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Journal of the  
SALWARY  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
AND HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY.

REVISED AND ENLARGED EDITION.

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**The Use of Leisure in  
Old Galway**

By *M. D. O'SULLIVAN, M.A., F.R.Hist.S.*

“LET us now come to the sports and pastimes, seeing it is fit that a Citie should not only be commodious and serious, but also merrie and sportful,” wrote John Stowe, the celebrated antiquary, of his beloved London,\* and, certainly, no study of town life in any period could be complete without some survey of the amusements of the people and the use to which they put their leisure. In regard to the Middle Ages particularly, the history of sports and pastimes is illuminating, not only in so far as it illustrates the development of the individual games themselves, but because of the light it throws on the attitude to life generally of the mediaeval mind. Thus while most of our modern sports and games are to be found in some elementary form in the Middle Ages, there is a wide divergence between the mediaeval and the modern point of view in regard to sport and bodily exercises. The fact is that, under the influence of the mediaeval Church

\* *Survey of London.* (ed. 1633) p. 75,

especially, emphasis was laid in those far-off days on the soul rather than the body, and the Greek ideal of *mens sana in corpore sano*, to which the modern world has reverted with enthusiasm, made little appeal to men who thought largely in terms of the vanity of life and the certainty of death and who could even sometimes persuade themselves that sickness of the body was good for mental progress.\* Nevertheless, human nature being what it is, the need for relaxation was felt as powerfully then as it is today, and, despite the lack of encouragement on the part of the more ascetic minds, games continued to develop and to bring their meed of pleasure, alike to ardent youth fired by the sheer joy of combat, and to more settled age seeking merely legitimate relief from exacting daily toil. But in all the circumstances it is not surprising to find that progress in the development of games was slow, and, in particular, their organization was defective, while, true to the spirit of that age, considerable control over them came to be established by the State.

The Roman-feudal conception of government was, as we know, that authority came from above, that is to say, government was essentially for the people, not by the people. The result was that, generally speaking, in mediaeval times the life of the populus was strictly regulated in all its phases, and even in the towns, which were to a great extent self-governing, power, quite regularly, soon passed into the hands of an oligarchy who saw to it that the life of the average citizen should be lived strictly according to pattern. Because of that we find, for instance, trade hedged in by innumerable regulations, the wages of workmen and the prices of commodities fixed, and a strict watch kept upon buying and selling—all, ostensibly, with the benevolent idea of securing the greatest happiness for the greatest number. But if the hours of toil and the circumstances of labour were, in this manner, carefully ordered, so, to a great extent, also were the occasions of leisure and the amusements of the people—a governmental policy which seems strangely alien to our modern democratic

\* Coulton in his *Mediaeval Panorama*, p. 591, however, points out that "the great early Scholastics, such as Albert the Great and St. Thomas Aquinas, give moderate approval to Aristotle's praise of bodily exercise as beneficial to man's development on the whole."

ideas, but one with which, nevertheless, the totalitarian states of present-day Europe are fast becoming familiar in their reversion to mediaevalism.

In the Middle Ages, of course, leisure was not quite so plentiful as it is today in an age of machinery, labour-saving devices, and Trades Unionism. Actually, the working hours were long, generally from 5 a.m. till 7 or 8 p.m., with half an hour off for breakfast and an hour and a half for dinner.\* Saturday was usually a half holiday, and, naturally, no work was done on Sundays or Church festivals. Still, the problem of how best to employ the hours of freedom, such as they were, was an important one not merely to the individual, but to the community, and, so far as they could do it, the Government undertook to solve it to their own ends. Two main motives seem to have inspired this policy of active interference on the part of the authorities. In the first place, those pastimes and accomplishments, which could in any way be regarded as martial and, therefore, likely to produce a good soldier, were definitely encouraged, and, secondly, all games which might lead to undue betting and gambling, and, therefore, to disorder, were at a discount and regularly prohibited—"unlawful games," they are called again and again. But a policy of this kind takes little account of the human factor with the result that the ends of Government in regard to the proper use of leisure were by no means achieved, and notwithstanding all the exhortation from on high, many of the more soldierly accomplishments gradually fell into disuse, while betting and gambling did not vanish, but were simply driven underground.

The chief sport encouraged in mediaeval times was, of course, archery. This was a very old accomplishment. In England it had been practised by the Saxons and the Danes, and its employment became general under the Normans—England, indeed, invariably owed her victory in the field of battle in mediaeval times to the skill of her archers. There were two kinds of bow in use, the long bow, which was the original weapon and the one most favoured by the English, and the cross bow, a much shorter weapon, discharged by means of a catch or trigger. Before the introduction of the

\* *Stat. II, Hen. VII, Cap. 22.*

gun the long bow was, no doubt, the chief weapon of defence, and ability to handle it was sedulously cultivated by the central Government\* and by the municipal authorities, not merely in the English, but in the Irish towns. Under the Statute of Winchester, for instance, which was introduced into England in 1285 and applied to Ireland in 1308,† it was laid down that in the towns—and Galway was no exception to the rule—every man of military age, that is, between the ages of 16 and 60 years, should provide himself with a long bow and practise the use of it for the purpose of defending the town. Fathers and guardians were supposed to teach the male children the use of the weapon and masters had to supply it to their apprentices and compel them to learn to shoot with it in their company and under their scrutiny on holidays and at any other convenient time.‡

But notwithstanding all the efforts of the authorities, archery continued to decline in Galway, as elsewhere, and the very reiteration of the exhortation to use the long bow shows the weakness of the Corporation's case. The fact is, that, after the introduction of gunpowder, hand guns were everywhere steadily superseding the long bow, and even in Galway by the close of the fifteenth century, if not earlier, muskets came to be generally used. Thus in 1517 we find the Corporation forbidding the citizens to sell privately or openly to any Irishman or "suspected persons in waye of rebellion, anny invincion, as hand-gounis, callivers, poulder, leade, nor sall-petter,"§ a prohibition which certainly leaves us to suppose that guns had for some time been familiar to the townsmen.

\* In the reign of Henry VII the use of the cross bow was forbidden by law (*Stat. 29, Hen. VII, 1508*). Henry VIII renewed the prohibition (*Stat. 6, Hen. VIII, cap. 13*), but it was ineffective with the result that twenty years later he passed a statute (*Stat. 25, Hen. VIII, cap. 17*) inflicting a fine of £10 on any one keeping a cross bow in the house. All these measures, however, were of no avail and the cross bow continued to be used in succeeding reigns. In Galway it was used well into the sixteenth century. See *Corp. MSS., Bk. A, fol. (23)*.

† Berry: *Statutes and Ordinances*, I Ed., II, cap. iv.

‡ Cf. *Corp. MSS., Bk. A, fol. (3)*. For the purpose of ensuring that this regulation was carried out a view of arms was held thrice every year. Cf.: "That every man that answerith not the crye or skrimishe at every of the town gattes, at the beginning, with his feansabull [defensive] weapon, to paie and forfayte xiid."—*Ibid.*, fol. (11). See also Berry: *Statute Rolls, III, 5 Ed., IV, cap. xviii*.

§ *Corp. MSS., Bk. A, fol. [23]*.

Nevertheless, even here at the opening of the sixteenth century, it is obvious that both the long bow and the cross bow were still regarded by the Corporation as perhaps the most important weapons of attack and defence, since they, too, were not, under heavy penalty, to be given into the dangerous custody of an Irish native.\* Furthermore, some ten years later the authorities revert once more to the desirability of keeping up the practice of archery, and the Mayor and Council try to encourage shooting with the long bow and the cross bow under penalty of a fine.† But the response cannot have been what was desired because, before another decade had elapsed, Henry VIII deemed it necessary to order the young men to supply themselves at once with long bows and English arrows, to practise hunting and shooting, especially on holidays, and "to leave all other unlawful games."‡ Clearly, the authorities were struggling against the current of the time, and archery, for all its official patronage, was already destined to be relegated to the limbo of a forgotten art.

It is not always easy to follow the motives which led the Crown and the Corporation to favour some games at the expense of others, but we find that the hurling of darts and spears, for example, was regarded, in Galway, at least, as a laudable pastime as was also playing with "the great foote balle."§ This last was a characteristically English game and perhaps that was its chief merit in the eyes of the Corporation because it is noticeable that its practise is encouraged in opposition to "the horlinge of the litill balle with hockie stickes or staves," and to "hande ball" played "without the walles."|| Hurling, as we know, was a very ancient Irish game, and, apparently, it had made its influence felt within the town of Galway much to the chagrin of the English-minded merchant obligarchy, but the hand ball referred to in the prohibition was something very different from the game which is now so popular in Ireland, bidding fair to rival hurling

\* *Corp. MSS., Bk. A, fol. [23].*

† *Ibid., fol. 33.*

‡ *Ordinances for Galway, 1536.—S. P. Irel., Hen. VIII, III, No. 18.*

§ *Corp. MSS., Bk. A, fol. 33.*

|| *Ibid.*

Football had become so popular in England among the common people that it was prohibited by a public edict in 1349 as impeding the progress of archery.—Strutt: *Games and Pastimes of England*, p. 100.

itself, and which so much resembles the English game of fives. Handball, as practised in old Galway, was a species of hand tennis in which the ball was received and driven back from one person to another with the palm of the hand, sometimes bare but very often covered with a glove. It was viewed askance by the Corporation, not because it was an essentially Irish game, for it was not, but probably because it was a sport on which it had long been customary to gamble, and which, in view of its great popularity, like so many others, tended to divert the mind of the young men from more martial pursuits.

Besides hurling and handball several other games came under the disapproval of the Corporation, essentially, however, for the reason that they were being practised by the young men to the neglect of archery. Amongst these was the casting of stones and the game of quoits. The former had become so popular, and was, therefore, taking up so much of the time of the youth of London and other towns in England, that Edward III late in his reign issued an edict to prohibit it,\* and, doubtless, the rulers of Galway in a similar dilemma more than a century later felt they could not do better than follow in the royal footsteps. In any case, the casting of heavy weights and stones in days when grounds were poor, umpires non-existent, and quarrels frequent, was not without an element of danger to the onlookers, and this must have been an aspect of the pastime which the Corporation could not afford to neglect. Again, with regard to quoits, it must be remarked that the mediæval game of that name was not quite so innocuous as its modern counterpart. The older quoit, said to have derived from the ancient discus, was a circular plate of iron perforated in the middle and not always of the same size but smaller or larger according to the choice of the individual player. It was thrown at a mark fixed in the ground. The game could be played by two people, but generally there were teams of four, eight, or more. It had become such a universal favourite in England that it was regarded as making a most insidious attack upon the cherished archery and was therefore classed as an "unlawful game" by Edward IV.† In these circumstances it is not surprising to find that a body like the

\* Strutt: *Op. cit.*, p. 75.

† *Ibid.*, p. lxi.

Galway Corporation, English in outlook and traditions, should so far as lay in their power, uphold the royal prohibition, and so in 1527 a municipal statute was passed whereby it was "ordered, enactid and statutid that what so ever man is found, of what degre or condicion so ever he be of, plainge at choyttes [quoits] or stonis, but only to shute in longe bowes, shorte crosboues and hurlinge of dartes or speres, to lesse at every tyme so founde in doinge the same viii.d."\* The devotee of quoits, then, had henceforth to pay handsomely for his pleasure, but there seems no reason to suppose that this prohibition was, in fact, effective or contributed in any way to the consummation so devoutly wished by the authorities of Galway.

The game of tennis, upon which the Corporation also frowned, appears to have been a hot favourite with the young men of the town and to have been conducive to a certain amount of gambling, hence in the indentures of apprentices in Galway we find it sometimes laid down that the apprentice in question shall not "plaie his said maisters goodes" at, amongst other games, "tennies."† The particular pastime here referred to, of course, was not the modern game of lawn tennis, which is of very much later date, but "royal tennis," as it came to be called from the fact that it was played by various Kings of England and France. Reputed to have been introduced into England from France in Chaucer's time, it was universally popular in the sixteenth century and, admittedly, had found ready acceptance in old Galway.

Though not specifically mentioned in the Corporation records of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, the game of bowls was, most probably, known and enjoyed in Galway. This pastime had long been practised in England, having first made its appearance there about the thirteenth century. Specially made greens—bowling greens—are said to have originated in England,‡ and the fact that one such green existed in Galway, though from what date exactly is not quite clear to the writer, suggests that the game must have been familiar to the inhabitants of the town.

\* *Corp. MSS., Bk. A, fol. 33.*

† *Ibid.*, fol. (97b). For other indentures see fols. (100b), (100\*) and 102b.

‡ Strutt: *Op. cit.*, p. 268.

But if many of the outdoor pastimes which were in use amongst the people at large were classed as "unlawful games" by the Corporation following upon the lead given in England, there were other open-air pursuits, namely, those associated with horsemanship, which were most carefully encouraged. Of all outdoor sports in mediaeval times perhaps hunting and falconry were the most popular, and though they were generally regarded as the special preserve of the nobility and the landed gentry, they were, undoubtedly, practised by the well-to-do in the towns, and certainly in Galway. Horses, we know, were always plentiful in Ireland, thus the sport of hunting was racy of the soil and it was followed with enthusiasm—every young man particularly aimed at making horsemanship part of his general equipment, so when Henry VIII exhorted the youth of Galway to hunt regularly,\* he was preaching to the converted. Royal edicts were not necessary to bring home the joys of the chase and hunting the deer continued to be a first favourite. It was therefore quite in keeping with tradition that in 1568, more than thirty years after Henry VIII had issued his famous injunction, an Italian visitor to Galway should describe a characteristic hunting scene in the immediate neighbourhood of the town as one of the most attractive sights that met his view.† With hunting went, naturally, racing, and there seems little doubt that the inhabitants of Galway must have tasted the thrills of horse-racing, even though such meetings had no place in the official records of the town. Falconry, too, had its regular followers, and if we do not come across actual references to it in the contemporary documents, the mere fact that the exportation of hawks was prohibited by statute of the Corporation in 1530‡—people were, however, allowed to make presents of them to their friends—shows in what esteem the sport of falconry was held and how careful the authorities were to see that it should be regularly maintained.

With horsemanship so universally cultivated, it was but natural to find that games which involved prowess in the

\* *Ordinances for Galway*, 1536.—*S. P. Irell., Hen. VIII*, III, No. 18.

† *Annals of Galway*, MS. I, 4-11,—Trinity College, Dublin. See also *Pictorial Map of Galway*, 1651.

‡ *Corp. MSS., Bk. A*, fol. 36. Falconry, naturally, declined when the musket was brought to perfection.



equestrian act should be a feature of life in old Galway, and so we learn that tilting or running at the ring was a regular sport of the young men of the upper classes. In the Pictorial Map of Galway, made in 1651, there is an interesting illustration of a horseman at the barrier about to enter the lists to take part in this game. The barrier is shown as erected in Meyrick, now Eyre Square, and a group of horsemen are depicted waiting for their turn to perform. Furthermore, there is evidence that the sport was a regular feature of the programme of the May-games.\* The performer, who was equipped with a lance, rode at full speed, and thrust the point of his weapon through the ring "which was supported in a case or sheath, by the means of two springs, but might be readily drawn out by the force of the stroke, and remain upon the top of the lance."† Each performer was allowed three attempts, and "he who thrust the point of his lance through it the oftener, or, in case no such thing was done, struck it the most frequently was the victor."‡ and carried off the prize before the admiring eyes of the ladies who came to witness and adjudicate upon the performance.

In Galway, of course, as in all mediaeval towns, there were certain amusements associated specifically with particular seasons of the year or feasts such as, Michaelmas, Christmas, Easter, Whitsuntide, May Day, Midsummer's Eve, and Corpus Christi. At Michaelmas the Mayor and Bailiffs took office and the Mayor was solemnly escorted to his residence by "all the stattes and worship[ful]"§ amidst the applause of the assembled populace, while on the eve of that solemn event there were "the acostomid and un ordinate banckes and feastes" given by the newly elected officers by way of celebration, and if these were matters which concerned only the more distinguished citizens, the people at large thronged the streets and made merry, too, for the inauguration of the new municipal year with its customary and colourful ritual was a festive time for all.

\* *Iar-Connaught*, p. 80, note. One would gather from this note of Hardiman's that tilting at the ring was practised at Blake's Hill also.

† Strutt: *Op. cit.*, p. 124.

‡ *Ibid.*, p. 125.

§ *Corp. MSS., Bk. A, fol. 23.*

¶ *Ibid.*, fol. 58.

The Christmas and Easter celebrations, distinguished mainly by the great Church ceremonies, were very much the same as they are today. But the general meetings of the freemen held on these occasions,\* and the processions and purely secular festivities associated with them, gave gaiety to the scene and the town found itself very much en fête. Besides, men shook off many of their wonted cares when household debts, the grocer's bill or the doctor's fee, or even the priest's dues could not be collected at these festivals nor during a period of twelve days afterwards.† Not only that but tips, Christmas-boxes and other gratuities of the kind, which so harass the impecunious but kind-hearted citizen today, were strictly forbidden by law in old Galway,‡ so the man of modest means could, like his wealthier neighbour, give himself up with complete abandon to the merriment of the moment. But even in the city's rejoicings the orderly rulers of the town liked to preserve a measure of decorum, consequently they legislated against the wholesale entry of the natives at times such as these, lest the Irish, like the high-spirited apprentices, might be prone to celebrate not wisely but too well. Thus we read: "That no man of this town shall [h]oste or receve into ther houssis at Christemas, Easter, nor no feaste elles enny of the Burkes, Mac Williams, the Kellies, nor no cepte elles, withoute license of the Mayor and Counsaill for the tyme beinge, on payn to forfayt *v li.*"§

One regular feature of the Christmas and Easter festivities, however, deserves particular mention, for, while once universal, it has now fallen into disuse, though not until very recently. This was the mummers' performance. Dr. Johnson defines a

\* *Corp. MSS., Bk. A, fol. (93).*

† Cf. : It ys ordered, edictid and statutid by the Counsaill, with one assente, that no prestes, sergantes, leeches, clerkes, toun meassengers or Irishe meassengers, porters, norssys, childrin, myllers, backers, shomakers, bouchers, or anny others shall not come to no mans house at Cristemas, Easter or other feastes, to dessyre any offreinges or duties during the holy days or within xii days after any the said feastes."—*Corp. MSS., Bk. A, fol. 49.*

‡ Cf. : "That neither porters, harpers, messengers, millers, bakers, bowchers, or any nowrses, or any kynde of craftesman, do at no festivall tymes, or at any other tyme, come to any man is howse, to crave either for benbridge, offringe, meate, or any drinke, by any way whatsoever, in vayne, on payne of imprisonment and loss of a crowne, as well of the giver as also of the offender."—*Articles touching reformacions in the Commonwealth, 1585. Orig. MS. quot. by Hardiman : Hist. of Galway, p. 209.*

§ *Corp. MS., Bk. A, fol. (24).*

mummer, as one who performs frolics in a personated dress, and the mediaeval mummer wore a mask, or, if he could not procure one, rubbed his face over with soot. In olden times, when streets were unlighted, many abuses, manifestly, were committed under the sanction of these disguisements, and so in London quite early an ordinance was passed against any one who appeared in the street with "a painted visage," while in the reign of Henry VIII the practise of mummery was generally forbidden in England under penalty of a fine and imprisonment.\* In Ireland, where there was still more scope for disorders under cover of a masked or sooted face, it was even more important, from the English Government's point of view, that mummers should be outlawed and they were.† Naturally, therefore, the Corporation of Galway could not be expected to look with favour on the mummers' art, but it is noteworthy that these shows were not positively forbidden, with the result that they continued to be a regular and popular feature of the Christmas and Easter festivities in the life of the town throughout its history.

At Whitsuntide there was much enjoyment out of doors but perhaps the May-games were, of all seasonal pastimes, the most interesting. On the 1st May the young people of both sexes arose in the early hours of the morning and, to the accompaniment of music, went to a neighbouring wood where they broke down branches from the trees and adorned them with flowers. With these, on their return home, they made their doors and windows gay. Then followed in the afternoon dancing round the May-pole set in a convenient spot in the town, and in the evening there were bonfires and much spontaneous gaiety. The games or celebrations lasted for three days. It seems to have been the custom in the towns of England—and, doubtless, the same was true of Galway—to elect a Lord and Lady of the May who presided over the sports. There were various athletic contests, such as, running, jumping, wrestling, casting of weights, and, most important of all, tilting at the ring, and then, on the third day, to wind up

\* Strutt: *Op. cit.*, p. 252.

† In England they were tolerated at the Christmas and Easter festivities but only then. In the Irish Parliament of 1541 it was provided that no players or mummers should be allowed gratuities at Christmas or Easter under penalty of losing an ear.

what Hardiman so aptly calls, these "homely but manly amusements," the young men were wont to ride out on horseback to Blake's Hill and dine there at a spot between the Hill and the castle of Barna.\*

The festival of St. John or Mid-summer's Eve was another landmark in the life of the citizen of mediaeval Galway. In the evening the customary mayoral banquet took place,† and there was the press of eager crowds in the street wending their way merrily to the bonfires for the games and dancing. The whole populace turned out, for in the Middle Ages it was characteristic of town life that the gaieties, like the responsibilities and duties, should be enjoyed in common. It was in this spirit that the Mayor and his colleagues, resplendant in their robes of office, attended at the May-games and other celebrations, but if they did, they also found the pomp and circumstance of these occasions useful in satisfying the desire of the masses for colour and pageantry, and in distracting the thoughts of the poorer classes from a life which was otherwise drab.

In mediaeval times one of the greatest festivals of the year was that of Corpus Christi. In the English towns it was characterised by two outstanding features, first, a great religious procession "in which the Host, escorted by local dignitaries, religious bodies, and guilds, was borne through the streets, and displayed successively at out-of-door stations,"‡ and secondly, the performance of religious plays which were enacted on moveable stages or "pageants" in the streets by the various trade guilds. As a rule, each city or town had its own "cycle" or series of plays, which varied considerably in length, according, probably, to the number and wealth of the trade guilds. As far as the Irish towns are concerned, there is very little information available in regard to these plays. In the municipal records of Dublin we do find, however, under the date 1478, definite mention of the pageants of Corpus Christi Day,§ and from this one seems justified in concluding that a cycle of mystery plays was actually per-

\* *Iar-Connaught*, p. 60, note.

† *Corp. MSS.*, Bk. A, fol. 58.

‡ Chambers: *Hist. of the Mediaeval Stage*, II, p. 95.

§ Gilbert: *Cal. of Ancient Records of Dublin*, I, pp. 239 and 241.

formed in the streets of the capital, though there are reliable authorities who suggest that the pageants referred to "were merely dumb-show accompaniments of the Corpus Christi procession."\* In Kilkenny, certainly, plays were acted, for we have records of their taking place there as late as 1631 and a book of plays was in existence even in 1637,† while it is just possible that they may have also figured in the Corpus Christi Day processions in other towns. But when we turn to Galway we find religious plays conspicuous by their absence—there is not a mention of them anywhere in the municipal records or other contemporary documents. The fact is, in Galway the trade guilds, whose peculiar province these plays were, were relatively unimportant. They were late in coming, and the merchant obligarchy, embodying the purely aristocratic principle of government, had got too long a start ever to have allowed them assume a position of significance within the town. While, in other towns, their members could aspire to municipal office, in Galway, no such thing was possible—the Common Council remained a closed body to them: it was the preserve of the "Tribes." Thus, too, many of their social activities, like the production of these plays, which were such a notable feature of their existence elsewhere, are, unfortunately, in Galway entirely lacking. On the other hand, the Guild of Corpus Christi,‡ as it was called, which had charge of the procession specially, was, in all likelihood, composed of the upper classes, hence in Galway we get the procession and the procession alone.

But if we miss the popular dramatic form, the mystery and morality plays of the trade guilds, and if the people at large were, on this account, unfamiliar with those heralds of the Elizabethan drama proper, the leisured classes, definitely, as we know from the Lord Deputy Sir William Russell, had their masques and ballets. On the 17th November, 1595, Sir William arrived in Galway, and there assembled to meet him

\* Seymour: *Anglo-Irish Literature*, p. 124.

† Lynch: *Historia Ecclesiastica Hiberniae*,—MS. K. 6., 15-16.—Trinity College, Dublin; *Trans. of the Kilkenny Arch. Society*, II, p. 322. The whole subject is ably discussed by Seymour: *Op. cit.*, chap. VIII.

‡ According to Mrs. Stopford Green, the Corpus Christi Guild "played a political part in the life of every great town" in England.—*Town Life in the Fifteenth Century*, I, p. 150.

“ the Earls of Kildare, Thomond, and Clanricarde, Lords Brimegeam, Roche, and Dunkellie, and divers knights and gentlemen,”\* who mingled with the merchant aristocracy to pay honour to the noble guest. Banquets and recreation were the order of the day, and, since the Lord Deputy remained over the Christmas holidays, Galway witnessed exceptional scenes of gaiety and ceremonial, until one morning they were rudely interrupted by the disturbing news that O’Donnell had once more over-run Connaught. But of all the items in Sir William’s carefully kept Journal perhaps the one that interests us most at the moment is the following entry : “ December 1st 1595—This night the noblemen and captains presented my Lord with a mask.” Thus here in the sixteenth century in this remote town, “ at the end of the earth in Ireland,” we find a performance of that delicate dramatic form just then so popular at the Court in London and at the princely entertainments in the great aristocratic houses of England, a form which could claim amongst its sponsors some of the greatest names in English literature, such as Shakespeare, Ben Jonson, and Milton. Truly, Galway was abreast of the times.

Indeed, these comings of the Lord Deputy, sufficiently rare in themselves to be memorable, were occasions of great excitement for the population generally, even if their role was essentially that of onlooker. Ceremonial was always fittingly emphasized, and, clad in their scarlet gowns, and wearing the full regalia of their office, the Mayor and Aldermen, assisted by the other members of the Common Council, went out to meet the distinguished visitor at the city gates, handed him over the keys of the town, and, receiving them back again to mark the city’s independence, welcomed him formally in a Latin address, escorting him later to the Church where he was suitably received by the ecclesiastical authorities and attended divine service. The colourful procession wound its way through streets lined with the young men or urban militia in full equipment, while guns resounded and the masses lent their plaudits to a truly unforgettable

\* *Journal of Sir William Russell—Cal. Car. MSS. III, p. 238-39.*

scene.\* In the evening there was a great municipal banquet and the people at large thronged the streets imbued with the festive spirit. This was, emphatically, the public event *par excellence* in the life of the sixteenth century townsmen when merchant obligarchy and commonalty alike were made proudly conscious of the heritage that was theirs in "the commonwealth of Galway."

From its situation Galway, obviously, offered then, as now, splendid facilities for aquatic sports—swimming, sailing, rowing, and probably that favourite mediaeval game of boat justs or tilting upon the water. "The conqueror at these justs," says an authority, "was the champion who could dexterously turn aside the blow of his antagonist with his shield, and at the same time strike with his lance in such a manner as to overthrow him into the river, himself remaining unmoved from his station; and perhaps not a little depended upon the skill of the rowers."† But, above all, fishing must have been a favourite sport in mediaeval Galway.‡ The river Corrib, in olden times as today, had a plentiful supply of salmon, trout, and eels, a fact which is borne out by many notices in the Corporation records, so legitimate fishing, and possibly much poaching,§ were a regular means of recreation among the townsmen. Finally, if we may judge from contemporary literature, winters then seem to have been much harder than they are today, and the young people of old Galway must often have experienced the incomparable thrill of skating, that invigorating pastime which now, unfortunately, in milder climatic conditions can so rarely be enjoyed.

Indoors, people amused themselves, naturally, with music, singing, and dancing, the harp being the favourite musical instrument. Indeed, in the more cultured circles a knowledge of music was considered almost an essential accomplishment, and with women particularly the study of music was exceedingly fashionable. The harp was played by all classes, and, of

\* The Earl of Sussex, Lord Leonard Grey, Sir Henry Sidney, and Sir William Russell have left impressive descriptions of these occasions. All alike comment upon the wonderful hospitality they received in Galway.

† Strutt: *Op. cit.*, p. 147.

‡ See *Pictorial Map of Galway*, 1651.

§ Cf.: "Poaching was naturally then, as always, the villager's most exciting sport."—Coulton: *Mediaeval Panorama*, p. 593.

course, it was the special instrument of the wandering minstrels\*—"rimers" and "harpers," they are invariably called in the legislation which was repeatedly enacted against them by the English authorities in Ireland.† In the way of games, the inhabitants of old Galway most assuredly played chess which was extremely popular in the Middle Ages. The "noble" or "royal" pastime, as it came to be called, was of very great antiquity and was probably introduced into Europe from Asia. It was played in England before the Norman conquest and was soon a universal favourite. It is not mentioned by name in the municipal records of Galway undoubtedly because it was not the type of game to come under the censure of the Corporation. There was something staid, respectable, and leisurely about chess and it did not lead to gambling in the way that other games did. Possibly, too, the townsmen played some form of draughts. The game of draughts itself is comparatively modern, but something like it was known and played in the Middle Ages in the towns of England,‡ and that being so it is not far-fetched to suggest that the citizens of Galway, who believed in being up to date in all things,§ were acquainted with the game.

But the indoor amusements which figure—and they figure largely—in the municipal records are dice, cards, and tables. In fact, so general were they that they led to universal gambling and the Mayor and Council were hard put to it to rescue the apprentices and other unwary youths from the pitfalls that surrounded them in the inns and gaming houses of the town, the situation being still further complicated by the presence of the Irish from without the gates who lived up to their reputation as gamblers and regularly frequented the gaming shops in Galway. In the indentures of apprentices it is therefore constantly laid down that games of this kind are to be shunned, and amidst numerous references to them in the records, there is one very explicit notice which clearly portrays

\* The minstrels eventually deteriorated to street ballad singers who generally composed their own pieces and sang them in the streets, sometimes accompanying them with a fiddle.

† See O'Rahilly: *Irish Poets, Historians, and Judges in English Documents* (1538-1615).—*Proc. R.I.A.*, Vol. XXXVI, Sect. C., No. 6.

‡ Holmes: *Mediaeval England*, p. 122.

§ Sir Henry Sidney, Lord Justice Pelham, Sir Oliver St. John and others bear interesting testimony to this quality of the inhabitants of Galway.



the attitude of the Corporation to what was, apparently, a serious evil. Thus under the year 1528 we find a statute made by which " Yt ys ordered that in what housse, shope or seller (cellar) ther be founde players at cardes, dyce, tabulles, nor no other unlawfull gamys for monye, by yonge men and specialle by prentisys nor Irishemen, on payn to lose that some or quantit of such monye as they playe for. And also the housse, seller, or shope wherin they playe to paye, excepte it be for meate and drink, and the same to be done by honeste men for recreacion—*xxs.*"\*

Of course it was not merely in Galway that cards and dice led to gambling. The evil quickly became rampant in England so that eventually in the reign of Henry VII legislation was introduced against it.† By this apprentices were forbidden to play cards except during the Christmas holidays and then only in their master's houses. On such occasions also they played not for money, but for harmless things like "counters, nailes, and points,"‡ so very little moral damage can have been done. In any case, since the Christmas holidays appear to have extended from All-Hallows evening to the day after Candlemas,§ the apprentices can scarcely be said to have fared too badly in the matter of leisure for games. The supreme object of the Galway Corporation, who applied these rules strictly, was not so much to interfere with the legitimate amusement of the apprentices as to see that they did not fall into gambling habits in the town. In this respect it is noteworthy that the indentures of apprentices not only ruled out cards, dice, and tables altogether, except in the circumstances stated above, but even put a limit to the amount of money a youth could stake on a "lawful" game. Thus in 1587 when "Terrollagh O'Dowan, of Bunowan, in the county of Galway" was being apprenticed to "John Martin Fitz William, of Galway, merchant," it was stipulated that he should not "play at no unlawful games and yf at seldom tymes he should chaunce to pley at lawful games, that he shall not excede in pley not above

\* *Corp. MSS., Bk. A, fol. [34].*

† 11 *Henry VII, cap. 2.*

‡ Stow : *Survey of London*, p. 79 "Points" were "narrow ribbons with which one part of the dress was attached to the other."—Strutt : *Op. cit.*, p. 327, note.

§ Stow : *Op. cit.*, p. 79.

the matter of . . . .”\* It may be that, since Terrollagh O’Dowan was an Irish native—one of the few instances of such being apprenticed in Galway—the authorities felt a stricter watch should be kept on his gaming propensities, for this is a clause, curiously, which is not to be found in the other indentures that have been preserved. However, the spirit of all the indentures is the same and one comes away from a study of them with the feeling that the philosophy, “all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy,” was not one which commended itself to the merchant rulers of Galway.

Of the actual games comprehended under the general term “cards,” it is impossible to speak with authority. Certainly the modern games of Whist and Bridge were unknown at this early period but it is altogether likely that in old Galway, as in the England of that day, the most popular games of cards were Primero, Trump, which was a great favourite among the lower classes and is said to have borne some resemblance to Whist, Gresco, on which apparently stakes were usually high, and Gleek.† But there must have been—indeed, there were—many other card games on which young and old could bet and lose their money.

Dice playing is so ancient that one might almost suspect Adam and Eve must have whiled away some of their time at it in the garden of Eden. Certain it is that the ancient Greeks, the conquering Romans, the warlike Germans, the Saxons, Danes, and Normans, all were addicted to it, so a passion which was evidently universal could not be expected to leave mediaeval Galway untouched, and dice playing seems to have been something of a menace in the town, hence the reiterated statutes against the playing of dice publicly for money.

The game of “tables” included under the same ban as cards and dice, was backgammon, but the apprentices were permitted to indulge in it, too, like the others, during the Christmas holidays and under proper supervision. It was a game which added the element of chance to something of the skill that was required of the player at chess, hence it was

\* *Corp. MSS., Bk. A. fol. (100\*)*. Unfortunately at this point the MS. is decayed so the exact figure set down is not available but it must have been something very small.

† For all these see Strutt: *Op. cit.*, pp. 333-34.

easier to learn than chess and was to that extent more extensively enjoyed. It was played somewhat differently from its more modern counterpart, indeed, we learn that "there were many methods of playing at the tables with the dice."\* But though it seems to have been universally popular, since it could not accommodate so many players at a sitting as cards, the latter were, even in mediaeval times, a first favourite.

So far we have been considering the use of leisure in mediaeval and sixteenth century Galway as it relates to the townsmen purely, but no treatment of the subject could be regarded as complete without some mention of the pastimes and amusements of the womenfolk. In the Middle Ages the position of women generally was none too satisfactory, and, amongst other things, their active participation in most outdoor games, which is a feature of modern life, was a thing unheard of, but, from our present point of view, it is very interesting to note that "one cause that made for the increase of women's freedom was the growth of towns."† "In some respects," writes an authority in regard to this subject, "the Bourgeoisie showed a greater sense of the normal personality of women than did either the Aristocracy or the Church, borough law had to take account of the woman trader, and in many towns there existed 'customs' for the treatment of a married woman carrying on a trade of her own as a *femme sole*."‡ Besides, two of the most important industries, at least, were almost entirely in their hands because they could be carried on as by-industries in the home. These were the brewing of ale, which was drunk by everyone who could not afford wine—only the very poor drank water—and the spinning industry or making of cloth "which was the regular occupation of all women and the spinster's habitual means of support."§ In the towns therefore there was a growing sense of equality among the sexes, an equality which was not without reflecting itself in regard to many of the customary amusements and pastimes.

In old Galway, naturally, social freedom was greatest within the highest and the lowest classes as, indeed, it always

\* Strutt: *Op. cit.*, p. 321.

† Coulton: *Mediaeval Panorama*, p. 625.

‡ Professor Eileen Power in *The Legacy of the Middle Ages*, p. 407.

