin now Iniskeen.

20. Bill Bhonghaile, now ^{na} Kilmawley.

21. Beann Eachlabhras, now Benaghlin ^{mt}

22. Machaire Cail mona,

23. Lis na sgiath

24. Inaim Riagain

He has not sent me half the passages
that relate to the Maguirep. I should be glad to
have before me while in Fermanagh all the notes
of that family, because names of places may be
mentioned, which might throw great light upon
the ancient Topography. I find every passage
in the Annals relating to the 24 places above
mentioned.

Send me, ^{also} that part of O'Dugan's
Topographical poems, which treats of the families
and subdivisions of Fermanagh. It will be
found in O'Hanlon's MSS which Mr. Petrie has
at present.

Have you heard from Myles
O'Reilly. The name Books are very meagre,
but Mr. Mothard ^{at my request} is getting the names copied
into them as they are spelled in the Grand
Jury map of the County.

I will expect an answer to this
as soon as possible.

yours invariably

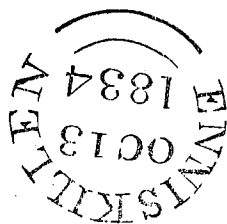
John O'Donovan,

On his Majesty's Service
The Superintendent of the
Ordnance Survey

Enniskillen *Phoenix Park*

October, 13th 1834

Dublin.



END

14 C 17/4

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, concerning the history, topography and traditions of Enniskillen, with particular reference to the origin of its place name and the will of Conor Maguire, the last Lord Enniskillen.

15 October 1834

2p.

30 cm

O'Donovan refers to the Ordnance Survey's planned publication on Derry, his expectations that it will 'be wickedly and treacherously attacked by many of the reviewers' and anticipates possible controversy surrounding George Petrie's remarks regarding the 'Presbyterian Character of the ancient Church of Ireland.'

Enniskillen, October 15th 1834.

Dear Sir,

I called on Thomas Maguire of Enniskillen, the lineal descendant of the last Lord Enniskillen. He is a hardware Merchant, and like shop-keepers in general, void of patriotic ~~feelings~~ feelings. Indeed it is hard to expect that any man in his situation of life could take any interest in historical research. He has the Will of the last Baron of Enniskillen, ^{in the Testator's young hand} written while in the tower of London, dated 1644 and signed "Connor Enniskillen". This will was written after the sentence of death had been passed on him. It is a curious document, as it enumerates his relatives, and sums of money left to different friends, and also several covenants into which he had entered with the neighbouring English and Irish chiefs.

This will he ordered to be given to the Friars of Lisscol, to whom he left a large sum of money to pay one hundred masses for the souls of different persons then deceased, and also for the health of his own soul.

From this will it plainly appears that Connor Enniskillen had ~~not~~ saved no money for he ordered several debts lawfully contracted by himself to be paid out of his Estates, which he also left burthened with dowries for his daughters and grants to different ^{priests} servants, adherents &c. &c. &c.

This will was never registered. The heir of honor afterwards passed into France where he distinguished himself in the Army, and acquired considerable property. The present Thomas Maguire, the rightful heir lived a long time in France, and would have obtained the property left by the French Officer were it not for the troubles in the time of Bonaparte.

This Thomas is pointed out by every one even by Lord Enniskillen as the Maguire, but Thomas ^{continues to} sell his knives, forks, brookes, hinges and bridles, caring very little about who he is depended from, but his sons and daughters would be aristocratic if they could at all support any thing like it; but selling combs and spoons is too mean an occupation for the "^{perhaps an Egyptian} Hawk of Lough Erne". I could look upon Bryan Mann Mullan, who lives barefooted in a little cabin in the wilds of Glenullster, with more respect and veneration than Thomas Maguire.

I requested that he would let me have a copy of Conor Enniskillen's Will; but he would not tho' he would ^{not} assign any reason for it than that he would not like to let it be copied. I only replied that it was a silly notion.

There is a tradition that the town of Enniskillen took its name from a small islet near the bridge, enclosed in 1831 by Lord Cole. This is neither true nor ancient nor probable, nor likely. Those who insist upon it affirm that the name signifies myr forllins, i.e. the Shilling Island either because there was a shilling found on

14/17/14(1) 10!

this island; or from its resemblance to a skilling! This is one of those pedantic stories made up by foolish old men to account for the name. to many of which I have referred you in the 6th Ser. The story however has been swallowed by Lord Enniskillen, for he has carefully ^{circumwalled} walled-round this islet from which he derives his honorable title. It is many a siller thing than this has been swallowed by Lords! The real Enniskillen is the island on which the town is built. If Enniskillen be the name of the speck islet what is the name of the island on which the town is built? !! The P.P. and I have had a long argument about this to day, ^{but} ~~and~~ I succeeded in laughing down all his arguments. The modern Enniskillen is ~~no~~ ^{no} other than the celebrated Island of Inis Ceathinn, on which Maguire had his fortress. Ceithleann was a man's name in Pagan times.

I am truly sorry to hear that Mr. Dawnes is ill: I hope the dog has been shot. I am very fortunate in my escape from dogs. ~~They~~ I am often attacked by regiments of these univil latro's as well as by turkey cocks and ganders.

The authorities for this County are so very few, and the name Books so defective, that I must take time to consider them & consult the most intelligent persons in the County. I shall do my utmost endeavour to settle the names as well as possible, and in as short a time as possible, but there are as many islands, islets, straits, loughs &c. as would puzzle the Devil himself. The Etymological word frequently occurs in this County, viz Tale, ^{large, tally,} the P. Priest of Enniskillen says that it is synonymous with Bally, but I think that it is an old measure of land, and memory deceives me, if I have not met it defined in some old act of Parliament. I know that Vallancey explains it in his Collection but in what part I do not remember. Per-

-haps Mr. Petrie may remember. I think that Tatte is much the same as barrow or quarter of land, and may perhaps be a corruption of the Latin Stadium, but this I ~~am~~ give as wild conjecture. I wish you would send me Vallancey's Definition of it.

How soon do you think will the first No. of Derry appear? It will be wickedly and treacherously attacked by many of the reviewers, and it will be necessary to have it well fortified, as they will bring all their guns to bear upon a work from which much is expected. There is one opinion set forth in it by Mr. Petrie that will scarcely be ball-proof, that is, the Presbyterian Character of the ancient Church of Ireland. I have stated this before to Mr. Clastrey, and he thinks that it can not be supported. The ancient Church of Ireland was surely Episcopalian, but there were many bishops who had no fixed sees, as is the case in France at present. The passage in the Inquisitions respecting the Establishment of Bishops by the Church of Rome, alludes to the Synod of Rath Breasail ^{at which} ~~where~~ the boundaries of dioceses were fixed. Before this period (viz.) the Irish appointed their own Bishops independently of Rome, and the ~~at~~ new regulation at that time introduced is what the Jury of the old Milosians allude to. It also appears from unquestionable authority, that about the same period the ^{see of Rome} ~~Pope~~ ^{deprived} other Countries of ~~the~~ ^{their} power of appointing their own Bishops ~~with~~ ^{their permission} ~~without~~ ^{from} ~~the~~ ^{their} ~~authority~~ ^{permissio}

Yours truly J. O'Donovan

END

14 C 17/5

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, concerning the ancient families of county Tyrone as listed in the 'Maguire Ms.'

16 October 1834

3p.

30 cm

Included are his thoughts regarding the difficulties and expense of travelling around the country - 'It is extremely laborious, vexatious and troublesome especially in the wintertime.' - and his belief that such work would not suit Eugene O'Curry, if engaged by the Ordnance Survey.

14/10 (17/571) 12

Enniskillen

October 16th 1834.

Dear Sir,

I have received your letter of the 14th current with M^r O'Keilly's elegant ~~and polite~~ letters, which breathe patriotism and kindness. The Maguire MSS. is amazingly interesting; it enumerates all the families of Tyrone, which to me is very gratifying. I was not able to persuade myself that the townland names of Ballyguddan, and Crishygeran in Dungiven were not derived from families although I could not find families of such names now in the neighbourhood; and the Rev^d M^r Popp explains Guddan as "prayers" and geran as a castrated horse. ^{why not millenium?} These townlands are called by those who speak Irish baile Uí Godáin and Éirí Uí Géraín, but yet they do not understand their meanings. Now among the milésian families of Tyrone I find O'Godan, and O'Geran. Old Nick Ogilby has an etymological rule from which he is determined never to deviate, viz to make the name of every townland describe the locality. I have another rule from which I will never deviate unless I am frightened from it by incarceration, viz. whatever word has O' Ua, or Mac prefixed to it, is a family name of Irish or Highland origin. I will make it so in despite of all eastern erudition, and will give no satisfaction to antiquarians but a laugh!

Among the families of Tyrone given by Maguire
or rather by M^r. Fitch's are the following:

1. O'Neill,
2. Mac Sweeney
3. Mac Loughlin
4. O'Brien, numerous
yet in Desertmartin
5. O'Blertan (very numerous
but rapidly passing into Clark's)
6. O'Mulhollan
7. O'Torar (now Toner)
8. Mac Rory (now Rogen)
9. O'Gairellan not
ferbhallan; none
known at Curlew d,
10. O'Gumiskey
11. O'Hane,
12. O'Gaddam (I suppose made
now into Goodman) (Ballygudden vide)
13. O'Quin, very numerous
14. O'Maonan,
15. O'Morren (O'Mughrain)
16. O'Boyle,
17. O'Merly,
18. O'Mullen,
19. O'Breslen,
20. O'Dragon (nomen saue bellicosum)
21. O'Galgan
22. O'Dawley so proud still
23. Mac Campbell (Latin Cuvelus at Rome vide De Burgo. p. 735).
24. O'Hasey
25. M^r. Reevy
26. O'Connegan
27. O'Beccan
28. O'Horan
29. O'Morris
30. O'Moan
31. O'Gormley
32. O'Mulligan
33. O'Breevy
34. O'Luney (O'Lunig. not Lyn or O'Lyn, but
Lynagh at present)
35. O'Garney
36. O'Bramagon
37. O'Brodan, now spelled Credan in
Ennistillen but pron^d Brudden.
38. O'Kafferty
39. O'Loosey! pity that it is not Mac.
40. O'Loughan
41. O'Monaghan,
42. O'Searcachain, now Sharkey.

I think you are perfectly right with respect to Curry¹⁴ if you think that you would have long employment for him: I wish I could devote more time to Book literature. You will find however that Curry will not be satisfied with travelling thro' the country. It is extremely laborious, vexatious and troublesome especially in the winter time. I should not wish to be so long in the country because I will soon become a regular Don Quixote if I continue in it much longer. I am afraid however that Curry would not wish to accept of such a ^{roving} employment unless he were well paid for it, which is out of the question. I could live more comfortably in Dublin for one pound a week than here for three, there are so many harpies looking for money in every house, ^{for public entertainment} and I am no sooner known, as an honest quiet fellow in one place than I have to shift my quarters to another, where I must dine on rusty bacon and sour beer, and sleep in a damp bed, for all which I must pay more than if they were much better. If I could stop in any one place for any length of time, I could then procure things myself, but when I am a meer kind of passager I can procure nothing but the worst of treatment.

No person will ever do the business except ^{14/C/17/500} one, who takes an interest in it himself. At present Curry would certainly mistake the northern pronunciation and would do so until he would become well acquainted with their peculiarities and barbarisms.

I am convinced that if Curry would accept of the situation, he would expect to be always stationed in Dublin, which could not, I think, be readily allowed him unless you intend to keep me always roving ^{about} like the wandering Jew. No person is fit or should be allowed to meddle with those names except one acquainted with the whole circle of Irish lore, and with the peculiarities of pronunciation that prevail in the different districts. O'Keilly would have plaid the devil with them. Curry is a person who could ~~be~~ in a short time ^{be} trained to do the thing properly, but he could not possibly be expected to be prepared now, unless you would allow him to prove, like Leydon, that Orpheus was an Irishman, and Irish, the language of paradise. Etymology alone and unassisted (or rather unrestricted) is capable of doing all this with great facility, and to the satisfaction of such gentlemen as O'Brien the Buchist and the ~~late~~ King of Ulster, who can swallow nonsense better than reason, and romance better than History. I should be glad that you could procure the assistance of Curry, but I cherish a hope that if you remove him you will be able to make him some way comfortable. If I had any acquaintance with him, I would think it my duty to advise him ^{to weigh the matter} again and again before he would remove from Limerick, & if he be a married man, he is totally mistaken in removing yours truly, J. O'Donovan

RIA

14/C/17/5 (iii)

Thos. H. Larcom Esq.

Royal Engineers

Greenwich Park

London

END

14 C 17/6

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, concerning the history and genealogy of the leading Gaelic families of the county and his findings regarding the origin of Enniskillen's place name.

17 October 1834

6p.

24 cm

Included is an account of his collaboration with a local historian and magistrate Capt. Gabbot and a transcription of the Maguire pedigree.

17 Oct. 24 16

Enniskillen, Friday.

Dear Sir

I travelled yesterday through the parish of Enniskillen, and got some of the aborigines to pronounce the names in Irish. The parish of Enniskillen is now in the barony of Tirkennedy, but it would appear from the names of some places and from traditions in the country that it was anciently in the territory of Cuil. The names I allude to are Castle-boole, the splendid and gorgeous palace of Lord Curry (rectius Lowry) which is called by the Irish Cáisle na Cúile, i.e. the Castle of Boole territory. The annals always prefix the article to the name of this territory as Magaidh na Cúile, i.e. Maguire of the boole; O'Carroll na Cúile, i.e. O'Carroll of the boole. In like manner the Irish people of Enniskillen parish, always ~~prefix~~ ^{insert} the article na in the name Castle-boole. Again there is a proverbial expression current in the parish that Barrikmacmea, ^{P.L. in Enniskillen} (in Irish Ceathrún m'c M'Éir, i.e. M. Mea's quarter) is the best quarter in boole; it rhymes thus:

Ceathrún m'c M'Éir, ceathrún párla na Cúile,

From this I infer that the ancient territory of cuil comprehended a portion of the present barony of Tirkennedy. - 14/c/17/6(i)

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Mr. Stothard and I spent the greater part of this day with Captain Gabbot of Enniskillen, a magistrate, and a very curious man and one who is well acquainted with the modern History of Ireland. I have not yet met with any one, who knows so much about the general topography of Ireland and family history as Captain Gabbot. I shewed him the extracts from the Annals relating to Fermanagh. He thought that we had no such records preserved in the Irish language, and was surprised to find how they agree with the English accounts. He has assisted me much in identifying the old names of the islands with their modern ones.

The following curious passage occurs under the year 1589 which throws great light upon the history of the Maguires.

"After the death of the Maguire (Constantine) Conor Roe, the son of Conor Maguire conceiving that the Lordship of the Country was his in right of his seniority and others thinking that Hugh the son of the deceased Maguire should be Lord after

his father, gave rise to great dissensions &c. &c.
14/C/17/6 (11) 18
Hugh was inaugurated chief at Sciath gabhra
thro' the influence of O'Donnell.

"In 1593 the Lord Chief Justice defeated
"Hugh and left bands of soldiers in the country
"to assist Conor oge, the son of Conor Roe who
"was at strife with the Maguire i.e. Hugh."

The ~~Ena~~ Queen afterwards created
this Conor oge, Lord of Enniskillen, but
he joined in the rebellion of 1641, and was
executed. This is the Conor whose will is yet
preserved. After this, Hugh or his son
joined the English cause, and got the estate
of Triampoghach Deisill now Tempo. Hugh
is the ancestor of Constantine Maguire
of Tempo. Thomas Maguire, who has
the will of Conor oge first and last
Baron of Enniskillen descends from
the brother of Conor oge, and is the
next heir to a property left by his
(Conor oge's)
son in the South of France. But Con-
stantine of Tempo is the Maguire in the
Irish point of view, i.e. he is descended

19
from the last person who was inaugurated
head of his tribe according to the Irish
custom at Iciath Gowra. I do not be-
lieve that Conor oge, who was made
baron of Enniskillen by the English was
ever called the Maguire by the Irish.

