



THE LATE VERY REV. CANON P. A. SHEEHAN, D.D.,
P.P. DONERAILE,

The well-known Author.

(Photo by Guy & Co. Ltd., Cork.)

Templeconeela, near Buttevant. The well is connected in the story with Coneela a Colliagh, one of the three virgin saints of Doneraile, Drinagh Wood and Wallstown. It would appear that during some of the earlier wars in Ireland these girls were forced to fly from near Waterford, as some of the invaders, attracted by their beauty, were anxious to take them in marriage. The place where they took refuge was either in Drinagh Wood or some place in the vicinity. There the chief of the district, Olehane, founded a small church, probably near Hunt's Well, and since that time the Holy Well, Tubber Sooil, in Drinagh Wood, has been esteemed a cure for sore eyes and scurvy. Coneela, the second sister, founded a church most probably where the present church stands or a little behind it. Her well is on the side of the river opposite the Presentation Convent.

DONERAILE PARISH (C. OF I.).

1591. "Ecclesiae de Cloisdoick et Ecclesia de Donnerall. Prior Bothon est Rector et usurpat utramque vicariam." "E. de Rossaughe usurpatur p' prior, Bothon."

1615. Donnerayle, Rossedock, Rossagh. Rectoriae impropriatae, Johes Jepson, miles, tenet rectorias et usurpat vicarias. Val. 12 li., per an. Ecclesia et cancella ruinantur (Brady, II., 184).

The following were Curates and Rectors of Doneraile, Caherduggan, Ballybeg, Rossdoicke and Rossagh (taken from Brady and Cole):—

1615. Anthony Kingsmill.

1664-1670. Mr. Alford. Prot. pop., 250.

1671-1674. David Elliot.

1693. Thomas Ellis, A.B.

Under the Establishment, Doneraile was held with Templeroan since the year 1700.

The following were Curates of Doneraile and Rectors of Templeroan:—

1684. John Buckley.

1708. Edward Sayers, A.M.

1730. Arthur Sayers.

1759. Gethin Crone, A.B.

1785. Protestant population of Templeroan, 4; and Doneraile, 75.

1789. William Dwyer, A.B.

1805. 56 Prot. families in the Union.

1813. Francis Stawell.

1834. Henry Somerville.¹⁷ Prot. pop. Doneraile, 418; Templeroan.

67.

1867. Samuel Hayman.

1872. Alexander Jackson Nicholson, the first rector of Doneraile. In 1889 Clenore was joined to Doneraile.

1891. William Hyde Perrott, who had 150 Protestants in Parish.

1901. Alex Knox.

1903. Gerald Hardy Macnamara, the present Rector.

In 1720 the church had a steeple, with spire, a gilded ball and a weather

¹⁷ Mr. Somerville published "The Donerailiensia" in 1850, being an account of the Crone Charity Fund; also "The Baptismal Suit, Somerville versus Robinson."

cock. The spire was blown down about 1844 (Lewis). The Tithes belonged to Nicholas Giles, Esq.

The following inscription is cut upon a stone slab set in the western wall of the tower of Doneraile Church:—

“This church was first built by the Right Hon. Sr. William St. Leger, the Lord President of Munster, anno Domini 1633, and afterwards rebuilt by his grandson, the Right Honourable Arthur Lord Viscount Doneraile, anno Domini 1726.”

A peal of six bells was presented, in 1889, by Lady Castletown of Upper Ossory, in memory of her father, the late Viscount Doneraile. The old bell, which is cracked, having seen many years of faithful service, now rests on a stand in a corner of the porch.

The following is a literal transcript of the inscription on the bell:—

“Hondus Gs Sen Leger Eqs Avr utriusque Momoniae
Preses D N A Gertruda de Vries uxor ejus me fieri
Fecere ano 1636 eorumque nepos arthurus St. Leg
er me fractum renovavit Maio remque fecit ano 1700.”

CORRECT LATIN OF ABOVE.

Honorandus Gulielmus Sed Leger Eques Auratus utriusque Momoniae Preses, Domina Gertruda de Viries uxor ejus me fieri fecere anno 1636, eorumque nepos Arthurus St. Leger me fractum renovavit Maio remque fecit anno 1700.

TRANSLATION OF ABOVE.

The Honourable William St. Leger, Baronet, President of North and South Munster (and) the Lady Gertrude de Viries, his wife, caused me to be made in the year 1636; and Arthur St. Leger, their grandson, repaired me, having been broken, and did the work in May in the year 1700.

The new bells were cast by John Taylor & Co., the founders of the bells of St. Paul's.

A solid silver paten in Doneraile Church bears the following inscription:—“Given to the Parishioners of Doneraile Parish by Revd. Francis Stawell, Rector, Anno Domo., 25th Decr., 1830.”

