

Anglia morabantur, excommunicacionis sentenciam promulcaret, unde idem Episcopus, tam mandati nostri quam indulgentie felicitis memorie Urbani pape predecessoris nostri, qua indulsit¹ prelati Hybernie hujusmodi maleficos excommunicacionis vinculo innodare, necnon constitutionis bone memorie Johannis tituli Sancti Stephani in monte Celio presbiteri Cardinalis tunc apostolice sedis Legati, qua tales excommunicari mandavit, auctoritate suffultus in detentores predictos excommunicacionis sentenciam racionabiliter promulgavit, quam apostolico peccit munimine roborari; Nos igitur ejusdem Episcopi laboribus et pressuris debito compacientes affectu fraternitati vestre per Apostolica scripta precipiendo mandamus quatinus ex parte nostra moneatis nobilem memoratum et alios ut possessiones ipsas et alia cum fructibus inde perceptis Ecclesie restituant antedictae; Quod si facere non curaverint infra terminum competentem,² quem sibi duxeritis assignandum, vos hujusmodi sentencias candelis accensis et pulsatis campanis sollempniter publicetis et faciatis usque ad satisfactionem condignam per censuram ecclesiasticam appellatione remota inviolabiliter observari. Datum Perusii, iij. Kal. Junii,³ Pontificatus nostri anno nonodecimo. Hujus igitur auctoritate mandati monemus vos ut possessiones ipsas et alia cum fructibus inde perceptis ecclesie restituatis antedictae, consulentes in domino nobilitati vestre ut jura illius ecclesie que mente cauteriata usurpatis, vel huc usque injuste detinuistis, restituatis, ut necessitatem preveniat meritoria oblatio; Scituri nos nec posse nec velle a plenissima executione mandati domini Pape desistere, et super hoc responsum vestrum litteratorie nobis significetis.

“Three narrow slips were partially cut from the bottom of the parchment; to two of these were affixed impressions of seals (doubtless of the two archbishops), now entirely lost; the third slip being intended apparently to tie up the little document when folded.”

The following papers were submitted to the meeting:—

AN ANCIENT RECORD RELATING TO THE FAMILIES INTO WHICH WERE MARRIED THE CO-HEIRESSSES OF THOMAS FITZ ANTHONY, SENESCHAL OF LEINSTER.

EDITED BY JOHN P. PRENDERGAST, ESQ., BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

THE writ and inquisition in the years 1278 and 1280, respectively, the 6th and 8th of the reign of Edward I., to be found at the end of this paper, concern three families of the earliest English settlers in Ireland, viz., Thomas Fitz Anthony; John Fitz Thomas, ancestor of the Earls of Desmond; and Jeffry de Prendergast, great-grandson of that Maurice who came with Strongbow's vanguard under Robert Fitz Stephen to the aid of Dermot M'Murragh against his revolted subjects.

¹ Here also the parchment is injured, but the remains of the letters suggest the word *indulsit*.

² *Sic* in orig.

³ May 30. Innocent III. was elected in January, 1198, and died July 16 or 17, 1216.

Of Thomas Fitz Anthony,—a man once of great power and mark in Ireland,—we shall probably never know much more than this record and one or two others can afford us, as he died in the reign of Henry III., and all the public records previous to King John's reign in England as well as Ireland have been lost. All, therefore, that we know of him is, that in the seventeenth year of King John's reign he was the King's Seneschal of Leinster (Charter Rolls, Tower of London, 17 John), with the custody of the county of Waterford, and all the king's castles and demesnes there, and half the prisage of wines in the city of Waterford. It was he who built Thomastown, in the county of Kilkenny, calling it after himself; but (strange to say) the Irish still preserve his father's name, and call it *Bally-mac-Andaun*, or Fitz Anthony's town. He died in the year 1229, without male heir, and thus the family name of Fitz Anthony perishes from the records.¹ This writ and inquisition, however, of a date fifty years after his death (the inquisition is dated A.D. 1280), supply us with the further knowledge that he was lord of Desies and Desmond, and had five daughters, co-heiresses, one of whom died without heir, so that their father's large inheritance was finally divided between the other four. One daughter married Gerald Roche; another, Jeffry of Norragh; another, Stephen Archdekne; and the other, whose name was Margery, married John Fitz Thomas. The Charter Rolls of King John give us a clue to the origin of this marriage. John Fitz Thomas's father, Thomas Fitz Maurice, died in or before the year 1215; and as he held *in capite* of the king, his heir became the king's ward. Thereupon his mother tendered King John one thousand marcs for his wardship and marriage, of which sum she paid five hundred marcs to the king in Normandy; but in the seventeenth year of the same reign the wardship and marriage of the same son and heir were granted (perhaps on his mother's death), for six hundred marcs, by King John to Thomas Fitz Anthony; and while he was in ward he was married to his guardian's daughter, Margaret.

The husbands of the three other daughters, as we learn from this inquisition, were against the king in the "Fight at Kildare," for which they forfeited their several shares, while John Fitz Thomas took the king's side. This "Fight at Kildare" is related in Roger of Wendover's Annals (long known under the name of Mathew Paris), and was of this kind.

In the year 1233, an insurrection of the nobility in England was caused by indignation at the large body of French nobles, his friends and companions, brought over by Henry III. from Poitou, to supplant the English in all the offices of the state. At the head of this

¹ "A View of the Legal Institutions, Hereditary Offices, and Feudal Baronies established in Ireland during the reign

of Henry II. By W. Lynch, Esq., F. S. A.:" London, 1830. Family of Desmond, p. 231.

insurrection was Richard, Earl Marshal, first of the nobility of England, and representative of Strongbow in Ireland, through the intermarriage of his father with his heir general. The Bishop of Winchester and his son, Peter de Rivaulx, false Poitevin counsellors of the king, seeing (writes Roger de Wendover) the countless numbers of the Poitevins slain by the Earl Marshal and the English nobles under his leading in Wales, got the king to write to Maurice Fitzgerald, the Justiciary of Ireland, Walter and Hugh de Lacy, Richard de Burgh, Geoffry de Marisco, and others, the Earl Marshal's sworn allies, to inform them that he had confiscated all his lands in England; and saying that if they would seize him, in case he should happen to go to Ireland, and bring him dead or alive to the king, all his castles and lands in Ireland should be theirs.

