

ANCIENT MOUNDS AND EARTHWORKS NEAR TIPPERARY (O.S. MAP 67.)

BY PAUL FLYNN.

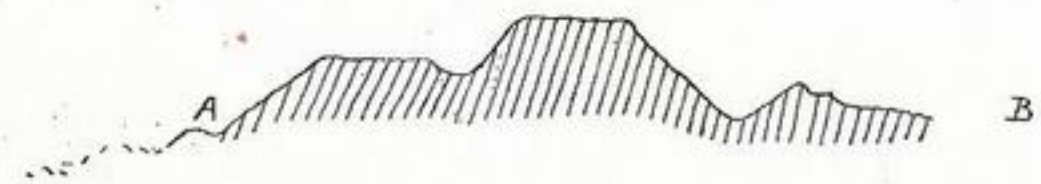
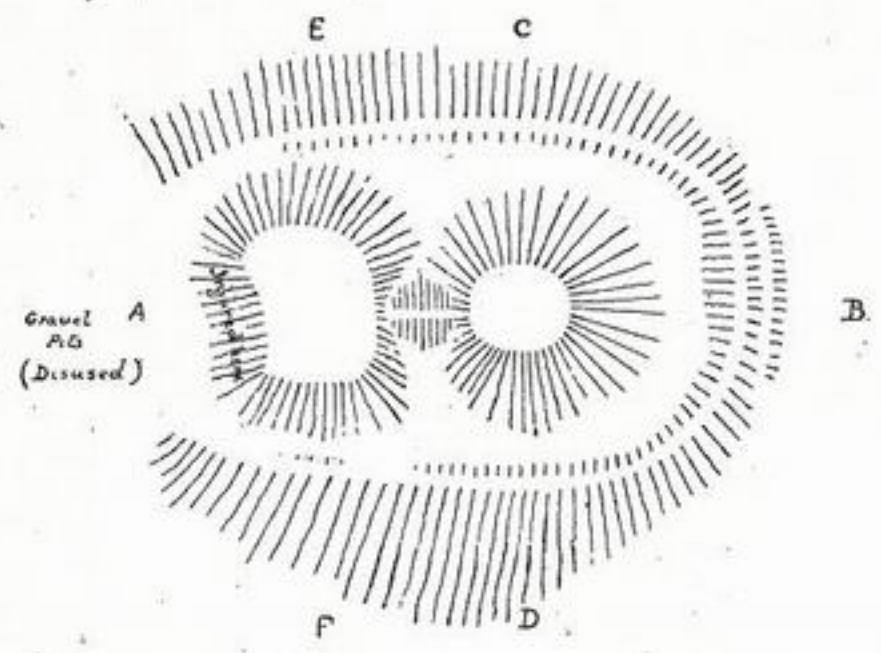
Within half a mile of Tipperary town there are two distinct ranges of hills. One lies to the north, is about half a mile in length, and runs from S.W. to N.E. The other lies to the east of the town, and runs from N. to S. for about two miles. The northern extremities of these ranges are less than a mile apart. The hills are composed of boulder clays and drift laid down in regular stratification, by the wild swirling floods marking the break-up of some far-off ice-age.

Several mounds and earthworks are to be found on these hills. Even a slight study of these structures suggests interesting problems and considerations. For it is, at least, possible that the ancient Irish inhabitants shared with the Dane and the Norman the responsibility for their construction, and the warriors of these various races may have looked out from their hill-summits over the beautiful surrounding landscapes with their mountain backgrounds, just as the people of Tipperary delight in doing to-day.