The Church was renovated in the time of the Revd. A. J. Nicholson. A full account is given in Cole, p. 198.

Stained glass windows have been erected to memory of Robert Crone of Byblox; Godfrey Levinge, and Warren Tulloch, son of Revd. W. H. Perrott Arundell Hill of Graig, and Thomasina, his widow.

The fine old baptismal font is considered to be at least 300 years old.¹⁸

In addition to those already mentioned, inside the church are brasses or tablets in memory of:—

Arthur St. Leger, Viscount Doneraile (a handsome mural monument on the north wall).¹⁹

Arthur Gethin Creagh, Esq., of Creagh House, died 1855.

William Stawell, of Kilbrack, Esq., by his widow, Catherine Stawell, died 1830.

Commander Nicholas Evans, R.N., of Newtown, died 1884. His widow, Catherine Alicia, died same year.

Jane Margaret, widow of Robert Crone, Esq., of Byblox, and dau. of late John Norcott, M.D., of Cottage. She died 1878, aged 70 years.

Robert Fennell Crone, of Byblox, and Martha, his wife, and their five sons, John, James, Robert, Hugh, Randall, and four daus., Jane, Frances, Anne, Martha. Erected

¹⁸ Mr. A. H. Jones, of Doneraile, has the old font of Rossagh Church.

¹⁹ A full description of this St. Leger monument is given in the “Memorials of the Dead in Ireland,” II. 51, as well as the other monuments and tombstones, &c., &c., in church and churchyard.

by Constance Trousdall, fifth and youngest daughter, and sole surviving member of the family, 1878.

Major Hans Thomas Fell White, of Kilburn (Kilbyrne), died 1876.

The Doneraile family monument has already been described.

A brass five-lamp corona to memory of Arthur Norcott, of Park, who died 1866, and Mary, his wife, who died 1870. Given by their son, Arthur Norcott, 1884.

Inscription on solid silver paten, Church plate:—

" Given to the Parishioners
of Doneraile Parish
by the Revd. Francis Stawell,
Rector. Anno Domo 25th Decr., 1830."

Flagon, plated.

Cup, plated. Inscribed: "Doneraile Church, 1835."

Cup and Paten on foot, plated. Inscribed: "Doneraile Church, 1844. (Webster, p. 100.)

The Parish Registers are in charge (1913) of Rector of Doneraile, and consist of four vols. :—Births, from 1730; Marriages, from 1730; Deaths, from 1730.

A.D. 1815 is cut on keystone of arch of east window of Doneraile Church.

The following families have their burial place in the churchyard.²⁰ (A full account will be found in Vols. II and III. of the Journals for the Preservation of the Memorials of the Dead in Ireland, pub. in 1892-1897):—

Ashton family; Love family of Castle Saffron; White family of Kilbyrne; John Grove Seward of Nursetown, near Mallow; William Anderson of Ahacross; Croker family of Lissa, near Doneraile; Mabel Evelyn Rose Nichol, dau. of Revd. J. Jackson Nicholson²¹; Graham family of Cronore; Christina Cowan Phillips; Bridget Smith; Ogalvie; Irwin; Stawell family of Kilbrack and Crobeg; Hunt; Cudmore; Upington; Ions (1726); Burt; Binyon; Fetherstone; Houstons; Fetherstone family; Mann; Wadsworth (?)²² family (from Enniskillen); Hazard; Haycroft family; Bilton family; Cough; Somerville (Rector); O'Leary; Chapman; Shepard; Whytell (1729); Couch (1780); Cummins (1727); Atkins (1756); Atkins (1710); Noyland (1746); Fergus and Hinchley (1738); Rev. Gethin Crone's wife (1778); Chapman and Smith (1719); Gavin; Stone (1775); Walker (1762); Power and Rice; Wall and Burke (1778); Blackall (1757); Oliver; Collicin; Connell (1735); Anne Crone of Curraghna-hinches (date under ground); Smith; List; Shaw; Cox; Major Wm. Hulin, 25th Regt.; Mide; Barry; O'Connor Wall; Coghlan family; Harding; Lothian; Galway family; Creagh family (Laurentinum); Doneraile family and Evans of Carker are buried under the church; also Langley family of Byblox and Ballyellis, have the vault under the choir, the next one to the Doneraile Court vault.

A Glebe House was built in time of Revd. A. J. Nicholson, with a Board of Works Loan, at £30 a year. It has 3a. 2r. op. of land, and is situated to north of the village.

The assessment is £134, and stipend of Rector, £250.

²⁰ In the Vestry is a framed chart of the graveyard, showing burial places, with names of families, &c (1913).

