

15
OLD WATERFORD SOCIETY

R DECIES

No. 7

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DECIES 7 - EDITORIAL

The function of Decies as we see it is, (1) to offer a forum for current research into all aspects of the history of the South East, (2) to present such research to members of the Old Waterford Society, and (3) to record it for the use of future historians. You may think differently. If so, please let us know.

If you agree with these functions, however, you can help us realise at least the first two. There is a great deal of documentation available which has never previously been used by local historians and we are looking for people to help us with it. No experience needed - just good will, or if you prefer to help us with the production and distribution of future issues, we'd be most grateful. Either way, contact Mr. Noel Cassidy - (address below).

The third function - recording for future historians, is more difficult. While we do send copies to each of the leading libraries in these islands, we realise that this present format is somewhat impermanent. To go into print, we would need a minimum circulation of 500. Present membership of the O.W.S. is about 150. Any suggestions?

In our next issue, by way of experiment, we intend to take the village of Kill as a sample research area and to reproduce for it a wide selection of readily available source material. The aim is twofold: (a) The material we will publish can readily be got for every part of the South-East. We hope that by illustrating the wealth of material available for one small random area, others will be encouraged towards such localised research. (b) A group in the Kill area, it is hoped will use this as a basis for further research, gathering oral traditions, field names, farm records, family histories, etc.. Please let us know what you think of this experiment.

And once again our sincere thanks to those in Waterford Corporation without whose encouragement and help we could scarcely succeed.

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Researchers: A. Alison; K. Laffin; J. Mulholland; Thomas Power;
Sr. Virginia; E. Webster.

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DOLMEN BUILDERS & NORMAN SCULPTURES - ARTISTS IN STONE

BY SUZANNE BROPHY

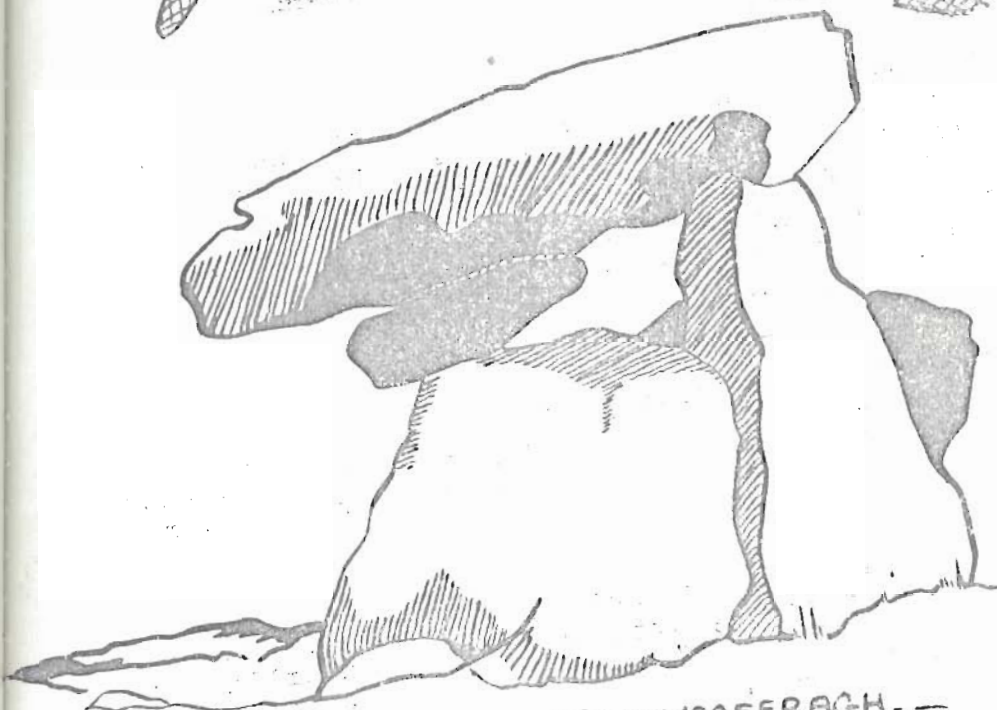
The first pre-historic men who struggled to build the massive stone monuments scattered all over Ireland were inspired by unknown religious aspirations but they had one idea in common with the Norman monks who toiled for the glory of God in Jerpoint, fifteen hundred years later. This was an overwhelming love and respect for stone and a deep conviction that it was the most suitable material for building their monuments.

Today when we look at the wonderful portal dolmens grouped around Waterford such as Knockeen and Gaulstown, we should see them as the cathedrals of pre-history, built with all the love and care of any medieval spire.

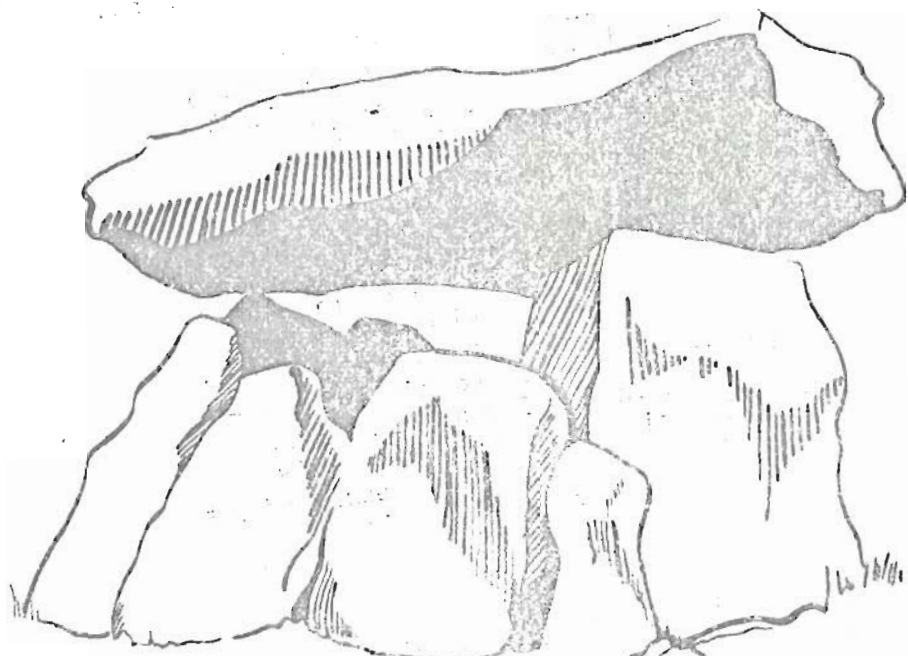
They are very close to present day environmental sculpture in that their creator has combined stone, earth and sky to underline his message. Today's artist will create a "happening" out of the ordinary things around him. For example, a design of stones laid out on a beach so that the shape and colour of the stones unite with the movement of the water, are used to create a living sculpture. Our ancestors took the great ice-age boulders and built them into massive monuments carefully placed against the background of the hill so that even in summer when they stood knee deep in bracken, there remained the wonderful contrast of warm grey stone against the living green with the changing colours of the sky above.

This love of stone resurfaces in the Norman abbey of Jerpoint. Again we have simple men creating for the love of God, and to commemorate their dead. These carvings are among the loveliest to be found in the South East. Though it seems impossible that all the carvings were done by the same hand, it is clear that they were all influenced by one master craftsman with a love of his fellow-man, a passion for detail and above all a sense of humour. The charm of his quaint characters - like the kindly abbot with his enormous rosary beads on the cloister arches, or the solemn Knight with his large head and spindly legs - are proof of his kindly humour.

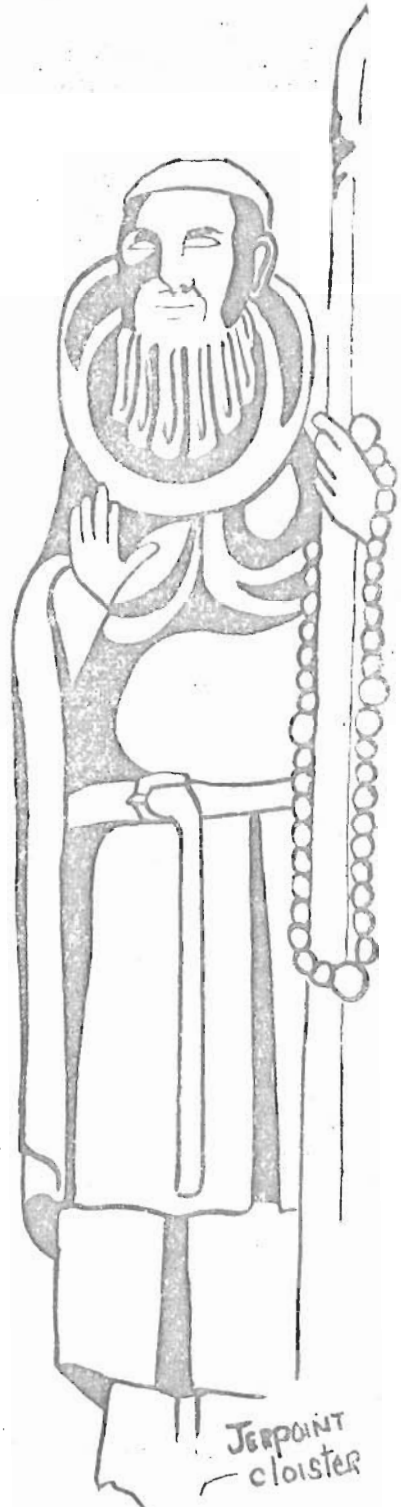
The details of these carvings, the sheer enjoyment with which the artists have caught the characteristics of each personality, the fine carving of the waves as St. Christopher wades over the river, retain their charm even today. Each portrait in the weatherbeaten stone is as full of life as when it was carved.



BALLYNAOEERAGH. —



KILLEEN. —



JERPOINT cloister

One of the most marvellous treasures in Jerpoint is the carved engraving of two knights in full armour. It is plain that their followers wanted to set up a monument as fine as the traditional brass engravings of Normandy. But brass would have been too precious in the metal-starved South East, so they carefully engraved on a slab of limestone and worked each detail with loving care. Unfortunately the slab has been damaged and has been set upright instead of lying flat. However, it is a wonderful work of art, as are the box graves nearby with their carved panels so full of life and character. All are worth looking at, not just as interesting historic curiosities, but as living works of art as valid now as they were nine centuries ago. Similarly, the portal Dolmens seem more than just artifacts; they can be viewed also as artistic creations, each with its own aesthetic appeal relative to its setting.

