

A CHOROGRAPHIC ACCOUNT OF THE SOUTHERN PART OF
THE COUNTY OF WEXFORD, WRITTEN ANNO 1684: BY
ROBERT LEIGH, ESQ., OF ROSEGARLAND, IN THAT
COUNTY.

EDITED BY HERBERT F. HORE, ESQ.

(*Concluded from p. 21.*)

AN ACCOUNT OF YE TOWNE OF NEW ROSSE, IN YE COUNTY OF WEX-
FORDE, AND SOME OF THE BARONIES THERE, THIS 29TH MARCH,
1684.

NEW ROSSE.—The town of New Rosse, in the county of Wexford, is reported to have beene built by a lady called Ross,¹ who was daughter to Crune, King of Denmarke, and to whom that place, and a large territory thereunto adjoined, did then belong. It is called in Irish Rosse-Macrune from the foundress, and is surrounded with a strong wall, built of lime and stone, seated upon a rock, which is cut on the outside of the wall, in the nature of a ditch, and adds much to the strength of it. It is in circumference above a mile, and is fortified by ye waterside by a citadel and forte, and has twelve strong towers or castles, and foure gates to the land side, besides some slipes to the waterside. The towne, soe much as now remains thereof built, being about 150 stone houses, slated, and about as many thatched ones, lyes on the syde of a steepe hill or rock, selving downe to the river, which river lyes on the west syde of it, and is navigable for shippes of grate burden; 100 shippes may anchor with safety before the towne, and be alwise affloote; and 300 may lye safe by the walls and keays thereof. There are two keays now in good repair, where a shipp of 500 tunns may (at ye grand one of them) ride afloat at low water and discharge her loading securely. Rosse has pretty good trading for wine and fruits out of Spaine and France, and also for transporting of beefe, hydes, and tallow; but not above the one-halfe of the ground within the

¹ This legend affords a curious instance of the unreliable nature of local tradition. In the first volume of our "Annuary," at page 28, we have tolerably satisfactorily proved that the Lady Rose of Stanyhurst's legend about the walling of this town was a certain Rose Meyler, who flourished in the middle of the fourteenth century. Yet we see by the text that after two centuries had elapsed, the identity

of this munificent lady was so lost that she was thought to have been daughter of a mythic King of Denmark! The Gaelic name of this town is Ross-Mac-Truim, i. e. the wood of the son of Truim. The history of this ancient seaport town is sufficiently interesting to merit other notice than a mere annotation. At some future time we hope to return to the subject.

walls is built upon, and many even of those buildings ruined. There is a faire parish church¹ (one of the largest parish churches of Ireland) upon the very toppe of the said hill, or rock, within the walls of the towne. It is called Our Lady's Church, and joynes to a large high steeple crowned with lead, as the body of the church was, untill that, in the yeare 1636, the said leads were consumed by accidentall fyre, and about 300 slated houses, besydes some thatched ones, burnt downe. There was also in the saide church a fayre payre of organs, and a ring of five good bells, untill that, in the late times of usurpation, in the yeare 1652, they were taken down and imbeasled by one Lieu^t Coll. Bechell. In this church stands an ancient monument of the aforesaid Lady Rose, who alsoe is saide to have been the founder of ye church; but ye inscription of ye tomb is so defaced that it cannot be read. There is at Rosse another church called S^t Michael's Church, which is now quite ruined. It was formerly made use of by the Jesuits. There were also in Rosse two monasteries or abyes, the one belonging to the Order of S^t Francis, called S^t Francis, the other that of S^t Augustine, called S^t Augustine; but both have rann the same fate ye other ye like did upon ye dissolution of abyes, and are now turned to dwelling houses. There was also neere Our Lady's Church aforesaid a house for nunns, and good gardings to it.

Rosse is a Corporacion, consisting of sufferaigne, capitall Burgess, Recorder, and Burgesses, a Bayliffe, a Reciever for the Corporacion revenews, a Bayliffe attendant, a Sergeant and Constables. The present charter of Rosse was obtained in Queen Elizabeth's time, by virtue whereof a courte is to be helde for trial of actions by way of arrest or otherwise, which are without limitacion; there is another courte held by the Bailiffs once a fortnight for triall of smaller actions of debt, and the freemen, by virtue of beeing free of Ross, are (as to payment of duties, &c.) free of the Chinque Ports in England, and also of Waterford and Kilkenny in Ireland. The inhabitants are, for the most parte, ancient natives of the towne and country about it, and so are the chife merchants there that trade beyond seas, but those that have the government of the corpora-

¹ The present church occupies the site of the nave of the ancient one, which was a very large and handsome edifice, with lancet windows, in the Early English style, considerably ornamented. Formerly there were numerous rich monuments, and some interesting relics remain, such as the fine tomb of the Hon. Piers Butler, son of the first Viscount Mountgarret, and titular Baron of Kayer (now Wilton Castle), erected in 1601 by his wife, Margaret Devereux. The supposed tomb of "Rose MacCrane" is unusually beau-

tiful. It is to be regretted that the inscription was illegible when Leigh wrote, since it would, doubtless, have thrown light on the history of this curious monument, which, so far from being that of the Lady Rose of Ross, represents a man in the civil costume of the thirteenth century. Beside this effigy there is a headless one, apparently of a chieftain, in the ancient Irish shirt, and not improbably sacred to the celebrated hero, Art Kavanagh, the Mac Murrough, who died of poison in this town.

con and all publique employments there are English of a late standing. There is at present a Lord Vis^{ct} Rosse (he was formerly Sir Richard Parsons), but the towne, for the most part, belongs to Arthur Annesley, Earle of Anglesey,¹ unto whom it was sett oute pursuant to the late acts of settlement of Ireland.

RIVER OF ROSSE AND WATERFORD.—The towne of Rosse, and that part of the county of Wexforde that lyes round about it, called the barony of Bantry, and the parte that lyes southwards thereof, containing the barony of Shilburne, is devided from the county of Kilkenny in Leinster, and county Waterford in Munster, by the river of Rosse and Waterford. A little above Rosse, and neere a place called Mount-garret, at a small distance of one another, meete the rivers of Barrow and Nore, and takes the name of the river of Rosse, and about six miles below Rosse the river of Sure, or Waterford river, meets them againe, and soe in one large channel of about a legue over, discharge their waters into the sea between a place called Croydon Head, in the county of Waterford, and the parish of Hooke, in the county of Wexford, under the name of the river of Waterford. This river (about Rosse) affords abundance of salmon, which is barrellled up yearly and sent into Spaine; and, lower downwards, towards the mouth of the River are taken Codds, Gurnetts, Whitings, and other sea fish; and in the same River, over against the forte of Duncannon, are dredged a very good kind of oysters, alsoe Lobsters, Crabbs, Prawnes, and Shrimps, are found along that Cost to the Tower of Hooke, which lyes on the maine sea.