²¹ The remains of Canon Nicholson's children were removed to Douglas Churchyard in February or March, 1913.

²² Wadsworth, an Enniskillen and Co. Fermanagh family.

DONERAILE VILLAGE.

In 1642 Henry Pepper's house, the sign of the George, in Doneraile, is mentioned (Egmont MSS. I., 178).

Gibson in Vol. II., page 283, gives a list of the M.P's. for Doneraile, commencing 1692, ending 1798.

C. M. Tenison, B.L., has given to the "Journal" a Biographical Sketch of the Members of Parliament for the City and County and the Boroughs of the Co. Cork from the earliest returns to the Union (Volume for 1895, p. 39).

Smith (pub. 1750) relates that in the summer of 1748, a shower fell in and about the town of Doneraile, of a yellowish substance, resembling brimstone, and had a sulphurous smell; it lay but thin on the ground and soon dissolved (II., 289).

There was formerly a good pottery of white ware in this town. There are round the town several quarries of beautiful variegated marbles (I., 311).

The first account of any race over a country, when natural fences were jumped, dates from 1752, an old MS. in the possession of the family of the O'Briens of Dromoland, recording a match decided in that year. The opponents were Mr. O'Callaghan and Mr. Edmund Blake, the course being from the church of Buttevant to the spire (or steeple) of St. Leger church (Doneraile), a distance of over four miles and a half over a stiff country ("Baily's Magazine," May, 1892; p. 331). This was the origin of the "steeplechase." The St. Leger was founded by Colonel St. Leger, a scion of the house of Viscount Doneraile, as long ago as 1776 ("Pall Mall Gazette," 11 Sept., 1903).

Lady Castletown possesses an engraving of Colonel St. Leger, from a portrait by Gainsborough, at Hampton Court. It is kept in the drawing room at Doneraile Court.

"The Southern Reporter and Cork Commercial Courier" of the 15th April, 1823, gives:—"Some houses in Doneraile were set on fire on night of 11th April. The Regulars, Police, and Volunteers repaired to the spot." (Brit. Mus.)

The following description of Doneraile is given by Lewis (pub. 1837):—"A market and post town (formerly a parliamentary borough). Sir William St. Leger, who was Lord President of Munster in the reign of Charles I., held his court here.

"In 1645, the Irish, under Lord Castlehaven, took the castle of Doneraile, and burned the greater part of the town.

"It is pleasantly situated on the river Awbeg (the 'Gentle Mulla' of Spenser) which is here crossed by a neat stone bridge of three arches. It consists chiefly of one wide main street, and a smaller one called Buttevant Lane, and contains about 390 houses. The vicinity is extremely pleasing, the roads being shaded by fine fir and other trees, and the country studded with gentlemen's seats. By charter of the 15th of Chas. I. (1639), constituting Sir William St. Leger, lord of the manor, power was given to the seneschal to hold a court leet and court baron. The seneschal's court is still occasionally held with the view of preserving the right. No business has been transacted in it for the last seven years. The market and courthouse, a convenient building, is situated in the main street. This is a

chief constabulary police station, and a small military force is also quartered in the town.

“By a second charter, granted in the 31st of Chas. II. (1660), the borough was empowered to return two members to the Irish parliament, and the elective franchise was vested in the freeholders made by the lord of the manor, but no corporation was created; the seneschal was the returning officer. From this period until the Union it continued to send two burgesses to parliament, when it was disfranchised, and the compensation of £15,000 paid to the heirs of Hayes, Viscount Doneraile.”

Smith (pub. 1750) gives:—“William Smith died at Doneraile about 40 years ago, aged 117. Not long before he died he was able to hunt a pack of hounds, and leaped a ditch with as much agility as any sportsman in the field. He was many years park-keeper to the St. Leger family, and his picture²³ is still kept at Colonel St. Leger’s house in Doneraile.” (II., 305).

Lieutenant and Adjutant Ellis, of the 2nd West India Regiment, was killed at the end of May, 1808, by some of the mutineers of his Regiment at Fort Augusta, Jamaica. He was a native of Doneraile in Co. Cork. (“General Advertiser and Limerick Gazette,” 23rd Aug., 1808.)

Rev. Edw. Rochford served in the Persian War of 1857 with the 78th Highlanders, under Sir James Outram, and again, under Sir Henry Havelock, at the relief of Lucknow, and under Sir Colin Campbell during the operations in Oudh and Rohilcund. In 1861 he retired from the Army and served over five years at missionary work in Canada. He was a native of Doneraile, Co. Cork.

John Shinnor was a well-known man in the Doneraile neighbourhood in the 18th century. He kept a shop in Doneraile and lived for many years in the Bridge House.