WATERFORD SHIPS AND SHIPPING IN THE 19th CENTURY

Part 2

By J.S. Carroll

(In Part 1, Mr. Carroll outlined aspects of the development of Waterford shipping in the 19th Century, and listed 43 ships built in the four Waterford ship-yards. He stressed that the list was not comprehensive and asked whether any reader could provide further detail. There were two errors no wishes to have corrected, and he has supplied the following:)

(1) Omit the word "(Paddle)" after "Steam" opposite "William Penn". I confused two ships of that name. The paddle steamer was the timber-hulled "William Penn", built in Liverpool in 1833, which was worked by the Waterford S.S.Co. on the Waterford-Bristol-Liverpool service. She was broken up in 1856.

The second ship of that name was the much larger iron-hulled screw steamer launched from the Neptune yard in 1866 and later sold to H.W. Hughes of Liverpool who lengthened her, gave her a fourth mast and re-named her "European". Quite likely, this one was called after the other.

(2) The other error was an understandable typographical mistake in the second paragraph of the text. The "Suir" was not full-rigged but snow-rigged. A snow was a vessel with two masts, resembling the main and fore masts of a ship, and a third small mast set abaft of, but close to, the main mast. This small mast carried a try-sail.

I hope that no similar errors occur in the following list of ships which were Waterford owned or were registered in Waterford but were built elsewhere.

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SHIPS OWNED AND/OR REGISTERED IN WATERFORD

NAME	OWNERS	RIG	NET TONNAGE	YEAR LAUNCHED
Antelope	G. Nolan	Schooner	129	1886
Alexander	London & Waterford Shipping Association	Clipper Schooner	177	1833
Camilla	Waterford S.S. Co.	Paddle Steamer		1844
Clonmel	do.	do.		1836
Clyde	do.	do.	167	1846
Comeragh	do.	Screw Steamer	616 Gross	1871
Concordia	Capt. J. Road	Schooner	148	1837
Dauntless	J. Owens	Brigantine	184	
Dublin	Waterford S.S. Co.	Paddle Steamer		1847
Dunbrody	Waterford S.S.Co.	Screw Steamer	940 Gross	1886
Duncannon	do.	Paddle Steamer	200	1837
Ellen	Barden & Co.	Brig.	229	
Envelope	Cox Bros.	Barque	387	1850
Erin	Waterford S.S. Co.	St. Tug		
Express	do.	do.		
Geraldine	Cox Bros.	Full rigged	1,163	1879
Jenny Lind	Cox Bros.	Barque	349	1847
Kincora	Waterford S.S. Co.	Screw Steamer		1895
Kinnaird	Cox Bros.	Barque	555	1857
Lion	Waterford S.S.Co.	Screw Steamer		
Malcolm	London & Waterford Shipping Association	Schooner	103	1825
Madcap	Geoffrey Spencer	Barquentine	199	1869
Malvina	? name	Brig.	144	1826
Margaret	Barden & Co.	Brig.	245	

BUT BUILT ELSEWHERE

BUILT AT	REMARKS	MASTER	NAME OF SHIP
Wexford			Antelope
Shorcham	Built for Pope & Co., London - St. Petersburg trade	J. Nicholls	Alexander
London	Sold 1863		Camilla
Birkenhead			Clonmel
Hull	Built for owners		Clyde
Glasgow	In Company's Liverpool service post Malcolmson era, (1876-1912)		Comeragh
Ipswich		Owner	Concordia
Hull	In Company's London service from 1847.		Dublin
	As for Comeragh		Dunbrody
Birkenhead	Built for owners		Duncannon
Shorcham			Ellen
Miramichi	W. African Palm Oil trade		Envelope
Quebec	Timber trade		Geraldine
Miramichi	do.	D. Foran	Jenny Lind
Newcastle			Kincora
Hartlepool			Kinnaird
	In Company's London service. This operated up to the 1870's.		Lion
Bridport			Malcolm
Bideford			Madcap
Barnstable			Malvina
Shorcham		S. Puc	Margaret

SHIPS OWNED AND / OR REGISTERED

NAME	OWNERS	RIG	NET TONNAGE	YEAR LAUNCHED
Martha	London & Waterford Shipping Association	Clipper Schooner	C.200	1833
Mermaid	Waterford S. S. Co.	Paddle Steamer	258	1834
Nancy	Cox Bros.	Brig.	192	
Nora	Waterford S.S.Co.	Paddle Steamer		1861
Nora Creine	Waterford & Bristol Steam Navigation Co.	Paddle Steamer	202	1826
Olga	Geoffrey Spencer			
Orient	Cox Bros.	Full Rigged	1,033	1853
Paraguay	Waterford S.S.Co.	Screw Steamer		1864
Rapid	London & Waterford Shipping Association	Clipper Schooner	C.200	1833
Ratchford	J. & J. Kent	Brig.	187	1839
Reginald	Waterford S.S.Co.	Paddle Steamer	359gross	1878
Sir Alexander	M. Hayes	Brig.	124	
Suir	Strengman	Snow	199	1790
Victory	Waterford S.S. Co.	Paddle Steamer		1832
Water Witch	do.	Paddle Steamer (timber)	230	1832
Zayda	Geoffrey Spencer	Barquentine		1869

IN WATERFORD BUT BUILT ELSEWHERE

BUILT AT	REMARKS	MASTER	NAME OF SHIP
Shoreham	Built for Pope & Co., Waterford / London trade.	R. Dyer	Martha
Birkenhead	In Company's Liverpool trade	J. Hearn (1839)	Mermaid
Miramichi	In the Newfoundland Trade, 1844		Nancy
Cork			Nora
Birkenhead	Built for owners. Their first ship	-Mortimer	Nora Creine
Quebec	Timber trade		Orient
Newcastle			Paraguay
Shoreham	Built for J. Smith, Waterford / London	R. Miller	Rapid
New Brunswick			Retch- ford
Glasgow	as for Comeragh	-Coffey	Reginald
Stornoway			Sir Alexander
	Purchased from Cork S.S. Co. 1846. Lost 1853		Victory
Birkenhead	Wrecked 1833 off Vexford coast		Water Witch
Bideford			Zayda

SMITH'S LIST OF WATERFORD MAYORS : A REAPPRAISAL

BY JULIAN C. WALTON

The list of Mayors and Bailiffs or Sheriffs published by Charles Smith in his Ancient and Present State of Waterford (1746) pp.158-166, was for long accepted as being fully authentic, and was reproduced by Ryland (1824) and Egan (1894) in their own histories of Waterford. However, there were occasional rumblings of discontent from those who had recourse to the Municipal archives, and who found that Smith's names did not tally with those given in the "Great Parchment Book". The latter volume (which we shall refer to as GPB) contains annual entries from 1526 to 1649, giving the names of the Mayor and the two Bailiffs (called Sheriffs from 1574) for each year. It also contains a series of municipal statutes from 1365 to 1525, in which many pre-1526 Mayors and bailiffs are named. A comparison between the names given in GPB and in Smith's work does indeed reveal discrepancies in the latter

Smith's most outspoken critic was R. Lincoln, who published his own list of Mayors, etc., based on GPB, in the Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, 1935, pp.313-319. "Absolutely unreliable" is his verdict on Smith's list. "It seems," he says, "as if the names of well known Waterford families were chosen and then for centuries named at random as Mayors of the City". However, he rightly points out that Smith is not entirely to blame; his list is merely a copy of that which had appeared in Historical Remarks of the City of Waterford, published in 1736 by George Wilson.

Lincoln was not the first to compile a list of mayors based on GPB. This had already been done by Sir John I. Gilbert in his study of the Waterford Municipal Archives for the Historical Manuscripts Commission (10th Report, Appendix V, 1885, pp.265-339). Lincoln does not acknowledge Gilbert's work, and may well have been unaware of it.

I would suggest that it is an over-simplification to regard Wilson's list as a mere forgery, and the lists based on GPB as being completely accurate. For one thing, Wilson makes no claim to complete accuracy, as one might expect from a forger, and in fact begins his book by warning the reader of the antiquity of his typeface and the existence of "Erratas". Moreover, Lincoln's list contains errors and omissions, and so (to a much lesser extent) does Gilbert's.

The accuracy of Smith and Wilson becomes important when we consider that GPB has no entries for 25 of the years between 1526 and 1649 (excluding 1618 - 1625, when the city had no Charter). These gaps are filled by Smith; but to what extent can he be trusted?

II

When we compare Smith's list with Wilson's, we find that the substance is the same, but that Smith has done some tidying up of the spelling of surnames. There are a few factual discrepancies: in 1419 and 1420 Smith reverses Wilson's order of names; for 1509 he gives no Mayor; and on 8 occasions he gives a different christian name or surname (Wilson is right on four of these, another three are unverifiable, and on one occasion Smith is actually right). All this suggests that Smith's list is indeed a copy of Wilson's - with the addition of a few errors.

Prior to 1522, Smith gives only the names of Mayors, owing to his extraordinary belief that before this date Waterford had no bailiffs. His list may therefore be divided into two sections - 1377-1521 and 1522-1650 (we shall not concern ourselves here with the post-Cromwellian period, apart from brief notice of the Jacobites). Why he should begin with the year 1377 is not apparent; there are references in other sources to Mayors of Waterford for nearly a hundred years before that. Be this as it may, he gives a Mayor for every year from 1377 to 1521 except 1496-1509, for which period he quite mistakenly believed that the city had no charter. For fifty five of these years, GPB also gives a Mayor, and a comparison of Smith's names with those in GPB gives the following results; Smith has 16 correct entries, another 12 are correct in name; but a year or two out in date; another 3 give the wrong christian name; and 24 are totally wrong. What is amazing about these figures is that Smith is totally wrong less than half the time; if his list were based on a forgery, as alleged, then it would be unlikely for him to get any of the entries right at all.

When we turn to the period 1522-1650, the picture is even more remarkable. Smith has one Mayor and two Bailiffs or Sheriffs for every year except 1618-1625; as stated above, GPB has no entries for 25 of these years; altogether, 287 entries in each list should correspond. As to the accuracy of Smith, his twelve entries for 1603-1606 are completely different from those in GPB, 1608 is merely a duplicate of 1609, and 1573 of 1572; 1595 and 1596 are in the wrong order. There are a further 24 errors (4 of them are the result of miscopying Wilson), all caused either by misreading a christian name or surname, or by taking an adjacent name instead. The remaining 229 entries are correct.