§ *Ibid.*, p. 412.

is everywhere. The immense wealth of the mercantile families in Galway allowed their women to move in the circle of the aristocracy—they intermarried regularly with the nobility, native and Anglo-Irish—and that fact led to their expecting and receiving all the attentions which chivalry in those days paid to ladies, and permitted them to participate in the amusements suited to their exalted station. Thus it is quite possible that the daughters of the merchant families in old Galway hunted to some extent, for they were certainly at home in the saddle, and it is more than probable that they regularly indulged in hawking or falconry which was a very favourite pastime of women amongst the upper ranks of society in the Middle Ages, as it was, equally, of the clergy. Gardening and the cultivation of flowers particularly also occupied them much out of doors, while, indoors, they spent a great deal of their time in the study of music and the practice of embroidery, though they also regularly played at cards, dice, and tables, and many a time and oft must have sacrificed their beauty sleep to a game of chess. Amusements which we have long since relegated to the nursery were, too, popular with the ladies, and blind man's buff and especially riddle and answer games were great favourites. The ladies were also regularly present at the banquets and entertainments given in different houses on great occasions such as that of the visit of a Lord Deputy.\* Finally, dancing was then, as now, a supreme attraction. It was a regular amusement amongst all ranks of society, and while the aristocrats had their evening entertainments, where, in gaily decorated and lighted saloons, they tripped it lightly to the music of fiddle and harp, the girls of humbler rank and the working maidens gathered on the greens and open spaces or round the festive bonfire in the evening and danced merrily into the night.

There was one other notable means by which women of the more cultured classes filled in their leisure time in old Galway,

\* *Journal of Sir William Russell.—Cal. Car. MSS., III, pp. 238-39* It is worthy of note that "gate-crashing" which modern hostesses find so tiresome, was rendered impossible in old Galway, where it was laid down "That none do presume to inter into any house of banckett (banquet) without he be convided [invited], and yf he be convided, to have his billet under the convider's hand, on payne of a croune.—" *Articles touching reformacions in the Commonwealth, 1585.—Orig. MS. quoted by Hardiman: Hist. of Galway, p. 209.*

that is reading and the enrichment of their minds by literature. In the later Middle Ages, according to a reliable authority, "though very few women arrived at anything like the university stage in education, it seems probable that more of them could read and write than the men, especially in the upper classes."\* Certainly, the women of the merchant families of Galway must have been remarkably well read, for we have a striking testimony to the fact in the statement of that famous sixteenth century wit and writer, Sir John Harington, one of the best known literary figures of his day. Harington, widely travelled and a typical Renaissance scholar, had translated the *Orlando Furioso* of Ariosto into English. Then, one day, like so many more men of his school, he found himself in Ireland in the service of Elizabeth. He paid two visits to Galway where, naturally, he met and mingled with the merchant aristocracy. But though he expected to find the ladies of that circle accomplished, he was nothing short of amazed to discover the literary tastes of at least some of them and the remarkable way in which they kept au courant with the best literature of the age. For within a few years of its publication his translation of the *Orlando Furioso* was being read enthusiastically by some of the young women in Galway. "My Ariosto," he writes, "has been entertained into Gallway before I came. When I got thither, a great lady, a young lady, and a fair lady, read herself asleep, nay dead, with a tale of it; the verse, I think, so lively figured her fortune; for as Olimpia was forsaken by the ungrateful Byreno, so had this lady been left by her unkind Calisthenes; whose hard dealing with her cannot be excused, no not by Demosthenes." † It is a commonplace to observe that the Renaissance left Ireland unaffected, but in the light of statements like that of Sir John Harington, this generalisation must be corrected. Clearly, in the towns, at any rate, there were not wanting those who went out with enquiring minds to greet the new dawn of literature.

Life in old Galway, then, had, undoubtedly, its lighter side, but what strikes us most about it is, that it was extraordinarily disciplined in all its phases. Work was strenuous, and in this

\* Coulton : *Mediaeval Panorama*, p. 627.

† Sir John Harington : *Nugae Antiquae*, I, p. 260.

respect the merchant adventurers themselves gave a fitting example to all those whose destinies they guided, for these men not only toiled hard daily in their stores and counting houses, but regularly they went down to the sea in ships, to battle through long weeks and months perhaps, with the treacherous elements and that still more dangerous foe, the lurking privateer. Men made of such stuff as this expected work and discipline from their subordinates and they got it, but this same sense of order and discipline led them to interfere drastically in the leisure hours of the citizens, an interference which we do not find it so easy to understand. Nevertheless, even here as we proceed to pronounce judgment upon them, we must at least concede that in this stern ordering of the amusements and pastimes of the people the motive of the merchant oligarchy was altogether praiseworthy, for they sought merely the greater good of "the commonwealth of Galway."

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# Two Bronze Age Burials at Carrowbeg North, Belclare Co. Galway

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By G. F. WILLMOT.

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## INTRODUCTORY.

IN August 1937 under the State financed scheme for the relief of unemployment, two mounds in the townland of Carrowbeg North, and the parish of Belclare, Co. Galway, were excavated and investigated. The work took between three and four weeks, and sixteen men were employed. At its conclusion the sites were restored to their original shape.

The sites are on Sheet 96 of the 1 inch O.S. Map of Ireland, and on Sheet 43 (*Galway*) of the 6 inch O.S. Map. Attention was first drawn to the mound by Dr. T. B. Costelloe of Tuam, whose constant interest in the site I should like to record here as well as in the acknowledgments.

## TUMULUS I.

Tumulus I (*Pl. I and Fig. 1*) was a circular bracken covered mound situated behind Carrowbeg House. There had been a small disturbance at the centre and on the SW. side of the mound. It was surrounded by a ditch 14 feet wide and cut to a depth of 4 feet into the solid rock, but it had silted up completely on the NW. and to a depth of 3 feet on the other sides.

## METHOD OF EXCAVATION.

The mound was excavated by Dr. Van Giffen's method\* by taking out four quadrants, leaving two 2 foot sections across the diameter of the mound at right angles to each other, so that any problems could be referred back to the

\* Van Giffen : *Die Bauart der Einzelgraber*, p. 7.

original stratification until the last moment. At the conclusion of the excavation the mound was restored to its original shape.

### CONSTRUCTION OF THE MOUND AND BURIALS.

The mound covered a roughly hexagonal cairn of stones 24 feet in diameter (*Pl.* I). The upper stones were loose, but those at the base of the cairn were cemented together by clay. The cairn had probably been covered with clay which had washed down from the upper stones and settled between those below. At the centre of the mound was an oval spread of charcoal and small fragments of cremated bone, 10 feet 6 inches in length and 7 feet wide. There was no trace of a turf line below the stones which overlay a layer of yellow clay 6 to 10 inches thick, which in turn overlay a thin bed of grey gravel 18 inches thick, which rested on carboniferous limestone. Both the clay and the gravel were of natural origin and the geological formation of the site is the subject of Appendix I by Mr. C. D. Ovey, B.Sc., F.G.S. At the centre of the mound was an oval pit lying NW.—SE. 3 feet long and 2 foot 3 inches broad and cut through the clay into the gravel to a depth of 1 foot 3 inches from the original surface, and containing the burnt bones of an adult with a late bronze age knife or razor. The bones had been put into the pit when still hot, and the clay edges were burnt to a red brick colour. The charcoal layer mixed with fragments of bone is probably the remains of the pyre on which the body was burnt and then the grave was cut through it and the cairn built. The bones are fully reported on in Appendix II by Professor Stephen Shea and the knife is discussed under the finds.

The ditch showed a uniform primary silt of dark clay averaging 6 inches in depth and a secondary silt of clay mixed with humus of an average depth of 1 foot 9 inches and a layer of turf and humus 9 inches in depth. The ditch had been cut down through the clay and gravel into the underlying carboniferous limestone which had been used to build the cairn. At a later date four secondary burials, all by inhumation, had been deposited in the northern half of the ditch. Only



one of these had associated objects by which their date could be arrived at, and they probably belong to the first few centuries of this era.

*Skeleton 1.* A female buried on the bottom of the ditch on the north side. Body on its back with the head lying on its left side. The hands together on left shoulder. Left femur vertical and the knee tightly bent. The right knee across the left femur had the heel close to pelvis. On the right shoulder a small bronze locket and close to the left foot 12 small bone beads (discussed under finds). 2 feet 9 inches from the ditch bottom and above the body was a large flag stone.

*Skeleton 2.* On back on bottom of ditch on East North East side lying along it, head west, feet east, at full length. Head on right side, face looking toward the centre of the tumulus. Right arm by side with hand on pelvis, left humerus beside body, with forearm bent at right angles across body. Legs straight.

*Skeleton 3.* On North side, full length on bottom of ditch lying along it. On back head to West. Arms beside body, legs straight. Covered by a pile of stones. 6 inches to left of head a piece of bone which shows signs of having been sharpened.

*Skeleton 4.* On North West side lying along bottom of ditch. Head to South West, body straight. Arms straight beside body, left hand on pelvis, right hand beside pelvis.

#### FINDS.

(See Plate II, b, c and d).

1. With Primary Cremation. Bronze blade, probably a razor. The blade is badly corroded, but probably measured about  $3\frac{3}{8}$  inches in length and 1 inch at the greatest width. There is a broad tang with one rivet hole in it, and well marked holders. Down the centre of the blade on both sides are traces of a band of cross hatched ornament. The blade is similar to one from Pollacorrage, Co. Galway,\* except that the tang in the Carrowbeg example is less pronounced and broader. Knockast, Co. Westmeath,† and Glenaree, Co. Limerick,‡

\* This *Journal*, Vol. XVIII, 1936, pp. 44. ff.

† *P.R.I.A.*, XLII, p. 232. ff.

‡ *North Munster Ant. Journ.*, 1936, Vol. I, pp. 34-5.

all of which have been found with cordoned urns, and may be dated to the Late Bronze Age. Professor O Ríordáin has suggested\* that the blade was fixed in a wooden handle which allowed it to swing in the manner of a modern razor. Dr. Mahr has recently drawn attention to the ritual use of the razor in burials of the Middle and Late Bronze Age in Ireland.

2. With Secondary Burial, *Skeleton 1*. Bronze locket made by fastening two circular disks  $15/16$  of an inch in diameter to a circular strip of bronze  $3/16$  of an inch in width. On to this strip is a small bronze loop, through which moves freely a second bronze ring, by which it was suspended on the right shoulder. There is no ornament on it by which it can be precisely dated. It is reminiscent of a Roman seal box,† but these have (a) two holes through which the string of the sealed package passed and (b) they open on a hinge to take the seal. The locket has neither of these features, and I can only suggest that it was a reliquary.‡ There was however, no fragment of bone within, and if it contained a relic, it must have been of some perishable material. A possible parallel is a similar locket found with an Anglian skeleton at Gartonslack, Yorks.§ On the under side there is the remains of a piece of cloth which has the appearance of a coarse linen.

3. With Secondary Inhumation, *Skeleton 1*. Close to the left foot were eleven small spherical bone beads from  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch in diameter. A twelfth bead also of bone  $9/16$  of an inch in length and  $3/16$  of an inch in diameter is cylindrical, forming three segments. It is pierced down its length and also across the centre. It seems a descendant of a type found in the Highland zone of England and Scotland, though there it is rather larger and has been found with overhanging rim urns, cordoned urns, and encrusted urns. Examples are known from Stanton Moor, Derbyshire,|| Towthorpe, Yorks E.R.,¶

\* *Prehistory*, New Ser., III, p. 378.

† R. G. Collingwood : *Archaeology of Roman Britain*, p. 698, Fig. 76. e.

‡ *B. M. Guide to Greek and Roman Life*, p. 145, Fig. 165. d.

R. E. M. Wheeler : *London in Roman Times*, p. 108, Fig. 33.

§ Mortimer : *Forty Years Researches in British and Saxon Burial Mounds of E. Yorks*, pp. 248-9, Pl. LXXXIV, Fig. 643.

|| *Journal Derbyshire Arch. and Nat. Hist. Soc.*, New Ser., Vol. X, p. 29, Pl. I.

¶ Mortimer : *Forty Years Researches*.

Near Pickering, Yorks, N.R.,\* and in Scotland Over Migvie, Angus,† Seggiecrook, Aberdeen,‡ Loanhead of Daviot,§ Milnagavie, Dunbartonshire,|| Dalmore, Ross.¶ There are three examples from Denmark.\*\*

## TUMULUS II.

(See Plates III and IV).

Tumulus II stands on an esker ridge a few yards to the north of the Smithy opposite Carrowbeg House, and is known locally as Mary Skerrett's grave. It is a grass covered mound, cut into at the Southern End by gravel workings in the esker.

### METHOD OF EXCAVATION.

The mound was trenched from the southern, eastern, and western sides, cut so that sections across the mound could be drawn. It was impossible, owing to the time at our disposal, to cut a trench from the north side.

### STRUCTURE AND BURIAL.

The mound, from its position on the esker appears much larger than is really the case. The mound stood 3 feet 6 inches above the undisturbed soil, but its height above the surrounding land was 7 feet 3 inches. The tumulus had not probably been made quite so high in the first place, for on the summit was a smaller mound 13 feet 6 inches in diameter, which had added 1 foot 3 inches to its original height. This smaller mound was composed of gritty earth and contained a number of very small fragments of cremated bone (*Cremation 1*). It was divided from the larger mound below by a layer of soft dark earth, 6 inches in depth, which represented the turf on the top of the original tumulus.

The tumulus was composed of the sand and gravel of the esker, mixed with a little earth and was surrounded by a small

\* Mitchelson Coll. York. Mus.

† *P.S.A.*, S. LXIV, p. 28.

‡ *Ibid.*, S. XLII, p. 212.

§ *Ibid.*, S. LXX, p. 299, ff. Fig. 100.

|| Nat. Mus. Scotland, Edinburgh.

¶ *P.S.A.*, S. XIII, p. 256.

\*\* Sophus Muller, *Ordning*, No. 232.

ditch 1 foot 6 inches in width, and 1 foot deep, filled with dark earthy silt up to the surface level. The diameter from the outside of the ditches across the tumulus was 56 feet 6 inches. Below the mound, which originally, before the building of the smaller secondary mound described above, stood to a height of 2 feet 3 inches, was a spread of yellowish clay on the old ground surface on the western side of the mound. On this clay were a number of boulders but they formed no sort of structure. There was no trace of a turf line below the mound. At the centre was a small hollow 1 foot in diameter and 6 inches deep containing a few very comminuted fragments of cremated bone (*Cremation 2*). There was no sign of disturbance above this deposit. 2 feet south of this cremation was a circular pit 5 feet in diameter and 2 feet 6 inches deep containing an oblong cist built up by four upright slabs of carboniferous limestone and covered by another slab. This slab rested only on two opposite corners of the cist, and on the top of it was a smaller square slab, which made the larger slab balance exactly. Although 6 men could with difficulty remove the cover stone, yet it could be rocked with the pressure of one's little finger. Inside the cist was a cremation (*Cremation 3*), with a small plano-convex knife. The interior dimensions of the cist were : Length, 1 foot 6 inches ; breadth, 1 foot ; height, 1 foot 9 inches. The two longer sides were parallel, but the two shorter sides were slightly inclined towards each other. The slabs varied from 6 to 9 inches thick. The cist was not paved and the bones rested on the natural gravel of the esker. Between the cist and the sides of the hole in which it was built was a packing of small rounded pebbles, which had also been heaped over the cover-stone. There was no signs of disturbance over this grave and like *Cremation 2*, it was a primary deposit.

## TUMULUS II.

### FINDS.

1. *With Primary Cremation in Cist.* Plano-Convex knife of white flint 1 9/16 of an inch long and 11/16 of an inch in width. The under surface shows retains the flake surface with a well marked bulb and striking platform. The upper surface

shows delicate pressure flaking down both sides, and the ridge is slightly covered with stalagmite from the cist. Dr. J. G. D. Clarke has shown\* that this type of knife is found in association with Foodvessels and Cinerary Urns in England and Wales. The Irish examples when associated, seem to be found with cinerary urns. There are examples from Killicarney, Co. Cavan,† near Glarryford, Co. Antrim,‡ Glagorm Park, Fenaghy.§

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

I have to thank Mr. Dominic Lynch the owner of the site for his ready permission to excavate ; Dr. T. B. Costelloe for constant help both before and during the excavations ; Mr. W. J. Comerford, who made the preliminary arrangements ; The Most Rev. Joseph Walsh, and the Nuns of the Ursuline and Bon Secours Convents who lent equipment ; the Rev. Gerard Sitwell, O.S.B., and Mark Haidy, O.S.B. ; Messrs. J. A. Gardiner, E. D. Tappe, J. Hastings and B. A. McSwiney, who helped during the excavations ; Professor Shea for his report on the skeletal material, and Mr. C. D. Ovey for his report on the Geological formation of the site.

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### APPENDIX I.

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## Geological Note

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By C. D. OVEY, B.Sc., F.G.S.

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THE basic rock of the district is Carboniferous Limestone which is bedded horizontally. Overlying this are drumlins, kames and outwash gravels of glacial origin. The relative position of these show that the general direction of ice movement over the district was from the north-east, and the presence of striations in this direction on the summit of Castle

\* *Ant. Journ.*, XII, p. 158.

† *J.R.S.A.I.*, 4th. Ser. V, p. 192, Fig. 62.

‡ *Ibid.*, IX, p. 110 and Pl. 1, 2.

§ *Ibid.*, p. 110.

Hacket Hill with an erratic of Old Red Sandstone possibly derived from a small inlier to the north of Dunmore, confirms the assumption. At Treanbaun there is a small lough which has been artificially drained, exposing white, laminated deposits of calcareous clay with *Limnæa pereger* and *Sphaerium corneum*, overlain beyond by thick deposits of peat. Between this area and an esker immediately east of Carrowbeg House, there is a turlough or a low-lying area which becomes flooded occasionally during very wet weather. This is bounded to the south by glacial deposits, a kame which has been banked up against the limestone of Castle Hacket Hill,—and to the north by a meandering ose, opening out to the east into the bogs which surround Lough Treanbaun. In the turlough, a trial-hole was dug and a laminated brown clay was found similar in character to the white clay of Lough Treanbaun, and containing a specimen of *Sphaerium corneum*. It is almost entirely composed of calcium carbonate with a small residue of subangular quartz grains and minute fragments of Carboniferous Limestone. A single small fragment of flint was also found, indicating that material was washed into the lake of that time from the neighbouring glacial deposits.

Carrowbeg North is situated about 150 yards to the east of Carrowbeg House, and was constructed on a thin layer of clay about 6 to 10 inches in thickness. The clay rests upon some 18 inches of badly sorted outwash gravels probably derived from the esker situated to the north during the period of ice retreat. Beneath this is a weathered surface of Carboniferous Limestone. The clay appears to be of uneven thickness and contains a varying amount of detrital material including small angular pieces of limestone, mica, quartz grains and fragments of other rocks. Apart from the presence of the limestone, there is little calcium carbonate in it, and none was found in a sample taken from the base of the mound nor in that which must have been used to cover the mound. Also, in this sample there is evidence of dehydration of iron oxides which consists mostly of fine, subangular quartz grains. A sample from the top of the cairn shows the presence of some lime and no dehydration, indicating that the clay was placed above after the cremation had been completed. Another sample from the clay between the cairn and the ditch contained much

carbonate with a small residue of grains of all sizes of quartz, limestone, sandstone and other rocks. No carbonate was found in samples taken from trial-holes within 30 yards of the mound itself. There was no clay immediately above the gravels beyond the ditch, and it appears that this was removed and used in the construction of the mound as a mortar for the boulders which cover the cremation hearth. There is evidence that this mortar has been removed by leaching from the centre of the mound by percolation of rain through a circular cavity at the summit, but in places the boulders are found resting on, embedded in and covered by the clay particularly along the periphery of the cairn.

The origin of the clay seems to have been due to water trickling over the outwash gravels when these were possibly in a semi-frozen state, and there was a channel between the old windmill and Carrowbeg House where the esker has been breached, and this drained into the turlough. Evidence for this channel is shown by a very fine sand of at least 3 feet in depth, found in a trail-hole in the breach. The sand consists of very small quartz grains and no calcareous material, or other fragments, indicating sorting by water action. It seemed to be unbedded and this may have been due to a constant trickle of water coming from the area in which Carrowbeg North is situated, and draining into the turlough to the east.

The Carboniferous Limestone (see *Fig. 1*) immediately beneath the mound consists of an upper 12 inches of black limestone ('Upper' Limestone) and below this a much weathered limestone about 6 inches in thickness with numerous silicified fossils (Silicified Limestone). Beneath this bed is a hard, black limestone again ('Lower' Limestone). It is curious that most of the boulders on the cairn are derived from the fossiliferous band, and it seems that the upper layer was weathered and jointed into more satisfactory blocks for human use than the underlying, roughly weathered bed. The latter appears to have been excavated and the top layer used to cover the bodies. The boulders on the cairn have had their edges rounded by solution so must have been there for some considerable length of time.

## APPENDIX II.

**Report on the Human Remains**

By PROFESSOR STEPHEN SHEA, M.D.

THE remains are composed of the skeletons of four individuals who had been inhumed and of four who had been cremated. The four inhumed skeletons have been designated by Mr. Willmot Numbers 1 to 4, from Carrowbeg North A. (See *Plate IV (b)*, and *Plates V to IX*).

## SKELETON NO. 1

*Sex* : This skeleton is that of a female, as is shown by the very small size of the bones, the form of the sacrum, the outline of the sciatic notch, the presence of prae-auricular sulci and the form and proportions of the pubic part of the pelvis.

*Age* : The sutures of the skull are all open. The teeth are all present except for the lower incisors which were lost post mortem, and the lower wisdom teeth. The upper wisdom teeth are not fully erupted. The lower wisdom teeth have not yet appeared. The age is probably between 20 and 25 years.

*Stature* : It was possible to measure the maximum lengths of the left humerus, the right radius, the left ulna, the right femur and the left and right tibiae. According to Pearson's formula (*e*) the stature in the living state was 4' 9". According to Pearson's formula (*i*) the stature was 4' 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". There is nothing special to report about the vertebrae and ribs. The sacrum and the left os innominatum are well preserved. There is no flattening of the humeral shaft. The upper end of the ulna, the right femur and the tibia show flattening, which is well marked in the femur and tibiae. The femora show 3rd trochanters and fossae hypertrochantericae with slight extension of the articular surface of the internal condyle. The tibiae show median squatting facets. The right tibia gives an angle of retroversion of 17° and an angle of inclination



of  $12^\circ$ . Retroversion is much more pronounced in this skeleton than in numbers 2 and 3, where the angles of retroversion are  $12^\circ$  and  $13^\circ$  and the angles of inclination  $7.5^\circ$  and  $8^\circ$  respectively. The left astragalus gives an angle of deviation (for the neck) of  $29^\circ$ . The following are the angles of deviation of the astraguli of the skeletons, numbers 3, 3 and 4:

Skeleton No. 2— $20^\circ$

Skeleton No. 3— $19^\circ$

Skeleton No. 4— $24^\circ$

The astraguli all show small articular ridges on the neck for articulation with the median squatting facet on the lower end of the tibia and extension of the median articular surface. The retroversion of the tibial heads, the deviation of the astragular necks and the presence of squatting facets, show that squatting was an habitual posture for these four people.

The calcaneus shows a well-developed sustentaculum in all four skeletons.

The skull of Skeleton No. 1 is in fragments. As many of the fragments are warped and many other pieces are missing it was not possible to reconstruct it satisfactorily.

#### SKELETON No. 2.

*Sex*: The widely open great sciatic notches, the presence of well formed prae-auricular sulci and the general form of the Pelvis show that the sex is female.

*Age*: The wisdom teeth are cut and one has a small carious cavity. The sphenoccipital suture is closed. The sutures of the vault of the cranium are still open externally. The age is probably between 25 and 30 years.

*Stature*: According to Pearson's formula (*e*) the stature is  $5' 1\frac{1}{2}''$  for the living state.

*Vertebral Column and Ribs*: The ribs and vertebrae are all present but are badly broken. They show no unusual features.

*Limb Bones*: The left humerus, left radius, and left tibia are available for measurement of maximal lengths. The left femur was broken but was repaired and the length accurately ascertained. Details of the measurements are given in Table IV.

The humeri show eurybrachy, the left ulna platyleny, the femora and the right tibia moderate platymeria and platycnemia respectively. The median squatting facets are present in each tibia. The bones are robust. The femora show 3rd trochanters and increase of the articular area of the internal condyle.

*Skull*: This skull was very well preserved although it was soft and filled with earth. The face had been laterally compressed to a slight degree. Most of the measurements may be regarded as accurate. Those of the face and the basi-alveolar length, owing to the crushing of the face are only approximately correct. This skull is peculiar in that its height exceeds its width. It is dolicocephalic (*C.I.* 71), orthocranial (*H.L.I.*, 71.6), and acrocranial (*H.B.I.*, 100.7). It is, therefore, a long narrow skull, high in proportion to its width. The face is orthognathic with alveolar prognathism. The left orbit is of moderate height (*Index* 82). The nose is narrow (*I.*, 42.5). The palate is broad (*I.*, 126). The cubic capacity of the skull, estimated by direct measurement with mustard seed, is 1,250 ccs. According to Welcher's table the cubic capacity is 1359 ccs. As it is impossible to be sure that all the earth is removed from the interior of the skull, a larger capacity than 1,250 ccs. is probable.

*Observations*: Viewed in the norma verticalis the skull is ovoid and phaenozygous. The sutures are open on its external surface. Seen in profile the glabella is well developed for a female skull. The forehead slopes very slightly backwards. There is a little post-bregmatic flattening. The post-parietal part of the arch curves gradually downwards. The occiput is prominent, the inion is moderate. The mastoid processes are small. Each external auditory meatus is practically filled with exostoses. The vault appears high. Seen from in front the skull again appears highly arched with practically vertical sides. The face is long and narrow. The orbits are of medium height with axes inclined downwards and outwards. The upper border of the orbit is sharp. The glabella and supraciliary processes are well formed. The malar bones are not prominent. The zygoma on the left side with the cheek-bone had been pressed a little way towards the middle line. The nose is high and narrow. Incisive fossae are present. The palate is broad

and high, the alveolar arch is paraboloid. A palatine torus is absent. The second left lower premolar, the first right upper premolar and the second and third right upper molars were lost post mortem. The incisors and molars, with the exception of the wisdoms, show marked wear. The right lower wisdom tooth shows a small carious cavity in the crown. The teeth are otherwise sound

The mandible is of moderate strength and the angles are not everted. The chin is moderately developed.

### SKELETON No. 3.

*Sex* : The sex of this skeleton is male, as is shown by the size of the bones, the masculine form of the pelvis and the great sciatic notch, the absence of prae-auricular sulci and the development of the glabella and supraciliary ridges of the skull.

*Age* : The sutures of the cranial vault are all open. The basi-sphenoid and the basi-occipital bones are fused. Three wisdom teeth are fully developed. One, the right upper wisdom, is suppressed. Two of the three wisdoms show slight wear. The age is, therefore, between 25 and 30 years.

*Vertebrae and Ribs* : The whole vertebral column is present in good condition. The ribs are nearly all broken. The sacrum is of the male type.

*Limb Bones* : The limb bones are all represented. Some of them are broken and eroded. The right humerus, the right and left radius and ulna, the femora and left tibia allowed of measurement of the maximal lengths. The stature, according to Pearson's formula (*e*) is 5' 7½" in the living state. The humerus, ulnae, femora, and tibia all show flattening. This is pronounced in the ulnae, femora and tibiae. The bones are robust with well developed muscle markings. The femora both show a 3rd trochanter with crista and fossae hypotrochantica. Both tibia show a median squatting facet. The clavicles, of which the left is broken, show a curious trumpet-like, sternal articular surface. This is seen particularly well in the right clavicle. Large foramina for blood vessels occupy the centre of the concavity. It is difficult to explain this condition, unless it is due to osteo-arthritis. There is a slight suggestion of lipping in many other joints in the

body. There is marked lipping on the borders of the articular surface of the right radius.

*The Skull*: The skull, which was in fragments, allowed, after many attempts of reconstruction of the calvarium only. It was not possible to fit the face together and to attach it to the skull, with any degree of accuracy. It was possible to fit occipital fragments in place so as to enable height measurements to be taken. The skull is remarkable for its large size. Its estimated cubic capacity is, according to Lee's formula, 1652 ccs. It is mesaticephalic (*C.I.*, 75). It is orthocranial (*Index*, 73.2) and metro-cranial (*I.*, 97.2). That is, it is a moderately broad skull and its vertical height is moderate as compared both with its length and its width. The forehead is broad. Viewed from above the skull is ovoid in outline. It is phaenozygous. The sutures are open. Viewed from the side the glabella and brow ridges are seen to be moderate for a male skull. The forehead recedes slightly. The cranial vault curves smoothly until the post-parietal region is reached where it bends rather sharply down. The occiput is fairly prominent. The mastoids are large. Viewed from in front the globular outline of the cranial arch is noticeable. A metopic suture is present.

The palate is broad and of moderate height. The alveolar arch is paraboloid. There is no torus. The mandible is strong with markedly everted angles and prominent square chin. All the teeth are present except the right upper wisdom tooth, which is suppressed and the right upper canine, lost post mortem. The degree of wear of the teeth has been mentioned already in connection with the estimation of the age of the individual. The incisors were ground together in edge to edge movements.

#### SKELETON 4.

Almost all of this skeleton is present, but most of the bones are broken. It was possible to reconstruct and measure the right humerus, the right femur and the left tibia.

*Sex*: The sex is female. This is not so evident at first, owing to the presence of well-marked brow-ridges and glabella on the skull, and the masculine outline of the great sciatic notch. There are well-formed prae-auricular sulci present,

however, and the form and the size of the pubic portion of the pelvis, as compared with the acetabulum show that the sex is female. The sub-pubic angle is wide. This conclusion is strengthened by the presence of small mastoids and sharp upper orbital margins, and by the general size and appearance of the limb bones.

*Age*: The cranial sutures in the vault are open. The sphenoccipital suture in the base is closed. The wisdom teeth are fully erupted. The age is probably between 25 and 30 years.

*Stature*: The living stature, calculated according to Pearson's formula (*e*), is 5' 1". The limb bones are robust and show well-developed muscle markings. The humerus, femur and tibia show flattening. The femora show third trochanters and cristae and fossae hypertrochantericae. The right tibia shows a median squatting facet. There is nothing worthy of special note about the vertebrae and ribs.

*Skull*: The skull had been broken into fragments and it was reconstructed only with the greatest difficulty. The measurements and indices can only approximate to the actual. It is mesaticephalic (*C.I.*, 78). It is orthocranial (*H.L.I.*, 70.3). It is tapeino-cranial (*H.B. Index*, 90). That is, it is like Skull No. 3, a moderately wide rather low skull. The forehead is narrow when compared with the greatest parietal width. The orbits are low (*O.I.*, 75.6). The nose is narrow (*N.I.*, 38.7). The complete face is long, while the upper face is moderately wide. The palate is of moderate width. The capacity of the skull according to Welcker's Table is 1405 ccs. It is a large skull for a female.

*Observations*: When viewed from above the skull is seen to be rather broad ovoid in outline, and is cryptozygous. The sutures are open. In profile, it shows, for a female skull, very well-marked brow-ridges and glabella. The forehead slopes backwards. The arch of the skull vault passes evenly upwards and backwards without flattening on top. The occiput projects very slightly beyond the post-parietal arch. The mastoids are small. Viewed from in front the cranial vault appears low and has a globular outline. The brow-ridges and glabella are well-marked. The orbits appear low with axes inclined downwards and outwards. The upper

orbital margin is sharp. The full face is long, the upper face appears comparatively wide. The chin is prominent and triangular. The teeth, of which 7 incisors and 2 molars are missing, show the same kind of wear as do these other of the skulls. The mandible is strong, with everted angles.

### RACE.

The skulls of Skeletons 3 and 4 resemble Irish iron age skulls, such as those found at Mount Wilson,\* Bray,† Knockast,‡ and Pollacorrage,§ in their mesaticephaly and lowness of the vault. The skull of Skeleton No. 2 resembles the neolithic type in its marked dolicocephaly and particularly in its height. Its height is greater than its width. Lowness of the cranial vault is regarded as the chief characteristic of the iron age skull. I think, however, that the width of this skull has been reduced by post-mortem lateral compression. The surface of the parietal bone on the right side lies 1 to 2 mm. deeper than the surface of the frontal bone at the fronto-parietal suture. If these two mm. be added to the width of the skull then the width becomes slightly greater than the height and the skull corresponds to the requirements for the iron-age period.

In the skeletons there is very little evidence on which to base a judgment of the "age" of the skeletons. There is one point that is possibly of value, the angle formed at the junction of the neck and shaft of the radius (the collo-diaphysial angle). This angle is  $170^\circ$  in Skeleton No. 1,  $175^\circ$  in No. 2,  $177^\circ$  in No. 3, and  $166^\circ$  in No. 4. R. Martin|| gives  $165^\circ$  to  $177^\circ$  as the range of the angles in modern Europeans. The skeletons A and B from Pollacorrage,§, which are definitely of iron age give angles of  $174^\circ$  and  $166^\circ$ . On the other hand three Bronze Age Irish skeletons from Park, Co. Galway,¶ Annaghkeen, Co. Galway,\*\* and Stonepark, Co. Roscommon††

\* Grattan, J., 1853: *U.J.A.*, Vol. I, p. 98.

† Wakeman, W. F., 1894: *J.R.S.A.I.*, Vol. 24, p. 54; Vol. 25, p. 106.

Note: I am indebted to Prof. C. P. Martin's *Prehistoric Man in Ireland*, 1935, for references Nos. 1 and 2., and for list of measurements of the Mount Wilson and Bray skulls.

‡ Hencken, H. O'N, and Movius, H.L.: *P.R.I.A.*, Vol. XIC, p. 232.

§ Riley and Shea: *This Journal*, Vol. XVIII, Nos. i and ii, 1936, p. 56.

|| R. Martin: *Lehrbuch der Anthropologie*, Bd. 2. 5. 1109.

¶ Shea: *This Journal*, Vol. XVII, Nos. i and ii, 1936, p. 24.

\*\* Costelloe and Shea: *This Journal*, Vol. XII, p. 119.

†† Shea: *J.R.S.A.I.*, Vol. LXI, 1929, pp. 100-104, pp. 105-113.

give angles of  $162^{\circ}$ ,  $164^{\circ}$  (Park),  $156^{\circ}$  and  $155^{\circ}$  (Annaghkeen) and  $158^{\circ}$  and  $162^{\circ}$  (Stonepark). These Irish Bronze Age skeletons in this feature resemble the neolithic radii of Schweizerbild, for which the range of  $154^{\circ}$  to  $170^{\circ}$  is given. As regards the collo-diaphysial angles then the radii from Carrowbeg resemble Irish Iron Age, and modern European radii rather than Irish Bronze Age or European neolithic radii. There are not sufficient data relating to this angle in early Irish skeletons to enable one to judge its value, but the difference is there in the material at my disposal and it corroborates, for what it is worth, the form of the skulls in referring the individuals to the iron age at the earliest.

*Summary* : The skeletons are the remains of three women, and a man. Numbers 1, 2 and 4 are female. Number 3 is male. The ages of all four are between 25 and 30 years. The stature of the females ranged between 4' 9" and 5' 2½" and that of the male was 5' 7½". Racially the remains resemble most closely those attributed to the Iron Age.

### CREMATIONS.

The cremated remains from Carrowbeg are divided into two groups, those from Carrowbeg North A and those from Carrowbeg North B.

All these remains which are those of four individuals, were very fragmentary. It was possible only to identify the bones as human in most cases. In some cases sex and age could be determined. The following is a list of the finds :

CARROWBEG NORTH A. *Cremation A*. Remains of one human adult, probably male. A little charcoal. One fragment of animal bone.

CARROWBEG NORTH B. *Cremation 1*. Bone so comminuted that I could not determine whether it is human bone or not.

*Cremation 2*. One human adult. Some small animal bone fragments.

*Cremation 3*. One human adult.

