

A REVIEW  
OF THE  
General Topographical Index of Ireland  
1901.

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[Read, 19th March, 1909].

I PURPOSE this evening to present to the Society a short review of the General Topographical Index of Ireland, published in connection with the Census of 1901, setting forth briefly some of the features of public interest in that work.

As in the case of Irish personal names, which I have dealt with in my works on Surnames and Christian names in Ireland,\* so in the names of Places in the Topographical Index we have various stages of the history of this country reflected as in a mirror.

It may be doubted whether any country in the world is possessed of such a publication, dealing in minute detail with its territorial divisions, as the Topographical Index.

The Topographical Index of 1901 is practically the 3rd edition of this work, the first, based on the Census of 1851, having been issued by the late Mr. William Donnelly, C.B., Registrar-General, in December, 1861. A second edition, founded on the Census of 1871, was issued in May, 1877, by Dr. Burke, then Registrar-General. In connection with the Censuses of 1881 and 1891 supplements to the 1871 Index were published, bringing that Index up to date for these periods, respectively, but the passing of the Local

\* "Special Report on Surnames in Ireland, with Notes as to Numerical Strength, Derivation, Ethnology, and Distribution." (1894).

"Varieties and Synonyms of Surnames and Christian Names in Ireland." (1901).

Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, rendered necessary the publication of a fresh edition for 1901, which bears my name.

In reviewing this publication, I shall first refer to the Territorial Divisions dealt with in the Index, passing on to the orthography of the names, and showing how such has been determined. I shall then consider Names and Prefixes of frequent occurrence which are of Irish origin, and compare some prefixes in Place-names in Ireland with the corresponding words in the other Celtic languages, dealing finally with Irish Names of historic interest in the Index, and Danish and English Names.

### **I.—TERRITORIAL DIVISIONS.**

Previous to the Local Government Act, the administrative divisions were the County, Barony, Parish, and Townland, but, under that Statute, the Poor Law Unions or Superintendent Registrars' Districts, Urban and Rural County Districts, Dispensary or Registrars' Districts, and District Electoral Divisions, were adopted as the basis for administrative purposes.

The edition of the Index under discussion, as well as being an Index to the Townlands and Towns of Ireland, contains Indexes to the Parishes, Baronies, Poor Law Unions, (or Superintendent Registrars' Districts), District Electoral Divisions, Dispensary (or Registrars') Districts, County Districts, County Electoral Divisions, and Parliamentary Divisions of Ireland. Complete information is given in these sub-Indexes as regards area and situation, together with reference numbers to the sheets of the Ordnance Survey Maps, and to the Tables of the Census County Books of 1901.

### **II.—ORTHOGRAPHY OF THE NAMES OF THE TERRITORIAL DIVISIONS.**

The spelling of the names in the Index has, in all cases, been taken from the Ordnance Survey maps.

Previous to the Survey of Ireland, which was commenced in 1825, the topography of Irish names of places was in a very unsettled state, and but few of those who have occasion to consult the Maps, or the Topographical Index which is based upon them, have any idea of the pains and trouble which were taken to fix accurately the names of the Territorial Divisions.

The majority of these names were of Irish origin, in many cases dating back to remote antiquity. They were

first collected and entered in "Field Books" by sappers and miners of the Royal Engineers, the work being under the immediate direction of Lieutenant Larcom (afterwards the Right Honourable Sir Thomas Larcom, Bart., K.C.B.). The duty of collating the particulars thus obtained was ultimately performed by persons specially employed for the purpose, who referred to all literary sources from which information could be obtained, and extracted everything bearing on the names of the several localities. Many of the authorities consulted were in Latin, and many in Irish, much aid being obtained from MS. grants and charters.

Having collected all the particulars which could be afforded by libraries and records, an investigation was made on the ground by that distinguished Irish scholar, Dr. John O'Donovan. By conversing with the oldest inhabitants, examining the locality, and making additional inquiries, he succeeded, in many instances, in discovering the true meaning of the name and its correct orthography, which previously had been obscure.

Where the ancient spelling, however, had become obsolete, it was not, in all cases, reverted to, the practice being to adopt that one among the modern modes of spelling which was most consistent with the ancient orthography.

The "Field Books," used in the collection of information, for the entire country, are deposited in the Ordnance Survey Office, Phoenix Park, Dublin, forming a unique topographical library; and Dr. O'Donovan's letters to Sir Thomas Larcom, written during the progress of the work, which are replete with most valuable information, were in 1860 placed by the Government in the custody of the Royal Irish Academy, in whose Library they are now preserved.

### III.—NAMES AND PREFIXES OF TOWNLAND NAMES OF IRISH ORIGIN WHICH ARE OF FREQUENT OCCURRENCE IN THE INDEX.

On examination of the Index, the reader will be struck by the number of cases in which Townlands bear the same name or have similar prefixes.\*

Attention will now be drawn, briefly, to some of these cases, where the names are of Irish origin, reference being made to the Irish words from which they are usually derived, and the use of similar terms in Scotch and Manx topography. A few notes have also been added as to the occurrence of corresponding words in the Welsh, Cornish and Breton (or Armoric) languages.