It is evident that a list in which 80% of the entries are correct is no forgery. Furthermore, all the errors may be put down to bad copying - with the puzzling exception of the entries for 1603-1606, for which I have no explanation.

In one respect, Smith is even superior to the published lists of Gilbert and Lincoln, and that is in his treatment of the name "Geraldin". This was the surname adopted by the sons of Nicholas Fitzcraid of Gurteens (d. 1617). Smith correctly renders the name as "Geraldine" or "Fitz-Nicholas", but Gilbert and Lincoln unhelpfully give "Fitzgerald", thus making no distinction between members of this family and John Gerald or Fitzgerald (Sheriff, 1639), who was of quite different stock.

It is curious that Smith should have a mayor and two sheriffs for the year 1650-1651. The city fell to Ireton on 10th August, 1650, and up to the last the Mayor was John Lyvett, who was Mayor for 1649-50 (he is the last mayor named in GPB). The mayor for 1650-51 would not have taken up office until 29th September of that year, by which time the city was in enemy hands; but the custom was to elect the Mayor in early July preceding. It is quite possible that the individuals named by Smith for 1650-51 were elected, but never had the chance to take up office.

Two points, then, need to be made. The first is that we must discard the notion that Smith's list is a forgery; the second is that from 1522 onwards it is substantially accurate. From what source was it compiled? Certainly not from GPB; more probably from the early records of Corporation proceedings which are known to have existed and which were destroyed in the late 18th Century (see Introduction to Prof. S. Pender's Council Books of the Corporation of Waterford 1662-1700).

To what extent can we trust Smith's entries for the 25 years not covered by GPB? It happens that of the 75 entries, 17 can be trusted against other sources such as the Ormond Deeds, Wyse MSS., inquisitions, Pender's Council Books pp.48-58, and even other parts of GPB. In only one of the 17 cases does Smith err (in 1585-6 he has "Nicholas Walsh" for "Richard Walsh"); his record for relative accuracy is therefore maintained.

Smith's entries for the period of Jacobite administration (the records of which are lost) are also verifiable in part. His three names for March - September 1688 are the same as those given in the charter of James II, while the three for 1688-89 correspond with those given in the Wyse MSS.

In conclusion, we may say that in trying to supply the names of the Mayors and Sheriffs missing from GPB for the years 1522 - 1650 we may not discount Smith, for his list is derived from an authentic source; nor, however, may we completely trust him, for he used a bad copy. How the researcher extricates himself from this dilemma is another matter !

REPORTS OF SUMMER CUTINGS . . . & WINTER LECTURES.

THE TWO ST. PATRICKS - 26th MAY 1977

The two St. Patricks visited were the present Presbyterian Church (formerly Church of Ireland) in Patrick Street and the Catholic St. Patrick's nearby. Mr. Billy Burke outlined the history of the latter, and has kindly submitted the article in Doc/ dealing with this. The following is a summary of the introduction to the now Presbyterian St. Patrick's, given by Rev. C. Warren.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH OF IRELAND, 1725-1963: By Rev. C. Warren:

The present St. Patrick's was built as a garrison church on or near the site of an earlier St. Patrick's by Bishop Mills in 1725. It is difficult to identify with certainty whether any stones from the earlier church were incorporated into the present building (that this happened in the case of Christ Church has become evident from the present restoration work there). However, an interesting quoin stone with a face from the earlier church is at present incorporated into the corner of Little Patrick Street and Jenkins Lane (shortly to be demolished!).

At about the same time as St. Patrick's was built, Bishop Mills also reconstructed St. Olav's as a place for morning prayer for the workmen of the city. St. Olav's therefore had no Communion plate, but it is a measure of the Bishop's priorities that he donated two chalices and two patens to St. Patrick's before the church was even open. One of these chalices bears what seems to be the mark of the Waterford Silversmith A.W. - (Anthony Walshe?). Then in 1737 the good Bishop presented another platen along with a flagon, and three years later a unique Lavabo Dish that seems to testify to his High Church leanings.

The present modern-looking seats may well be the original ones since a garrison church would not have had the family pews that were normal elsewhere. The glass in the altar window too seems to be original. The altar-table however, is even earlier (17th Century), but was only brought here in the 1840's. The recent bright painting of the pillars and gallery has relieved much of the gloom of the varnished original.

The City Wall flanks the westernside to the churchyard. It was either here or close-by that the Croker brothers broke into Waterford during Cromwell's siege. About 40 years later it seems that the Dean and Chapter owned a coffee house in the proximity as appears from the Cathedral records.

St. Patrick's remained a garrison church for almost 200 years, many of the officers being buried in the churchyard. From 1932 to 1963 it remained in use for the local Anglican congregation. For the last 14 years it has been used by the Presbyterians of Waterford after their chapel had been damaged by a boiler explosion.

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MEGALITHIC TOMBS - 12th JUNE 1977

This outing was conducted by Mr. Frank Heylin. The party first visited the Carrigalong site, where Mr. Heylin spoke on the various types of passage grave. He then gave a summary of the excavation here in 1927. Mr. Heylin then pointed out the position of the Bellirred and Bruncannon Cromlechs and recounted the folk tale of ConOR the giant throwing boulders at his rival Longa.

The portal Dolmens at Knockeen and Salsstown were next visited. Mr. Heylin spoke at length on the development of the Megalithic monuments and had prepared charts to illustrate this talk. We then travelled on to Ballymote, to view the pillar-stone. Matthewstown gallery was the final stop on this very interesting outing.

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BLAUGHERRAHS - 7th JULY 1977

Mr. Ian Dunley who conducted this visit has been kind enough to expand his talk into the article which appeared in Decies 6.

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SOME CASTLES OF EAST WATERFORD-26th JULY 1977

Mr. Walton first conducted members to Eutlerstown Castle. Originally a Norman castle it came into the possession of the Butlers (no relation of the Ormond family) in the 14th Century. They held it for 200 years when it passed to the Sherlocks. Even though they took the Cromwellian side in 1641, they wound up losing two thirds of the surrounding lands. By the 1700's the Sherlock family found themselves unable to maintain the castle, and they sold it. Since then it has gone through a variety of owners, including Joseph Digger and Samuel Ferguson. Finally, in this century, it was held by the Nolan family, who, being unable to maintain it, removed the roof from the house adjoining the keep.

Thus it stands at present, with the walls of what is probably an 18th century house attached to the massive bulk of the keep. Mr. Walton pointed out the unusual defensive features of this with its doorway on the first floor and its sets of separate stairways to different levels.

The party then moved to Lockdeheen, a curious transition between house and castle. Little is known of it and at the time of the Down Survey it was already described as "a ruined castle". Originally the land belonged to the Knights Templars and Hospitallers, passing to the Wyses, then to the Earl of Ormond, and finally to the Sherlocks of Butlerstown.

Members commented on how unsuitable it was for defence, dominated as it is by at least one large hill. Mr. Walton pointed out that despite its pitched roof and small size (40 feet by 26 feet), its walls are three to five feet thick; it has 6 chambered loops and a garderobe.

The party then proceeded to the thirteenth century Power stronghold of Dunhill. After the Battle of Tramore in 1368 it passed to Nicholas le Peer of Kilmeaden, whose family held it until Cromwell's time. Mr. Walton rejected Ryland's legend that the castle was then surrendered by a gunner who was given butter-milk instead of whiskey, but said that it appeared that the castle held a Cromwellian garrison for a while before it was blown up. Much of the castle still stood however, until partly demolished by a storm in 1912. Mr. Walton displayed sketches of the castle as it was before then, as well as plans he had himself drawn.

We would hope in a future issue to reproduce some of Mr. Walton's plans of castles.

REPORTS OF WINTER LECTURES:

- (1) Lecture on the Geraldines of Decies by Kenneth Nicholls on 28th October. A summary appears in the following pages. The Editor accepts all responsibility for errors as Mr. Nicholls has not had an opportunity of inspecting this report.
- (2) Paper on The House of Commons Enquiry into Postal Arrangements in Waterford (etc.), 1855 by E. Webster on 11th November. Mrs. Webster's paper is given in full in this issue.
- (3) Lecture on Mining and Miners; Castlecomer 1600-1850 by William Nolan, on 25th November. A summary of Dr. Nolan's lecture follows. It is based mainly on the Mandesforde Papers in the National Library. Most other sources are acknowledged in the summary.

REPORT OF A SELECT COMMITTEE

ON POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS (WATERFORD ETC.) 1855

By E. Webster

This paper deals with the report of a Committee which was set up by the House of Commons in June 1855, to inquire into the postal arrangements of Waterford and district. The inquiry was held in July. The report was issued in the same month before the end of the Parliamentary session. It is contained in a volume of 300 pages which apparently originally belonged to the Chamber of Commerce and is now housed in the Waterford Municipal Library.

The Committee's job was to inquire into the postal arrangements in the South of Ireland (not only Waterford). These were in a state of considerable confusion at this period due to the rapid changes in transport, especially the extension of small independent railway lines. Trade was expanding, and it was vital to speed up the transmission and delivery of mails, as they were the sole means of communication in that period before the newly invented telegraph and the telephone came into general use.

Fifteen years before the time of the Select Committee, Rowland Hill had instituted the Penny Postage all over the British Isles. This naturally necessitated an expansion of the mail service. Before the railways were used, letters had been carried by Bianconi cars, mail coaches, one-horse cars and by runners or mail carriers. By 1855 the mails were conveyed by train between Dublin and Cork, by the Great Southern and Western Railway, but the Waterford day mail had to go by the Waterford Kilkenny Railway Co. There was no night mail.

The Select Committee which issued this extremely detailed and exhaustive report consisted of 14 members (five constituting a quorum). It was empowered to "send for persons, papers and records and to report their observations to the House of Commons."

Seventeen witnesses were examined and all questions put to them and their answers are given verbatim. At the end of the Report there is an account of the expenses claimed by witnesses. Mr. Joseph Kenny, Mayor of Clonmel and a Solicitor, claimed the largest sum, £27.18.0 though his evidence was the briefest and is perhaps worth quoting :-

Chairman :	You are the Mayor of Clonmel ?	<u>I am</u>
"	: Have you heard the evidence given by Mr. Kennedy ?	<u>I have</u>
"	: Is there anything material you can add to it ?	<u>Nothing</u>

Mr. F. Scully : You fully co-incide in all I do
he said ?