TABLE I  
**Measurements of Skulls—Carrowbeg North A.**

	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4
Age	20 - 25	25 - 30	25 - 30	25 - 30
Sex	F	F	M	F
Cubic Capacity	....	1250 cc. to 1,300 ccs.	1652 cc.	1400 cc.
Greatest Glabello--Occip.				
Length	....	185·5	196·5	182
Greatest Width	....	132	148	142
Basi-bregmatic height	....	133	144?	128
Basi-Nasal Diameter	....	94	104	94
Basi-alveolar	....	86?	....	94?
Bi-zygomatic	....	123	....	126?
Min. Frontal	....	91	106 ?	93
Max Frontal	....	112·5	130 ?	120
Ariculo Breg. height	....	120·5	124	116
Orbital width (max. front)				
right	....	42	....	....
Orbital width—left	....	....	....	41
Orbital height—right	....	34·5	....	....
left	....	....	....	31
Ant. Inter-orbital breadth	....	17·5	....	....
Nasal height	....	47	....	49
Nasal Width	....	20	....	19
Naso-alveolar length	....	66·5	....	67
Naso-mental length	....	113·5	....	118
Palatal length (Pal. maxill.)	....	43·5	....	50
Palatal width (maxill. alv.)	....	55	64	55
Horizontal Circ. above Glab.	....	510	....	520
Total Sagittal Arc	....	380	410	377
Frontal Sagittal Arc	....	130	140	121
Parietal Sagittal Arc	....	133	135	136
Occipital Arc	....	117	135	120
Transverse Arc	....	306	336	310
Inter angular front. breadth	....	99	....	99



TABLE II  
Indices of Skulls—Carrowbeg North A.

	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4
Cephalic Index.....	....	71	75	78
Height—Length Index .....	....	71·6	73·2	70·3
Height—Breadth Index .....	....	100·7	97·2	90
Gnathic Index .....	....	91	....	100 ?
Trans. frontal-parietal Ind. ....	....	68·9	71·6	65·5
Trans. frontal Index .....	....	80·8	81·5	77·5
Auric. height length Index....	....	69	63·1	63·7
Auric. height breadth Index .....	....	91	83·7	87
Cranial Module .....	....	150·1	162·8	150·6
Orbital Index (right) .....	....	82	....	....
Orbital Index (left) .....	....	....	....	75·6
Nasal Index .....	....	42·5	....	38·7
Complete facial Index .....	....	92	....	93
Upper facial Index .....	....	54	....	53
Palatal Index .....	....	126	....	110
Mandibular L. B. Index.....	85·8	88·3	83·8	92
Zygo-gonial Index .....	....	74·8	....	79

TABLE III  
Measurements of Mandibles

	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4
Bicondylar Width .....	106	115·5	124	114
Condylar-symphysial length .....	91	102	103	105
Bi-gonial width .....	79	92	117	100
Height ascending ramus .....	51	59	63	59
Minimum breadth ramus .....	30	30	31	28
Symphysial height .....	30	27	35·5	....
Mean Angle .....	122°	122°	115°	123°

TABLE IV

**Measurements of Long Bones of Limbs—  
Carrowbeg North A.**

	No. 1		No. 2		No. 3		No. 4	
	R.	L.	R.	L.	R.	L.	R.	L.
<b>Humerus :</b>								
Maximum Length .....	....	274	317	310	343	....	307	....
Greatest diam. at middle of shaft .....	....	17	20	19	25	....	22	....
Least diam. at middle of shaft .....	....	14	16	16	18·5	....	16	....
Index of Shaft .....	....	82·3	80·0	84·2	76	....	72·7	....
<b>Radius :</b>								
Maximum Length .....	205	....	....	218	253	248	....	....
Transverse width of shaft ....	12·5	....	....	16	20	18	....	....
Ant. post width .....	10	....	....	10·5	13	12	....	....
Index of Shaft .....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Collo-diaphysial angle .....	....	170°	....	175°	177°	....	....	166°
<b>Ulna :</b>								
Maximum length .....	....	224	....	....	274	270	....	....
Greatest Up. Trans. Diam. ....	....	15	....	14	19·5	18·5	....	....
Greatest Up. Ant. post Dm. ....	....	18	....	22	27·5	26	....	....
Index of Platyleny .....	....	83·3	....	63	70·9	71	....	....
<b>Femur :</b>								
Diam. of Head.....	34·5	....	42	42	51	50	44	....
Bicondylar length of shaft....	371	....	....	426	483	484	428	....
Maximum length of shaft .....	372	....	....	430	486	486	429	....
Ant. Post. Diam. at middle of shaft .....	21	....	....	26·5	31·5	32·5	29	....
Trans. Diam. at middle of shaft .....	23·5	....	....	26·5	30	30	28	....
Ant. Post. Diam. at Upper one-third of shaft .....	19	....	23·5	23·5	25	26·5	24	....
Trans Diam. at Upper one-third of shaft .....	26	....	31·5	30	37	37·5	31·5	....
Platymetric Index .....	73	....	74·6	78·3	67·6	70·6	76·2	....
Pilastric Index.....	89·3	....	....	100	105	108	103	....
Index of Robustness .....	11·9	....	....	12·4	12·7	12·8	13·3	....
<b>Tibia :</b>								
Maximum length .....	301	299	343	346	....	382	....	335
Length less spine.....	297	291	338	341	....	375	....	331
Ant. Post. Diam. of shaft at nut. for. ....	26·5	27·5	30	....	37	39	....	32
Trans. Diam. of shaft at nut. for. ....	19	18	23·5	....	25	24·5	....	20
Platycnaemic Index .....	71·7	65·4	78·3	....	67·6	62·8	....	62·5
Squatting facets .....	M+	M+	M+	M+	M+	M+	....	M+
Angle of Retroversion .....	170°	....	12°	....	13°	....	....	....
Angle of Inclination .....	12°	....	7·5°	....	8°	....	....	....



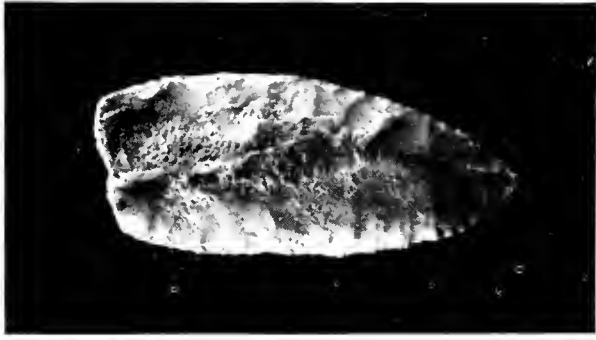
(a)



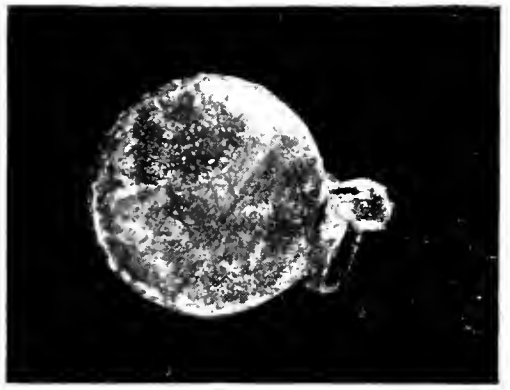
(b)

Plate I.—Carrowbeg North, Tumulus I. (a) From West before excavation, (b) North-East quadrant of inner cairn.





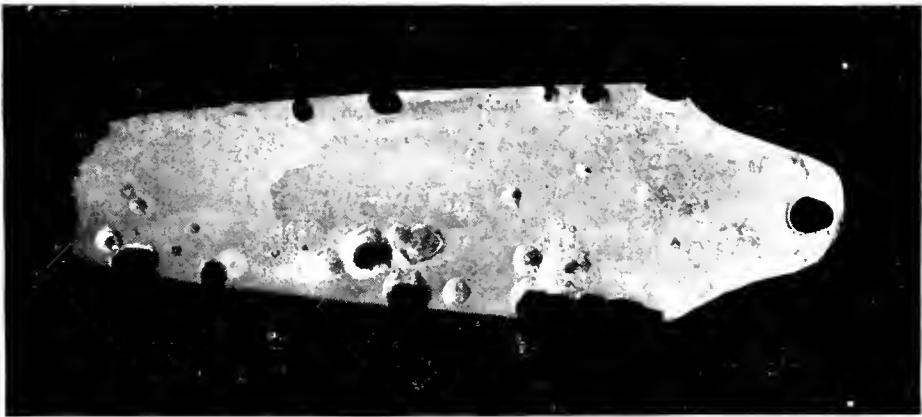
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Plate II.—Carrowbeg North Finds, Tumulus II. (a) Plano-convex Flint knife with primary cremation. Tumulus I. (b) Locket with skeleton 1, (c) Beads with skeleton 1, (d) Bronze razor with primary cremation. All full size,





(a)



(b)

Plate III.—Carrowbeg North, Tumulus II. (a) from West, before excavation (b) Cover stones of cist.



(a)



(b)

Plate IV.—Carrowbeg North, Tumulus II. (a) Cist when opened.  
Tumulus I, (b) Skeleton 2.



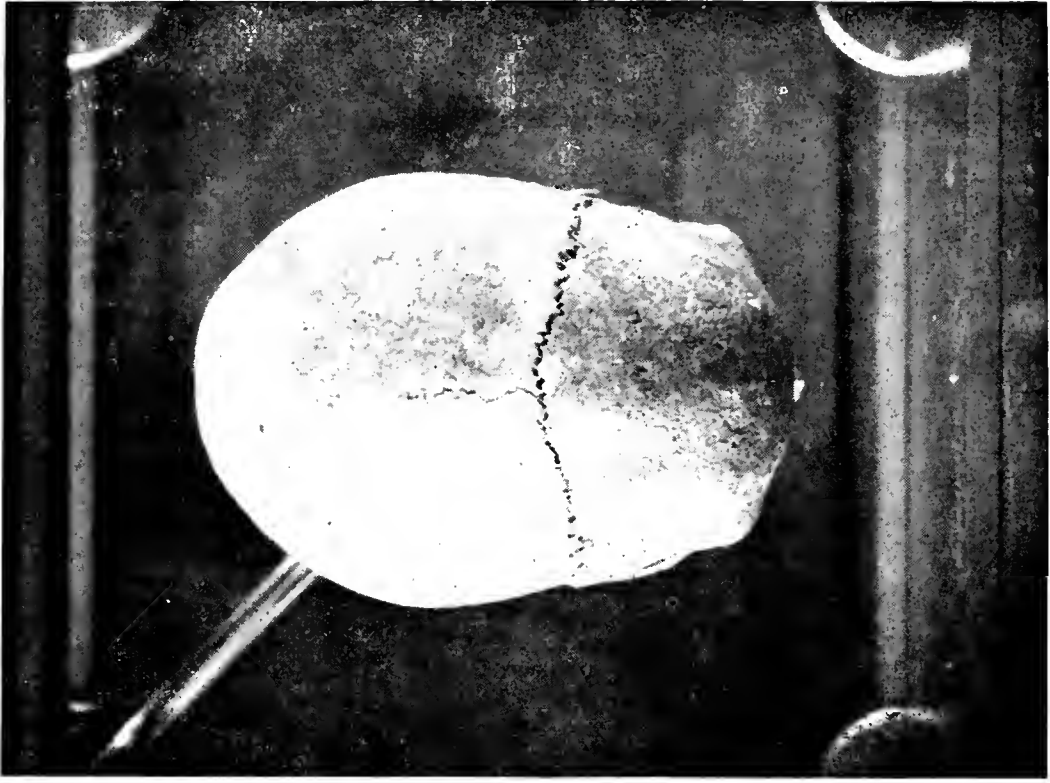


Plate V.—Skull No. 2, Norma verticalis.

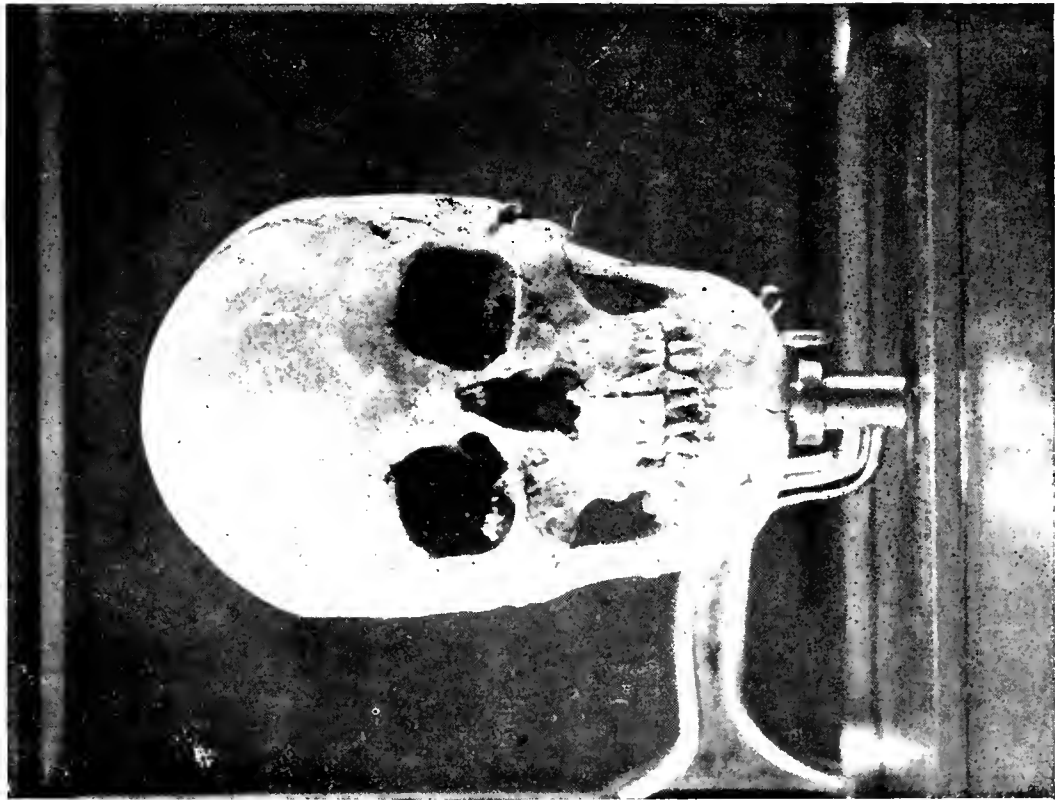


Plate V.—Skull No. 2, Norma facialis.

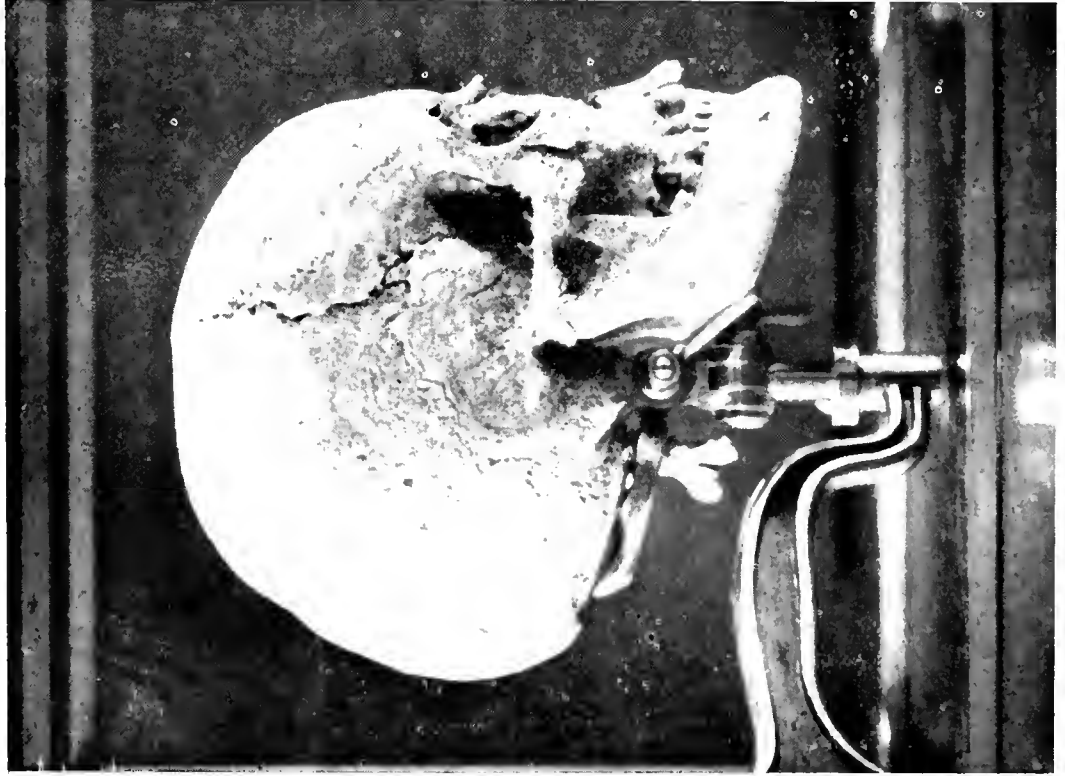


Plate VI.—Skull No. 2, Norma lateralis.

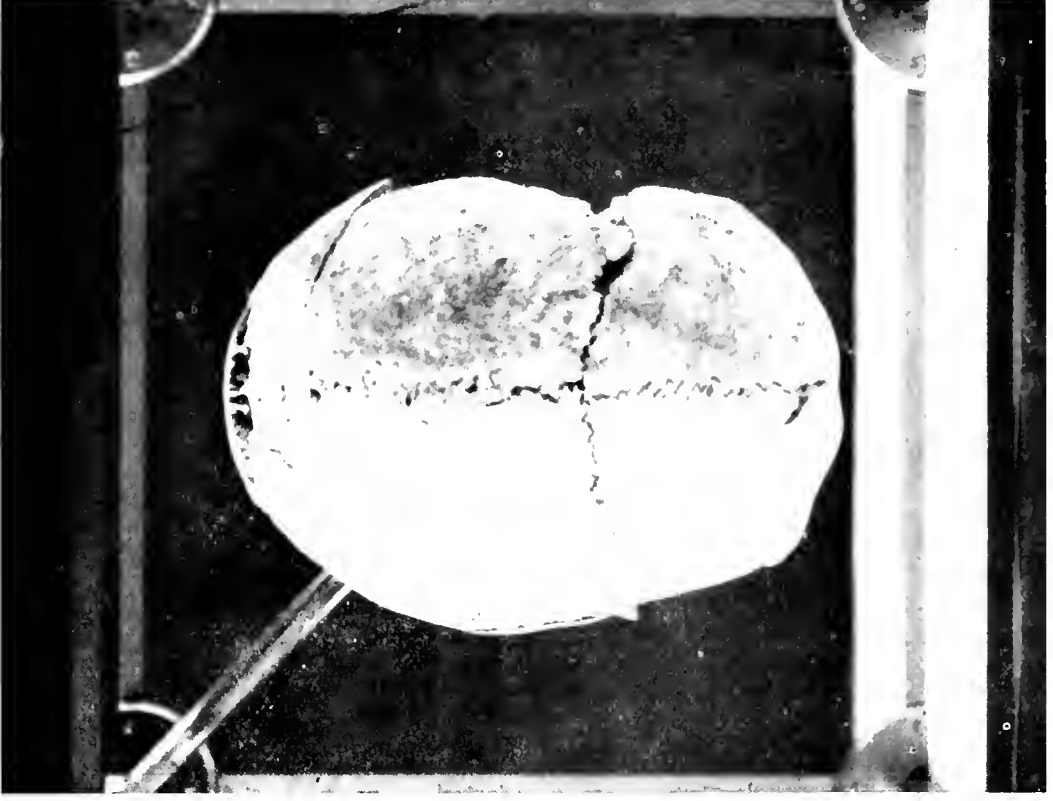


Plate VI.—No. 3, Norma verticalis.

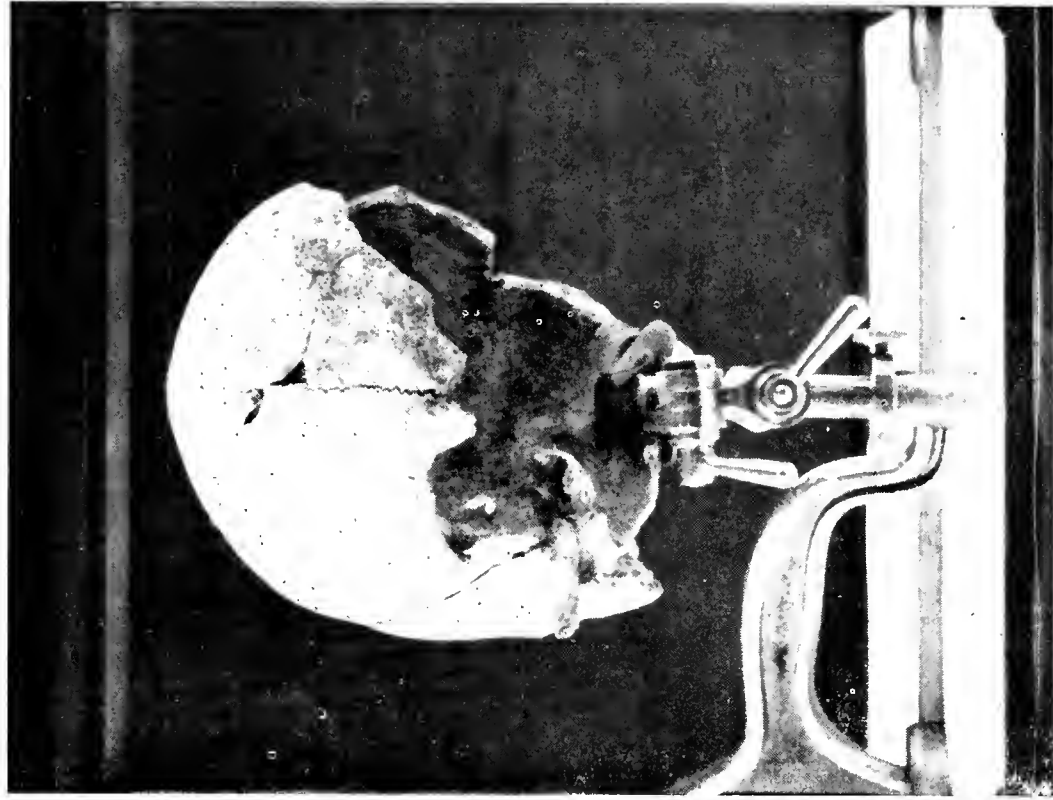


Plate VII.—Skull No. 3, Norma facialis.

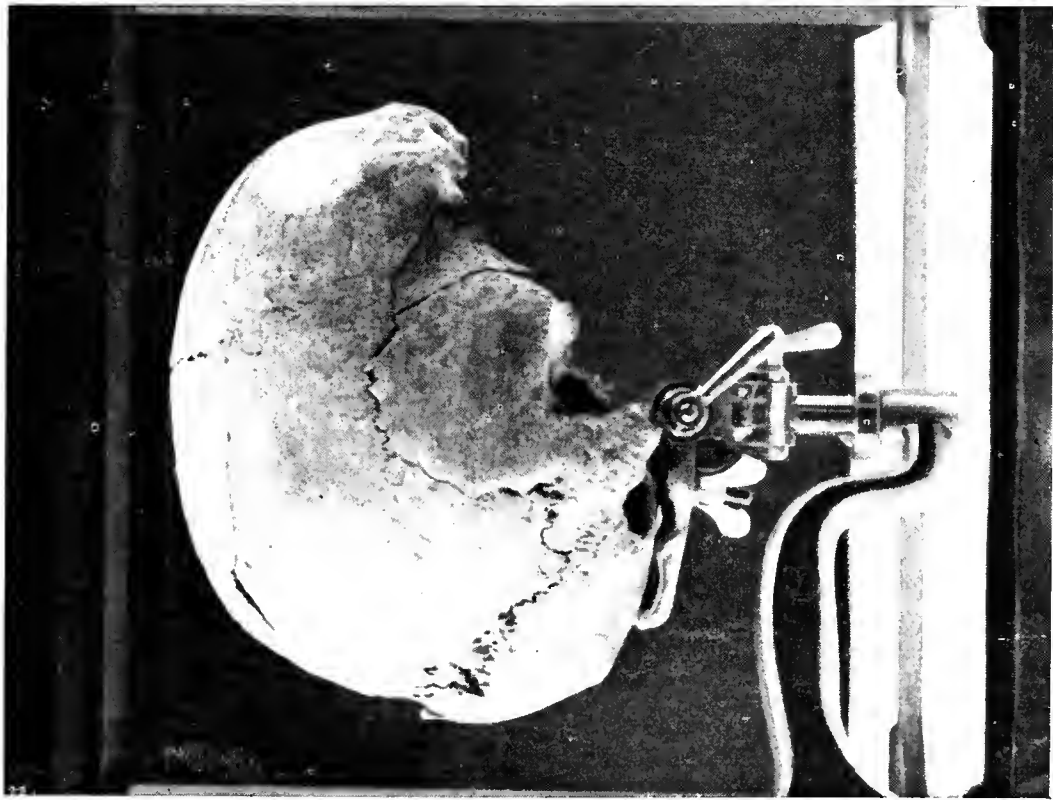


Plate VII.—Skull No. 3, Norma lateralis.

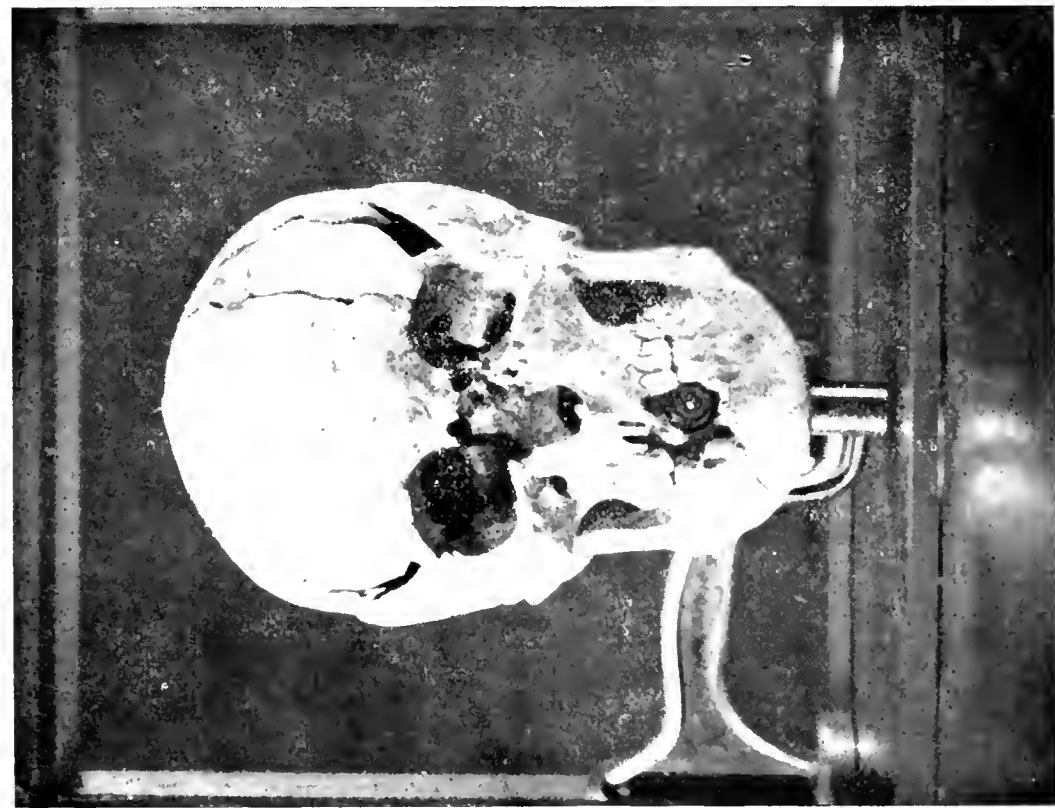


Plate VIII.—Skull No. 4, Norma verticalis.

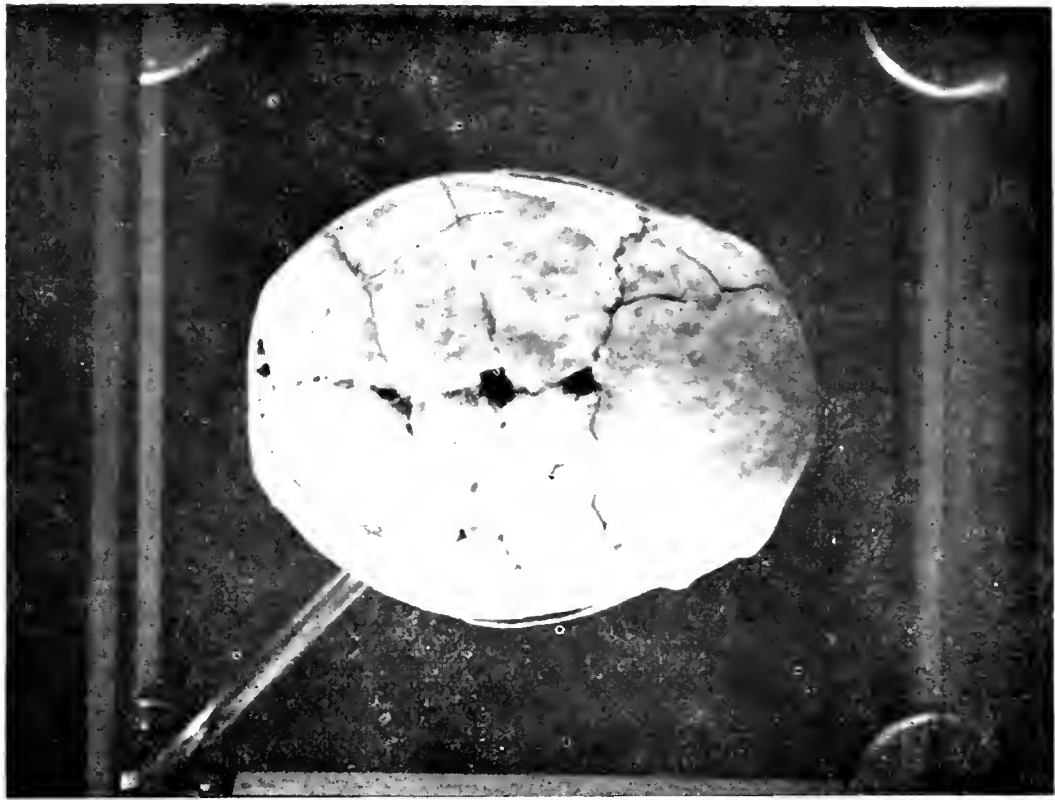


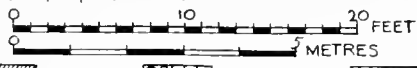
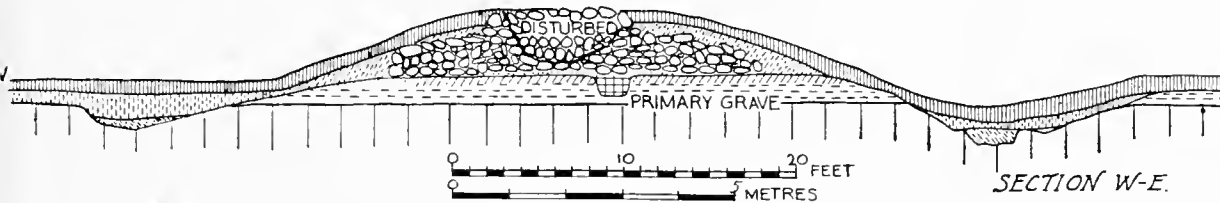
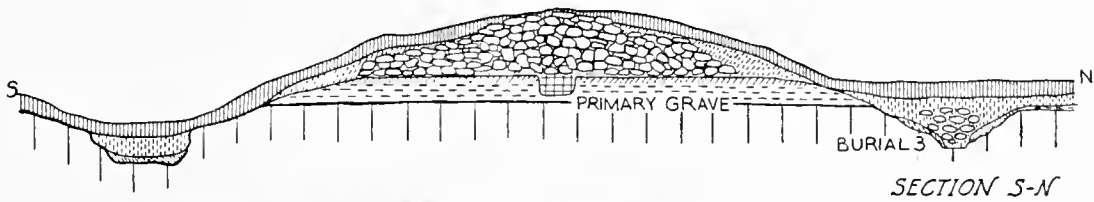
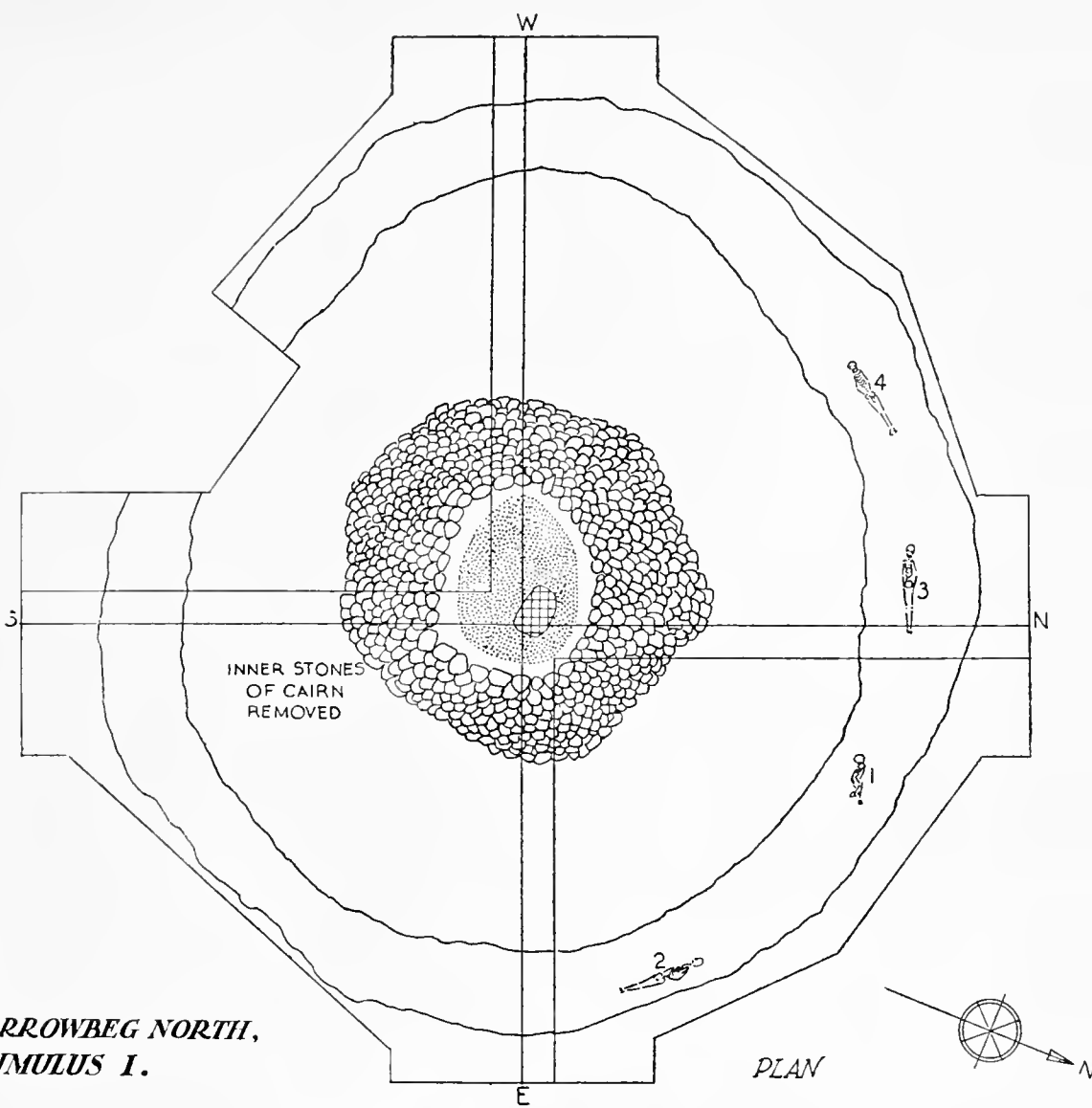
Plate VIII.—Skull No. 4, Norma facialis.



Plate IX.—Skull No. 4, Norma lateralis.