\* This term "prefix" is used in these pages merely to denote the initial syllable or syllables of the name

It may be well to state, generally, that it does not follow because the anglicised name or prefix is the same, that it is derived from the same source. Such is not the case, and in order to determine the true derivation, recourse must be had in each individual case to the original form of the name as written in Irish by Irish authorities. In the following remarks the *usual* derivation only is given.

It must also be premised that while the more common anglicised form of the name or prefix, appearing in the Index, is mentioned, the Irish word from which it has been derived has frequently assumed various other forms in the process of anglicising, the enumeration of which would be beyond the scope of this review.

AGH, AGHA.—Starting at the commencement of the Index to Townland names, the first of these terms we meet with are AGH, AGHA. AGH occurs about 200 times in the Index of Townland names, as a prefix, while AGHA so appears over 400 times, besides three cases in which it is the entire Townland name. These words usually mean “a field,” from Irish *achadh*, “a field,” as Aghaboy, *achadh buidhe*, “the yellow field”; but in some instances they are anglicised from *ath*, “a ford.” In the Gaelic of Scotland “a field” is *achadh*, and this word enters into the composition of many Scotch names, as Achnabà, “the cow’s field” (Argyllshire).

ALT.—ALT is from the Irish *alt* “an eminence,” “high place,” “side of a glen.” There are four townlands in the Index named ALT, while it is the first syllable in the names of about 90 others, as Altaturk, *alt a’ tuirc*, a Townland in County Armagh, which means “the glen or height of the boar,” (*torc*, “a boar.”) Compare Scottish Gaelic and Manx *ali*.

ANNA, ANNAGH.—The words ANNA, ANNAGH generally signify “a marsh,” from Irish, *eanach*, “a moor” or “marsh,” such as Annaduff, *eanach dubh*, a Townland in County Leitrim, which means the “black marsh”; but these terms, are sometimes from *ath*, “a ford,” as Annalong, *ath-na-long* “the ford of the ships.” The Scotch Gaelic word for a “ford” is also *ath*, as Athole (*ath-Fhotla*), “Fotla’s ford.” The Manx word for a “ford” is *aah*, as Aah-ny-Lingey, “ford of the pool.” ANNA is the name of three Townlands, and as the first part of a compound name it appears in over 90 instances. 89 townlands are named ANNAGH, while, as a prefix, this name appears in the Index of Townlands in about 120 cases.

ARD.—ARD means a “height,” “top,” summit,

“eminence,” and as an adjective “high” or “lofty.” It is from the Irish *ard*, as Ardmore, *ard mor*, “great height.” There are 16 townlands named **ARD** in the Index, while this word appears over 600 times as the first syllable of compound Townland names. In Scottish Gaelic it is found in the forms *aird* or *ard*, “a height” or “promontory,” as Airdrie, “high pasture run” (Lanarkshire). The Manx word is *ard*, as Ardwhallan, “whelp’s height.” Compare Cornish *ard*.

**BALLY.**—**BALLY** is the most common Townland prefix, it occurs more than 5,100 times, and usually signifies “a town,” from the Irish *baile*, “a town” or “village,” as Ballyclogh, *baile cloch*, “the town of the stone.” In some cases, however, the word **BALLY** is not derived from *baile*, “a town,” but from *bel*, “a mouth,” in combination with *ath*, “a ford,” as Ballinafad, *bel-an-atha-fada*, “the mouth of the long ford.” The word *baile* is also found in the Gaelic of Scotland, and usually means “a town,” “a farm,” as Balnakilly, “the town of the wood” (Perthshire). In Manx the word is *balley*, and also usually signifies “a farm,” as Balladoo, “black farm.”

**BALLAGH.**—The word **BALLAGH** is from the Irish *bealach*, “a roadway,” “gap” or “passage.” **BALLAGH** is the name of 34 Townlands, and as the initial syllables it forms part of about 80 Townland names, as Ballaghmore, *bealach mor*, “great road or pass.” It appears as *bealach* in Scottish Gaelic, as Ballochalee, “pass of the calves” (Wigtownshire). In Manx it takes the form *boallagh*. Compare Welsh *bwlch*, and Breton *boulc’h*.

**BARNA, BARN.**—Twelve Townlands bear the designation of **BARNA**, and in over 80 others it forms the initial portion of the name. There are two Townlands named **BARN**, and about 60 others in which this word is the first syllable of the name. **BARNA** and **BARN** are anglicised forms of the Irish *bearna* or *bearn*, “a gap,” as Barnaboy, *bearna buidhe*, “yellow gap.” In Scotch Gaelic the word is *bearn*, as Barnbauchle, “gap of danger,” or “shepherd’s gap” (Galloway), while in Manx it assumes the form *baarney*.