One wonders if the authorities felt the £27.18.0 had been money well spent.

However, Mr. Anthony Trollope, Post Office Surveyor, gave evidence from 16th to 27th July which occupies over 100 pages of the report. It shows an extraordinary knowledge of postal conditions over the whole of Ireland though he acknowledges that he is not acquainted with the full details of the Waterford problems.

But to return to the beginning of the examination. The first meeting was held "Lunae, 20 die Julii, 1855", and there were 8 members present. Mr. Meagher was called to the Chair, and as he was the donor of the Report to the Chamber of Commerce, we may conclude that he was a member of the well-known Waterford family which had produced "Meagher of the Sword".

On the following day, Rowland Hill, the first witness, was examined. His official position was Secretary to the Post Office, and he had been responsible for the inauguration of the Penny Postage fifteen years earlier in 1840. He stated that he had no local knowledge in regard to the subject of the present inquiry but gave many details of costs, volume of mail in England and Scotland etc. to compare with the situation in Ireland. He approved of sending mails on the railways wherever possible.

It is impossible to enumerate all the seventeen witnesses examined, so I will just select some which strike me as interesting from an historical standpoint.

For instance, the third witness, Mr. Joseph Malcolmson, gave details of the problems of "big business" in 1855 which are worth recording. He was the proprietor of the cotton Mill at Portlaw with a workforce of 1,640. This was the largest cotton factory in Ireland. He was also principal shareholder in the Waterford Steamship Co. and was "concerned in steam vessels from Waterford and many other places". He could therefore speak with authority on the Post Office arrangements which he considered "exceedingly deficient in many respects. We have the worst description of one-horse car to convey our mails from Portlaw, I should say to be had in the county; the worst horse that will go, the most inferior driver or care-taker of the car and I believe the speed is not certainly more than five Irish miles an hour. It is only what I have learned from Bianconi's man". Perhaps "Bianconi's man" was not an entirely disinterested reporter! Mr. Malcolmson went on to explain that the day mail was conveyed by foot messenger between Portlaw and Mullinavat on the Waterford Kilkenny Railway line, a distance of about 10 miles which takes 3 hours.

The same carrier brings the bags for Piltown and Carrick-on-Suir, the bags being separated at Fiddown. Later it transpires that the unfortunate mail carrier is paid 5 shillings a week though he often is carrying on his back letters and Bankers Drafts to the amount of £14,000. Sir Stafford Northcote, a member of the Committee, was interested in this carrier and asked "what class of man is this who takes the work at 5 shillings a week while the ordinary wages of the district are 7 shillings (as previously stated by Hister Malcolmson)?" The witness' answer was revealing, "He is little better than an old woman, I believe!". It appears from subsequent exchanges that the Post Office employed boys and men as "runners" who were good for nothing else, but refused to convey Mr. Malcolmson's valuable and important mail by car or by the Waterford and Limerick Railway which had been running from Waterford through Carrick and Clonmel for three years.

Yet postal communications between Liverpool (the source of much of Malcolmson's raw material), and Portlaw don't sound so bad to our ears one hundred and twenty two years later. A letter costing one penny posted in Liverpool the previous day reached Portlaw at four o'clock the following afternoon, where they had only half an hour to answer before the night mail left. This seemed a hardship to Mr. Malcolmson who had a correspondence "with all parts of the world almost".

Other witnesses' evidence may be summarized more shortly :

Mr. J. A. Blake, Mayor of Waterford, spoke on behalf of people in the small seaports of Dunmore, Tramore, Woodstown and Passage, who experienced many disadvantages in their communications with Cork especially as their letters were apt to miss the dispatch of mails in Waterford and so were often delayed a day. This was especially serious in the corn trade, as ships coming from the Black Sea port of Odessa and the Mediterranean berthed first at Cork. They then had to communicate ahead their need for berths at say Passage, as corn was a tricky cargo because of the danger of heating if unloading was unduly delayed.

Mr. James Delahunty was Coroner of the County and City of Waterford, a district of about 30 Square Miles. He sadly described the difficulty of summoning witnesses and jury members for inquests while the dead awaited burial. Mr. Delahunty resided in Tramore, but as there was a regular train service, he was able to commute to Waterford.

Another witness, Rev. J. A. Doudney, resided at Benmahon, then a busy mining district with a considerable population. He also published two journals which had to be sent by post so he complained of inconvenience suffered due to the deficient postal system.

Mr. Kennedy, Director of the Tipperary Bank, resided in Clonmel and complained of the deterioration of postal services between Waterford and Clonmel since the railway opened. Previously the mails were conveyed by Bianconi's four-horse car by day, and by mail coach from Waterford to Limerick by night (letters were delivered the next morning.) Now there were no Bianconi cars and

no mail coaches and the Post Office would not use the Waterford and Limerick Railway because of their high charges.

Mr. John O'Connor, Secretary of the W. & L. Railway, stated in evidence that the matter had been negotiated with the Post Office and the Railway's terms for carriage of mails were 9d a mile by day and 2/3 a mile by night. No reply came from the Post Office for several months, and when they wrote again they were told that the Postmaster General considered these charges to be too high and so negotiations ended. Meanwhile letters between Waterford and Clonmel posted after 4 p.m. went to Dublin and back to Goolds Cross near Clonmel on the Waterford-Limerick Railway. This was a very slow route, and the volume of trade from Waterford and the Suir Valley was probably greater than the Dublin trade because of the number of markets at which the Waterford merchants were purchasing butter and pigs. These merchants often suffered serious losses owing to delay in transmitting their orders. These last points had been made by a previous witness, Mr. J. A. Blake, Mayor of Waterford.

Anthony Trollope, Esq., who, as already stated, gave his evidence from 16th to 27th July, showed an extraordinary knowledge of all the problems already mentioned, as well as finance and the times of night mail arrival and departures. He believed that mail deliveries had been speeded up by the use of railways.

Finally, Edward Page, Esq., Head of the Mail Office in London, was asked to confirm financial evidence given by Trollope as regards rates paid to English railways for carriage of mails. He found these lower than the rates paid to Irish railways.

And what, we may ask, was the result of all this diligent inquiry on the Waterford postal system? It is hard to say as the report ends with the suggestion that "the importance of the subject justifies them in recommending that the Inquiry be proceeded with in the next session (of the House of Commons)." Whether this was done I do not know as I have not found any continuation of the report.

MINING AND MINERS - CASTLECOMER 1600-1850

From William Nolan

In the first half of the 18th Century iron mining played a part in the Irish economy. It was thus that Castlecomer began, possibly as early as the reign of Elizabeth. An indenture of 1635 refers to "an ancient furnace and one forge anciently used for the making and raising of iron" in the bog by Ballinakill. George Blacknell, the Lessee of these from Lord Londonderry, had other mining rights in the area. He was, however involved in some dubious practise and two years later the area was let to the Master of the Rolls, Sir Christopher Wandesforde. His family retained possession for the next 300 years. He was licenced to make "iron pots, kettles, chimney tops, salt pannes, and soap pannes" (-but not guns!). It is claimed that his manufacture of scythes revolutionised agriculture locally. At this stage it seems, that the presence of coal in the iron mines was regarded as largely incidental, and is referred to as such by Boate in 1652.

The evidence of the Civil Survey in 1654 suggests that these works were not particularly significant. It simply records, "a little stone house with iron mine and coal". From then on, however coal seems to have become increasingly important. By 1689 it appears to have been sent down the Barrow for the Dublin market. It is hardly accidental indeed that at this stage a Wandesforde had married into the Cumbriane containing family of Lowther. Though iron was still being mined as late as 1707 according to Molyneux. The Wandesforde papers for 1716 and '17 concentrate on coal which was to shape the lives and landscapes of the area for the next 250 years.

Records of this coal mining for the rest of the century are sparse but revealing. A colliery official in 1742 complains that employees are privately selling off coal in Dublin and Limerick "to feather their own nests". An interesting form of contract seems to have emerged over this period, whereby some colliers were granted a house and four acres plus culm (coal slack) in return for their labour. At any rate, large quantities of coal seem to have been produced so that by 1778 Wandesforde's profits were £10,000 p.a., according to Thomas Campbell. Its market was somewhat restricted though. Some of it seems to have gone down the Barrow from Leightinriega, presumably for transshipment at Asterford. Much, however was used locally-domestically, in lime kilns, and for the many small breweries in the area.

Contemporary estimates of the potential of the coalfield were extremely optimistic. The problem was transport and the solution seemed to lie in linking the Barrow with the major waterways of the country. This was commenced by 1791 and might indeed have succeeded had not new factors emerged. British coal-fields, using steam pumping and hoisting mechanisms, were able to produce coal much more cheaply. Not alone were they able to

outsell Castlemore coal in Dublin, but by 1807, thanks largely to the canal system, Swansea coal could undersell the local produce by 14/- per ton in Kilkenny City. This too is reflected in the decline of the Wandesforde revenue, from £10,000 p.a., to £2,000 in 1799 and to a mere £954 in 1826.

The solution to this sharp decline was a complete reorganisation of mining techniques and structures and this was undertaken in 1826. Firstly new expertise was needed to exploit the "one-foot seam", which was about 150 feet below the old "three-foot". This latter seam had been almost exhausted by basset (or "bell") workings from the surface. This problem was relatively easily solved by the importation of steam pumping equipment and the introduction of Durham miners to develop the deeper seam (nicknamed by them the "Jarrow Seam"). The second problem proved more difficult: a strong vested interest deeply resented any attempt at change.

This vested interest consisted of a deeply entrenched class of master colliers who acted as middlemen taking a form of Lease from the owner and in many cases subletting the working of individual pits. This system had suited the Wandesfordes in the 18th Century as it guaranteed a fixed income; by the 19th Century it seems they were losing about £2,000 a year over what they could have got working the mines directly. Many of these middlemen were also involved in subletting plots, running small shops and advancing credit in traditional "gombeen" fashion. These created a formidable opposition to change, and the violence latent in a community working in harsh and dangerous conditions manifest itself in many ways. This society had developed through the 18th Century when land-lord attitudes towards resources were much different. As these middlemen were usually Irish, the system had ensured that local resources and revenue would be kept in Ireland. Opposition to change in the collieries was directed however, against the visible agents of change, the personnel brought from England to rationalise the system. According to the Commission set up to enquire into the causes of the ensuing disturbances, five of these were murdered in 1832, and Kilkenny was declared a disturbed County in a state of insurrection.