**CARROWBEG NORTH,  
TUMULUS I.**

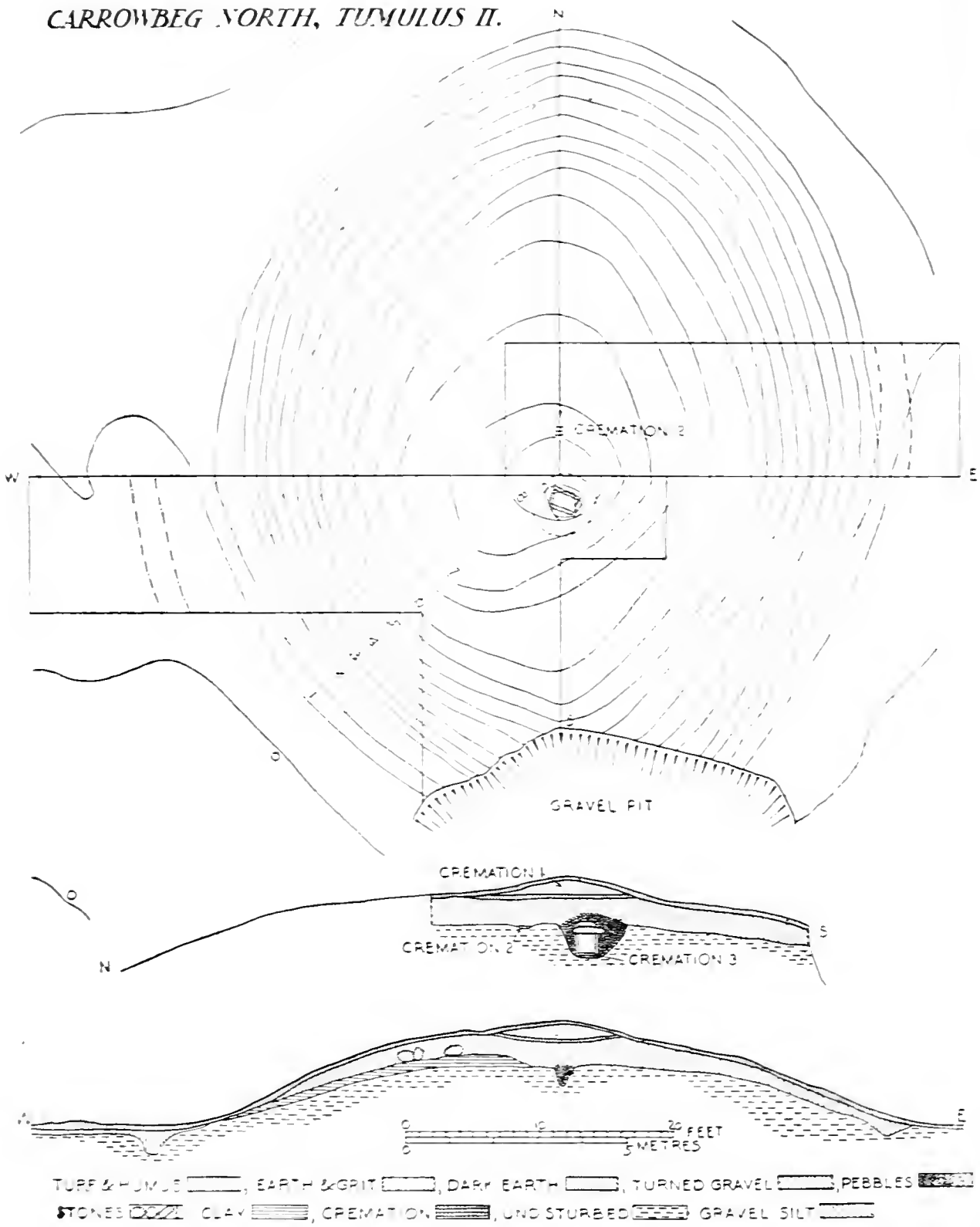


- TURF & HUMUS [diagonal lines], EARTH & CLAY [dotted], STONES [cross-hatch], CHARCOAL [stippled], CREMATION [grid],  
EARTH & CLAY FILL [dotted], DARK CLAY FILL [diagonal lines], CLAY [diagonal lines], GRAVEL [horizontal lines], BEDROCK [vertical lines].

*Plans (on Fig.) Carrowbeg North, Tumulus I*

**Fig. 1.**

CARROWBEG NORTH, TUMULUS II.



TURF & HUMUS [diagonal lines], EARTH & GRIT [horizontal lines], DARK EARTH [solid black], TURNED GRAVEL [dotted pattern], PEBBLES [stippled pattern], STONES [cross-hatch pattern], CLAY [vertical lines], CREMATION [horizontal lines with dots], UNDISTURBED [diagonal lines], GRAVEL SILT [horizontal lines]

Fig. 2.



CARROWBEG NORTH,  
TUMULUS II

PLAN & SECTIONS OF  
PRIMARY CIST

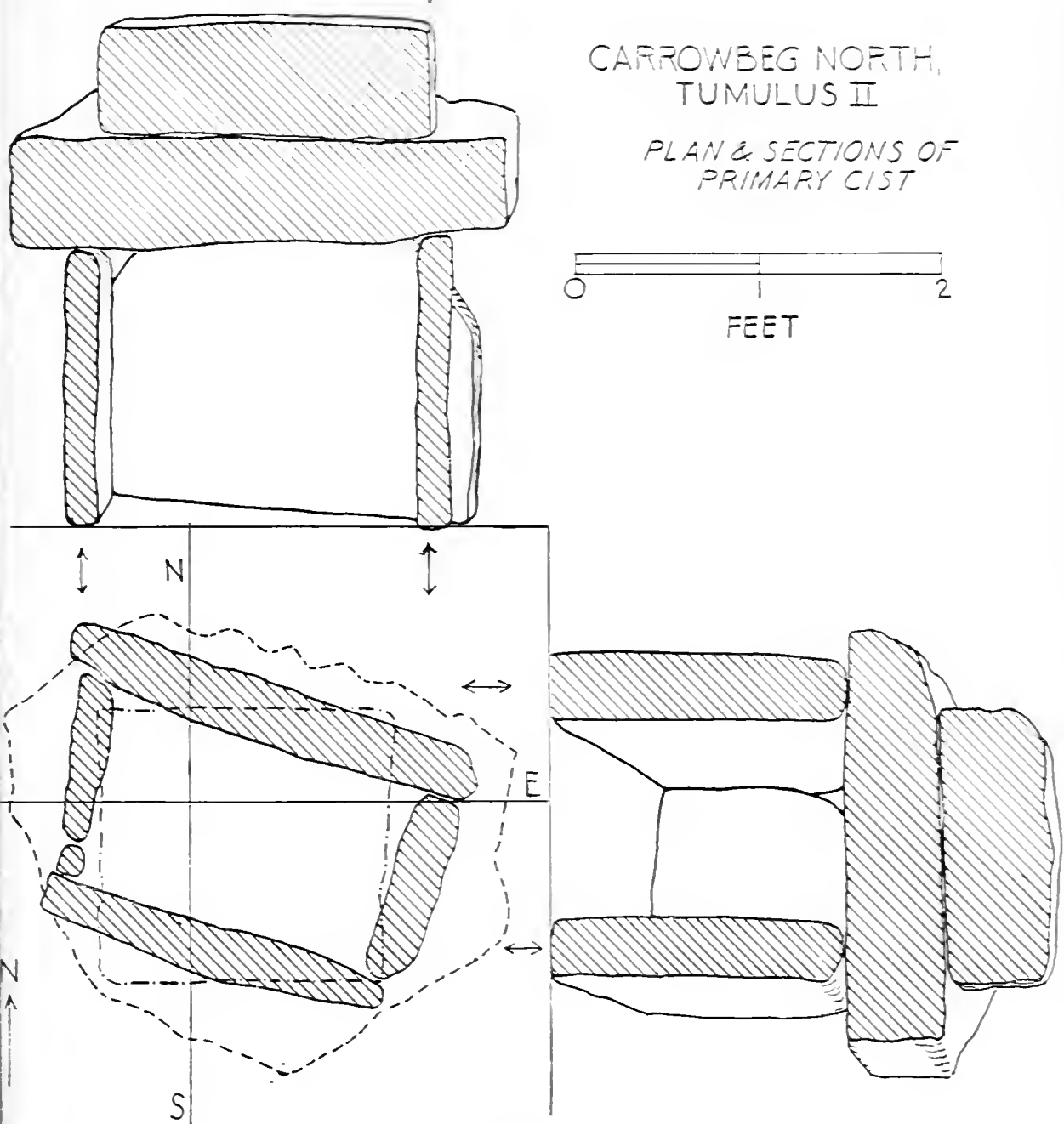


Fig. 3.

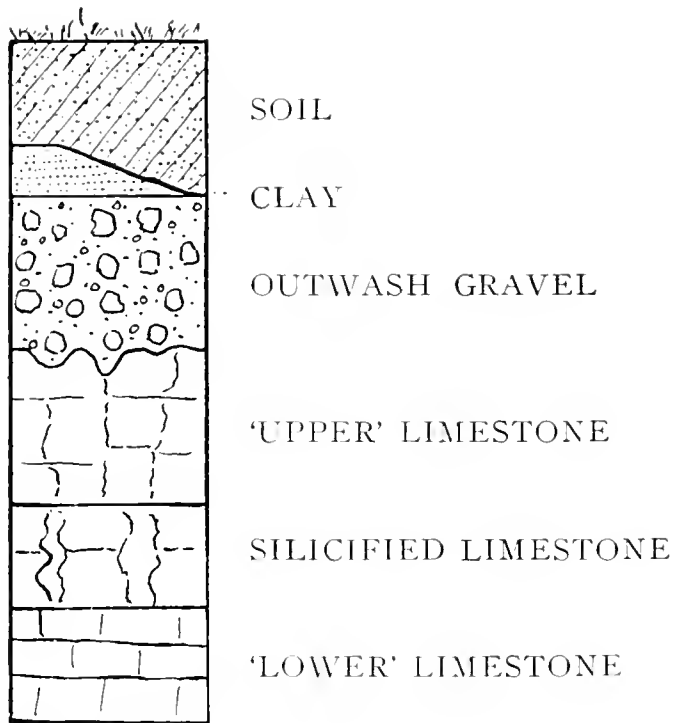


Fig. 4. Diagrammatic section of the geology in immediate neighbourhood of Carrowbeg North.

**On the Temporalities of the  
Augustinian Abbey of St. Mary  
the Virgin  
Cong, Co. Mayo**

By MÍCHEÁL Ó DUÍGEANNÁIN, M.A.

IN spite of rather extensive, though intermittent, researches, I have been able to track down only eight documents which purport to enumerate the possessions of Cong Abbey. As they will doubtless be of interest to some student with a proper knowledge of the places named, I give them here together with a few other incomplete notes.

The oldest recital of the temporalities of Cong is to be found in a papal confirmation of 1 April 1400.<sup>1</sup> This document confirms the abbot and convent in all the liberties and immunities granted them by the Holy See, and in liberties and exemptions from secular exactions granted them by kings, princes, and others, as also in their possessions, viz., the church of St. Mary, Cong, with its tithes and appurtenances, the church of St. Colman in Sruthayr with its appurtenances, Druymsil with its archiepiscopal fourth, Kyllgoynd with the like, Collyn Osnanayd with its appurtenances, the fourth of the tithes of Balyloch Mugybron, the parsonage of Conmaicni Mara, the rectory called Ceathramha Rebach with its appurtenances.

Next in point of time comes a 'rental' professedly copied in 1501 from an ancient manuscript preserved in the abbey. The interest of this document is equalled by its difficulty. It survives only in two seventeenth century transcripts. One of these, *British Museum, P. 15601. Harl. 4787*, was made for Sir James Ware, after whose death it passed into the possession of Henry Hyde, 2nd Earl of Clarendon<sup>2</sup> (Lord-Lieutenant

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Pap. Reg., Letters V, 275.*

<sup>2</sup> See Bernard's *Catologi II*, ii, p. 6, No. 36.

of Ireland, 1686). and so to the British Museum.<sup>3</sup> This transcript has been edited with translation and notes by the late Martin J. Blake,<sup>4</sup> while a second translation with notes will be found in Knox's *Notes on the early history of the dioceses of Tuam, Killala and Achonry*, p. 256 ff. Neither Blake nor Knox knew that a second (contemporary but independent) transcript existed. A lucky examination of Bernard's *Librorum manusccriptorum viri praeclari Joannis Maddeni collegii medicorum Dubliniensium praesidis catalogus* showed that Madden had had one.<sup>5</sup> At some date unknown to me Madden's manuscripts were acquired by John Stearne, Bishop of Clogher, who bequeathed them in 1741 to Trinity College, Dublin,<sup>6</sup> where the manuscript containing the rental is now numbered 653 (F. 4. 22). At the end of this MS. is a catalogue of Stearne's MSS. in 1700. This catalogue is almost identical with Bernard's list of the Madden MSS., so that F. 4. 22 must be identified with Bernard's 1669. 8. Hence Abbot is wrong both in ascribing F. 4. 22 to Stearne and in dating it 'c. 1700.' The order of the contents of the volume has been disturbed since 1700, probably in binding.

Since Blake's edition of the British Museum text is not free from misreadings and other defects, I venture to make a fresh attempt here, giving variant readings from F. 4. 22 as well as from Blake and Knox in footnotes. Remarks on the persons and places mentioned in the 'rental' will be found in the notes to my translation. Contractions are silently expanded. I am indebted to Mr. Burnett of the Quit Rent Office, Dublin, and to Fr. Aubrey Gwynn and Fr. Lambert McKenna for their invaluable assistance.

EX VETERE MANUSCRIPTO MONASTERIJ  
DE CONGA.

In dei nomine Amen.

Sciant universi per presentes quod hec<sup>7</sup> sunt vera indubi-

<sup>3</sup> Cf. Ayscough: *A catalogue of the manuscripts preserved in the British Museum*... Vol. I, p. vii ff. (1782).

<sup>4</sup> *Journal Royal Soc. Antiquaries Ireland*, xxxv, 130-8.

<sup>5</sup> *Catalogi II*, ii, p. 57, No. 1669. 8.

<sup>6</sup> Abbot, *Catalogue of the manuscripts in the library of Trinity College, Dublin*, pp. iii, xiv, xv, 109.

<sup>7</sup> *hec* F. 4. 22, *haec* Harl. 4789.

tata et authentica rentalia de Conga in feodis decimis alijsque commoditatibus et emolumentis a primo die dedicationis ecclesie<sup>8</sup> usque in hodiernum diem viz.<sup>9</sup>

Primus vir et illustrissimus rex Hibernie<sup>10</sup> alias Iernie Donaldus filius Hugonis<sup>11</sup> mac Ainmyreach<sup>12</sup> valde devotus et deo omnipotenti obediens dedicavit et donavit deo et ecclesie dicte<sup>13</sup> parcellam terre que vocatur Inys—nastryndroma<sup>14</sup> et omnes alias parcellas terre per stagnum [ ]<sup>15</sup> Dichrus<sup>16</sup> usque Dubrus<sup>17</sup>.

Idem et fundum et solum in quo fundatum est monasterium ipsum anno primo<sup>18</sup> dominationis sue et monasterium ipsum erectum<sup>19</sup> et re-edificatum<sup>20</sup> erat . . . . .cccc et Dubhach O Dubhey<sup>21</sup> erat primus dominus abbas monasterij.

Item dictus D[onaldus]<sup>22</sup> donavit villam de Crois<sup>23</sup> cum pertinentiis<sup>24</sup> deo [et]<sup>25</sup> monasterio dicto<sup>26</sup>.

Item dominus Dermicius<sup>27</sup> mac Fergusa rex Hibernie<sup>10</sup> villam de Croibhis<sup>28</sup> donavit monasterio dicto<sup>29</sup> cum pertinentiis.

Item Terencius<sup>30</sup> Magnus O Concubhair donavit villam de Cylguin<sup>31</sup> monasterio predicto cum pertinentiis.

<sup>8</sup> *ecclesiae*, Blake.

<sup>9</sup> *vizt.*, Blake.

<sup>10</sup> *Hiberniae*, Blake.

<sup>11</sup> *Annales Ultoniae initium regni Aeda mac Ainmirec [h] 591*, in marg.; *Annales Ultoniae 591*, in marg. F. 4. 22.

<sup>12</sup> *Ainmyreath*, Blake.

<sup>13</sup> *ecclesiae dictae* Harl. 4787; *ecclesie dicte*, Blake; *ecclesiae dicte*, F. 4. 22.

<sup>14</sup> *Imys. . . nastryndroma*, Harl. 4787.

<sup>15</sup> Lacuna not indicated by Blake.

<sup>16</sup> Underlined with cancellation points as is *Dychus* in F. 4. 22. Blake reads *Duhrus*; Knox leaves a blank, but *cf.* footnote.

<sup>17</sup> *usque et (ad ?) Dubrus*, Blake.

<sup>18</sup> *primo anno*, F. 4. 22.; *An. 635 secundum Annales Conactenses* added in marg.; *Annales Conatenses 639*, F. 4. 22.

<sup>19</sup> *dedicatum*, Blake.

<sup>20</sup> *edificatum*, F. 4. 22.

<sup>21</sup> *Duvhach O' Duvhay*, Knox; *Duvach O' Duvhay*, Blake.

<sup>22</sup> *om.* Blake, Knox; *Dominus (?)*, F. 4. 22.

<sup>23</sup> *mod [ ] [ ] iam dicta Cross* added in margin.

<sup>24</sup> *pertinentibus*, F. 4. 22.

<sup>25</sup> *et* Blake, F. 4. 22.; *deo et om.* Knox.

<sup>26</sup> *predicto*, F. 4. 22.

<sup>27</sup> *Dermitius*, Blake.

<sup>8</sup> Underlined with cancellation dots.

<sup>29</sup> *predicto*, F. 4. 22.

<sup>30</sup> *Terentius*, Blake.

<sup>31</sup> *Olygnium*, Harl.; *Oylynnium*, Blake; Knox's transl. has *Oylnim*; *Cylguin*, F. 4. 22.

Item Edmundus Scotorum filius Vuliellmi<sup>32</sup> de Burgo militis donavit quartarium terre quod<sup>33</sup> vocatur Ardnagross monasterio dicto et semivillam de Lioslachane.

Item Thomas de Burgo filius supradicti donavit semivillam de Droim Silmoir<sup>34</sup> et semiquartarium de<sup>35</sup> Drom Silbeg monasterio predicto.

Item Risterdus<sup>36</sup> Equi<sup>37</sup> filius Sir (?) f [ ]<sup>38</sup> conductor equi domini de Burgo donavit<sup>39</sup> semiquartarium de<sup>35</sup> . . . . ay<sup>40</sup> monasterio predicto.

Item tribunij [ ] de Burgo donaverunt segecim<sup>41</sup> canonicorum in villa de Robbo monasterio predicto.

Item tribunij predicti donaverunt [ ] canonicorum apud Rath Moling<sup>42</sup> in villa de Sruthair monasterio predicto.

Et sic ad monasterium predictum spectat templum Colmani<sup>43</sup> in villa predicta<sup>44</sup> et murum eiusdem et Killin Coemain de adversa parte amnis et semiquartarium terre collis qui<sup>45</sup> vocatur Sancti Patricij ibidem.

Item Gibbunus<sup>46</sup> Rectoris filius donavit semiquartarium de<sup>47</sup> Tamhnachliahain<sup>48</sup> monasterio dicto.

Item Donaldus filius Hugonis qui dicitur Magnus O Flaghertach donavit parcellam terre que vocatur Oilen da Chriunne<sup>49</sup> in mare de Conomara<sup>50</sup> [monasterio] dicto.<sup>51</sup>

Item Tho[mas Sheoigh]<sup>52</sup> qui dicitur Ruffus<sup>53</sup> donavit

32 *Ullielmi*, Blake.

33 *que* (?), F. 4. 22. ; *que*, Blake.

34 *Dromsilmoir*, Blake, Knox.

35 *om.*, F. 4. 22.

36 *Ristardus*, Blake ; *Ristard*, Knox.

37 Underlined with cancellation dots.

38 *filius Fiesucoba*, Blake, 'son of Fiesucoba', Knox.

39 *dedit*, F. 4. 22.

40 Blank, Blake.

41 *segerium* (*segetem* ?), Blake ; *Segerin*, Knox, v. infra.

42 *Rathmolinge*, Blake.

43 *Colemain*, Blake.

44 *in villam predictam*, Blake.

45 *que* (?), F. 4. 22. ; *que*, Blake.

46 *Gibbunis*, Blake.

47 *om.*, F. 4. 22.

48 *Tanihuachliahan*, Blake.

49 *Oilen de Chriunne* (?), F. 4. 22. ; *da Chruinne*, Knox.

50 *in mare Conacie*, F. 4. 22.

51 *monasterio predicto*, F. 4. 22.

52 *Tho[mas] Sh[eoigh]* ? F. 4. 22. ; *Thomas Sh[eoigh]*, Blake ; *Thomas Sh[ ]*, Knox.

53 *Rufus*, F. 4. 22.

quartarium terre quod vocatur Cearhonangringineach<sup>54</sup> et semi-quartarium quod dicitur<sup>55</sup> Seanmhadhharraightain<sup>56</sup> et quartarium de Killin Dubhachta<sup>57</sup> monasterio predicto.

Item Terencius<sup>58</sup> Magnus O Concobhir<sup>59</sup> donavit [ ]<sup>60</sup> de Liossonduibh<sup>61</sup> in suo territorio<sup>62</sup> supra montem de Sliabh Ban<sup>63</sup> monasterio predicto.

Item Rogerus filius supradicti, et rex Hibernie<sup>64</sup> donavit villam et terram de Cill Móir Muaidhe monasterio dicto<sup>65</sup> et decimam piscium totius amnis de<sup>47</sup> Muaidhe<sup>66</sup> antedicti et funem campane ab omni nave ad portum dictum<sup>67</sup> gratia piscandi et mercandisandi pro tempore deveniendo<sup>68</sup> monasterio predicto.

Item Cormacus Mac Carty dominus sue nationis<sup>69</sup> donavit parcellam terre in patrimonia de Birra que dicitur Inis Conge et funem campane supradicto monasterio si<sup>70</sup> quod naves pro tempore deveniant ad portum<sup>71</sup> de Dunboith.<sup>72</sup>

Item Vaterus Vulli de Burgo donavit semiquartarium terre<sup>73</sup> quod<sup>74</sup> dicitur Killinratha monasterio predicto.

Haec sunt omnia feoda supranominata<sup>75</sup> monasterij predicti. Nunc agendum est de decimis prediolibus,<sup>76</sup> personalibus, et mixtis.<sup>77</sup>

<sup>54</sup> *Cearhonangringineath*, Blake; *Cearhonangruigineach*, Knox.

<sup>55</sup> *semiquartarium de*, F. 4. 22.

<sup>56</sup> *Seannmhadhharriaghtaoim*, F. 4. 22.; *Seaunihaghfarraighain*, Blake; *Seannmhaegharraightain*, Knox.

<sup>57</sup> *Killindubhacta*, Blake.

<sup>58</sup> *Terentius*, Blake.

<sup>59</sup> *O Concubhair*, Blake, F. 4. 22.

<sup>60</sup> Lacuna not indicated by Blake.

<sup>61</sup> *Liosonanuibh*, Blake; *Liosonduibh*, Knox.

<sup>62</sup> *territorio suo*, F. 4. 22.

<sup>63</sup> *Sliabhane*, Blake; *Sliabhban*, Knox; *Slewbane* in margin of MS.

<sup>64</sup> *Hiberniae*, Blake.

<sup>65</sup> *predicto*, F. 4. 22.

<sup>66</sup> *Moy* added in margin.

<sup>67</sup> *portam dictam*, Blake.

<sup>68</sup> *devenienda*, Blake.

<sup>69</sup> *nacionis*, Blake.

<sup>70</sup> *sic*, MS.

<sup>71</sup> *portes*, MS.; *portam*, Blake.

<sup>72</sup> *Dunboith*, F. 4. 22.; *Duinboith*, Blake; *Dimboith*, Harl. 4787.

<sup>73</sup> *terrae*, Blake.

<sup>74</sup> *que*, F. 4. 22.

<sup>75</sup> *supra dicta nominata*, Blake.

<sup>76</sup> *praediolibus*, Blake.

<sup>77</sup> *mixtis*, Blake.

## DE DECIMIS.

Templum Beate<sup>78</sup> Virginis Marie de Conga, semivillam in semivilla de Acholeathard, semivillam in villa de Athcuirce etc.

Item Templum de Ruan in villa de Robo etc., semivillam in villa de Ballinrobo etc.

Ecclesia Commanij 28 quartaria habet viz. semivillam de Scethelochain etc.

Item quod nullus mundanus potest creare<sup>79</sup> [ ] aliquem<sup>80</sup> in civitate Co[rca]gie<sup>81</sup> nisi de licentia ordinacione<sup>82</sup> et di[re]ctione<sup>83</sup> abbatis de Conga et (et)<sup>84</sup> illo die quo constituitur et creatur abbas Corcaigie<sup>85</sup> tenetur reddere abbati de Cong[a] sexdecem . . . cetas vel semimarcas auri<sup>86</sup> ad deaurandos<sup>87</sup> calices monasterij de Conga et omnes vestes novi abbatis de Corcagia<sup>88</sup> tenetur [ ] reddere thesauro<sup>89</sup> de Conga illo die.

Sed supradictus<sup>90</sup> Cormacus Mac Carty donavit funem campane monasterio de Conga de unaquaque nave ad portum<sup>91</sup> Corcagie pro tempore devenienda etc.

Sic finiuntur feliciter in nomine altissimi rentalia de Conga tam in feodis quam in decimis et<sup>92</sup> per me Thadeum O Duhi in scriptum redacta,<sup>93</sup> et relinquens postquam in Curia verbatim Romana<sup>94</sup> reverendus pater in Christo<sup>95</sup> Willelmus<sup>96</sup> Flavus O Duhi abbas de Conga apud Josephum Pull modo registri reliquit X<sup>o</sup> Martij anno Gratie<sup>97</sup> 1501.

<sup>78</sup> *om.*, Blake; *Beatae . . . Mariae*, Harl. 4787.

<sup>79</sup> *reare*, Blake.

<sup>80</sup> *aliquid*, Blake; 'can raise anything,' Knox.

<sup>81</sup> *Corcaigie*, F. 4. 22.; *Corcagiae*, Blake.

<sup>82</sup> *Ordinarie*, Blake; 'of the ordinary,' Knox.

<sup>83</sup> *directione*, F. 4. 22.; *ecclesie*, Blake; 'of the Lord Abbot,' Knox.

<sup>84</sup> *et ab*, Blake.

<sup>85</sup> *Corcagiae*, Blake.

<sup>86</sup> *annatim*, Blake.

<sup>87</sup> *deaurandum*, Blake.

<sup>88</sup> *Corcagie*, Blake.

<sup>89</sup> *thesaurio*, Blake.

<sup>90</sup> *supra*, Blake.

<sup>91</sup> *portam*, Blake.

<sup>92</sup> *om.*, F. 4. 22.

<sup>93</sup> *redant*, Blake.

<sup>94</sup> *in scriptum*—*Romana*, *om.* F. 4. 22.

<sup>95</sup> *reverendus in Christo pater*, F. 4. 22.; *reverendus pater in Christo* *om.*, Blake.

<sup>96</sup> *Willielmus*, Blake.

<sup>97</sup> *apud*—*Gratie* *om.* F. 4. 22.; for *Gratie*, Blake and Knox read *Christi*.



FROM AN OLD MANUSCRIPT OF THE  
MONASTERY OF CONG.

In the name of God. Amen.

Know all by these presents that these are the true, indubitable, and authentic rentals of Cong, in fees, tithes, and other commodities and emoluments, from the first day of the dedication of the church down to the present day, viz.

I. The first man and most illustrious king of Hibernia alias Iernia, Domhnall son of Aed son of Ainmire, truly devout and obedient to Almighty God, dedicated and gave to God and the said church the parcel of land called Inys-nastryndroma and all the other parcels of land (*i.e.* islands) through the lake [ ] up to Dubrus.

II. The same gave both the land and soil in which the monastery itself was founded in the first year of his reign, and the monastery itself was erected and rebuilt .....500, and Dubhach O Dubhey was first lord abbot of the monastery.

III. Item the said D[omhnall] gave the townland (*baile*) of Crois with its appurtenances to God and the said monastery.

IV. Item the lord Diarmait son of Fergus, king of Ireland, gave the townland (*baile*) of Croibhis with its appurtenances to the said monastery.

V. Item Toirdhealbhach Mór O Conchubhair (Turloch Mór O'Conor) gave the townland (*baile*) of Cylguin with its appurtenances to the aforesaid monastery.

VI. Item Eamonn Albanach, son of William de Burgo Knight, gave the quarter of land which is called Ardnagross to the said monastery, and the half-townland (*leath-bhaile*) of Lioslachane.

VII. Item Thomas de Burgo, son of the aforesaid, gave the half-townland (*leath-bhaile*) of Droim Silmoir and the half-quarter of Drom Silbeg to the aforesaid monastery.

VIII. Item Richard 'of the horse,' son of [ ], constable of the lord de Burgo, gave the half-quarter of .....ay to the aforesaid monastery.

IX. Item the stewards [ ] de Burgo gave the Canons' field in the townland (*baile*) of the Robe (*i.e.* Ballinrobe?) to the aforesaid monastery.

X. Item the aforesaid stewards gave [ ] of the Canons

at Rath Moling in the townland (*baile*) of Sruthair to the aforesaid monastery.

XI. And thus Teampall Colmain in the aforesaid townland (*baile*) belongs to the aforesaid monastery, and the wall (?) of the same, and Killin Coemain on the other side of the river, and the half-quarter of land of the hill which is called St. Patrick's in the same place.

XII. Item Gibbon son of the Rector gave the half-quarter of Tamhnachliahain to the said monastery.

XIII. Item Domhnall, son of Aedh, who is called O Flaithbheartaigh Mór gave the parcel of land called Oilen da Chruinne in the sea of Connemara to the said monastery.

XIV. Item Thomas Seoigh who is called ' the Red ' gave the quarter of land called Cearhonangringineach, and the half-quarter called Seanmhadhharraightain, and the quarter of Cillin Dubhachta to the aforesaid monastery.

XV. Item Toirdhealbhach Mór O Conchubhair gave [ ] of Liossonduibh in his territory on Sliabh Bán mountain to the aforesaid monastery.

XVI. Item Ruaidhrí, son of the aforesaid and king of Ireland, gave the townland (*baile*) and land of Cill Mór of the Moy to the said monastery, and a tenth (tithe) of the fish of the whole river Moy aforesaid, and a bell-rope to the aforesaid monastery from every ship coming to the said port from time to time for fishing and trading.

XVII. Item Cormac Mac Carthy, lord of his nation, gave to the aforesaid monastery the parcel of land in the patrimony of Béarra which is called Inis Conga, and a bell-rope should any ships come from time to time to the harbour of Dunboy.

XVIII. Item Walter [? son of] William (?) de Burgo gave the half-quarter of land called Killinratha to the aforesaid monastery.

XIX. All these named above are the fees of the aforesaid monastery. The predial, parsonage, and mixed tithes have now to be treated of.

#### OF THE TITHES.

XX. The church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Cong, the half-townland (*leath-bhaile*) in the half-townland of Achole-

athard, a half-townland in the townland (*baile*) of Athcuirce, etc.

XXI. Item Teampall Ruadháin in the townland (*baile*) of Robe (? Ballinrobe) etc., a half-townland (*leath-baile*) in the townland (*baile*) of Ballinrobe, etc.

XXII. The church of Comman has 28 quarters, viz., the half-townland (*leath-bhaile*) of Scethelochain, etc.

XXIII. Item that no secular can create (*i.e.* prefer) anyone in the city of Cork except by license, ordination (ordination?), and direction of the abbot of Cong. And on the day on which he is constituted and created, the abbot of Cork is bound to render to the abbot of Cong sixteen .....ccetae or half-marks of gold, for regilding the chalices of the monastery of Cong. And all the vestments of the new abbot of Cork [the latter] is bound to render to the treasury of Cong on that day.

XXIV. But the aforesaid Cormac Mac Carthy gave a bell-rope to the monastery of Cong from every ship coming from time to time to the port of Cork.

XXV. Thus happily are finished in the name of the Most High the rentals of Cong, both fees and tithes, and put in writing by me Tadhg O Duhi. And afterwards leaving them word for word with the Roman Curia (??) the reverend father in Christ, William Buidhe ('the Yellow') O Duhi, abbot of Cong, left them with Joseph Pull as a register (?). 10 March in the year of Grace 1501.

#### REMARKS.

The Roman numerals refer to the numbered paragraphs of the translation.

I. *Domhnall* son of Aed mac Ainmirech of Tír Chonaill *regnabat* 627-641 A.D.

The dots under *Duhrus* etc. seem to indicate that such words are to be deleted. But nothing is supplied in their place. Blake (p. 136) suggests that *Duhrus* 'may be identical with the two quarters of Dowrishe mentioned in the Composition of Mayo in 1585, as being in the Barony of Kilmaine, County Mayo; or it may be identical with the island called Inishdauros, in Lough Corrib.'

*Dubrus*: 'probably identical with Dowrusse, the name of

a quarter of land in the Barony of Ross, in Joyce country' (Blake): 'seems to be the Doorus mentioned in the composition as in Kilmaine barony' (Knox).

II. This paragraph is very corrupt. *Idem* may be an error of *item*. It seems as if a considerable piece of text has been dropped. Dubhtach O Dubhthaigh, abbot of Cong, ob. 1223, *Ann. L. Cé*.

III. *Crois*: 'now Cross, a village in the parish of Cong' (Blake).

IV. *Croibhis*: 'the Craebhs (*sic*), now middle, north, and south Creevagh, three townlands in Cong parish' (Blake). 'The only Dermot Mac Fergusa who was King of Ireland reigned in the 6th century. This must be some local king or chief' (Knox).

Diarmait son of Fergus Ceirrbheoil, king of Ireland, *regnabat* 544/5-565/72, *Ann. Ulster*; slain 558 after 20 years' reign, *A.F.M.* He was succeeded by Ainmire, grandfather of the Domhnall mentioned I above.

V. *Cylguin-Oylgnium*: 'possibly the "Neale," a well-known town and parish in the Barony of Kilmaine, County Mayo' (Blake), 'seems to be the full name of the Neale. The abbey had property near it' (Knox). Turloch Mór O'Connor died in 1156.

VI. *Eamonn Albanach*, son of Sir William 'the Grey' de Burgo (*ob.* 1324), died in 1375.

*Ardnagross* has not been identified.

*Lioslachane*: Judging by the patent of 17 June 6 Jac. I this must be an error for Liosluachra=Lisloughry townland in the parish of Cong.

VII. Thomas, s. of Eamonn Albanach, *ob.* 1401.

*Droim Silmoir* and *Drom Silbeg* are the townlands of Upper and Lower Drumsheel near Cong.

VIII. Blake and Knox both read 'son of Fiesucoba' and identify Richard with 'Richard O Cuairisci' son of Eamonn na Féasóige, *ob.* 1478. See also Knox, p. 400. Fr. McKenna suggests 'constable' for *conductor equi*=*aire echartai* (O'Curry, *Manners and Customs*, I cclxvi).

IX. Knox reads ' Segerin of the Canons ' and says ' Segerin suggests a connection with Kilmorosegir of the Taxation [of 1306]. That reading may be correct. In any case that church

is the present Killosheheen. Mr. Blake points out to me that Seges is used in No.79 of the Blake Family records as equivalent to the Irish word Gort. Segerin is probably a copyist's mistake for Segetem.' Actually the MS. has *segecim*, a misreading of *segecem*, *segetem*, so that Knox's suggested identification must be rejected. Fr. Mc Kenna suggests that *tribunij*='stewards' (Ir. *maor*).

X. *Rath Moling* : Ramolin townland, near the old church of Shrule, Co. Mayo (Blake).

*Sruthair* : Shrule, Co. Mayo.