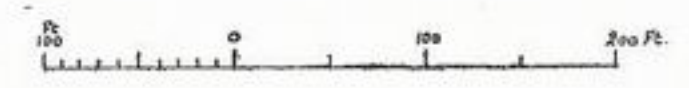
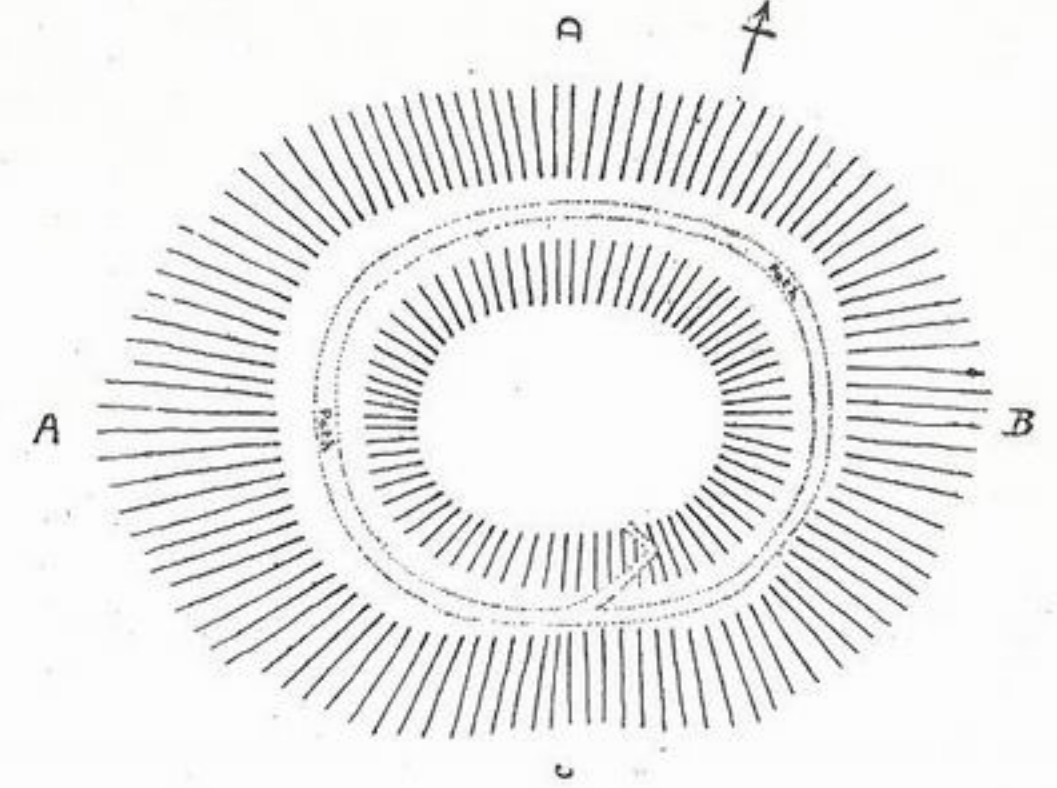
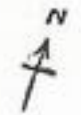
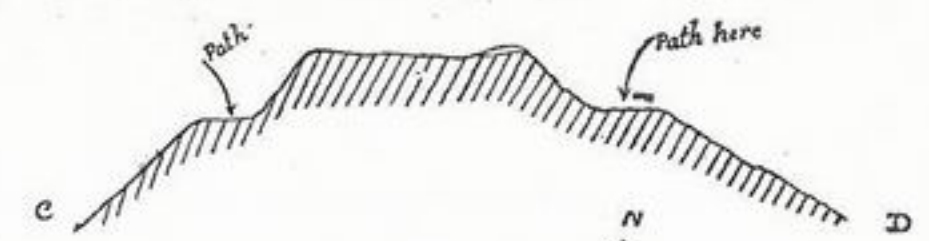
On the northern range there are two remarkable mounds situated almost at its opposite extremities.

MULLAGASTY.—The mound at the S.W. extremity of this range was erected on the summit of an existing circular hillock, the top of which was levelled so as to form a kind of terrace round the mound. The latter being erected in the centre, the whole structure is very symmetrical giving rise to such local names as "Cup-and-Saucer" and "Mutton-Pie" hill. The lower hillock has a gentle if somewhat irregular slope. The terrace on its crest surrounding the upper mound is 15 to 20 feet wide where uninjured. The upper mound is oval in

Mote on Tipperary Hills



Mullagasty



shape and is steep-sided. Its outline has been slightly deformed by small landslips. Its summit is flat. There is nowhere any trace of fosse or rampart, a very slight appearance of banking at one part of the terrace being due to the construction of a modern pathway. The summit is within about 100 yards of an equally high neighbouring hill. There is nothing to indicate that the mound was erected for military purposes. Its symmetry suggests careful and leisurely construction, and, in that respect, distinguishes it from other structures on these ranges.

This portion of the northern hill range is known as "Murgasty" hills. The name is probably derived from this mound. It is a corruption of "Mullagasty." The latter name is still used by the older people in the district, and is found on a map made for the local estate office in 1840. In this map the upper mound is shown crowned by a ring of trees or bushes which have since disappeared. This is the only artificial mound within the townland of Murgasty Hills, and it is probably the Mullach from which the name is derived. "Mullach" means hill top, and the name is not uncommon as applied to mounds of a certain class in Ireland. In Dr. Joyce's Social History some half-dozen cases of the kind are referred to. In most of them the Mullachs were either the sites of the dwelling places of kings, or the burial places of heroes. Mullagh-mast, for example, appears to have served both purposes. I have seen a small piece of a human skull taken out near the crest of Mullagasty many years ago, when the making of an easy path to the summit necessitated the excavation of a couple of feet or so, at one point.

Possibly the latter half of the name might afford a clue to some of our Irish scholars as to the purpose for which this remarkable mound was erected. The meaning of the name seems to be unknown locally and there is no existing legend or tradition connected with the place.

MOTE ON TIPPERARY HILLS.—The mound near the N.W. extremity of this range is situated in the small townland of Tipperary Hills. It is the only remarkable prominent feature in this townland which measures 37 statute acres. It includes a very small portion of the esker range. The name of Tipperary Hills might apply to the other parts of this range with more apparent justification because they are nearer to the town of Tipperary. If the Normans are correctly credited

with the erection of any of these structures, this mote is almost certainly of Norman origin, for it presents all the characteristic features of the motes most authentically attributed to the Norman fortress builders. There is the steep mote with the narrow, flat summit; the bailey connected by a dipping ridge with the mote; the deep and serviceable fosse and rampart round the whole earthwork.