They immediately set about pillaging the Earl Marshal's lands; and when he came over to defend them, not knowing that they had been promised to Geoffry de Marisco and others, he was trepanned by Geoffry to a meeting with them at Kildare, under pretence of a treaty, where their band was greatly superior in number to his, and where his small forces were defeated, and he wounded, and carried prisoner to Kilkenny. This battle was fought on Saturday, the 1st of April, 1234; and on the 16th, his wounds being swollen and very painful, he obtained from Maurice Fitzgerald, the Justiciary, a physician, who, however, was sent to kill him, and not to cure. With a long, heated instrument he probed and laid open his wounds, and brought on such a fever from the agony he caused him, that on the next day he died, and was buried in the Abbey of Friars Minors at Kilkenny, where, while living, he had built himself a beautiful tomb. "He departed this life (says Roger of Wendover) on Palm Sunday, to receive from the Lord in heaven a palm for his reward."

The English nobility, however, getting the upper hand, the king saw reason to remove his Poitevin allies. The Bishop of Winchester and his son fled to sanctuary; and Gilbert, the Earl Marshal's brother and next heir, was restored to all his inheritance in England as well as in Ireland; and on Whit Sunday, in the same year, the king received his homage, and conferred on him the knight's belt, and delivered to him the wand of the marshal of his court, to be held with all the honours which had been paid to his ancestors.¹ In the "Fight at Kildare," therefore, we must suppose that John Fitz Thomas was on the Earl Marshal's side, and that his three brothers-in-law had joined with Geoffry de Marisco and the other Anglo-Irish lords, to destroy the Earl Marshal. It appears

¹ "Roger of Wendover's Flowers of History: being the History of England from the Descent of the Saxons to the Year 1235; formerly ascribed to Ma-

thew Paris. Translated by J. A. Giles, D. C. L." 2 vols., 12mo: Bohn, London, 1849. Vol. ii., p. 592. Published by the English Historical Society.

from this inquisition that John Fitz Thomas made pressing suit, even to two or three voyages over sea, to Prince Edward, on whom his father, King Henry III., had conferred the Lordship of Ireland, for the other three-fourths of Desies and Desmond, which had been forfeited by his three brothers-in-law. These he obtained by a grant in the year 1260, by which the Lord Edward granted him for his services Desies and Desmond, with the castle of Dungarvan, and the offices, rents, sheriffs &c., there, of which Thomas Fitz Anthony, father of his wife Margery, died seized by virtue of the grant of King John, to hold as fully as Thomas Fitz Anthony held them, excepting only the advowson of the church of Dungarvan, rendering yearly 500 marcs to the king : Provided that if war should be waged in Ireland, or should any well grounded cause of suspicion arise against the said John or his heirs, the castle should be given up to the king until the war was over, or the king's suspicion removed : Provided also, if the lands should descend to an heir female the king should hold the castle until an heir male succeeded, or the heir female should marry.¹

By this inquisition we find that he got from the Lord Edward separate charters of Desmond and Desies, and several letters patent, and hastened over to Ireland, to obtain from Stephen Longsword, then Justiciary of Ireland, writs to put him in seisin of his new estate ; but the Justiciary told him he should have no writs from him until he had consulted the Lord Edward's council, for he had plainly deceived the Lord Edward in obtaining it, probably at so low an annual rent as 500 marcs, though that was double what Thomas Fitz Anthony paid. John Fitz Thomas was not the man to stand this, even from the Justiciary ; so he answered him, as we learn from the inquisition, that it would not be long before he took possession for himself, which he accordingly did, summoning all the freeholders and other tenants before him, and exhibiting the Lord Edward's grants and letters of credence. After this he used always regularly to tender his rent at the appointed days to the Barons of the Exchequer, at Dublin, but they as regularly refused to receive it, or to recognise him as tenant, because he had not got possession under the regular writ, and, finally, Richard de la Rockell, a subsequent Justiciary, seized the territories on this ground into the king's hand.

In the twentieth year of his reign, however, King Edward I. restored to Thomas Fitz Maurice, John Fitz Thomas's grandson, and Margaret, daughter of Walter de Burgo, the king's cousin, his wife, the territories of Desies and Desmond, which had been seized into the king's hand because obtained when the king was under age.—("Calendar of Patent and Close Rolls of Chancery," p. 2, pl.

¹ "Lynch's View of the Legal Institutions, &c.," as above, p. 233.

17.) These he and his heirs continued to hold until forfeited by his descendant, Thomas, the great Earl of Desmond, in Queen Elizabeth's reign, when they were set out among companies of undertakers from Devonshire and Dorsetshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.

The territory of Desies, as understood in the grant to John Fitz Thomas, comprised probably the entire western half of the county of Waterford as far as the River Blackwater. Ardneshillagh, which gave rise to the proceedings in this inquisition was perhaps the lands now known as Ardsallagh, in the parish of Clashmore, on the left bank of the Blackwater in the county of Waterford, just opposite Youghal.