**BARR.**—**BARR** is of frequent occurrence, 14 Townlands being so designated, and about 90 having this for a prefix. It is in Irish *barr*, and signifies “the top,” “head,” or “summit” of a thing. Sometimes the second *r* is dropped, as Barmeen, *barr min*, “smooth top.” The word in the Gaelic of Scotland is *bàrr*, as Barlaugh, “calves’ hill”

(Ayrshire.) The Manx form is *baare*, as Baredoo, "black top." Compare Welsh *bar*, Cornish *bar*, and Breton *bâr* or *barr*.

**BAWN, BAUN.**—The word BAWN or BAUN is very frequently found in the composition of Irish place names in the Index. As the first syllable of the name it is usually from the Irish *ban*, "a field," as Bawnluskaha, *ban loisgthe*, "burned field." At the end of a word it is usually from *ban*, "white," as Glenbaun, *gleann ban*, "white glen or valley." There are 16 Townlands called BAWN, and about 90 others where it forms the initial syllable of the name. In Scottish Gaelic the word *bàn*, meaning "white," appears, as Drumbane, "white ridge" (Stirlingshire). In Manx the word is *bane*, as Knockbane, "white hill." Compare Welsh *bân*.

**BEAGH.**—The word BEAGH is from the Irish *beitheach* "abounding with birches" (from *beithe*, "a birch"). This word is found in various forms in Irish names. There are 36 Townlands named BEAGH, while the names of several others commence with it. In Scotch Gaelic "a birch" is *beith*, as in Bèoch, "birch land" (Ayrshire). The Manx for "a birch" is also *beith*. Compare Welsh *bedwen*, "a birch," and Breton *bézô*, *bézven*, "a birch," and *bézvennek*, "abounding with birches."

**BELL.**—BELL is the first syllable in numerous names of Townlands in Ireland. It is usually from the Irish *beul*, "a mouth," as Bellananagh, *bcl-atha-na-neach*, "the mouth of the horses' ford." In Scottish Gaelic also "a mouth" is *beul*. In Manx the word for "an entrance" or "mouth" is *beal*.

**BEN.**—There are various Townland names commencing with BEN, which is anglicised from the Irish *beann*, "a pointed hill," as Benmore, *beann mor*, "great peak." The Scotch Gaelic word is *beinn*, as Beinn Dubh, "black hill" (Dumbartonshire). *Beinn* is also the Manx form. Compare Welsh *ban*, and Cornish *ban*.

**BOHER.**—The term BOHER enters into the composition of many Townland names. BOHER, in Irish *bothar*, means "a road," "way," or "passage," as Boherduff, *bothar dubh*, "black road." In the Gaelic of Scotland, a "lane," "road" or "street," is *bothar*.

**BOLEY.**—BOLEY (also in the forms BOOLA or BOOLEY) is of common occurrence. This is from the Irish *buaile*

(*bo*, "a cow"), "a place for milking cows," such as Boleybeg, *buaile beag*, "little booley or dairy-place." In Scotch Gaelic "a cattle fold" is *buaile*, and in Manx "a fold" is *bwoailles*, as Bwoaillee Losht, "burnt fold." Compare Welsh *buarth*, "a cow-field," and *buches*, "a fold."

BRACK.—The word BRACK, in Irish *breac*, "speckled" or "spotted," enters into the composition of numerous Townland names, as Brackagh, *breacach*, "speckled place." The word *breac* also occurs in the Gaelic of Scotland, as Bennan-bràck, "spotted hill" (Galloway). It is the same in Manx, as Cronkbreck, "speckled hill." Compare Welsh *brych*.

BUN.—BUN is the prefix to over 150 Townland names. In three cases it forms the entire Townland name. In Irish it is *bun*, and means the "end" or "bottom." It frequently occurs in combination with the names of rivers, as Buncrana, "the end or mouth of the River Crana." The word *bun* occurs in Scottish Gaelic, as in Bunaven, "foot or mouth of the river" (Islay), also in Manx.

CAHER, CAHIR.—CAHER, CAHIR are anglicised forms of the Irish *cathair* or *cathaoir*, "a city" or "stone fort." This word gives the name to several Townlands, while many others commence with it, such as Cahergal, *cathair geal*, "white caher or stone fort." *Cathair* is also found in the Gaelic of Scotland, as in Carlin, "the fort at the pool" (Orkney). There is an old word in Manx, *caayr*, which signifies "an abode," "dwelling-place" or "city." Compare Welsh *caer*, Cornish *caer*, and Breton *kéar* and *ker*.

CAM.—There are six Townlands named CAM, while this word forms the initial syllable of the names of about 70 others. CAM is from the Irish *cam*, "crooked," as Camgart, *cam-gart*, a Townland in the County Fermanagh, which signifies "crooked field." The word *càm* is found in Scotch Gaelic, as Càrisk, "winding water" (Ayrshire). The Manx word is also *cam*, as Glencam, "winding glen." Compare Welsh *cam*, Cornish *cam*, and Breton *kamm*.

CAPPAGH, CAPPÀ.—The words CAPPAGH, CAPPÀ are from the Irish *ceapach*, "a plot of ground laid out for tillage." There are several Townlands of these names, and these words enter into the composition of many other Townland names, as Cappaghmore, *ceapach mor*, "great plot."