The following is the succession of the
Maguire in Fermanagh according to the
MS. lent me by Mr. O'Reilly.

1. * Don, the son of Donnell, who was son of
Giolla-iosa, was the first person called Maguire;
he died A. D. 1345.
2. * Flahertach, the son of Don, who was son of
Donnell, 1324 - ruled - 21 years,
3. * Rory, the hospitable, the son of Flahertach, 1332
ruled. 8 years
4. Hugh Roe, the son of Flahertach. 1360 - 28
5. Philip of the battle-axe, the son of Hugh Roe. 1375 - 16.
6. Thomas Mor, the son of Philip of the battle-axe. 1430. - 35
7. Thomas oge, the son of Thomas mor, 1480 - 58.
8. Edmund, the son of Thomas oge. 1488 - 8.

- 9- John the son of Philip, who was son of Thomas mor. 1503-15
 10- Conor Mor, the son of Thomas age, 1518.
 11- Cucounaught, the son of Cucounaught, who was son of
 12- Brian, who was son of Philip, who was son
 of Thomas More, who was called the Coarb 1538-20,
 13- Giolla-patrick Bane, 1541-3-
 14- John, the son of Cucounaught, who was son of
 Cucounaught. 1566. - 25-
 15- Cucounaught, the son of Cucounaught, 1589-23
 16- Hugh, the son of Cucounaught, who was
 son of Cucounaught, the Coarb aforesaid 1600-11,
 17- Cucounaught age, the son of Cucounaught,
 the Camharba, who was son of Cucounaught, 1609-9-
 18- Conor, the son of Conor age. 1620 - 11.

The Pedigree runs as follows -

- 1- Cucounaught, at Constantin, must have lived at
a late period.
2. the son of Brian
3. who was the son of Cucounaught mor
- 4 who was the son of Hugh
- 5 _____ Brian, brother of Hugh, the last Maginn
- 6 _____ Cucounaught, abt. 1589.
- 7 _____ Cucounaught 1550
- 8 _____ Cucounaught 1739 No 1,
14/C/17/6(III)

- 9- who was the son of Brian
 10 _____ Philip
 11 _____ Thomas more
 12 _____ Philip of the battle axe
 13 _____ Hugh Roe
 14 _____ Flahertach
 15 _____ Donn
 16 _____ Donnell
 17 _____ Giolla-iosa (nunc Gillesce)
 18 _____ Donn More
 19 _____ Randal
 20 _____ Midhir (~~Uire~~, ~~und~~ Maguire)
 21 _____ Sherry
 22 _____ Airghiallach
 23 _____ Midhir, a quo Maguire
 24 _____ Kerry
 25 _____ Lughan,
 26 _____ Ingallach,
 27 _____ Egnry
 28 _____ Cormac
 29 _____ Fergus
 30 _____ Hugh

- 31 — who was the son of Cormac
32. — — — — — Carbrý, surnamed Tamhaígid
33 — — — — — Eochy
34 — — — — — Criffan
35 — — — — — Feg
36 — — — — — Deaga dom
37 — — — — — Rochadh.
38 — — — — — Colla da chrioch
39 — — — — — Eochy Doimhlen
40 — — — — — Carbrý Liffachair, King of
Ireland 17 years.
41 — — — — — Cormac, Mac Art, K. I. 40 years.

The Mac Manus's thus branch off
from the Maguires.

- 1- Conner
- 2- Gillpatrick
- 3- Matthew
- 4, Mann, a. quo the name Mac Mann
- 5, Donn More
- 6, Randal
- 7- Uidhir, a. quo Mag-Uidhir
- 8, Sherry, vide N^o 18, 19, 20, 21, supra.

14/c/17/6(iv)

Thus the M.^e Gaffrys or Caffrys.

1. Torlogh
2. Kiall
- 3 - Dermot
- 4 - Morogh
- 5 - Kiall more
6. Gaffry age
7. Gaffry Bernagh
8. Donn
9. Donnell
10. Gilleece. &c vide, 15-16, 17, Ped. Maguire -

The following were the principal families of Fermanagh and their places of residence according to the same M^s.

1. Mac Manns, at Seanad near the lake;
2. Mac Caffry, the standard bearer, at Ballymagaffry.
4. Mac Elroy at Ballymacelroy.
5. Mac Brien at Ballymacsherry
- 6 - O'Breslen, the Brehan at Ballybreslen.
- 7 - O'Corran at Glenish Finill
8. O'Adam at Theemore Ballycaddan

Odhar, the ancestor from whom the family name Mac Uidhir i.e. Fitz-Odhar is derived, (vide 23. supra) had a son called Ideafan (i.e. Stephan) from whom the family of Ministr-Ideafain, and the barony of Machaire Ideafanach are named.

The Corrigan's, a numerous tribe here, descend from Corrigan¹, the son of Cathal², who was son of ~~who~~³ ~~was son of~~ Cumasgach³ — of Lergus⁴ — of Duibhdine⁵ — of Fionchu⁶, of Faolban⁷, — of Baadan⁸ of Tuatan⁹ — of Tuathal¹⁰ of Daimhin¹¹ — of Carbr¹² surnamed Daimhairgid. — vide Maguire Ped. N^o 32.

The O'Moghams from whom many townlands are named descend from ellochan, the Brother of Corrigan aforesaid.

From Muldoon the son of Tuathal who was son of Daimhin &c. &c. are descended the O'Dourish's, O'Roddaghans, O'Kevins, O'Fedegans, O'Murregans, O'Dunaghans.

From Gartan, the 12th in descent from Carbr^y aforesaid are descended, O'Lorcan, the O'Connell's Crenachs of Clagher, O'Humasky.

From Fogartach, the son of Gartan are descended O'Flannigan and O'Kelly (of the north) and O'Beirin. N.B. all the old men of Dúnguinn and Ballynascreen assert that Col. Carey of Dúnguinn was of this name O'CEPTIN, and that he was raised from a very humble rank.

RIA

14/c/12/6(vi)

ENNISKILLEN
OCT 20
1834

On His Majesty's Service

The Superintendent of
the Ordnance Survey
Phoenix Park

Dublin.

END

14 C 17/7

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letters, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, concerning the antiquities of Devenish Island, with particular reference to its round tower and burial ground.

20-21 October 1834

3p.

23 cm

Included is a description of Lough Erne as 'the regular high-road through Fermanagh.'

Enniskillen, October, 20, Monday

Dear Sir,

Please to tell O'Keeffe to extract from the Annals all the passages relating to Blann-beallaigh (now Blankelly, a barony in the south east of Fermanagh,) and Tiompódh or Tiompódh-Deisill, now Tempo, and also all the passages relating to Igiath-gabhra, the place where the chiefs of Fermanagh were inaugurated.

The weather is very wet and stormy here, and I have so much to travel that I have not time to write you a long letter; and the days being short and the roads heavy and wet that I must take the best part of the day to travel into the country. Summer would be the best season to do Fermanagh, which is much more wet and stormy than Derry or Down, in consequence, I suppose, of the extent of Lough Erne.

I think I am better settle the anthography now with all possible expedition and take a more favourable season to collect other matters. Their Irish here approach.

14/2/27/7①

²⁶as that of Connought, and the names of town-lands are very different from those of the other Counties. New topographical words occur in every parish. Tates, gobs, ropes, rings. occur frequently.

Yours truly

John O'Donovan.

24
Enniskillen, Tuesday. Oct. 21. 1834

Dear Sir I spent the greater part of yesterday on Devenish Island, looking over the tomb stones and viewing the ancient ecclesiastical remains.

The round tower which ~~had been~~^{was} perfect four months since, is now most lamentably injured, and if not soon repaired, the winter storms will certainly knock off its ^{top - shield.} Beann-coban or Conical cap. The Jackdaws have carried up to its top the seeds of trees (principally elder) which have grown, and by striking root between the stones have loosened and exposed them to the merciless fury of the wintry squalls. The South side of the cap has been thrown down and the top window on that side considerably injured. It is lamentable to see beautiful hewn stones ornamented with heads &c hurled down from ~~the~~ their lofty eminence and broken against each ^{one} ~~other~~ ^{on} ~~other~~.

Lords Enniskillen and Ely have offered to subscribe any sum towards the repairing of this exquisitely finished architecture of other days, but they can not find any one bold enough to take upon himself the responsibility of repairing ^{it}; the builder or principal architect of Enniskillen is afraid of the height! Well may we boast of the march of intellect!!! in Fermanagh!

Captain Bentham of the 52nd Regt. (a gentleman from Kent) is very anxious to have it repaired, but having no pretension to architectural skill he is diffident to undertake to see it done although he

14/c/17/7(ii)

sees plainly that this winter will do its work of destruction. Capt. B- has got the stones that had fallen removed in order that others ready to be hurled down by the next storm, may not break them, and be broken by them. He has given them fair play to fall upon the grassy field.

Capt. B- can command men and time, but he would not undertake to see it finished lest it might be botched. He says that Mr. Stothard ought to see it done: as being the son of Olinerva - he (Cap B-) being the son of Bellona.

Four days would do the whole, and Mr. Stothard could do his own business in the mean time. He is anxious to see it done, but is very shy ~~in saying~~ to say so, lest the Col. would not be pleased.

Lord Ely would supply trees for scaffolding and the tower could be so easily ascended on the inside that by means of the four "Cardinal windows" a scaffold could be fixed ~~in~~ a half an hour. very little on

Now as Mr. Stothard would lose ^{very little on} no time, I think the Col. might grant him permission to see it done. If it be not done this month, the winter will destroy the most beautiful part of it - its Cornical Canoe, as O'Brien learnedly calls it.

○ If you will coax the Col. to say the word, I will say that you are a worthy. All the patriots of this neighbourhood would be very grateful, as there is none of themselves Gobban Saer enough to preside over it.

The principal families interested in Denevish are the O'Flannigans, Mac Mann's, Maguires, M'Cookers and Quintons.

Please to get O'Keeffe to send me the original Irish of the following passage in the Annals of the Four because I do not believe that the translation is correct.

"1369. O'Muldoon, lord of the territory of Lurg was slain by the sons of Donnall O'Donnell, who carried the spoils of his territory with them to bádbá, an island in Lough Erne. To avenge the death of his oglach, Philip Maguire Lord of the seven "Tuathas", sailed with a large fleet to the island, and a ^{Combat} naval engagement took place on Fionn-loch near the island, in which Mall age, the son of Mall Garne &c. &c. O'Donnell was slain."

From many passages in the Annals it appears that Lough Erne was the regular high-road through Fermanagh. The island here called bádbá, (pronounced Bá-wá) is now styled Boa-^{an} island. It is situated in the larger lough having the barony of Lurg to the East, and Northeast, and Sixconnell, ~~and upon which the coun-~~ try of O'Donnell to the N. and W. It is the largest island in the Great Lough Erne, and one upon which the spoils of the territory of Lurg could be very readily carried or in boats. Tuath-Lurg, one of Maguire's seven Tuathas or Lordships is now called "The Lurg", and the inhabitants of the other Baronies of Fermanagh look upon them as a people in themselves, differing from the rest in customs and manners and in a great degree in dialect. "The men of Lurg" is as common an expression now as Peapla Lurg was six hundred years ago.

Yours invariably

John O'Donovan.

14/c/17/7(iii)

* "cardinal windows". It is a fact however, that they are far from pointing towards the four cardinal points. But O'Brien and Vallancey would easily account for this by the "procession of the Equinoxes". Have they proceeded from South to South-west?

In Her Majesty's service

The Superintendent of the
Advances of the
General and

Public

ASKILLEN
NOV 21
1834

you will find that the Architect consulted the
extent of the view, more than the meridian, to
certain fix the situation of the windows—

END

14 C 17/8

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letters, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Derrygonnelly, Co. Fermanagh, concerning the history, topography and genealogy of Derrygonnelly and Enniskillen, with particular reference to its associations with the O'Flanagan family.

22-25 October 1834

4p.

23 cm

Included is a list of the principal Gaelic families found in the Enniskillen area.

14/c 17/8 (1) 31

Derrygonnelly, October, 22nd 1834.

Dear Sir, I think that Fermanagh should be styled "patria ventorum". I never ~~felt~~^{experienced} such storms as those the waters of Lough Erne. The hawk of Lough Erne had every opportunity of becoming wild and warlike! I arrived here last night after a walk of eight miles against the wind and rain. I got wet through in the first quarter of an hour, and when I arrived here I would weigh about 14 stone! A black stream flowed from my hat down my back and face, and rendered me so respectable looking that I could scarcely procure a respectable apartment to sleep in. It was a sublime walk! the clouds flying from the mountains (which divide Ulster from Connaught) across Lough Erne, sometimes poured down their contents in torrents, at other times in misty drops driven furiously by the winds.

I shall soon be a hardy sailor, and able to bid defiance to the rain, for I feel not the slightest inconvenience from such a wetting. I am weather-bound to day, as it would be folly in the extremes to venture out.

I am now in O'Shannigan's territory of Tuath Ratha (Tooraa) the situation of which I was never able to ascertain in Dublin. It is a very wild district situated between Lough Melvin and the great Lough Erne. The O'Shannigans are very numerous here yet, all dwindled to petty farmers, colliers or public house keepers.

The O'Flannigans were formerly very respectable here, as appears from the annals of the Four Masters, and ~~from~~ had arrived at a high degree of civilization of the middle ages as appears from the beautiful ruin of their monastery on the island of Sevenish. They descend from Eunda, the grandson of Niall of the Nine hostages, and were therefore called Kenel n-Eunda. The pedigree of O'Flannigan, the famous chief of Toora is thus given by M^r. Firth and James Maguire.

1. Hugh O'Flannigan, Lord of Toora, qui obiit. A.D. vid. A.
- 2 the son of Gillapatrick (now made Kirkpatrick)
- 3 who was the son of Manus

4 _____ Gilbert

5 _____ Cormac

6 _____ Gilliosa Roe (now Angliciz^d. Gillece)

7 _____ Mortogh

8 _____ Cormac cool-fin, (of the fair Coolan, i.e.

9 _____ Brian hair hanging down his back)

10 _____ Dermot, the stammerer

11 _____ Hugh

12 _____ Cormac, of the steeds

13 _____ Dermot, the hospitable

14 _____ Hugh

15 _____ Donnell of the wine

16 _____ Brian, of the defeats (or victories)

17 _____ Gillapatrick **

18 _____ **Flannigan**, the progenitor, a quo cogn.

19 _____ Loingsiach, (Angliciz^d. Lynch)

M. B. The years of the deaths of these chiefs are given in the Annals.

20. who was the son of, Adghal (now ang. Arille) 33
 21. Loughlin
 22. Metaghlin of the plain
 23. Mulrone, na caradh
 24. Fluhertach
 25. Donnell Donn
 26. Eunda
 27. Garbré
 28. Niall of the nine hostages

Names of men explained.

1. Fugh: this is an anglicizing of Nés, which the monks and Latin writers rendered Adghal. The word signifies Fire, and is a man's name of Pagan origin retained in Christian times. A certain monk who wrote the Life of a St. Adghal, calls him Ignis, and Colgan in a note upon the word says that by this he translated his Irish name of Nés. The same explanation is given in Cormac's Glossary.