Jeffrey de Prendergast, who sued out this writ and inquisition, was great-grandson of Maurice de Prendergast, who for his services received from Strongbow the territory of Fernegenal in Wexford, a district lying opposite to the town of Wexford on the north, and separated from it only by the Slaney. It is mentioned by Giraldus, in his Topography of Ireland, as a place worthy of note as being free from rats, in consequence of their being cursed and banished by Bishop Ithar for their gnawing his books, since which time none were known there, and if any were carried there they died.¹ Maurice de Prendergast had come over with the vanguard of Strongbow under Fitz Stephen from Pembroke-shire, where he was settled at Haverfordwest, part of which town is still called Prendergast after him. He was probably of Flemish descent, as that part of South Wales was conquered by Flemings in the time of William the Conqueror; and the termination "Gast" is found in the names of Windogast, Salogast, Bodogast, the supposed Frankish founders of the Salic Law, and is retained to this day in Holland, where the name Brontegeest is perhaps the name of Prendergast in Dutch. "Gast" signifies lord, or owner. A branch of the family bearing similar Christian names was settled among the Flemish colonists in Pembroke-shire, and is named in the records from 1236 to 1400. It may seem strange, but to this day there are memorials of his character and actions, and those of his son Philip, which bring them bodily to view. Giraldus Cambrensis, not fond of praising, styles him *vir probus et strenuus*, which Stanihurst, in Holinshed, translates "a brave and worthy knight." Giraldus gives him his due share in the history of the campaign under M'Murrough; but he plays a subordinate part in his history compared with the eminence he has in the metrical account of the conquest of Ire-

¹ "De ratis per St. Ivorum a Fernigenan expulsis. Est in Lageniâ provincia quædam quæ Fernigenan dicitur quam a Gwesefordiâ solûm Slanensis aqua determinat. Uncle mures majores qui vulgariter Rati vocantur, per imprecationem Sancti Ivori Episcopi (cujus forte

libros corroserant) prorsus expulsi nec ibi postea nosci nec vivere possunt inventi. Topographia Hiberniæ Silvestro Giraldo autore. Anglica, Hibernica, Normannica a veteribus scripta, Gulielmi Camdeni Folio. Francefurt, A. D. 1602, c. 82."

land in the Romance language, taken down from the mouth of Morice Regan, Secretary to King Dermot M'Murrough. One would think some follower of his had been the author, so particular is the account of his actions. In the first battle, where M'Donehid [now Dunphy], King of Ossory, is defeated by M'Murrough through the aid of the English, the success is due to an ambuscade of forty English archers placed by Maurice de Prendergast under charge of Robert Smiche (or Smith), with orders to fall on the flanks of the men of Ossory when they should attack Maurice de Prendergast's small band, led on by him to tempt them. Turning round to his men, and giving the rein to his white charger, Blanchard, he leads them on to the charge to his war cry, "Saint David!"¹

The next feat is a march to Glindelath (Glendaloch), whence they brought a large prey to Fernes, M'Murrough's residence, without a stroke given or taken.² He leads another expedition against the King of Ossory at Achadur [Freshford], in the county of Kilkenny, forces his entrenchments, and after a three days' battle disperses the men of Ossory, when they fly to the neighbourhood of Nenagh, in the county of Tipperary.³

M'Murrough, being brought to great pride through these successes, attempts to oppose the return of Maurice de Prendergast and his soldiers to Pembrokehire, who wished to get back to visit their wives; and when they arrive at Wexford, they find that M'Murrough has forbid the shipmasters there to give them passage. He now resolves in revenge to offer his services to the King of Ossory. When M'Donehid heard it, he jumped for joy:—

"Des nouvelles etoit enjoué
Et de joie sautait à pieds."

De la novele esteit heistez
E de joie saili à pes.—P. 53.

Dermot M'Murrough soon found the effect of M'Donehid's new allies; and, on the other hand, the men of Ossory grew so attached to Maurice de Prendergast, that they wished to make him one of their chiefs; for such must have been the meaning of their desire to confer on him the title of Maurice of Ossory—an honour, however, that he refused. The language of the poem, with a very slight change, reads as follows in modern French:—

Mac Donehid jour et nuit
La terre de Dermot a destruit:—
Par Morice et sa meyné
Là terre du roi a donc gâté;
Là refusa le baron
De Morice Osseiriath le nom:
Car toujours l'appeloient ainsi
Les Irrois de ce pays.

"Mac Donehid jor et nuit
La tere Dermot destruit:
Par Morice e par sa meiné
Le tere al rei ad dunc gasté.
Illoc refut le barun
De Morice Osseiriath le nun:
Si l'apelouent tut dis
Les Yrrois de cel país.—P. 55.

¹ See this very interesting "Anglo-Norman Poem of the Conquest of Ireland by Henry II. From a Manuscript in the Archiepiscopal Library at Lambeth Palace. Edited by Francisque

Michel. With an Introductory Essay by Thomas Wright." 12mo: London, William Pickering, 1838, p. 36.

² Id., p. 44.

³ Id., p. 50.

Though he declined this name of "Maurice of Ossory," yet throughout the poem he is afterwards so called, affording as it did a ready way to distinguish him from the other Maurice (Fitzgerald), his fellow-warrior.

The men of Ossory are reluctant to part with their new allies, and waylay them on their departure; but through Maurice's skill, to whom his officers and men left the entire conduct in this difficulty, they escape their treacherous plot, and return to Wales.¹

Maurice de Prendergast returned to Ireland with Earl Richard, as Strongbow is always called throughout this poem; and on one occasion is sent to bring his friend, the King of Ossory, under safe conduct to Earl Richard's camp, to treat of peace. O'Brien of Munster, brother-in-law of M'Murrough, with his troops, formed part of Strongbow's force, and persuaded Strongbow to imprison the King of Ossory now they had him in their power. Maurice, however, calls upon his men to mount, unfurls his banner, and swears by his sword, in the face of Earl Richard and the whole camp, that there is no vassal so audacious, if he dare raise a hand against the King of Ossory to dishonour him, in jest or earnest, but he shall pay for it with his head. At length, with Earl Richard's consent, he leads him safe home.² On Maurice's return next day there is a murmuring against him in the camp for his rescuing their greatest enemy, whereupon he flings down his gauntlet, and challenges his accusers to meet him in the Earl's court, if they wish to maintain their impeachment.