XI. 'Templecolmain is probably what is marked on the map as "Abbey", close to Shrule church. Killeen Coemain being on the other side of the river is perhaps the Killeen of Killeen Fort, a little east of Shrule. I do not know St. Patrick's Hill. Cong Abbey does not appear in the 16th century grants and surveys as having any property in Donaghpatrick Parish or in barony of Clare' (Knox). The site of St. Colman's church at Shrule is marked on the 6" O.S. map, Co. Mayo, Sheet 122a.

XII. *Tamhnachliahain* : Tonaleeaun townland in the parish of Cong. There is a Ballymacgibbon House marked on the O.S. Index Sheet for Co. Mayo.

XIII. *Domhnall Mór O Flaithbheartaigh*, lord of West Connacht, ob. 1407 (A.F.M.).

*Oilen da Chriunne* : Crump Island, N. of Renvyle Castle (Blake & Knox).

XIV. *Thomas Seoigh* : 'Thomas Ruadh Joy lived in the 13th century according to Joyce pedigree' (Knox).

*Cearhonangringineach* : 'Now Griggins, a townland in Ross Barony, parish of Cong' (Blake).

*Seanmhadhharraightain* : Shanafaraghaun townland in Ross parish (Knox); 'Shawnafaraughan a townland in Ross Barony, parish of Cong' (Blake).

*Cillin Dubhachta* : Dooghta townland in Cong parish (Knox); 'now Dooghty, a townland in Ross Barony, parish of Cong, where there exists a holy well called Tobar-Fechin' (Blake).

XV. *Liossonduibh* : *Lios O nDubhthaigh*; 'now Lissonuffy, a parish in the barony and county of Roscommon,

about five miles south-east of Strokestown, beyond the Slew-bane mountain' (Blake).

XVI. *Cill Mór of the Moy*: Whence Kilmoremoy parish in the baronies of Tirawley and Tireragh.

XVII. *Cormac Mac Carthy*, king of Desmond, *regnabat* c. 1124–1138.

XVIII. Probably Walter, son of Sir William *Liath* de Burgo, (Blake.)

XX. *Acholeathard*: Aghalard townland in Cong parish (Blake).

XXII. *Church of Comman*: Now Kilcommon, the name of both a parish and townland in Kilmaine Barony, Co. Mayo (Blake).

*Scethelochain*: Skealaghan, townland in Kilcommon parish (Blake).

XXIII. For further evidence of a connection between Cong and Cork see Blake, *King Dermot Mac Carthy's Charter*, A.D. 1174, to ... *Gill-Abbey* (Journ. Cork. Hist. & Arch. Soc. 1904).

\* \* \* \* \*

On the suppression of the religious houses in Ireland in 1542 (33 Hen. VIII, Session 2, cap. v), the temporalities of the abbey of Cong nominally passed to the Crown. Their immediate fate is not discoverable. So far I have found no mention of them in state records prior to 1568 when John Chaloner of Lambay got a lease for twenty-one years of the site of the monastery of Conge, the lands of Conge, a watermill, two weirs, etc., paying rents of £11 7s. 4d. for the temporalities and £21 10s. 0d. for the spiritualities.<sup>98</sup>

Two years later a similar lease was issued to William Collier.<sup>99</sup>

In August 1578 the provost, burgesses, and commonalty of Athenry obtained a grant in fee simple of part of the possessions of the monastery.<sup>100</sup> In the following month a similar grant was made to the mayor, bailiffs, etc., of Galway, for

<sup>98</sup> *Fiants Eliz*, No. 1238, 11th Dep. Keeper, 184.

<sup>99</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 1776, 12th Dep. Keeper, 42–3.

<sup>100</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 3419, 13th Dep. Keeper, 95.

fifty years from the determination of existing interests.<sup>101</sup> This grant seems to refer to the same properties as the Chaloner and Collier leases.

In June 1595 Edmund Barret was granted a part of the abbey's possessions.<sup>102</sup>

In 1597 and 1603 two further grants are recorded, viz., to Trinity College, Dublin, and to Richard Mapowder.<sup>103</sup>

In 1603 we find John Kinge and John Bingeley described as 'tenantes of the abbayes of Boyle, Conge, Ballintubber, and St. John's of Athie, for divers yeares yet to come.' They made successful suit for a lease in reversion of these and other monastic properties, and a patent was issued to Sir George Cary requiring him to give them a lease for fifty years 'after the State now in beinge.'<sup>104</sup>

Two years later Kinge and Bingeley, 'farmors to us in the abbaies of Boyle, Conge, and Ballintubber,' petitioned King James to accept a surrender of these tenements and to regrant them to them 'uppon a new survey and inquisition, for the same yeares they now have, and the rentes now answered.' Their second suit was also successful, and Chichester was instructed to give effect to the royal decision.<sup>105</sup>

As a result, an inquisition was taken at Cong on 12 April 1606, copies of which are to be found in the Chancery Inquisitions preserved in the Public Record Office, Dublin,<sup>106</sup> and in the Royal Irish Academy (Ordnance Survey MSS.).

Apparently Kinge and Bingeley were not satisfied with the findings, for in September of the same year another inquisition was held at Cong. A copy of this is also preserved in the Royal Irish Academy (Ordnance Survey MS.) and the Public Record Office, Dublin. It bears a closer resemblance to the Rental of 1501 than does the April inquisition. The following is my translation of a certified copy.<sup>107</sup>

<sup>101</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 101, No. 3463.

<sup>102</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 5933, 16th Dep. Keeper, 267.

<sup>103</sup> *Fiants Eliz.*, 17 & 18 Dep. Keeper.

<sup>104</sup> Erck: *A repertory of the involments on the patent rolls of Chancery in Ireland* . . . , Vol. I, p. 34; *Cal. Pat. Jas. I*, p. 6, No. LXXXIV.

<sup>105</sup> Erck, p. 235; *Cal. Pat. Jas. I*, p. 84, No. XXXII.

<sup>106</sup> Vol. 15, *Inquisit. in Offic. Rot. Canc. Hib. Mayo and Roscommon*.

<sup>107</sup> Vol. 15, *Inquisit. in Offic. Canc. Hib. Mayo and Roscommon and Cal. Inquis., Co. Mayo, Eliz.—Wm. & Mary (Chy. rembrcr.*, p. 2. 16. Inquis. 9  
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'Inquisition taken at Conge on the 4th September 1606, before Nicholas Brady on the oath of good men, who say, that Enneas Mc Donill, abbot of the late monastery of Conge, on the 1st of March in the 33rd year of the reign of King Henry VIII, was seized as in fee, by right of the aforesaid monastery, of the whole abbey of Cong with all lands and tenements; and of 1 quarter called Ardugross, and of  $\frac{1}{2}$  quarter called Killickra near Ballyloghmeske, and of the church called Templecolman in the town (*vill'*) of Shrowell, with all the lands, tenements, and tithes belonging to the said church, and also of 1 small parcel of land called Ramelyn in Shrowell aforesaid, all of which premises lie in the barony of Killmayn; and also of Dowrishe and Inishedowrish with their appurtenances and of 1 quarter called Carrownegroginaghe, and of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  quarter of Shanevocharraghan, and of 1 quarter called Killnidought, and of the town and land of Killmoremoy, all which premises lie in the barony of Rosse; and of all tithes both great and small proceeding from all the lands, tenements, and hereditaments whatsoever recited above belonging to the said abbey; and of all the tithes of the fishings of the river called Moy in the barony of Tireawly, and of the rectory of Ballimally with all profits whatsoever, and of a certain custom, namely *un' funis campan'*, in English, a bell-rope, out of every ship in the river of Moy; and of 1 quarter called Any which had been given to the aforesaid abbey by a certain Walter Bourke fitz Thomas fitz Edmond Albenagh on condition that, if any woman of the stock of the said Walter should take a vow of chastity, she should be sustained by the abbey of Conge; and that the aforesaid Eneas, being thus seized on the 1st of March in the 33rd year of the reign of King Henry VIII of all the aforesaid premises, the said abbot, and all the canons likewise, left the aforesaid late abbey voluntarily and by their assent and consent, and never afterwards returned to the premises.'

On the face of it, it looks as if Kinge and Bingeley knew of the Rental and were familiar with its contents so that they could not rest easy until they had turned it to their own profit. It may have been the basis of the findings of the September Inquisition. At any rate, on 17th June 1608 they got a Crown lease for 116 years from 18 May 1608 of, *inter alia* :

'The site, &c. . . . of the late abbey or monastery of canons of Conge—the town, liberties, and lands of Conge, one ruinous house or castle called the Old Court in Conge belonging to the Archbishop of Tuam excepted—in Dromshilmore, 2 qrs—Lisloghrie, 2 qrs—in Dromshilbeg,  $\frac{1}{2}$  qr—of Crevagh, 4 qrs—Killogaragh, 2 qrs—Clogher, 1 qr—Nunnery, 2 qrs, with all the tithes, great and small, of all the premises; parcel of the estate of Conge abbey—the islands of Dowresse and Inishgoile, and all the smaller islands adjoining—the 4 qrs of the town or village of Kilmore, with all the tithes, small and great thereof, and of other 6 qrs of land in the baronies of Tireragh and Tyrawly in Sligo and Mayo cos, within the parish of Kilmore . . . one moiety of the tithes, small and great, being parcel of the rectories, churches, chapels, or parishes of Kilmaynemore, Kilmolaragh, Shrolle, Kinlogh, Killnebrenin, Templeroan, St. Mary's of Conge, Ballicallagh, Rosse, Kilmainebegg, and Kilcomman—the vicarages of St. Mary in Conge and Kilmainebeg . . . Ardnegross 1 qr—Killickra near Ballyloghmeske,  $\frac{1}{2}$  qr—the church . . . tithes, &c of Templecolman in the town of Shrowell—a parcel of land called Ramelin in Shrowel . . . The islands called Dowrishe and Inchdowrishe—Carrownegroginagh, 1 qr—Shanevocharraghan,  $\frac{1}{2}$  qr—Killnidought, 1 qr—the town and lands of



Kilmoremy . . . the tithes of fishing of the whole river, bay, or creek called Moy . . . The rectory, tithes, etc. of Ballymally . . . A certain custom of one bell rope from and out of every ship entering either to fish or to trade within the said river of Moy . . . Any, 1 qr . . . The town and lands of Lisseduffe in Sleighbane, containing 4 qrs, with the tithes thereof—the tithes of 12 qrs in Sleighbane . . . The moiety of all the tithes, great and small, belonging to the rectory or parish of Carrowreogh . . . The rectory, church, or chapel of Conomarra, with all the tithes, great and small, of all the lands, &c. of Upper and Lower Conomarra; all the premises herebefore recited being parcels of the estate of the abbey of Conge; rent 28l 17s 4d Ir.<sup>108</sup>

The subsequent fate of the Cong properties may now be very briefly outlined.

On 25 March 1647 Sir Maurice Eustace received letters patent for the same properties at the same rent as Kinge and Bingeley. No copy of this grant has survived, but the parcels are fully set out on the 'old' (=1826) Crown Rental preserved in the Quit Rent Office, Dublin. Apparently Eustace's grant was subject to the existing lease to Kinge and Bingeley.

The Act of Settlement secured Eustace in his lands of inheritance and leases for years.<sup>109</sup> He died in 1665 and was succeeded by his son James (who was attainted and fled to France). His estates were sold by the Trustees of the 1688 forfeitures, but Cong and its appurtenances were not included in the sales.<sup>110</sup> Sir Maurice was one of those subsequently included in the Articles of Limerick as entitled to be restored to his estates and property. In 1697 a private Act was passed for settling certain rectories according to his Will. In 1720 another Act was passed authorising the sale of his estates to pay his debts. But by that time the Cong properties had passed to other hands. The Crown Rent Roll of 1706 for the barony of Kilmayne, Co. Mayo (129 verso)<sup>111</sup> describes Cressy Tasborrogh as 'Tenant in the Scite Circuit and precinct of the late Abby or Monastery of the Commons (*sic. r.* Canons) of Conge, the Town & Lands of Conge, Two qrs. of Land in Dromshilmore, 2 qrs. of Land in Kilcloghery,  $\frac{1}{2}$  a qr. in Dromshilbeg Crevagh,

<sup>108</sup> Erck I. 454; Cal. pat. Jas. I, p. 125, No. LI.

<sup>109</sup> *The statutes at large passed in the parliaments held in Ireland . . .*, Vol. II, p. 348, 14–15 Chas. II, sess. 4, c. iv). The lands and leases in question are not set out.

<sup>110</sup> *Reports from the Commissioners . . . Public Records of Ireland*, III, p. 364, Nos. 32, 34.

<sup>111</sup> Quit Rent Office, Dublin.

4 qrs. and  $\frac{1}{2}$  qr. Tomlaine,  $\frac{1}{2}$  qr. in Clovin Kilglony, 1 qr. Cross, 2 qrs. Killogharagh, 2 qrs. Clogher, 2 qrs. 1 qr. Numery, 2 qrs. Dowross Island, Inishgoyle Island and all the small Islands adjoining Dowrossereene. Inishgoyle 4 qrs. with all ye Tythes great and Small growing or ariseing out of the said Lands being pts. or parcells of the said Abby aforesd. lying & being in the Com. of Gallway & of Mayo. One qr. of Land called Annegross, a qr. called Killkea, one small parcell of Land Raddedan in Shrewle in the Bar. of Kilmaine together with Sevell. other Lands and Tythes in the County Roscomon & Sleigoe at the Intire yearly Rent of Twenty one pounds Thirteen shill. per Ann.<sup>112</sup>

The explanation of this change of ownership is to be found in a Chancery Proceedings decree of 24 Nov. 1728. The plaintiffs were Sir Robert Echlen, Thomas Tickell, Clotilda Tickell alias Eustace, and Chatwood Eustace, the defendants being Henry Tasburgh, George MacNamara, and others. It was decreed that plaintiffs should pay Henry Tasburgh principal, interest, and costs due to him upon the mortgaged lands and premises in the pleadings. Whereupon Tasburgh should reconvey to the plaintiffs . . . the site of the abbey of Cong . . . and also all tithe fishings of the whole river, bay or creek called Moy etc. etc. The decree referes to 18 May 1724, when the lease to Kinge and Bingeley expired, but there is no reference to Sir Maurice Eustace's patent. It also provided for an action to be taken to try whether George MacNamara had notice that the co-heirs of Sir John Eustace claimed an interest in the premises on the expiration of the King-Bingeley lease.

<sup>112</sup> The Kinge-Bingeley rent of £28.13.4 *Irish*=£21.13.0 'late currency =£19.19.8½ *British*.



Fig 1

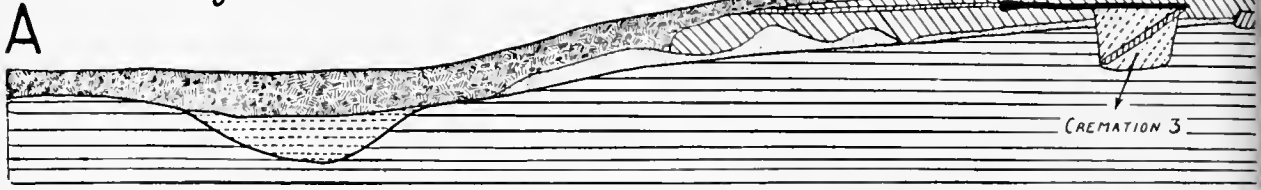


Fig 2

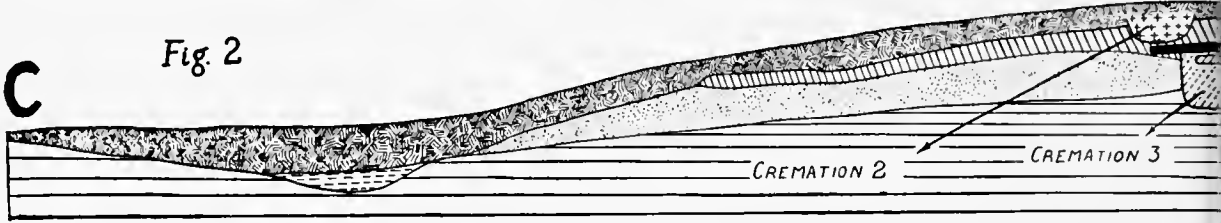


Fig. 3

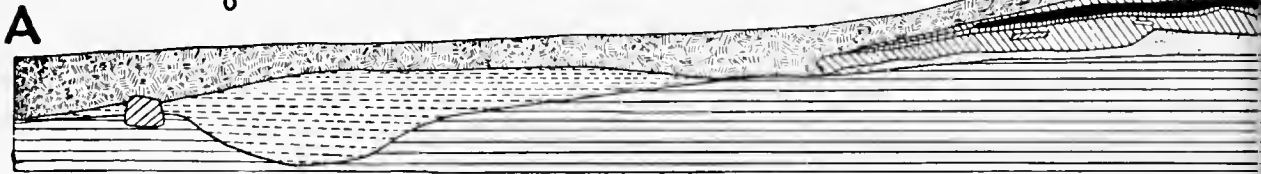
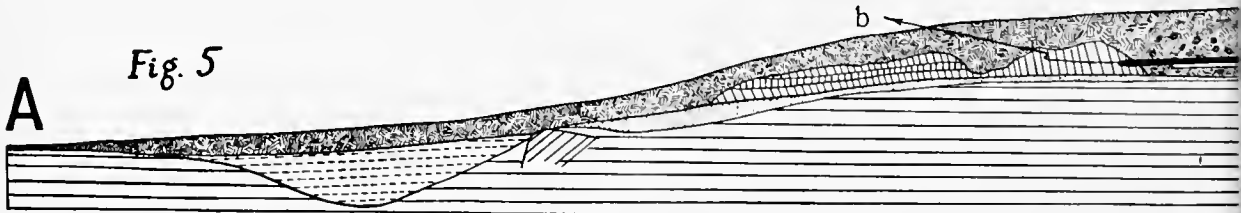








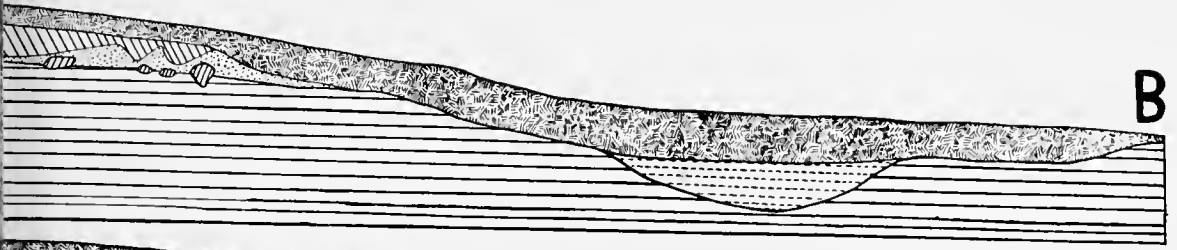
Fig 4



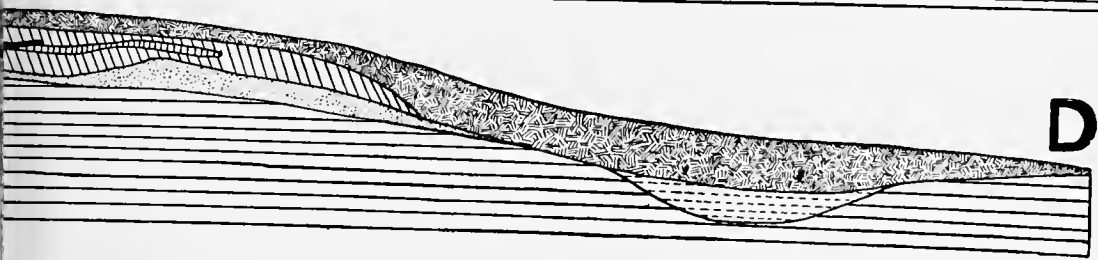
Fig 5



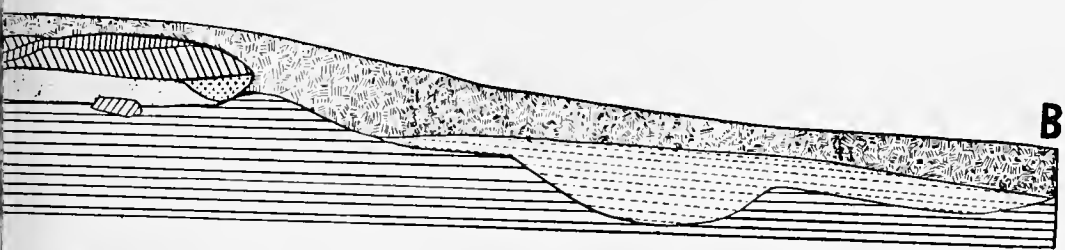
-  Topsoil.
-  Yellow clay.
-  Grey clay.
-  Fine yellow silt.
-  Charcoal.
-  Ashes and burnt material.



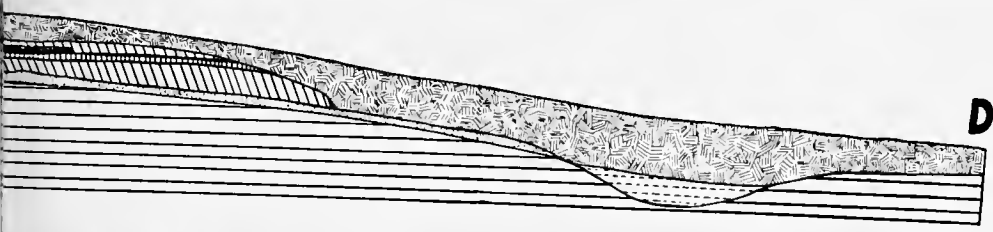
**B**



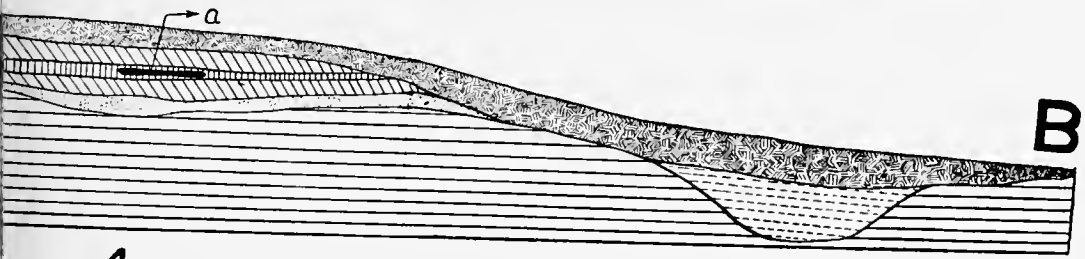
**D**



**B**







**D**

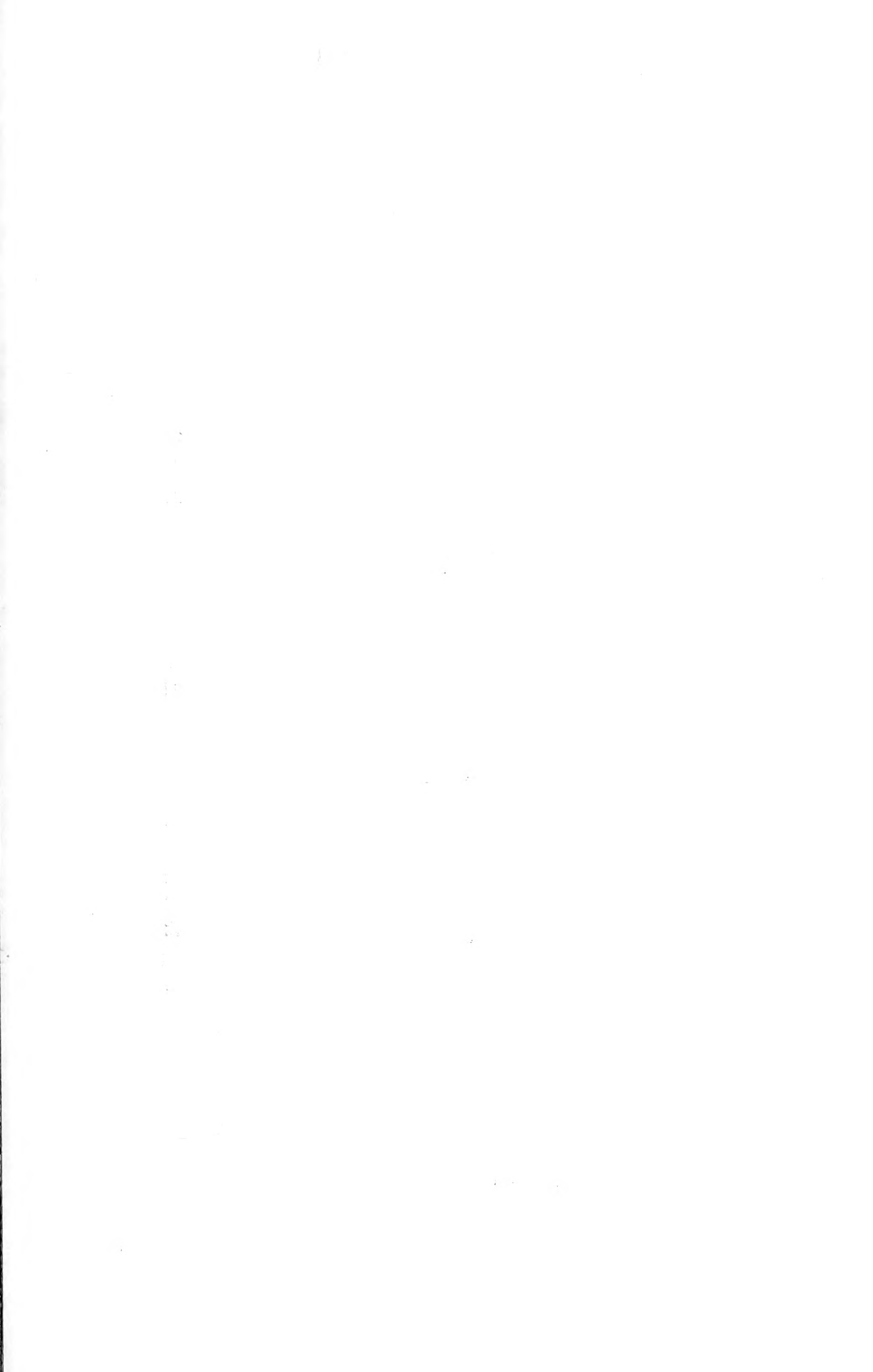


**B**

4 METRES

nd.  Stones.  Black earth fill.  Subsoil.  
 Mixed humus and clay.





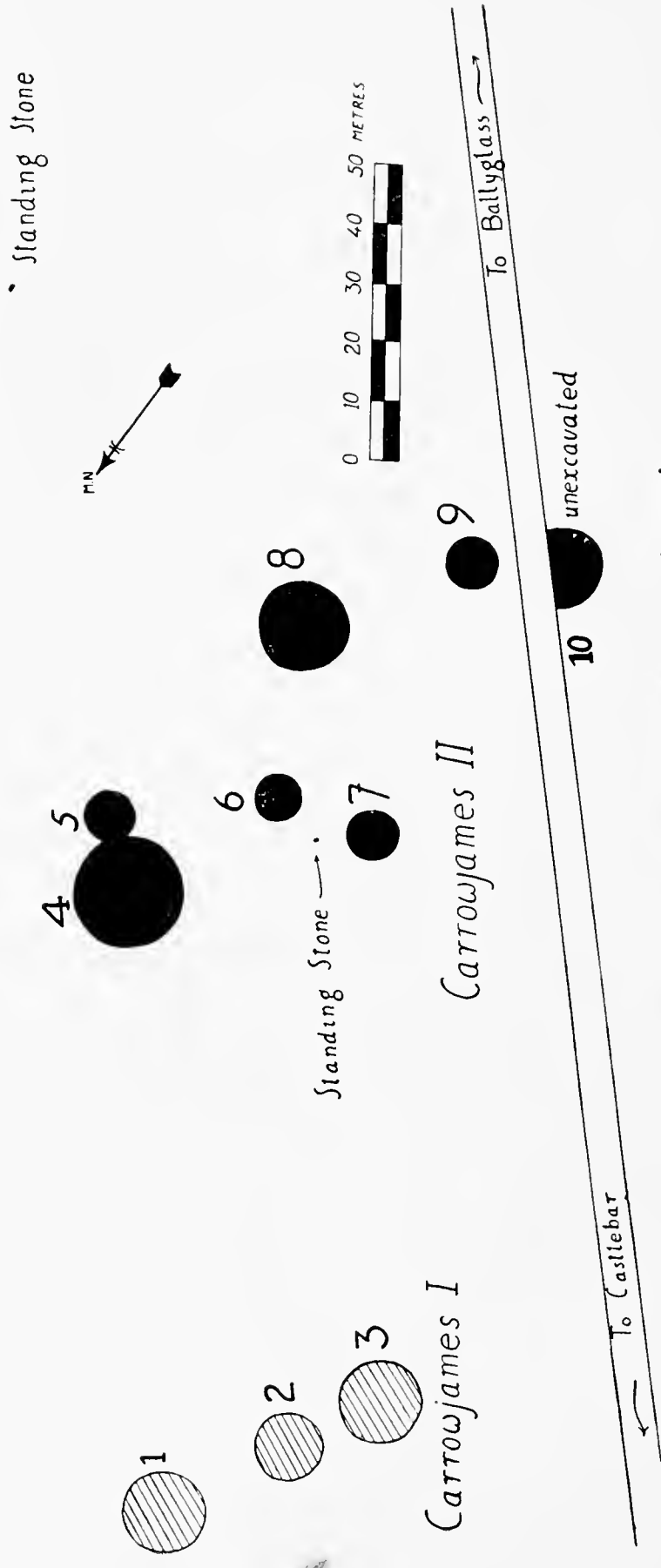


Fig. 1.—Plan of the Tumulus-Cemetery at Carrowjames.



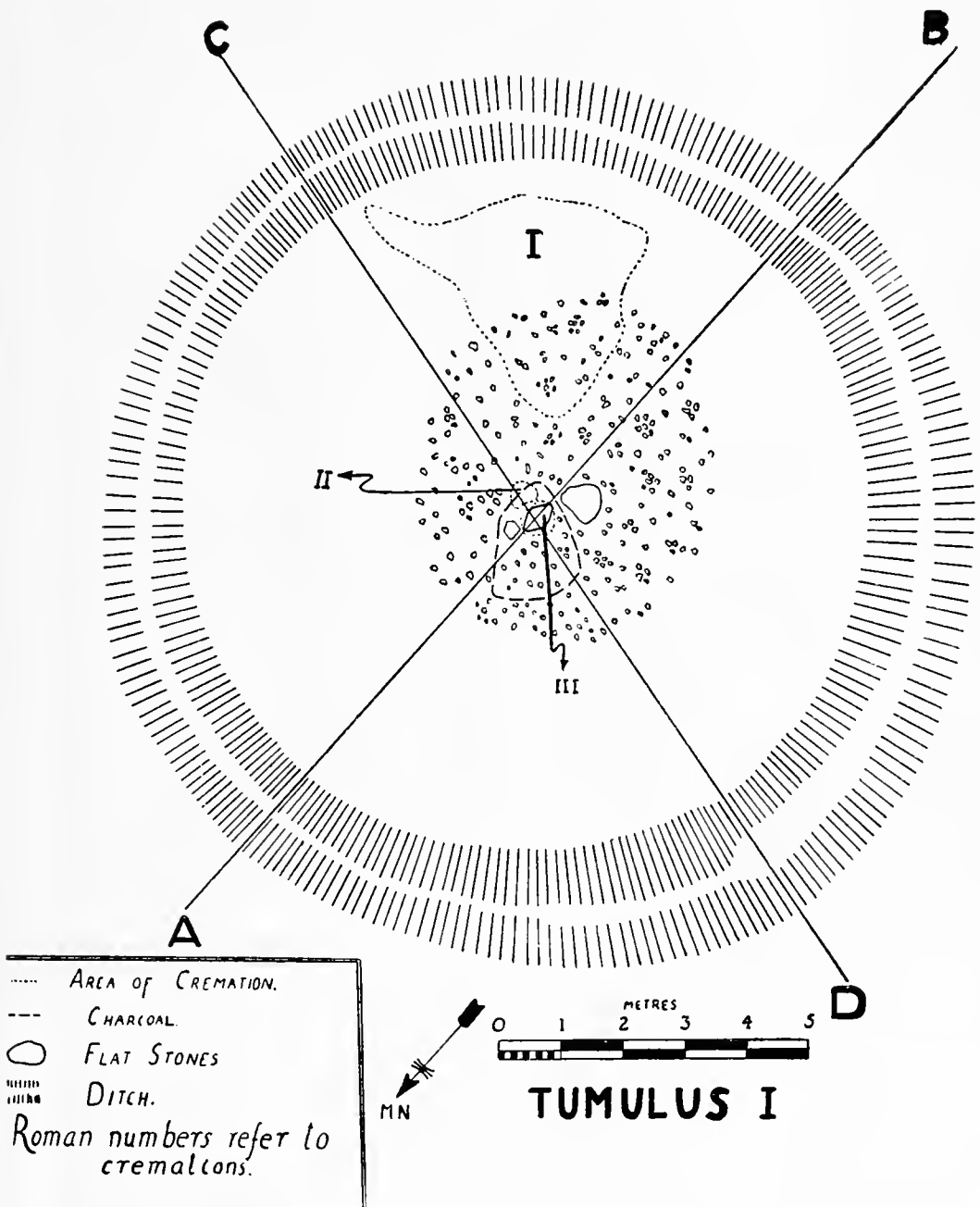


Fig. 2.

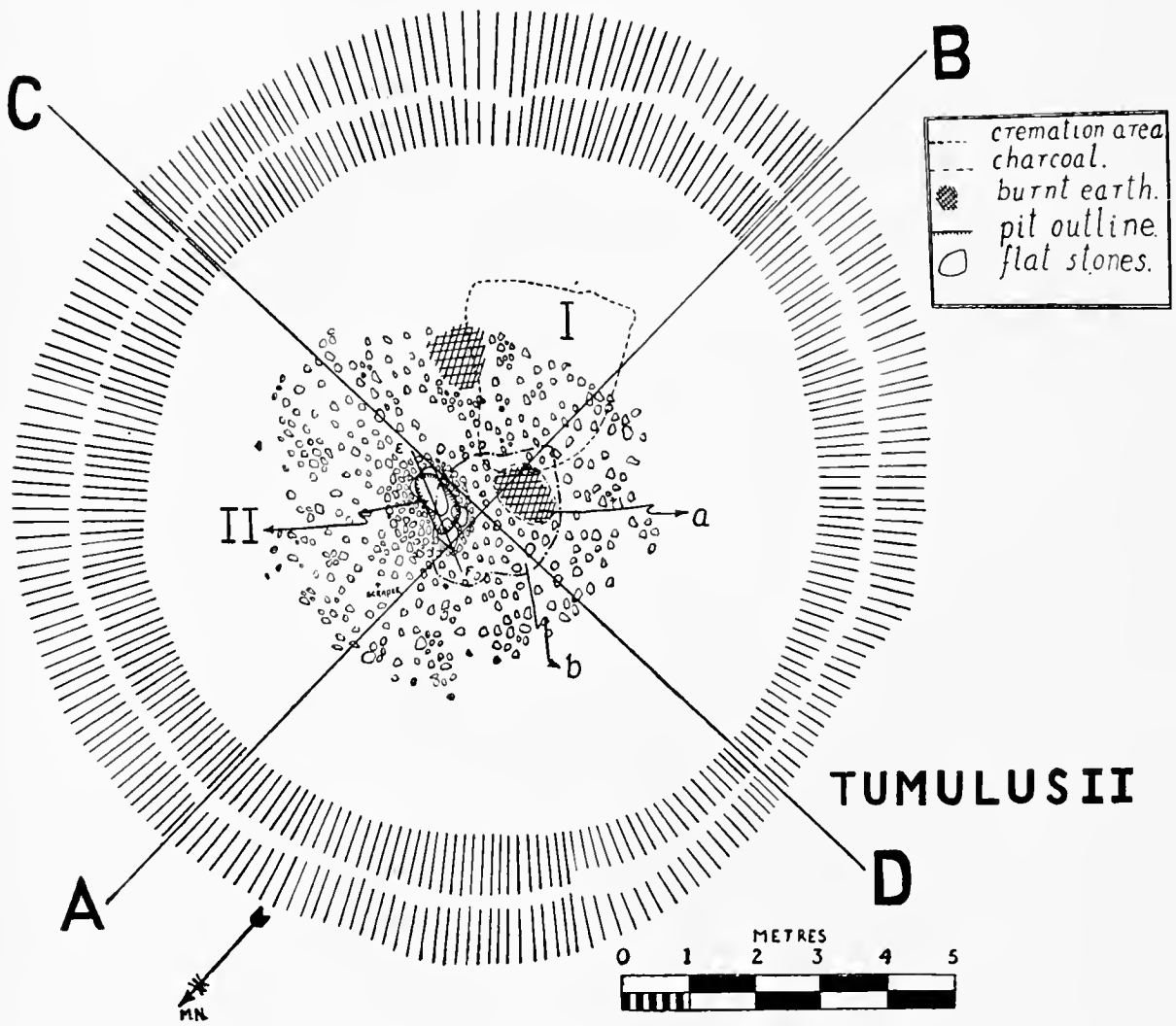


Fig. 3.