The bailey is about 25 feet high and 85 feet in diameter where uninjured. The fosse round the mote is 20 feet wide and the counter-scarp rises from 3 to 15 feet—the latter where the fosse is cut through the hill-crest, and where the outside ground is nearly level with the summit of the rampart. Where the hill falls away the fosse is shallow, but there the outer side of the rampart is steeply formed, apparently by throwing out the excavated clay. On the N. side of the bailey the fosse is 6 feet wide and 3 feet deep. The whole structure is fairly preserved except at the S.W. where excavations for gravel have destroyed the fosse and a small part of the bailey. To the N.E. of the mote, but from 100 to 150 yards away, human bones are said to have been found in quantities. A skeleton was certainly found there some 12 or 14 years ago. No one can now tell to what episode of battle or plague these grim witnesses testify. They are said to be due to some battle with the Danes, and possibly may have some connection with the episodes that preceded the battle of Sulcoit. The neighbourhood of this mote, however, suggests that its inhabitants had no peaceful tenancy, but had, on occasion, to fight strenuously for life and possessions. Donaldmore, King of Thomond, attacked other motes or Norman castles in this neighbourhood, and it is not very improbable that these bones are the results of one of his attacks on this position.

The adjoining demesne is known locally by the name of Kingswell. Some people have even suggested that the name "Tipperary" is derived from "Tipper-a-ree" the Irish equivalent of Kingswell. The name "Tubber-a-ree" is not found in the district now. There is, however, a very significant similar name. It is found in the papers relating to the Kingswell estate which is described as "the lands of Kingswell, Marshall's Fort and Tubber Bryan." The latter name was applied to an old well which existed some 200 yards from the mote on Tipperary Hills, but which is now closed up. It was known to the older people as

“Tubber Breen,” and they explained the origin of the name by a tradition that Brian Boro washed his wounds there after the battle of Sulcoit. Of course the Four Masters speak of Tipperary as “Tiobraid Arann,” or the well of Ara, and there is a remarkable well in the town of Tipperary, which is very likely the modern representative of this ancient well. (It is not quite on the same site as the original well of “Tiobraid Arann” which is now closed up. But the town-buildings and roadways have probably diverted the sources of supply.) Yet the place seems to have been described from the first as “Tipperary” in the Norman records. Certainly the transition from “Tiobraid Arann” or “Aurann” to “Tipperary” seems a violent one though not impossible. The derivation from “Tipper-a-ree” seems very much more probable. It may be possible that the first English settlers built this mote and named the district from their well. Later on, when the mote became of less importance, and an abbey and mills were built on the river bank near the much larger well they might have retained the original name, whilst Irish speakers and writers would naturally distinguish between the two place-names. This would explain the adherence of the name “Tipperary Hills” to the mote site and the absence of any Irish name for this townland. On the other hand, there is also a tradition that the name Kingswell was derived from an occupier named King, and it is sometimes added that he was member of the Kingston family so long associated with Mitchelstown. There is no doubt, however, as to the existence of the well called Tubber Bryan in the immediate neighbourhood of the mote, and of the tradition as to the origin of the name.

Tipperary appears to have been a town of purely Norman origin. At least I am aware of no reference to it in pre-Norman records. King John was once supposed to have built a castle there and the “supposed site” is obligingly shown on the Ordnance maps. There is no trace of any castle there now, nor of any castle ever having been on this spot, nor is there any local tradition that I can trace connected with this site. According to a note in the translation of the Annals of the Four Masters (1285) the whole story of the erection of a castle by King John at Tipperary arises from an error of Sir Richard Cox in confusing “Tipperary” with “Tibraghney.” Nevertheless, Tipperary was an important Norman settlement in King John’s time since it gave its

name to the county which he created. One hundred years later, in the time of Otho de Grandison, the latter pleaded in a lawsuit that the County Court had been held in the town of Tipperary from "time whereof there is no memory." ("Pre-Reformation Archbishops of Cashel," by Rev. St. John D. Seymour, B.D.) This shows the antiquity of the Norman settlement there. Of course the Annals of the Four Masters is an unquestionable authority as to the Irish name of the place, but it is clear that the modern name has come to us through Norman writings. As to the tradition of the ownership by a man named King. It may have been simply a coincidence if a man with such a name subsequently occupied the place. Of course that would be a very remarkable coincidence, but it would be a scarcely less remarkable coincidence if a man named King occupied a place in which there was a well called Kingswell after him, which had previously been called Tubber Bryan after King Brian.

THE HILLS OF CORROGE.—The second range, to the east of Tipperary, is known as the hills of Corroge. These were famous landmarks in the past. They are often referred to in ancient records as "the two Corroges of Cnamchoill." St. Patrick is recorded to have visited them on his way to Ardpatrick. It is not improbable that the little church which was built there in an isolated hollow at the foot of the hills, owed its existence to the memory of this visit. The Corroges of Cnamchoill were, at one time or another, the boundaries or landmarks between east Munster and mid-Munster, between Ormond and Desmond, and between the dioceses of Cashel and Emly.

