

## BARONY OF CARBURY.

The Barony of Carbury, in which the town of Sligo is situated, we shall take first. It takes its name from Cairbre, the third of the eight sons of Niall of the Nine Hostages, four of whom settled in the south, their descendants being called the Southern Hy-Nialls, and the other four in the Northern districts, being called the Northern Hy-Nialls. Cairbre settled in the district to which he gave his name, and was the ancestor of the Cinel-Carbery. As early as A.D. 4694 mention is made of Carbury, the occasion being the death of Melge Molbthach, King of Ireland, who was killed in battle. It is again referred to in the Four Masters, A.D. 766, in recording the death of Cathal, Lord of Carbury. Cairbre's descendants ruled this district for several centuries, furnishing one monarch of Ireland, Tuathal Maelgarb, grandson of Cairbre, the descendants of the other brother furnishing no less than 45 kings of Ireland. It was not until the 12th century that the O'Connors settled in Carbury. They then ruled the district until defeated by the Cenil-Connell, or Northmen, at the battle of Crich-Cairbre, after which the latter held sway for about two centuries. In the middle of the 14th century, however, the O'Connors again became paramount, and succeeded in subjecting Tyrconnell for a time.

The barony extends along the coast line from Ballysadare Bay to the borders of the County Leitrim. It contains 76,357 acres 3 roods and 14 perches, and is divided into seven parishes—Ahamlish, Calry, Drumcliffe, Killaspugbrone, Kilmacowen, Rossinver, and St. John's.

## BOROUGH OF SLIGO.

The town of Sligo is situated partly in the parish of St. John's and partly in Calry, and for this reason we have, in dealing with it here, to depart somewhat from the general plan as regards the arrangement of parishes. We shall, however, deal with both later on. Although Sligo is not so ancient as many suppose, it can boast of a fairly respectable antiquity. The first appearance of a town appeared in the thirteenth century, when Maurice Fitzgerald built the castle of Sligo. It is, therefore, clear that the town is of English origin, as the people who accompanied Fitzgerald were of course English, and it is extremely improbable that the native Irish would settle down to the building of a town in the vicinity of their enemies' castle; while, on the other hand, the people of English descent should for safety, if for no other reason, settle close to their stronghold. As already recorded, the town of Sligo had for centuries a rather chequered and stormy history, being burned and pillaged several times, and changing owners as frequently. In 1611 great trepidation existed in governmental quarters regarding the members who were to compose the new Parliament then about to sit in Dublin, and in the making of boroughs only those were created which would "certainly return Protestants," and some hesitation appears to have existed in regard to Sligo. It was, however, erected into a borough in 1612, in the reign of James I., though the Deed of Corporation was not perfected until the following year. The following was the Constitution:—

"A Portreeve and twelve free Burgesses and Commonalty. The Portreeve and burgesses to return two members to Parliament. The Portreeve to be chosen on the 24th June, and sworn before his predecessor on the 29th September of every year. Upon any vacancy within the year, a Portreeve to be chosen within fifteen days, and a burgess within seven days, to supply such vacancy. On every Tuesday a Court of Record was to be held with power to determine all actions for debt, &c., not exceeding five marks. They could assemble to make bye-laws, had a mercatory guild, and a common seal; could have two sergeants at mace and other inferior officers, to be appointed during good behaviour or pleasure. The Portreeve to be Clerk of Market." In 1621 "was further granted a Charter of Incorporation of a Mayor, two constables and merchants of the staple."





O'CONNELL STREET (OR KNOX'S STREET), SLIGO.



In 1687 the Charter was dissolved by James II. and a new Charter substituted, but on the overthrow of James the original Charter was revived.

Previous to the passing of the Act of Union the borough returned two members to Parliament, and was known as one of the "pocket boroughs." It consisted of twelve burgesses elected for life, who appointed a provost each year. Those burgesses on the death or retirement of a member had the power of electing his successor. When a clique or family party once got supremacy, they could always continue to maintain it by electing members or connections of their own families when the vacancies occurred. Thus the Corporation might be regarded as the absolute property of the family in power, for the Parliamentary representation might be disposed of to the highest bidder. After the passing of the Union the representation was reduced to one member—Mr. Wynne, who was the patron, receiving compensation for his loss—but the mode of election remained the same.