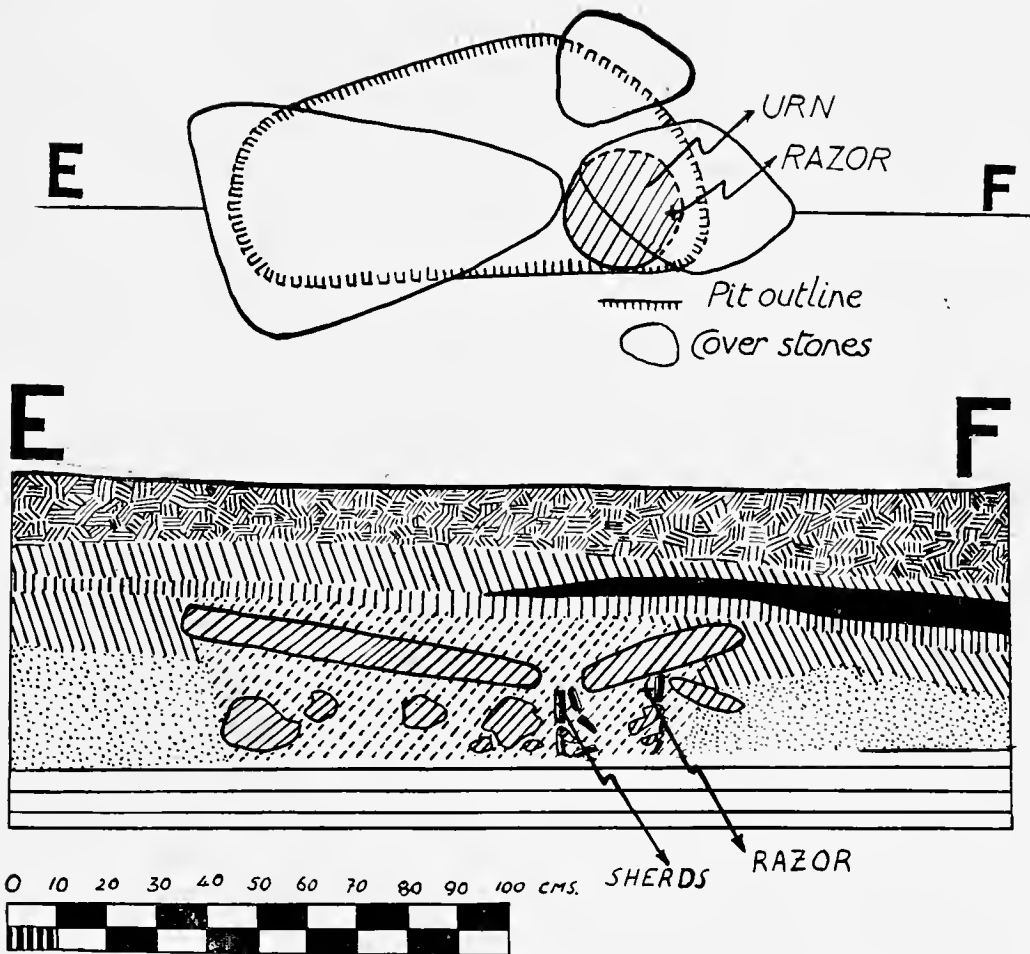


Fig. 4.—Tumulus II, plan and section of pit containing Cremation 2.  
 (For symbols see Plate I.)

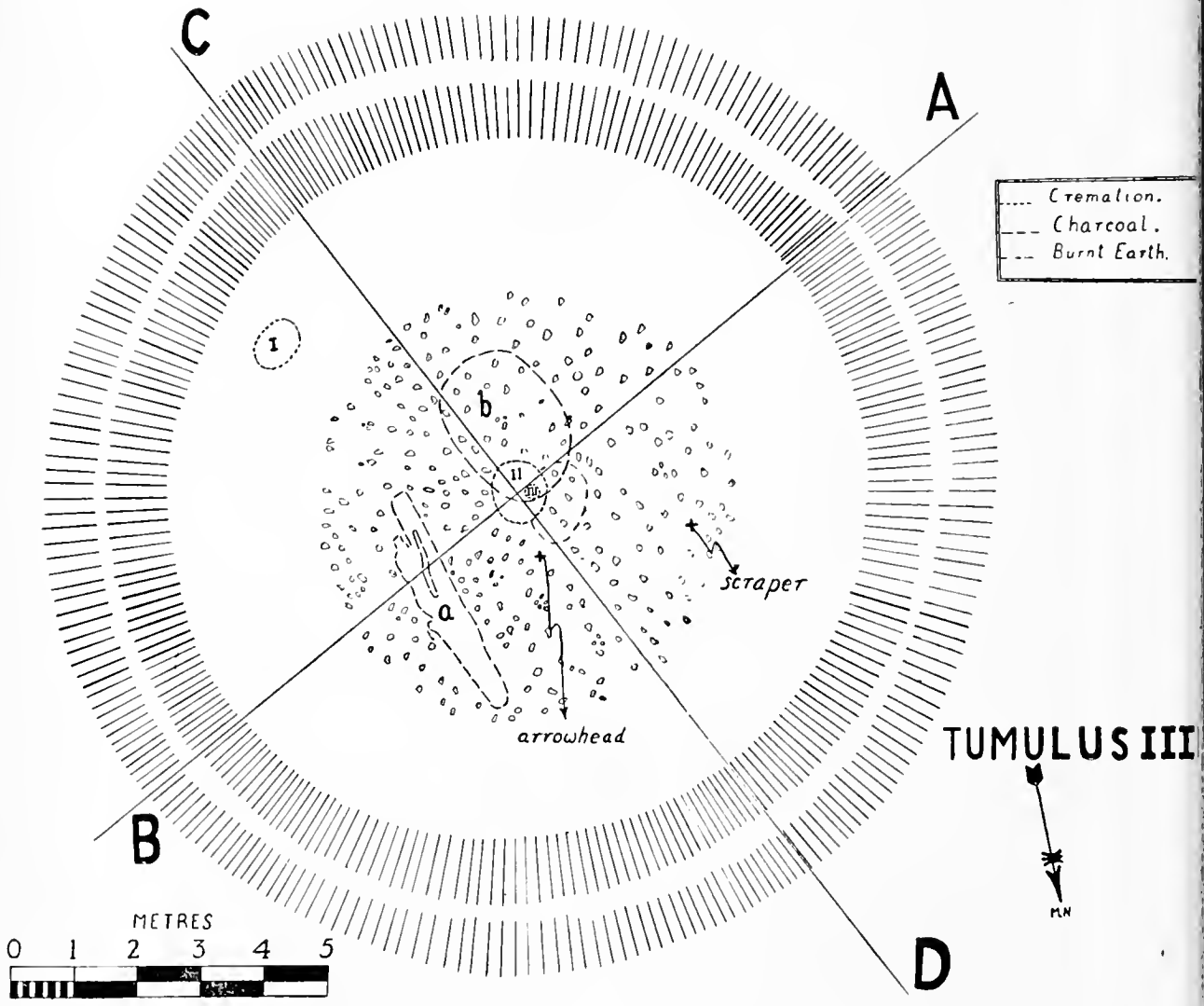


Fig. 5.

# The Tumulus-Cemetery of Carrowjames Co. Mayo

By *JOSEPH RAFTERY, M.A., Dr.Phil.*

## PART I—CARROWJAMES I.

THE site which I have described as a tumulus-cemetery lies in the townland of Carrowjames, parish of Drum, Barony of Carra, County Mayo, and will be found on O.S. 6", Mayo, Sheet 90, 20.5 cms. from the left, 25 cms. from the top. The mounds themselves are not marked and to Dr. Seán Langan, Castlebar, is due the credit for having first discovered and reported them. As the excavation of the site extended over two seasons and as it seemed possible that a chronological distinction might exist between the group examined in 1935 and that examined in 1936 it was decided for filing purposes to refer to each season's activities as Carrowjames I and II respectively. This system has been accepted in the following report.

The excavation (which is listed No. XXIII in the official Museum and Office of Public Works files) was undertaken as part of a Scheme for the Relief of Unemployment, administered for the Irish Government by the National Museum and the Ancient Monuments Section of the Office of Public Works. The first season's work covered the period 14th September, 1935, to 28th October, 1935. In all 12 workmen were employed. The supervision was carried out by the writer, whose thanks are due to the following for many kindnesses and for consistent help throughout: Dr. Hugh O'Neill Hencken, Harvard University; Dr. Seán Langan, Castlebar; Mr. H. G. Leask, Dublin; Dr. A. Mahr, Dublin; and Mr. John O'Malley, the landowner.

The site (Fig. 1) consisted altogether of 10 mounds, one of which unfortunately had been partly cut away in making the road from Castlebar to Ballyglass village. It was not excavated and is so marked on the site-plan. A small standing-stone is situated near one of the mounds of Carrowjames II, a second stands on a low ridge to the west and a third due east of the cemetery. The tumuli were thrown up on rather marshy land at the bottom of a valley between low-lying ridges. The subsoil of the region is a very coarse grey glacial gravel.

The total area covered by the cemetery is about 180 metres long and 110 metres wide, the long axis running roughly northwest-southeast. The three mounds of Carrowjames I lie on the extreme northwestern limit. They are diagonally shaded on Fig. 1. No ditch was discernible on the surface round any of them. The structure of all was the same. As a base for each the tumulus builders selected a natural rise in the subsoil (see e.g. Section A-B, Tumulus I, Pl. I, Fig. 1). They seem to have stripped the sod from this area, and then round the rise they dug a ditch, the grey sandy material from which they threw over the original subsoil (see e.g. Pl. I, Figs. 1, 2). Over this grey sandy layer they put down a thicker layer of sods which, with the passage of time, turned into a yellow clay. On top of this sod layer, the upper part of which had become a grey to buff-coloured clay, they lighted a fire, the charcoal and ash remains of which were clearly discernible. Over this they placed more sods, and the stratigraphy ends with the accumulation of humus. The ditches were later filled with a cream-coloured sticky silt. In no case was there any discernible trace of old turf line, which indicated that the whole area to the edge of the ditch had been stripped.

Tumulus I (Plan, Fig. 2 and Pl. II, 1) averaged 14.50 m. in overall diameter. Its greatest height above the subsoil, taken at the centre, was 50 cms. (Pl. I, Figs. 1, 2). The ditch varied in width from 1.25 m. to 2.20 m., with an average depth of 30 cms. The centre of the mound, covering an area approximately 5 m. in diameter, was formed of large stones, averaging 40 by 30 by 20 cms., set rather loosely together and at varying distances from each other. They rested in the grey sand at the base of the artificial rise, and often occurred

in groups of five or six together, particularly in the south-eastern quadrant.

In the approximate centre (Fig. 2) was a layer of charcoal, 1.90 m. long and 1.40 wide. It was 8 cms. thick and lay 30 cms. below the present surface of the mound, forming, as it were, a boundary between Cremations 2 and 3. Under it, and co-terminous with it, was a layer of greyish white ash, with small pieces of charcoal through it. The fire had evidently burnt itself out before the top layer of sods was placed over it.

There were three patches of earth burnt red, two in the northwestern and one in the northeastern quadrant. They are not marked on the plan as they did not seem to belong to the mound in the prehistoric sense. They were :

- (1) 23 cms. below the surface, just above the silt of the ditch. It was 5 cms. in diameter and 1 cm. thick. Small pieces were scattered through the soil nearby. No charcoal was found with it.
- (2) 25 cms. below the surface, outside the mound. It was mixed with the ordinary topsoil.
- (3) 20 cms. below the surface, 15 cms. long, 10 cms. wide and 5 cms. thick. No charcoal was found with it.

These patches all occurred in the humus and mainly outside the tumulus. They may be due to the fact that up to about forty years ago land was burned in order to make artificial manure. The site had then been tillage land and, indeed, was tilled five or six years ago by the present owner. He, however, assured me that he ploughed only three or four inches deep ; and it was evident that the mounds had been undisturbed.

The burials were in all cases cremations. In Tumulus I there were three :

*Cremation 1* was in the south-eastern quadrant of the mound, and was scattered over an area 4.50 m. long and 3 m. wide. The bones, which were broken into very tiny fragments, occurred from just below the surface almost to the base of the yellow clay, i.e., to a depth of 30 cms. Within this area, in the yellow clay, were found four small nondescript bronze fragments. It was impossible to determine their purpose, or the object of which they formed parts, due to their broken

and corroded condition. The bones were those of a child, but the sex could not be determined.\*

*Cremation 2* consisted of a small pocket of bones which had been well cremated and broken. For them a small pit had been dug almost in the centre of the mound, beginning in the humus 12 cms. below the surface and extending through the top level of the yellow clay almost to the level of the charcoal. The depth of the pit was 24 cms. and its diameter 45 cms. It was filled by a mixture of brown earth and yellow clay, and contained nothing save the bones which were those of a small adult, possibly a female (Pl. I, Fig. 2).

*Cremation 3* lay in the centre of the tumulus. Like No. 2 above, a pit had been dug for it, but on this occasion with evidence of greater care. It was 40 cms. deep and 60 cms. wide, with almost perpendicular sides (Pl. I, Fig. 2). It began just under the layer of charcoal, and would seem to have been dug when the mound was half erected. The tumulus then consisted of the grey sand and a layer of sods. Through these the pit was dug, the cremation inserted and the whole covered by a flat slab of limestone (P. II, 2, 3) and possibly by a single layer of sods. Over this, though presumably at a later date, a wood fire was lighted. Lying on its charcoal remains were five or six fragments of cremated bones. In time vegetable matter and top soil from the sods, mixed with a certain amount of charcoal from the fire above, trickled down and filled the pit with a black earth of sooty consistency.

Two persons had been buried in this pit—an adult and a child. It was not possible to determine the sex in either case. With the bones was found a small bronze “razor” † broken in two pieces with one rivet-hole still retaining its rivet (Fig. 7, f.). In its original condition it would measure 6.7 cms. long and 2 cms. wide. Two pieces of mica schist were also found with the bones.

Other finds from Tumulus I (excluding obviously modern objects, such as china, etc.) were :

(I) A fragment of sheep humerus, which lay 20 cms.

\* I must here express my gratitude to Professor J. Kay Jamieson of Trinity College, Dublin, for his careful examination of the osteological material from the site.

† I use inverted commas because it is by no means taken for granted that these objects were actually razors.



below the surface in the yellow clay in the south-eastern quadrant.\*

- (2) The lower jaw-bone of a dog of terrier breed, in the yellow clay in the NE. quadrant.
- (3) Some shells (*Helix nemoralis*) found within the area of Cremation 1, 15-20 cms. below the surface.
- (4) A small flint scraper, 2.7 cms. long, 2 cms. wide, 1.2 cms. thick. It has a fine creamy patination. It was found in the yellow clay, 30 cms. below the surface in the NE. quadrant.

The history of Tumulus I then seems to be as follows: When the trench had been dug and the first layer of sods laid down over the grey sand from it a pit was dug, extending some distance into the subsoil. In this was the primary burial (or burials). It is very likely that the adult here buried was male, as an investigation of the evidence has shown that in each case in which a "razor" occurred with a cremation the sex of which could be determined it was invariably male.

It is difficult to say whether the fire had been made during the interment ceremonies of this primary burial, but several facts lead to the conclusion that it was a later addition. A glance at the sections (Pl. I, Figs. 1, 2.) will show that the charcoal layer was not symmetrical above the pit, as it would have been if made immediately after the filling of the latter with bones. Instead, its main bulk lay rather to one side. Again, the finding of a few fragments of cremated bone in the charcoal indicate its association with a later burial than Cremation 3, that is, it was lighted in connection with the deposition of Cremation 2. The relatively small quantity of charcoal and ash precludes its having been used as a pyre. It was rather a purificatory or ceremonial fire in which the already cremated bones were placed for a period before final burial in the pit above. How much later than Cremation 3 this burial took place it is impossible to say, though I incline to the opinion that it was not very much later. Indeed, with Cremation 1 it may represent sati.

Tumulus II (Plan, Fig. 3) corresponded in many particulars with No. I. It measured 14 metres in average outside diameter,

\* I am indebted to Mr. A. W. Stelfox of the Natural History Section of the National Museum for kindly identifying the animal bones and the shells.

and its greatest height above the subsoil was 55 cms. The stratification was identical with that of Tumulus I. The ditch, silted up as in the above mound, averaged 1.80 m. wide and 45 cms. deep. In the south-eastern quadrant was a patch of earth burnt red lying 30 cms. below the surface in the yellow clay. It contained no charcoal, but was mixed with the clay around it. It was 5 cms. thick, and contained a few fragments of cremated bone, probably belonging to Cremation 1.

There were two layers of charcoal approximately in the centre of the mound. Layer *a* (Fig. 3, Pl. 1, Fig. 3) was 1 m. long, 80 cms. wide and 6 cms. thick. Under it and approximately coterminous with it was a layer of earth burned red, 2 cms. thick. This was the result of the burning in situ of the logs. Layer *a* rested on the top of the yellow clay and at the base of the humus.

Layer *b* was irregular in shape. It measured 2.60 m. on its longest axis. It lay 22 cms. below the surface and rested on the thin band of grey clay which seems to represent a turf line at one stage of the mound's existence. Layer *b* averaged 8 cms. thick. It sloped in towards the centre, which was slightly lower than the edges. With it were found a few small fragments of cremated bones.

The core of the mound was formed of an area of fairly large stones thrown loosely together in the manner of Tumulus I. Here again the interments were all cremations :

*Cremation 1* was scattered over a large area of the SE. quadrant. The bones lay in the yellow clay at various levels from 20 to 35 cms. below the surface. They were well cremated and comminuted. Of the remains it can only be said that they were those of a smallish person whose sex and age could not be determined.

*Cremation 2* (Pl. III, 1) was interred in a pit in the centre of the mound (Fig. 4). The pit was roughly oval and measured 90 cms. long, 37-47 cms. wide. It was 30 cms. deep, its bottom being formed by the top of the gravel subsoil into which it did not penetrate. Its construction was similar to the pit containing Cremation 3 in Tumulus I, i.e., the mound had been partly erected and then the pit was made. This is a very interesting and, as far as one can judge, an unusual feature in connection with a primary interment.

The rule would seem to have been that a pit was first of all made in the original surface and extending into the subsoil. Over this the mound was erected.

The pit had been covered rather inadequately by three flat slabs of limestone, one of which had partly collapsed to the serious detriment of the clay vessel which it covered (Fig. 4). The pit was then filled, probably immediately after the interment, by a very fine loamy soil containing much vegetable matter. Round the urn were piled some fairly large stones, the pressure of which also helped in its destruction.

The burial was that of an adult whose sex could not be determined definitely, though it was probably male. He suffered from rheumatic joints. The bones were well cremated, though not broken into any smaller pieces than the actual firing would cause. They were placed in a cinerary urn which was then inverted in one corner of the pit. It is possible, due to the size of the pit, and the position of the urn in it, that the former had been meant to receive other vessels, containing possibly the bones of other members of the the dead man's family.

With the bones was another bronze "razor" (Fig. 7, e). It is complete and still has a very sharp edge. At one end a rather rudimentary tang is suggested, containing one rivet-hole. The "razor" measures 6.50 cms. long and 2.20 cms. wide. It is about 5 mm. thick.

Other objects found in Tumulus II were :

- (1) A hollow scraper of flint with a creamy patination (Fig. 7, c). It came from the yellow clay in the NE. quadrant, 40 cms. below the surface.
- (2) Fragments of fused clay from the grey sand of the NE. quadrant.
- (3) Similar fragments from the same stratum in the NW.

Tumulus III (Pl. IV, 1; Plan, Fig. 5) was 15.50 m. in outside diameter and 54 cms. high above the subsoil at the centre. The construction and stratification were similar to those of Tumuli I and II. The ditch (Pl. III, 2) which was silted to the top, averaged 2.10 m. in width and was 45 cms. deep. The core of the mound, as in the previous instances, was formed of large loose stones. There were two layers of charcoal:

Layer *a* was 3.70 m. long and 65 cms. wide. Its long axis

ran North and South. It lay 32 cms. below the surface in the band of grey clay. It was 4 cms. thick. There was a very definite distinction between its edges and the clay around it (Pl. IV, 3). The striations all ran in one direction, viz., N-S, giving the appearance of bark which had been burned. It appeared to have been a roughly-shaped plank which had been burned with the bark still on it. The soil underneath was not burned. Through the charcoal ran a long slit, 10 cms. wide and 1.20 m. long.

Layer *b* was a thin stratum of rather scattered charcoal, 2.35 m. long and 1.70 m. wide. It lay 35 cms. below the surface in the centre of the mound and was 5 cms. thick. Partly under it was a small patch of earth burnt red, also 5 cms. thick (Pl. I, Fig. 5). All the interments were cremations.

*Cremation 1* lay in the SE. quadrant. The bones, which were those of an adolescent whose sex and age could not be determined, were well-cremated and broken into very small fragments. They were scattered through the humus on the slope of the mound; the area they occupied was by no means as extensive as was the case with the scattered cremations in the other tumuli.

*Cremation 2* lay in the centre of the mound, actually in the pit containing *Cremation 3*. The bones were scattered, above and round the cinerary urn of the latter. Nothing could be determined about the bones, save that they were human. The interment may point to sati, the bones of a second person being interred with those of the individual for whom the mound was originally raised.

*Cremation 3* corresponded to *Cremation 2* of Tumulus II in that it was also an urn burial. For it a pit, 85 cms, in diameter and 50 cms. deep, had been dug partly into the subsoil, as was the case with the primary interment in Tumulus I (Pl. III, 2, 3). It was filled with the same sort of black earthy soil, but had no covering stones. The vessel had been inverted in the pit and contained a large quantity of bones, representing an individual whose age and sex could not be determined. The fact that the "razor" lay on top of the bones indicates that it had been placed first on the bottom of the empty urn, which was then filled with the bones.

The "razor" (Fig. 7, d) differs from the other two in that

it has two rivet-holes and has a more pronounced oval shape. Its edge is also very sharp, and its thickness .5 mm. It is 5.9 cms. long and 2.7 cms. wide.

Other finds from Tumulus III were :

- (1) A tanged and barbed arrowhead of flint (Fig. 7, b). It was found in the NE. quadrant, 41 cms. below the surface in the yellow clay. It measures 2.4 cms. long and 2 cm. wide at the barbs. It has a white patination, fine secondary chipping round the edges and a sharp point.
- (2) A hollow scraper, also flint (Fig. 7, a) 45 cms. below the surface in the yellow clay. It is 3.6 cms. long and measures 3.7 cms. on its widest axis. It has a creamy patination.
- (3) A shell (*Helix nemoralis*) was found in the silt of the ditch in the NE. quadrant.
- (4) Two flint flakes, found in the NE. quadrant, associated with Cremation 2.
- (5) A flint chip in charcoal layer *a*.
- (6) A few cremated bones were found just under the sod in the NE.

To conclude Part I of the Carrowjames report the pottery must be described. Only two vessels were found and these in such a bad state of preservation that nothing like completeness of restoration could be achieved. Not only was the pottery of itself badly fired and therefore tended to crumble very easily, but when exposed to the air it was found to be of the same consistency as the clay surrounding it. Indeed, the workman who uncovered the urn in Tumulus III made a hole in the bottom before he realised the difference. The prompt application of an acetone solution did not help very much. The whole bottom portion of the urn in Tumulus II had been destroyed by the weight of soil and stones above it before excavation began, but it may be presumed to have been similar to that of the urn from Tumulus III. In future, for purposes of references, we shall call the latter *A* and the former *B*. The rim of *A*, which was resting on the soil without any other protection, had completely disintegrated, though one slight portion suggested that it had an internal bevel. The rim of *B* was perfect around most of its circumference.

*A*, when complete, must have been about 34 cms. high (Fig. 6, top). Its greatest diameter, about the middle, is 28.5 cms. The walls are 1.3 cms. thick and the base is flat. It is red on the outside, black to grey on the inside, and is formed of a coarse gritty paste, with a great quantity of quartz grains through it. Its decoration is of the simplest. Just below where the rim must have been is a slightly raised cordon. Between this and two bands of double-cordons (thus making five cordons in all) is a band, 6 cms. wide, with incised horizontal lines crossed by others sloping at various angles.

As the illustration shows, the shape of this pot is unusual and does not conform to the normal bucket-shape of the Cordoned Urn Type. This, coupled with the unusual number of cordons and the bad quality of the paste, indicates its late date.

*B* (Fig. 6, bottom) must have been about as high as *A*. It is 35.5 cms. wide and the walls are 1.3 thick. In firing and texture it does not differ from the first vessel. Its shape, however, seems to have been more normal. The rim is internally bevelled in the Late Bronze Age tradition, though the angle is not very steep. This pot has only two cordons, which are not as pronounced as in *A*. An incised line runs along the ridge of each. Between them and the rim is a band of incised ornament, consisting of outlined triangles, the apices of the top row fitting between the bases of the bottom row. The bases in each case are joined by a continuous horizontal line, also incised.

It is not intended here to go into the question of the origin and devolution of the type. That, and a full discussion of the chronological position and cultural affinities of Carrowjames I, will be treated of in the second part of this paper, when the cemetery as a whole will be studied.

A few words, however, must be said as to the date and ultimate affinities of the mounds above discussed. The main evidence is, of course, the two urns. They are of the Cordoned type, for which devolution from the Overhanging Rim Type has been suggested as the basis. Quantatively Scotland is the homeland of the type, and the distribution map here given (Fig. 8) bears out the theory that these urns were introduced from Scotland into the north-eastern corner of Ireland, whence

they spread south and west. This would lead to the conclusion that Knockast\* and similar midland sites were not due to an immigrant movement *via* the Eastern coast, but rather to an expansive movement from the north.

“ Razors ” of the Carrowjames Type seem to be exclusively associated with cordoned urns. As the vessels from Carrowjames I are exceedingly degenerate representatives of their type and as they are very far from the focus of the movement, it seems that this ovoid-type is rather later, if anything, than the type with a pronounced tang, which is usually finely ornamented.†

Dr. Mahr, in his Presidential Address to the Prehistoric Society,‡ is of the opinion that “ razors ” of Carrowjames type are of Middle Bronze Age date. This, in view of the association with Cordoned Urns and the generally late date of the latter, cannot well be retained.

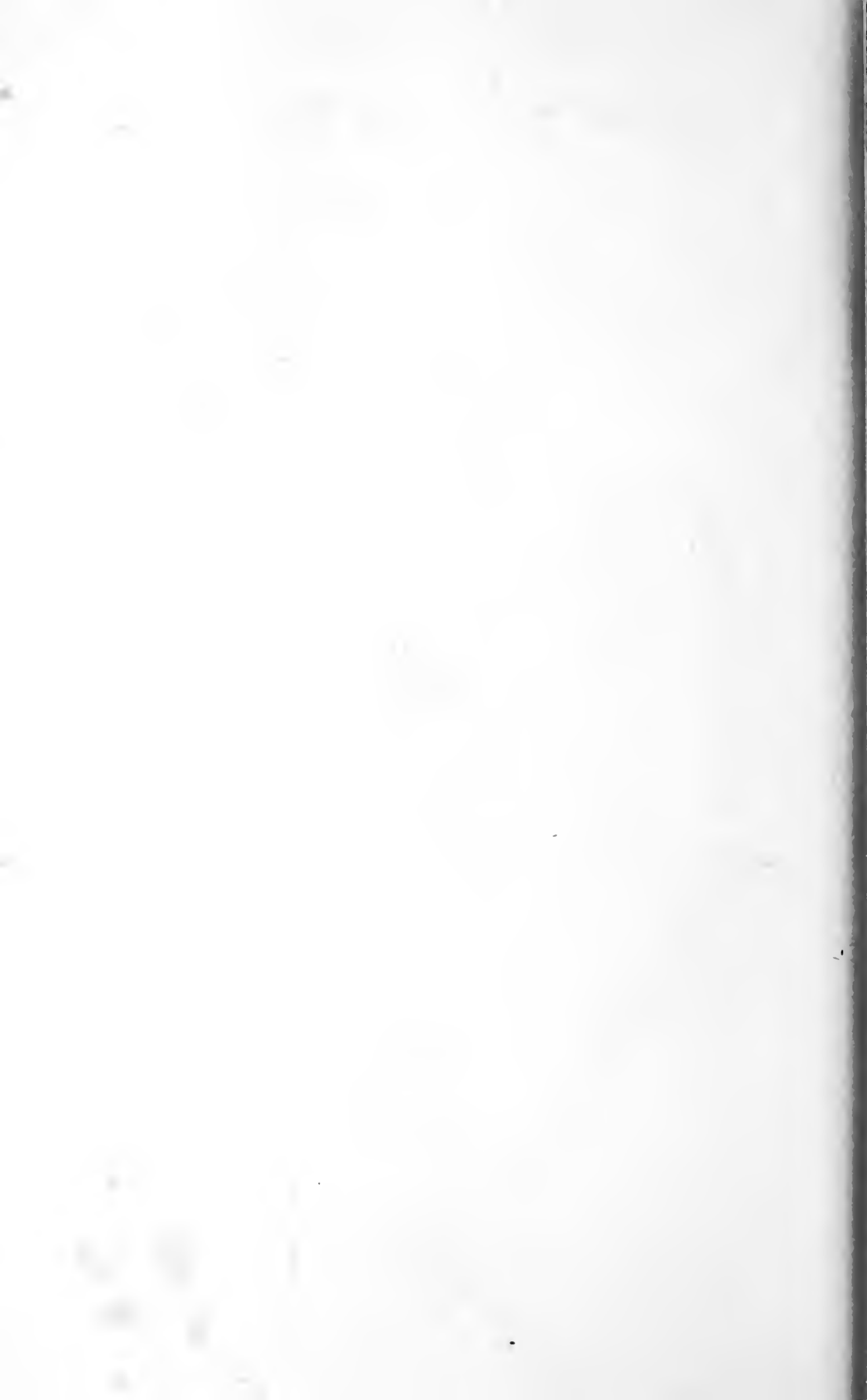
In conclusion, I should like to point to some distinctive features of Carrowjames I. The mounds are all very low and very small. Each contains a cremation scattered over a fairly large area of the SE. quadrant. Each has had a central fire, sealing the entrance to the pit containing the primary burial. Each contained a primary central burial with a “ razor.” The juxtaposition of the mounds, their similarity of structure and of funerary outlay clearly indicate that, if not contemporaneous, they all fall at least within a generation of each other.

Finally, I should like to state my views, the evidence for which I shall bring forward in Part II of this paper. I hold that Carrowjames I is the most westerly representative of the Cordoned Urn Group, one stage of whose development is to be found in Scotland; that the “ razors ” which the site produced are later than those leaf-shaped tanged and decorated specimens; and finally, that a position very late in Late Bronze Age *B* must be assigned to it. In figures, I should suggest somewhere about 300 B.C.

\* *P.R.I.A.*, 41, C. 1934, 232-84.

† Examples from Knockast (*loc. cit.*, Fig. 5) and Pollacorragune (this *Journal*, XVII, i & ii, pp. 44-64, Pl. facing p. 52).

‡ *Proc. Preh. Soc.*, N.S., Vol. 3, 1937, 261-436.





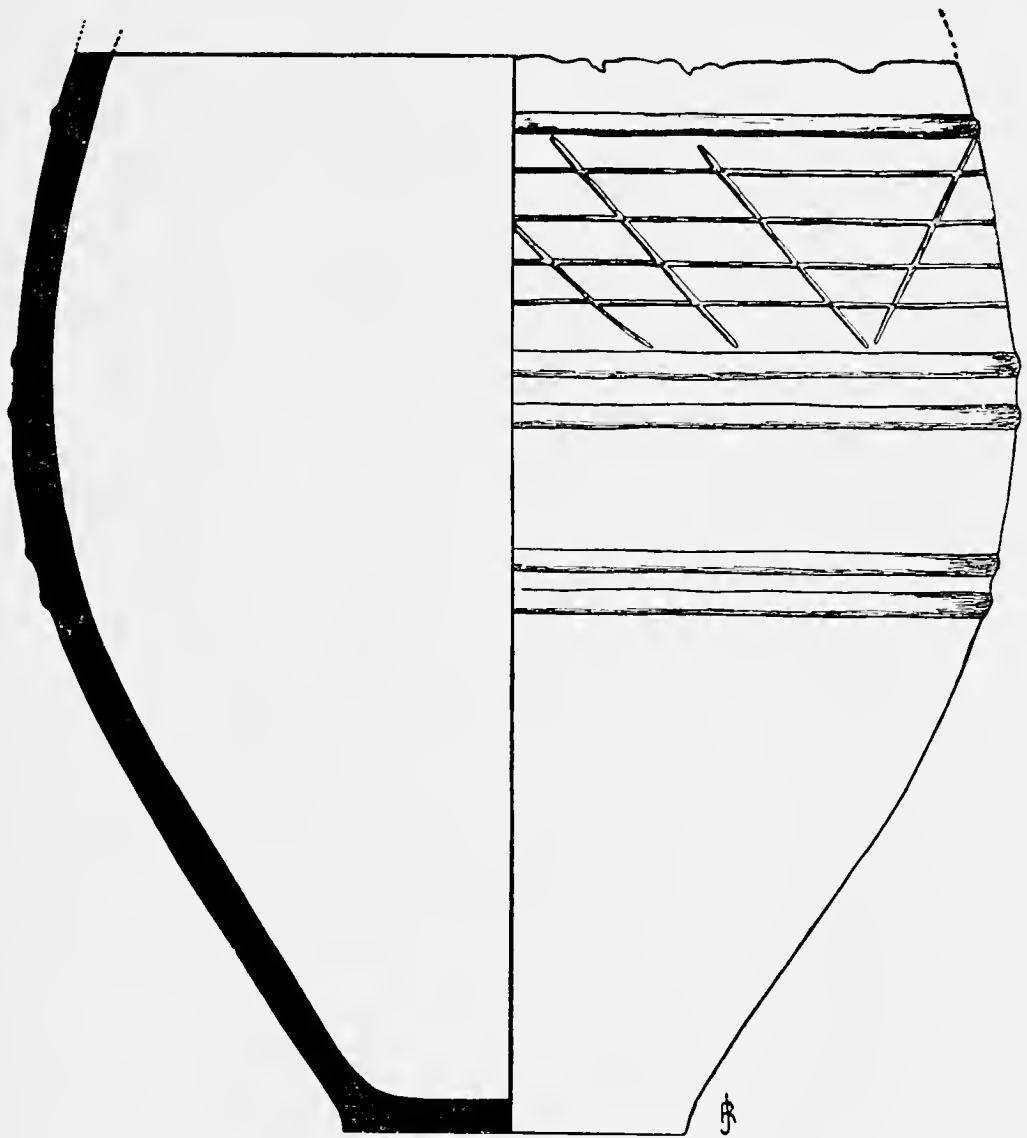
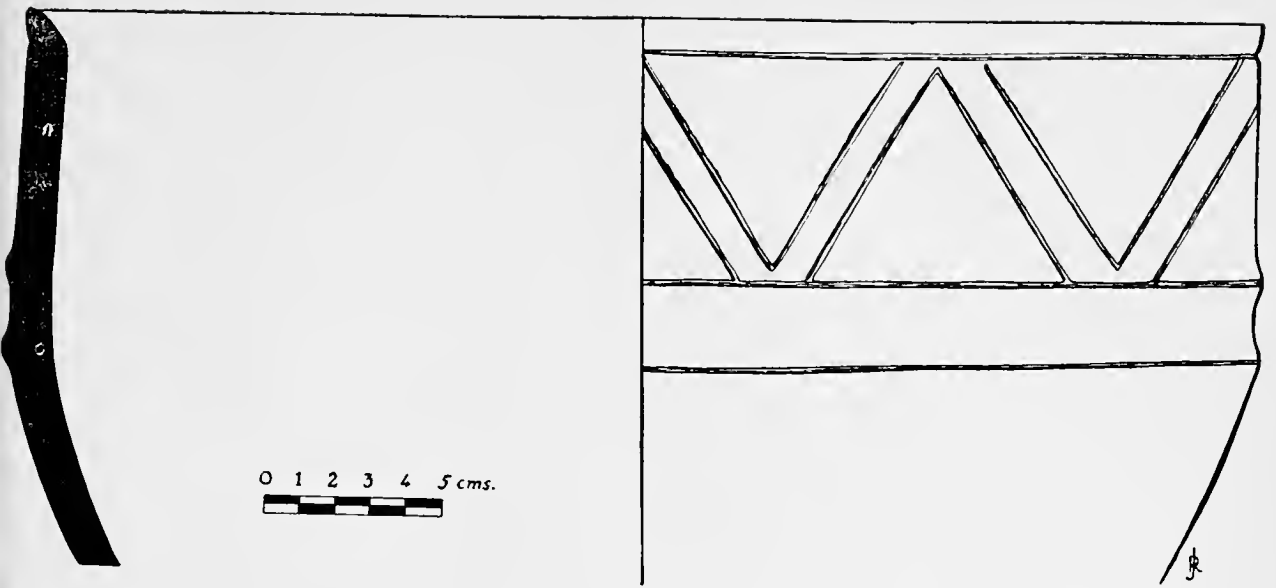


Fig. 6.—Cordoned urn A above, B below.