CARN.—The Irish word *cairn*, or *carn*, "a heap of stones," appears in the Index many times in its anglicised form CARN, as Carnlough, *carn a' locha*, "the carn of the lough or lake."

There are 47 Townlands named CARN, and over 200 where this word is the first syllable of the Townland name. CARN is frequently met with in Scotch topography, from the Gaelic *càrn* or *càirn*, as Carnèltoch "hind's cairn or hill" (Galloway). The Manx word is also *carn*, as Carnageay, "cairn of the wind." Compare Welsh *carn*, Cornish *carn*, and Breton *karn*, "a rock" or "large stone," and *karnak* and *karnez*, "a heap of rocks or large stones."

CARRICK, CARRIG.—There are numerous Townlands named CARRICK or CARRIG, or having these words as a prefix. Usually, though not invariably, they are from the Irish *carraig*, "a rock," as Carrickduff, *carraig dubh*, "black rock." This word in Scottish Gaelic is also *carraig*, and is found in Càrrick, "a rock" (Ayrshire). In Manx it is *carrick*, as in Carricklea, "gray rock." Compare Welsh *craig*, "a rock," and *carreg*, "a stone," Cornish *carrag*, and Breton *karreg*.

CARROW, CARHOO.—CARROW or CARHOO is a very common Townland name, a "carrow" being formerly a territorial division signifying the quarter of a Townland. Over 700 Townland names bear the prefix CARROW, and there are 16 Townlands so called. CARHOO is the name of 14 Townlands, and is incorporated as a prefix in the designations of about 20 others. These words are from the Irish *ceathramhadh*, "a quarter of a townland," as Carrowroe, *ceathramhadh ruadh*, "red quarter." In the Gaelic of Scotland it appears as *ceathramh*, as in Carminnow, "moorland quarter" (Kircudbrightshire). The Manx form is *kerroo*, as Kerroo-Glass, "green quarter."

CASHEL.—The word CASHEL is an anglicised form of the Irish *caiseal*, "a bulwark," "wall," or "circular stone fort." It gives the name to 54 Townlands, while it forms the initial portion of the names of about 40 others, as Cashelard, *caiseal ard*, a Townland in County Roscommon, which signifies "high stone fort." The word *caiseal* occurs in Scotch Gaelic, as Cashel Dhu, "black stone fort" (Sutherlandshire). Compare Manx *cashtal*, "a castle" or "fortification," as Cashtal-lough, "lake castle," also Welsh *castell*, Cornish *castel*, and Breton *kastel*.

CAVAN.—The Irish *cabhan*, "a hollow plain," "a field," is the source from which the word CAVAN is derived. The Irish word *cabhan* has acquired another meaning in some parts of Ulster, viz. :—"a round hill," as Cavanreagh, *cabhan riach*, "grey round hill." There are 25 Townlands in the Index named CAVAN, and the word CAVAN forms the first



portion of numerous other Townland names. There is a corresponding word in Scottish Gaelic which is found in Caven, "a hollow" (Dumfries-shire).

CLAR.—CLAR signifies "any plain or flat piece of land," from the Irish *clar* (literally "a board"). This word, as Clare, appears in the Index as the name of many Townlands, while it forms the first part of the name of many others, as Clarbane, *clar ban*, a Townland in County Armagh, which signifies "white plain." The word for "a smooth surface or plane" in the Gaelic of Scotland is *clar*.

CLASH.—The word CLASH means "a furrow," "pit," or "dyke," from the Irish *clais*, as Clashduff, *clais dubh*, "black ditch or trench." 17 Townlands bear the name of CLASH, while it forms the initial syllable of the name of over 100 others. In Scotch Gaelic the word assumes the same form *clais*, as in Clashbreac, "speckled furrow or hollow" (Argyllshire). "A furrow" in Manx is *clash*. Compare Welsh *clais*.

CLOGH.—CLOGH is of common occurrence as a name or prefix, 19 Townlands being so named, while about 400 others have the word incorporated as the initial syllable of the name. It is from the Irish *cloch*, "a stone," as Cloghmore, *cloch mor*, "great stone." The Scottish Gaelic form is *clach* or *clach*, as in Clachbreak, "speckled stone" (Argyllshire), while in Manx it appears as *clagh*, as Claghbane, "white stone." Compare Welsh *clog*, "a rock" or "cliff."

CLON, CLOON.—The terms CLON, CLOON are anglicised forms of *cluain*, "a plain," "lawn" or "meadow." About 730 Townland names begin with the word CLON, and nearly 1,000 with CLOON, as Cloonkeen, *cluain caoin*, "beautiful lawn or meadow," and Clonbeg, *cluain beag*, "little meadow." The Scotch Gaelic form is the same as the Irish *cluain*, as in Clonfin, "white meadow" (Ayrshire).