2. Gillar Patrick signifies "servant of Patrick, the apostle of Ireland". It is curious to observe that the name Patrick, at present so common in Ireland was never used in Irish times. Patrick was the Ecclesiastical appellation of the Irish apostle, who was called Lucat at his baptism. Patrick is a word of Latin or Greek origin and is synonymous with father or Patriarch. A monk of Glastonbury who claimed St. Patrick as the patron of his monastery, thus explains the name: "Donat Patricius, pater civium."

The ancient Irish thought it would be too presumptuous to assume the Roman name of their apostle and therefore assumed the more humble and tutelary name of Gillar Patrick, i.e., as it were the servant or devoted of Patrick; for the child so

34
named at the regenerating fountain of baptism was placed under the immediate protection of the Saint. I do not believe that Patrick, as the name of a man, is 150 years in use. it is an abbreviation of Gilpatrick, which is Latinized Patricianus, similar to Gillowethine, Giolla-Brigide, Giolla-Christ, which are Latinized Marianus, Brigidianus, Christianus. Gilpatrick was first changed to Kilpatrick, which by a Scotch refinement is become Kirkpatrick. 3. Magnus. This name was borrowed by the Irish from the Danish families with whom they formed alliance by marriage. Mr. O'Reilly in his note upon his translation of the Life of Red Hugh O'Donnell says that Magnus is an Irish word ~~and~~ derived from Maic-Énnur, i.e. the good countenance but in this he is unquestionably mistaken, for I find that the Irish never had the name among them until after their intermarriage with the Danes. This will appear from the Annals of Tigernach of Ulster and of the Four Masters in which the first Magnus occurs under the year 830[?] (or thereabouts) As O'Reilly had not sufficiently considered the subject, his opinion in this, as well as almost every other subject, is of no weight whatever. Calgan understands the word as signifying Magnus, i.e. Great. It seems to be a Latin name assumed by the haughty chiefs of Scandinavia upon their becoming acquainted with the Latin Language. The principal names borrowed by the Irish from the Danes are Randolph (now Randal), Magnus (now Manus), Litric, Ivor, Ard, Torgest, &c. ^(now Goggin) Godfred, Amloff, now Auley, &c. These names do not occur in our Annals previous to the 8th Century, and very seldom before the beginning of the 9th.

4. Gilbert. This was borrowed from the Normans.
5. Bormac. This is spelled borb-mac in Bormac's Glossary in which it is stated that the name signifies "son of the Chariot," and that it was first given as a nickname to Bormac Gualta Gasith, who was born in a chariot. From his celebrity others afterwards assumed it as a name.
6. Giolla-iosa. The English word Jesuit would literally translate this name. It has been Latinized Gelasius but very incorrectly. There is a tailor in Ennistellen of this name, but he Anglicizes it Gillece.

7. Mortogh, in Irish Muriceaptraic. It signifies ^{sea-man} Mariner or sailor. Now rendered Mortimer by a Clergyman of the name Mortogh O'Sullivan.

9. Brian. Virtuosus.

10. Dermot. (Drumard.) is explained ^{as signifying} "Freeman" in Bormac's Glossary. O'Brien says that it is synonymous with Jeremiah, which is now become the Anglicized form of it Dermot.

15. Bornell (Doimnall.) signifies "Lordly" and is synonymous with "Dominick". It is now usually rendered Daniel.

18. Flannagan is a diminutive of Flann, just as Coghagan is of Cochaidh, Bramagan of Bram, Giarzan of Giar, Donnagan of Donn, Maolgan of Maol. Fionnagan of Fionn, &c. &c.

Flann signifies "the red" or Ruddy and was first given as an Epithet from the color of the face. In the Inscription on the more modern abbey of Davenish, the name is apparently Flanragan, but the letters are so mutilated that one can not be sure whether it should be r n or a, but if Flanragan be the real name in the inscription it is a mistake, ^{committed by the stone-cutter} because we have ^{better} ~~as good~~ authority ^{than} ~~as~~ that inscription for the spelling of the family name O' Flannagan.

19, Loingsreach, signifies, Shipman, or ^{Sailor} ~~armor~~.

20, Adghal signifies "of High prowess or valor",

21, Loughlin signifies Lakelander. It was the name which the Irish called the Scandinavians who harassed ^{them} principally out of boats and ships on Lough Neagh, Lough Foyle, Loughree, Lough Smel (loc dinin) Lough Erne, &c. &c.

It afterwards became ^{the} a proper name of a man among the Irish themselves. Sampson argues from the name Loughlin that the M^r. Loughlins of the North are descended from the Danes, but he might with equal effect argue from the name Magnus that the M^r. Magnus, a branch of the Maguises, are descended from the Danes. All that can be safely inferred from those names is that the families among whom we find them had intermarried with

the Domes, and so far will Sampson's argu-³⁴
-ment hold good - they are descended from the
Domes on the mother side. In latter times the
names Loughlin, Munn, &c. became so common
in Ireland, that ~~it~~^{they} prove nothing.

22. Melaghlin (Maol-peachlann) i.e. the servant
of St. Seachlann, or Secundinus, a contemporary of
St. Patrick.

23. Mulronee (Maolmuinard) i.e. the servant
of St. Ruanaidh

24. Flahertach (Flaizbeapac) i.e. nee tap a
mbor gnm flaza) i.e. Lordly in action.

26. Eunda. The monk who wrote the
Life of St. Eunda explains the name, volucris
i.e. Bird-like, from his agility.

27. Cairbre. In Cormac's Glossary this
is explained as Copbarpe, i.e. auriga, i.e. Charioteer.

28. Niall, i.e. Nia oil the mighty hero.

Igiath Gabhra (Ikeagaura) the place
where the Maguires were inaugurated still retains that
name. It lies within one mile of Belle Isle, and
about 6. Irish miles of Ennistullen, on the
eastern banks of the upper lake.

The Martins are a very numerous tribe about Enniskillen. I thought at first that they were an English family, but I find that the Irish call them Mac Gilmartins.

The principal aboriginal families about Enniskillen are the following:

M^c. Echill, now rendered Woods

M^c. Lionion, now Leonard (Mac Gile Finén)

O' Flannigan (O' Flannagáin) Tuat náit ús Flannagáin,

Connelly (O' Congaile)

Cassidy (O' Carraide)

Breslen (O' Bperrlen)

Mac Gilly, now Cox (ie back's !!)

M^c. Gilcostrig (Mac Grolla. Corbparáig)

M^c. Foster (Mac O'garra)

M^c. Caffry (Mac Gopparáig)

Meenan (O' Míocáin)

O'Malanophy (O' Mhac. Elinbée)

Corrigan (O' Corraicáin)

Martin (Mac Gilla-martáin)

Kerrin (Mac Ceannáin)

Tommons, Timony (O' Tomáin)

Cridden, now Creden (O' Crodáin)

C. O' Donovan

Derrygonnelly, October 25/34

Dear Sir,

I am very much afraid that O'Keefe will not extract all the passage relating to Fermanagh. The County is altogether an unexplored region, exhibiting ruins of Castles and Churches of which nothing is known.

Inismacaint is a name that puzzles me. Does Colgan mention it?

Red Hugh O'Donnell at the time of his final escape from the English sailed over Lough Erne. Do the Annals mention any island or landing place in describing his passage?

Kill Tishearnagh is also mentioned as having been set on fire ^{on Patrick's Day} in four different places by one branch of the Maguires, while another, his rival was within it hearing Mass. This Church must have been in Fermanagh. Let me have the passage relating to it.

Some of the islands in Lough Melge (Meluin) are also mentioned in the Annals as plundered at various times ^{on}. One of them stood a kind of house called Cranganue

14/c/17/18(v)

40 Does M^r Petrie know what description of house
a Crannag was? They are always mentioned as
situated on islands, never on ^{main} land.

Let me also have all the passages
relating to Caol-uisge (i.e. Narrow Water) a
celebrated pass on the River Erne not far
from Belleek.

The weather has now assumed a
more favourable aspect, I intend to proceed
to Belleek on Monday.

yours invariably

John O'Donovan

Does Loch Labain occur in
the annals? or Loch da-en?

END

14 C 17/9

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Castle Caldwell, Co. Fermanagh, in which he outlines his journey through Belleek, Garrison, Inis Caoin, Lough Melvin, Co. Fermanagh, and Inis Saimer, Bundoran, Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal, with particular reference to the antiquities and topographical features found therein.

30 October 1834

4p.

23 cm

Included is a list of the islands and promontories of Lough Melvin.

Castle Caldwell

October 30th 1834.

Dear Sir, I have travelled a great deal since I wrote to you last. I passed over the grand cliffs that overhang the plain of Fuccalt of Tooraa. This Fuccalt is a level district running about five miles along the ^{N.W. banks} ~~N.W. of~~ of the great Lough Erne. The name signifies *paor alt*, i.e., under the height as you might say, Subrussian district. It is grand and beautiful and seems to have formed when the awful commotion took place that formed Lough Erne. It was by a depression of the earth occasioned by some subterranean commotion, similar to the one that in latter times destroyed the city of Lisbon.

I passed on to Belleek where I remained one night. The name Belleek is an anglicizing of *bél līce* which signifies "Food of the flag". The flag runs as level as a floor almost across the river. It is dry and much exposed in summer but now entirely covered with water.

14/11/90

I proceeded the next morning to Ballyshannon to see the different fords on the river Erne so celebrated in the annals. These are Ath Cull uain, ^{Narrow water} Carl Disge and Ballyshannon. The first retains its name yet and is situated about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile west of Belleek. the second is now called Corash Casil or the weir of Narrow water, from ~~was~~ a fishing weir placed across the ford. The third is at the bridge of Ballyshannon. The Cataract of Casrae is in the town of Ballyshannon. It is not very high, but it roars tremendously and the large volume of water rolled down from the rock has a most sublime appearance. Immediately beneath the fall appears the celebrated little island of Inis Saimers the scene of the first jealousy in Ireland. About 3 miles to the south of the island there is a valley yet retaining the name of Glen end or the valley of valley of jealousy. This is the valley in which Partholan was hunting when ~~Mr~~ Partholan committed a mistake. The island is now called Fish island, because

there is a fishhouse built upon it. 43

I proceeded from Ballyshannon to
Bundoran, where I met Lt. Taylor.
We then directed our course in a south
eastern direction keeping the river
Drogha on the right until we arrived
at the north western extremity of Lough
Melvin. We then journeyed on keeping
Lough Melvin to the right until we
arrived at the small village of
Garrison. I got the Irish names of
the Islands ^{and promontories} in the lake from several
of the old aborigines I met on the
road. Next morning I landed on
Inis Caoin, to see if it contained any
ruins of Maglanchy's island ^{Castle} but I
was disappointed. It is a beautiful
island covered with wood. ^{but} exhibit-
ing nothing of interest excepting the
remains of a causeway leading from
the island to the opposite promontory
of Ros-cait. It is called the friars'
Bridge by the fishermen, and there
is a part of the island called the
Friars' garden.

14/c/17/9(11)

The mountains that tower over Lough Melvin to the South are called by the people of the North side, the mountains of Darrree. Among them are two beautiful hills called Maglamshie's Caps. Maglamshie surely possessed a most formidable territory. I proceeded yesterday from Garrison to Belleek, and from thence to Castle Caldwell. In this journey I walked round almost the whole of the plain of May Kedne, which is bounded on the North by the river Erne; on the South by Lough Melvin, and the River Droghda, and on the east by hills which manifestly divided it in ancient times from Tooraá.

The following are the islands and Poses (promontories) of Lough Melvin in the order in which they run from west to east.

1. Ros na m-brathar i.e. promontory of the friars. This runs a considerable distance into the lough.

2. Inis Seilke, or island.
3. Inis meadhain, i.e., mid-land.
4. Inis teampoill, i.e., church island. The ruins of a church are to be seen on this island.
5. Inis basin. This was the residence of chaglanshie. *Just here stop of Culture*
6. Ros Cait, i.e., cat. promontory. This is almost an island. I find several places named *from wild cats.*
7. Ros mor, i.e., the great promontory.
8. Garbh-inis, i.e., rough island. This is called Bilberry island by some on account of the ~~large~~ quantity of that fruit it produces, called *rynacōga* by the Irish people.
9. Griagh (*Γριεαί*) island.
10. There is another very small island near Garrison called Stony island by some and Still-house island by others, because it is many a good glass of the real stuff that was ever made upon it. This island is now almost entirely covered with water, the lake having swelled by the winter streams and rivulets that fall into it.

The name of the river that falls into the sea at Brundoran is called in Irish Brádóg, and its mouth Bunbradóg by the Annalists. I was surprised that the town has not been named from it, as Brunduff and Brundrowis are from the rivers Duff and Drawis.

The name O'Heoghain is frequently mentioned in the Annals as officials of Lough Erne. It exists yet in the Parish of Bohoe, called by the Irish O'Hóne, but anglicized Owers.

The Annals mention that there was a castle erected by O'Donnell at Caol-Wisge (or narrow Water already referred to) No ruins now appear, but the field on the north side of the ford is called Castle Park. This and the name Coradh Caol or the fishing Weir of Caol or narrow Water is sufficient to point out the situation of this celebrated ford.

44

Sith Aodha Ruaidh so celebrated in the annals as the burial place of the monarch ^{Kidgar Rufus} Aodh Ruaidh from whom the Cataract was named and as a place of execution is now called Mullaghshree. It is immediately over the Cataract to the North. The Church of Ballyshannon and an ancient fort stand upon it.

The Museum of Castle Caldwell in which I now write is a splendid one. I shall make a Catalogue of all the Irish antiquities in it for Mr. O'Keilly. I shall send it to you first and request that you get it copied for our own use. We should keep copies of every thing.

I am much pleased with my journey around Moy Kedne. as I discovered the situation of several celebrated fords &c. &c, that had puzzled me three four years back.

yours invariably
J. P. Donovan
14/c/17/7(IV)

I enclose a letter to Mr Petrie. and
a small parcel of letters which I
have received from several persons.
These I wish to preserve - and I do not
wish to crumble them in my pockets
as I could not carry any thing
else about with me. I request
that you will keep them for me
until I return to Dublin.

Major Bloomfield will let me have
Carolus's skull. How shall I manage
to have it sent to Dublin? I shall
remain here until I hear from you.

END

14 C 17/10

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Copy letter, to Myles J. O'Reilly, from John O'Donovan, written from Kesh, Co. Fermanagh, concerning his recent visit to the Castle Caldwell Museum, his description of its collection and his travels along Lough Melvin, Co. Fermanagh
31 October 1834

5p.

23 cm

Included is an account of the local tradition associated with a 'brazen pot' which originated from an abbey at Easnoe, near Ballyshannon, and subsequently held in the Castle Caldwell Museum and 'The Carolan's skull' which also forms part of the Museum's collection.