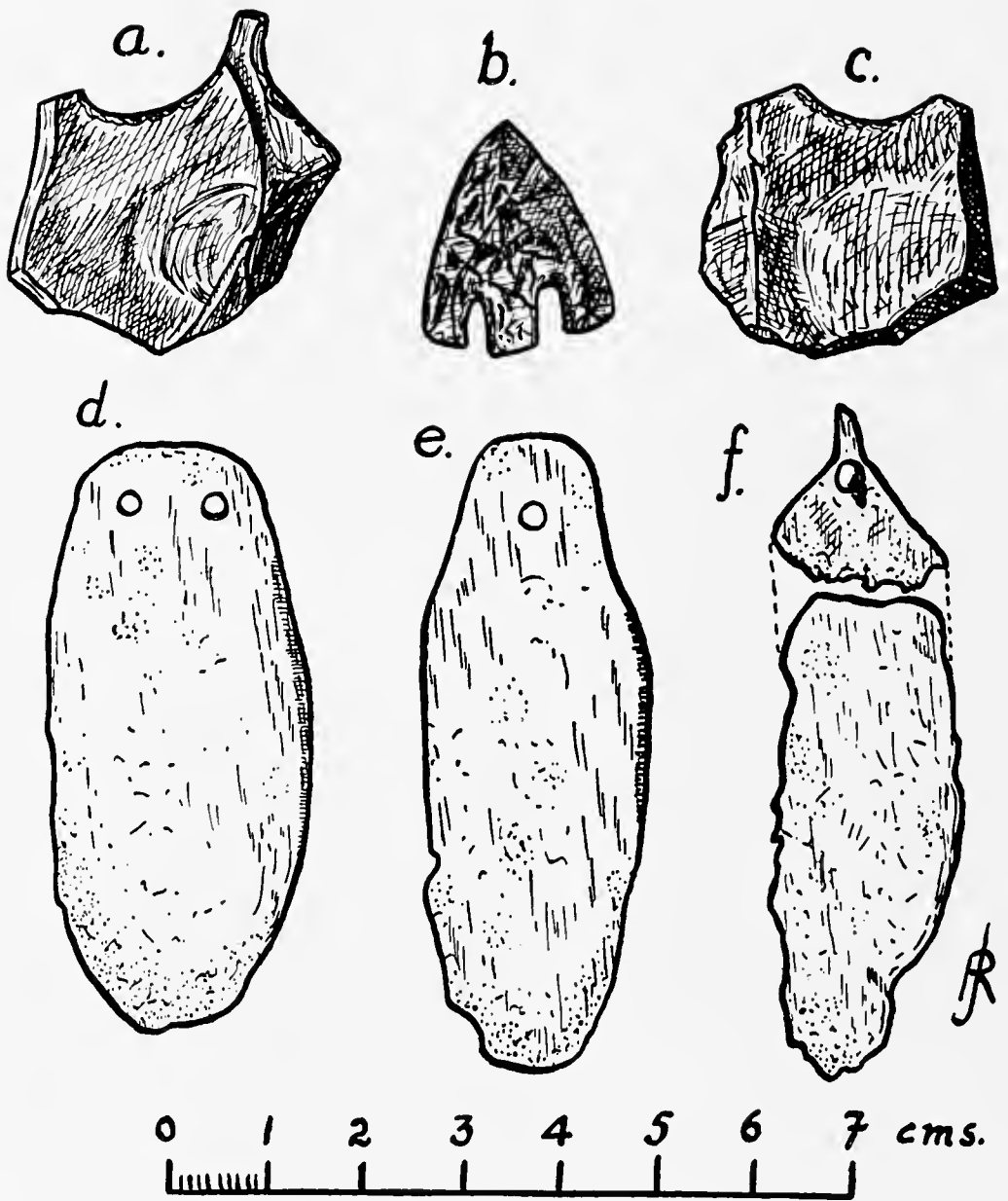


Fig. 7.—Bronze and flint objects from Carrowjames I.



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## PLATE II.

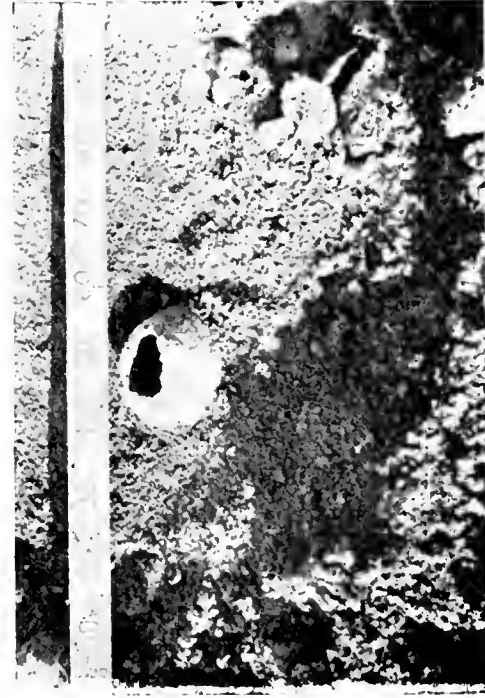
Fig. 1.—Tumulus I. before excavation. From the South.

Fig. 2.—Pit containing Cremation 3, Tumulus I.

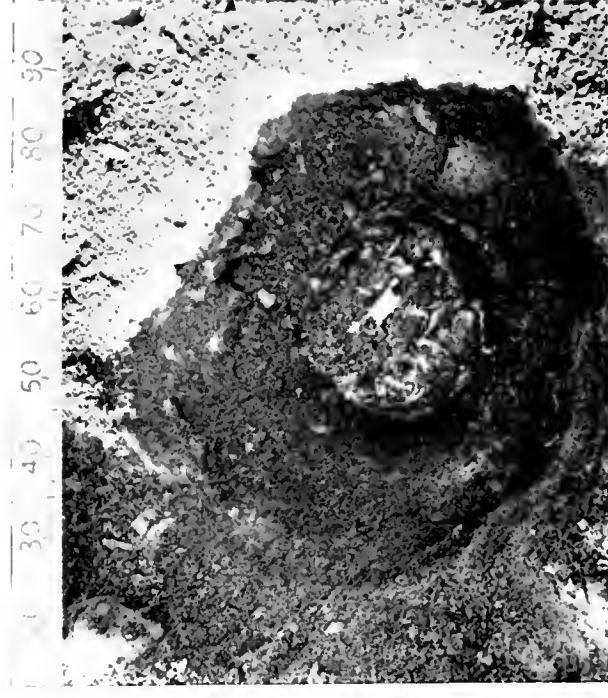
Fig. 3.—Pit containing Cremation 3, cover stone removed.



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PLATE III.  
Fig. 1.—Cremation 2, Tumulus II. Dotted lines indicate outline of pit.  
Fig. 2.—Bottom of urn containing Cremation 3, Tumulus III.  
Fig. 3.—Cremation 3, Tumulus III. Urn and pit.



1



2



3

PLATE IV.

Fig. 1.—Tumulus III, before excavation. From the North.  
Fig. 2.—Tumulus III, Ditch in N.W. quadrant.  
Fig. 3.—Tumulus III. Charcoal layer A. S.E. quadrant.

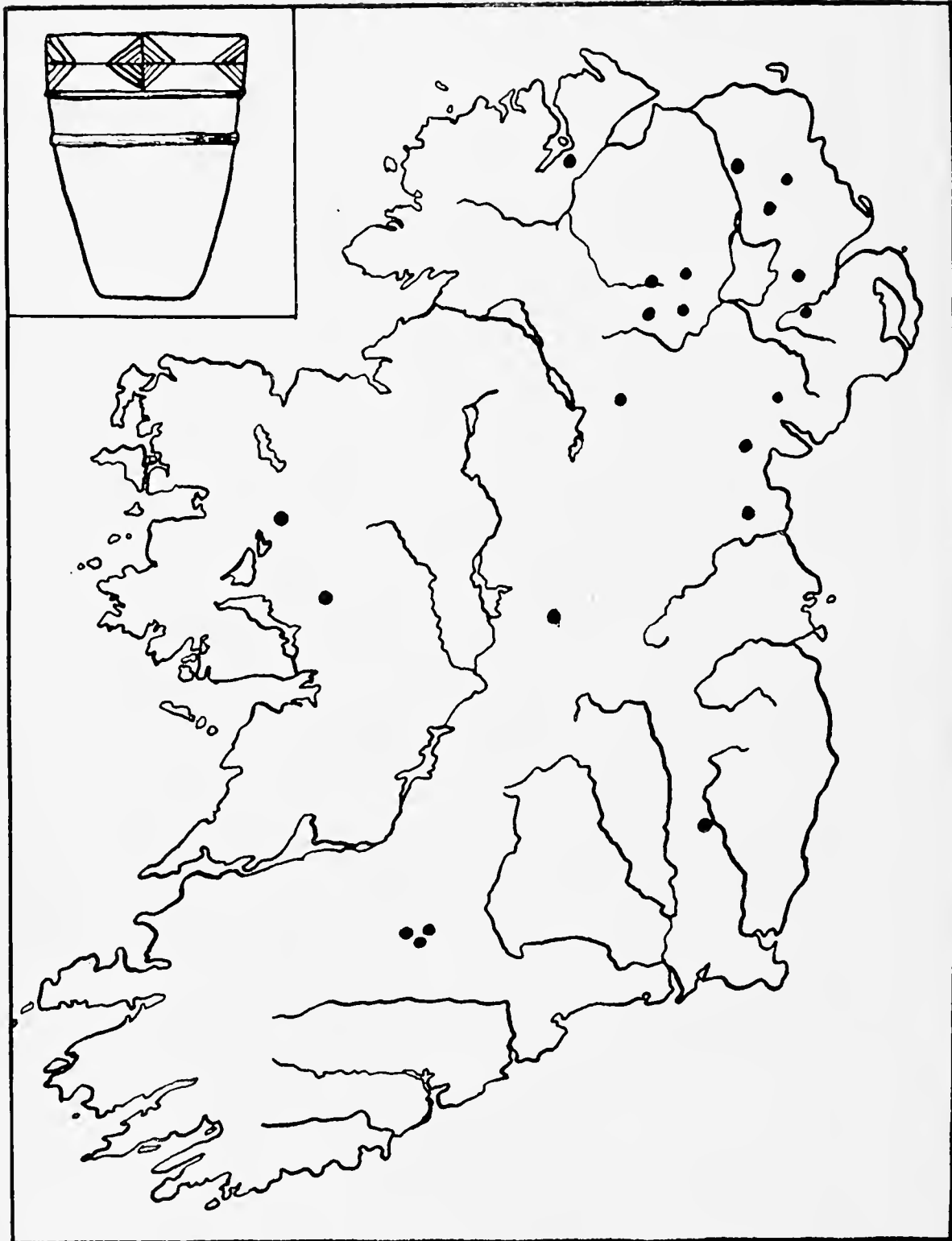
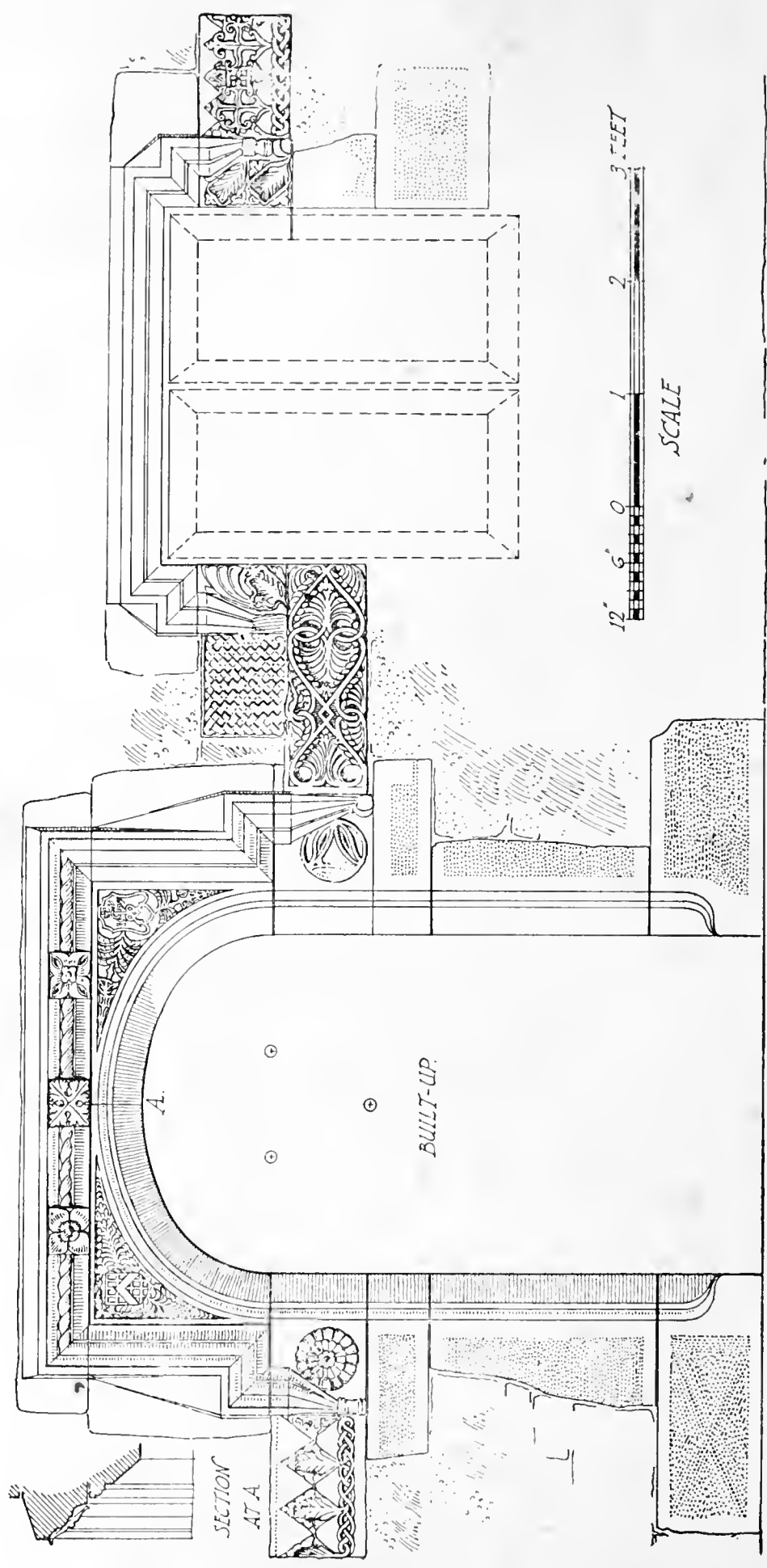


Fig. 8.—Map showing the distribution of cordoned urns.



ST. AUGUSTINE STREET, GALWAY, 16th CENTURY DOORWAY AND WINDOW.





# A Galway Doorway

Dear Sir—May I seek the hospitality of your columns to protest against the unnecessary taking down and removal of one of Galway's most important sixteenth century relics? I refer to the Athy doorway and window which stood in St. Augustine Street from 1577 until the week before last. Here we had perhaps the most beautiful urban domestic doorway of its period still surviving in Ireland. Its ornamental details are characteristic of the best Irish work of its time, combining late Gothic forms

THIS century engraving of the doorway in *Ancient Buildings in Galway*, p. 158, shows a small fragment of the doorway which belonged to the original Athy house still surviving to warrant the dream of its ultimate partial restoration, perhaps as the nucleus of a museum of Old Galway. In any case, it is a widely accepted principle that if relics of this sort must of necessity be taken down, care should first be had to make a thorough survey of the fabric to which they belong. So far as I know, no such care was taken in the present instance. Nor, to the best of my knowledge, were any steps taken to consult with either of the local organisations interested in preserving the material remains of our cultural heritage.

The danger, as far as I have been able to discover. Furthermore, sufficient of the original Athy house still survived to warrant the dream of its ultimate partial restoration, perhaps as the nucleus of a museum of Old Galway. In any case, it is a widely accepted principle that if relics of this sort must of necessity be taken down, care should first be had to make a thorough survey of the fabric to which they belong. So far as I know, no such care was taken in the present instance. Nor, to the best of my knowledge, were any steps taken to consult with either of the local organisations interested in preserving the material remains of our cultural heritage.

It will, perhaps be countered that Galway neglected its monuments in the past, and would continue to do so in the future. The point of any such reply is lost in view of the fact that, within the past twelve months, a public-spirited Local Authority has reconstituted its National Monuments Advisory Committee and allocated public money to it for the maintenance of local monuments.

In conclusion, I should like to appeal to all our citizens for wholehearted co-operation in the work of that Committee. Our ancient monuments are important primarily for their cultural value. They also happen to have a real monetary value for a city which is one of our most important tourist centres.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL DUIGNAN.

Dept. of Archaeology,  
U.C.G., 17th Dec., 1947.

## Window Street

M.R.I.A.

ecture of the sixteenth century doorway is depicted before in a small *Practical Geology and Geology of Galway*, p. 158, shows a small fragment of the doorway which belonged to the original Athy house still surviving to warrant the dream of its ultimate partial restoration, perhaps as the nucleus of a museum of Old Galway. In any case, it is a widely accepted principle that if relics of this sort must of necessity be taken down, care should first be had to make a thorough survey of the fabric to which they belong. So far as I know, no such care was taken in the present instance. Nor, to the best of my knowledge, were any steps taken to consult with either of the local organisations interested in preserving the material remains of our cultural heritage.

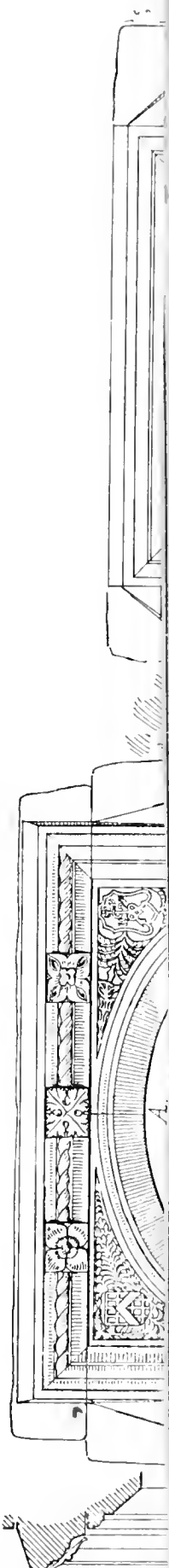
The doorway is a small fragment of the original Athy house still surviving to warrant the dream of its ultimate partial restoration, perhaps as the nucleus of a museum of Old Galway. In any case, it is a widely accepted principle that if relics of this sort must of necessity be taken down, care should first be had to make a thorough survey of the fabric to which they belong. So far as I know, no such care was taken in the present instance. Nor, to the best of my knowledge, were any steps taken to consult with either of the local organisations interested in preserving the material remains of our cultural heritage.

quite clear the arms of the doorway arch is a small fragment of the original Athy house still surviving to warrant the dream of its ultimate partial restoration, perhaps as the nucleus of a museum of Old Galway. In any case, it is a widely accepted principle that if relics of this sort must of necessity be taken down, care should first be had to make a thorough survey of the fabric to which they belong. So far as I know, no such care was taken in the present instance. Nor, to the best of my knowledge, were any steps taken to consult with either of the local organisations interested in preserving the material remains of our cultural heritage.

fragments of ancient monuments to be hoped, they are of such great value that they should be preserved from destruction.

to be recommended that it is interesting in view of the fact that, within the past twelve months, a public-spirited Local Authority has reconstituted its National Monuments Advisory Committee and allocated public money to it for the maintenance of local monuments.

ST. AUGUSTINE STREET, GALWAY, 16<sup>th</sup> CENTURY DOORWAY AND WINDOW.



an anxious closing quarter when the losers rallied spiritedly.

Outstanding for St. Mary's who slow start probably cost them the title, was a sparkling quartette Fahy, Brennan, Torpey and Conidine.

Conditions militated against a high scoring game and the winners, after rattling in their second goal, were content to resort to defensive tactics. M. A. Derivan, N.T., refereed.

## CONNACHT SCHOOLBOYS LOSE RUGBY TIE

Leinster ... 16 pts.; Connacht ... 5 pts.

CONNACHT put up a gallant defence against a heavier and more finished Leinster side in the schools inter-provincial rugby test at Ballinasloe last Thursday.

Although Leinster won (16 points to 5) the Connacht boys had them on the run for threequarters of the play, and it was only in the last fifteen minutes that the visitors got on top.

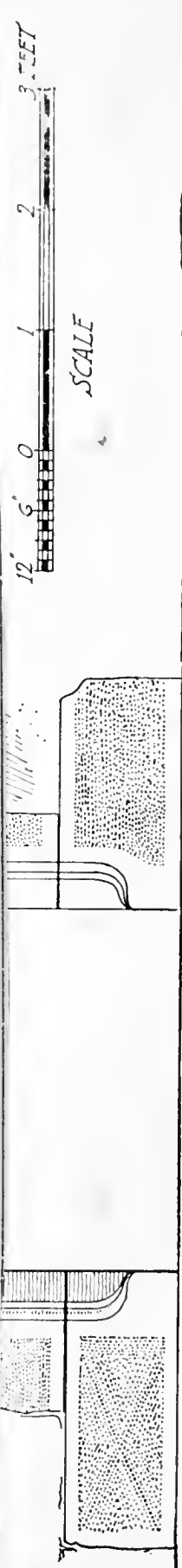
The home team, which included over a dozen from St. Joseph's, Garbally, gave a really fine display, and although they lost most of the scrums, their team combination and understanding was a big asset throughout the play. Connacht made an early raid on the Leinster line, and kept the ball in their opponents' 25, until Jackson (Galway G.S.) went over the line, Lyons (Garbally) added the points.

The home-side held that lead almost to the end of the half, despite some fine spectacular bursts of speed by the Leinster boys.

Galway's light backs gave an opening to their heavier and speedier opponents near the end of the half when Gilvarry had a penalty goal, to leave the scores: Connacht, 1 goal (5 points); Leinster, 1 penalty (3 points).

Half-way through the second half, McGarry (Leinster), was tripped up on the line and awarded a penalty try and Gilvarry added the points. Leinster had two further tries, one converted, to leave the final scores: Connacht, 5 points; Leinster, 16 points.

Connacht — J. O'Donoghue, St. Joseph's, Ballinasloe; S. Lyons, do.; S. Flynn, do.; P. Kilcommons, do.; G. Mitchell, do.; D. O'Brien, do.; N. Nally, S. Briscoe, do.; E. Tierney, do.; G. Dignan, do.; T. Notley (Sligo); T. Black, do.; J. Jackson, Galway G.S.



EASED QUICKLY  
WITHOUT "DROWSING"  
... JUST RUB ON

**VICK'S**  
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**EXPORT  
ASSOCIATION**

# Doorway and Window

## St. Augustine Street

### Galway

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By H. G. LEASK, M.R.I.A.

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THIS interesting example of the architecture of the sixteenth century in Ireland has been illustrated before in a small engraving published in Wilkinson's *Practical Geology and Ancient Architecture of Ireland* (London: J. Murray, 1845, p. 158). This illustration though excellent in its way is very small and fails to do more than suggest the remarkable complexity of the ornament. It has seemed desirable, therefore, to publish a measured drawing to a larger scale.

The details are characteristic of the work of the period in Ireland in combining late Gothic forms with classic mouldings—ovolos and cymas—and Celtic interlacements. The conventionalized vine leaf of the lozenge and squared form also plays a large part in the ornament.

In the right hand spandril of the door arch is a small shield bearing the date 1577 while a coat of arms—a chevron over a grille of some kind—is the principal ornament of the other spandril. Mr. T. U. Sadleir, whom I have consulted on the matter, informs me that "it is quite clear the arms were intended for Athy." The jamb stones are decorated with panels of plain punching.

There are in the City of Galway many fragments of ancient work equally worthy of study and, it is to be hoped, they may be recorded adequately. This example is of such great interest and beauty that it should be preserved from destruction.

The work of measurement is specially to be recommended to students of courses in architecture; it is interesting in itself and of practical value to the student, while, if the drawings made are published or placed upon record, a service will be done to the antiquarian,

## Some Documents relating to Galway

*Edited by M. D. O'SULLIVAN, M.A., F.R.Hist.S.*

THE first document is from the collection of the Carew MSS preserved in Lambeth Palace Library, London, where it is to be found under Vol. 597, p. 103*a*. This very interesting MS. is a statement of certain Privileges granted on the 9 March, 1578, by Sir Henry Sydney, Lord Deputy, to the City of Galway, and renewed by Sir William Pelham, Lord Justice, at Galway, on the 9 November, 1579.

In March 1576 Sydney visited Galway which was then suffering severely from the depredations of the two sons of the Earl of Clanricarde who for years past had been in open revolt against the English régime in the West. The Lord Deputy has left us a graphic description of the conditions which he found obtaining in the town at the time, conditions which led him to make the present proposals in the hope that they might effect a general improvement in the situation. Writing to the Lords of the Council on the 28 April, 1576, he first tells how he was, as far as the citizens in their present impoverished state could do it, honourably received and entertained, but then he goes on to say that he found "the towne of Galway moche decaied, both in number of expert sage men of years, and younger men of warre, in respect of that I have seene; which great decay hath growen thorough the horrible spoyle donne upon them by the sonnes of the Earle of Clanrickard, in so moche as it was evidentlye proved before me, that fiftie howseholders of that towne doe nowe enhabite under Mac William Croghter. And it seemeth, they have not onelye lost their wealth, but with it their wittes and hartes; surelye it may well seme they were in pointe to have geven up all, and almost to have forgotten that they received any corporacion of the Crown; but I trust they are now

revived, and I hope on the mending hande."\* Clearly, Galway was in a wretched and famished state. Its trade was largely at a standstill, because the surrounding district whence it drew its supplies and the bulk of its exports was desolated by the sons of Clanricarde, while the town itself was repeatedly subject to attack by the rebels. The Lord Deputy, therefore, felt it his duty to take immediate action to save Galway, not only out of pity for the beleaguered inhabitants, but also in the interests of the Crown in the West, hence the proposals embodied in the following document.†

By the Deputie and Counsell

Hen. Sydney

The copie of certain priviledges graunted by Sir Henry Sidnye lord Deputie to the Cittie of Galway, And renued by Sir William Pelham lord Justice.

9 November 1579

Upon our repaire into theis partes cheiffie for the administration of Justice, and to take viewe, and make reporte of the desolate, and waste, province of Conaught, the Ruins wherof are now lamentable to behould, then redie means can be devised by us, how to redresse their greefes (a case of all good subjects to be pitied). We finde emongste these pitifull ruins this her Majesties Towne of Galwaie, beinge nowe the onlie hope, and fortrese of her highnesses possessions in the whole province of Conaught, of late so shaken, decaied, and impovrished throughe the Mallice of the ill-disposed neighbours, environed, and planted on eache side aboute them; Who should in reason yf they had any felling of their duties, or disposition to goodness rather preserve the Towne, then by hostilitie and armes seeke to overthrowe it, as they most barbarouslie

\* Collins: *Sydney Letters and Memorials*, I, p. 105. The householders who now quitted Galway for County Mayo were, according to Hardiman, the founders of those families bearing "Tribe" names, such as Blakes, Brownes, Kirwins, Lynches, etc., who afterwards became prominent as landed gentry in that county. See *History of Galway*, p. 86, note.

† It seems remarkable that a document of such importance as this should have escaped the notice of Hardiman. He makes no reference to it anywhere.

have done. So that we earnestlie moved by the greate disaster, we find in this province, and spetiallie of the state of this towne, to take some present commiseration of their lamentable condition, havinge of late bine so manny waies charged and opressed. And like, as for their helpe we meane to be intercessours, to her Majestie and humblie beseche that it will please her, to bestowe some token of her princelie, and gracious favour, as well for the enlargement of the liberties of the towne as to graunte the Corporation some releife to be issued, out of her owne Revenewes and Threasurie :\* Even so for our owne partes desirous to do them good, and to Comforte the Corporation, with some signification of our good willes, as fare forthe, as convenientlie we maie, Havinge accordinge to the requester of their petitions, and at their spetiall sute, renewede and confirmed them certain articles graunted unto them as well by the lord Leonord Graie, As also by Sir Anthonie Sentleger, in the tymes of their deputations in forme as followethe. †

tochinge their privilege for Supenas.

First we order, and decree that no Writte of Supena, or atachment shalbe warned out of the Chauncerie againste eny enhabitaunte of Galwaie, untill such tyme, as he that sueth for the Writte put in sieurtis before the lord Chauncellor or the lord keeper of the greatt seall for

\* Within a year Elizabeth so far acceded to Sydney's request for some practical recognition of the loyalty of Galway as to grant a most comprehensive charter to the town. See Morrin : *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, II, pp. 4-10, where the date of the charter is given as the 14 July, 1578 ; also Hardiman : *Hist. of Galway*, App. pp. vi-xxvi, where the charter is translated at length and is dated the 14 July, 1579. Elizabeth also added considerably to the town's revenues, for she granted the Corporation a lease in reversion of the possessions spiritual and temporal of the late dissolved religious houses of St. Francis, St. Augustine, and St. Dominic, adjoining the town of Galway, already leased to the town at £3.8.3, the fishing of Galway, the cocket of Galway, paying such rents as were then charged on the premises ; and a lease in reversion of lands to the amount of 100 marks English lying near the towne (See *Fiants, Eliz.*, Nos. 1499, 2859, 3465 ; also Morrin : *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, II, p. 14. For a list of the lands referred to as " lying near the town " see *Fiants, Eliz.*, No. 3463. Many of them had previously been in the possession of the Earl of Clanricarde.

† From this it would seem that the privileges now granted to Galway were in some measure a confirmation of similar privileges granted by the previous Lord Deputies, Lord Leonard Grey, who visited the town in 1538, and Sir Anthony St. Leger who came in 1543.

the tyme beinge or els before the Maior of Gallwaie for the tyme beinge, to prosecute the sute with effecte. And to paie to the defendaunts such costes and demaundes as the Courte of Chauncerie will awarde, yf the matter sheall pass againste him, by decree, or order of the Courte (in all actions and causes but the Quenes onlie) And yf the surties be put in before the Maiore he that putteth in the surties shall bringe certificate from the Maiore testifienge the same, and yf the surties be put in before the lord Chauncellour, or lord keper of the greate seall for the tyme beinge, then ther shalbe a clause contained in the write, or written upon the lable of the same Writte, expressinge the findinge of the sieuties in the Chauncerie.

No offices or newe officer to be erected by the governeres in Galwaye.

Item we order and decree, that no newe officer, or office shalbe erected in the Towne of Galwaie, by eny deputie, or other governour of this realme for the tyme beinge, otherwise then in tymes past they have used to do (excepte the creation of such newe officers, or office, be firste, resolved upon and established by acte of parliament), for the better avoidinge of the inquietinge, and disturbinge of merchaunt Straungers, wherbie theie might have occasion to withdrawe the concours and trade of merchaundice that nowe use to trafique with the Towne of Galwaie, To the prejudice, and hinderaunce both of their publike and private commodities.\*

the maiore to graunte Protection.

Item we order, and decree, that it shalbe lawfull to the maior

\* This is an extremely interesting provision. The traditional independence of the town of Galway is here emphasized to the extent that no Lord Deputy may create any new office within the town except such office be instituted by an Act of Parliament. The provision seems intended specifically to protect the trade of Galway possibly by not adding Customs officials and the like to those already in existence. Galway was, except for the cocket of hides, free of Customs by its charter. Even the officials charged with the collection of the Crown revenues, such as they were, were extremely lax, with the result that a great deal of contraband got through. Indeed, the town had been, for two centuries now virtually a free port, hence its attraction for foreign merchants.—*Cal. Carew MSS.*, 1585, p. 400; *Ibid.*, Miscell., pp. 467-68; Dunlop: *Ireland under the Commonwealth*, I, p. xxxv.

of Galwaie for the tyme beinge, by thadvise of foure of the aldermen, or other foure discreet men of the towne in caces of necessitie, and for the Common profitte and commoditie of the Towne and the advauncement of her Majesties service, to graunte saveconducte, and protection aswell to English Rebelles, as Irishe enemis, or enny other forrainer for all manner of Causes (onlie treasone to her Majesties persone excepted) for their free, and safe cominge to the towne, remaninge in the towne, and retorninge homewardest from the Towne, at their wills, and pleasures. So that within XXtie daies next after eny such protection graunted, they Certifie to us the lord deputie, or to the governour for the tyme beinge, the Name or names of the parsons protected, by them the tyme of the continewaunce of their protections, and the Causes whie they be protected.

that the merchaunts that bringe waris on credit or penny bargains shalbe bound to deale well with strangers.

Item where the said maior Bailifes, and inhabitauntes feele them selves greeved, that divers tymes certaine insufficient persons, lackinge habilitie to parfourme their bargains, do bringe shippes laden with Marchandize from partes beyonde the Seas, upon their Credittes and penny bargains, and after the unladinge, and discharging of the Marchaundize, do contende with the marchaunt straungers to defeite them of their duties, by means wherof divers suche marchaunte straungers who have felte the smarte therof, growe wearie of suche fine, and unplaine kind of dealinge, and withdrawe their trade, and concurs, to the said towne, to the greatt prejudice of the same. It is therefore decreede and ordered by us, that when eny such machaunte shall bringe eny Shipp with marchandize to the River of the same towne, upon his creditt, or such penny bargaine, that before the bringinge on land of eny parsell of the said marchaundice, the said marchaunte bringer of the same upon his creditt shall fynde sufficient surties, before the Maiore, and bailifes of Galwaie for the tyme beinge that he shall well and trulie make paiement to the Marchaunt Straungers for his dutie, and accomlishe every



parte of his bargaine Justelie, and uprightlie without any fraude, Covent, collore or deceipte.\*

None to speake oprobrius wordes to the maior.

