

## PROCEEDINGS AND PAPERS.

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GENERAL MEETING, held in the Society's Apartments, Williamstreet, Kilkenny, on Wednesday, November 7th, 1860.

THE REV. CHARLES VIGNOLES, A. M., Rector of Clonmacnoise, in the Chair.

The following new Members were elected:—

Lady Orde, Kilmory, Loughgilphead, N. B. : proposed by the Rev James Graves.

Edward Maxwell Dillon, Esq., A. M., T. C. D., Bishop-Stortford, Herts: proposed by George C. Roberts, Esq.

The Rev. John Flanagan, A. M., Rector of Killevan, Clones: proposed by the Rev. G. H. Reade.

The Rev. John Saul, Kilkenny; and John Bradford, Esq., District Inspector of National Schools, Kilkenny: proposed by James G. Robertson, Esq.

William H. Hill, Esq., Architect, 1, St. Patrick's Hill, Cork: proposed by R. Caulfield, Esq.

Mr. Martin Carroll, Jamestown, Piltown: proposed by Mr. H. Cuolohan.

James G. Robertson, Esq., Architect, and J. A. Aylward, Esq., brought up the Treasurer's account for the year 1859. It was as follows:—

		CHARGE.	£	s.	d.
1859.	Jan. 1.	To balance in Treasurer's hands (see Vol. II., p. 282), . . . . .	0	5	2
	Dec. 31.	To Members' Subscriptions, . . . . .	171	14	0
		„ Life Compositions, . . . . .	94	14	0
		„ Subscriptions for "Annuary," . . . . .	17	0	0
		„ Donations, . . . . .	1	8	0
		„ Sale of books to Members, . . . . .	2	7	2
		„ Sale of woodcuts, . . . . .	1	9	0
		„ Advertisements, . . . . .	5	3	0
			£294	0	4

## DISCHARGE.

		£	s.	d.
1859.				
Dec. 31.	By postages of "Journal," . . . . .	15	0	0
	" " circulars and correspondence, . .	6	13	4
	" Illustrations for "Journal," . . . . .	15	8	6
	" Printing, paper, and binding of "Journal" for one year, ending June 30, 1860 (March No. excepted), . . . . .	117	1	11
	" General printing and stationery, . . . . .	12	0	3
	" Commission to Dublin collector, . . . . .	1	7	5
	" Sundries, including fitting up of Museum, pur- chase of antiquities, &c., as per ledger, . .	15	10	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
	" Purchase of books, . . . . .	3	14	0
	" Rent and caretaker, &c., Jerpoint Abbey, . .	3	4	6
	" Gratuity to roomkeeper, and carriage of parcels, Rent of Museum for one year, ending Septem- ber 29, 1859, . . . . .	1	3	4
	" Balance in Treasurer's hands, . . . . .	15	0	0
		87	16	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
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		£294	0	4

We have examined this Account, and find that there is a balance of £87 16s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in the hands of the Treasurer.

J. G. ROBERTSON, }  
P. A. AYLWARD, } Auditors.

KILKENNY, 7th November, 1860.

The Treasurer said that this balance was not to be relied on as showing a too flourishing state of affairs, inasmuch as it arose from an unusually large number of life compositions having been received from members during the year 1859. Indeed, owing to the number of subscribers in default, the legitimate income of the Society was more than £20 less than during previous years.

The Chairman asked had those in default continued to receive the publications of the Society ?

The Treasurer said that they had received them up to the end of 1859, when, by a judicious resolution, all those a year and upwards in arrear had been ordered to be removed from the list of members until they should pay up whatever they owed. He was sure that, if the members were generally aware that the Treasurer of the Society was personally liable for the expense of publishing, incurred on the faith of the regularity of the payment of subscriptions, they would be more punctual in discharging this debt of honour.

On the motion of the Rev. James Mease, a vote of thanks was given to the auditors.