Copy 1

49
Hesh Coff Fermanagh

31st Oct 1834

Recd. Nov 12 1834

Dear Sir

I called at Castle Caldwell & the Major received me very kindly. I stopped two days, but a fashionable gentleman's house is no place for such a hard working person as I am - there is too much time spent (or wasted) at dinner & tea &c. I thought better to get rid of Castle Caldwell hospitality as soon as possible. I stopped however long enough to get my business done in that neighbourhood, & Major Bloomfield exerted himself to assist me, -

The Castle Caldwell Museum is a very splendid one, but its present proprietor does not seem so careful of preserving it in order as the original collector of making it perfect. It contains a large collection of Foreign Birds & Beasts so beautifully stuffed

that

Endorsed!
Wm J O'Reilly Esq
Heath House
Emm

14/c/17/10(i)

I shall write to Hesh Coff Fermanagh
for his address & my introduction

The Museum was
visited by Hesh Coff Fermanagh
on the 31st Oct 1834
and was immediately
forwarded to Major Bloomfield

They stand in living gracefulness of position. It contains very few Irish Antiquities but these few are rare & exceedingly interesting. —

I send you a Catalogue of Irish things I thought curious. These are common in every Irish collection that I have met

1

A large Irish Keg or rather Mother formed by scooping out a large piece of timber: it was found in a Bog near Castle Caldwell filled with fossil butter or butter turned nearly to spermaceti or cheese like substance, which is so clean that one might eat it

2

An Irish Mother found in a Bog: it is of the common size but wants some of the handles. —

3

An Ancient lock said to be that of the Castle of Donagall. It is about ^{2¹/₂} ^{3¹/₂} long & 18 inches in breadth. it is a very complicated lock containing 8 bolts

4

4

The sharp of an old Min. steel of the name of O'Neill famous in Westerhope the time of Caroline: it is 4 feet 5 inches high & of a very graceful shape: it had 32 strings. —

5

A bronze Cauldron 4 feet 4 inches in circumference towards the bottom & 2 ft 10 in. towards the top. it is 14 in high & the legs are so short that the round bottom nearly touches the floor. it is 14 inches in Diameter at the mouth & very heavy. —

6

A part of the top of one of the guns of the Spanish Armada raised out of the sea at Portnaparra near the Giant's Causeway where some ships of that famous Fleet were dashed to pieces against the rocks. many of these guns were taken up at the same time & broken by the Country People & sold as old Metal: it is 2 in. ches bore - & 19 inches outer circumference: it is remarkably thick. —

14/C/17/110(11)

7

A large brazen or bronze pan presenting all the appearance of having been formed by the hammer: it is 2 feet 6 in. in diameter perfectly round, and 12 inches in perpendicular height. —
 quare sides perpendicular or sloping. —
 8. 9.

Two other ^{vessels} of the same form & character but of somewhat smaller dimensions
 10

A beautiful brazen pot about half the size of No. 5: these utensils viz (Nos 4, 8, 9 & 10) were found at the clearing out of a small lough close to the Abbey of Easroe about 1 mile S.E. of Ballyshan-non: — the tradition among the Country people respecting these vessels is that at the destruction of the Monastery, the Monks cast them out into the lough that they might not fall into the hands of their persecutors: they were Cooking utensils belonging to the Refectory of Easroe. —
 11

A stone hatchet with a round hole for a handle: it is 14 in. long: it must have belonged to a very rude Age. —

A piece of Iron Mail found in a Bog
 Sir John Caldwell valued this very
 highly for its rarity: it was found in
 a bog in Tyrone. ^{Probably part of the armor of a knight}

13 - 14 - & 15

Three brazen Bells. No. 13 is about 5 in
 high & 4 in. broad at the bottom & 3 inches
 at the top. - This is very probably the Bell
 of St. Tenny which Archdall says was
 preserved at the Church of Enis In. Saint
 Nos 14 & 15 are about half the size of No. 13
 & are said to have belonged to the Monastery
 of Ennac, -

There are also several bronze hatchets
 & a beautiful sword of the same metal
 but these are common in all collections
 There are various petrified shells; timbers
 & even petrified Mushrooms of various
 sizes, & a petrified wig! ^{Isabel found a wig of hair in a bog in Tyrone}

The Carolan's skull in this Museum is
 remarkably small, the forehead is
 low but not contracted: - the following
 organs are strongly developed; (I have
 compared it with a very good phenologi-
 cal head, on which a minute map of
 the

14/c/17/10 (m)

The Human Organ is marked according to the doctrine of Doctor Spurgeon)

1 The largest & most remarkable bump on the whole intellectual region of the skull is that marked benevolence by Spurgeon: 2 Reverence - 3 Gaiety. Time locality & Melody are large & that part of the skull immediately over the Eyes is so prominent as to make the forehead appear low, but it slopes like the forehead of Voltaire. The largest part of this skull is where the Cerebellum was contained Spurgeon makes this the region of the Animal passions which region he divides into regular territories!! Among these that territory which the Phrenologist calls Philoprogenitiveness is the most remarkable Mountain on the Carolan skull, & the district called "Amativeness" is by no means a level: the skull is a little warped over the right eye.

The Major would let me have the skull, but as I had no box or portmanteau - I would not wish to carry so curious a relic about with me. - I shall be in German

ugh again when I expect to be better prepared to take it with me than at present.

I forgot to tell you that there is a small hole immediately over the right eye of the Carolan skull. - Mrs Bloomfield the daughter of Sir John Caldwell says that she heard it often from several persons that the "skull of Carolan was for several years in a niche or window of the old Church (if I mistake not) Kilmoran with a green or red ribbon tied to it thro' this hole". Major Bloomfield knows nothing about this skull.

How are you certain that the skull in the Castle Caldwell Museum is that of Carolan the Irish harper? -

I walked from Belleek to near the mouth of the River Erne & saw all the fords on that River at which the hawk of Ballyshannon intercepted the progress of the Armies of the Lords Deputies. - They all retain their ancient names to this day: -

I walked around the plain of Moy Keadne & followed O'Donnell in his route from Ballyshannon to

14/17/10 (IV) Lough

See entry of 17th Nov. 1847. Walking north.

Lough Melvin & from them east to Bealach Meitheabhain and Ross-invers. —

The Country is very nearly as wild now in the 19th Century as it was in the Sixteenth during the reign of Chieftain Fights & Bad Laws. — Lough Melvin is one of the most beautiful & romantic Lakes in the World, & still its banks are desolate & dreary — not one Gentleman's residence on either side of it! —

Its beautiful Islands are wild covered with plantations not weeded or cared. — I landed on Inish Eakin the ancient residence of Mac Clancy (now Maglanshie) with a view to discover some of the Ruins of the Castle, but the Island is so densely covered with wood that it rendered search impracticable. —

Lough Melvin commands a most beautiful & romantic view of the Mountains of Parree Maglanshie's formidable territory, & of some of the Mountains of Sligo; they run in the following order from E. to W. or rather in a South Western direction. — 1 Sian Breac

2 Glensiff - 3 Beanna Co - 4 Ben⁵⁴
Bolbin - 5 Ben. Eden - Ben Bolbin
towers terrifically grand & splendid
I never saw a mountain that looks
so majestic, as Ben Bolbin viewed
from the Western extremity of Lough
Melvin. -

I remain your obliged
(humble) servant
(signed) John O'Donovan

N.B. From the manner in which
I introduced the doctrine of Spurzins,
you might be inclined to think
that I intended to ridicule the
science of phrenology. - I am
convinced however that phrenology
and Physiognomy will yet be two
sciences as established as Newton's
Principia. - but I do not believe that
our Map of the human skull is yet
perfect - I fully agree with ^{Wm} Godwin
of London in his Essay upon the human
mind that such a science as phrenology
exists as a beautiful human head
14/C/17/10(V) exists

exists in a block of Marble just taken in hands by a celebrated Statuariat. —

Godwin relates Anecdotes of Gault & Spurgeon that will convince any man of sober thought that their Science is not yet established upon a solid basis. —

Excuse hurry and holly one night's disturbance in a wild Country Village. —

Long before the promulgation of the Quack Science I had observed in Horses & Hadd indications of good or bad breeding as to Temper and Liability of intellect. I had learned the old maxim on this subject: Horses are Tools in the hands of men as well as men, and sometimes nearly as vicious. — An Irish Country Horse-Rider or a Sower-faced, 40 year old wild half-bred Man is the perfect type of wickedness, treachery and vice; we all know this well enough. Several of our own tendencies — every man can study the Science on his own Skull and be convinced of the possible truth of its principles. —

END

14 C 17/11

O'Reilly, Myles J.

Copy letter, to John O'Donovan, from Myles J. O'Reilly, written from The Heath House, in which he refers to efforts to gain access to the genealogical manuscript of Duald Mac Firbis in the library of Lord Roden and his recent visit to Trinity Island, Lough Key, Co. Cavan.

9 November 1834

2p.

23 cm

RIA

59

Gonyo Mr. Myles & O'Keilly's letter } The Health House
to Mr. John O'Donovan } 9th Nov. 1834

Dear Sir

I received your letter of 31st Oct^r after I had transmitted my letter of Nov^r thro' Mr. Larcom. I now add a few queries & some remarks on yours of 31st Oct^r: this mode of correspondence is very useful & renders the mutual observations valuable which would otherwise be lost or destroyed - as Mr. Larcom has in a very obliging letter dated Oct^r 14th stated in terms more animated than they deserve Col^l Colley's & his own satisfaction or rather as he is so kind as to express it, obligation for my wish & endeavors to assist in any way I could the objects of the Ordnance Survey I shall the more anxiously endeavor to do whatever may depend on my poor means to do so.

Since writing to the Earl of Rodan I have learned that he has absolutely refused the use of MacGillivray's M.S. to every application except to his own Library - I shall however wait his Lordship's reply ere I apply for the loan he wisely restrains himself to give

14/c/17/11(1) B. 1

60
But as he is at Tollymore Park Iow your route
as you have a copy of my letter to him, as my
M.H. can be made perfect & will only thus
be really useful to the Ordnance enquiries
& finally as no such opportunity can so
readily again occur of complying with
the sole terms on which Earl Roden will
facilitate the access to the original. I hope
this Letter will be accompanied by Col
Colby's official order to you to wait on Lord
Roden forthwith & fix yourself for a few days
in the neighbourhood of his Library. -

I lately visited Trinity Island in Lough
Key & curious & extensive Abbey Church & small
Monastery - I made some interesting memo-
randa which I reserve for future communi-
cation: in the meantime I tell you that I mean
to compile a brief Historic Sketch of all belong-
ing to that Abbey its Lake, & Abbey of Boyle. -

I rely on you for all the really valuable old
Irish information you alone can discover
& as Lord Lorton is very hospitable & obliging
to me I shall be the more anxious to render
it an interesting memoir of his present posses-
sions. -

Yours
There!

There is in the Church in Trinity Island on the E. side of the Eastern end & near where the Altar stood & recessed into the South Wall a square tomb covered with a long cut slab stone & a shorter one (the latter movable) the interior of the Tomb forms a square case or Coffin & in it are remains of two skeletons - the back parts of the two skulls are still there - This Tomb is by tradition that of Jimmy Mc Dermott the Daughter of one of the Chiefs & of her lover Costello disappointed in their mutual attachment by her Father's preference for a rival candidate for her hand: the whole story of their tragic loves is recorded in a long ditty well known to many in that quarter - I had not yet an opportunity to hear it, but understand it is the composition of a celebrated Family Bard and is a high degree pathetic and interesting both as to music & poetry - I shall be able on my next going down there to obtain & write down in English character the Irish words from a Blacksmith of the name of _____ who works for Mr. Mulloy.

14/C/17/11(ii) J

62
of Oakport & Miss Mulloy will set the music
for me - do you however try if you can get
the whole poem of "Winny Wethermost" from
some good Irish source whilst now in a
country not far distant from the scene
of her woes. -

I shall be in town on Tuesday Evg.
the 11th Nov. & as I shall not probably hear
from you more than a mere line to
acknowledge this letter I enclose in it
a request to Mr. Larcom to send me when
to of Dawson Street on Tuesday to try the
probabilities of your being ordered to
again call at Tollymore Park. in
the mean time I shall write to Earl
Roden to say I have so requested
in order to obviate any objection to
letting the Mac Firlis's M^d leave his
Lordships Library -

I am Dr Sir
~~Yours truly~~
(Signed) M J O'Reilly

END

14 C 17/12

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Kesh, Co. Fermanagh, in which he outlines the progress of his work in Fermanagh, and refers to his dealings with local man Major Bloomfield, and his correspondence with Myles J. O'Reilly, 'one of the few old Irish Aristocratic Chiefs of Ireland.'

31 October 1834

2p.

23 cm

RIA

Kesh, October 31st, 1834,

Dear Sir,

I told you in my last letter that I would remain at Castle Caldwell until I should hear from you, but second thought convinced me that it was better to move on through the Barony of Lurg and ^{back} to Enniskillen as soon as possible. Major Bloomfield was very kind to me, but as I could not spend time to dine, lunch, take tea and wine ^{after} in his fashion I thought it advisable to get away from him as soon as possible. I am amazingly gratified however with my visit there. The Major sent for the most learned Shanachies in the neighbourhood, and told them that I was going to make them Barons of Toraá and Lurg! -

The Major is a very good upright man, but too anti-Irish for me. I got him however to acknowledge that their principal crimes were quarrels - and I

14/c/17/12(1)

made him laugh heartily by shewing him
 from the Annals that ~~that~~^{fighting} was one of
 their ancient virtues (for virtue is derived
 from vis veris, i.e. strength or courage, and
 among the Romans it always signified valour.)

The next day he told two of the O'Neills
 that "when they were lords of the soil they were
 fond of fighting, and that in this age of com-
 - mon sense and stern and impartial laws
 they should yield to authority."

I send you a letter to my friend
 O'Reilly, of which I wish you to keep a copy.
 Hayes or O'Keefe will copy it in a few
 minutes. I leave it unsealed for that
 purpose. when it is ~~sealed~~^{copied}, please to seal
 it and send it to O'Reilly. From his ardour
 and wish to serve as it would be a pity to
 disoblige him. and as he is one of the ^{few} old
 Irish Aristocratic Chiefs ^{of Ireland}, it is in his power to
 be of great use to me in Connacht.

N. E. 65

I have walked to-day along the ~~western~~
banks of Lough Erne to obtain the names
of the islands in the Great Lough ~~Erne~~
The Boa island is yet called Inis Badhtha
by the aborigines, which is the name that
appears in the Annals.

Yours invariably
John O'Donovan

You will find me next at Enniskillen.
I have written this with a very bad
pen and in a very uncomfortable
smoky place.

Tell O'Keefe to send from the
Annals the passages relating to Loch na
h-oidhche, Rosguill and Ros Inguill.
I think they are all in the County of
Fermanagh.

14/2/17/12 (11)

Thos. A. Larcom Esq.
Royal Engineers
Phoenix Park
Dublin

END

14 C 17/13

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, in which he refers to plans to repair the tower on Devenish Island, the bells in the Castle Caldwell Museum, and reports regarding the death of Constantine Maguire.

4 November 1834

2p.

23 cm



Enniskillen

Nov: 4th 1834.

Dear Sir,

I send you the name Books of the parishes of Drumkeeran and Magheraculmoney which form a considerable portion of the N. E. of the County.*

The Bells in the castle Caldwell Museum are of the same shape with Petrie's Bell of S. Patrick (what the Ballynascreen people call the Dia Deetlagh). They seem to me to be very old, but I am not able to pass an opinion as I am not acquainted with the shape and character of the bells of different ages. I strongly suspect that the largest of them is the bell of S. Ninny, which Archdeall (q.º balgan) says was preserved at Inis Moy Gower as a great relique.

There is a considerable sum of money subscribed for repairing the tower, but the Enniskillen builders are afraid that if a scaffold were erected by means of the top windows, ~~that~~ it would catch the storms and throw down probably the whole tower. They would wish to delay the

14/10/17/13(1)

I find much delay
when writing to you,

repair until Spring. St. Ithard will be far from Devenish in Spring. What do you think should be done?

There is a Report here that Constantine Maguire of Tempo was shot in the County of Tipperary. There was an attempt made at shooting him before at near Tempo, but the aggressor was hanged; it is generally believed here that he was shot in Tipperary in revenge of the hanging of Rutledge. ^{This is a great error & I suppose is not the fact} The cause of the dispute was this. When Constantine left Tempo some of the neighbouring farmers walked in and added to their own farms a part of the mountain belonging to Constantine's Estate. When Maguire returned he was very angry at their conduct and hired labourers to destroy their hedges and erect a boundary wall between his estate and their farms, and one day that he was looking over the work and giving directions to his men, one of the encroachers, Rutledge by name, stole into an adjacent wood or grove, and took direct aim at Maguire with a Musket which he rested against the hedge while he himself knelt down to take sure aim. The ball struck Maguire's head and

68
hurt him considerably. Maguire's men seized
upon the daring Rutledge and led him a prisoner
to Enniskillen, where he was tried and executed
for a cool and deliberate attempt at murder.