When Dublin was besieged by O'Connor and his forces, and the English were reduced to treat with him, the two Commissioners sent by the English to his camp were Lawrence O'Tool, Archbishop of Dublin, and Maurice de Prendergast, whose character for strict faith was, no doubt, well known to all the Irish, through his conduct to the King of Ossory, and earned him this office.

His son Philip married Maude, daughter and sole heir of Robert de Quenç, Earl Richard's standard bearer and hereditary Constable of Leinster, who was killed in a battle with the O'Dempseys and the Irish of Offailey, a few months after his wedding.

Quand ce Robert estoit occis
Son corps ils ont bien enseveli.
Une seule fille Robert avoit,
Robert qui si gentil estoit,
Qui puis estoit donné à un baron
Philip de Prendergast avoit nom
Le fiz Moriz Ossriath,
Qui puis veut en OKençelath.

"Quant cil Robert esteit occis
Le cors unt ben ensevelis
Une fille pur vers aveit
Robert, qui tant gentils esteit,
Que pus iert doné à un barun
Phelip de Prendergast out nun,
Le fiz Moriz Ossriath
Ki pus vesquist OKençelath."³

During her minority Earl Richard gave the constableness and the custody of the standard and banner of Leinster to Raymond, to

¹ "Anglo-Norman Poem, &c.," pp. 63,
65.

² Id., p. 101.

³ Id., p. 134.

whom he had also given his sister in marriage at Wexford ; and on Maude de Quençi's marriage, Philip obtained it, and became constable of Leinster, and long held the office in her right.

In the description of Philip's personal peculiarities we have evidence of the rhymer's having lived at the same time with him, or very soon afterwards. He tells of his being surly before he got his breakfast, but after eating it there was no man under heaven more gay. Until he had got on his gown, which was evidently not put on till after breakfast, he was quickly angered : from that hour he was frank and kind, courteous and open-handed to all, and of all beloved. He was of high courage, and had a great following or vassalage.

The Romance language, slightly altered, runs into the following doggrel French, and may give some idea of the nature of this too little known, very ancient poem :—

Le Comte gentil de grand valeur
 Y mēna alors sa chere sœur :
 Sa sœur y a le Comte mēné ;
 Au gros Reymond il l'a donné,
 Et l' Enseigne et la bannère
 De tout le pays de Leynistere,
 Jusqu'à ce que l'enfant soit de l' age
 Que tenir peut son heritage ;
 La fille de Robert de Quençi
 Dont vous avez avant ouï.
 Mais puis la prit un vassal
 Philip un baron natural ;
 De Prendergast étoit nommé
 Un baron vassal distingué.
 Ce fut celui, sachez tous,
 Qui au matin fut mal gracieux }
 Apres manger franc et doux }
 Courtois et liberal à tous. }
 Jusqu'à sa cape avoit affublé,
 De colère étoit toujours enflé
 Quand au matin fut diné¹
 Sous ciel n'y avoit homme plus gai.
 Celui tint plus longuement
 Le conestable selon la gent ;
 Beaucoup il étoit estimé
 De touts gents étoit aimé :
 Assez étoit de fière courage
 Et de très grand vassalage.

“ Li Quens gentis de grant valor
 Iloec menad lores sa sorur.
 Sa sor i ad li quens mené ;
 Al gros Reymund l' ad dunc doné :
 E le seigne e la banere
 De trestut Leynistere,
 Desque l' enfant seit del age
 Que tenir peut son heritage ;
 La fille Robert de Quençi
 Dunt avez avant of.
 Mēs pus la prist un vassal
 Phelip un barun natural :
 De Prendergast esteit clamé
 Un barun vassal alosé.
 Co fut celui, sachez tuz
 K'al matin iert greins et nus
 Apres manger frans et duz
 Curteis, largis as trestuz ;
 Tant cum la cape avoit fublé
 Deire esteit tut dis enflé ;
 Quant al matin fust digné
 Sus cel n'ut home plus heité.
 Icil tint plus longement
 Le conestable solum la gent ;
 Mult estoit icil preisé
 De tute gens esteit amé.
 Asez esteit de fer corage
 E de mult grant vassalage.”²

In the distribution of lands to his followers, Strongbow gave Fernegenal, says the Norman rhymer, to Maurice de Prendergast ; but he takes notice that afterwards these lands got into the possession of Robert Fitz Godobert, “ he knows not how.” He also men-

¹ That “dinner” meant our breakfast, and “supper,” our dinner, in early times, is plain from the ancient French proverb:—“Lever à cinq, diner a neuf, Souper a cinq, coucher à neuf, Font

vivre a quatre vingt dix neuf.” To rise at five, to dine at nine, to sup at five, to go to bed at nine, make a man live to ninety-nine.

² *Id.*, p. 144, 5.

tions that Philip, at the time of his marriage, lived in O'Kinshelagh. This district was probably part of the parishes of Carnew and Crosspatrick, extending into the county of Wicklow, and other lands lying to the north of Ferns. In the inquisitions of James I., dividing the Irish part of the county of Wexford into baronies, the barony of Scarawalsh (of which Ferns may be called the centre), is said to include the Duffry, and to be bounded on the north by Kinshela's and M'Vado's Country. Now, the Duffry was held by the heirs of John Rochfort, who represented Philip de Prendergast through the female line, in 1411. And it further appears that Philip had the parish of Crosspatrick, lying still further north, contiguous to the parish of Carnew. By a deed between Gerald, son and heir of Philip de Prendergast, and the bishop and chapter of Ferns, made in the year 1227 (11th Henry III.), Gerald confirms the act of his father and mother, Maude, whereby they surrendered certain ploughlands claimed by the bishop as belonging to the see of Ferns, and amongst them one ploughland near the church of Crosspatrick, and gave six ploughlands for ever in exchange for the town of Enniscorthy, which the bishop and chapter conveyed to them as a lay fee.¹ Enniscorthy thus came into the possession of Philip