The northern half of this hill-range is roughly crescent-shaped and about a mile in length. There are many folds and hollows in the hillside and one considerable spur projects towards the east about the middle of this section. Along the crest of this hill-range are four large artificial mounds or enclosures, with a cutting which may have been intended for a fifth, but which, if it were so, was abandoned in the course of construction. On a small projecting spur there is another, and on the outermost crest of the central spur there is a small rough cairn or burial mound (rather astonishingly described as a "moat" on the Ordnance map.)

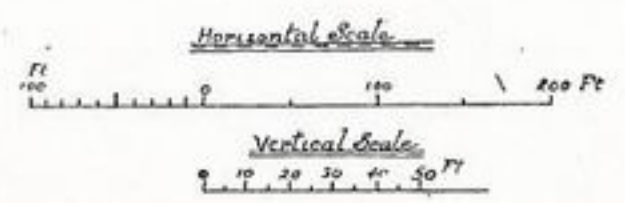
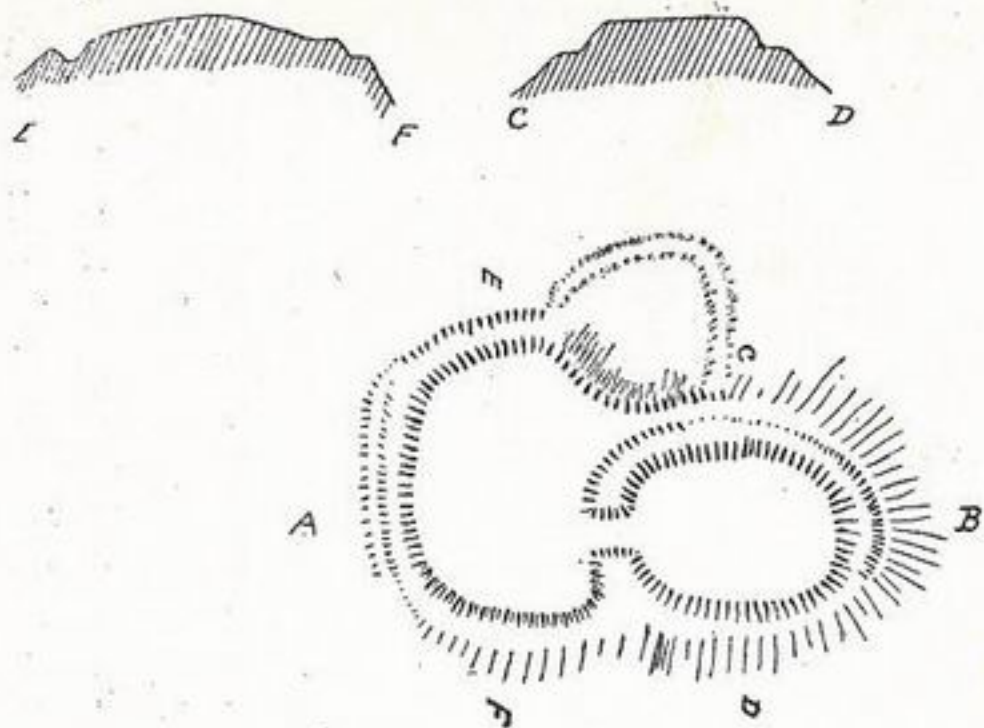
The first of these earthworks is situated on the highest point of the range—the summit of Corrogemore. (No. 1). It is a large oval mound with fosse and rampart at both ends, but it is merely scarped away at the sides where the hill falls away. It is joined by a gangway to a large garth similarly defended by fosses and ramparts at both ends, but scarped away at the sides. There are traces of a large secondary garth adjoining the first down the hill-side to the east. A hundred yards away on the hill-top to the north there is another large mound (No. 2) slightly oval in shape. Fosses and ramparts have again been constructed where the mound cuts the hill-top, but the sides are merely scarped away.

On the extremity of a low spur to the east a strong little earthen fort has been constructed (No. 3). The sides are very sharply scarped away and fosses and ramparts made where the fort touches the adjoining hills. There are traces of a garth to the rear up the hill-side from this fort. This earthwork is strong only towards the east, however. It is completely overlooked by the other two, and would be quite untenable if they were held by a hostile force. The three are all within 150 yards of one another at the points of a triangle, and it is evident that they formed parts of a military position defended against attack from the east or Cashel side.

Five hundred yards to the north of the second mound the large main spur of the range projects to the east for a distance of about 400 yards. It is not artificially defended or entrenched in any way, but it is cut across by two small but steep-sided defiles which form a strong, natural defence. On the crest of its outermost section stands a remarkable little cairn or tumulus. (No. 4).