Order was restored in time and the Jarrow seam came to be worked. Costs remained a problem, however, and by the mid 19th Century Castlemore coal was still only competitive over a 20 mile radius of the mines. There are no employment figures available apart from an estimated 600 workers in 1809, but the census returns for 1841 show a population density ranging from 300 per square mile to over 800 per square mile in three townlands. A large proportion of these would probably have been squatters-refugees from the respectability of more settled communities, men desperate for work and optimists attracted by the prospects of wealth.

Among the most remunerative occupations were those concerned with the manufacture, distribution and sale of alcohol. While miners earned more than other labour in the area, they were distinguished by the wretchedness of their appearance and the squalor of their homes. Tighe, in 1891 says, "their wages are consumed in the purchase of whiskey, a ruinous habit encouraged by their mode of labour". John Edge says of them, "They drink whiskey, plenty of it, it being the ruin of them". Thomas Birmingham, referring to their contempt for danger and "utter detestation of authority adds, "they little cared if death came today or tomorrow". We must remember however, the harshness of their working conditions, and the fact that many suffered greatly from bronchial diseases which shortened their life spans.

From 1850 on conditions began to improve creating new social patterns, but this must be investigated elsewhere.

From Kenneth Nicholls

(Summary of lecture delivered to O.W.S. on 28th October 1977)

In July 1215 King John granted to Thomas Fitz Anthony a large tract of land stretching from Cork into West Waterford. He had 5 daughters, the fourth of whom married John FitzThomas who was then enfeoffed in the eastern portion of these Geraldine lands. Thus came into being the FitzGerald "Lordship" (there was no formal grant) of Decies which was to last 400 years. The family seems to have lost no time in establishing themselves. An extant letter of the 13th Century urges local knights to ambush and kill one FitzMaurice of Decies. It is signed by Richard Walsh of Glenahiry. The letter was intercepted and the "Lordship" survived. Geographically, it was centred largely on the medieval centred of Dungarvan.

For most of the 13th & 14th Centuries, the Descendants of Decies built up their power in the normal manner of medieval lords. They gained control of church revenues by having their sons ordained into the priesthood for instance. They also introduced the useful Mc Grath family into Slieve gCua and these speedily dropped their long tradition of scholarship to amass wealth as agents of Desmond. The O'Briens too were introduced as vassals following the defeat of Turlough Maol in that family's dynastic wars. James had supported Turlough in these wars and now granted him a parcel of land from the unidentified "Skeagh Tilson" to the river Colligan.

The Fitzgeralds of Decies were, of course involved in their own complex wrangles with their neighbours. Sometimes they fought against the feudal demands of their nominal overlords, their Cork cousins. More frequently we find them in alliance against the Butlers of Ormond. In 1396 John Fitz Thomas Fitzgerald paid breach of 1600 "legal crowns" for the murder of Thomas Butler. Two years later he is in alliance with MacMurrough Kavanagh, also against the Butlers. During the 15th Century, there were a series of clashes with the burgeoning Power family of Gloucha, who in the 1490's moved their seat to Curraghmore. Much of the friction revolved around possession of Kilmacthomas, then held by McThomasin, one of the Power family. Both sides eventually agreed to legal rather than bellicose conflict over the complex matter of boundaries, as testified by a series of legal depositions dated 1522.

Aggression against the Geraldines of Desmond continued until the eventual downfall of that house in the 1580's. A James of Decies had sought alliance with France earlier in the 16th Century against his cousins, the main contention being the levying of "bualacht" for the payment of Gallowglasses. Not that James was liberal with his own vassals. He spoke no English, seemed independent of all rule and exercised quite arbitrary authority over his tenants. He was succeeded in 1553 by his son Gerard, whom O'Cleary refers to as "Ri na nDeise". His son in turn, Gerard Maurice, by excessive demands of rent and tax squeezed out a branch of the Powers, as well as the Roches of Colligan and the Mansfields, but did not succeed against the O'Briens.

By the end of the 16th Century the Fitzgeralds of Decies had reached the height of their power. In 1600 the benevolent Gerard became "Lord" of what was by now the family seat, Dromana (there was never a formal title). Over-generous in the matter of rents, he is reputed to have reduced the family income to £50 per annum. Affane, he was supposed to have given to Sir Walter Raleigh in return for a breakfast. His son, John of Ballyheany, ("a little brown man with one eye") applied himself to restoring the family fortune and is reputed to have raised it back to £1,500 per annum (though this is unlikely), despite the avarice of his wife to secure adequate doweries for her daughters. On his death, the servants are reported to have stolen her valuables.

Their son, John Og, "a gallant", succeeded. He took as wife Ellinor Butler. John died young and his son Garret was brought up a Protestant. Garret later married the redoubtable Mable Digby (who later became a Catholic and sided with the rebels). When the rebellion broke out Garret ("fat, with few words"), moved into English protection (which must have provoked interesting conflict between himself and his wife. In 1643 he felt sufficiently secure, or avaricious, to return to Dungarvan to collect his rents and there he died, aged 28.

He left behind him a young son John. A certain sense of desperation can now be sensed in the Dromana marriage settlements to ensure continuation of the line. By the time he was 21 John was twice married, - then he too died. He left behind him only a baby daughter (Catherine), so his sister Elizebeth took charge of family affairs during her minority. Elizebeth, a Protestant, had married a Cromwellian officer, Capt. R. Franklin, and it seems to have been through his influence that the land was held intact from the Adventurers. When Catherine reached 12 years, however, for reasons that can best be guessed at, she was married off to her 7 year old cousin, Richard Power of Currahaore. She seems to have been an independant - minded lassy, however, because, aged 15 and with both guardians dead, she got an annullment from her child bridegroom and remarried Edward Villiers.

Thus the name Fitzgerald of Decies passed into history. However, the family had managed to keep the land intact, through the Cromwellian Settlements. The Villiers, in turn, were of course, to play their part in history, and a diminished Dromana still stands in their possession perched on its cliff above the Blackwater.

GLASSMAKING

Re question on Glassmaking near Dunhill (Decies 3), we are informed that in Marsh's Library, manuscript Vol. 23, 1, 5, No. 12, there is an account of glassworks at "Ballynagery" established in 1622. The townland at present is spelled "Ballinageeragh" and is, of course, now well known for its dolmen, but local pronounciation of the name is "Ballinageerree". Perhaps some reader might undertake a visit to Marsh's Library.

COD & RAPE OIL

Re "The Light of Other Days - 1727" (Decies 4). Dr. J. Mannon wonders whether cod-oil would also have been used as fuel for street and harbour lights. Mr. Ryan's article mentioned only rape-oil as a fuel, but from 1700 to 1850 great quantities of cod-oil were being imported into Waterford from Newfoundland. Some may have been used for culinary or medical purposes, as a lubricant, or as part of the leather tanning purpose. It was imported by all the big merchant houses in Waterford and was quite expensive. Perhaps some of your readers might know whether it was, in fact used for lighting, or might be able to suggest other uses. Before 1700 it was called "trayue (or train)-oil".

The use of rape-oil too is very interesting. Presumably this was made from rape seed which, according to Wakefield (An Account of Ireland, Statistical & Political, London 1812) was exported from Ireland. In 1772 rape seed exports were valued at £1,244; in 1780 at only £654; and in 1790 at £15,475. Incidentally according to his figures, about 60% of Irish exports in those years were flax-seed!

Does anybody know anything about this plant, Rape? The Memoir of Geological Survey for Offaly mentions a Rape-mill near Banagher in 1860. Were there any Rape-mills in the South East? Can anybody enlighten.

ANNESTOWN

Re "Factions in Waterford 1805 - '15" (Decies 4), Mr. J. Mulholland writes:-

The existance of a resident magistrate (Mr. Cole) and a regiment of soldiers in Annestown as early as 1811 is very interesting, as it raises the possibility of Annestown being built as a sort of garrison village around this time. Certainly the village could not have existed much earlier. Smith in 1746 makes no mention of a house or village here although he does indicate a road through the site. However, his map clearly shows a mansion (and village?) on the other side of the river marked "Little Newtown". (This had also been called "Little Newtown" in the Civil Survey 1664, as distinct from "Greater Newtown" near Tramore. Both are now simply "Newtown") Seward's "Topographia" of 1795 does not mention Annestown either, but under the list of "Newtown's" in Ireland says "Also, a fair town in Co. Waterford, province of Munster (at Silvermines); fairs held 1st May, 11th November". This Newtown could be any of the dozen or so "Newtown" townlands listed in Waterford by Canon Do' r except for the cryptic phrase "at Silvermines."

Now silver is found in the lead that was mined by the Great Earl of Cork up to 1641 at Minehead, but not in the lead mined at Annestown 200 years later. There were however "silver mines" (mentioned by Ryland in 1824 - the adits are still there) about 2 miles upstream at Crusch. There are two "Newtown Silver-mines" contenders at Minehead but they are even further away from the mines, 5½ miles and 8 miles. So, unless there is a third "Newtown" at Minehead which is not recorded by Smith, Lewis or Power; or an unrecorded silvermine (unlikely); or unless "silver mines" was meant in some way metaphorically, then it seems that a proto-Annestown across the river is the most likely candidate.

Incidentally, the river seems to have had no definite name. The Irish for Annestown is simply "Ann Aoha" (as distinct, say from "Bunmahon"). The C.S. calls it "Woodstown Stream", but Canon Power prefers "Dunhill Stream". Locally it is now just called "The River", but an entry in the Civil Survey 1654 suggests that it was called "Ikinaugh". The full entry, listing fords in the Barony reads "Ye Woods of Ballynariggy upon ye Ikinaugh alonge by Dunhill to ye sea". Any relation between this name and the Isles of Ikinane to the East? And what about a "James Fenkane, gent of Knockancorbally" a mile to the west who was outlawed for high treason in the 1690's?

SONGS OF THE DECIES.