The Rev. James Graves, in accordance with the rule on that subject, gave notice that, at the January Meeting of 1861, he would move, that an alteration be made in the general rules of the Society,

authorising its Meetings to be held quarterly in future, instead of bi-monthly as heretofore, and that the "Journal" should be issued accordingly. Mr. Graves said that, as the greater number of the local members seemed to prefer reading the proceedings of the Society in its published "Journal," and as the Meetings chiefly served as a medium for bringing together matter for that publication, he thought that quarterly Meetings would suffice for the future. This arrangement, whilst it need not diminish the quantity of literary contributions, or the donations to the museum or library, would effect a considerable saving to the funds, with respect to the binding and issuing of the Transactions.

The following presentations were received, and thanks voted to the donors:—

By the Kent Archæological Society: "Archæologia Cantiana," Vol. II.

By the Ossianic Society: their "Transactions," Vol. V., comprising "The Proceedings of the Great Bardic Institution," edited by Professor Connellan.

By the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland: their "Proceedings," Vol. III., Part 1.

By the Author: "Notices of remarkable Greek, Roman, and Anglo-Saxon, and other Medieval Coins, in the Cabinet of the Author, mostly unpublished; with Engravings." By John Lindsay, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, &c., Cork, 1860.

By Robert MacAdam, Esq.: "The Ulster Journal of Archæology," No. 31.

By the Publisher: "The Gentleman's Magazine," for October and November, 1860.

By the Publisher: "The Builder," Nos. 919-26, both inclusive.

By the Cambridge Antiquarian Society: their Octavo Publications, No. 5.

By the Architectural and Archæological Society for the County of Buckingham: "Records of Buckinghamshire," Vol. II., No. 4.

By the Cambrian Institute: "The Cambrian Journal" for June, 1860.

By the Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society: "The East Anglian" for October, 1860.

By the Author: "Steam Communication," by George Barry, Esq., Banbridge, 1860.

By the Rev. James Mease: a number of objects of antiquity turned up in Ballylarkin Church-yard. These, besides some large horse's teeth, consisted of three specimens of copper Irish "money of necessity," a silver sixpence of James I., and a copper tag of the strap of an ancient book, which, from the style of ornamentation, appeared to belong to the latter end of the fifteenth century.

By the Rev. James Graves: a specimen of an encaustic flooring tile, picked up by him at Netley Abbey, near Southampton, last summer, and which was of precisely the same pattern as some of the ancient flooring tiles of St. Canice's Cathedral.

By Lord James Butler, on behalf of Mr. David Rogers, Glassmullagh, Omagh: an English groat of Queen Elizabeth, in admirable preservation. It was one of about 150 of different sizes found at Glassmullagh, in the parish of Ardstraw, county of Tyrone, last August. They were enclosed in a leather bag, which fell to pieces in being lifted out of the ground. The dates of the coins ranged from 1561 to 1593.

By the Rev. Philip Moore, R. C. C., Piltown: a copper Nuremberg jetton of rare type, on behalf of Mr. Patrick Cleere, of New Ross. It had been found in a garden near the Church of St. Mary, in that town.

By Robert Malcomson, Esq., Carlow: an unedited tradesman's token, given him by Dr. Shewbridge Connor, of that town. It was without date, but bore the legend, obv. "JONAH WOODMAN—REV. OF DONLAVAN." The device was a pair of scales.

By William D. Hemphill, Esq., M. D., Clonmel, a Nuremberg jetton, found in that town.

By Mr. Prim: on the part of a Member of the Society, an ancient illuminated patent, being a grant of "English Liberty" from King Henry VI., in the twenty-ninth year of his reign, to Thomas, the son of Philip, the son of William O'Neill. The patent recited a previous one of Edward III., making a similar grant to William O'Neill, then Vicar of Carrick, and to Philip and Thomas O'Neill, and their heirs "then being Irish."

Also, a copy of a newspaper, called "The Impartial Inquirer," dated Saturday, December 24th, 1814. Amongst the items of news in this publication was a collection of paragraphs clipped from various Irish papers, and headed "The storm." A paragraph copied from the "Kilkenny Moderator," stated that considerable damage had been done generally in that city, and amongst the rest, "The ducal coronet, above the vane on the east tower of Kilkenny Castle, was broken off."