Some of the records of the Corporation are missing, as the first entry to be found in the books in the Town Hall is dated April 21st, 1709. These books are in no way interesting, as they contain merely records of elections and bald entries regarding criminal sentences. The election, municipal and parliamentary, were always disposed of in an off-hand manner by three or four burgesses according as the Wynne family pleased. In 1711 Captain Owen Wynne was elected a Burgess. Some time afterwards other members and connections of the Wynne family obtained seats, and in a short time they found themselves in a position to assume the control of the Corporation. The names of all the county families figure as burgesses, at one time or another, in these old documents, with the exception of the O'Haras.

Regarding the markets very little appears to have been done, the only entries being in 1711 and 1800, when the Corporation adjusted the weights and measures of turf, hay, and straw. "In 1711 the Council imposed a quarterage, that is, a tax of 6d. a quarter on all Catholic inhabitants exercising trades, art, or mastery, and others, or persons engaged in other occupation, those refusing payment to have their shops shut, and to be debarred from trade or occupation in the borough. This infamous exaction resembles that wrung from the Jews in some countries for leave to live in them." A second Act of Parliament was passed in 1803 amending the provisions of the former, and creating a new body—24 Commissioners, elected for life by £20 householders—whose functions were to look after the interests of the town and harbour. In a short time the new Commissioners were as much under the control of Mr. Wynne as the members of the old Corporation. The system in vogue about 1834 has been described as follows:—"The entire number of Commissioners was 40. Mr. Wynne (represented by the provost) and his 12 burgesses made up 13 of these; the member for the borough and the two county members—of the latter one was his son-in-law, the other being a freeman—increased his number to 16; the inhabitants of the town elected 24 by ballot. In course of time, however, many of the original Commissioners having died or resigned, Mr. Wynne, from his large property and influence, succeeded in filling several of those vacancies; thus the corporators obtained a majority out of the 24 members elected under the Sligo Act, though, if Mr. Wynne had induced only five of them to join those already enumerated, it would have sufficed to give him a preponderating influence."

In regard to the Parliamentary representation of the borough, the first quarter of the century was uneventful, but in 1828 an agitation was set on foot for reforming the old Corporation, and the Bill was carried in 1832, the number of voters on the new register being 418. This Act considerably enlarged the electorate, and took the power of electing Parliamentary representatives out of the hands of Mr. Wynne. In the same year Mr. John Martin contested the seat with Mr. Wynne. O'Connell espoused the side of Martin, who was returned by 213 votes, as against 158 for Mr. Wynne. This was the first occasion, since 1722, on which the power was taken out of the hands of the Wynne family. In 1837 John Patrick Somers contested the representation, and, being returned by 262 votes to 208 recorded for Martin, he held the seat until the election of 1847. He was again returned that year, but a petition was lodged against him, and he was unseated. A new election was ordered, and this time his opponent was a Mr. Charles Townley, from Lancashire. Money was freely distributed in buying votes, and as Townley had the money bags he was declared elected by a majority of seven votes, but was again unseated on petition. Somers was returned at the new election by a substantial majority, his opponent this time being a Mr. Hartley. Again in 1852 the fight was renewed between Somers and Townley, when the polling was declared as 147 for Townley and 108 for Somers, but on this occasion also Townley was unseated on petition for corrupt practices, and so he retired to Townley Hall, minus a heavy purse, a sadder and wiser man. Next came on the scene the notorious Sadleir party for the new election. Sadleir at the time appears to have had a heavy purse, too, for he was returned at the head of the poll by 152 votes to 142 recorded for Somers, and, though the



latter again petitioned. Sadleir was allowed to retain the seat. On Sadleir's suicide another election came off in 1855, Somers polling 150 and Mr. Wynne 144 votes. The latter, however, petitioned, and was awarded the seat. Again in 1859 Wynne was returned by 177 votes to 73 cast for Somers. In the following year Wynne resigned his seat, and Counsellor MacDonogh came upon the scene. He polled 157 votes, while there were only 2 recorded for Somers. Somers at this time had fallen into disrepute with the Sligo electors owing to some political peccadilloes which were alleged against him, and furthermore his money had been all previously spent. In 1856 MacDonogh was unsuccessful, having polled only 158 against 168 for Armstrong. It is said that MacDonogh's election expenses cost him upwards of £13,000, while Sergeant Armstrong's expenditure was also lavish.