¹“Memorandum,—That the 4th of November, 1595, Sir Henry Wallop, Knight, desired the following indented deed to be enrolled, viz. [Translation]:—Be it known to all to whom this present writing shall come: That, whereas John, Bishop of Ferns, and his Chapter of Ferns, brought a suit against Philip de Prendergast and Matilda de Quency, his wife, and their tenants in freehold, for various lands in various places as belonging of right to his church of Ferns, the said Philip and Matilda, his wife, at length, in pursuance of decree of the Ecclesiastical Court, and compelled by the authority of the Apostolic See, resigned into the hands of the said Bishop, for peace' sake, for themselves and their heirs, and for their tenants in freehold, and their heirs, sixteen carucates of land at Senebothe and Killalethan; and twelve carucates of land at Clon, close to Ferns and Lishothe, according as the same were measured and perambulated by the assent of both parties; also one carucate of land near the church of Kilanegy as a sanctuary [*in sanctuarium*] of the said church; also, one carucate of land near the church of Crosspatrick as a sanctuary of the said church; and for themselves and their heirs have quit claimed the same to the said Bishop and his successors for ever;

while the Bishop and his Chapter of Ferns, in the name of the peace aforesaid, have quit claimed for ever for themselves and their successors whatsoever right they alleged they had in all the rest of the lands of the said Philip and Maud, his wife, and of their tenants in freehold, that is to say, in all the tenements they held from the said Philip and Maud and their heirs. Furthermore, in respect of the town of Enniscorthy [*Inscordy*], on the Saint Senanus' side, it was agreed between them as follows:—That the aforesaid Philip and Maud de Quency, his wife, have given to the aforesaid Bishop and his Chapter six carucates of land for ever in exchange for the aforesaid town of Enniscorthy, that is to say, five carucates of land in Ballyregan, and one carucate of land which Fitz Hernicus held near Clon, in consideration that the said Philip and Maud, his wife, and their heirs, shall hold the said town of Enniscorthy as a lay fee in future for ever to them and their heirs. And the said Bishop and his successors shall hold the six carucates of land aforesaid as a pure and perpetual sanctuary of his church of Ferns, quit of the aforesaid Philip and Maud, his wife, and their heirs. In witness and for security whereof this written instrument was

de Prendergast, who, it is believed, built or commenced the castle. Maurice de Rochfort, his representative, held it as late as the year 1324. Philip also had large grants of lands in the barony of Kerri-currihy, in the county of Cork, from King John. (Charter Rolls of King John, 8th November, 1207, p. 171 b.) By Maude de Quençi he had, with other issue, two sons, Gerald and William. Gerald had issue only two daughters, coheiresses, Mary and Matilda. Matilda married Maurice de Rochfort; and Mary, John Lord Cogan. On a partition the Wexford estates were taken by Maurice de Rochfort, and the Cork estates by John, Lord Cogan. William de Prendergast, Gerald's second son, was father of Jeffry, who sued out the inquisition, 6 Ed. I., for Ardneshillagh.

William seems to have carved out a fine fortune for himself, having obtained the manor of Newcastle, in the barony of Iffa and Offa, in the county of Tipperary, before the year 1244. These lands lie on the Suir, where it divides the counties of Tipperary and Waterford. The castle is at the foot of the pass through the Knockmoldown hills to Lismore, which it probably was meant to guard. Thence the family spread as far north along the Suir as Ardfinnan, near Cahir, and south along the Blackwater towards Youghal. And in these quarters they continued till the year 1653, when, under Cromwell, a new swarm from the old hive drove them and their English and Irish vassals to Connaught, Spain, and elsewhere. Their territory also extended along the Knockmoldown mountains westwards to Mitchelstown and Doneraile; but these lands appear to have passed to the White Knight about the year 1350. William de Prendergast, in the reign of King Henry III., must have got a grant of Ardneshillagh from John Fitz Thomas. On William's

made in the form of a chirograph between the said Bishop and his Chapter of Ferns, of the one part, and Gerald de Prendergast, son and heir of the said Philip and Maud, his wife, of the other part, approving and confirming the said compromise after the death of his said father and mother; one part of which [said instrument] remains in the hands of the said Bishop, sealed with the seal of the said Gerald de Prendergast; and the other part in the hands of the said Gerald de Prendergast, sealed with the seal of the said Bishop and his Chapter of Ferns. The said agreement was made in the 11th year of the reign of King Henry the Third, and confirmed by the said Gerald de Prendergast, in the 15th year of the same king; these being witnesses:—

“William de Prendergast; Milo de Cogan; Richard de Marisco; Ralph de

Sumery; Robert Wolf; Peter de Stanton; Richard de St. Leodogar; R., Archdeacon of Ferns; Master W. Forest, Official of Ferns at the time; Stephen, Rector of the church of Ballysuthenan; Henry Sutwell; William Lindsey; Nicholas le Ardenays; Master Lawrence, of Bikelswood; and many others.”—Patent Rolls of Chancery, 37th Elizabeth.

Clon, in the deed abovementioned, is evidently the parish of Clone, immediately to the south of the parish of Ferns. From the circumstance of Maud de Quençi being a party to the deed, it may be inferred that Philip de Prendergast was seized of these lands in her right.

Sir Henry Wallop got a grant of Enniscorthy from Queen Elizabeth, and hence his interest in enrolling this piece of ancient evidence.

death these lands passed to John, his eldest son and heir ; and on his death without issue, to Jeffry de Prendergast, as his brother and next heir. It is evident from this Inquisition that Thomas de la Rokell, the Justiciary of Ireland, treated John Fitz Thomas's grant of Ardnesillagh as void, on the ground, no doubt, that he had taken possession without a king's writ issued by the Justiciary, and could convey no estate to another on account of this illegality. But the king by the endorsement ordered him to be restored.