Just beyond the main spur, to the north, the road from Cashel to Tipperary cuts through the ridge. Further north, and some 400 yards away there is a peculiar trench cut in the ridge. (No. 5.) It forms a rampart running across the ridge-top, and facing to the south towards which it is convex. Its purpose is not obvious. The best explanation that occurs to me is that it may have been part of a mound similar to the others, designed, but not finished. Whatever it is, it is clearly

No 1.



These scales apply to sheets No' 1, 2 and 3
 Drawings No' 4, 5, 6 and 7 are sketched

No 2



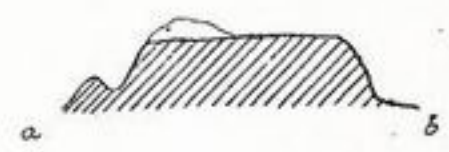
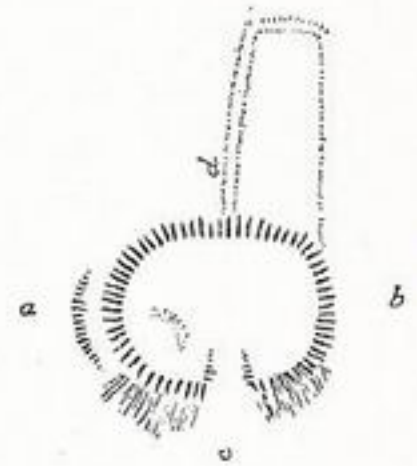
No 4. Cave or
Burial Mound



Girth around base, practically
circular in formation

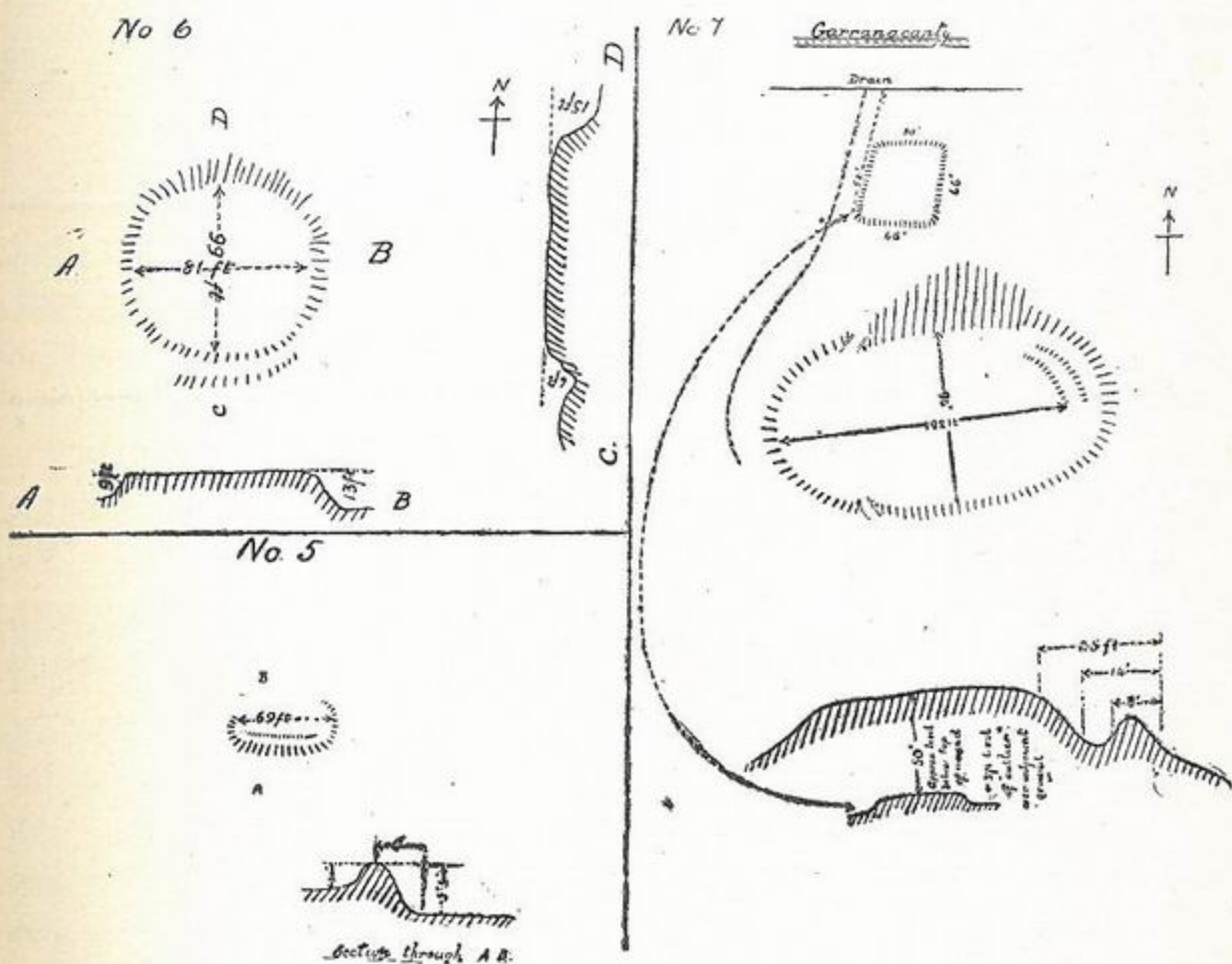


No 3



incomplete as a military defensive work, as it stands, for there is nothing whatever to prevent any hostile force from marching round its two ends. It is not marked on the Ordnance Map.