BARONY OF BANTRY.—That parte of the Barony of Bantry that lyes next Rosse, as well as the rest of it, is but course barren land, high and dry, overgrown, naturally, with furrs, and is hard rocky ground next the Towne, yet yeilds wheate in most places, and affords alsoe some good pasture and meddow, and very rich mersses by the River side, alsoe some pleasant seates. About a mile from Rosse, to the northward, stands a small ould Castle upon a high ground or hill, called Mount-garret, from whence the Lorde Vis^{ct} Mount-garret takes his title, and to whom it did formerly belong, but was since sett out pursuant to the Acts of Settlement unto Captain W^m Ivory, of Rosse; and about three miles eastward of New Rosse, on the land's side, stands a large ould Castle, which is quite out of repayre, called ould Rosse,² where there is alsoe an ould ruined Church, and about 50 Cabbins or tatched Houses, and

¹ Arthur Annesley, Earl of Anglesey, was a republican until the dawn of the Restoration, when, by a rapid turn, he secured his newly-gotten estates, and obtained, as a Commissioner of forfeitures, a position which enabled him to acquire many more.

² Old Ross.—An inquisition *temp.* Edw. I. gives the names of many English tenants of this manor, and mentions the oak wood there, whence it derived its name. From the abundance of oak timber, it was proposed to build ships at Ross for Elizabeth.

has belonging to it about 1200 acres of land. This place did formerly belong to the family of the Colcloughs, of Tinterne, in that countye, enjoyed now by Alderman Abel Ram, of Dublin. Ould Rosse is supposed to have beene built by the afforementioned Lady Rosse, before she laide the foundation of New Rosse. The Country about New Rose is good for hunting and hawking,¹ there being good riding and plenty of game, especially hare, Phaisante, Grouse, and Partridge, and too many Foxes. The aire is excellent, good, clear, and sharpe, and begets a good stomach.

BARRONY OF SHILBURNE.²—The Barrony of Shilburne lyes towards the south sea along upon ye affore^{sd} River of Rosse and Waterford, and is divided into quarters or peeces (as they are termed in that countrye), and is the same thing with hundreds in England, viz., the Peece of Dunbrody, and the Peece of the Hooke, the Peece of Sleuculter, and the peece of Tinterne.

SLEU CULTER PEECE.—The Peece of Sleu Culter lies southward of ye afforesaid Barrony of Bantry, joyning thereunto, and is indiferent good land for the Countye of Wexforde, yealdes Wheate, Barley, Pease, and Oates, and is a deep soyle, but very could. It belongs to severall proprietiers of a new acquisition, except the Lordship of Terraregh, which belongs to Mathew Forde of [. . .] in the same County, Esq. There is a parish church now in repayre called White Church, and there is another alsoe in this Peece called Carnagh, that is ruinated. Sleu Colter, from whence ye peece takes its name, is a large hill very good for grasing, and lying not far from the River of Rosse afforesaide.

TINTERNE PEECE.—The Peece of Tinterne lyes Southward of Sleu Culter, and Eastward of the Peece of Dunbrody; its indiferent good land, and a large scope, and yealds Wheate, Barley, Pease, and Oates, but is a shallow ground; it has 8 or 9 Castles, and severall farm Houses. It belonged (except some few small parcells) before the dissolucōn of Monastries, to the Abbey of Tintern³,

¹ Hawking was anciently a favourite recreation in Ireland, especially at the period when the penal laws forbade the use of fire-arms to the Roman Catholics.

² The barony of Shelburne derives its name from having belonged, in pre-historic times, to the *Siol-Brannach*, i. e. Seed, or Race of Britons, a colony, apparently, from the adjacent coast of Wales. Of all the baronies in the shire, it is the richest in the ruins of abbeys, castles, towns, and historical reminiscences; comprising the monasteries of Dunbrody and Tintern, two preceptories of religious Knights, the ancient town of New Ross, the extinct boroughs of Clonmines, Bannow, and Fethard, and the important fort of Duncannon. The historic interest of

this district begins from the dark and uncertain age when some Scandinavian sea-reaver erected a rude tower on the furthest point of Hook promontory, and grows fuller and warmer from the day when Fitz-Stephen planted his mailed foot on the sward of Bannow to the period of the contest for the kingdom between William of Orange and James Stuart.

³ Tintern Abbey, otherwise called De Voto, i. e. of the Vow, was founded in consequence of a vow made by the Earl of Pembroke to found an abbey wherever his bark, endangered by a storm, on the passage from England to his Irish possessions, should find shelter, and this foundation was named from the parent house in South Wales.

which was enjoyed by Munks of ye order of St. Bernard, and is now the inheritance of Sir Cæsar Colclough, of Tinterne, Barronett.

N.B. Clonmines Town, in ye peece of ye Hooke, to bee placed there, vide this marke *.

Clonmines¹ is a very ancient Corporacōn, but now quite ruinated, there remaining onely 4 or 5 ruined Castles, and an old ruined Church called St. Nicholas, and a Monastery, alsoe ruined, which did formerly belong to the order of Augustine, and is called St. Augustins. Yet it sends two Burgesses to Parliament still, and was governed by a Portriffe and Burgesses; but the Charter and Contents thereof is worn out of memory long since. Clonmines lyes upon a River composed of the Rivers of Rosse-Garland and the Blackwater (called in Irish, Ownduff), which meete together at a place called Balli-lannan, about a quarter of a mile to the north-east of Clonmines, and soe goe together into the maine Sea, by the name of the River of Banno, within a league or less of Clonmines afforesaid, at a narrow passage between the Banno Island in the Barrony of Bargye, and the lands of Fetherd, in the Baronye of Shilburne. It is confidently reported that this Clonmines was a place of great Trade in times passed, and a harbour for shipping of indiferent bulck untill that the sand filled up the ancient passage neere the towne of Banno, (another ancient Corporacōn lying in the affores^d Barrony of Bargye, on the other side of the affores^d island of Banno), which was the destruction of both those townes, so that now there is onely a narrow passage as afore^{sd} for Boates on the Weast side of the Island, between it and the lands of Fetherd; for on the Easte side towards the Towne of Banno, where ye ancient passage was, and ships used to come in, it is now a perfect dry strand, and may be walked over from the Island to the Towne. Its believed that Clonmines (called in Irish Clonemeene), took its name from the silver or royall mines² formerly dug there; and on the other side the River, over against it in the Barony of Bargye, there are still to be seen 5 or 6 deepe pitts or mines, and some of the oare that was cast up, which seemes to contain more lead than silver. There lived in those partes within a few yeares, a very old man, that said he remembered to have seen miners at worke there, but that the River water (neere the banks of which those mines are) came in upon the workmen so fast, when they were deepe in ground, as that they were forced to quitt the undertaking for good and all. The towne land of Clonmines is now for the most parte the inheritance of the Earle of Anglesey. The River there aboutes yeilds good fish, as Base, Mullet, and

¹ This mention of five ruined towers, and two ecclesiastic buildings, accounts for the popular name of the "Seven Castles of Clonmines," which are not now all to be seen.