John Shinnor was an extensive farmer and had several farms on his hands. He lived sometime at Clough Lucas (between Pencil Hill and Mallow). He was a member and secretary of the Doneraile Rangers, 1779-1792, and also a member of the Doneraile Yeomanry, 1796-1801.

James Haycroft, who died at the age of 63 years, and was buried in Doneraile churchyard, 2 July, 1881, was a local celebrity. He kept a grocer’s shop in the Main Street on the west side, where the Medical Hall now stands (1913). He was a first-rate sportsman, a good rider, shot, and fisherman. He kept racehorses and hunters. He was a most patient and successful trainer of setters and retrievers. At one time he had pet otters which used to fish for him. He shot trout from the bridge at Doneraile with a rifle, and I have seen his black retriever dive into the river and bring out any fish he had shot. He was a churchwarden. Late in life he married Lord Doneraile’s housekeeper.

After his death, North, Lord Doneraile’s butler, occupied the house as an hotel. Later Mr. Arthur H. Jones established a Medical Hall there.

Robert Collis Bolton, Lic. Apoth. Hall, Dublin, of Doneraile, was buried on 23rd April, 1890, in the Parish Churchyard, aged 77 years 10 months.

He was a well-known man, not only in Doneraile, but in the British Army. He kept a chemist shop in the Main street. It was situated on

²³ Now (1913) in Smoking Room, Doneraile Court.

the east side of the street, and was second house from the north end of the town. He was for many years Clerk of the Petty Sessions and Post Master of Doneraile. He married a sister of Mr. James Haycroft, above-mentioned, and had three sons, viz. :—Captain John H. Bolton, 9th Regiment, who died 14th Sept., 1871, aged 33, and was buried in Doneraile churchyard. He left a widow, and, I think, no family. The second son, Surgeon-Major Robert Bolton, Army Medical Staff, once in the 5th Middlesex Militia, or Royal Elthorne Light Infantry (now 5th Bn. Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regt.) and 3rd Dragoon Guards, died in Afghanistan about 1879. He left a widow and family. The third son, James Hazard Bolton, died 19th March, 1866, aged 16 years, and was buried in Doneraile churchyard.

Mr. Bolton died after his wife. His shop was the rendezvous for the neighbouring gentry at post time in the afternoon, and for the Officers of the Buttevant Barracks, who used to ride or walk over there constantly. He made a small fortune as a chemist, seller of perfumery, gloves, wine, spirits, etc., etc.

For a number of years Mr. and Mrs. Robert Crone lived in Mr. Bolton's house. On the death of Mr. Crone's brother, Major Crone, they removed to Byblox.

Lewis (pub. 1837) mentions "the extensive flour-mill of Messrs. Creagh and Stawell as being near the bridge." This mill eventually passed into the possession of Mr. George Stawell of Crobeg, and subsequently of his son, Mr. S. Stawell, who gave up milling about 1887.

Lord Castletown of Upper Ossory turned the building into a saw mill in the year 1888. In the year 1900 it was burned down, but a timber structure was then erected, which exists to the present day (1913).

This saw mill gave employment to about 30 hands. It is worked by water in winter, but when the river becomes low in summer a steam engine is used. A cooperage is carried on in connection with the saw mill. The manager of the mill is prepared to enter into contracts for all carpentry work, building, etc.

Mr. Walter Jones, J.P., records that:—"A brewery was worked at the northern end of the town some ninety years ago; the stones were removed some eleven years ago (circa. 1890). The old sawmills, originally flour mills, were erected in 1794 by the Creaghs and Stawells at a cost of £10,000. Brick making was carried on in the beginning of the last century at Ballydineen. The O'Daly's had also a stone-cutting yard in Doneraile some time in the eighteenth century."

Doneraile has a post, money order and telegraph office, and a branch of the National Bank. It is in the Parliamentary division of North Cork.

In 1905 the population of Doneraile was 780. There were 13 public houses and two hotels.