Item we order and decree that yf eny parsonne of thenhabitauntes of that towne, do use undesaunte wordes, to the Maiore, Bailifes or eny other honest personne, that either beareth, or hath borne office within the said towne, that it shalbe lawfull to the Maiore and bailifes for the tyme beinge, to take and leavie upon him, that useth such undecent speaches, a competent fine accordinge to the qualitie of the fault or offence, by advice of parte of the aldermen or three or foure, discreet personns.†

to continue their old and auncient comendable custom, the chiefe oficer to use advise of the graver sorte of Aldermen.

\* The provision here set forth strengthened the hands of the Mayor and Bailiffs in dealing with a situation which arose from time to time and which the Corporation itself in its statutes had already attempted to meet. Cf. a statute under date 1538 as follows :

“ It ys ordered, edicted, statutid, and established for ever, that whatsoever person or persons, merchant or [mer]chauntes, of this town shall or will make anny bargayn or contract in Spayne, Fraunce, or anny other landes for wyne, salt, yerne or anny other kynd of warrs shall afor he put the said shipe or warres so brought by him or them to this town in booke or costome, fynde to the Mayor and officers of the same sufficient and substantiall surties that he or they shall well and truly contente and pay the stranger of his payment, for the discharge and credid of the town and enhabitaunc theroff.”—*Corp. MSS., Bk. A., fol. 43.*

† An enactment on these terms is found in the Corporation statutes under 1525. It reads :

“ It is ordered, by the whole assent of the Counsaill, that whatsoever person or persons speackith anny yngerous and sclanderos worde or checke to the Mayor, to forfaitie an hundrid shillinges, and his body to be put in prison. Likewise, if any man shulde saye any sclanderous worde to the Baylevis, to forfaitie fiftye shillinges. Also, if anny man shuld misuse or sclander by wordes anny of thos that hath bene Mayors, to forfaitie to them xxvi. s. viii. d. And if any man shuld sclander or cheke these that hath bene Bailieues, to forfeite to them xiii. s. iiiii. d.”—*Corp. MSS., Bk. A., fol. 31.*

The fact, however, that a Statute on these lines had to be regularly re-enacted—the fines were doubled in amount in 1625—*Ibid.*, fol. [144]—shows that towards the end of the sixteenth century and during the first half of the seventeenth the old-time reverence for the Mayor and his colleagues was showing signs of weakening, the change being due, no doubt, to the gradual leavening of the town's population with an Irish element from outside.

Item we order, and decree that the said maiore bailifes, and inhabitantes maie use, and exercise, all their auncient customes, and lawdable usages, suche as are by Godes lawes, and her Majesties allowable, and that the Maiore or his deputie, or principall magistratt in his absence in all weightie causes, and spectiallie in thadministration of Justice, shalbe advised and counsailed, by certaine of the moste saged and indifferent persons of his bretherne, and not wade alone in thinges of suche consequence.\*

No fee or Sentence to be taken, In irish called Oligeth.

Item we do order and decree, that what so ever enny parson shall recover in any action, or demaund within the said towne, that the partie condemned shall paie all reasonable costes, and damagis, And that the maiore and bailifes shall take no fee of Sentaunce Called in Irishe Oleigeth for eny Judgment or recoverie, in eny wise uppon paine to dubble the vallewe of the said fee or sentance so taken.†

The dead bodies to be buried without the walles of their toune.

\* In the charter of Richard III to Galway it had been stipulated that the Mayor and Bailiffs alone should be judges in all Civil and Criminal cases but, apparently, that practice had suffered in the course of time, for according to Henry VIII in his Ordinances for Galway, 1536,—*St. Pap. Irel. Hen. VIII, III, p. 17*,—certain young commoners had “of obstinancy presumed to add their voices in such suits and judgments,” with the result that the law was no longer impartially administered and much dissatisfaction prevailed. To remedy this state of affairs the King ordered that henceforth the Mayor and Bailiffs should select four Aldermen to act with them as Justices in all cases, and from their judgment appeal was to lie only to the Lord Deputy and Council. Sir Henry Sidney now in 1578 seeks to confirm this procedure.

† The law administered in the town of Galway was the Common Law of England, but there is evidence in the *Corporation MSS.* that, as the years passed, the Brehon law of the natives was not without exerting some influence upon practice and procedure, a view which is to some degree confirmed by the very fact that the Lord Deputy here in 1578 found it necessary to stipulate that in the administration of justice the judge shall not take any fee of sentence in the Irish manner.

I have to thank Professor Thurneysen of Bonn, the distinguished authority on the Brehon Laws, for a note on the term *oligeth* which he was kind enough to send to my colleague, Professor Kathleen Mulchrone, for my use on this occasion. Professor Thurneysen writes :

Finallie it is assented, and agreed unto by the Maior bailifes, and burgaces with the concent of the whole corporation of the towne of Galwaie, that in respecte of the often repaire, and aboad here of us the Lord Deputie, or other governour for the tyme beinge, and the residencie of the president of this province of Connaught within the towne. When occasion of service requir-eth, that for the better, avoidinge of annoyaunce (and that which otherwise yf it be not priveded for) might bread offence to the lord deputie, and others, by buriall of their dead bodies in the Church and Church yeard within the Towne, That they will henceforte take publike, order emonges themselves, and duliae observe the same for the buriall of their dead, that the dead bodies shalbe buried in the abbies, and religious howses, without the walles of their towne, as places most apt, & spectiallie reserved for such purpose of their common buriall, Wherbie both the Corrupte Aire of the dead bodies (which maie bread unholsomnes and infection to the towne), might be better avoided and the Towne more, orderli, and swetelie kept to the good contentation of us the lord deputie when we shall have occasion to repaire hether, the lord president of the province or the governour that shalbe.

“ *Oligeth, oleigeth*, anderwärts *oylegeag*, ist englische Schreibung für ir. *oile-dheag*, m. ir. *aile déc*, das in Rechts-Kommentaren und Glossen oft erwähnte Zwölfstel, das der Richter als seine Gebühr beim Prozesse einzog. Vgl. Thomas O’Rahilly, *Irish Poets*, etc., p. 115, par. 53.”

O’Rahilly in the work indicated by Professor Thurneyesen : *Proc. R.I.A.*, Vol. XXXVI, Sect. C, No. 6 : referring to the use of Brehon law among the Anglo-Irish, says : “ A jury of the city of Waterford in the same year (1537) finds that Lady Katherine Butler, widow of Lord Power, ‘ hath ordeyned an Irishe judge called Shane McClannaghe [Séan Mag Fhlannchadha], and that the said Shane useth Brehens lawe and ordreth the matters of variaunce of the countie moche after her will and commaundement, and taketh for th’use of his judgement called Oylegeag [*oile-dheag*] xvid. stg. of every mark stg. and taketh as moche of the playntif as of the deft.’ ”

Despite the efforts of Sydney, however, the administration of justice in Galway seems to have continued unsatisfactory from the English point of view with the result that on the 11 July, 1588, Elizabeth issued instructions to have the whole thing overhauled and the law administered in Galway as “ in the Court and Tolsell of Dublin used, and not otherwise.”—*St. Pap. Irel. Eliz.*, Vol. 135, No. 80, P.R.O., London. To help to achieve this purpose Elizabeth then appointed a man “ of knowledge and experience of the laws of this realm to be named Recorder ” to be continually resident in Galway. The first occupant of this office was Dominick Martin.—See *Cal. St. Pap. Irel. Eliz.*, Vol. CXLIV, p. 173.

Yeven at the said towne of Galwaie the 9 Marche 1577 (-8).\*

H. Miden. Edw. Fitton : Lucas Dillon.

The foresaid Articles were by Sir William Pelham lord Justice of Irland, and Counsell confirmed to the said toune of Galwaie the 9 November 1579.

By the lord Justice and Counsell.

The Confirmation

William Pelham.

Uppon our repaire into these partes, and province of Connaught, for the administration of Justice, And for the better maintenaunce and furtheraunce of this her Majesties towne of Galwaie, And for divers other good considerations us movinge. And for the good opinion we conceive of the Maiore aldermen, and bretherne of the same, and espetiall truste we repose in their fidilities, and upright dealinge, We therefore do ratifie, and confirme, all and singuler the contentes, and articles within written, in as large and ample manner, as the same was graunted by Sir Henry Sydnie knight, late lord deputie and governour of this her highnes Realme of Irland. Yeven at Gallwaie the 9 November 1579.

No : Malbie

Ed : Waterhowse.

The second document, an *Address by the Merchants of Galway presented to Robert French, M.P., of Monivea, in*

\*Amongst the provisions of the Charter given by Edward VI to St. Nicholas' Collegiate Church in 1551 erecting it into "The Royal College of Galway," was one whereby the cemeteries of the three dissolved monasteries, all of them outside the city walls, were granted to the Church for the purpose of burials—from the earliest times when in the hands of their original owners they had served as burial grounds for Galway and its neighbourhood. Hardiman writing in 1820, says: "Under this grant the wardens have ever since retained possession of these burial grounds, which they generally farmed out to undertakers." He adds: "It is said that the following families only have privilege of burial in the church, viz., the Lynches, D'Arcys, Brownes and Frenches: according to some the Kirwan family is also entitled, but, according to others, their claim has been always disputed."—*Hist. of Galway*, p. 241, note.

1762, has been made available to me through the kindness of Miss R. French of Monivea Castle, Co. Galway. The MS. is one of a large number of family papers of the French family of Monivea which have been most carefully preserved and many of which throw interesting light on contemporary events in the town and county of Galway.

Robert French, to whom the Address was presented, was M.P. for County Galway from 1753–1761, and for the town of Galway from 1768–1776. Hardiman refers to him at this time as “an active senator, and one of the most opulent and respectable of the descendants of the ancient Galway families.”\* It was but natural, therefore, that he should interest himself in the affairs of the merchants of Galway and lend his support to their petition to Parliament for the removal of disabilities under which they suffered at the hands of an unsympathetic Corporation.

During the period following upon the Williamite settlement of Ireland the Roman Catholics generally were, of course, in a very depressed condition. In the particular case of Galway we find that anomaly which so long characterized English rule in Ireland, as a whole, namely, a Catholic majority governed by a small, alien, and Protestant minority. In 1762, for instance, it was stated in the House of Commons that the population of Galway amounted to 14,000 of whom only some 350 were Protestants.† Yet the government of the town was vested in this handful of Protestants‡ who often exercised their authority to the detriment of the Catholic traders. For the fact is, that such trade as remained to Galway at this time was chiefly confined to Catholic merchants, the lineal descendants of the merchant adventurers of old, pre-Cromwellian Galway.§ Actually, the trade of the town had declined considerably in recent years. From 1754 to 1758, for example,

\* *Hist. of Galway*, p. 184.

† *Com. Jour.*, Vol. VIII, quot. by Hardiman : *Hist. of Galway*, p. 183, note.

‡ The few resident Protestants were “principally tradesmen and shopkeepers, the greater part of whom, according to their own showing, were without wealth, weight or consequence.”—Hardiman : *Op. cit.*, p. 187.

§ After the Restoration many of the Tribe families petitioned the Crown to be allowed to return to Galway to pursue their craft of merchandize.—See MSS. of the Marquis of Ormonde, 1662–66.—*Hist. MSS. Com.*, Rep. 9, Pt. II, App.

the merchants, despite their disabilities, had fourteen or fifteen ships at sea ; but in 1762 there were only three or four vessels belonging to the town ; one only, laden with beef, cleared out during the entire year 1761 ; and another, freighted with butter, in 1762.\* The merchants of Galway, indeed, were now so oppressed by excessive charter-duties and other unauthorized exactions of the Corporation that many of them were driven out of business altogether. Those who remained decided in 1761 to present a petition to Parliament to seek redress from the disabilities under which they suffered. This statement was entitled " The petition of the merchants and inhabitants of the town of Galway, and the gentlemen, freeholders and farmers of the county of Galway, in behalf of themselves and others, the inhabitants of the said town and county," and the task of introducing it to the House of Commons was entrusted to Robert French, M.P., of Monivea.

The petition consisted of a detailed statement of the illegal charges imposed by the Corporation on all goods entering or leaving the town, and in general it was a sweeping indictment of the policy of that body. The merchants complained that not only were excessive charter-duties levied, but toll-gatherers at the gates practised great extortion, the Custom house was allowed to go to ruin, the fishery which, if developed, could be made the finest in the kingdom, was neglected, the billeting of His Majesty's troops was being illegally and oppressively executed, farmers in the adjacent county were being driven to refuse to supply the town with goods, prices were soaring intolerably, and many inhabitants were quitting the town. It was even stated that the members of the Corporation were converting the town's revenues to their own private benefit.†

Robert French did his work well and, after a searching investigation by a committee of the House, it was found in February 1762 that most of the complaints were justified. In the meantime the Corporation had offered the committee to accomodate all matters in dispute by adhering either to the schedule of duties contained in the charters or to the agreement made in 1684 with the merchants of the town. This offer having been rejected, the Corporation and Protestant

\* *Com. Jour.*, Vol. VIII, quot. by Hardiman : *Hist. of Galway*, p. 183, note.

† For details of this petition see Hardiman : *Ibid.*, pp. 184-85,

inhabitants of Galway then presented a statement rebutting the charges made against them and setting forth their grievances against the Catholic traders, who had the wealth of the town in their hands and, in consequence, were able to make the position of the indigent Protestants a difficult one. The upshot of all this was that, while the committee of the House refused to abolish the charter-duties, which was the principal demand of the merchants, an agreement was come to between the Corporation and the merchants whereby a new schedule of duties and customs was drawn up and was presented by Robert French to the House for confirmation. "Thus ended," says Hardiman, "a proceeding which, though not attended with all the success originally expected, yet had the effect of reforming the Corporation, and of putting an end to many practices which were theretofore prevalent, and which had proved so injurious to the interest of the town."\*

Throughout all these difficult proceedings the part played by Robert French was a generous and statesmanlike one and entirely worthy of the expression of gratitude set forth so happily in the following document.

To Robert French of Munivae Esquire——

The Hble Address of the Merchants, Traders and Other—  
Inhabitants of the Town of Galway——

We the Merchants, Traders, and other Inhabitants of the Town of Galway, filled with gratitude, for the many Advantages Obtained for us, by your wise & prudent Council in the late session of Parliament; humbly take leave to wait upon you, to return our sincere & hearty thanks——The obligations we lye under to you for these favours, are the More Extraordinary, as they are unmerited on our parts; nothing Cou'd have engaged you to obtain them for us, but your wise and Equitable Spirit, your love of Justice, and the public good——

When we reflect on the difficulties you had to encounter, the Opposition given to your equitable resolutions, framed to restore us to Liberty & trade; We are lost in Amaze<sup>nt</sup>! But when we consider your Unwearied Diligence, unprecedented

\* *Hist. of Galway*, p. 187.

Zeal and powerful talents, Representing your Countries Wrongs,  
our Wonder ceases.—

We Feel with Joy, the Glory which redounds to you, from  
the Universal approbation of your Conduct in Parliament ;  
and tho we Envy the Borrough, which receives Such honour  
from its representative, Yet wish it the longest continuance  
thereof ; Happy remote Borrough !

The Disinterested part you Acted in our behalf, the Redress  
you have procured for our Grievances, the Aid and Protection  
you have Obtain'd for our Merchandize, our trade & our  
Fishery : have impress'd On our hearts, the deepest Sense of  
Gratitude, and demand from us The Loudest proclamations  
thereof. Please therefore to Accept this Address, as a tender  
of our Unfeign'd Respect & Regard for you ; & thus Recom-  
mending our Selves to your future Protection, We beg leave,  
to Subscribe ourselves—

Your most Obliged  
and most Devoted  
Hble Servants

Fran <sup>is</sup> Lynch	Jn <sup>o</sup> & And. French
Matt <sup>w</sup> Lynch	Patrick Naughton
Mar. Lynch	John Kirwan [     ]
Rob. Lynch	Anth. French Gn.
Fran <sup>is</sup> Burke	And <sup>w</sup> Lynch Henry
Anth <sup>y</sup> Morris	James Quin
Mich <sup>l</sup> Nolan	Anth <sup>y</sup> French Carb <sup>r</sup>
Pat <sup>k</sup> Morris	Mark French
Ulick Lynott	Nich <sup>s</sup> Nolan
Thom Kirwan	Chas. Geoghegan
Mark French	John Kirwan Anth
John Burke Jn.	Antho french
Matthew Browne	Mich <sup>l</sup> & Edm <sup>d</sup> Burke
Alexander Lynch	John ffrench : Jn.
Charles Fallon	Thos Bodkin
Pat Lynch	Pat <sup>k</sup> Lynch Jno
Charles Browne	Tho. Comyns
Aug <sup>n</sup> Browne	Robt Broughlon
James Lynch Henry	Rog <sup>r</sup> Clancy
Edmond Kirwan	Robt French Jn.
Mark Lynch	



# A Letter from Roderic O'Flaherty to William Molyneux

29 Jan. 1697

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*Edited by* MÍCHEÁL O DUÍGEANNÁIN, M.A.

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THE following letter is printed from the holograph now preserved in the National Library of Ireland. It was formerly in the Monck Mason collection (*Monck Mason Sale Catalogue*, Lot No. 509) whence it passed into the possession of Sir Thomas Phillipps (*Phillipps* 35137, pt.). It was purchased by the National Library in 1936. I have to thank the Trustees and Director of the Library for their kind permission to publish it.

The writer, Roderic O'Flaherty, hardly needs any introduction. He was born in 1629 at Moycullen Castle, Co. Galway, the residence of his father, Hugh O'Flaherty, head of the O'Flaherties of Gnomore and Gnobeg. On Hugh's death in 1631 Roderic became a ward of the Crown. He was educated at Alexander Lynch's famous school in Galway city, where, according to Gilbert,\* he made the acquaintance of John Lynch (c. 1600 - c. 1673; author of *Cambrensis Eversus*), Bishop Kirwan of Killala (1589-1661), and the great Capuchin Francis Brown. The same writer also states that he studied history and Irish literature under the renowned Dubhaltach Mac Firbhisigh (1585-1670) then residing at St. Nicholas', Galway, where he wrote much of his famous *Craobha Coibhneasa*. The Cromwellian confiscation deprived Roderic of most of his patrimony, and the portion to which he was restored in 1653 was of little value. In 1677 he recovered a further portion.

O'Flaherty's most famous work, *Ogygia, seu rerum Hibernicarum chronologia*, published in London in 1685, was the first scholarly presentation of Irish history to the English public. His *Ogygia vindicated against the objections of Sir George Mackenzie* was not published till 1775 (Dublin), while

\* *Dictionary Nat. Biography*.

his *Chorographical description of West or H-Iar Connaught* had to wait until 1846 for publication.

In his declining years O'Flaherty was sorely harrassed by poverty. Sir Thomas Molyneux's description of the condition in which he found him in his house at Parke, Co. Galway, is too well known to be repeated here. He died at Parke on April 8th, 1718, and there he rests.

William Molyneux 'whom Locke was proud to call his friend' was born in Dublin in 1656. The author of various works including *Dioptrica Nova*, *Sciothericum Telesopicum*, and an English version of Descartes' *Méditations*, his real claim to a place in Irish history rests on his famous *The case of Ireland being bound by Acts of Parliament in England stated* which appeared in 1698. In 1682 he undertook the collection of materials for a *Description of Ireland* (never published) intended for Moses Pitt's *Atlas*. It was in connection with this undertaking that he made the acquaintance of Roderic O'Flaherty. He died in 1698.

Juan Luis Vives, Spanish humanist and philosopher, was born in Valencia in 1492. He studied in Paris and elsewhere, and was for a time professor in Louvain. In 1523 he was attached to Corpus Christi College, Oxford. His defence of Catherine of Aragon led to his arrest and banishment, and he spent most of the rest of his life at Bruges, where he died in 1540. He was a prolific and very successful writer, concerning himself principally with works of devotion, education, political economy, and philosophy. These included *In pseudo dialecticos* (1519), *De institutione feminae Christianae* (1523), *Introductio ad sapientiam* (1524) *De subventionem pauperum* (1526), *De disciplinis* (1531), *De communione rerum* (1535), *Exercitatio linguae Latinae* (1538), and *Ad animi exercitationem in Deum commentatiunculae*. His commentary on St. Augustine's *De civitate Dei* published in 1522 was written under the influence of Erasmus, with whom he was associated at Louvain. An English translation appeared in 1610.

O'Flaherty's letter reads :

To William Molyneux Esqr.

one of ye Masters of his

Maty's High Court of Chancery

Dublin

Sr.

In answer of yrs of ye 23rd Instant ; the steep round towers yu write of are certainly known by ye name imposed on 'em what they were designed for ; which is claictheach .i. clock house, or belfry for calling the people to ye service of ye adjacent church by ringing of bell : other contingent uses were of it ; as for watchmen to look about ym on ye top, & to give alarm : & for goods to be there kept upon Incursions of Enemies. ye steeples within churches, & abbeyes are in like manner called clotheaghais .i. belcase ; as yu say staire case.

Of ye vast kind of Deeres I know nothing as yet, but will enquire. There are large horns of a deere kept for a monument in my Lord of Clanrickard's house of Portomny, found in a bog hard by : & ye more they are looked upon for admiracon, that they are of ye kind of fallow Deeres. Had I known more, you may not doubt of my willingness to content you.

I thought to meete one going thither this term, yt wd bring yu what I writ of ye work for my Ld Bp ; & since I did not, I send here inclosed .2. sheets, & so I intend to send .2. or more by everie post hereafter, as soon as I have yur orders com to me, of what to doe therein. ffor I write in an open place, & common roome for all comers & goers ; & must put up my papers severall times a day : a sheet a day is ye most I write ; so yt I wd be glade to haue 'em out of my hands with yu as many sheets, as I write.

I desire yu prevaile wth som body at leasure to enquire in S. Aug: De Civitate Dei (I cannot have ye book here) in ye first book about ye middle (that wth Ludov : Vives his exposition upon, was ye book I had) a passage of ye Magicians of Egypt their predictions of ye light of ye Gospell, & their own ruin ; it is short enough to be transcribed, & transmitted to me : for which I left a blank in ye work being as agreable with ye like of our druids upon ye coming of S. Patrick as can be.

My humble service to my Ld Bp ever pnted ; I am

Yr own faithfull servt

R O Flaherty.

Galway gaol 29. Ja : 169<sup>6</sup><sub>7</sub>

## Reviews

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*A History of Medieval Ireland from 1086 to 1513.* By Edmund Curtis, M.A., Litt. D. London: Methuen. 15/- net.

Professor Curtis's *History of Medieval Ireland* was first published in 1923. Its appearance was greeted by scholars as marking a definite advance on the only other work of the kind dealing with medieval Ireland, namely, Dr. Goddard Orpen's *Ireland under the Normans*. As a pioneer in research into this period of Irish history, Dr. Orpen, no doubt, made a notable achievement, but he stopped short at the year 1333, and, throughout, he wrote mainly from the point of view of the Norman colonist. Professor Curtis, on the other hand, carried his researches nearly two centuries further, and, equipped with an efficient command of the Irish language, succeeded in presenting the native side with a sympathy and understanding for which we look in vain in the work of his predecessor. Thus he not only traced the main course of political history, but, as he said himself, devoted much space to institutions, political and social, of the Anglo-Irish and Irish, and to the languages and culture of the races of medieval Ireland. The result was that the *History of Medieval Ireland* became a valued text-book for the study of Irish history in a period which till then had been largely neglected.

For some years past, however, the first edition of Professor Curtis's work has been out of print and this consideration, coupled with the fact that during the last fifteen years Professor Curtis himself and other scholars also have made continuous researches into this particular period of Irish history, seemed to indicate the desirability of issuing a new edition. The present work is, therefore, most timely and welcome. In it Professor Curtis has, as he tells us, completely revised, recast, and, indeed, practically rewritten the original *History of Medieval Ireland*, and, on the whole, his claim is fully justified. Much new material has been incorporated and many things revised. The use of sub-titles also is a distinct improvement, while not the least valuable part of the work is the series of admirable appendices, the first of which gives us genealogical tables of some twenty of the chief dynastic or feudal families, Gaelic and Norman of medieval Ireland, while the others deal with three obscure subjects, namely (*a*) the Ostmen, or hibernicized Norse settlers in Ireland, (*b*) the towns of medieval Ireland, and (*c*) the legal treatment of the native Irish, whether free or villeins (betaghs) by the Dublin government and the Anglo-Norman colonists during the whole period. But where there is so much advance surely it is a matter of regret to learn from Professor Curtis that "much of the detailed information and some of the longer footnotes of my first edition are not reproduced *in extenso*; the enquiring reader is referred back to the pages of that book." The result of this unusual decision is that the historical student is put to the serious inconvenience of having to work with the two editions at once—a most unsatisfactory and difficult procedure. In every other respect, however, the new edition is an excellent one and a distinct contribution to scholarship. It will certainly remain for a long time to come the standard work on medieval Ireland.

M. D. O'S.

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*History of Ballymote and the Parish of Emlaghfad.* By James Christopher MacDonagh, B.Comm., Cert. A.I.B. (Ireland). Printed by The Champion Publications, Ltd., Sligo, 1936 (published 1939), pp. 205.

County Sligo was for long the borderland between two areas the inhabitants of which, whatever were the changes which occurred in Irish history, seemed destined to be hostile. In the far off days of the Táin the expanding

state of the Kings of Connacht found a permanent rival in the polity of Ulster. When the O Donnells set up their suzerainty over the tuatha of Tír Conaill they claimed allegiance also from Lower Connacht and fell foul of the O Connors in that respect. Later, the Mayo Burkes too, having robbed the O Connors of much of their power, found themselves committed to enmity with the West Ulstermen, and indeed much of the activity of Hugh Ruadh O Donnell in the Nine Years War may be looked upon as a campaign to drive the English out of Co. Sligo.

If the barony of Carbury and the way south by Benbulbin and Sligo castle was a veritable battle ground for Ulster and Connacht men long before Hugh Ruadh's day, Corran, and particularly Ballymote with its castle, was none the less a centre of strategic importance. The way to the rich Roscommon plains on the one hand and to Mayo on the other lay through Corran.

From these political and military viewpoints, and none the less archaeologically and in so far as social and cultural history is concerned, the barony of Corran provides a rich field for intensive study. Archaeologically it falls within that most interesting area where, in the megalithic period, the builders of the horned cairns coming from the north seem to have met those of the chambered cairns arriving from the south-east. The historian who concerns himself with cultural and literary development is none the less interested in Ballymote as the scene of the labours of Manus O Duignan. Here this celebrated scholar produced while working under the patronage of Mac Donagh, Lord of the area, about 1391 the collection of historical, poetical and legal compilations which takes its name from the township.

Mr. Mac Donagh has undoubtedly chosen an important area for his study, and his book is a welcome addition to the unfortunately small number of local historical works which are up to the present available. Commencing with the legendary period, he traces the history of Ballymote and Emlaghfad, an area practically coextensive with the barony of Corran, to modern times. If he is here and there led from the strict paths of serious historical research by a desire to quote from sources, he is at least always entertaining, and his book should prove particularly interesting to those who know the country of which he writes. He has certainly not omitted any occurrences of note which fall to be recorded within the history of the area and his work as a whole gives evidence not only of much painstaking endeavour, but of days gladly spent in unfolding the story of his native place.

It is a pity that he has not supplied some maps; and his book would have benefitted by an index and by a little more care on the part of his printer. It should be a handy pocket companion for the tourist in the area and a good guide for the Sligo teachers of regional history.

—G. A. HAYES-McCOY.

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*Records of Four Tipperary Septs, the O'Kennedys, O'Dwyers, O'Mulryans, O'Meaghers.* By Martin Callanan, L.R.C.P. & S.I. Galway: O'Gorman Ltd., Printinghouse, 1938. pp. 180. 7/6 Net.

Dr. Callanan has adopted in this book a method of approach to the study of historic regional groups which is often productive of valuable results. He treats each of the four families with which his study is concerned separately. Under each family heading he gives, first, a pedigree, then a list, annalistically arranged, of all the references to members of the family which he has been able to obtain, next a collection of similar references drawn from fiants, from letters patent, inquisitions, wills and similar documents, and, finally, the relevant entries from the Books of Survey and Distribution to show the lands held by the families in 1641. There are some further notices and lists, but the bulk of his book is made up in this manner.

In his Introduction and here and there in his text he introduces what might be termed general accounts of the four families, but such generalities are always brief, and on the whole he has adhered closely to the terms of

reference of his title and has produced rather the material for a history than a history proper. When the ground has been covered carefully from primary sources, as is the case here, such labour is well worth while. Dr. Callanan's book should be of particular interest to those who would otherwise find difficulty in gaining access to source material, but he would have added to its value in this connection if he had indicated in each case the exact source of his references. He has no index.

The publication of these two books, Mr. Mac Donagh's on Sligo and Dr. Callanan's on Tipperary, should assist the teaching of regional history in the areas to which they refer and help to further the general movement in that direction which has at last been initiated.

G. A. HAYES-McCOY.

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*Irish Historical Studies*, the joint Journal of the Irish Historical Society and the Ulster Society for Irish Historical Studies. Edited by R. Dudley Edwards and T. W. Moody. Dublin: Hodges, Figgis & Co., Vol. I, Nos. 2 and 3, 5/6 each.

Far too frequently of recent years we have witnessed the disappearance of useful, scholarly journals in this country. *Irish Historical Studies* is all the more to be welcomed therefore as a venture which not only promises to redeem what we have lost but which provides something quite new for serious students of Irish history. The second and third numbers, now forthcoming, amply justify the high hopes which were placed in the Journal on its inception last year, and there can be no doubt that its future as a scholarly publication of great value is assured.

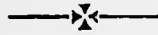
The second number, published in September, 1938, contains a translation of the Old Irish "Life of St. Brigit" from the Bodleian MS. Rawlinson B 512 by Dr. M. A. O'Brien, a paper on Anglo-Norman relations with Connacht, 1169-1224, by Dr. R. Dudley Edwards, a note on the Anglo-Norman invasion, 1167-1171, by Rev. Professor J. F. O'Doherty, two bibliographies, notes and book reviews. Dr. Edwards' paper is designed to trace the development of events in Connacht from Rory O'Connor's time to the death of Cathal Croiderg, not so much for their bearing on the general trend of political events but in so far as Connacht as a more or less isolated entity is concerned. The bibliographies refer to the United Irishmen and their period, 1791-1798, and to research work on Irish history in Irish, British and American Universities for the year 1937-1938. This last is a most useful list of theses for higher degrees and its publication and continuance in future numbers should prevent any future overlapping of Irish historical work.

There are two important articles in the third number, March, 1939, an historical criticism of the "Life of Hugh Roe O'Donnell" by the Rev. Paul Walsh (the "Book of Lughaidh O Cléirigh" edited under that title by Denis Murphy in 1893), and an account of Sir Thomas Phillips of Limavady, an Ulster planter of the early seventeenth century, by Dr. Moody. The bibliographical section is devoted to a list of writings on Irish history for 1937, with addenda for 1936, and there are the usual notes, correspondence and reviews.

G. A. HAYES-McCOY.

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## OBITUARY



During the past year the Society has suffered a grievous loss through the death of three of its most esteemed members—**Mr. W. L. Burke, Rt. Rev. Mons. Considine**, Dean of Galway, and **Professor W. F. Trench**. Mr. Burke was one of the oldest members of the Society, always interested in its proceedings, and a kind and helpful friend to the Editor, while Monsignor Considine, though not so long with us, did much to promote the welfare of the Society in Galway. Of Professor Trench's work on behalf of history and archaeology in the west of Ireland one cannot speak too highly. A fine Irishman in the best sense of the words, he helped to found the Galway Society, and as Editor of the *Journal* for many years and a Vice-President of the Society until his death, he gave it unstinted support. To him, more than to any other individual member perhaps, the Society is indebted for its present sound condition.

The Editor takes this opportunity to convey to the friends of these gentlemen the deepest sympathy of all the members of the Society.

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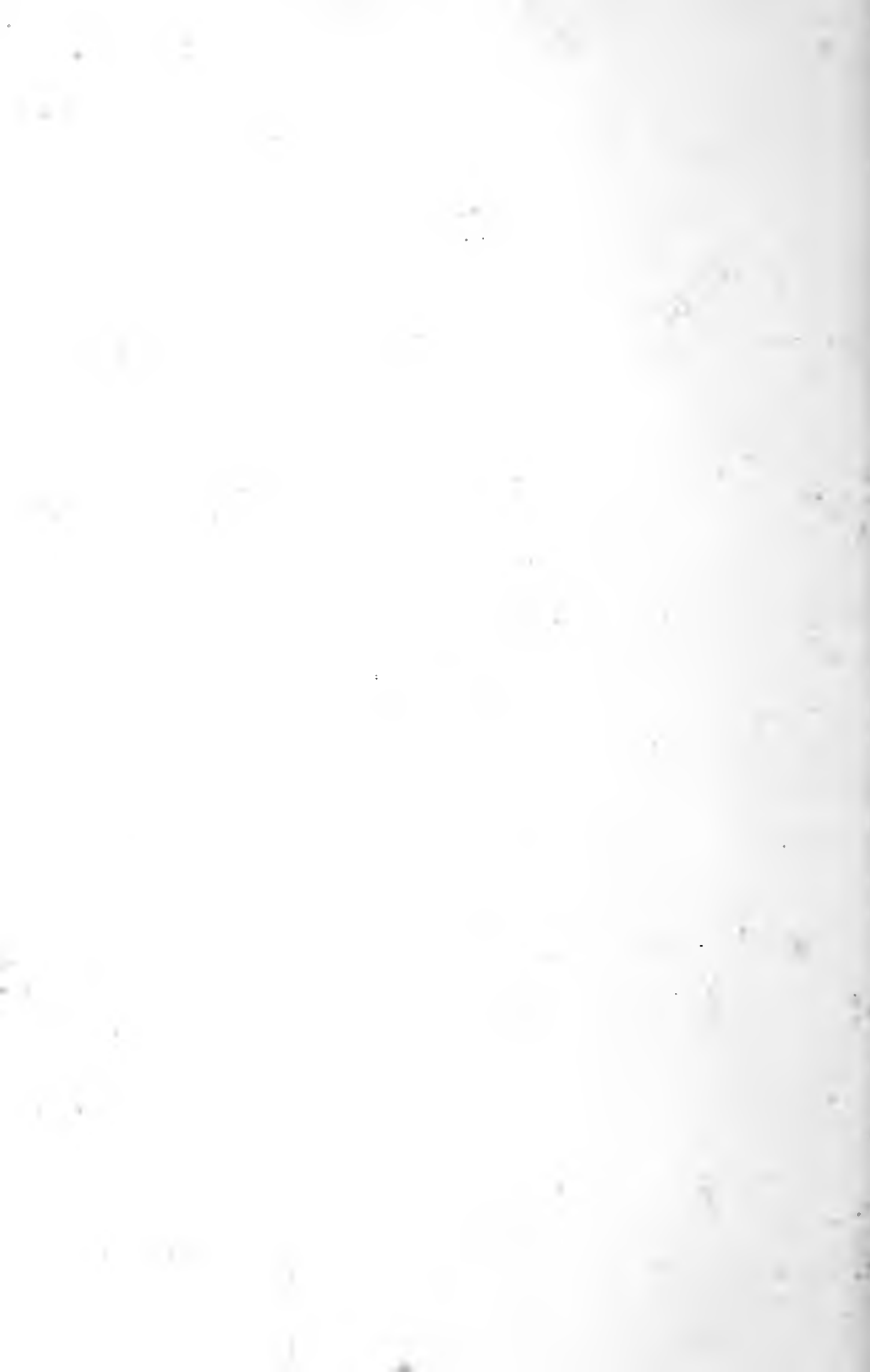
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#### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, 1938.

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