² The "mines" did not give the name to

Clonmines (or Cluainmain, i. e., "Ecclesiastic Retreat on the Plain") being situated at Barrystown. The State Papers of the middle of the sixteenth century contain some curious particulars as to the working of these mines.

abundance of Flukes, and (from Michaelmas tide till after Christmas¹), Salmon in very good season, and so doth the River of Ross Garland, and the Black water that falls into it as aforesaid, whereas few other Rivers in Ireland affords any Salmon at that time of the yeare.

TINTERNE HOUSE.—Tinterne Castle, being the aforesaid Sir Cæsar Colclough's dwelling-house, lyes south-west of Clonmines, at two miles distance, and is seated upon a rising ground or rock, but sheltered on all sides, at some small distance, by higher grounds, and several groves of Oake and Ash Trees. Under the house, at a pistoll's shot distance, in a vally running through a small grove of ash trees, and pleasant cleere River, or streame, whereon stands a Corne Mill, and runs along the vally to a place called the Salt Mills, where it falls into the River of Banno a^{sd}. On the West Bancke of the w^{ch} River of Banno (on Tintern side), there is an oyster bedd, belonging to the s^d Sir Cæsar Colclough, w^{ch} is extraordinary large, and accounted the best oister in that County (if not in all Ireland). They were brought thither about 70 years ago,² in a bark from Milford-Haven, by order of Sir Thomas Colclough, of Tinterne, and sunk there, where the soyle proved soe naturall to them, that they grewe much bigger and better tasted than those now had at Milford-Haven. Tinterne³ was a large Abbye of St. Bernard's order, which had about 1200£ a yeare in lands and Tyths belonging to it. It is saide to have beene founded soone after the English were masters of those parts, under Strongbow Earl of Chepstowe, and that it took its name from an Abby in Wales, called also Tintern, which abby I have seen described in some mapps of England, and soe the rather believe this may be true. There is at Tinterne a large Church, that belonged to the Abby, called St. Bernard, and another which is nowe the parish Church,⁴ wherein stands a large marble monument, or tombe, of Sir Anthony Colclough, Knight, the first of that family that settled in Ireland in the reigne of King Henry 8th, whose guards (called the gentlemen pensioners) he commanded, and who gave him for his greate services the aforesaid Abby of Tinterne, with its possessions. As to his Parentage and esteem at that time, as well as his Issue, I refer you to the Inscription on ye aforesaid toombe, which is hereunto annexed:—

On a loose paper
and lost.

¹ It would be interesting to ascertain if these streams still bear the same character. Perhaps some Wexford member of the Society may be able to help us as to this point. The close season varies so much in different rivers that the present law, which enforces a common close season for all, is defective.

² Nothing is more interesting than such notes as the above. We are unaware whe-

ther or not this oyster-bed still affords such excellent "natives" as it produced in Leigh's time.

³ Tintern Abbey is worthy of a separate notice in our pages, since its history can be developed by many original documents.

⁴ This building is now unroofed, but the walls are perfect. The modern parish church has been built at Salt Mills.

[The inscription is here supplied from the monument which still exists in the ruined parish church of Tintern :—

IN . OBITVM . EGREGII . VIRI . ANTHONII . COLCLOVGH . MILITIS
 PRISTINA . SVBLIMI . PROAVORVM . STEMMATE . DVCTA
 ET . SEREES . MAGNIS . ORTA . AB . IMAGINIBVS
 ATQVE . SVPERBA . MANVS . VARIIS . ORNATA . TROPHEIS
 HÆC . SORTIS . FRAGILI . SOLA . PARANTVR . OPE
 AST . SINCERVS . AMOR . PATRLE . VOX . CONSONA . VVLGI
 ET . VERVS . VERO . CANDOR . HONORE . NITENS
 NESCIA . VEL . DVRS . FLECTI . CONSTANTIA . REBVS
 NON . ALIENA . SED . HÆC . NOSTRA . VOCARE . LICET
 VTRVM . PLVRA . DARET . SORS . ET . NATVRA . VICISSIM
 CERTAVNT . VNO . HÆC . CVNCTA . VIATOR . HABES

HEER . LIETH . THE . BODY . OF . SYR . ANTHONY . COLCLOVGHE . KNIGHT .
 ELDEST . SVNE . OF | RICHARD . COLCLOVGHE . OF . WOLSTANTON . IN . STAFORD .
 SHIRE . ESQVIER . WHO . CAME | FIRST . INTO . THIS . LAND . THE . 34 . YEER .
 OF . HENRY . THE . 8 . AND . THEN . WAS . CAPTAYN | OF . THE . PENSIONERS .
 IN . WHICH . PLACE . AND . OTHERS . OF . GREATER . CHARG . HE . CONTINVED |
 A . MOST . FAYTHEVL . SERVITER . DVRING . THE . LIFE . OF . EDWARD . THE . VI .
 AND . QVEEN . MARY | AND . VNTIL . THE . XXVI . YER . OF . OVR . MOST . NOBLE .
 QVEN . ELIZABETH . AND . THEN . DIED . THE . IX . OF . DECEMBER | 1584 . HE .
 LEFT . BY . HIS . WIFE . CLARE . AGARE . DOWGHTER . OF . THOMAS . AGARE .
 ESQVIER . 7 . SONNS | FRAVNCS . RATLIFE . ANTHONY . SYR . THOMAS . COL-
 CLOUGH . KNIGHT . IHON . MATHEW . LENARD . AND . 5 | DOGHTERS . IAQNET .
 WAS . MARIED . TO . NICHLAS . WALSH . ESQVIER . OF . THE . PRIVIE . COVN-
 SAYLE . AND | ON . OF . THE . IVTISE . OF . THE . KINGS . BENCH . IN . IRLAND .
 FRAVNC . MARIED . TO . WILLIAM . SMETHIWIKE | OF . SMETHWICK . IN .
 CHESHIER . MARI . MARIED . TO . IHON . COTS . OF . WODCOTE . IN . SHROPSHIER |
 ESQVIER . CLARE . MARIED . TO . WILLIAM . SNEAD . OF . BRODWAL . IN . STAFERD |
 SHIER | ESQVIER . ELINOR . DIED . IVNGE .