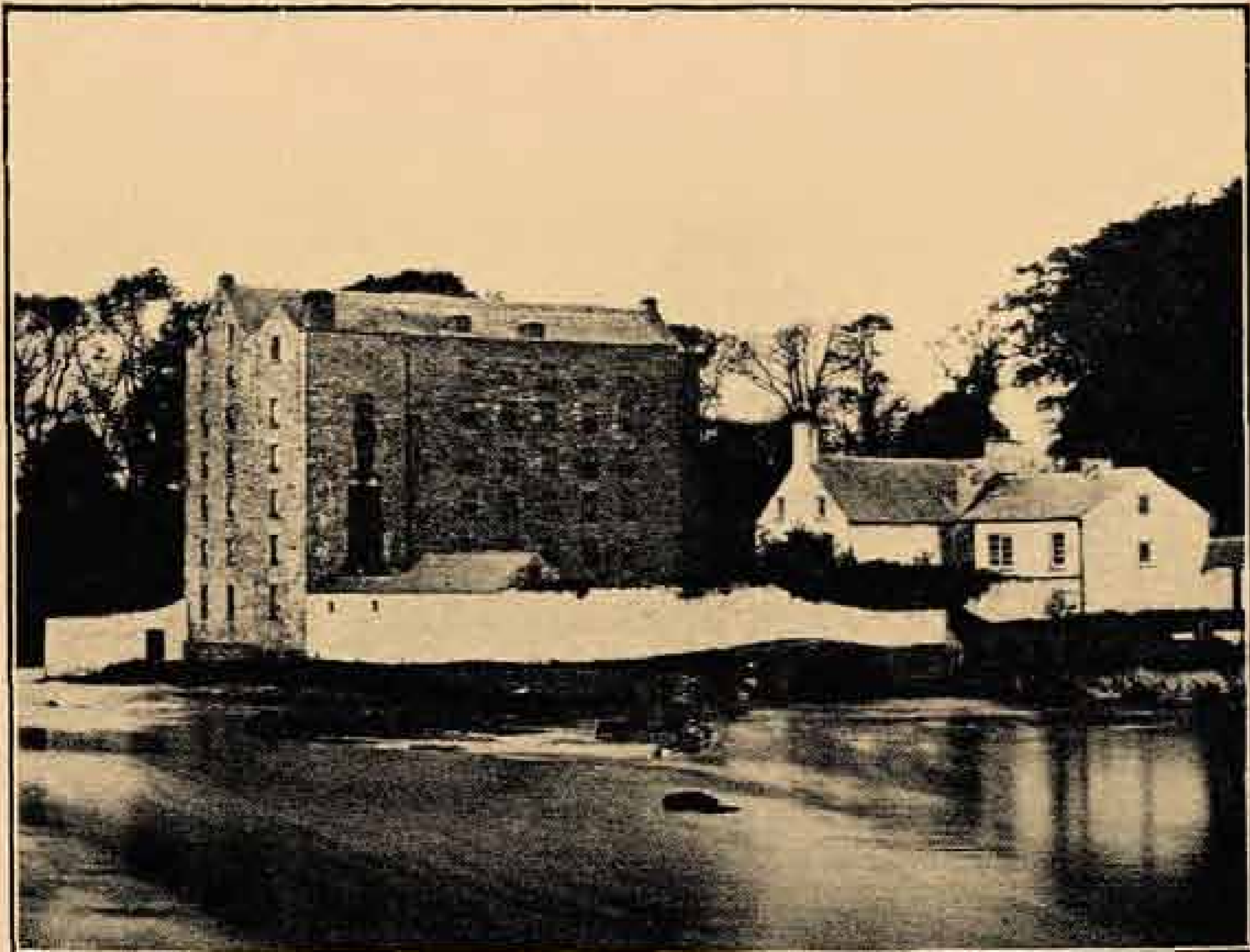
A town hall is situated on the south side of the late Mr. Bolton's house, recorded before. It holds about 300 people. Has a stage, green rooms, reading rooms, and billiard table. On a stone over the gateway is this inscription:—

THIS HALL WAS
ERECTED BY
LADY CASTLETOWN
IN MEMORY OF THE
VISCOUNTESS DONERAILE.
1910.



BRIDGE IN DONERAILE PARK OVER RIVER AWBEG

(Photo by Major Hans Thos. Fell White, circa 1865.)



DONERAILE MILLS ABOUT 1865.

Burnt down in year 1900.

(Photo by Major Hans T. Fell White, circa 1865.)

The village and Doneraile Court have been lately lighted by electric light from the mill. The power generated at the mill is also used to pump water from a spring well near the River Awbeg to a reservoir on a rock above the town, near the old Doneraile Hunt Kennels, from which the houses receive a supply of good water.

THE CURSE OF DONERAILE AND THE RECANTATION.

This poem, so well known formerly in the South of Ireland, was written by a school-master of the County Galway, called Pat O'Kelly, whose high opinion of his own merits may be understood by his travesty of the celebrated sonnet commencing "Three poets in three distant ages born," &c., and in alluding to himself, Byron and Scott, winding up by saying:

"'Twould take a Byron and a Scott, I tell you,
Combined in one to make a Pat O'Kelly."

Lady Doneraile having given him a "watch and seal" in lieu of the one he "lost in Doneraile," he wrote an eulogium on the place.