*This is a mistake. Rutledge was a man of
war and got into the prison by force.*

Have you heard any of the par-
-ticulars of the manner in which Maguire
was killed?

Direct all commands to Enniskillen
until you hear from ^{me} again

Yours invariably

L O Donovan

Thos A. Larcom Esq

Montjoy Barracks

END

14 C 17/14

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letters, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, in which he outlines his recommendations for the spelling and meaning of place names in county Fermanagh, with particular reference to Monea, Portnablaghy, Boa Island and Gola.
6-8 November 1834

5p.

23 cm

Included are references to a hollow on Devenish Island, known as Molushe's grave, which was used as a traditional place of pilgrimage for the sick and a list of the principal Gaelic families found in the territory of Lurg.

14/c/17-14(i)⁶⁹

Enniskillen, Novth 6th 1834,

Dear Sir,

I send you the name Books of Temple-
-carn, Devenish, Enniskillen, Derrynullan,
Boho, and Inishmacsaint. I expect that Mr.
Sharkey will have the usual watch on me.
It is very difficult to adhere to the analogies
of Derry and Down, in the names of this County
because the pronunciation is nearly Camnaught.
The termination reagh, I was obliged to make
reevagh in some instances, and garue. I had
to make garrow. The word taob, i.e. side or
brae-face frequently enters into names here; thus
we have anglicized Tieve in Derry, Down &
Antrim; I have used the same spelling of it
here, but I am afraid it is too violent as
every authority makes it Teer. The more
northern pronunciation is tée-öov, the Fer-
-managh one Teer. I wish you would consi-
der this and let me hear your opinion, for
I assure you I am very diffident of my
own judgment; and proprietors are frequently
displeased when they conceive that a violent
innovation is made in the spelling of
their townlands. I do not however wish to
be controuled too much by proprietors, as ^{they}

70 they in general know very little about the subject and what they do know is generally wrong or pedantic. Posterity will be better qualified to judge than the present generation.

The word tóin, i.e. bottom (of which I spoke in Derry) frequently forms the first part of names of places here, as tóin síol, i.e. bottom of lime stone in Boho, parish. I am doubtful about the English spelling to be adopted. I refer you to this also, and request that you will let me know your opinion as soon as convenient.

The word caiprol which is not understood in Derry or ⁱⁿ any county in which I have been, is well understood here; by it they mean a circular enclosure built of stone: deanargíde Caiprol do'n eallac, 'erect a cashel for the cattle' is well understood in Tooráá.

The word yew frequently occurs. I think it is Dubourdieu denies that the yew is a native plant of Ireland! I have found it growing in native luxuriance on the cliffs of Twecall in Tooráá, and on a very steep and precipitous rock in the town-land of Monawilkin.

The village of Monea is called in Irish
mune frays, i.e. Hill of the Deer. The name is ac-
-counted for by a story similar to those told
to account for the names of old churches
in Derry. The virgin St. Feber first attempt-
ed to build her church ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ Kildrum at the
place where the holy well now called Tobar
Feber is to be seen, but what had been built
in the course of the day was destroyed in the
night by some invisible being. At last a deer
blessed beast, was pleased to point ^{out} ~~the~~ a site
where Feber might erect her church without
interruption. He carried Feber's books on
his horns to Monea, and there the ~~same~~ holy
virgin finished ^{the erection} her church without annoyance.
But when the deer was crossing the Sillees
River (Abann na Sarlirë) he slipped on its slippery
banks and the books ~~to~~ fell off his horns
and it was sometime before he could fix them
on again. This was effected by the genius or
^{Shaver} Sheaver who presided over the Sillees,
who did all in his power to prevent the
establishment of the Christian religion
in that neighbourhood. As soon as Feber
had understood that the demon of the
river thus annoyed the good beast, she was
filled with holy indignation - she became
much wroth - and ⁱⁿ with sanctified fury and
heavenly anger, she cursed the River, praying

14/17/14 (11)

that the Lilliee might be cursed with
sterility, ^{offish} and fertility in the destruction of
human life. and that it might run against the
hill. The curse was pronounced in the following
Irish words:

mí-ús éirí ar ús báide
as nít anagáid an aipd do la bpráca.

There is a stone Coffin in the island of
Devenish called Mohuphe's grave. it is hollowed
in the shape of a man, but there is a report that
no man now living would fit in it. Several
have tried, because it is believed, that any one
who could force his body into it would immediately
be relieved from any corporeal malady under
which he might labour. It fits many in length,
but the room for the shoulders is found too narrow
and on the contrary it is found broad enough for
the reception of several, but the length is too
long or too short! It is not like the Dwarf's grave
at Tara mentioned by Camdeuon, which fitted any
one large or small that should wish to lie in it!

There is a townland in the parish of
Templecarn called by the odd name of Portnablahy
or the "port of the Butter-milk". This is where
O'Flannigan landed the tribute of butter milk
which he was forced to pay to the chief Magrath
who lived at the other side of the Great

43

Lough Erne. So tradition says, but I think it was ~~call~~ the place where he landed his tribute of butter and milk payable to O'Donnell not to Magrath. I do not find the Magraths mentioned in the Annals as chiefs - they being always called Brenagh of Temon Magrath; whereas O'Flannigan of Tooráa was a chief of considerable power and respectability.

The Boa island is called by the Irish people Bilen Badhbha (pron^d. Báwa) it is called Bava in the Inquisition. it is a pity to have its original name so much corrupted. The proper anglicized spelling would be Bauv Island.

The monastery of Gaula mentioned by Burke. Hib. Domin: p. 331, and by Stuart. Mem. Arm: 399. is now ^{called by the} anglicized ^{name of} Gola and situated about 6 miles S. W. of Enniskillen and about 1½ mile south of Lisbellaw village. It is called Gobla, or forks by the Irish people, a name which is certainly derived from the points of land running into the lough forming forks. I have not yet seen the place, but I am informed by the Rev^d M^r. Sheill, O.P. of Enniskillen that there
14/c/17/14(iii) are

174
are no remains of the monastery or village
now to be seen.

The principal aboriginal families
in Lurg are the following

1. Muldoons, no longer chiefs, nor
higher than the rank of farmers, but they are
said to be very decent respectable men fond
of justice and able to fight. A dozen of the
warlike "men of Lurg" (feona Turps) would beat
a funeral of the men of any other barony
in the County. They are tall and stout with
large heads and round faces.

2. O'assidy - their original residence
was Ballycassidy ~~was~~ about 3 miles north
of Enniskillen.

3. M^c Golricks are a numerous tribe
about Belleek - I know nothing about
them

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 4. Mac Mulkin | 9. Mac Rorps, enough |
| 5. Magrath | of Machaire Croise are
very numerous in Lurg
yet. |
| 6. Scollan | |
| 7. Gilfedder | |
| 8. Gallogly, in Irish O'Galloglaigh. | |
| synonymous with Gallouglass | |

175

Currins are numerous in the County, but I suspect that they are originally from Cannought they are called in Irish allag Cuairin. 14/C/17/14(V)

The O' Galladhas, the guards of Lough Melvin exist yet in the neighbourhood of it.

The O'Hones officials of Lough Erne are called Hoynes in the country, but those who have set up shops in Enniskillen refine it to puers. You will hear the Enniskillenees say, I puer^{of Ennisk-} son to of J. Hoynes of Boho!

The name O'Leannain, which frequently occurs in the annals is now ~~a~~ analogically made Lennon, but the name Mac Gille Finnen, first made M.^c Ellinnion is now shamefully anglicized Leonard.

The Mac Cosgraigh and Mac Gilla Cöggle of the Annals are both made M.^c Coskers; and the M.^c Coskers of Derry have corrupted their name from O'Cosgrahan! It is difficult to trace these names to their original, but the

176
surest place to find them is in the mountain
where the original names are yet strictly
retained.

The ecclesiastical name O'Fiaich of
Lough Erne is now called Fee. There are
several families of the name in Ennis-
killen and its vicinity.

The name O'borcan to be seen among
the Jury of milesians in 1603, is now called
O'boragon, and by the Irish O'copracan, - they
are very numerous about Enniskillen yet.

To morrow I intend to move towards
Lough Mac Nean, but I do not know yet
where I can fix myself for a few days in
that neighbourhood.

Since writing the above, I had to
give up the name books of Devenish and
Inishmacsaint to Lt. Taylor, who send for
them ^{to} insert some descriptions of townlands

Yours invariably
J. P. Donovan

Enniskillen

Nov. 8th 1834

Dear Sir,

I was weather bound yesterday,
I move now to Holymell. The weather has
been very unfavourable and has impeded my
progress from the beginning.

I enclose a letter to Major Bloom-
field, please to have it send free to him.
I also send back O'Reilly's correspondence.

yours invariably

John O'Donovan

Chas. A. Larcom Esq.

Royal Engineers

Mountjoy Barracks

END

14 C 17/15

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, in which he refers to the traditions, antiquities, genealogy and topography of the Killesher, Templenaffrinn and Binaughlin, Co. Fermanagh.

10 November 1834

1p.

23 cm

Included are references to the Mac Auley family and their associations with Fermanagh, Constantine and Bryan Maguire of Tempo, Co. Fermanagh, and O'Donovan's thoughts regarding the source of the Shannon.

78
November 10th 1834

Dear Sir,

Please to send me from the annals all the passages relating to Muintir Phéodacháin. The name and situation of this ancient territory ~~is~~ are yet remembered, but it is not recognized as a parochial or baronial division, but just like Moyrac or Moyela in Derry, the remnant of an ancient Irish principality. It lies between Lough Mac Neane and Lough Erne, and was one of the seven Tracts of ancient Fermanagh. The very remarkable mountain of Belmore is called by the aborigines ^{Fauces} Bel mor ghumerr phéadacháin. I forget who the chief of this territory was; I suppose it was Mac Gauran, now M'Gauveran, as the country of the Mac Mannes lies further to the south.

I have discovered the situation of Seanat M^c Manns, where the annals of Ulster were compiled. It is the present Belisle according to the tradition in the country, corroborated by the situation of it given in the Maguire MS. Its situation was never pointed ^{out} before by any writer of Irish history or Topography!

The patron saint of Killesher is Laisir a virgin, whose church lies in ruins near the

10/C/17/15 eastern

eastern extremity of Lough Mac Neane. There is a ^{very well} church near it called Tobar Laisbreach.

There is another old church called Tempul-an-airinn, i.e. church of the map in ~~the~~ a townland of the same name in the parish of Cleenish. This appears remotely ancient, and exhibits the names of the aboriginal families of the parish and the neighbourhood. These are:

1. Mac Scollog, now Farmer
2. Luney.
3. Free in Irish O'Prat,
4. Mac Ellinnion, now Leonard! Gille Píen
5. Killepher, now Green! Gilla-Laine
6. Lally or Lilly, in Irish O'Gaillghile
7. O'Hone, now Ows, proud, Hoines
8. Mac Hughs are numerous. These were the first that banished the Kehornaghs out of the parish.
9. Mac Ullachan
10. M^r. Lloson,
11. Dolan
12. Coracans. rattling fellows fond of fight & fun!
13. Mac a Reavy
14. Mac Manus,

80

The word heads, which is not understood in Doune or Derry is well understood here to mean field. It was translated compensary by Adamnan upwards of 1100 years since.

Lough Mac Neane is the Loch da-en of Irish history. There is a tradition that it took its name from two eagles that built in one of its islands.

Binnaghlin is the bean exclamation, of the Annals. It of honor states in a note that its bean exclamation is Duadlinbar. The latter is always called Mullen-Iagairn, i.e. The Iron-mill by the Irish.

The Mac Auleys or Blanauley are very numerous here. I have just had a long conversation with one of the name, and he says that the tradition in the family is that Maguire had 7 ^{to} seven sons among whom he divided Fernanagh in 7 parts. That one of these sons was called Umlaorh to whom was allotted the barony afterwards called Blanauley and that the Mac Auleys are his descendants. This does not disagree with the Annals. The same old man says that he heard his grand-father tell that the ^{yearly} rent paid by his grand-father to Maguire at Ennistullen was — mothers of butter.

Many stories are told about Capt. Cuthbert Maguire of Tempo. They also tell that when Bryan, and the late Constantine were young boys they were in the habit of placing two apples upon each others heads and shoot ⁱⁿ them off with two pistols. The father delighted in this! All the old Maguires here exclaim that the Tipperary men did not give Cuthbert fair-play! yours &c.

J. O. Donovan

81
See a very interesting
note on page 81
of the History of
the County of Cavan

What think you does Swanlinbar signify?
It is not Irish and some people think that the
name has reference to the bars of Iron
wrought in the Iron mill there. The Iron
ore they say was got at Shieve an Iarainn

Dr O'Connor and all the Topographical
Dictionaries ^(if I remember rightly) state that the Shannon has its
source in Shieve an Iarainn. but all the
old men here assure me that the Shannon
has its source in the mountain called Cuilceach
in the County of Cavan. In corroboration of this an
old verse or quatrain is quoted which satisfies
me that the real source of the Shannon is in a
lough at the foot of Cuilceach, a very beautiful
and lofty mountain. I cannot but call to mind
the assertion of Giraldus Cambrensis that the
Shannon emptied itself into the sea by a northern
course!! If this was the case in the time of Cam-
brensis (1202) the Cuilceach mountain, the highest
in the neighbourhood must have been since
thrown up by an earthquake. But the fact
seems to be that Cambrensis never surveyed
the ground, and that like Ptolemy he had only
heard that the Shannon was a large ^{River} in Ireland
running from the north towards the south.

END

14 C 17/16

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Belturbet, Co. Cavan, concerning the traditions, folklore, topography and history of Belturbet, Co. Cavan.

12 November 1834

2p.

23 cm

Included are references to the various traditions associated with Donn Maguire, 'the first prince of Fermanagh,' a holy well in Belturbet, dedicated to St. Naile,

Belturbet

Nov. 12th 1834,

Dear Sir,

I walked to day from Florence Court hither, keeping Beann Eachlabhra for a long time in view. There is a tradition that Donn Maguire, the first prince of Fermanagh inhabits this peak yet, and it is firmly believed that whenever any of his real descendants die, a splinter falls off the rocky face of the Bin. He goes by the name of Donn na Binne and presides over all the fairies of Fermanagh. This Don frequently assisted Maguire in his battles. Tradition preserves one instance of his influence in turning the scale of fight ^{against the English} on one occasion at the two mile River. Maguire ^{had} exhausted all his ammunition, but by the invisible agency of Donn na Binne, he gained the battle by casting Irish balls ^{stones}!

All the old men agree that Beul ath na m-Brioscadh, where Maguire intercepted the passage of those who were going with provisions to the relief of the

14/c/17/16 (1)

garrison of Enniskillen is Drummone Bridge on the Arney River. Beul ath na m. Briosgadh was on the road from Cavan to Enniskillen within four miles of the latter. I does not appear that the name given to the pond by the people was long retained. I passed through the parish of Kinnawilly and met a very intelligent old man of the name Terence or Dorlogh Barran (Tórra na Captaín) who is deeply versed in traditional and legendary lore. He requested that I would stop with him to night, but as I do not at present want to enter into any matters but the names, I got him to pronounce the townland names for me, and came on to Belthurbet. He told me however a story about the patron saint of the parish that I wish to preserve.