Two hundred yards north of this there is another large circular mound (No. 6) similar to those already described. The range terminates 200 or 300 yards north of this mound in the little hill of Garranacanty whose extremity is defended at the summit by a well defined fosse and rampart (No. 7), whilst the summit itself affords evidences of attempts to construct a mound or enclosure similar to those described.



A curious oblong enclosure lies at the base of this hill. It is slightly raised and surrounded by a trench. The trench is connected by a cutting with a neighbouring stream and a few inches of water cover its bed in winter. There is a slight appearance of banking. Whether it is an ancient or modern structure, I am unable to say.

Whilst the first three of these mounds on Corroge hills undoubtedly form part of one position it may have also included the others now described. It is at least significant that the horns of the crescent at Corroge and Garranacanty are defended in exactly similar ways, viz., by a fosse and rampart cut out of the edge of the hill crest.

There are other lines along the Corrogemore hill-side, but they are too faint and irregular to draw any conclusions from them or to attribute them to any particular period.

Many years ago Archdeacon Hanan of Tipperary put forward the theory in a local magazine that these hills were occupied by Ivar the Danish Prince of Limerick, previous to the battle of Sologhead or Sulcoit, where he was defeated by Brian Boru commanding the troops of his brother, Mathgamhain (Mahon) King of Munster.

The Archdeacon's view was that the Dalcassians under Brian approached from Cashel, and instead of making a frontal attack on this strong position they marched round its northern flank to Sologhead, five miles away, taking the Danes in the rear. There can be little doubt of the general correctness of this theory, for it is implicitly if not explicitly suggested by the ancient records. The events which led up to the battle of Sologhead are given in the "Wars of the Gaedhill with the Gaill," from which nearly all the following extracts are taken. The record not only gives useful information on the theory under discussion, but throws a very interesting side-light on the characters of Brian and Mahon.

It is hardly generally realised nowadays to what an extent the Danes oppressed this country in the ninth and tenth centuries. Of course most people know that they occupied the large seaports and constantly raided the interior, plundering churches, monasteries etc. But it appears that they really occupied almost the whole of Munster. The following are only a few of the records referring to them. In 866, we are told, they did not leave a cave under the ground that they did not explore, and they ravaged the country from Limerick to Cork, burning Emly.

In 916 they came in hordes and again ravaged all Munster, leaving "not a house nor a hearth" south of the Lee.

In 922 they repeated the operation. "The whole of Munster became filled with immense floods and countless sea-vomitings of ships and boats and fleets, so there was not a harbour, nor a landing port, nor a dun, nor a fortress, in all Mumhain without fleets of Danes and pirates. . . . They killed the kings and chieftains, the heirs of the Crown and the royal princes of Erinn. They killed the brave and the valiant, and the stout knights, champions and soldiers and young lords, and the greater part of the heroes and the warriors of the entire Gaedhill, and they brought them under tribute and servitude ; they reduced them to bondage and slavery."

"Ivar the elder is said to have "ordained kings and chieftains, stewards and bailiffs in every territory and in every chieftainry. There was a king from them in every territory and a chieftain in every chieftainry, and an abbot in every church, and a steward over every village, and a soldier in every house. So that none of the men of Erinn had power to give even the milk of his cow, nor as much as the clutch of eggs of one hen, in succour or in kindness to an aged man or his friend."

An ounce of silver was levied annually for every "nose" besides the royal tribute, and if a man could not pay it he was sold into slavery.

This was the state of things that Mahon found when he came to the throne, and truly the men of Erinn and of Munster in particular, seemed to be in evil plight. But Brian's proud nature never, during his life, submitted for a moment to this intolerable degradation. One can well imagine that it was he who induced his brother, Mahon, to abandon his own Cashel district, where the power of the Danes was strong, and taking their chattels and their people with them to cross the Shannon early in his reign. They went into Clare and fought fiercely almost clearing that county of its Danish oppressors until both sides "were tired of each other." Then Mahon made a truce, of not too favourable a nature if we are to judge of it by Brian's subsequent comments. But though his cause must have now seemed desperate, abandoned as it was by Mahon, the fiery Brian would have no truce with these enemies of his country. With the aid of his own followers he continued to conduct a sort of guerilla warfare against the Danes, with varying fortune, living in the woods in rough shielings like

an outlaw, until all the Dalcassians who had followed his fortunes, except fifteen, had been slain. Yet not even then did he give way. He came to Mahon and spoke to some purpose. It would have been worth witnessing when this broken soldier, with his handful of scarred and ragged heroes, came to the residence of his brother, who was probably well-fed and prosperous under his disgraceful truce. And what was the purpose of the visit? To beg for help and sustenance? Or for the intercession of Mahon to make his peace with the all-powerful Danes? This was not Brian's way. Let us hear him for a little.