Three years subsequently Parliament was dissolved, and this election—1868—was contested in the usual style by Flanagan and Knox. Party feeling ran unusually high, and though 340 police, 20 mounted men, two troops of cavalry, and three companies of infantry were drafted into the town, the force was entirely insufficient to cope with the violence of the mobs. It was at this contest that Captain King lost his life, having accidentally pulled the trigger of his revolver as he was jostling his way through the crowd, and shot himself dead. Knox was declared elected by 241 votes against 229 for Flanagan. So great was the damage done during the contest that £1,300 was voted for malicious injuries by the Grand Jury at the following assizes. As usual, a petition was lodged, and Major Knox was unseated on the ground of bribery and corruption by himself and his agents. Judge Keogh, before whom the case was tried, reported the matter before the House of Commons, when a Commission was appointed. They commenced to hear evidence in the Sligo Court-house on the 5th October, 1869, and continued until December, the result of their report being that the borough was disfranchised. "A number of Queen's Counsel, barristers, justices of the peace, gentlemen, merchants, and persons holding official appointments were, on their names being scheduled, in the reports of the Judge and Commissioners, subjected to the penalties, disqualifications, and deprivations enumerated in the Corrupt Practices Act."

A common seal was prescribed in the Charter, the device adopted being a tower in ruins, with a tall tree adjoining, and a hare running across a strand, one of its hind feet being caught by an oyster. It was generally supposed that the tower in the device had reference to the tower of Drumcliffe until Dr. O'Rorke came forward with another theory—a theory borne out by some documentary evidence. The tower in the original seal is square, not round like Drumcliffe, a fact which itself goes some way to show that the tower of the Abbey was the structure represented. Then he shows from a letter written in 1772 by Sir Francis Leycester, when retiring from the Corporation, that the town was referred to as "the Abbey-ville of Sligo" (the town of the Abbey of Sligo). As far back as 1612, in an inquisition taken at Rosslea, Sligo is called "the Abbey town of Sligo." Sir Francis Leycester, it should be remembered, ought to be an authority, as he was the owner of the tolls and customs of Sligo, as well as of the lands on which the Abbey stood, having inherited them from his ancestor, Sir Robert Leycester, who received a grant of the property from James I.

The insignia of the Corporation are two silver maces, "the gift of Samuel Walton, Alderman, one of the representatives of the burrough of Sligo, anno domini, 1703." The second, the Mayor's chain, was presented during his first term of office as mayor in 1882 by Alderman Coltery, each of the surviving mayors that preceded him, however, contributing a link to commemorate his year of office. Nearly all the mayors who have since occupied this exalted position have also contributed a link each, so that the chain is now becoming rather unwieldy.

Sligo is 137 miles N.W. from Dublin, and comprises an area of 3,001 acres, of which 407 are in the town, and 2,594 in the rural district. Population in 1861, 10,693; in 1871, 10,670; in 1881, 10,808; in 1891, 10,274; in 1901, 10,870; houses, 1,902.

It is situate near the mouth of the Garavogue, which is crossed by two bridges, and discharges itself into Sligo Bay. The public buildings are—The Ulster Bank, the Provincial Bank, the Bank of Ireland, the Belfast Bank, the Hibernian Bank, a Masonic Lodge, a Model National School, all handsome edifices; two Churches, a fine Roman Catholic Cathedral, one Friary or Abbey Church, Presbyterian Church, Independent, and two Methodist Churches; the County Court-house, a new and beautiful structure, Prison, Infirmary, and Fever Hospital, the Union Workhouse, and a Lunatic Asylum, the latter standing on a prominent position outside the town, and Town Hall erected in 1865-6.

Markets on Tuesday and Saturday and a pork and fowl market on Friday in each week. Fairs on 27th March, 1st Saturday in May, 4th July, 11th August, 9th October, and also on first Tuesday in other months.



CORPORATION.

Mayor—Alderman Flanagan.

ALDERMEN.

B. Coltery, J.P., Cregg House, Sligo.  
 John Connolly, J.P., Rosehill, Sligo.  
 D. O'Donnell, Imperial Hotel, Sligo.  
 Thos. Flanagan, High Street, Sligo.  
 J. P. Higgins, Grattan Street, Sligo.  
 Edward Foley, The Brewery, Sligo.

Auditor of Borough Accounts—Bryne, Esq., Local Government Board, Dublin.  
 Medical Officers of Health—Robert J. Martyn, L.R.C.S.I., L.K.Q.C.P.I.; John Laird, L.R.C.S.I., L.K.Q.C.P.I.  
 Solicitor—J. McCarthy, Esq.  
 Consulting Sanitary Officer—John Laird, M.D.  
 Coroner—James FitzGerald, Esq., Solicitor.  
 Borough Surveyor—William Cochrane, Esq.  
 Assistant Surveyor—W. F. Gilchrist, Esq.

COUNCILLORS.