(1) Re Waterford Merchants and the Newfoundland Trade (Decies 2)

Mrs. A. Alison writes: "I heard this stanza from an old lady and wonder whether anybody has the rest of the ballad. What connotation had "smoke" and indeed what does this verse mean?"

When I awoke, sure I had'nt a smoke
On the banks of Newfoundland;
All those young fellows now you'd see
Is leaving the Waterford Quay.
If you were on-the Yellow Road
Going down by Denny's Lane.
But when I awoke, I had'nt a smoke
On the Banks of Newfoundland.

(11) Re article on faction fighting in County Waterford, Gerard Burns and Kevin Power suggest that the most recent outbreak of agrarian disturbance in Waterford may have had elements of a faction fight as partly evidenced by the words of this song. The hostility expressed seems to be as great towards the "outsiders" from Kilbride as it is to the farmers. Our contributors hope that some of our readers will investigate what really happened during this 3 am labourers strike in the early 1920's while it is still within living memory. This ballad is still sung in the Dunhill area and is called "The Honor Heloc".

The month of November being late in the year,
 When the labourers of Fenor they did appear
 To uphold the Union best way they should
 And to put down the farmers the best way they could.

At the cross roads of Fenor the machine did appear,
 With police in the front and police in the rear.
 The driver he came from a place called Kilbride,
 And he swore that he'd thrash the police by his side.

On a fine Monday morning with a beautiful sea
 With rifles and harleys and some dressed in green,
 To shout, "Up the Labour. No thrashing today,
 And to hell with the farmers we'll burn the hay"

The machine it did turn and home it did steer,
 Both peelers and drivers were shaking with fear,
 They never looked back til they went out of sight
 And as fast as the wind they flew home to Kilbride.

Here's to the man down in Lower Ballyduff,
 Kill and Dunhill were both strong and tough,
 And the brave men of Fenor their courage they showed
 The day that they stopped the machine on the road.

Long life to Dick Whelan and brave Hanley,
 And also Dick Dalton who fought manfully,
 Although they're in prison, remembered they'll be
 For the part that they played in the Fenor Melee.

Now here's the conclusion to finish my song
 (I hope you won't say that the verses are wrong)-
 The farmers of Fenor are shaking with fear
 Saying what will we do without corn this year.

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WATERFORD - TRAMORE RAILWAY :

According to the Royal Commission on Railways, 1866,
 (Page 364-367), the Waterford -Tramore Railway in 1864 carried
 2,162 tons of "minerals". What these "minerals" were is not
 specified, but the only other place in the South of Ireland
 where they were also carried was on the Dublin - Wicklow -
 Wexford Railway, which transported 12,390 tons of what could
 only have been ore from the Avoca mines. What, therefore was
 this "mineral" which was carried between Waterford and Tramore
 where there are neither mines nor smelters? It is highly
 unlikely that this was Bunnahon ore, which was shipped
 directly from Knocknashon and in any case the present Tramore-
 Annestown road had not yet been built. The remains of the
 few old edits around Tramore itself would hardly have produced
 2,000 odd tons. Has anybody any explanation? The freight
 charge, by the way, was £213.

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RICHARD II IN IRELAND

Arising from Mrs. Phelan's lecture on this to the O.W.S. on 11th March, 1977, Mr. J. S. Carroll writes:-

Mrs. Phelan told us many striking facts about Richard II's expeditions to Ireland in 1394 and 1399 for the subjugation of Art McMurrough - how he conducted a swift and effective campaign, carrying the attack right into McMurrough's homeland, forcing his acceptance of dictated terms; how all the Irish Chieftains, apart from O'Donnell and Maguire, hurried to Kilkenny to make their submissions to him as their overlord; how McMurrough forgot his promise as soon as the king had sailed; and how Richard had to come back a few years later to face him again, only to be recalled prematurely to fight for his throne and not only to lose it but to lose his life as well.

But the fact which seemed to impress her listeners most strongly was the size of the army he brought with him. Traissart has recorded that it consisted of 30,000 archers and 4,000 men-at-arms, with an undisclosed number of horses, all carried in 500 ships. The mind boggles at the transportation and commissariat problems to which this effort must have given rise nearly 600 years ago.

With his retinue and this enormous army the king spent a fortnight in Waterford after his arrival here on 2nd October, 1394. Where did he stay and where was his army encamped? How did he land his horses? All these questions spring to mind but, sadly, we do not have answers, although Richard's progress was well chronicled. By delving into many records, Mrs. Phelan has completed the picture as far as Kilkenny is concerned. What about one of our members doing the same for Waterford? It was, after all, through this port that he entered and left Ireland on both occasions, so it could reasonably be expected to figure in the records.

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CASTLES OF WATERFORD :

(1) Arising from the questions and comment on Waterford castles in Decies 4 and 5, Mr. John E. Young writes:-

Mountain Castle and Slesy are separate and a mile apart. The former is occupied by Mr. Emmet Nugent; the latter is a ruin on the land of Mr. Hickey. Missing from the list was Sibree, now occupied by Mr. Archer. There is also the spectacular Castlecedard on the road to the Vee and a ruins at Ballynacart in Old Parish.

(2) Much of the correspondence we have had on castles arises because nobody had hitherto listed what there was and still is in County Waterford. We are pleased to have had the opportunity of remedying this defect by publishing Mr. Dalton's "Checklist of Castles" in Decies 7. Mr. J. Mutholland, however, writes to suggest that the following castles also merit consideration for this list.

In Coshmore and Coshbride, of "Knocknamuc" (Lismore Parish) the Civil Survey reports, "It hath on it a ruined castle". At "Ballyinn" according to a letter from the first Earl of Cork (quoted by Hansard) stood a "fort".

In Upperthird at "Gorttardah Worth" (Clonegan Parish) the Civil Survey reports a castle. Petty's map shows a castle at "Gortada Woodlock". These townland names are no longer used.

In Decies within Drum at "Dysart" (Ardmore Parish), Canon Power mentions a castle which was besieged in 1642.

In Decies without Drum are three possible castles. 1. "Kilbarry - meadon" is listed as a castle belonging to the Bishop of Waterford in Joshua Boyle's list of the ancient temporalities of the See of Waterford. 2. "Furraleigh" in Fews Parish is marked by the Ordnance Survey as a castle site. It was an old stronghold of the O'Briens of Commeragh. 3. "Castle Dony;" in Stradbally of Ballylaneen is clearly marked on the maps of Mercator and Steed. It lay on the coast between Stradbally and Bunmahon. Now the Earl of Ormond had a manor from very early times until Queen Elizabeth's reign at Island O'Brick and Templeyrick, together with all the usual appurtenances, and was a parish in its own right. Possibly this Castle Dony (or "Doney") was the headquarters of this manor and was situated roughly where is now the "Castle Field" (as it is still known locally). This is a headland just west of Island O'Brick (or Danes Island").

More debateable, but perhaps worth mentioning are these three: 1. "Ballylemon (or) -lomeen" in Whitechurch Parish is clearly marked as late as 1746 as a castle site in the map attached to Smith's history. 2. In the same parish Rylan's map has a "Ballymullala Castle". 3. In the townland of Carrigcastle (Ballylaneen Parish) Lewis says "there are some considerable remains of Ballynaclash Castle". No sign of tradition of this now remains.

Finally, these four local names deserve some investigation. 1. "Castlelands" or "Castlequarter", Lismore Parish. 2. "An Caislean" is now a field name in Monatray. 3. "Park a Caislean" in Killossragh, Dungarvan Parish. 4. "Castle Quarter" in Modeligo.

Any other suggestions of possible sites ?

WATERFORD IRON FOUNDRY 1776:

See "Waterfords Iron Experts" (Decies 5), Mr. John Hodge wonders whether Iron mining could have resumed late in the eighteenth century. Young, in 1776, says "There is a foundry at Waterford for pots, kettles, weights and all common utensils; and a manufactory of anvils to anchors etc. which employs 40 hands". This gives rise to three questions; first, was Waterford, previously an exporter of iron, now importing ore? Secondly, did coal for the furnaces also have to be imported, or was local charcoal used? Finally, do any of the contemporary maps indicate the site of this foundry? Perhaps some readers might oblige with answers.

F U E L :

RE: Question raised about what fuel was used in early 19th Century, Miss K. Kelly writes : -

"There appear to have been extensive turf bogs in the County. Smith, in his account of the County in 1745 found combustible material in those he examined, and there were ten bogs in use in the Union of Drumcannon early in the 19th Century.

The great forests in the County were felled during the last part of the sixteenth and the early seventeenth centuries. This was done for military reasons, and later in west Waterford for fuel used in connection with the extensive mining operations there. The Rev. Thomas Crawford¹, Vicar Choral of Lismore, writing in about 1812/'13 said, "There are no mines within the boundaries of the parish except iron. These were worked by the first Earl of Cork in the reign of Elizabeth with great success, and deserted when fuel failed him".

The Rev. John Cooke¹, writing about 1812 or so mentions coal mining also. He says "some few years ago coal was discovered by Mr. David Stagers in Kilmacombe on the lands of Woodstown, the property of Mr. Carew, while he was employed in exploring mines by authority of the Dublin Society. It was worked for some short time, and then given up, the prospect of success not appearing adequate to the expense of perseverance". Coal at that time was being imported in the west of the County, being brought up-river to Lismore. By 1824 there were four Coal Merchants in Waterford, but I have not yet come across the date when it was first imported.

In the City in the 17th Century and early 18th², turf, gorse or furze, faggots and straw, all highly inflammable, were used for firing. The Corporation had to make many regulations to reduce the danger of fire. For instance, in January 1662/3, horses or garrons laden with furze, turf or straw were allowed only in Little Patrick Street or Barronstrand Street and "other such void places in the City under pain of 1st d. for every offence". In 1670 an order was made prohibiting anyone from covering his house or any building with thatch, and requiring the removal of all thatches within the City. Similar orders seem to have been made from time to time but without avail, but this one seems to have been obeyed. At the same time an order was made prohibiting Brewers and others from lodging any great quantity of furze in their cellars or in other parts of their houses within the City. Regulations were also made in connection with firewood, which was subject to a fine of 6d per week if left lying on the quay above a certain time. Fires on ships were subject to a fine of £5. In view of all the hazards in the use of this kind of fuel, the Corporation provided 31 leather buckets with ladders of various lengths and grapnels for dealing with outbreaks of fire. These were in the custody of the Sword Bearer who was responsible for having them always in a fit condition for their work. The price of gorse was 8d. per dozen and all fuel was subject to gateage.