Alas! how dismal is my tale
I lost my watch in Doneraile.
My Dublin watch, my chain and seal,
Pilfer'd at once in Doneraile.
May Fire and Brimstone never fail
To fall in show'rs on Doneraile.
May all the leading fiends assail
The thieving Town of Doneraile.
As lightnings flash across the vale,
So down to Hell with Doneraile.
The fate of Pompey at Pharsale,
Be that the curse of Doneraile.
May Beef or Mutton, Lamb or Veal
Be never found at Doneraile.
But Garlic Soup and scurvy Kale
Be still the food for Doneraile.
And forward as the creeping snail
Th' industry be of Doneraile.
May Heav'n a chosen curse entail
On rigid, rotten Doneraile.
May Sun and Moon forever fail
To beam their lights on Doneraile.
May ev'ry pestilential gale,
Blast that curs'd spot called Doneraile.
May not a Cuckoo, Thrush, or Quail
Be ever heard in Doneraile.
May Patriots, Kings, and commonweal
Despise and harass Doneraile.
May ev'ry Post, Gazette and Mail
Sad tidings bring of Doneraile.
May loudest thunders ring a Peal,
To blind and deafen Doneraile.
May vengeance fall at head and tail,
From North to South at Doneraile.
May profit light and tardy sale,
Still damp the trade of Doneraile.
May Fame resound a dismal tale
Whene'er she lights on Doneraile.
May Egypt's plagues at once prevail,
To thin the knaves of Doneraile.
May frost and snow, and sleet and hail
Benumb each joint in Doneraile.
May wolves and bloodhounds trace and
trail,
The cursed crew of Doneraile.
May Oscar with his fiery flail,
To Atoms thresh all Doneraile.

THE PALINODE.

(Most Humbly Dedicated to Lady Doneraile)

How vastly pleasing is my tale,
I found my watch at Doneraile—
My Dublin watch, my chain and seal,
Were all restored at Doneraile.
May fire and brimstone ever fail
To hurt or injure Doneraile.
May neither fiend nor foe assail
The generous town of Doneraile.
May lightning never singe the vale
That leads to darling Doneraile.
May Pompey's fate at old Pharsale
Be still reversed at Doneraile.
May beef and mutton, lamb and veal
Plenty create at Doneraile.
May garlic soup or scurvy kale
No palate spoil in Doneraile.
May neither frog nor creeping snail
Subtract the crops of Doneraile.
May Heaven each chosen bliss entail
On honest, friendly Doneraile.
May Sol or Luna never fail
To shine and blaze at Doneraile.
May every soft ambrosial gale
Waft every bliss to Doneraile.
May every cuckoo, thrush and quail
A concert form at Doneraile.
May every Post, Gazette and Mail
Glad tidings bring to Doneraile.
May no harsh thunder ring a peal
To incommode sweet Doneraile.
May profit high and speedy sale
Enlarge the trade of Doneraile.
May fame resound a pleasing tale
Of every joy at Doneraile.
May Egypt's plagues forever fail
To hurt or injure Doneraile.
May frost or snow or sleet or hail
No mischief do at Doneraile.
May Oscar with his fiery flail
Thresh all the foes of Doneraile.
May all from Belfast to Kinsale
Be half as good as Doneraile.

May every mischief fresh and stale
 Abide henceforth in Doneraile.
 May all from Belfast to Kinsale,
 Scoff, curse, and damn you, Doneraile.
 May neither flour nor oatenmeal
 Be found or known in Doneraile.
 May want and woe each joy curtail,
 That e'er was known in Doneraile.
 May no one Coffin want a nail,
 That wraps a rogue in Doneraile.
 May all the thieves that rob and steal,
 The Gallows meet in Doneraile.
 May all the sons of Granuwale
 Blush at the thieves of Doneraile.
 May mischief big as Norway whale
 O'erwhelm the knaves of Doneraile.
 May curses wholesale and retail,
 Pour with full force on Doneraile.
 May ev'ry transport wont to sail
 A convict bring from Doneraile.
 May ev'ry churn and milking pail
 Fall dry to staves in Doneraile.
 May cold and hunger still congeal
 The stagnant blood of Doneraile.
 May ev'ry hour new woes reveal,
 That Hell reserves for Doneraile.
 May ev'ry chosen ill prevail
 O'er all the Imps of Doneraile.
 May no one wish or pray'r avail,
 To soothe the woes of Doneraile.
 May th' Inquisition straight impale,
 The rapparees of Doneraile.
 May curse of Sodom now prevail,
 And sink to ashes Doneraile.
 May Charon's Boat triumphant sail,
 Completely mann'd from Doneraile.
 Oh! may my Couplets never fail
 To find new curse in Doneraile.
 And may grim Pluto's inner jail
 For ever groan with Doneraile.