Thos. M'Carrick, Walker's Row, Sligo.  
 P. J. M'Carrick, High Street, Sligo.  
 J. Duffy, Temple Street, Sligo.  
 B. M'Ternan, Bridge Street, Sligo.  
 Thomas Scanlan, J.P., Wine Street, Sligo.  
 John Foley, Castle Street, Sligo.  
 John Finan, Walker's Row, Sligo.  
 B. M'Donagh, Castle Street, Sligo.  
 M. Milmo, High Street, Sligo.  
 Thos. Kilfeather, Victoria Line, Sligo.  
 John Jinks, Stephen Street, Sligo.  
 E. Connolly, George's Street, Sligo.  
 M. M'Donagh, Wine Street, Sligo.  
 J. P. O'Kelly, Lynn's Place, Sligo.  
 Edward Kelly, Victoria Line, Sligo.  
 John Hughes, Temple Street, Sligo.  
 Michael Keane, Union Place, Sligo.  
 Henry Reilly, John Street, Sligo.

URBAN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.  
 COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.  
 Most Rev. Dr. Clancy, Chairman.  
 Ald. Flanagan, Mayor, High Street.  
 .. John Connolly, J.P., do. & Rosehill  
 .. Ed. Foley, The Brewery, and Farmhill.  
 Coun. J. Jinks, Stephen Street.  
 .. Edward Kelly, Holborn Street.  
 .. M. Keane, Union Place.  
 .. Bernard M'Donagh, Castle Street.  
 .. Thos. Scanlan, J.P., Wine Street.  
 .. Thos. M'Carrick, Walker's Row.  
 .. H. Reilly, John's Street.

PUBLIC OFFICERS.

Town Clerk and Executive Sanitary Officer—John M'Govern, Esq.  
 Sanitary Sub-Officer—Thomas Hargadon.  
 Superintendent of Markets—James Harte, Esq.  
 Treasurer and Accountant—John Golden, Esq.

Very Rev. Canon Harte, Adm. Sligo.  
 Very Rev. Canon Ardill, LL.D., Calry Rectory.  
 Very Rev. Dr. Kieley, The College.  
 J. Rev. John Hynes, C.C., Sligo.  
 P. A. M'Hugh, Esq., M.P., Sligo.  
 J. Arthur Jackson, Esq., J.P., Sligo.  
 Secretary—Geo. H. Smith.

BOROUGH MAGISTRATES.

James Nelson, Cartron, Sligo.  
 Patrick Keighron, The Mall, Sligo.  
 Henry Lyons, Bayview, Sligo.  
 E. J. Tighe, Rosehill, Sligo.  
 Francis Nelson, Castle Street, Sligo.  
 Hugh P. O'Connor, Knox's Street, Sligo.  
 Thomas Keating, Castle Street, Sligo.  
 P. N. White, Breeogue House, Sligo.  
 Patrick M'Guire, Ratcliffe Street, Sligo.  
 W. F. Gilchrist, C.E., Sligo.  
 Robert B. M'Neilly, Sligo.  
 Joseph Graham, jun., Castle Street, Sligo.

Percy Clarke, Barce.  
 John White, jun., Knox's Street, Sligo.  
 Thomas Remington Gordon, Knox's St.  
 Robert Pettigrew, Wine Street, Sligo.  
 Robert J. Martyn, M.D., Stephen St., Sligo.  
 John Laird, M.D., Wine Street, Sligo.  
 Resident Magistrate—Francis B. Henn, Esq., Sligo.  
 Clerk of Petty Sessions—T. R. Wilson, Esq.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Custom House.  
 Superintendent—  
 Secn. Officer—John Wickham.  
 INLAND REVENUE.  
 Super. Insp.—J. Gately, Esq., Sligo; John Flood, A. O'Brien, Joseph Black, Esqrs., Officers, Sligo Stations; Thomas Cort, Ballymote; M. C. Ambrose, Ballyshannon; John Hazlett Wright, Enniskillen.  
 Surveyor of Taxes—E. Carlisle, Esq.  
 AGENT AND SURVEYOR FOR LLOYD'S.  
 George T. Pollexfen, Esq.  
 AGENT FOR LLOYD'S AT KILLYBEGS  
 Samuel Cassidy, Esq.

VICE-CONSULS FOR FOREIGN POWERS IN SLIGO.

Austria and Hungary—  
 Denmark—  
 Italy—Robert A. Harvey, C.A.  
 Sweden and Norway—

NOTARIES PUBLIC.

E. J. Tighe and Arthur Jackson, for the Borough of Sligo.

INSPECTOR OF NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

Sligo—E. P. Dewar, Esq., M.A., Senior Inspector.  
 Sligo—P. M'Glade, Esq.



Scale Six Inches to One Mile.