COOL.—Twenty-one Townlands are named COOL, and about 990 have that word for their initial syllable. It is either from the Irish *cúl*, "the back part of anything," or *cuil*, "a corner," as Coolkill, *cúl coille*, "back of the wood," and Coolfree, *cuil fraoigh*, "corner or angle of the heath." In Scottish Gaelic, "the back" is *cùl*, as in Culderry, "back wood" (Wigtownshire). The corresponding Manx words are *cooyl*, "the back part of anything," and *cooill*, "a corner."

COR, CORR.—About 850 Townland names commence with the syllable COR, and 400 with CORR. These prefixes

are usually from the Irish *cor*, "a round hill," as Cormeen, *cor min*, "smooth round hill." This word *cor*, however, has various meanings.

**COSH, CUSH.**—The prefixes COSH and CUSH are derived from the dative (*cois*) of the Irish *cos*, "a foot," "a leg," and signify "at the foot of," as Cushendall, *cois an Daill*, "foot of the River Dall." There are eight Townlands named CUSH, and about 30 where that word enters into the composition of the name as the initial syllable. The words *cos* and *cas*, "a foot," occur in Scottish Gaelic, while in Manx the word for "a foot" is *cass*, as in Cassnahowin, "foot of the river."

**CREEVE.**—CREEVE is from the Irish *craobh*, "a branch," "bough," "tree" or "bush." Over 100 Townlands take their name or the first part of it from this word, as Creeveroe, *craobh ruadh*, "red branch." In the Gaelic of Scotland also this word is *craobh*, and is found in Duncrub, "the fort of the trees" (Perthshire).

**CROAGH, CROGH.**—The words CROAGH, CROGH, which are numerous represented in the Index, are anglicised forms of the Irish *cruach*, "a rick" or "pile" of anything, hence a "piled-up hill," as Croaghbeg, *cruach beag*, "little round hill." The same word *cruach* occurs in the Scotch Gaelic dialect, as Craichmòre, "great hill" (Wigtownshire). It also appears in Manx in the form *creagh*, and is found in Lough-ny-Greeagh "lake of the stack."

**CROSS.**—The word CROSS (Irish *cross*, "a cross"), has been introduced into the Irish language from the Latin *crux*. It is the name, or the prefix to the name, of over 180 Townlands on which ancient crosses probably stood, thus Crossgar, *cross gearr*, "short cross." The Scotch Gaelic word is *crois*, and the Manx *crossh*, as in Crossh-mooar, "big cross."

**CUIL, CUILL.**—CUIL or CUILL is from the Irish *coill*, "a wood," as Cuilmore, *coill mor*, "great wood." Numerous Townland names commence with CUIL or CUILL. The Scottish Gaelic for "a wood" is *coill*.

**CURRAGH, CURRA.**—The term CURRAGH or CURRA appears in the Index as the name of over 70 Townlands, while it forms the initial part of the name in over 380 other cases. These words are from the Irish *currach*, "a marsh," "bog," "fen," "level plain" or "course," as Curraghbeg,

*currach beag*, "little marsh." The word for "a marsh" in Manx is *curragh*, as Curragh Glass, "green bog" or "fen."

DERRY.—DERRY is an anglicised form of the Irish *doire*, "an oak wood" and is one of the commonest words in Irish topography, giving the name to about 60 Townlands, and entering as a prefix into the names of over 900 others, as Derryfada, *doire fada*, "long oak wood," The word for "an oak" in the Gaelic of Scotland is *darach*, which is found in Glendarroch, "the valley of the oak-wood" (Argyll-shire). In Manx "an oak" is *dar* or *darragh*, as Glen Darragh, "oak glen." Compare Welsh *dâr*, Cornish *dar*, and Breton *derô* and *derven*.

DOO.—Doo, which forms the initial syllable of about 166 Townland names, is from the Irish *dubh*, "black," as Doogort, *dubh gort*, "black field." In Scotch Gaelic it is *dubh*, as Dubh Lochan, "the little black loch" (near L. Lomond). In Manx the corresponding word is *doo*, as in Knock-doo, "black hill." Compare Welsh *du*, Cornish *du*, and Breton *dû*.

DOON, DUN.—DOON and DUN are usually anglicised forms of the Irish *dun*, "a fortress," as Doonard, *dun ard*, "high dun or ford," Dundrum, *dun droma*, "fort of the ridge or long hill." These words are numerously represented in the Index, 41 Townlands being named DOON, and over 140 having DOON, and over 390 DUN for their first syllable. The Scotch Gaelic form is *dùn*, as Dunglass, "the grey fort" (Berwickshire). Compare Welsh *din*.

DREEN, DRIN.—The terms DREEN, DRIN (Irish *draighean*, "a blackthorn,") give name to several Townlands, and the Irish word, in various forms, enters into the composition of numerous Townland names, as Dreenan, *draigheanan*, "a place of blackthorns." "A bramble" or "thorn" in the Gaelic of Scotland is *droigheann*, as Drônach, "place of blackthorns" (Perthshire). In Manx the word for "a thorn" is *drine*, as in Baldrine, "thorn tree farm." Compare Welsh *draen*, "a thorn," Cornish *draen*, and Breton *dréan* or *draen*.