The inscription is given verbatim et literatim, except that "Shrorshier" —an evident mistake of the sculptor—is corrected to "Shropshier." It will be remarked, that Sir Anthony Colclough's son is termed "fravnccs," and his daughter "fravnc," the reverse of the present usage. The lines of the original inscription are indicated in the letter-press by a vertical stroke.—Ed.]

Sir Cæsar Colclough, Bart., who is the present possessor of Tinterne, is great grandson to the aforesaid Sir Anthony Colclough.

DUNBRODY PEECE.—The Peece of Dunbrody lyes westward of Tinterne, along the River of Waterford and Rosse, and is counted ye best land both for grazing and plowing in that side of ye county of Wexford. It yealdes wheate, Barly, Pease, Beanes, and Oates, and is a deepe, myrye, darke soyle.

ABBY.—There is at the place called Dunbrody,¹ on the aforesaid River, a large Abby, or ruinated Monastery, that belongs to

¹ Dunbrody Abbey also demands fuller notice than could be given in a note.

the order of St. Bernard; ye walls whereof are still standing. It is a pleasant seate, and has on the east side a shrubby kind of wood, which formerly was good timber, and is now an ornament only. This place has greate convieniancy of fishing and fowling, and has severall weares for taking of Sammon. Belonging to it, a little distance from these old ruins, stands a good large house of lime and stone, built before the Rebellion of Ireland by John Ichingham,¹ Esq., but was not finished, and stands ever since waste in a manner, Over against the Abby, to the westward, lyes, in the River of Rosse, the Island belonging to my Lord Duke of Ormond, called the Greate Island², containing about 700 ac. of land, and a little below it ye Rivers of Rosse and Waterforde joyne, and beare ye name of that of Waterforde, till it looses itself in the sea neare the Tower of Hooke.

BALLIHACK.—About 2 miles from Dunbrody, to the seaward, upon the River of Waterforde, there is a creeke and an old key at the bottom of a steepe Rocke, called Ballihak³; it is a sad place to looke upon, and has not about halfe a dozen Houses, and an old pile of a castle, besides a fue Cabbins; but it is a place much frequented by passengers that ferry over there into Munster, to a place on that side called Passage, as alsoe by seamen and the like, for ships often lye thereabouts in the River. There are two considerable fairs kept at Ballihak (for black cattle and hoggs), in the yeare, the one at Michaelmas, ye other upon St. James' day in summer; and out of the Rock that hangs above the village and key, is wrought a number of very good millstones, which with noe small skill or less danger are rowled downe a very high precipice to the aforesaid key, and soe carried by water as occasion requires.

DUNCANNON FORT.—About a mile from Ballihak to ye south-east, neerer the mouth of the aforesaid River of Waterford, lyes the forte of Duncannon⁴, accounted of considerable strength, and well mann'd and furnished with a sufficient number of greate gunns and other Armour, and commands ye mouth of the River of Waterford, soe that noe shipp can goe in or out, but shall be called to account

¹ Sir Osborne Ichingham, a Norfolk knight, Marshal of the Army in Ireland, received a grant of Dunbrody Abbey, and its extensive lands, from Henry VIII. His descendant and heires was married in 1660, at the age of thirteen, to Arthur Chichester, Earl of Donegal.

² Great Island contains a large rath, and the remains of two castles. One of its early names was Herny's Island, from Herny, the Briton, a merchant, who owned it in the thirteenth century. As an insulated position, it was selected for the site of a lazar-house, or leper's hospital, in an age when leprosy was frequent.

³ Ballyhack Castle was a Preceptory of Knights of St. John, of which there are particulars in Archdall's "Monasticon."

⁴ Duncannon Fort was commenced about the year 1588, to guard Waterford Harbour against attempts from the Spaniards. Having been constructed under the superintendance of Sir Edward York, it was at first called "York's Bulwark." Sir John Ivory was, seemingly, son of Captain William Ivory, who obtained, under the Act of Settlement, a patent for several thousand acres of land in the county of Wexford. There is a monument to a member of the family in St. Mary's

by those in the forte. The forte itself belongs to ye King, who has settled about 300£ p. ann. land of Inheritance, for maintaining ye same in repaire, and deffraying other charges there; but none of those lands lye neere ye Forte; all the land thereabouts to the very wall, belonging to the Earle of Dunnegall. The aforesaid peece of Dunbrody did formerly belong to the aforesaid Abby of Dunbrody till it was dissolved, as ye rest were; it belongs now to the said present Earle of Dunnegall, in right of the Countess, his mother, who was daughter and heire to Ichingham of Dunbrody afs^d.

The present Governour of the Forte of Duncannon is his Grace ye Lord Duke of Ormonde; his deputy is Sir John Ivory, knight, who commandes a company of Foote lying there; alsoe Sir John bought both commands from Col^l. Edward Rosscarrock, a loyall ancient seuervitour to the Crowne.

HOOK PEECE.—The Peece of the Hooke lyes nexte the sea. The Parish of Hooke is a narrow tract of land, jetting southward into ye sea, surrounded with greate shelves and Rocks; upon the uttermost point whereof stands a high tower, called the tower of Hooke, which is made use of now as a light-house to direct shippes into ye River of Waterford and Rosse afs^d. The soyle within this parish of Hooke is good lime and stone ground, tho' out of it no limestone is to be found in 8 or 10 miles going; it yeilds good wheate and excelent white pease and good pasture, and is naturally inclined to yield furs, but noe trees of any kind will grow there, except preserved with greate cost and art, by reason of ye sea winds and bleake situation. The Parish belongs at present to Henry Loftus, Esq^r., who has repaired ye old Mancōn House there, lying on the east shore of ye River of Waterford aforesaid, and added other considerable buildings of lime and stone thereunto, and inclosed his gardens with high stone walls, to preserve some fruit trees newly planted there, and dwells in that house now. It was formerly called Redmond's Hall¹, from ye old proprietor; it is now called Loftus Hall. Mr. Loftus is now building a key for fishing boats,

Abbey, Ross. Lord Lieutenant Clarendon mentions, in a letter dated 12th Sept. 1686, that, on the day previous, he "went down the river, a very noble one, not inferior to the Thames, to Duncannon Fort, and, having taken a view of it, and looked upon the Blockhouse at Passage, dined with Sir John Ivory." This fort is famous in our warlike annals, not only for having been constructed about the time when the Armada was expected to invade our shores, for the purpose of guarding the ports of Ross and Waterford, of which it is the key; and its having been defended by Lord Esmonde, on the part of the Parliament, against the Confederate Catholics of the

county; and against General Ireton, by the gallant Colonel Wogan, who had saved the life of King Charles at the battle of Worcester. The place is also memorable as the point of departure of James II. from a realm he was unable to defend; as also of his son-in-law, William III., for England, in September, 1690, after an adverse wind had for some days compelled him to keep his Court here.