St Naile (which is the same name as Nathaile and Nathaniel) built the old church of Kill Naile, the ruins of which stand in the townland of the same name. There is a long and wonderful history of his bell not worth preserving. The handle of the bell is yet in the possession of Bartley Drum of Shanally, whose family have possessed it from a very remote period.

There is a holy well in the parish called Tobar Naile, the water of which cured the jaundice after the handle of Naile's bell.

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had been immersed in it. I. Rabhainog lived there
before him but Naile was the first that erected
a church in the parish.

I have a clear recollection that
Colgan gives the Life of a St Naile or
Nathale in his A.H. G.H. but I do not remem-
ber that he gives the situation of his church.
Get O'Keefe to send me what Colgan says
about Naile, because it may lead to the
discovery of other ancient places.

The different branches of the
Maquires are yet pointed out in the
Country as Shiocht an Abba, Shiocht
Philip ^{of the battlers} ora thairge, Shiocht Thomas Modera, &c.
&c. but I can not delay at present to
collect that kind of information.

END

14 C 17/17

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, concerning Drumane Bridge on the Arney River, Co. Fermanagh.

15 November 1834

2p.

24 cm



Ennistellen

Nov^r 15th 1834

Dear Sir

I walked from Belurbet
to Ennistellen in 4¹/₂ hours, a distance
of 18 miles. I saw the ford on the
Sney River where Maguire deprived
the O'Reillys and Bingham of the
Biscuits which they were carrying to
the relief of the Garrison of Ennistellen.
The name of Bel-atha-na-mbrioscadh
given to it by Maguire in commemora-
tion of his victory is not now remembered,
nor do I believe that it was retained
in the country for any length of time.
The Bridge is now named Drumane
from the name of the townland, and
before the erection of the bridge the
ford had no name but Drumane ford.

Now for the other ^(cast) side of the lake
Yours truly

J. S. Donovan
14/8/17/17(1)

RIA

19/6/77(7)

Chas. H. Latham Esq

Royal Engineers

Wentworth Barracks

END

14 C 17/18

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Tempo, Co. Fermanagh, concerning the origins and variations of the place names of Ballinamallard and Bell Isle, Co. Fermanagh.

17 November 1834

2p.

23 cm

Included is an account of O'Donovan's dealings with the local clergyman Rev. G. Porter, of Kilskeery, Co. Fermanagh.

RIA

Tempo, Monday
November 17th 1834,

Dear Sir,

I send you the name Book of Magheracross, please to have the usual watch over me lest I commit any blunder. The name Ballynamallard has puzzled me the country people call it Belnamallard and in Irish bel áir na mallact, i.e. the mouth of the ford of curses. I think it should be settled by the analogy of Belanagare, but Ballinasloe, which is called in Irish Bel áir na sluagh is against me.

Ballinamallard was one of the three great passes between Derry and Cunniskillen, and the people, in order to get rid of the very bad name of their town, have invented a story that it took its name from ^{three} Maguires people having been disappointed ^{by}

14/11/17/18 (i)

by their allies. They expected a body of —
 — people to join them at this ford, but before
 these auxiliaries ^{had advanced} ~~came~~ the enemy came and
 passed the ford in despite of the Maguires.
 When the enemy had passed, the auxiliaries
 came up to the ford, when their aid was of
 no avail; they came too late! Wherefore
 Maguire called the ford *beí áirí na mall-éadair*,
 i.e. Mouth of the ford of the slow coming!
 This story presents to me ^{a strong} ~~all the~~ appearance
 of fabrication, and I am convinced that
 the name is derived from some massacre
 committed at the ford at an early period.

I called on the Rev. G. Porter of
 Kilskeery, and he was very kind to me. He
 is not satisfied that the two islands of
 Belle-isle and West Island should ~~be~~
 appear on the Ordnance map, ^{under the general} ~~as~~
^{name of} Belle-isle, but as two separate islands
 known by two distinct names. In se-
 veral old papers in Mr. Porter's possession
 Belle-isle is called Mac Manus's

88

Island and Ballymacmams, which corroborates the tradition in Kinnamaley parish that it was the ancient residence of the Mac Mamses, whose territory lay to the east of the upper Lake.

Mr. Porter will be in Dublin in a few days and he will argue the point with yourself. The mistake certainly originated with Mr. Griffith.

I find from the last No. of the University ^{Mag} that Master Ferguson is hammering away at Hardiman. He is partly right, but too severe. Old Torlogh Carolan never received such a castigation before. We may expect a similar castigation from abler pens, nor will our accuracy or love of truth afford us protection; for critics can ridicule truth and accuracy as well as falsehood and blunders!

home soon

You may now expect me
yours truly

John O'Donovan
14/17/18(1)

Thos. A. Larcom Esq.

Royal Engineers.

Mountjoy Barrack,

Phoenix Park.

END

14 C 17/19

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Tempo, Co. Fermanagh, concerning the history and topography of Tempo, with particular reference to its place name and its association with the Maguire family.

18 November 1834

2p.

23 cm

Included are references to the genealogy of the Maguire family and the variations of name found locally for the townland of Drumgarrow.

Tempo, Nov. 13, 1834th

Dear Sir,

I travelled a great distance into the mountains of Tempo to get the Irish names from the original inhabitants. A Patrick Maguire of the townland of ~~the~~ Letterbally is the most intelligent that I have met. He holds a great portion of mountains. It is considered a wealthy man.

The name Drumgarrow is given by the boundary Surveyor as that of a town and situated $1\frac{1}{2}$ S by W. of Tempo. I can find no such name among the people, but what they call Drumderg answers well the situation of the Drumgarrow of the boundary Surveyor.

I viewed Tempo house and Demesne which present a sickening aspect; the house fast falling to ruins, the demesne neglected; the family extinct! all to be attributed to the carelessness and madness of ^{Capt} Hugh, the father of Constantine who took no care to settle his family. The youngest of his sons, Stephen, seeing that his father was doing nothing for him, enlisted as a private soldier and died of grief.

The people believe that there is a curse over the family, and the names bloody pass and Belanam Maght bring this curse to memory whenever they are ~~pronounced~~ expressed.

14/e/17/19(1)

The name Tempo, which is called Tempodesill in O'Byrne's Survey, is accounted for by a legend about Saint Patrick. When the apostle of Ireland was passing through the East of Fermanagh, he visited the mill which stood on the River, which serpentine its way through the east of the territory, where he forgot one of his MSS. He next advanced to the ~~old~~ place now called Pubble on his way to Enniskillen and there laid the foundation of a church, the ruins of which yet exist. When Patrick had arrived at Pubble, he missed his manuscript, and said to his servant "Tiompoidh air deis, gois an millemn agus tabhair leat mo leabhar." "Return to the mill and bring ^{with you} my book". From this returning of the servant of Patrick the place was called Tiompoidh Deisill or the returning back. I think the same story is given in Trip. vet. S.P. I think that the name is derived from the turning and very remarkable windings of the Tempo river. Two of the natives of Tempo now in America had a dispute ^{there} not long since, and one of them remembering the course of his native stream, said to the other in a rage "you are as crooked in your

mind as the river of Tempoo." There is a stream
 in the parish of Dungiven called bruthan na d. Timpo, i.e. stream of the ^{wood} ~~wood~~
 The village of Tempoo was called
 Milltown to a very late period; it is not in
 the townland of Tempoo, ^{but in Cogenmore} I do not understand
 why the whole estate should be called Tempoo
 because Tempoo house is only 70 years erected
 in the Townland of Tempoo. ^{the first}
 house of the Maguires stood on the
 townland of Tullyweel. ^{after the settlement} vide Field name Book,
 B. 127. p. 13.

Thomas Maguire of Enniskillen is
 now the Maguire as descending from the
 brother of Honor, who was created Baron
 of Enniskillen by Queen Elizabeth.

There is another Maguire at
 Newry, a rich merchant, who is considered
 by some to be the oldest branch. He kept
 a yacht on Lough Erne and sailed by
 Devenish with all the pride and pomp
 of the ancient Hawks!

The downfall of the Irish families
 has been brought about by war, women and
 madness. Capt. Hugh Maguire when an old
man turned off his wife, the mother of his nine
~~legitimate~~ children, and kept his own house-maid.

14/2/17/19(11)

The Milesian families of uninterrupted hereditary respectability are treading fastly to their finish. Maguire left no legitimate male issue. General O'Donovan died a few years ago without issue, and Lord O'Neill will soon die without issue legitimate or illegitimate, for he was never known to approach any of the lovely sex except another man's wife.

Sic transit gloria — ^{Mundi} Tuesday, Nov. 18,

John O'Donovan

I send you two name Books of
Enniskillen East. B. 126, 127.

END

14 C 17/20

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letters, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Newtown Butler, Co. Fermanagh, concerning the genealogy, topography and place names of Ballymacgilroy (Ballymackilroy) and Ballymacaffry, Co. Fermanagh.

19-20 November 1834

3p.

23 cm



Newton Butler

14/c/17/20(i)

Friday, Nov. 19th 1834.

Dear Sir,

I sent you the name Books of Aghavea from Brookborough but had not time to write. I met two very intelligent men there, Conor and Donnell Maquire, the former a schoolmaster and Clerk of the peace, the latter a respectable farmer, and a man of correct historical information; he is of the tribe Sliocht an Easbuig. proles Episcopi. Both conversed with ^{though} a natural son of honor the last baron of Enniskillen when he was a very old man.

I now send four books of Aghalurcher and repeat my request that you will have the usual watch over me lest I commit any mistake by oversight or otherwise.

Ballymacgilroy, the seat of the Mac Gilroys mentioned in the Annals and in the Maquire MS. is situated in the parish of Aghalurcher about 2 miles E. of Lionastee village. The Boundary Surveyor has given no such name, but I find that what he calls Mullaghkeel is called Ballymacelroy on the Grand Jury map of this county. I should be very anxious to restore the ancient name, but refer it to your consideration. Ballymacilroy is well known to the country people.

The Mac Giolla neaids are a very numerous clan in the parish of Aghalurcher; some Anglicize the name M^c Elroy, others Gilroy. but Mac Gilroy would be better than either.

Barle M^c Goppais, the residence of another powerful clan in ancient Fermanagh, mentioned in the Annals and in the Maguire MS, is now called Ballymacaffry and situated in the N. E. of the parish of Aghalurcher. The M^c Caffrys are very numerous in the parish. The tradition in the country, ^{about them} is that they were servants to Maguire. There is a story told in Kilmalee of the Maguire and his servant M^c Caffry going to the holy land to fight the Turk. They met the Turk in the desert and a most furious combat took place between him and Maguire. The story resembles that about Saladin & the Knight of the Branchant Leopard in Sir Walter Scott. It is difficult to discover what it is founded upon.

M^r Henry Buck district boundary Surveyor, and M^r Taylor Agent to ^{Trinity} Brooke have furnished orthographies which they expect will be adopted on the Ordnance map. Both are guided by ear and have no right to set themselves up as authorities. & Buck has frequently adopted ridiculous spellings. He wishes to have the parish name

Aghalurcher ^{spelled} pronounced Aghalurcher, ^{but} p. 95
think he should not do so in opposition to all
printed authorities.

There are three topographical
words in this County that puzzle me, viz
Corr, Cosh, and Taité. the aborigines do
not understand their exact meanings. Some
say that Corr is odd, which recalls to my
memory Leyden's ~~the~~ elucidation of blaghcorr
in Antium, which he ended by a long speech
about odd fishes - Bonaparte & Wellington!!
Cosh is probably a corruption of atyr a hill,
as is pronounced here like 'et, as atyrns, a dream
pron? Coshing. atyrns, the maps, pro? Effrin.

Taité is the fourth part of a townland
and contains 60 English acres, but I
know nothing of its Etymology. Some say
it is a French word, I think it is an
ancient Irish word, but it appears very
strange that it is confined to Fermanagh
and Tyrone.

I have met a son O'Neill
here, who will collect all the seers in the
parish for me.

Yours invariably,

John O'Donovan,

14/1/17/20(5)

Thos. A. Larcom Esq.

Royal Engineers

Phoenix Park

Dublin.

N. T. Butler

Saturday, Nov. 20th 1834

Dear Sir, I send you the name Books of Clones parish. I have changed some townlands beginning with blin to blon; please to consider these further before they are engraved. I am convinced that it is a corruption of the Irish word chain, though the country people always pronounce it blin.

I expect to be ready to go home on Tuesday or Wednesday ^{next}. Please to let me hear from you before that time.

I have all settled now except some Islands in the upper Lough. I shall now proceed to the Lough side and get finished as soon as possible.

Yours invariably

J. S. Donovan

Thos. A. Larcom Esq,
Royal Engineers,
Phoenix Park
Dublin

END

14 C 17/21

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Maguire's Bridge, Co. Fermanagh, concerning the history, antiquities and traditions associated with Cloghaddy and Clones, Co. Fermanagh, with particular reference to the origins of its place name.

20 November 1834

2p.

23 cm



Maquire's Bridge

Saturday, Nov. 20th, 1834

Dear Sir,

I send you the name Books of Galloon, Drummully, a part of Carrin, and a part of Aghahurchee containing the islands.

In Galloon you will find a town-land called Cloghagaddy, meaning the thief's stone. This name is derived from a very remarkable stone in the townland about the height of a man and terminating like a sugar loaf. The name is accounted for by a story about a thief, who was stealing a sheep. He had the sheep tied on his back by a rope around his breast, and when he was passing by this stone he leaned his burden against it, but the sheep slipped over the stone and the rope slipping up to the sheep's neck ~~but he actually hanged him~~. ~~both were suspended at both sides of the stone, and the man was found hanged in the morning~~

I refer you to the Cliris again, please to give them full consideration before they are engrained. The parish priest of Galloon writes Clan, and the pronunciation among the peasantry is clurn,

14/C/17/21(1)

There are two topographical words of frequent occurrence in this County, which I have not met in any other, viz *Spéic*, and *Cpéic*; the peasantry assert that they have the same meaning, viz a mountain level. In the islands of *Aggahachan* the word *Spéic* frequently occurs. I have Anglicized it *breagh*; its diminutive is *cpéiam*.

Clonis is always called *Clounish* among the country people. They tell many curious legends about the Round tower and monastery some of which I shall write as soon as I reach *Emiskillen*. It is now too late, and I am in no humour to write stories as I am sitting in a cold uncomfortable room.

I intend (Deo adjuvante) to go to *Emiskillen* to-morrow, passing through *Derry-brusk*, where I want to make some enquiries.

Yours invariably
John O'Bannon.

RIA

14/c/17/24/51

Wm. L. Larcom Esq.
Royal Engineers
Mountjoy Barracks
Phoenix Park
Dublin.

END

14 C 17/22

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, concerning the history, traditions and genealogy of the ancient territory of Muintir- Pheodachain.

24 November 1834

4p.

23 cm

Included are references to the ruined chapel at Aghamore, Co. Fermanagh, the naming of Dog Little and Dog Big, Co. Fermanagh, the Gaelic families found in the region of Clones, Co. Monaghan, an account of the Clones monastery and round tower and the traditions associated with them.

Monday.
Enniskillen, Nov. 24th 1834

Dear Sir,

I arrived here yesterday at 12 o'clock and got all the extracts &c. sent up by you. The Annals throw great light upon Muinter-Pheodachain and I was much pleased to find that the Mac Gillinnions were its ancient chiefs, because they are at present by far the most numerous family in the district, but have shamefully anglicized ^{their name} ~~it~~ to Leonard. The family of Muinter-Pheodachain also exist in Hermanagh, but they are fast changing the name to Swift, from some fancied signification of the name.

The following passage throws great light upon the situation of the territory:

A. D. ~~1424~~ 1429. Many of the men of Breifny were slain by Muinter Pheodachain on Talach odra on

14/11/22 Slighb

2. 100
Shiabh-da chon', &c. &c.