By Mr. Prim: a copy of "Saunders' News-Letter, and Daily Advertiser," for Saturday, September 1, 1798.

By P. Watters, Esq.: a copy of another old newspaper, called "The True-born Irishman," issued March 13th, 1804, price one halfpenny; also a three-guinea bank post-bill, of the Ballinakill Bank, dated 4th November, 1804, and signed "Michael Savage."

By the Rev. James Graves, a fac-simile of the writing of Addison, being a portion of a letter from that celebrity to Mrs. Wortley.

By Mr. Prim, a deed executed between the Rev. John Ellison and the Rev. Anthony Pack, whereby the latter bound himself to

pay the former half the endowment (£70) of Kilkenny College, on succeeding him in the mastership of that institution, until such time as the said Rev. J. Ellison or his assigns should be presented to a living by the Provost, Fellows, and Scholars of Trinity College, Dublin. The deed was dated 19th December, 1792.

The Rev. M. Saul asked whether it was known if a curious silver matrix of the seal and counter-seal of the O'Neills of Ulster was still in the possession of the Ormonde family? He saw it many years ago in the North, and had got an impression from it, which he subsequently gave away. The matrix of the seal was originally fitted with a screw, which, when required, served to detach the central portion of the seal, bearing the red hand of O'Neill, from the outer rim, thus allowing it to be used separately, apparently for a counter-seal. The outer rim bore the name of Murrough O'Neill, King of Ulster. Mr. Saul was informed at the time that this seal had been purchased by the late Dowager Marchioness of Ormonde.

A paper was read, from the Rev. John O'Hanlon, R.C.C., SS. Michael and John, Dublin, being a continuation of his account of the topographical collection made by the Ordnance Survey for the Province of Leinster. The present paper related to the county of Westmeath, and was as follows:—

“ Want of sufficient leisure and opportunity has hitherto prevented me from completing my list of the MS. matter, contained in the Ordnance Survey Office, relating to the two remaining Counties of the Leinster province, viz., Westmeath and Longford. To begin, then, with Westmeath—the following volumes of documents are given in the general catalogue of the O. S. MSS. I. Names from Down Survey (See Leinster, Vol. 2). II. Extracts, two volumes, Rough Index of Places to Irish part, not arranged. III. Letters, two volumes. IV. Name Books, 79. V. Barony and Parish Names, one volume. VI. Memorandums, one volume. VII. County Index to Names on Ordnance Maps, one volume. I. The Names from the Down Survey, contained in the Leinster folio Volume II., and referring to Westmeath, are found at pp. 352 to 479, with Index to do. (pp. 352, 353,) of Barony and Parish Names. All of these pages are numbered, but many are blank; the remainder are openly written. II. Vol. I. of the Extracts contains ten pages of references or headings to the excerpts which follow, and which are comprised in 465 numbered pages, some few of which are unwritten. These excerpts are in English, Latin, and Irish (the latter written in the proper characters). Vol. II. of the Extracts contains sixteen pages of the headings of succeeding excerpts, with five pages of Index additional. The Extracts in this volume are contained in 433 numbered pages, nearly all of which are written upon in English, Latin, and Irish. These volumes are 4to.<sup>1</sup> There are eighty-seven pages

<sup>1</sup> The volumes of Extracts and Antiquarian Letters of the various Irish counties are now elegantly bound in thick boards, with

morocco half-binding, and they are lettered in gold, on the backs. Indices, which will be found most useful for future reference to