¹ Redmond is the Irish form of the Scandinavian name Reymond. This family is called Fitz-Remound in early records, and may have descended from a Scandinavian, or Ostman, by whom, anterior to the English

and on the east side of ye saide tract of land or pen-insula, neere a place called ye Slade.

THE LOFTUS'S.—Mr. Henry Loftus is second sonn to Mr. Nicholas Loftus, of Fetherd, in ye Countye of Wexford, which Nicholas was brother to Sir Arthur, or Sir Adam Loftus, of Rafarnam, in ye county of Dublin. He married the eldest daughter of Coll. — Gorge, of — in the North of Ireland, Brother to Dr. Gorge,¹ of Dublin. The rest of ye peece of ye Hooke, belonging (for the most parte) to Sir Nicholas Loftus, of Fetherd, knight, eldest sonn to ye aforesaid Nicholas Loftus, lyes joining to the Parrish of Hooke, and northward of it, and is good land for the plow, black cattle, and sheepe: the soyle is deepe, and there is good pastorage for ye aforesaid kind (some in one place and some in another), and affords meddow land in some places also, but it is generally very free to produce furrs if seven yeares untilled, and yeilds no trees but with difficultie, by reason of the sea winds, and is very bad ryding in winter. It yealdes wheate, barlye, pease, oates, and beanes.

FETHERD PEECE.—Fetherd Towne, in the said peece of Hooke, is a small stragling towne, containing two or three small castles, and alsoe a stone House, and a brick House, built by Mr. Nicholas Loftus aforesaid, father to Sir Nicholas Loftus, alsoe a large Parish Church called St. Idanus, which is now unroofed, and about 30 or 40 cabbins or tatched houses. It has beene an ancient Corporacōn, and one of the seates of the Bishop of Fearnese. The Corporacōn consists of Portriffe and Burgesses, and is now the inheritance of Sir Nicholas Loftus aforesaid, who dwells in ye aforesaid stone house or castle,² that was the Bishopp's seate formerly. It sends two Burgesses to Parliament. As for their Charter, I suppose it is lost, or consumed with age long since, and a new one is not requisitt. This Corporacon had antiently severall petty freeholders,

invasion, the tower of Hook was probably built. Among the depositions concerning the rebellion of 1641–2, preserved in Trinity College Library, there are curious papers respecting the assault and defence of Redmond's Hall.

¹ A son of this Dr. Gorges was, it would seem, the second husband of Lady Beresford, widow of Sir Marcus Beresford, the heroine of the well-known traditional story of "Lord Tyrone's Ghost," a version of which has recently been published in the "Ulster Journal of Archæology." The Loftus family having acquired large property in Shelburne, the government created the three boroughs of Bannow, Clonmines, and Fethard, to enable this family to return six members to Parliament.

² The circular portion of Fethard Castle is curious and ancient, and the hall attached to it is no less so. Fethard House was the episcopal seat, until Bishop Ram exchanged the manor here for lands in the north of the shire. Sutton, of Clonard, ancestor of les *Comtes de Clonard*, in France, had a property and large house in Fethard town. This name derives from Fiodh-ard, the wooded height. The notion is plausible, that Battlestown obtained its name from a battle having been fought there by the invaders, just as Battle Abbey is named from the action near Hastings, in which England was lost and won. But it is more likely that the place was named from a family called De la Battaille, whose name occurs in mediæval Wexford records.

whereof there is not at present above one or two that enjoy their freeholds. There is a convenient creek for fishermen at Fetherd, but no key; yet they make good use of it, and take good sea-fish thereabouts.

BAGG AND BUNN.—Within 2 miles of Fetherd, or less, is the place called Bagg and Bunn,¹ where (as ye common saying in that county is) “Ireland was jee lost, and Ireland was jee won;” that is to say, where the Irish, under their Monarch O’Conor lost it, and where Strongbow, Earl of Shepstown, won it for the English, assisted by M^cMoragh, King of Leinster. Ye place where he landed is a very small Creek, between two cliffs, lying open to the sea on ye east, and was called Bagg and Bunn (as the story there goes) by reason the two shippes in which the English landed were called, the one, *Bagg*, and the other, *Bunn*, and which they presently after sett on fire; soone after landing (within a musket shot of the place) they cast up a strong sconce or ditch across that next [*sic*] of land where they came ashore, which ditch is still to be seene there.² When they came as farr as Fetherd, into ye land, they mett a partye of the natives, that were in the nature of a fore-lorne hope (or the like) to ye Army that came to resist the Invacon, and there skirmishing with the Irish, were put to greate stress, but fought it out with greate courage, and made their way thro’, for which reason (it is said) that place was called Fighthard, now corruptly called Fetherd.

BATTLESTOWN.—There is another place about a mile and a halfe from Fetherd, called Battlestowne, where it is s^d ye English fought ye first Battle, after their landing. There is now standing there an old tower and some cabbins onely.

If you will know ye Pedigree of the Loftuses, inquire of Mr. Saml. Mulleneux.³

Thomas Buttler, off Garryhuden, in the County of Catorlogh, Baronnet.

¹ “Bagg and Bunn” is probably a corruption of *Bec-na-abhan*, from *bec*, a common Scandinavian termination in local nomenclature, signifying a promontory, and *abhan*, a river, à quo the Bann, Banna, Bannow, &c. The erudite topographer by whom the “Annals of the Four Masters” have been admirably annotated, names this creek “*Cuan-an-bhainbh*, now Bannow.” A copy of the Book of Survey and Distribution, made in 1654 (preserved in the British Museum), of the baronies of Shelburne, Bantry, and Scarawalsh, mentions, in describing the boundaries of Fethard parish, a piece of high ground, commonly called Bagg and Bun,

Sir Nich. Loftus married first, one Mrs. Adderly, of — in Munster, by whom he has one sonne and one daughter alive. His present wife is sister to Sir

remarkable for the ruins of the fortifications of the first English conquerors of this nation. The tradition that Roderic O’Conor fought here is unwarranted by history.