These names do not become interesting until they are connected with the present ones. Tullagh adra is yet the name of a townland in the parish of Devenish, and Shieve Da Chon is so called at this day by the Irish speaking people of the district but by those who speak English the Two dogs. Shieve Da Chon signifies the mountain of the two Dogs, and there is a wild tradition in the country that Fin Mac Cool, ^{the} famous grey-hounds Sgeolan and Bram were metamorphosed into two mountains by a witch who appeared to them in the shape of a doe. Mr Johnson of Aghakeeran, a famous sportsman in his day calls these two hills the "Two Beags". They are about a mile asunder, and the larger is called by peasantry an corn ^{li. mór} ~~beag~~, and the ~~latter~~ smaller an corn beag, but Big Dog and Little Dog ^{are} now the

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established name in the country, and the mountain district is called Gliabh Da Chan by all. I send you a trace from the Grand-Jury map of Fermanagh which shows the situation of L this mountain.

I can never forget the story of the two dogs nor the interesting individual who told it to me and Mr. Taylor at Derrygonnelly. A Mr. Hugh O'Flannigan (Baron of Tooraá!) came to Derrygonnelly about ten o'clock in the night to give me all the information in his power about the territory of his ancestors. He made a law against Whisky drinking (excepting two glasses in the day) and when we were done with ~~the~~ Tooraá, Hugh started for home; but finding it was after midnight he thought it a pity to leave Derrygonnelly without taking his allowance, so he returned to the village and remained in a public house until the moon got up. He had with him at the time

14/C/17/22 (ii)

the making of a pair of shoes of leather, and unfortunately he forgot it in the public house, and had to search for it in vain the next day! Hugh came to me and said that he lost his leather on my account and that Capt. Taylor or I was bound to give him the price of it. Neither of us was willing to pay the amount of the lost leather, and Hugh declared that he ~~thought~~^{felt} more about the loss of it, than about his ancestor's loss of Tooráá. If ever I go to Tooráá again I must make O'Hannigan some restitution for the loss of his leather on ~~my~~ account, for I could not convince ^{him} that he was rescuing the name of his family from oblivion. He thinks very little about them as they left him nothing.

You will find the situation of Ballyflannigan painted out in Mr. Taylor's Statistical account of Irishmaccourt, and a description of the beautiful ruin of his chapel in Aghamore, which was erected in 1498.

I met a very clever and enlightened
missionary in the parish of Clones, Mr. Canon
O'Neill, the Gobban Saer of the District.
He is an architect, a goldsmith, a watch-
maker and a carpenter. It would
be very difficult to convince him that
the round Tower of Clones was older
than the ruin of the monastery. He
says that the country people always
style it *fean-claigeac* a *terpéil*, or the old
Belfry of the Chapel, and that there
is a tradition current among the
peasantry that there is a silver Bell
lying under ground in a place im-
mediately under the tower formerly
a quagmire but now converted to
a meadow and garden. The peasantry
also say that this tower was built
by the daughter of Gobban Saer
and that when she was finishing the
cone a boy looked up under her
clothes, which when she perceived she
leaped down into the quagmire al-
ready referred to, ^{in which} where she was

immediately swallowed up and lost, an example to that sex of the danger of becoming architects or masons.

It is said that a subterranean passage leads from a small ruin east of the town to the moat which commands it at the distance of about 50 perches, but the people believe that this had no connection ^{union} with the tower of monastery.

The aboriginal families of Clanes and its vicinity are the following according to Sean O'Neill who is intimately acquainted with the country.

0. O'Flannahan in Maginnis bridge,
1. Mac Alecco, Mac Grolla-topa,
2. Mac Aloon, Mac Groll-Saminato,
3. now Anglicized Mondays - but Sundays would do better!
3. O'Scollan,
4. O'Breighans. Angliciz. Brightons, Sean tells a curious anecdote of Col. Brighton and one of these.

5. O'Mulligan, now Mullineaux!
6. Mac Caffy.
7. Mullarky
8. Tierney, O'tigearnaid
9. Mac Brian, now made O'Brien - This family is mentioned in the Maguire Mss, as one of the principal families of Fermoynagh under Maguire.
10. Mac Giolla bhoisgle now shamefully made Casgrove!!
11. Mac Mahon.
12. O'Kegly now Quigly
13. Mac Gilgunn, now Gun.
14. O'Gowan now Smith - very numerous
15. O'Connell
16. O'Becan, now translated Little
17. O'Loingsy, now Lynchy.
18. O'Bandan now Cadan. Mentioned in the Maguire Mss, as one of the distinguished families of Fermoynagh

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-nagh, who resided at ríe móir Garle Uí Éadairn,

19. Mac Igallog's now Farmers

20. MacKaroony. There is a manor now
belonging to Trinity College named after
this family. It extends about 6 miles
in length and $4\frac{1}{2}$ in breadth in the
parish of Clones. It is called Shiocht
Mulroony. -

21. O'Monaghan

22. Sherry. in Irish O'Searpaig,

23. Traynor, O'Énínín.

24. Mac Geehan, now Goodwin, !!

25. and last My old friends the
Mac Guiggins. One of the name
is the only Atheist in the parish.
who believes that the Devil is a
bugbear got up by the clergy to
make money. The curse of St
Columbkille seems to follow them
as far ^{Southwards,} as Clones!

yours invariably

J. O. Donovan

END

14 C 17/23

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, written from Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, concerning the topography, folklore and antiquities associated with Aghalurcher and Derryvullan and the mountain range of Slieve Beatha, Co. Fermanagh.

24 November 1834

4p.

23 cm

Included are references to the continuing presence of the Cassidy family, 'ancient Physicians of Fermanagh', in Crockada, Co. Monaghan.

Enniskillen November 24th 1834.

Dear Sir, I send back all the Extracts from the Annals and Inquisitions, and will take the Coach for Dublin on ~~Monday~~ Wednesday morning. I send all my vouchers &c, &c. I incurred no expence by travelling since my arrival in Fermanagh except two shillings which I paid to two fishermen for ~~four~~ rowing me and Lt Taylor across Lough Melvin. I have spent a long time in the County but I have not been a minute idle day or night, and I have ^{been} under considerable expences in entertaining old Leanchies for whom I sent to the mountains.

The original Irish name of Aghalurcher is ^(the name also used by the Four Masters) Aca's upcar, which means the field of the shot or cast, the name is accounted for, as usual by a legend about the patron Saint. The people disputed about the place where the church was to be erected, and they finally came to the agreement to cast a stone into the firmament by a sling (opán tabairt) and to build the church upon the spot in which God would permit it.

permit it to fall. The stone was flung, and it fell at a considerable distance from the place on the beautiful field not far from the eastern bank of Lough Erne, where the ruins of the old church are now to be seen. The patron saint gave this place the name of ^{Fied of the Dist.} Achadh Uchair from this circumstance.

The Mountain range called Sliabh Beatha according to the tradition among the peasantry near Clonis runs through the Counties of Monaghan and Fermanagh, a distance of 24 Irish miles. It terminates in the town-land of Coolnasillagh within about 8 miles of Lough Erne. It forms a great territory, and the people who reside on it style themselves the inhabitants of Slieue Beatha and welcome all their guests and visitors in the chiming words of, 'yé do beata arn y lath beata. i.e. you are welcome ^{to} on Slieue Beatha.

This is the famous Mountain in the large Carn of on which the Anti-Diluvian Biath was interred by the Seraglio of women who attended him. The story is given at full length in the Leabhar Gabhala and in Beating.

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I have the honor of being the first who, in modern times, discovered the situation of this mountain of ante-diluvian celebrity, but I have been very much disappointed in finding that, instead of ~~Linton~~ Bith, Dalach is the commander in chief of ~~the~~ its fairies of the mountain. It grieves me that Bith should have lost that honor. Dalach now resides in barn more the very eam in which Bith was interred, and his ancient castle is sometimes seen in the lake beneath it. I do not believe the story about the Antediluvian Bith, but I am satisfied that ^{the mountain} ~~it~~ took its name from a man of that name at a remotely ancient period. Bith, gen. Baka was a man's name for a long time in Ireland and in the Irish parts of Scotland. and Shakspeare has immortalized a man of the name (Mac Beth). We have still in Ireland a family that derived their surname from a progenitor of the name, viz Mac Beatha now Anglicized Mac Beagh.

There is a townland in the parish of Clonis of the name brockada. It was ~~an~~ to a very late period called Cnoc eadap d'á ghré, i.e. hill between two greags or Mountain flats. A Branch of the the Cassidys the ancient Physicians of Thermanagh reside here yet and hold a considerable portion of the mountain. About 40 years ago Luke Cassidy, the father of the present farmer of Cnoc eadap, came to the house of his landlord Mr. Madden of Spring-grave in the parish of Clonis ^{to pay him his rent}. On coming up to the hall-door, Luke was met by Lord Erne, Mr. Madden's brother-in-law, who asked him where he was going. Cassidy replied, I am going to give Justice. Are you ~~an~~ a Magistrate? ~~He~~ ^{he} exclaimed in surprise. No, replied Cassidy. How is it possible that a man in your garb can distribute Justice? Cas. Justice is not always given by men well-dressed! L. E. And what sort of Justice are you going to give? Cas. I ^{am} going to give my Landlord his rent. Is not that giving justice? L. E. Upon my honor it is Sir, will you give it to me? Cas. I will Sir, provided you give me a receipt and spell the name of the townland in which I live. L. E. What is the

name of the tawerlond my gey fellow?
Cas: cꝑoc eadap ḡá ḡpénic, Sir, now spell it for me?
L. E. Cruck. addur, wáw — Cas. No! No! it is not
wáw, but ḡá; try it again? L. E. Cruck-eddur.
gaw. Cas. No! No! bee mee shaul dat want
spell ^{it}, you must give it the ^{real} ould
Irish twang before I pay you mé monie.
By this time Mrs. Madden came to the door and
brought news to the company who were about
to sit down to dinner that one of Mr. Madden's
tenants from the mountains was ~~telling~~ ^{to} Lord
Erne ~~how~~ to spell! Upon which Mr. Madden
himself came out and received the rent from
Cassidy of cꝑoc eadap ḡá ḡpénic.

Luke often told this with great
humour to Con O'Neill of Roslea, who told
it to me with great humour and milesian
wit. The name is now shortened to Cruck addur.
upon which spelling I have decided, though
I should be very anxious to ~~preserve~~ ^{preserve} the
descriptive one of Crockadderdagreagh, or at
least Crockadder.

The following passage in the annals
of the Four Masters respecting Derrygullen
strikes me as very curious:

"A. D. 1441, Pierce o' Luinin, a learned historian
 "and poet, and Crynagh of Kird and of the
 "Third part of Derrymullan, a man generally
 "venerated and honoured, died".

You will find that Derrymullan
 is at this day in three distinct, insulated
 portions.

The following passage in O'Flannagan's
 part of the annals throws light upon two
 mountains in Fermanagh.

A. D. "1111. Torlogh O'Flannagan set out
 "upon a predatory excursion, and plundered
 "as far as Beann Eachlathra and Shiabh
 "Ruise, and as far as Lough Erne".

Beann Eachlathra is the very
 beautiful mountain now called Binaghloon
 and Shiabh Ruise is called Shee Russell
 which is on the boundary of Cavan and
 Fermanagh, not far from Binaghloon.

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I wish you would get all the Extracts
from the Annals bound together in one book
and separated from the Extracts from the
Inquisitions: they are at present confusedly
mixed.

I must now bid farewell to ^{the} Maguires,
for some time, and I am very well satisfied
with my discoveries of its ancient localities
and families.

Yours invariably

John O'Donovan,

Enniskillen

Monday night

11 o'clock.

Please to tell O'Keefe to
call at 47 Essex Street
where I used to lodge and
tell them that I will be
home on Wednesday night
about 7 o'clock. —

END

14 C 17/24

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, concerning the topography of western Fermanagh, with particular reference to the islands on Lough Macnean, the Arney, Finglas, Finn, Maguire's and Cladagh rivers, the Knockninny and Craobh hills.

24 December 1834

2p.

20 cm



December 24th 1834

Dear Sir

I send you a list of names of Rivers &c. taken from an old History of Fermanagh formerly and perhaps still in the Sir William Betham. I wish you would get Mr. Sharkey to identify them with the present names.

1. ^{Imp. Lloyd} Ennis Ard, a small island in Lough Macraean, "buried of ~~Ennis~~ (the son of) Chinnreack, King of Ireland, who had his residence for some time there and."

This is in the eastern extremity of the lake, and called at present Ennis by some and Shes Island by others, the latter name is wrong. See what I have made it?

"From this Lough runs a river for some length to Lough Erne called the Strinj through which the Salmon of Ballyshannon come to another river called Cladagh, upon which river a great number of Salmon are yearly caught under the steep mountain called Calbagh. There is another small river called Finglass leading to this river of Strinj. &c. &c. not far from this small river.

14/C/17/24(C)

is another called Quainne, a deep slow river with plenty of fish. through which they carry in boats by this water to Lough Erne, timber, boards, or any other commodity."

"There is a river leads through Maghera - Flanegon to Lough Erne called Maguires water where are many precious pearls found in shells &c."

"In the barony of Lurge is a well consecrated by St. Molaise, which cures the yellow jaundice, and in Minter Feadagh near an old church called Templemoyle, dedicated to our founder by St. Thady is another well that hath the same virtue."

"The uppermost part of this County is divided from the County of Monaghan and part of the County of Cavan by a stately river beautifying the borders with stately meadows and sweet pasturage very plenty of fish and fowl called "River of Finne"."

Hills -

"In this County are two notable hills for beauty, pleasure and stately situations, viz. Koochinny and Craobh; the latter is in the east of Tirkennedy, being part of the estate of Cavanagh more Maguire of true Irish blood of the Country."

Have all these names carefully compared
with the plans before they are engraved.
I do not remember to have got the names

Cladagh, R.	{ "Garness" River	Clady bridge - still there
Colbagh. Mt.		Don't appear
Finglass R.		
Finore, R.		
Quasme		Don't appear

RIA

Prof. A. H. Love

Worcester, Mass.

Placerville Park

END

14 C 17/25

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, concerning references to Inis Ohta on Lough Macnean in the 'Annals of the Four Masters.'

27 February 1835

3p.

19 cm

Included is a list of the islands on Lough Macnean and notes relating to place names near Lough Erne.

RIA

Feb. 27: 1835

Dear Sir,

I wish you would turn to the Fermanagh Index and see how I have spelled Inis-ochta, an island in Lough Mac-Nen. It was formerly an important military station as appears from the following passage in the annals of the Four Masters:

"A. D. 1499,"

"Melaghlin Mac Rannal (mac
"Moragh, mac Feige) was taken prisoner
"by Con and Shane O'Rourke and
"they conveyed him to Inis Ochta
"an island in Lough-Mac-Nen. ~~Here~~
"in Peary, the son of Torlogh Maguire
"attacked this island and slew the
"two sons of O'Rourke, and brought
"Mac-an-Chaich M'Clancy, and Me-
"laghlin M' Rannall aforesaid
"home to his (Maguire's) house and

14/c/17/25 (1)

118 "O'Donnell (Hugh Roe) however
" afterwards consumed them grain
" Maguire, upon which Melbrighin
" aforesaid gave up the castle of
" Leirinn to O'Donnell."

Prisoners were considered
as property in those ages.

I am anxious to know how this
island of Inis ~~magh~~ Oghta and also that
of Inishes in Lough Mac Neane
have been spelled.

There are several passages
in the annals that O'Skeeffe did not
send me to Fermanagh. Have me the
places mentioned in the following passage in
the name Baile?