DRUM, DROM.—The Index contains over 2,000 Townlands with DRUM as the name or first syllable of the name, and about 360 where DROM is the name or the initial part of the name. Both forms are from the Irish *druim*, "the ridge of a hill," as Drumbo, *druimbo*, "ridge or long hill of the cow," Dromard, *druim ard*, "high ridge." The word is the same in Scottish Gaelic, *druim*, as Drummòre, "great

ridge." In Manx the corresponding word is *dreeym*, as in Dreemruy, "red hill-back."

EDEN.—The word EDEN, alone, or as a prefix, gives the name to about 120 townlands. It is from the Irish *eudan*, "the forehead," and in Irish topography signifies "the brow of a hill," as Edenmore, *eudan mor*, "great brow," Compare the Scotch Gaelic *eudan*, "the face."

ESKER.—ESKER is from the Irish *eiscir*, literally "a ridge of mountains," but usually meaning "a ridge of sand hills," as Eskerroe, *eiscir ruadh*, "red ridge" (of sand hills). There are 31 Townlands named ESKER in the Index, and this word enters into the composition of the names of numerous others. Compare Welsh *esgair*, "a long ridge."

FARN.—The word FARN is from the Irish *fearn*, "the alder tree," as Farnagh, *fearnach*, "a place abounding in alders." It is found as the prefix in numerous Townland names. The Scotch Gaelic word for "alder" is *feàrna*, as in Fàrnach, "place of alders" (Argyllshire). In the Manx dialect the word assumes the form of *faarney*.

FARRAN.—FARRAN is the designation of 14 Townlands, while it forms the initial part of over 160 Townland names. It is derived from the Irish *fearann*, "land," "ground" or "country," as Farranfadda, *fearann fada*, "long land." The Scottish Gaelic word for "land" or "country" is *fearann*, as in Ferintòsh, "thane's land" (Elginshire).

FREAGH.—Several Townlands bear the name of FREAGH, while various others have this word incorporated in the name. It is from the Irish *fraoch*, "heath," "a heathy place," as Freaghmore, *fraoch mor*, "great heath." In Gaelic of Scotland "heather" is *fraoch*, as Freugh, "heather" (Wigtownshire). In the Manx, "heath" is *freagh*, as in Knockfroy, "heath hill."

GALL, GAL.—There are numerous Townlands whose names commence with GALL or GAL. In many of these cases the word is from the Irish word *gall*, "a stranger," "a foreigner," "an Englishman," as Galbally, *gall baile*, "English town." The corresponding word in Scotch Gaelic is *gall*, "a stranger," as in Galston, "stranger's town" (Ayrshire).

GARRAN, GARRAUN, GARRANE.—The words GARRAN GARRAUN, GARRANE are derived from the Irish *garran*, “a grove” or “wood,” as Garranlahan More, *garran leathan mor*, “great broad copse.” Over 200 Townlands are so named, or commence with these terms.

GARRY.—GARRY is usually from the Irish *garrdha*, “a garden,” as Garryduff, *garrdha dubh*, “black garden.” There are over 240 Townland names having this prefix. The Scottish Gaelic word for “a garden” is *garadh*, and the Manx *garey*, as in Garey Noa, “new garden.”

GLAS.—The Townland names having GLAS as their first syllable are usually derived from the Irish *glas*, “green,” as Glasmullagh, *glas mullach*, “green summit,” though sometimes they are anglicised forms of *glaise*, “a stream” or “rivulet,” as Glasnarget, *glaise an airgid*, “brook of the silver.” The Scotch Gaelic word *glas* has several meanings, amongst others it signifies “green,” as Glàister, “green land” (Ayrshire). In Manx the word *glass* denotes “grey-green,” also “blue” and “pale,” as in Ballaglass, “green farm.” Compare Welsh *glas*, Cornish *glás*, and Breton *glâz* or *glás*.

GLEN, GLAN.—There are over 50 Townlands named GLEN or GLAN, and over 600 in which they form the initial syllable. These are usually from the Irish *gleann*, “a valley,” “a glen,” as Glenreagh, *gleann riabhach*, “gray glen.” The Scotch Gaelic word for “a glen,” *gleann*, is the same as in Irish, as Glenbuck, “glen of the he-goat or roe-buck” (Lanarkshire). In Manx it assumes the form of *glione*, as Glione Auldyn, “mountain streams’ glen.” Compare Welsh *glŷn*, and Cornish *glyn*.

GOL, GOUL, GOWL.—Numerous Townland names in the Index begin with the words GOL, GOUL, GOWL, which usually are derived from the Irish *gabhal*, “a fork” (generally applied to river forks), as Goleen, “little fork” or “arm of the sea.” The word *gobhal*, “a fork,” is found in the topography of Scotland, as Gùlvain, “fork of the hill” (Inverness-shire). The Manx form is *goll*. Compare Breton *gaol*.