² These earth-works are far older than Strongbow’s time, and must be assigned to earlier inhabitants.

³ Mr. Samuel Molyneux was son of Sir Daniel Molyneux, Ulster King of Arms, who, in 1618, made an heraldic visitation of Wexford, the only one extant of any Irish county. Mr. Molyneux possessed several MSS., elucidatory of genealogy and topography, some of which are preserved in the Library of Trinity College.

BARONY OF SHILMALEER.—The Barrony of Shilmaleer¹ lyes to the northeast of Shelburne, and is devided from it by ye River called ye black water, and runs towards Wexford on ye south of ye River Slany; it is much ye same kind of soyle with that of Shelburne, and yeilds ye same graine, viz., wheate, barly, and oates, but little pease or beanes; in some places it affords rye. Ye soile is generally shallow and dry, but there is good pasturage in many parts thereof, espetially neere ye River Slany, but not much med-ground. The aforesaid Barony also is devided into severall pieces, viz., ye Peece of Rose Garland, ye peece of Taghmun, ye peece of Coustuffe,² ye peece of Carrick;³ Sinnot's land, and Roche's land. Of ye foure last (whereof Sinot's land and Roche's land lye beyond the River Slany), I can say butt little.

ROSE GARLAND PEECE.—The Peece of Rose Garland lyes on ye south part, butting upon the River of Clonmines, and is surrounded almost with two Rivers, which fall into the River of Clonmines at ye place called Ballilannan before named; ye one is ye blacke water before mentioned, and ye other is ye River of Rose Garland, otherwise called ye Pill⁴ of Rose Garland, which devides (for two or tree miles length) ye Barrony of Shilmaleer from that of Bargy, and is a deepe water in most places, but a narrow river, and has slimy bancks; it affords in summer store of salmon-peale, large trouts, eles, and fluckes, and towards ye mouth of it, very good base and mullett, and other kinds, and about Christmas, Salmon in good season. The tyde comes up ye same about a mile beyond Rose Garland⁵ House, which is three miles from ye mayne sea, and lyes

¹ The barony of Shelmaliar derives its name from *Sial-Malaor*, i. e., the Seed or Race of Malaor, which, being a Welsh name, aids the conjecture that the O'Byrnes of Glen-malaor were of British extraction. See our "Annuary," vol. i., as to the barony of Shelmaliar, and the country of Farrangevale, having belonged to the Roche family.

² The parish of Coulstuffe lies on the west side of the mountain of Forth. The principal townlands in this district belonged to Hore, of Pole Hore, and were held by junior branches [Printed Inquis.], of which, Philip Hore, Deputy Treasurer at War in the reign of Elizabeth, acquired the estate of Killaallaghan, county of Dublin, and a large property in the barony of Forth. His son, Philip, was President of the first Council of Confederate Catholics, held at Wexford in 1641.

³ I know not what district our author intended to comprehend as the "Peece of Carrick," but the name is suggestive of a remark that Carrick, or the rocky hill, on the south bank of the Slaney, overhanging the ferry, still bears a deep impress of the entrenchment

thrown up by the first Norman invader, Fitz-Stephen. Vulgarly, the little tower on the opposite side of the river is called "Fitz-Stephen's Castle." Yet it is obvious that this adventurous knight had no time to construct a lime and stone fortalice before his beleaguerment by the men of Wexford.

⁴ This was "the Pill," *par excellence*, noticed by Staniburst as the geographical division between the Strongbonians of "the English baronies" in the south east of this county, and the outer country, which had not been thoroughly colonized. See our "Annuary," vol. i. p. 26.

⁵ Rosscarlan, i. e., Carlan's Wood, appears to have been granted to Sir Maurice de Londres, son of one of the twelve Norman knights who subjugated South Wales, from whose family it passed, by an heiress, to De Lynnett, and by Ismay, heiress of Sir Thomas Lynnett, baron of Roscarlan, temp. Ric. II., to Simon, son of Sir Raymond Neville. The castle here was the *caput baroniae* of an extensive feudal tract of land termed a barony, and, probably, Sir Maurice de Londres was one of

neare the banck of ye saide River upon ye side of a rising ground, where there is alsoe an antient Castle, and about 30 acres of wood, all oake, fitter for ornament than any benefitt. Rose Garland, together with most parte of that peece, did antiently belong to David Nevill, commonly called Barron of Rose Garland, (for in those days, ye chief lord of this place, as well as others of the same kind in England and Ireland, were summoned to Parliament by the name of Barron). Ye said Nevill was executed in ye Reigne of Queen Elizabeth for treason, and those lands are now greate parte the inheritance of Robert Leigh, of Rose Garland, 2nd son to John Leigh, of Rathbride, in ye Countye of Kildare, Esq^r., who, for his loyaltie to his soveraigne, King Charles the 2nd, was banished into forraign countries by the usurped powers, and there died, leaving the said Robert (being the only child he had abroad with him) very young, and a participant (as well as many more) of his Prince's calamities, till upon his Majestie's happy Restoracōn, he returned into England, and in some yeares after into this Kingdom again, with markes of his Majestie's favour and sence of his services. Rose Garland took its name from ye Lady Rose before mentioned.

TAGHMUNN PEECE.—The Peece of Taghmunn¹ lyes Estward of the Peece of Rose Garland, and is much ye same kind of soyle, and yeilds the like graine; but here is Limestone in some places, whereas in the former there is none. Taghmunn had its name (as it is saide) from two godlie men, called ye one, *Tagh*, and ye

Strongbow's "barons of Leinster." His name, and that of Sir William de Loudon, occur as witnesses to the foundation charter of "Tintern Abbey." [Chartæ, p. 80.] In the twelfth year of Henry IV., John Nevill answered to the Exchequer for the "royal service" due from his barony of Roskarlane, military service having been proclaimed at Kilkenny. [Exchequer Records.] He held this fief by the service of two knights. [Carew MSS., 611, p. 14.] The estate of David Neville, "late Baron of Roscarlan," forfeited because he had taken part in Silken Thomas's revolt, was granted, 35 Hen. VIII., to John Isham, Seneschal of the Liberty of Wexford. Participation in that rebellion seems the cause of confiscation, since a memorandum in the State Papers, dated May, 1562, says:—"If Bathe, of Dollardston, be restored from attainder, then Eustace's, Keating's, (worth £19 15s. yearly), and Neville's (£15 13s. 4d. yearly) will be lost." Keating, Baron of Kilcoan, in Bargo, was attainted at the same time as Neville. In 1567, Arthur Keating was recommended by the Lord Deputy and Council, in a special letter to the Queen, stating that his patrimony, Kilcoan, of which

his father, Nicholas, was only tenant in tail, had been seised by Henry VIII. "for treason supposed to be done, whereof no record appears." David, Baron Neville's estate was first granted, 30 Hen. VIII., to William St. Lo, Seneschal of the county. For the Leigh pedigree, see the Introduction to this chorographic paper, p. 17, *supra*.