"Donnell O'Neill made an
" incursion against Gilpatrick Maguire: he
" ^{attacking} assailed Baile Bun abhann ⁽¹⁾ and took
" a prey there, but he was afterwards
" defeated and deprived of his booty.
" Many of his party were cut off by field
" and flood between Baile-Bun-abhann aforesaid
" & Inbhear mor ⁽²⁾. The son of Magnus Maguire
" was slain, and Donnell O'Neill himself
" was taken prisoner at a place called
" Tamhnach-an-Reata ⁽³⁾, and nine of his
" people were drowned at Cora-clonter-Ban
" i.e. the fishing weir of the family of Banam."

I cannot find any name like
Inish Oghta - We have

Inishkeige

Inishkeen

Garrow or
Buck Islds

Rossborough

Kilrooskagh

Tuam } Co. Cavan
Port }

Islands in Lough
Macnean

2 small ones on Litrinn side without names

"Inishshee" (my ^{Woda Hugh's} ~~fine~~ island is in
Lower Lower Lough Macnean. —

* make this Inishshee I.O.D.

"Bunmahone"

Bun na habana } Many
River foot }

is the name of a Island in Irish.
massicot, near the shore of Lough
Ene. —

The name exists in
the Country, but not
as a townland or
parish name, but a
natural division.

J. D.

I cannot find such

? Bannagh in the East

I cannot find such

(1) Baile: bun. abham. This must have been a Castle. Bun. abham means river foot. The name is yet retained in munone a land district west of upper Lough Erne, where the Arney River falls into the lake. The peasants of Fermanagh frequently pronounce m. for b. as in the instance of munone for Bunone and Lis.

-melaw for Lisbelaw. Does the name Ballybunone or Ballymanone or Bunone or capnone appear on the maps of Fermanagh any where in the district around the Arney River?

(2) Inbhear mor. I think that this name occurs in the name Books of Fermanagh.

(3) May be anglicized to Tawnaghrota or Tammy ^{Fammy} Tamnaghrota?

(4) Corabannam. I have an indistinct recollection that there is a place of this name on the upper Lough Erne, east of the munone District. perhaps it may have been translated to Bannowis weir. Let me know where it is and how I have spelled it?

(5) Ard-Muintir-Livin. This

14/c/17/25(III)

must have been a district. It signifies "The height of the family of Luney, who are yet common in that district.

If I could discover the situation of Corabanan it would lead to the discovery of the situation of the other places. I would shew whether the plundered from Bunone towards Enniskillen or Belturbet.

I should suppose that they moved ^{from the mouth of the Arney River} by the western banks of the Lake with a view to cross it at a short distance from Enniskillen -

I wish you would let me have answers to these queries as soon as you can, and please to get these Extracts copied and inserted into ~~the~~ our "Annals of Fermanagh".

J. O'Donovan

END

14 C 17/26

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, concerning references to the history of county Fermanagh in the 'Annals of the Four Masters.'

16 March 1835

3p.

19 cm

Included is correspondence between Larcom and Lieut. Edward W. Durnford, of the Royal Engineers, regarding O'Donovan's queries regarding place names in Co. Fermanagh.

123
March 16th 1835

Dear Sir,

The following passages occur in the Annals of the Four Masters which may throw light upon names of places in Fermanagh. Please to get them copied into our "Annals of Fermanagh" and let me know if such names appear in the Index.

"1486, " Brian Mac Mahon
" committed a great predatory ag-
" gression upon Edmond Maguire
" and his sons at Buil na n-oircear,
" and slew Edmond age, one of his
" sons at Saire Gendinn.

" Edmond, the son of Thomas
" Maguire (son of Don, son of Philip
" of the battle axe) died, and his
" brother Owen, Magnus, the son of
" Muldoan, and Rory, the ^{grand} son of Don
" Maguire were slain at Bailer an-
" -oirceacht, during a nocturnal assault
" by Felim, the son of Donogh Maguire.

14/c/17/26(1)

1. From various passages in these annals it appears that buil na m-oirear is a place very near Enniskillen. Buil signifies a corner. it is always translated Angulum by O' Sullivan Beare in his History of the Catholics. If its meaning we have a sufficient evidence in buil Mor near Derry and buil Eachtrom, in the N.E. of Antrim, both ^{though} angles of land running into the sea.

I should be inclined to believe that buil na m-oirear is an angle of land running into the lake ^{from} off the parish of Rossory, anciently Ros-oirthea.

2. Daire Cennainn would be Anglicized Derryannon. Is there any such townland in or in the neighbourhood of Rossory or Enniskillen.

3 Baile an oireacht. This must have been ~~the~~ a castle on

125
mansion seat as it is stated
to have been attacked at night.
It would be Anglicized

no Ballinacott meaning the
^{nothing like} townland of the meeting of
the Assembly, and may be
the place where the
"Maquire was made".

J. O. D.

RIA

There is
one in the country
near the South River
Another in Galway

Can you find or
get any information

on the enclosed for I cannot as
yet find out
any thing relating
to it, but if I
should succeed
I will send it -

W. V. Donovan

Ann Larcom

LW

1 Apr. 25

I hope to be able
soon to see one or
two old people in
the neighbourhood
of Gallocoo and
might perchance
get some information

Edw. W. Burnford

Lieut. Regt. Eng^{rs}

16. April. 1855

Lieut. Larcom

L. Burnford

14/c (17/26(m))

END

14 C 17/27

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Part letter, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey,
from John O'Donovan, concerning references to county Fermanagh in the
'Calendar of Irish Saints.'

26 March 1835

1p.

19 cm

Reference is made to Gortineddan and Galloon, Co. Fermanagh.

RIA

124
March 26th 1835-

In looking over the
Calendar of Irish Saints
I discovered the ^{original} Irish name
of Galloon in Fermanagh

"Quinto Cal. Aug.

Comgall Gobla Iúin, n. Daptoirge Cominpi
n. gur n. gceán loca h. Éirne.

"Comgall of Gowal-lúne in the
"territory of Dartree Coninpi at
"the extremity of Lough Erne?

It is called by the same name
in the Annals of the Four
Masters at the year 1450,

~~1450~~ "Maguire (Thomas) went
"on a pilgrimage to Rome. A week
"afterwards Donagh, Maguire's step-
"brother, went to Knockrimny, the house
"of Cathal, the son of Maguire, and
"took him prisoner, and brought him
"and his spoils to Gort-an-fheadain
"where he put him to death, after

14c/17R7

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"which he proceeded to Teallach
"Donagh to wage war with Edmond
"and Donagh Maguire. Some time
"subsequently they came to a conference
"and made peace with each other;
"notwithstanding which Edmond
"in the end took Donagh prisoner
"at Gabhail Liuin and brought
"him to Aghalurcher, where
"he caused one of his feet and
"one of his hands to be cut off
"in revenge of the murder of
"Cathal."

There is a Gortinédan
in Fermanagh. Are there the
ruins of a castle there?

The Ard-Munter-Liuin
which I mentioned in a former
note must be in this parish
of Galloon.

Is there any townland in the
Parish of Galloon any like
Ard-Munter-loon or Ardloon?

only one
in Fermanagh
the ruins of a
castle there

Galloon

END

14 C 17/28

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Letters, to Lieut. Thomas A. Larcom, Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey, from John O'Donovan, concerning references to county Fermanagh in the Annals of the Four Masters, An Leabhar Gabhála and the Calendar of Irish Saints, with particular reference to the Caol Uisge pass on the River Erne.

7 April 1835

3p.

20 cm



April 7th 1835,

Dear Sir,

Any passage that I happen to discover throwing light upon any places in any of Counties, the Maps of which are finished I am determined henceforward to transcribe and send out to you with queries about the localities.

In my Translation of the Annals of the 4 Masters, I have thrown out various conjectures upon the situation of Caol-uisge (Keeliskä) a famous pass on the River Erne. Before I saw ~~you~~ the place I ^{had} come to the conclusion that ^{it lay} immediately to the east of Ballyshannon. I read several passages from the Annals for old fishermen who are well acquainted with every ford on the River Erne, and they told me that Caol uisge must be the place now called Caradh Basil, meaning the fishing Meir of Narrow Water. I now incline to doubt that, though this ^{following} passage would seem to put it beyond dispute:

14/c/17/28(i)

A.D. 1211. The Conacians, at the request of the
 "English Bishop and Gilbert Castello marched
 "with an army to the Cataract of Easrac and erected
 "a castle at Caol-uige (Narrow Water)

From the following passage however it
 would appear that there were several fords
 between Caol-uige and Ballyshannon.

1597. —*** "On the other hand if the Governor and his
 "army wished to depart they could not cross any passable
 "ford on the River Erne from Caol-uige to Bally-
 "shannon." (they being guarded by O'Donnell.)

The place called Caradkbasil is
 very near Ballyshannon.

There is a passage in the Book
 of Invasions in the Library of the Royal
 Irish Academy, which throws additional
 light upon the situation of Caol-uige.

A.D. 610. "The Monarch Malcova after
 "his defeat at Slieve Thuch retired from
 "the world and took upon him the yoke
 "of religion in his patrimonial lands at
 "a place called Drum-Diolar on the
 "bank of Caol-uige, where he remained in
 "retirement, secluded from the world until
 "he was expelled from his retreat by his
 "own brother Donnell.

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This is followed by a poem ascribed to Malcova himself in which he laments the expulsions of himself and his clergy, and severely censures Morre surnamed of Munster, the wife of his brother as the cause of their sufferings. Upon the same subject and the number of clergy in the religious house of Drumadilla and the benefits conferred on different classes of people by them, Malcova wrote another poem preserved in the same Book.

There is a townland near Castle-
Caldwell called Drumadilla, which is
 unquestionably the place here mentioned.
 Please to let me know if it merges on
 the River Erne, or on the narrow part
 of the Lake called by the Country peo-
 ple, Caol na h-Éirne? Perhaps this may
 be the place called ~~caol~~ caolurge by the
 ancients?

Caol uisce is certainly that part of Lough Erne near Calloway Sheet 115.
 The Townland Drumadilla just adjoins
 Slerrygonnelly, and is 2 miles distant from
 any part of the Lake. —

Is there no other Drumadilla?
 I think there is. Dec 14/17/28 (11) 146/28

Chas. A. Larcom Esq
R. Eng

Ordinance Surv. Office

Dear Sir,

Please to add the following to my
collection of bits and scraps concerning
Fermanagh, &c.

"Monca, virgin from Magh Niadh
in Tooráá."

Irish Calend: 17. Et. Feb;

This Magh Niadh is the present Monca
in the territory of Tooráá o' Fleming's
Country.

"Did:"

Dermot, the son of Meagher
Bishop of Artharmuigh in Tooráá.

Is there any such place in
the Barony of Magherabay, Fermanagh,
as Armay? No. nothing like it.

L. T. Farnham, 14/c/17/28(iii)

Ordis was as Feb.

"St. Kieran of Samlaght glia in Glenree"

Glenree was the vale of the Kiernan river. Is there any place called Samlaght glia on either side of that river, either in the County of Down or Antrim?

"Saint Patrick preached with divine enthusiasm on the hill of Fininabhuir in the Territory of Lemania in Tyrone in the Diocese of Clogher. Ir. Shan. p. 149, col. 2."

Colgan says that Lemania which was called Clossach was a best territory in the Dioc. Clogher in Tyrone. On Norden's map the Territory of Clossach is shown as a narrow strip of Country bounded on the east by the northern $\frac{2}{3}$ of the barony of Trough, and extending N. as far as the mountains at Errigal Keeroge and west only to the town of Clogher. The river Blackwater containing in its winding the fort of "Augher" is shown and receiving two streams on its way through it, is also shown.

There is Finnermore in Clogher?

Is there any townland within this district of Tyrone called Finner? The name is of frequent occurrence in Ireland. There is one or two Finner in Fermanagh near Belleek.

Is there a Portnelligan in Tyrone where? No — but there is in the Co. Down.

Thos. A. Lucan Esq

R. Engineers.

Wt Jay Barracks

END

14 C 17/29

Loftus, Aug. H.

Letter, to Capt. N. Stotherd, of the Royal Engineers, from Aug. H. Loftus, written from The Lodge, concerning the monastic ruins at Devenish Island, Co. Fermanagh, with particular reference to its tower, St. Molush's (Saint Molaise) house and the Abbey Church of St. Mary's.

[1835]

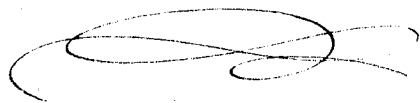
1p.

24 cm

ill; ink and pencil sketch of the round tower at Devenish Island.

Included are references to St. Molaise's 'bed', which was thought to have healing properties.

Jennist Ruins



The Lower Church dedicated to St. Michael
is 76 ft long and 21 ft wide. Near it is
St. Michael's house a Gothic Building 30 ft
long and 18 ft wide —

The Round Tower is in a remarkable
good state of preservation. 82 ft high &
49 ft feet in circumference. of cut stone
and finished at the top in a conical
form. It was built about the middle
of the 11th Century — Near the Summit of the
Hill is the Abbey dedicated to St. Mary
94 ft long & 24 ft wide. Near the centre of
the Abbey is a Belfry Arch built of
14/2/13/29

Black Marble supported by 4 Gothic
 Pillars with a grand winding staircase
 of 83 steps - a few paces N. of St.
 Mohut's House is his Bed which is
 a stone trough sunk level with the
 surface of the ground. 6 ft long - 15 inches
 wide with a rough bottom composed
 of 3 stones in which people lie down
 and pray. 4 hopes of relief from any
 pains with which they are afflicted.
 Inside the Abbey is this Inscription

1 Old Tayor Characters -

" Mathew O' Donoghue Dubagau
 hoc opus fecit Bartholomew
 O Flanagan Prior de Danyris -

107
W. L. Dodge

My Dear Mr. Motte,

I send you the
account of Denmark I promised and
hope it may prove useful - If you
have a frank of Mr. Hallyburton's
(or any others) - I should be extremely obliged
for them if not wanted elsewhere -

Believe me ever

Yrs sincerely & truly

Wm. Motte

A hand-drawn sketch of a lighthouse tower. The tower is cylindrical with a conical roof. Dimensions are written in cursive: the total height is 80 feet 3 1/2 inches, the height of the tower body is 65 ft. 3 1/2 inches, and the height of the roof is 15 ft. The diameter of the tower is 8 ft 7 1/2 inches, and the diameter of the roof base is 4 ft 4 inches. A small rectangular window is shown on the tower body, and a small square is shown on the roof. A large 'RIA' watermark is visible in the background.

Height of top of Tower above the Sea is 265.6 ft. in
ground 185.2½

END

14 C 17/30

O'Donovan, John, 1806-1861.

Map of County Fermanagh.

Nineteenth Century

1p.

41 x 31 cm

Indicated are the baronial boundaries, parishes, and main topographical features of the county, including lakes and rivers. Notes, written by John O'Donovan, related to officers of the Royal Engineers, stationed in county Fermanagh, and the main Gaelic families associated with the area.

RIA

14 C 17/30

Outsize map

Filmed at the end of this reel

Outsize maps

part of

14 C 17

Fermanagh

Outsize map

14/C/17/30

41 x 31 cm

RIA

FERMANAGH.



Offices. Stations.

- Chief of Police - Enniskillene
- Post Office - Kesh - formerly
- Post Office - Carrickmacross - at present
- Post Office - Lisnaskea - formerly
- Post Office - Beltanabett - at present
- Post Office - Enniskillene - on the way of moving to Carrickmacross
- Post Office - Carrickmacross - formerly
- Post Office - Carrickmacross - at present
- Post Office - Carrickmacross - formerly