Among the Records in the custody of the Master of the Rolls of England, deposited in the Public Record Office, in London, to wit, Inquisitions 6 Edward I., No. 41., it is thus contained :—

“Edwardus Dei grā Rex Angl̄ Dñs Hiġn ꝛ Dux Aquit' dīco ꝛ fideli suo Robto de Ufford Justīc suo Hiġn Saltm. Ex pte Galfridi de Prendergaste nobis est ostensum qđ cum Johes de Prendergaste frat̄ suus cujus heres ip̄e est fuisse seisitus in dñico suo ut de feodo de quibusdam terris ꝛ teñ in Ardenesillach die quo obiit ꝛ idem Galfr̄s statim post mortem ipius Johis fr̄is sui tr̄as ꝛ teneñta illa ingressus fuit ꝛ diutinam seisinam eoꝝdem pacifice habuit scđm legem ꝛ consuetudinem ĩre Hiġn Ricus de la Rokel tunc Justīc ĩr Hiġn ip̄m Galfr̄m p voluntate sua ꝛ absq' causa raċonabili de p'đcis tr̄is ꝛ teñ ejecit ꝛ ea in manū nram seisivit p quod p'fatus Galfr̄s ext' seisinam suam tr̄az ꝛ tenemētoꝝ eoꝝdem hactenus detinetur minus juste in ipius dispendiū g'vissimū ꝛ exheredaċōem manifestam. Nos igit' sup p'missis plenius cerciorari ꝛ p'fato Galfro justiciam fieri volentes vobis mandamus sicut alias mandavim' qđ p sacramētum pboꝝ ꝛ leg' hominū de balliva vra p quos rei veritas melius sciri poŕit diligent' inquiratis sup p'missis plenius veritatem ꝛ eciam utrū ĩre ꝛ teñ illa ad p'đcm Galfrum tanq' ad fr̄em ꝛ heredem p̄pinq̄iorē p'đci Johis de jure debeant p̄tin'e scđm legem ꝛ consuetudinē ĩre p'đce nec ne, et eciam q' de causa p'đcus Ricus tr̄as ꝛ teñ illa in manū nram seisivit, et utrū nos ad easdem tr̄as ꝛ teñ jus habeamus, nec ne, et si jus ģeamus q'ali' ꝛ qua raċōne. Et inquisiċōem illam distincte ꝛ apte fċam nob' sub sigillo vro ꝛ sigill' eoꝝ p quos fċa fuit sine dilaċōne mittatis ꝛ hoc ĩre. Ita qđ eam ģeamus a Die Sċi Michis in unū mensem ubicuq' tunc fūim' in Angl̄ sine dilaċōne ul'iori. Et hoc nullatenus omittatis.
. . . ipo apud Wyndeš. xiiij die Jul' anno r̄. n̄. sexto.

“Inquis' capt' apđ Dubl̄n die Suñ px' ante Fest' Sċi Grigoř Pape Anno. r̄. r̄. E. octavo. quod cū Galfr̄ de p'ndegast ostendissit Dño Rēg qđ cū Johes de p'ndegast frat̄ suus cuj' her' ip̄e est fuisse seis in Domiċo suo ut de feodo de quibusdā tr̄is ꝛ teñ in Ardnesylach die quo obiit. Et si id Galfr̄ statī p't mortē ipi' Johis fr̄is sui tr̄as ꝛ teñ illa ingressus fūat ꝛ diutinā seis'm eoꝝdem pacifice habuerat scđm legē ꝛ c'suetud' ĩre Hiġn. Et si Ric' de la Rokel tūc Justīc Hiġn ip̄m Galfr̄ p voluntate sua ꝛ absq' causa rōnabili de p'đcis tr̄is ꝛ teñ ejecit ꝛ ea in manū Dñi Rēg seisivit. Et et' si ĩre ꝛ teñ illa ad p'đcm Galfr̄ tanq' ad fr̄em ꝛ hered' p̄pinq̄ore p'đci Johis de jure debeāt p'tinere scđm legē ꝛ c'suetudiēm ĩre p'đce nec ne. Et qua de causa p'đcus Ric' tr̄as ꝛ teñ illa in manū Dñi Reg' seisivit. Et si Dñs Rex jus ad tr̄as ꝛ teñ illa ģat nec ne. Et si jus ģat q'ali' & qua rōne p subscriptos.

“Johem le Bret Johem de Penrys Griffin Crystofre Math le Broif Galfr le Bret Walſm de Valle Wiſſm de Carreu Maur' le Port Wiſſm fis Reym' Ad de Cantyntoñ Rō ſiſ Jacobi Joh de Miðg'm Riçm Coytyf Geſ de Stantoñ Phm Edward.