May choicest flour and oatenmeal
 Be still to spare at Doneraile.
 May want or woe no joy curtail
 That's always known at Doneraile.
 No coffin that grim death may nail
 Can wrap a rogue at Doneraile.
 There are not thieves to rob or steal
 Within two leagues of Doneraile.
 Sure all the sons of Granuwale
 May well be proud of Doneraile.
 May no dark monster, shark or whale
 Annoy or torture Doneraile.
 May no disaster e'er assail
 The bliss and peace of Doneraile.
 May every transport wont to sail
 Increase the wealth of Doneraile.
 May every churn and milking pail
 O'erflow with cream at Doneraile.
 May cold and hunger ne'er congeal
 The precious blood of Doneraile.
 May every hour new joys reveal
 To crown the bliss of Doneraile.
 May every sweet that can regale
 New odors waft to Doneraile.
 May no corroding ill prevail
 To damp the joys of Doneraile.
 May every wish and prayer avail
 To crown the peace of Doneraile.
 May the inquisition ne'er impale
 Or hurt a limb of Doneraile.
 May Sodom's curses ne'er prevail
 To sink and torture Doneraile.
 May Charon's Boat forever sail
 Without a man from Doneraile.
 May gallows, gibbet, stocks and jail
 Appear a wreck at Doneraile.
 And may its Lady never fail
 To find new joys in Doneraile.

Rev. Canon Courtenay Moore, M.A., writes:—"The following version of the parody is given in Lockhart's 'Life of Scott'—'I find recorded in one letter a very merry morning at Limerick, where amidst the ringing of all the bells in honour of the advent, there was ushered in a brother poet, who must needs pay his personal respects to the author of 'Marmion.' He was a scare-crow figure by name O'Kelly, and he produced on the spur of the occasion this modest parody of Dryden's famous epigram, 'Three poets of three different ages born,' &c., &c.

'Sir Walter's five shillings were at once forthcoming, and the bard, in order that Miss Maria Edgeworth, who was one of the party, might display equal generosity, pointed out in a little volume of his works (for which, moreover, we all had to subscribe) this pregnant couplet:—

'Scott, Morgan, Edgeworth, Byron, prop of Greece,
 Are characters whose fame not soon will cease.'

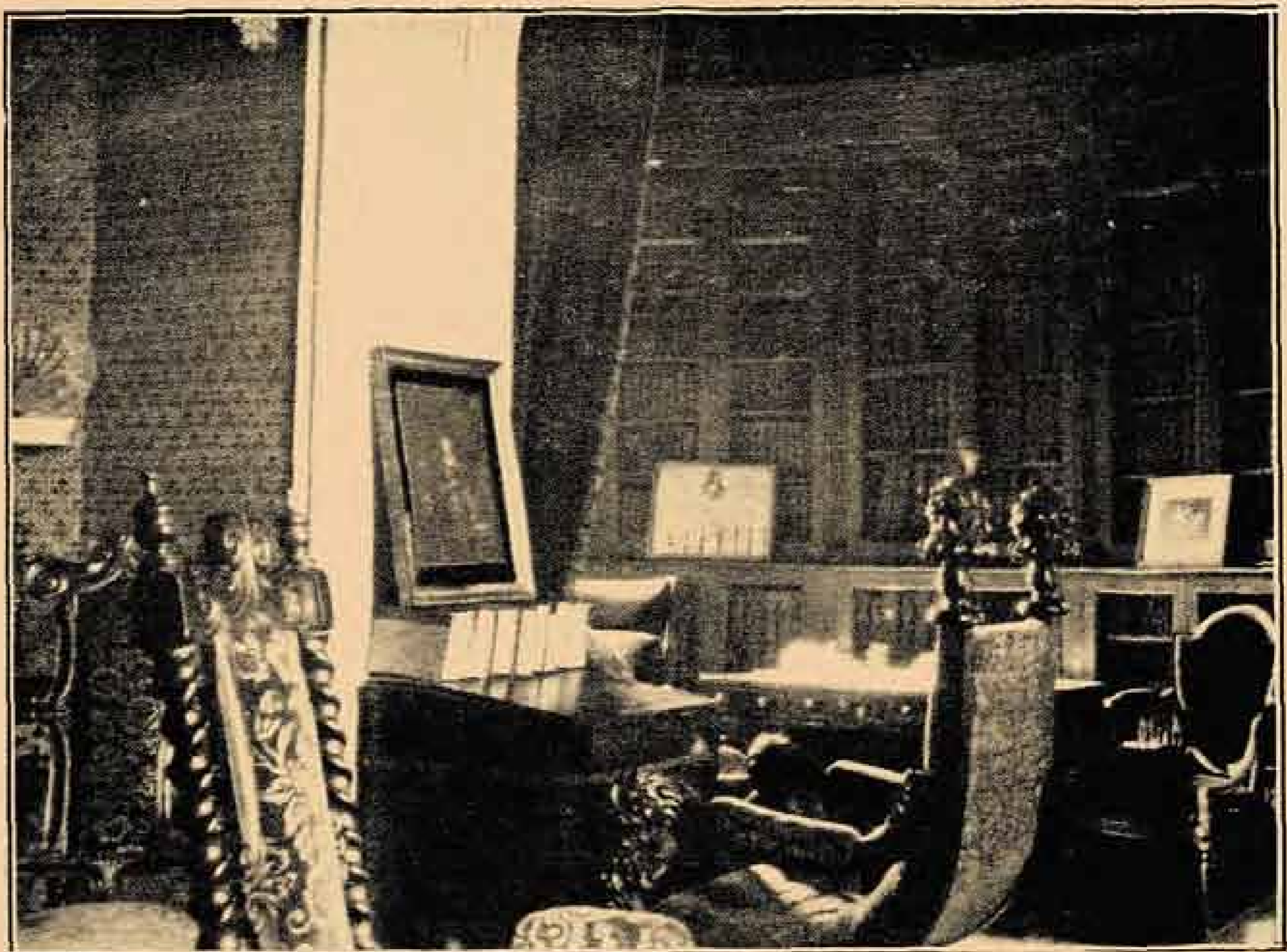
—("Journal," p. 69, 1903).