1. See Mason's Topographical Survey.

2. See Council Books of the Waterford Corporation 1662/1700

(Edited by Prof. Pender)

RICHARD BOYLE'S IRONWORKS IN COUNTY WATERFORD.

(PART 2)

BY THOMAS POWERINTRODUCTION:

Part 1 of this account attempted to give a brief analysis of Richard Boyle's ironworking enterprise, within the framework of general trends in the Irish iron industry in the 17th Century. Part 2 lists the sites where the iron working was carried on. Where possible, information is given regarding workings on each site during Boyle's own lifetime; it was also thought useful to include facts readily available from the Civil Survey and the Census of Ireland, c.1659. The subsequent fortunes of the ironworks is of some interest, so it was thought instructive to include the observations of people like Smith (1746), Pocooke (1752) and Ryland (1824); and also the comments of Kinahan and others in the 19th Century. References to ironworkings in placenames are often very revealing, and these are included where relevant.

The following abbreviations are used throughout the sources:-
 C.S. - The Civil Survey 1654-1656, Ed. R.C. Simington (1942).
 Census c. 1659 - Census of Ireland C.1659, Ed. S. Pender (1939).
 C.S.P.I. - Calendar of State Papers-Ireland.
 J.R.S.A.I. - Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland.
 J.W.A.S. - Journal of the Waterford and South East of Ireland Archaeological Society.
 L.P. - The Lismore Papers, Ed. A.B. Grosart, 10 Vols. 18.
 (Placenames) - P. Power, The Placenames of Decies (1952).
 U.J. A. - Ulster Journal of Archaeology.

APPENDIX

Mentioned in a lease of 1614-'15 in which Boyle guarantees to forward £1,000 for the setting up of ironworks¹

L.L.P. 2nd Ser. 1 P.66; and C.S.P.I. 1647-'60 P.76.

ARAGLIN:

By late 1625 a new furnace was in operation here for by October the first sow iron was being cast,¹ and plans were already advanced for the erection of a second furnace.² Earlier in 1625 Boyle had made an arrangement with two individuals to undertake the production of 800 tons of sow iron yearly at Araglin³, and it was for such an output that the construction of the new furnaces was meant to cater. The iron deposits in the Araglin district must have been considerable judging by a dispute which took place for control of them in 1627-1632⁴. In c.1740 new works were established here for the production of bar iron, and Smith (1746) comments that it was the only considerable iron-ore works being carried on in the district at the time⁵. The iron works here seemed to have flourished in the mid 18th century⁶, for in 1760 its output of iron ware products included bar iron, pots, dishes, fish kettles, griddles, backs for gates, stoves for sugar boilers, smoothing irons, pans for soap boilers, bleachers and dyers, boxes for coaches and cars⁷. Production must have ceased

before the end of the 18th Century, for by 1887 the exact location of the iron mines at Araglin were unknown⁸. What seem to be a furnace and a forge are still to be seen on the banks of the Araglin river today, over the bridge from the village of Araglin. In the valley running south of there, some form of quarrying or mining is indicated on the 1840 O.S. map. Modern publications show that the excavations have been extended since then.

1. L.P. 1st Ser. 2 P.160-1; E. Wakefield, An Account of Ireland, 1 (1812) p. 36.
2. L.P., 1st Ser., 2 P.162.
3. L.P. 1st Ser., 2, P.176-7.
4. Col. Pat. Rolls Ire. Charles I., P.304-5, 509, 653-4.
5. State of the County & City of Waterford P.62, 305.
6. N. Brunnicardi, Fermoy to 1790: A Local History, P.29-30.
7. U.J.A. Vol.28 (1965) P.132; Lewis Topographical Dictionary, 2, P.327
8. Kinahan in Journal of the Royal Geol. Society of Ireland, Vol.8 Pt.1 (1887), P.45; See also G.A.J. Cole, Localities of Minerals (1922) P. 87.

BALLYREGAN:

By 1615 Boyle was extracting iron-ore from his mines here. In 1615 he made a contract with a Mr. Ball, and provided him with £1000 to erect ironworks at Ballyregan and adjoining lands. By 1618 the works here were in the hands of three partners, for R. Blacknoll purchased 1.5 ton of "mine-ore" from them at Ballyregan². In a dispute over claims to mining rights in 1626, the mines at Ballyregan are mentioned³. In 1654 Boyle is listed as being the owner of 300 acres in Ballyregan and Ballyneety⁴, and the number of inhabitants in the district c.1659 totalled 135. The exact location of this site presents some difficulty. In the Civil Survey of 1654 Boyle's castle at Lismore and 150 acres there, is said to be bounded on the east and south by Ballyregan⁵. In the Down Survey Map of 1657 (No. 95) a Ballyregan is distinctly marked south of the river Blackwater, between Cappoquin and Lismore. There is no trace of the site on the 1840 O.S. map. Does this site correspond with the townland of Ballyneeligan east of Lismore?

1. L.P., 2nd Ser., 2 P.66.
2. L.P. 2nd Ser. 2 P.125.
3. C.S.P.I. - 1647-1650, P.76.
4. O.S. P.7
5. Census C.1659 P.339.
6. P.7
7. Power, Pinnacles, P.30.

MCCOLLOP:

There were furnaces situated here.¹ In 1625 Boyle paid the remaining £200 for the construction of two new furnaces in the mountains of McCollop². In 1654 Boyle is recorded as possessing 1,500 acres in McCollop³, and in the Census of c.1659 the area had a population of 70.⁴

1. A.R.Orme in Irish Geography Vol.5 No.3 (1966) P.133.
2. L.P. 1st Ser. 2P.166.
3. C.S. P.6.
4. Census c.1659 P.339

ARDMORE:

The mines here were owned by Raleigh, but were later purchased by Boyle. The workings were said to produce very fine steel.¹ In 1636 the mines here were leased by Boyle for £50.² In 1654 Boyle is recorded as owning 170 acres in Dixartt, in the Parish of Ardmore.³ The Mineam recorded in the Census of c.1659 as having 30 inhabitants⁴

may be the Monameean in which one source claims that iron was quarried in the 17th Century.⁵ Monameean lies adjacent to the roughal-Dungarvan road, and it is probably the site referred to by Smith when he states that "some large pits on the side of the road leading from Dungarvan to Youghal, out of which iron-ore was formerly dug"⁶. These pits were again noticed by a contemporary observer in 1800.⁷ Ardmore is listed again by one source in 1887 as having formerly been worked for minerals.⁸ One local individual recalls that c.1910 an English entrepreneur enlisted subscriptions from the local people to finance exploration for iron in the Ardmore area, but after a few tentative borings the project was abandoned. In addition to Monameean, which still survives as a placename, Fail an Iarrainn, (Iron Cliff),⁹ may serve to substantiate the existence of iron-mining in the Ardmore district.

1. U.J.A. Vol.20(1957)P.134. 2. J.W.A.S. Vol.4(1898),P.255.
 3. C.S. P.59. 4. Census c.1659 P.335. 5. Power, Placenames p.83
 6. Smith(above) P.73. 7. Trans.of the Dub.Soc. Vol.1,Pt.2(1800)P.136
 8. Kinahan(above)P.49. 9. Power, Placenames,P.73.

MINEHEAD:

Originally owned by Raleigh, but later sold to Boyle. The works here were noted for their very fine steel. The works were probably destroyed in the 1641 Rebellion. In 1837 Lewis reports that "at Minehead, so called from the adjacent works, and also near the village, iron-ore of very good quality was procured".¹ Kinahan in 1887 remarks that the ores from the mines on this site were specially prized as they could be converted into the finest steel, and as being worked in the 17th Century.²

1. Topographical Dictionary 1,P.51. 2. Kinahan 1886/'87,P.301, (1887) p. 49.

LISFINNY:

Forges had been established here by 1620¹, for Boyle records in his diary for that year that he had initiated the construction of a new double forge close to the castle of Lisfinny.² Between March and September 1622 more than 158 tons of bar iron were produced in these forges.³ In 1625 Boyle made an arrangement with two individuals Peter Baker and John Shepherd to cast 1,200 tons of sow iron yearly at the furnaces of Araglen and Coppoquin, and to deliver it to the forges at Lisfinny and Kilmackoe.⁴ Judging by an entry of 1638 in Boyle's diary, there seems to have been a store house for iron goods (eg. scythes, reaping hooks) at Lisfinny.⁵

1. C.S.P. 1.1647-1660, P.74. 2. ...P. 1st Ser. 2 P.4 3. L.P. 1st Ser. 2 P.56 4. L.P. 1st Ser. 2 P.176 5. L.P. 1st Ser. 3 p.45

GRALLIGH:

Mentioned by Kinahan as a site on which iron-ore was found, and as being worked by Raleigh c. 1600; and as being worked again between 1850 and 1860.¹ Nothing is readily traceable today to indicate 17th Century iron-mining.² But on the opposite side of the Licky River from Gralligh there are definite traces of late 19th Century iron-mining. Here in the townland of Monagilleeny, and on the farmland of Mr. D. Scanlon, is a subsided mine shaft or tunnel stretching for about 150 yards through, what is still locally known as, the Mianach Field. One individual in the locality remembers his grandfather speaking of the working of the mine in his own lifetime. He recalls those using the mine having

tracks upon which deposits from the shaft were conveyed outward. Some of the waste material deposited in the process of digging the mine is still traceable.³

1. Kinahan (above) (1886-'7) P. 245. 2. See Cole (above) P. 87 3. My thanks to Mr. Scanlon for this information.

TALLOWBRIDGE:

Ironworks had been established here by 1621, for in July of that year Boyle recorded in his diary that he was putting aside 1100 as stock for the new forge at Tallowbridge which began to produce bar-iron on the 19th of July. 1 Very near Tallowbridge was a vantage point called Sl. tt where boats and lighters came for the loading and unloading of goods necessary for the works. 2 According to the Census of c.1659 Tallowbridge had a population of 40. 3

1. L.P. 1st Ser. 2: p. 20. 2. C.S.P.I. 1647-'60, P. 76.

3. Census c.1659 P. 338

BALLYTU:

A mill at Ballytu is mentioned in a grant of land in 1614-1615 in which Boyle agrees to provide 21,000 for the construction of ironworks. 1 Bally Tu is not commonly known today. A Ballytagh is clearly marked on the Down Survey Map of 1657 (No. 95) adjoining the Blackwater River to the South between Cappoquin and Lisnore. Immediately adjacent to Bally Tu to the South is "Balliregan".