GORT, GURT.—The words GORT, GURT are from the Irish *gort*, “a field,” as Gortfadda, *gort fada*, “long field.” There are 19 Townlands named GORT in the Index, and over 1,100 in which GORT forms the first part of the name. GURT is also the initial syllable of numerous Townland names. A

corresponding word is found in Scotch topography, as in Gortlech, "flagstone field" (Inverness-shire).

**GRAIGUE.**—The Irish word *graig*, "a small manor" or "village," in the form GRAIGUE, gives the entire name or the first part of the name to over 90 Townlands, as Graigue-namanagh, *graig na manach*, in County Kilkenny, which signifies "village of the monks."

**GREENAN.**—There are 27 Townlands named GREENAN, in Irish *grianan* (from *grian*, "the sun"). This word has various meanings. According to Dr. O'Donovan's supplement to O'Reilly's Dictionary, it signifies—1. "A beautiful sunny spot." 2. "A bower" or "summer house." 3. "A balcony" or "gallery," and 4. "A royal palace." It is in the last sense that it is generally found in Irish topographical names, as the "Grianan of Aileach" in County Donegal. The word *grianan* also occurs in the Gaelic of Scotland, as in Grenan, "a sunny place" (Bute). In Manx the word for "sunny" is *grianagh* or *grianey*, as in Ballagraney, "sunny farm."

**ILLAN, ILLAUN.**—Over one hundred and sixty names in the Townland Index (mostly those of islands) commence with ILLAN or ILLAUN. These are from the Irish *oilean*, "an island," as Illaunboy, *oilean buidhe*, "yellow island." The corresponding Scottish Gaelic word for "an island" is *eilean*, as Eilean-Tyrim, "dry island" (Inverness-shire). The corresponding word for "an island" in Manx is *ellan*, as Ellan-y-Voddey, "isle of the dog."

**INIS, INISH, INCH.**—The terms INIS, INISH, INCH, are very numerous represented in the Index. They are from the Irish *inis*, "an island," a word which also signifies "a river meadow," as Inishturk, *inis tuirc*, "hog island," Inchmore, "great island or river meadow." The corresponding Scotch Gaelic word for "an island" is *innis*, and it is numerous represented in Scotch place-names, as Inniscailleach, "island of the nuns" (Perthshire). In Manx *innys*, *inys*, *insh*, and *innis* signify "an island," as Purt-ny-Hinshey, "port of the island," a former, but now obsolete, name of Peel. Compare Welsh *ynys*, and Breton *énez* and *énézen*.

**KEEL.**—KEEL is usually from the Irish *caol*, "slender," "narrow," as Keeldrum, *caol druim*, "narrow ridge." There are seven Townlands named KEEL, and over 80 in which KEEL is the first part of the name. A similar word *caol* is found in Scotch Gaelic, as in Kellas, "narrow waterfall"

(Elginshire). The Manx term is *keyl*, as in Kerroo-Kiel, "narrow-quarter." Compare Welsh *cwl*.

**KIL, KILL.**—The Index shows over 1,900 Townlands whose names commence with KIL, and over 1,200 where the Townland is either named KILL, or KILL is the first part of its name. They are anglicised forms either of the Irish *cill*, "a church," or *coill*, "a wood," as Kilpatrick, *cill Padraic*, "Patrick's church," Killard, *coill ard*, "high wood." The corresponding words in Scottish Gaelic are *cill*, "a church," and *coill*, "a wood," as Kilchattan, "church of St. Chattan" (Bute), and Cultmick, "swine woods" (Wigtownshire). The Manx word for "a church" is *keeyl*, as Keeill Abban, "abbey church"; and that for a "wood" *keyll*, as Ballakeyll, "wood farm."

**KNOCK.**—KNOCK is of very common occurrence in Irish topography, there being 44 Townlands so named, and over 1,700 which have KNOCK for their initial syllable. It is in Irish *cnoc*, "a hill," as Knockreagh, *cnoc riach*, "gray hill." The Scottish Gaelic is also *cnoc*, as Knockmàrloch, "thieves' hill" (Wigtownshire), and this word is also found in Manx, as Knocksharry, "foals' hill."

**LACK, LECK, LICK.**—The words LACK, LECK, LICK, signify "a flag" or "flat stone," from the Irish *leac*, as Leckpatrick, *leac Padraic*, a Townland in County Tyrone, which signifies "Patrick's flagstone." They are numerous represented in the composition of Townland names in the Index. The word in the Gaelic of Scotland is *leac*, "a flag" or "flat stone." The Manx form is *lhiack*, "a stone" or "slate," as Goblhiack, "slate point." Compare Welsh *llech*.

**LAGHT.**—LAGHT is from the Irish *leacht*, "a grave" or "pile of stones in memory of the dead." There are three Townlands named LAGHT, and this word forms part of the name of many others, as Laghtane, *leachtan*, "little grave or monument." The Manx for "a grave" is *lhiaght*, as Lhiaghtny-Foawr, "grave of the giant."