"Your grandfather, Lorcan," said he "would not have made such a truce as that. He gave neither submission nor tribute to Maelsechlainn, King of Erin, or to the five provinces of Erin, for as much time as that in which he could have played a game of chess at Magh Adair." Neither would Lughaidh Menu, son of Aengus Tirech ever have done such a thing, the man who never yielded even the leveret of a hare (as tribute). Neither would others of his glorious ancestors whom he named, ending with Corc the son of Cas, who fought eight battles in defence of the freedom of Mumhain.

Mahon was of a far different type to Brian. He was cautious, prudent and far-seeing. Not anxious to disturb the quiet things, nor to rush into unconsidered action or challenge the apparently invincible Danes. He had a touch of humour, too, that should have acted like a cold-water douche on hot-brained warriors like Brian, but did not, as we shall see."

"All this is true," quoth Mahon, but although it was true, he had not the power to meet the foreigner, because of the greatness of their champions, and the excellence of their corslets and their swords and other arms. And with a sly thrust at Brian, he added that he had no desire to leave the Dal Cais dead through following him as Brian had done with most of his people.

A cold douche, indeed, for our hot-headed Brian. Unanswerable, perhaps, for the ordinary man. But this Brian was no ordinary man. Hear his noble reply.

He disdains to argue about the greatness of the champions and the excellence of their corslets. He has only one way to deal with them, and it is not argument. He addresses himself to Mahon's final argument, and tells him that it is wrong, because it was hereditary for him to die and all the Dal Cais. Their father and grandfather had died, and death was certain to come upon themselves, but it was not natural or hereditary for them to submit to insult or contempt, because their fathers or their grandfathers did not so submit to anyone on earth. And it was no honour to their courage to abandon without battle or conflict, to these dark foreigners and outlanders (Gentiles) the glorious inheritance which their fathers had defended in battles and conflicts against the chief of the Gaedhill.

Assailed by eloquence like this what could the prudent Mahon do? He called a Council of all the Dal Cais. We can be fairly certain that they too had been listening to Brian's convincing tongue, for old and young, they all declared that it was better to die than submit any longer to the tyranny of the Danes.

In the end Mahon and Brian with all their following moved back into the Cashel country occupying Muscraighe and from Dun-na-Sciath (Donaskeigh, near Tipperary) to Bealach Accailli, wherever that may have been. The district was anciently known as Muscraighe Thire. They seem to have sent messengers all over the land to the scattered Dal Cais who had taken service with different princes, probably to escape the Danish tyranny, and these all hastened to their aid, with what high hopes we can imagine.

Ivar, grandson of the Ivar mentioned above, was the prince of Limerick and apparently chief of all the Danes in Munster. He was not slow to meet the threatened attack, and when he heard of the proceedings of Mahon he "determined on making a small corner of Munster (Mumhain) the seat of war and conflict, and the great muster and great hosting of all the men of Mumhain was accordingly made unto him, both of Gaill and Gaedhil, to one place, to ravage and depopulate Dal Cais."

This "appointed place" was not improbably Cnamchoill with its two Corroges. It will be noticed that both Gael and Gall had been summoned to attend Ivar. For there were many "tame" Irish very unlike Brian, and some of the O'Mahonys and O'Donovans sided with the Danes in this and later issues, and paid dearly for it in the end. With these came the Danish governors of Cork and Waterford with their followings and many a renowned sea-rover. Or possibly the gathering place was Limerick, because we are told that Ivar at length "marched to meet the Dal Cais," and the news reached the latter when they were at Cashel of the Kings. Mahon took counsel with his followers, and it was decided to march "to Cnamchoill that they might ascertain if they were able to give them battle, and if not to make a wood and camp assault against them at Cnamchoill."

This clearly points to what would nowadays be called a reconnaissance to ascertain the strength of the Danes' position at Cnamchoill. What a "wood and camp" assault was is not very clear, but it probably meant a siege of some kind. The word "camp" at least suggests prolonged operations, and it is difficult to understand the need for such except in the event of the Irish finding the Danes strongly entrenched.

The chronicler gives in verse a record of a conversation between Mahon and Brian which probably describes an encounter that took place at this stage.

(Mahon) How is this, O Brian the renowned?
Thou son of Cennedigh the victorious.
Did you give a mighty rout
Unto the Gaill of the island of Erin?

(Brian) We went forth from Cashel the fair
To Cnamchoill, O Mathgamhain
Until there came against us there
A battalion of horsemen in corslets.

(Mahon) How after that did you part
O Brian of the ready hand?
How did you separate afterwards?
Tell us O noble Brian.

(Brian) I shall relate news that will please you
O son of Cennedigh the victorious
Little less took we than an hundred heads
From the Gaill of the island of Erin.