1. L.P., 2nd Ser. 1: P. 66

TALLOW:

Tallow or Tallowh in Jarainn (Hill of the Iron) was noted even before Boyle's time for iron. But it was Boyle who made the town prosperous by promoting the iron-industry on a large scale there. There were iron mills here by 1608. 1 In 1616 Boyle estimated that it would cost 1141 to produce 240 tons of iron at the Tallow works. 2 A report on the plantation of Munster in 1622 gives some useful information on Boyle's ironworks at Tallow. The report states - "The Earl of Cork hath planted upon this seignory a great number of English inhabitants and besides many other English houses and tenements, a fair and handsome market town at Tallow, consisting of about 150 houses, all inhabited with English of several trades, where he hath likewise erected two iron mills, by which many people are set a work.... He hath likewise not far from thence discovered a mine of excellent iron ore." 3 The 1654 Civil Survey lists Boyle as the owner of 400 acres around Tallow, 4 and the recorded population of the town c.1659 was 105. 5 Old Forge must have been an important suburb of Tallow since its inhabitants numbered 51 in c.1659, 6 and the placename seems to have survived in Forge Lane. 7 The Ironworks seem to have survived the destruction wrought by the 1641 Rebellion, though they ceased production of iron by 1685. 8

1. See the ref. to "the iron mills near Tallow" in R. Caulfield-Council Book of the Corporation of Youghal (1878), P. XLVII.

2. L.P. 2nd Ser. 2P. 35. 3. Report on the condition of the Plantation of Munster 1622 printed in J.R.S.S.I. 6 Ser. Vol. 14 (1924) P. 142.

4. C.S.P. 16 5. Census c.1659 P. 339. 6. *ibid*; see also J.W.A.S. Vol. 15, (1912) P. 77 for mention of "John Casey of the Old Forge near Tallow"

7. Power, Placenames P. 60-1. 8. Report of Sir Richard Cox, c.1685 printed in Journal of the Cork Historical and Arch. Society. - Vol. 8 (1902), p. 32.

KILMACKOE:

Ironworking had been started here before 1639.¹ A dispute between Boyle and a William Chisnall over control of the works had been resolved by 1612.² Boyle and some partners invested £1,600 in the ironworks here, the cost of the forge alone being £1,000.³ By 1620 a new forge had been built, and between March and September 1622 it produced more than 169 tons of bar iron.⁴ In 1625 Boyle made an agreement whereby the forges at Kilmackoe and Lisfinny would cater between them for 1,200 tons of iron brought from the furnaces at Cappoquin and Arglin.⁵ Local tradition asserts that a recently filled in quarry was formerly an iron-mine.

1. U.J.A. (1957) P.128. 2. L.P. 2nd Ser.1 P.10-11. 3. Kearney in J. R.S.A.I. 83(1953) P.157,160. 4. L.P.1st Ser.2P.56. 5. L.P.1st Ser. 2P.176-7.

CAPPOQUIN:

There was a furnace here by 1615, for in that year Boyle granted a lease of 28 years for the furnace, woods, lands and mines at Cappoquin for the rent of £500 yearly.¹ By 1620 a new double furnace had been erected, and between March and September 1622 it produced more than 370 tons of bar-iron.² By March 1625 ordnance and shot were being made at these works.³ In 1654 Boyle possessed 600 acres around Cappoquin,⁴ and the number of residents in the town c.1659 was 188.⁵ The iron-works on this site had ceased operation shortly after 1750. The location of the iron workings can be calculated from a report in 1904 that Croker's Castle of Cappoquin overlooked the iron-mines.⁶ Further evidence of ironworkings in this district comes from an account in 1885 which states that "there is a field close to Cappoquin popularly known as the Cinders on account of the bits of iron ore, coals etc. which were found in it."⁷ The present Cappoquin bacon factory is situated on the site of a late 19th Century iron-foundry, in which at one time 35 smiths were employed; at this time also there was a wheel and carriage works in Cappoquin.⁸

1. L.P.1st Ser.1P.91. 2. L.P. 1st Ser.2P.56. In 1625 the furnaces here were given an order to cast 400 tons of sow iron: L.P.1st Ser. 2,P.176-7. 3. L.P.1st Ser.2P.179. 4. C.S. P.7 5. Census C.1659 P.339 6. D. Townshend, The Life and Letters of the Great Earl of Cork, P.456 7. Journal of the Royal Hist. & Arch. Association of Ireland, 4th Ser. Vol.7, (1885), P.402-3. 8. Information from Mr. J. Ryan of Cappoquin.

BALLYNATRAY:

Ironworks were erected here by 1606.¹ In 1632 Boyle leased the forge, steelworks and stock at Ballynatray (worth £1,700) for £250 yearly to Thomas Ledsham.² In 1638 the steelworks here produced more than 69 tons of nail rod-iron, more than 7 tons of ordinary bar-iron, 98 dozen of scythes, and 8 dozen reaping hooks.³ Boyle is recorded as being the owner of 723 acres in Ballynatray in 1654⁴, and the recorded population of the district c.1659 was 61.⁵ Ryland (1824) comments that iron-mines were formerly located here.⁶ A placename which may recall ironworking in the district is An Cheardcha Dhairg (The Red Forge).⁷

1. U. J. A. (1965) P.132; L.P. 2nd Ser. 1 P.117. 2. L.P. 1st Ser. 3 P.153 3. L.P.1st Ser. 3 P.45. 4. C. S. P.20. 5. Census c. 1659, P.339 6. History of Waterford, P.354. 7. Power, Placenames, P.85

SALTERBRIDGE:

This area belonged to Boyle, and iron was being produced here c.1620. In 1634 Boyle is recorded as owning 300 acres here,¹ and according to the census of c.1659 its inhabitants numbered 51.² Smith(1746) reports that the iron mines and pits worked by Boyle remained still open on this site.³ Pococke(1752) says that "at Salt Bridge north of the river were ironworks and ironmines near; and a vein of iron runs through the park" ⁴. Ryland(1824) remarks that iron-mines were formerly worked here by Boyle.⁵ The iron pits here must have been quite large for they are still commented upon in the late 19th Century,⁶ one reporter asserting that "the metal....may still be found in considerable quantities".⁷ Local people still vaguely remember some mention of ironworks in the area. One source claims that a large quarry where iron-ore was being mined caved in and many of the workers were killed.

1.C.S.P.7 2.Census c.1659 P.339. 3. State of Waterford P.59
4.Tour in Ireland P.123. 5.History of Waterford P.354.
6.Kinchon,Journal of the Royal Geol.Society of Ireland,Vol.8 Part 1(1887),P.45. 7. Journal of the Royal Hist. and Arch. Association of Ireland (1885),P.402-3.

DRUMSLIG:

The iron mines on this site were originally discovered and worked by Sir Walter Raleigh, but they later came into Boyle's possession. The workings were destroyed in the course of the 1641 Rebellion, and the iron-ore mines here were not subsequently worked until 1850-1860, according to one source.¹ The 1840 Ordnance Survey map marks 4 old shafts in the north-east of Drumslig townland, and it is still possible to trace these today. The area in which the shafts are situated is still commonly known as the Mianach.² What may well be an artificial water channel runs along the western shoulder of this valley, and then takes an abrupt right-angled turn into a deep gulley just north of the "Mianach".

1. G.H. Kinchan, "Irish metal mining" in Scientific Proceedings of the R.D.S. 5 Pt.2 (1886-7) P.245; J. Holdsworth, Geology and Mines of Ireland, (1857), P.29. See also G.A.J. Cole (above) P.87.
2. For other placenames associated with this site see Power (Placenames) P.78

LISMORE:

Ironworks were erected here by 1615, and a new double forge by 1620. Boyle owned the castle of Lismore and 150 acres adjacent to it in 1654,¹ and the recorded population of Lismore c.1659 was 156.² Pococke(1752) comments that there were iron works existing at that time in Araglas to the west of Lismore.³ Mason's Parochial Survey (1814) reports that the only mines within the confines of the Parish of Lismore, were iron-mines, but they had remained idle since Boyle had abandoned them due to a shortage of timber.⁴ Ryland(1824) records that a vein of iron ore running from east to west passed through the Deer Park of Lismore.⁵ The final verdict on the state of iron-working in Lismore in the 19th Century may lie with Inglis who reporting on the condition of trade in Lismore in 1834 stated categorically: "It contains no manufacture of any kind"⁶ A place-name in the district which may recall the ironworks of an earlier age is Tober na Ceardchan (Well of the Forge).⁷

1.C.S.P.7 2.Census c.1659,P.340 3.Tour in Ireland, P.123
4.Vol. 1 P.550. 5.History of Waterford,P.354. 6.H.D.Inglis-Ireland in 1834,P.167. 7. Power,Placenames, P.51

OLD WATERFORD SOCIETY

SPRING PROGRAMME

Please note that no further notice will be sent

FRIDAY 20th JANUARY:

Fr. Butler O.S.A. will lecture on Augustinian foundations in the South East.

Venue: Teachers Centre. Time 8.00 pm.

FRIDAY 10th FEBRUARY:

Herman Murtagh M.A. M.Litt. will lecture on the Jacobite Wars.

Venue: Teachers Centre. Time 8.00 pm.

FRIDAY 24th FEBRUARY:

A.G.M. - Venue: Teachers Centre. Time 8.00pm.

FRIDAY 10th MARCH:

Ken Hannigan will lecture on Waterford and the records

Venue: Teachers Centre. Time 8.00pm.

FRIDAY 14th APRIL:

Sylvester Murray will lecture on the Fenian Landing at Helvick.

Venue: Teachers Centre. Time 8.00pm.

SUNDAY 7th MAY:

Outing to Cahir Castle. Meet at City Hall at 2.30pm.

SUNDAY 28th MAY:

Outing to Clara Castle & Burnchurch. Leader J.S. Carroll.

Meet at City Hall at 2.30pm.

DECIES 8 will be sent free to members of the Old Waterford Society. New members welcome. Subscriptions for 1978 to be sent to Hon. Treasurer Miss K. Kelly, "Belle Vista", Priests Road, Tramore.

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