¹ Taghmon means the house of St. Munn. The tower of the castle stands. The castle was granted in custody, by Edw. VI. to William Hore, of Harperstown, who was a Protestant, and became knight of the shire in the first Parliament of Elizabeth. The old Castle of Harperston forms part of the present house. The pedigree of this family, as entered in the heraldic visitation of the county, now in Ulster's office, made in 1618, traces it to Stephen Hore, who lived in the beginning of the fourteenth century, and down through eleven generations, to the then possessor. But the crescent in the coat of arms in that entry shows, that the herald considered the family a junior branch of the Pole Hore line. Owing to being of the dominant religion, and to the possession of the borough of Taghmon, this family held its ancient estate, and even enlarged it.

other, *Munn*, who lived and died there long since (I suppose as *Ermitts*), for there are still two small Chappells that beare those names, and are saide to be built by them, tho' the common voge is that the first was a Bishop, and the other his clerke. This Tagh-munn is an ancient Corporacōn, and was governed by a burgomaster and Burgesses; it is now quite waste in a manner, there being there but a ruinous old castle, a small parish Church in repaire, and about a dozen cabbins, and ye ruins of the af^{sd}. Chappelles; yet still it sends two Burgesses to Parliament. The land about it is Lime-stone, and yeilds good corne and grasse. The said Corporacōn, and ye lands thereof for ye most parte, is ye inheritance of W^m. Hoare, of Harperstowne, Esq^r., of an ancient English family, whose chiefe seate is Harperstowne afores^d, which lyes within a mile of Taghmun, and is a handsome large Castle, where the s^d Mr Hoare now dwells.

INNISCHORTHY PEECE.—Inischorthye, an ancient Corporacōn,¹ lying on the River of Slany, where a large stone bridge is lately built, is governed by a sufferaigne and burges, and sendes 2 Burgesses to Parliament. There are now two considerable Ironworks belonging to this towne, which is the reason it is well inhabited.

Inquire further about this place. It belonged unto ——— Wallopp, ye Regicide, and was granted by the King unto ye Earles of Southampton and Shaftesbury, but is now enjoyed by the said Wallop's sonn (under their title, I suppose).

SCARAWALSH AND BALLAGHKEENE BARONYES.—The Baronyes of Scarawalsh and Ballaghkeene² lye northwards of ye aforesaid Barony of Shilmaleer, and are for ye most parte mountainous course land, except next the River Slany, and by ye sea side from Wexford to ye mears of the county of Wick-
 Inquire the particulars of these Barronys further. loe, which is very good land, both for plowing, and espetically for good pasture and meddow. This parte of the County of Wexford was extremely covered heretofore with woods,³ and afforded abundance of good timber for shipping and buildings of all kind, but are now almost

¹ Enniscorthy was not an ancient Corporation, like Wexford, Ross, or Bannow, being mediævally little more than the situation of a great Franciscan Friary, and owing its rise to Sir Henry Wallop, Treasurer at War to Queen Elizabeth in Ireland. An interesting letter is preserved in Collins' Peerage-book, addressed by the principal Anglo-Irish gentry of the country to this distinguished official, to encourage him to make further purchases in the neighbourhood from the Clan Kavanagh. The castle now standing, a massive square keep with round towers at the angles, was remodelled by him. His descendant, Robert

Wallop, was one of those who signed the warrant for the execution of Charles the First.

² Scarawalsh, Ballaghkeen, and Gorey baronies, were constituted baronies by James I., having hitherto not been under English law, but remaining waste land, as it were, occupied by the Irish.

³ Killoaghram, or rather *Coillaughrim*, Wood, is the present remains of this once extensive and valuable forest. £8000 was an immense sum in those days, representing, if multiplied by twelve, which may well be the multiple to show its equivalent in our day, no less than £96,000.

quite destroyed, towards which the afores¹ Ironworkes of Inischorthy have given noe small helpe, which now have almost consumed one wood onely (formerly belonging to Dudly Colclough, of Moy-nart, Esq^r) that, by Commiss^{rs} to that effect issued out, about ye yeare 1639, was valued at 8000£ sterling.

Inquire the further particulars.

BARGY AND FORTH BARONIES.—Partly south and partly east of the Barony of Shilmaleer af^{sd} lyes ye Barronys of Bargye and Forth, along upon ye maine sea, and is for ye most parte a deepe low soyle, very full of furr, as the rest of the County is.

Ye Banno took its name from Banour, being the first fortified place where the English erected their Banour after landing.

BANNO PEECE.—In the Barrony of Bargye, upon ye south west point or corner thereof, stands ye place called the towne of Banno,¹ being (as it is said) ye fierst Corporaçon that was built by the English soon after their landing at Bagg and Bunn, and was a considerable place of trade for many years, untill the sand filled up ye River mouth between ye towne and the Island of Banno before mentioned, and turned the current to the weast side of ye Island, where it discharges itselfe now into ye sea at a streight between the said Island and ye land of Fetherd formerly mentioned; alsoe, a dangerous place for any ship of burden to come in at. Ye towne of Banno is now quite ruined, there being nothing there but the ruins of an old Church and of severall stone Houses, and antient streets of some few Cabbins, yet it sends two Burges to serve in Parliament still; but ye Charter is long since worne out with time. It is said that the antient Charter of Bristoll in England mencōns this off Banno, in reference to further priviledges as being thereby granted the like priviledges as were enjoyed by the antient Corporacon of the Banno in Ireland. This towne is now of very little yearly value, and (being set out to soldiers pursuant to the Acts of Settlements) belongs for the most part to one Boyse, or his widdow.

BALLIMAGEER.—In this Barony lyes an antient House called Ballimageere,² the antient seate of the Devereuxs, descended of the

¹ Bannow.—The tradition quoted, that this town was the first corporation town that was built by the English in Ireland, is warranted by the fact that its charter is referred to in the first charter to New Ross. The brief history of this very ancient Anglo-Irish borough is of sufficient interest to merit more notice than a mere annotation here.