(Mahon) Well, hast thou, O Brian, maintained thy battle
O Son of Cennedigh of the fair skin;
It is not known what good will come of it,
Nor do we know how.

No such doubts, however, troubled Brian. Mahon's affection for him is a strong redeeming quality, but it is not difficult to see that if it depended on Mahon it would be a long time before these dark foreigners would have been driven from Ireland. And Brian's methods served him best in another way, for when several years afterwards a trap was laid by the Irish allies of the Danes it was Mahon and not Brian who walked into it and was assassinated and it was Brian who took wholesale vengeance on the murderers.

Dr J. H. Todd, the translator of the "Wars of the Gaedhill with the Gaill," thinks that the above little poem refers to the battle of Sulcoit. But Brian distinctly states that he went to Cnamchoill, and that there came against him "there" a battalion of horsemen. Sulcoit or Sologhead is nearly five miles away, and the Danes are recorded to have lost 2,000 men there, so that it seems impossible to anyone who knows the district that the two places could have been confused in the poem, or that so important a battle could have been decided with the loss of little less than a hundred heads. The poem evidently describes a preliminary skirmish.

Cnamchoill, with its two Corroges, has disappeared in the modern nomenclature of the district. The Corroges of Cnamchoill have become simply "Corrogemore" and "Corrogebeg," and give these names to two small townlands, whilst a third little townland is called Cleghile (the corrupt equivalent of "Cnamchoill"), and lies at the foot of Corroge hills. It is certain, however, that the ancient Cnamchoill included all three townlands. Standing on Corrogemore at the southern extremity and citadel of the entrenched position, one can sometimes see, when a stray sunbeam falls on the far-off plain, a green-hill crowned by a noble mass of golden-grey ruins. This is the Rock of Cashel, and it was probably on this hill of Corrogemore that Ivar stood with his Raven and Serpent banners flapping over him and watched his battalion of corsletted horsemen go forth to meet the Dal Cais approaching from Cashel in the plain of Cleghile below. Watched them, too, return broken and defeated, flying for refuge to his stronghold. One wonders if he had any presentiment that he was looking upon the opening scene in the drama that caused his death and ended in the expulsion of his countrymen from Ireland.

" That was Norway breaking,
'Neath thy hand, O King."

Bones are still dug up in Cleghile occasionally—the skeletons of “very tall men.” Possibly they are the skeletons of some of those corsletted warriors, though no corslets or arms have ever been found that I can hear of. It may not have been the custom to bury such things with the slain in these battles. It is probable enough that the little mound (No. 4), is also a relic of this skirmish and that it covers the bones of some Danish champion.

Meantime the Dalcassian wanderers with their followers had arrived and strengthened Mahon's forces. A new council was held and it was decided to move to Sulcoit. This meant marching round the flank of the Danish strong position at Cnamchoill, and taking it in the rear. The move cut off the Danes' communications with Limerick twenty miles away and threatened that fort which was the Danish base.

Naturally the Danes would be compelled to march out of their stronghold and meet the Irish on ground chosen by the latter. And this appears to be just what happened. The battle of Sulcoit lasted from dawn to noon when the Danes were defeated. All through the remainder of the day and the following night, they were pursued and slain by the victorious Irish until Limerick was reached. Ivar escaped to Scatterry, but his town of Limerick was captured, plundered and burnt next day.

By the battle of Sologhead or Sulcoit the supremacy of the Danes in Munster was broken for ever, and Brian laid the foundations of the power which afterwards gave him the Kingship of Ireland and the final victory over his lifelong enemies at Clontarf.

The battlefields referred to in this article are easy of access. Indeed, they can be seen from the railway by any traveller from Limerick to Clonmel. As the train approaches within half a mile of Limerick Junction it enters a shallow cutting. The cutting opens to show a small stream and a road passing under the same bridge beneath the railway. On the bank of the stream to the right of the railway there is a creamery with a church in the background. This creamery stands on the battlefield of Sulcoit, which extends away behind over rich fields nowadays, for there is no longer any trace of the “sally wood” that gave its name to the place. And the little stream once watered the roots of this wood, and must have run red with blood on the great day of the battle.

When more than half way to Tipperary from Limerick Junction, Mullagasty is seen to the left. Having passed Tipperary the train enters a deep cutting about a mile outside the town. This is cut through the southern section of the Corroge Hills. Just as the train emerges from this cutting a large bold hill can be seen close at hand to the left, with faintly discernible traces of earthworks on its summit. This is Corrogemore, the great hill of Cnamchoill.

“Cnamchoill” is said to mean “the wood of bones,” but the etymology can have no reference to the events described in this paper, because the name is well known to have existed long previously. The battle of Sulcoit was fought A.D. 968.

NOTE—The plans and sketches, Nos. 1—7, were made for me by Mr. James FitzG. Windle, A.M.I.C.E. Those of Mullagasty and the Mote on Tipperary Hills, by Mr. J. A. Cree, Tipperary.