“Qui Juſ diçt qđ Johes de p'ndegast fraſ Galfr de p'ndegast fuit ſeiſ in domýico ſuo ut de feodo de p'dcis ſris t teñ in Ardneſylach die quo obiit de dono Dñi Johis fil Thoñ. Et Galfr p'des fraſ t heſ p'dci Johis ſtatim p't mortē ip'i' ſras t teñ illa ingreſſus fúat t bonam ſeiſm eaſdē habuit. Et dñt qđ Riçs de la Rokel tñc Juſtiç Hiñn p'dcm Galfrū de p'dcis ſris t teñ ejecit t ea in manu Dñi Rēg ſeiſivit t h'c de cauſa quia Dñs Johes Rex Angl dedit Dño Thoñ ſiſ Anthoñ t hereſ ſuis ad f'rnam feodi ſras ſuas de Meſſia t Deſſimonie p ccl. marc p annū t obiit ſeiſit' de oibus p'dcis ſris. Et huit q'nq' filias ſet q'nta filia moriebat' ſine herede t descendeſcit pars p'dce filie aliis q'tuor ſororibz ſuis De q'bz Geſ de Ruſ huit unam in ux'ſm. Galfr de Norrach huit aliā Stephi de Archedeke huit tciā et Johes ſiſ Thoñ huit q'rtā in ux'ſm. Et dñt qđ p'dci Geſ Galfr t Stephi mariti p'dcaz t'um filiaſ fueſt in Bello de Kyldare contr' Dñm Regē p quo grām a Dño Rēg habere nō potueſt de ſris ſuis p'dcis. Set Johes ſiſ Thoñ marit' q'rte filie fuit cū Dño Rēg tñc t'pis. Et huit p pte ſua p'dcaz ſraſ de S'ccaſ Dubln q'ndā porçōm p annū ſet ignorāt q'ntū. P'tea venit p'des Johes t t'nſfretavit bis vl ter ad Dñm Edward petēs oñes ſras p'dcas Deſſie t Deſſimonie p vc. p annū. Et ita Dñs Edward ipm de p'dcis ſris p p'dco redditu feofavit. Et huit de p'dco feofaſmto duplices cartas t duplices ſras pat'. Et huit ſre Dñi Edwardi de ſeiſ' dir'ctū Dño Stepho de Lungespeye tñc Juſtiç Hiñn qui ei reſpondit t dix' qđ nñam ſeiſ'm de p'dcis ſris ſi daret nec h're façet p eo qđ dcs dñs Edward apte p ipm et ſuū c'siliū decept' fuit nec aliq' ſeiſ'm ei inde façet quous' colloquiū cū c'silio Dñi Edward & cetis magnatibz Hiñn haberet. Et dcs Johes ſiſ Th dix' qđ nñam morā façet q'n plenariā ſeiſ'm de ſris t teñ p'dcis capet t p hoc reſponſū a Dño Juſtiç reſceſſit. Et p'tea p'des Johes p totā pat'am prexit p'cipiens ſubſ'vientibz pat'e qđ ſuñ façent oñes libetenent' t alios teñ pat'e qđ eſſēt corā eo qui veneſt corā eo t ipe oſtendit eis cartā ſuā t ſram patent' Dñi Edward qđ eſſēt ei intendent' t reſpondent' tanq'm Dño ſuo t ei fidelitate fecerſt. Et ita pp'ia autoritate ſua ſine Juſtiç vl viç vl capit' ſ'vient in ſeiſ'm p'dcaſ raſ int'vit. Et ſic obiit ſeiſit' de p'dcis ſris t teneñtis. Et dñt qđ p'des Johes ſolebat redd' ſuū p p'dcis ſris Baroñ S'cca' Dubln quolibet ſmō offerre qui dcm redditū ab eo receipe nolueſt p eo qđ ipe nūq'm ſeiſ'm p dcm Juſtiç nec alios Balliōs Dñi Edwardi in Hiñn huit t qđ dcs Dñs Edward' deceptus fuit. Nec ſciūt aliqđ aliud juſ qđ Dñs Edward in p'dcis ſris hat niſi ut p'us dcm eſt. Et dñt qđ ea rōne Riçs de Rupello tñc Juſtiç Hiñn oñes p'das ſras t teñ de Ardneſylach una cū oñibus aliis ſris t teñ Deſſie t Deſſimonie in manu Dñi Edwardi cepit. Et dñt p ſacr ſuū qđ p'des Galfr de p'ndegast tanq'm fraſ t heſ pp'nq'or p'dcti Johis tale juſ ad p'dcas ſras t teñ de Ardsylach ht t hac rōne feofaſmti dci Johis ſiſ Thoñ.”

[Indorsed].—“Videtur qđ iſte debeat reſtitui, ſalvo jure R t cuj'libet t Rex pſeq'tur c' ipm ut iſte poſſit h're' recupere ſuū vſſ' feofatorē ſuū Et reſpondeat reſtitut' ſine eſſoñ ect.”

“I hereby certify the above to be a true and authentic copy of the original Record, having been examined therewith, and being sealed with the Seal of the Public Record Office, pursuant to Statute 1 & 2 Victoria, c. 94.

“H. J. SHARPE,

“Assistant Keeper of the Public Records.

“13 *March*, 1862.”

TRANSLATION.

“EDWARD, by the grace of God King of England, Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Aquitaine, to his beloved and faithful Robert de Ufford, his Justiciary of Ireland, greeting. On the part of Jeffry de Prendergaste, it has been shown to us, that, whereas John de Prendergaste, his brother, whose heir he is, was seized in his demesne as of fee of certain lands and tenements in Ardneskillach on the day when he died, and the said Jeffry immediately after the death of the said John his brother entered into the said lands and tenements, and had long and peaceable possession thereof, according to the law and custom of the land of Ireland, until Richard de Rokel, our then Justiciary of Ireland, of his mere will and without reasonable cause ejected the said Jeffry from the aforesaid lands and tenements, and seized them into our hand, whereby the aforesaid Jeffry is hitherto unjustly kept out of his seisin of the said lands and tenements to his very great loss and manifest disinheritance : We therefore, wishing to be better informed of the premises, and that justice should be done to the aforesaid Jeffry, command you, as We have once before commanded you, that you do diligently inquire more fully the truth of the premises by the oath of good and lawful men of your bailiwick, by whom the truth of the matter may be better known ; and, also, whether the said lands and tenements ought of right to belong to the aforesaid Jeffry, as brother and next heir of the aforesaid John, according to the law and custom of the land aforesaid, or not ; and, also, for what cause the aforesaid Richard seized the said lands and tenements into our hand, and whether We have any right thereto, or not ; and if We have a right, how, and of what kind it is ? And that you send us, without delay, the said inquisition distinctly and plainly made under your seal and the seals of those by whom it may have been made, and this writ, so that We may have it in one month of Michaelmas Day, wherever We shall then be in England, without further delay ; and this omit not. Witness Ourselves at Windsor, 13th July, in the sixth year of our reign.