of a rough Index of places to Irish part, loosely written, and not bound, but tied together in blue wrapping paper; they are folio leaves. III. The antiquarian letters are comprised in two 4to. volumes. Vol. I. comprises 324 closely-written pages, having a well-arranged Index prefixed to them. There are thirty-four letters in it. The following twenty-three are written by Mr. O'Donovan, and thus headed, with respective dates:—Athlone, August 30th, 1837, and September 1st, 4th, 6th, 9th, 1837; Ballymore, Lough Sewdy, September 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 17th, 18th, 1837; Mullingar, September 20th, 21st, 22nd, 25th; Newpass, September 30th, and October 10th, 12th; Castlepollard, October 3rd, 4th, 7th; Castletowndelvin, October 5th. The following eight letters are written by Mr. O'Connor, and thus headed, and dated:—Mullingar, September 27th, 28th; October 1st, 3rd, 6th; Kilbeggan, October 8th; Tyrrellspass, October 10th, 11th, 1837. There is a letter written by Bryan Geraghty, and dated Dublin, September 30th, 1837. There is another, written by George Petrie, and dated Dublin, No. 21, Great Charles-street, September 25th, 1837. There is likewise a fragment of a letter undated, and the writer's name not affixed, but it seems to be in Mr. Petrie's handwriting. Vol. II. contains 347 closely-written pages, with a well-arranged Index prefixed. There are twenty-six letters in it; and of these the following fifteen are written by Mr. O'Donovan, thus headed and dated—Newpass, October 13th, 18th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 24th, 25th, 25th, 30th, 31st; November 1st, 5th, 7th, 9th, 1837; Tullamore, January 1st, 1838. A letter dated October 13th, 1837, without name of place whence written. Mr. O'Connor writes seven letters, and dates from Mullingar, October 12th, 13th, 15th, 16th, 17th; Maynooth, October 29th, and Edenderry, October 30th, 1837. Mr. Petrie has a note dated October 17th, 1837, and another undated. Neither has the name of place given. There is also a note undated, written by a tailor, named Gaynor, living at Rathowen. There are some valuable diagrams and drawings, illustrating Dr. O'Donovan's letters<sup>1</sup>. IV. There are seventy-nine Name Books, like those alluded

the contents, have been lately added to these volumes, in which they had not been hitherto found. These Indices are most creditable to the calligraphy, industry, and sound judgment of Mr. O'Lalor, of the Ordnance Survey Office. The Extract and Antiquarian volumes, when fully completed by the binder, will be transferred to the Library of the Royal Irish Academy, where they will be rendered more accessible to investigators of the history and archæology of the different districts in Ireland. All the other volumes and papers will be retained in the Irish Ordnance Survey Office, where they will be required for constant reference, incident to the various corrections that must be made hereafter in the names and divisions found on the maps already engraved. The new and beautifully contoured and engraved map of Ireland, on the scale of one square inch to the square English mile, is fast approaching completion, and it is supposed will be ready for

circulation during the year, 1861. I have never seen any like engraving equal to it, in point of scientific accuracy and artistic finish.

<sup>1</sup> It must be remarked, that these tracings are the work of Dr. O'Donovan himself, and in all cases serve to convey a more accurate idea of the various antiquarian objects illustrated, than could be attempted by mere description in writing. At a future day, the letters written by the learned doctor will furnish abundant materials for his biographer, regarding that portion of his life and invaluable services, devoted to the illustration of Irish History and Antiquities, whilst employed on the staff of the Ordnance Survey. It is truly wonderful how he could find time to write the researchful and comprehensive letters preserved, within the brief period allowed him for excursions through the various localities, not to speak of his being obliged to visit the several objects of interest, in an

to in former communications. V. The Barony and Parish Names are comprised in one volume 4to. of seventy-nine numbered pages, with an Index page besides; a great number of the numbered pages are unwritten, and those written on are pretty closely lined by the scribe. VI. The memorandums are contained in one 4to. volume of 261 numbered pages, closely written. There are maps and tracings bound up with this volume. Like all volumes of corresponding name, it contains many interesting and detached local notes. It has an Index of six pages prefixed. VII. The County Index to Names, on the Ordnance Survey Maps, is comprised in one folio volume. The leaves are not numbered, but they contain 116 written pages. Each page has three distinct columns, in the order of, 1stly, townlands of the County Westmeath, alphabetically given, with, 2ndly, the Barony in which situated, and, 3rdly, the Parish. On an average, each page contains about seventeen or eighteen lines. There are no artistic drawings or sketches for this county, nor special Memoir Papers."