Mr. R. W. Evans, B.L., of Carker, has given us some "Notes" on Patrick O'Kelly in "Journal" for 1908, page 22.



DONERAILE COURT.

(Photo by Mr. A. H. Jones, Doneraile, Sept., 1904.)



FREEMASONS' ROOM, DONERAILE COURT.

(Photo by Miss Helen Campbell, 1910.)

DONERAILE CASTLE AND COURT.

From documents at Doneraile Court it appears that Sir Robert St. Leger entered England with William the Conqueror in 1066, and supported that Prince with his hand in landing from the ship.

Sir Ralph de St. Leger accompanied Richard I. to the seige of Acre, and the inscription on his leaden shroud states he was engaged fifteen years in the Holy Wars. He was known as the "Crusader." He was the great-great-grandson of the above-mentioned Sir Robert, and was buried at the family place, Ulcombe in Kent.

Sir Anthony St. Leger, K.C., b. 1493, of Ulcombe and Leeds Castle, Kent, was the founder of the family in Ireland. He was Lord Deputy of Ireland, 1539.

Croker (p. 104) records the eminent service of Sir Anthony to the Crown. His son, Sir Warham St. Leger, was made Chief Governor of Munster. He died in 1599 from a wound received in a fight with the Irish near Cork. His son, Sir William, as a return for the services both of his father and grandfather, was created Lord President of Munster by Charles I. in 1627, who at the same time bestowed on him considerable possessions, in addition to 6,000 acres of the Earl of Desmond's forfeited lands to his father.

During the contentions of 1641 Sir William sustained the double character of statesman and soldier, with considerable credit to himself, and his personal actions afforded fine examples to the men under his command. One anecdote related of him deserves mention. When his little army was lying at Kildorrery, in expectation of an attack from the Irish forces under Lord Montgarret, having suffered much fatigue and privation, and being without tents or shelter of any kind to protect them from the inclemency of the weather, a young officer, observing Sir William stretched on the bare ground under a heavy fall of snow, presented his cloak to him, and requested that he would use it. The Lord President thanked him, but nobly declined his offer, adding that he stood more in need of it himself, being less accustomed to the hardships of a soldier's life.

Sir William St. Leger, who was Lord President of Munster in the reign of Charles I., held his Court here. He purchased the Doneraile estate of Sir Walter Welmond and John Spenser (son of the poet), which purchase was subsequently confirmed by the Crown, and the estate created a manor. In the civil war of 1641, Sir William, both as a statesman and soldier, rendered important services, but his infirm health did not enable him long to sustain the hardships to which he was then exposed, and he died in the following year. (Lewis.)

From a document in possession of Lady Castletown of Upper Ossory, it appears that Sir William St. Leger, in 1636, purchased from Nycholas Shynan, of Tologmore, Co. Cork, gente, Cattelyne Shynan alias Power, wife of said Nycholas; Francis Shynan, of same, gente, and Andrew Shynan, of the same, gente, for £300, the following lands:—Downerayle, Ballyellis, Ballyandrew, Byblockes, Castlepooke, Knockshrahan, Kilbrack, Carkerbeg, Ballyno Russell, Ardgillibert, Ardadam, and Carrigines.

In 1639, Sir Wm. St. Leger also obtained some property from the Synan family in Co. Tipperary. (See the Synans of Doneraile, by Walter A. Jones, J.P., and Mananaan Mac Lir. Guy, 1909.)