“Inquisition taken at Dublin on the Monday next after the Feast of Saint Gregory, Pope, and the eighth year of our reign. That, whereas Jeffry de Prendergast showed our Lord the King, that whereas John de Prendergast his brother, whose heir he is, was seized in his demesne as of fee of certain lands and tenements in Ardnesyllach on the day when he died. And if the said Jeffry, immediately after the death of the said John his brother, entered into the said lands and tenements, and had long and peaceable possession thereof, according to the law and custom of the land of Ireland. And if Richard de la Rokel, then Justiciary of Ireland, of his mere will and without reasonable cause, ejected the said Jeffry from the

aforesaid lands and tenements, and seized them into the hands of our Lord the King. And, also, if the said lands and tenements ought of right to belong to the aforesaid Jeffry, according to the law and custom of the land aforesaid, as brother and next heir of the said John, or not. And for what cause the aforesaid Richard seized the said lands into the king's hand. And if the said king has right to the said lands and tenements, or not; and if he has right, how, and of what kind. By the undersigned

“ John le Bret, John de Penrys, Griffin Christopher, Matthew le Brois, Jeffry le Bret, Walter de Valle, William de Carrew, Maurice le Porter, William fitz Raymond, Adam de Cantyntoun, Roger fitz James, John of Meath, Richard Coytiff, Gerald de Stanton, Philip Edward.

“ Who, being sworn, say that John de Prendergast, brother of Jeffry de Prendergast, was seized in his demesne as of fee of the aforesaid lands and tenements in Ardnesylach, on the day when he died, as of the gift of John fitz Thomas; and Jeffry aforesaid, brother and heir of John aforesaid, immediately after his death entered into the said lands and tenements, and had good seisin of the same. And they say that Richard de la Rokel, then Justiciary of Ireland, ejected the said Jeffry from the said lands and tenements, and seized them into the king's hand, and for this reason—because the Lord John, King of England, gave his lands of Desies and Desmond to Thomas fitz Anthony and his heirs in fee-farm for 250 marcs per year, and he died seized of all the aforesaid lands and tenements; and he had five daughters, but the fifth daughter died without heir, and the share of the aforesaid daughter descended to the other four, her sisters, of whom Gerald de Roche had one to wife, Jeffry de Norragh had another, Stephen de Archdekne had the third, and John Fitz Thomas had the fourth to wife. And they say that the aforesaid Gerald, Jeffry, and Stephen, the husbands of the aforesaid three daughters, were in the Fight of Kildare against our Lord the King, for which they could not obtain the pardon of our Lord the King for their lands aforesaid, but John fitz Thomas, the husband of the fourth daughter was at that time on the king's side. And he had a certain portion of the lands aforesaid from the Exchequer of Dublin, for his share, but how much per annum they know not. Afterwards came the aforesaid John, and made two or three voyages across the sea to the Lord Edward himself, seeking all the lands and tenements aforesaid of Desies and Desmond for 500 [marcs] per annum. And so the Lord Edward enfeoffed him of the lands and tenements aforesaid at the rent aforesaid. And he had double Charters, and double Letters Patent. And he had a Writ of Seisin of the Lord Edward directed to the Lord Stephen Longsword, then Justiciary of Ireland, who answered him, and said this: he would neither give him, nor let him have seisin of the lands aforesaid, because the said Lord Edward had plainly been deceived by him and his representations. Nor would he make him any seisin thereof until he had had some conference with the council of the Lord Edward and the other great men of Ireland. And the said John fitz Thomas declared that he would make no delay, but take full possession of the lands and tenements aforesaid; and with this answer he left the presence of the Lord Justiciary. And afterwards the aforesaid John went through the whole country, ordering the under serjeants of the country to sum-

mon all the freeholders and the other tenants of the country to appear before him ; and they came before him, and he showed them his Charter, and the Letter Patent of the Lord Edward commanding them to be obedient and answerable to his orders, and to do him fealty as their Lord. And thus, by his own authority, without Justiciary, or Sheriff, or Chief Serjeant, he entered into seisin of the aforesaid lands ; and so died seized of the aforesaid land and tenements. And they say that the said John used to offer his rent of the lands aforesaid every term to the Barons of the Exchequer at Dublin, who would not receive the said rent from him because he had never had seisin from the said Justiciary or other bailiffs of the Lord Edward in Ireland, and because the said Lord Edward was deceived. And they do not know any other right that the Lord Edward had in the aforesaid lands than is aforesaid. And they say that, for that reason, Richard de Rokel, then Justiciary of Ireland, seized all the aforesaid lands and tenements of Ardnesylach, together with all the other lands and tenements of Desies and Desmond, into the hand of the Lord Edward. And they say upon their oath that the aforesaid Jeffry de Prendergast has such right to the aforesaid lands and tenements of Ardnesylach, as brother and next heir of John aforesaid, and this by reason of the feoffment of the said John fitz Thomas.

“ [Endorsement].—It seems that this man ought to be restored, saving the right of the king and every one else, and let the king proceed against him, that he may have his recovery against his feoffor ; and when restored, let him answer withoutt essoyn, &c.”

A NOTICE OF THE EARLY SETTLEMENT OF LONDONDERRY BY THE ENGLISH, &c.

BY ARTHUR GERALD 'GEOGHEGAN.

(Continued from page 404).

INNISOWEN lies in the north-eastern side of the county of Donegal. It is almost insulated, being bounded on the east, west, and north by Lough Foyle, Lough Swilly, and the Atlantic. Its present name dates from the fifth century, when Nial of the Nine Hostages, Monarch of Ireland, assigned this tract of country to his son Eogain, or Owen, hence *Inn* *Eogain*, Innisowen, or the Island of Owen. Its more ancient appellations of *Peapann Neid*, or the land of Neid, and *Ṭip Cúibg*, or the Country of Aileach, date from a remoter age, and are derived from names of princes of that mysterious people, the Tuatha de Danaan, who at an early period landed and settled here. That Innisowen at that period, and even in the fifth century, was in reality an island, is probable: a glance at the unchanging sweep of bog and marsh which separate it on the southern side from Loughs Foyle and Swilly, a distance of little more than three