² Balmaguir, or Ballymacmaguir, the original seat of the Devereuxes, once the wealthiest, highest allied, and most leading family of the country. Their genealogy endeavours to prove a descent from Patrick, of Evereux, in Normandy, first Earl of Salisbury, who was slain in 1167. But it is more probable that

they derive from the barons of their name in Gloucestershire, of whom Stephen Devereux, anno 1223, being in the King's army against the Welsh, received scutage from his tenants in the counties of Gloucester and Hereford. Stephen Devereux, of Ballymacmaguir, living 1214, had a descendant, Sir Stephen, who is often mentioned in contemporary records, and is notable for having been the chief of the Wexford feudatories, by whom, in 1317, a charter for their county town was obtained from its lord, Aymer de Valence. Supposing land to have increased twelve-fold in value, the Balmaguir estate would now be worth £8400 a year.

house of Devereux, sometimes Earles of Essex in England. Mr. Devereux had an estate of about 700£ a yeare in ye county of Wexford, and another very good house at a place called Cullhoull, neere Ballimageere, but all being sett out pursuant to ye Acts of Settlement, belongs now to the Earl of Anglesey, and other persons. There is another antient house in the Barony of called Ballrancan, ye antient seat of the Browns¹, descended of ye Lord Montagu's family in Essex or Kent in England; he had an estate of 6 or 700£ a yeare in this county alsoe, but belongs now (for ye most part) to such as had it sett out to them pursuant to the Acts of Settlement.

BARONY OF FORTH.—The Barony of Forth afore^{sd} lies eastward of Bargy, and there it is that the antient towne of Wexforde, the Hill called Sleuforth, our Ladie's Island, and other places of note and antiquitie, worth ye taking notice of and inquiring after, lye.

WHAT MOST PROPER TO YE COUNTYE IN GENERALL, AND TO SOME OF YE BARRONIES IN PARTICULAR.—The Countye of Wexforde is generally baren course land, much over run with furs, which stands the inhabitants in good steade for shelter and brousing for their cattle, and firing within doores (espetically for brueing and baking). There has beene a greete many woods alsoe and good timber, espetically on both sides of ye River Slanye, for severall miles distance; the graine this countye affords most plenty of is wheate, barly, and oates; yet it yeilds in many places beare, pease, and beanes alsoe, particularrly in the Barronies of Forth and Bargye; in some parts it yields rye; but ye great support of ye poore sortes of people is thire Potatos,² which are much used all over the County. They have one very destructive way of manuring thire lands over the whole county, called Beltinmore,³ which is done by burning ye sodd in heapes after the first plowing, and then spreading them over the land; it brings the tenant some small profit for two or three yeares after, but for 12 or 15 yeares again (unless very well manured with dung or sand) neither yeildes tollerable corne or grasse.

Manure used.

In the Barronies of Shilburne, Shilmaleere, and Bargy, they use sea sand generally for thire manure, and it agrees well with a tough, hard soyle, as that is.

¹ The Brownes of Mullrankan are stated, in an old volume in Ulster's Office, to have descended from Sir William le Brun, who "landed in Ireland in the Earl Marshal's train," and, with his son, Sir Nicholas, witnessed the foundation charter of Dunbrody Abbey. Sir Nicholas Browne held this estate of the Earl Marshal of England in 1307. [Inquis. Tur. Lond.] Sir Walter B. of this place was Seneschal of the Palatinate Liberty of Wexford in 1521. ["Kilkenny Annuary," vol. i. p. 47.] Colonel William Browne was taken prisoner at

the battle of Dungan's Hill in 1647, when in command of a regiment of foot under the Confederate Catholics. He subsequently made his escape into France, and, "having served the crown of England faithfully under ensignes abroad, was ordered to be restored to his estate by the King's declaration," but was kept out of it by the policy of the possessors.

² *Potatoes.*—This is curious evidence of the general early use of this poverty-producing root.

³ *Beltinmore*, i. e., *Baal-tine-more*, or the Great Fire of Baal, or Bel.

Cattle. Thire Cattle is much the same as in other parts of Ireland, viz., Blacke Cattle, Sheep, and Hoggs, but in number of Goates they excede most other Counties in Leinster, by reason of ye greate store of furr and other brousing they have for them.

The Dioses. This County (or most parte of it) lyes in ye Dioses of Fearnese, which is now united to that of Laghlin, or Laghlin to it (for they have but one Bishope), and is but thinnly inhabited.

How inhabited. The Barronyes of Forth, Bargy, Shilmaleere, and Shilburne, and by the sea side, about Arcklow and Gory, are the places best and thickest Inhabited.

The Barronys of Shilmaleere, Shilburne, and Bantry are generally good, firme, plaine, high, and dry riding ground; an excelent houlsome air, and affords store of Partridges, Phay-sants,¹ Grouse, and Hare, and abundance of Cocks, in time of yeere, and many foxes at all times, of which sortes ye Baronies of Forth and Bargy affords a good many allsoe; and ye woodland parte of ye County had in it abundance of out laine Deare,² redd and fallow, but are now almost destroyed, as well as the woods.

The afores^d Baronies of Forth, Bargy, Shilmaleere, Shilburne, and Bantry, heretofore were distinguished from ye rest of ye Countye by the name of English Baronies, but now the 2 first only, viz., Forth and Bargy, retaine amongst ye common people ye old or Saxon language and Customs, for, they keep to thire old way of worship or Religion, marrye within themselves, bring home thire Cattle, and goe to sleepe all noone day, keepe thire land well fenced in small Inclosures, and stick to their old habitacōns or places of birth, tho' never so much imposed on by thire new landlords; but they could not in the Usurper's time keepe thire small freeholds, for all thire strict observance of ye old English Customes, and soe are now become Tenants to those who had the land confirmed to them by the Acts of Settlement. About 8 yeares agoe there landed in those parts a new sort of planters, out of Wales, a parcell of Magpies³ (forced I suppose by stormey weather), which now breed in severall places in ye Barony of Forth, and at a place called Baldinstowne, in the Barony of Bargy, and in the wood off Rose Garland, before menconed, in ye Barony of Shilmaleere.

¹ Pheasants were plentiful in Ireland in former times. Giraldus Cambrensis mentions them. The arms of the O'Mores were three pheasants, which probably abounded in the woods of the King's County.

² *Outlying deer*, that is to say, deer not kept

in parks, only remain on the Killarney hills.

³ *Magpies*.—Colonel Solomon Richards gives, in his curious account of the barony of Forth, some amusing remarks as to this bird, which, as Dean Swift notices, was at first peculiar to the south of Wexford.