The Rev. James Graves, on behalf of a Member of the Society, communicated an interesting local tradition, to the effect that one of the Purcell family, a colonel in the Second King James's army, and who was accounted one of the best swordsmen in Europe, was married to a lady named Eleanor Grace, who was the pride of the old, and envy of the young at King James's Levee at Kilkenny Castle, where all the ladies kissed the royal hand. When Eleanor approached, his Majesty arose and said, "So fair a cheek deserved a buss." This Colonel Purcell's daughter was married to Kelly of Gowran.

The Rev. James Mease read some remarks on the ancient churches usually found in the neighbourhood of castles, in the dis-

antiquarian point of view, wherever he travelled. Many, if not most of these excursions, were made on foot, as the ruins of ancient buildings were not always accessible, by public or private conveyance. The inclemency of the weather could not even damp the ardour of the then young and active antiquary. After the day had been spent in rambles through the country, note-book in hand, and perhaps, as was too frequently the case, after a thorough drenching with the rain, Mr. O'Donovan sat down to write his impressions, and quote his authorities and extracts, at which work he was usually engaged to midnight; and his labours were frequently protracted beyond the "witching hour," as we can glean from the headings of many of his letters. Here and there are jotted down some interesting personal incidents and adventures, but it must be observed they are few and far between; for Mr. O'Donovan's whole soul seems to have been centered in the effort to give as much valuable information as possible to the Ordnance

department, and, it must be added, at the lowest possible rate of remuneration for his priceless services. It would not be just to pass away from this subject, without alluding to the herculean task assigned to Eugene O'Curry. When I turn over the volumes of extracts and other papers, I find the well-known handwriting of this gentleman meeting my eye, in countless instances. What a vast amount of Irish extracts copied in the original character! what a number of suggestive notes and observations in English! what untiring energy and industry manifested in an incredibly short space of time, whilst delving through the rich mines of our numerous antique documents! Of Mr. O'Curry, it may be said, he furnished from the public libraries that literary ammunition of the exact size and strength, which enabled Mr. O'Donovan on hill, vale, and plain, to bag the antiquarian game, which will hereafter afford a rich repast to those whose tastes incline them towards such a species of intellectual epicureanism.

trict round Freshford. The paper was illustrated by an accurate photograph of the east window of the old Church of Folkescourt, executed by Lieutenant Lyster, R. E., and was as follows:—

“The larger of the old castles in the neighbourhood of Kilkenny have, in many instances, the remains of churches close to them. In one of the outhouses at Foulkesrath, used at present as a stable, the entrance door and other portions indicating the use of the building, are still carefully preserved by the present owner. Near Balleen Castle, a building may be observed, which might be taken for a barn or grange; but on examination a lancet-window will be found, which clearly shows that it was a church. Near Foulkescourt another is to be found; and for the purpose of calling attention to these buildings, the accompanying photograph is presented to the Society. It was taken by Lieutenant Lyster, R. E., and is a faithful representation of the east window of the building. There is another window in the south wall, which is exactly the half of the east window. The carving is very neatly executed; and though the window is very small, yet the care bestowed on it indicates considerable architectural skill. The date of the building I must leave to more skilful antiquarians. The castle itself is supposed to belong to the time of Henry the Seventh. Though the chapel has been much dilapidated, yet several other parts remained undestroyed.”

The following paper was submitted to the Meeting:—

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#### APPENDIX TO THE PLANTATION OF IDRONE.

BY J. P. PRENDERGAST, ESQ.

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No. I. (See *Supra*, p. 179).

THE following is a transcript from the Books of Distributions compiled between the years 1661–1676, pursuant to the Act of Settlement (14th and 15th Charles II., ch. 2, sec. 8), of the Barony of Idrone, in the County of Carlow.

In the first column are the names of the Proprietors whose estates were confiscated on account of the war of 1641.

In the second and third columns, the denomination and situation of the lands forfeited, with their extent in plantation acres, as found in the Books of the Civil Survey made in the years 1653 and 1654, by order of the Commissioners of the Parliament of England for the Affairs of Ireland.

In the fifth column, the Grantees under the Acts of Settlement and Explanation, together with,

In the fourth or preceding column, the number of acres (Plantation measure), which they were found entitled to, on investigation by the Commissioners for Executing the Act of Settlement.