**LIS, LISS.**—The terms LIS, LISS enter into many Townland names. There are nine Townlands designated LISS, and in over 1,400 cases LIS or LISS is the prefix to a Townland name. They are from the Irish *lios*, "a palace," "court" or "fortified place," as Lismore, *lios mor*, "great fort," Lissane, *liosán*, "little fort." Compare Welsh *llys*,

Cornish *lis*, “a court,” “hall” or “palace,” and Breton, *léz*, “a palace.”

LOUGH.—LOUGH, in Irish, *loch*, “a lake,” “loch” or “arm of the sea,” is the appellation of 11 Townlands, and forms the initial syllable of the names of over 270 others, as Loughrea, *loch riach*, “grey lough.” The Scottish Gaelic word is *loch*, as Lochinvàr, “lake of the hill” (Kircudbrightshire). The Manx form is *logh*, as Loughdoo, “black lake.” Compare Welsh *llwch*, and Breton *louc’h*.

LUG, LUGG, LAG, LEG.—LUG, LUGG, LAG, and LEG are anglicised forms of the Irish *lag*, “a hollow,” as Lagnamuck, *lag na muc*, a Townland in County Mayo, which signifies “hollow of the pigs.” These prefixes are largely represented in the Index. The Scotch Gaelic word for “a hollow or cavity” is *lag*, as Làggan, “a hollow.” The Manx for a “ditch,” “pit” or “hollow” is *lhag*, as Lagbane, “white hollow.”

LYRE, LEAR.—LYRE, LEAR, are from the Irish *ladhar*, “a fork,” used in Irish topography with reference to the forking of glens and rivers. There are 42 Townlands in the Index bearing these names, or having them as a prefix, as Lyrenageeha, *ladhar na gaoithe*, “fork of the wind.”

MAGHERA.—MAGHERA appears in the Index as the name of 16 Townlands, and as the initial part of the names of over 156 others. MAGHERA is in Irish *machaire*, and signifies “a plain,” as Magheraboy, *machaire buidhe*, “yellow plain.” In Scottish Gaelic *machair* signifies “a plain,” as Màcher, “a plain” (Wigtownshire). In Manx *magher* means “a field,” as Magher Kiel, “narrow field.”

MAUL, MEEL.—MAUL is from the Irish *meall*, “a hill,” “hillock,” or “eminence.” There are over 50 Townlands having this prefix in the Index, as Maulmore, *meall mor*, “great hill.” In the Gaelic of Scotland the word is *meall*, and it forms part of the names of numbers of hills in Scotland, as Mealgàrve, “rough hill” (Sutherlandshire). In Manx “a cape,” “bare headland,” or “top of a hill” is *meayl*.

MEEN.—The prefix MEEN occurs in the names of over 230 Townlands. It is from the Irish *mín*, “a smooth spot in a mountain presenting a green surface,” “a mountain pasture,” as Meenaglogh, *mín na gcloch* “the field o stones.”



MON.—MON, which forms the first syllable of over 360 Townland names, is usually from the Irish *moin*, “a bog,” as Monard, *moin ard*, “high bog.” It is, however, frequently derived from other sources. Compare Scotch Gaelic *mòine*, and Welsh *mign*.

MONEY.—There are 16 Townlands named MONEY, and over 150 where this word is the first part of the name. It is from the Irish *muine*, “a brake” or “shrubbery,” as Moneybeg, *muine beag*, “small brake or shrubbery.” This word sometimes also means “a hill.”

MOY.—The word MOY is from the Irish *magh*, “a plain,” as Moynock, *magh cnoc*, “the plain of the hills.” MOY appears in the Townland Index as a name or initial portion of a name in over 230 cases. *Magh* in Scotch Gaelic signifies “a plain.” In Manx “a plain outside of a town” is also *magh*.

MUCK.—MUCK, which is the initial syllable of over 70 Townland names, is in many cases from the Irish *muc*, “a pig,” as Muckinish, “pig island.” The word in Scottish Gaelic is also *muc*, as Muckart, “the height of the boar” (Perthshire). In Manx the word for “a pig” is also *muc*, as Boal-na-muck, “place of the pig.” Compare Welsh *mochyn*, Cornish *môch*, and Breton *môc'h*.

MULLAGH.—MULLAGH is the name of 24 Townlands, and enters into the composition, as the first part, of over 230 Townland names. It is from the Irish *mullach*, “a top,” “height,” “hill” or “summit,” as Mullaghroe, *mullach ruadh*, “red summit.” In the Gaelic of Scotland *mullach* means “the top,” “summit” or “upper extremity” of anything, as Mullochard, “high hill” (Inverness-shire). In Manx “a top” or “summit” is *mullagh*, as Mullagh-ouyr, “grey or dun top.”

PARK.—PARK is the name or initial syllable of the name of over 180 Townlands in the Index, some of which are clearly of English origin. The Irish word is *pairc*, “a field,” “park” or “enclosure,” as Parknasilloge, *pairc na saileog*, “field of the sallows.” The corresponding word in Scottish Gaelic is *pairc*, while in Manx it is *pairk*, as Parkny-earkan, “park of the lapwing.” Compare Welsh *parc*, Cornish *parc*, and Breton *park*.

POLL, POL, POUL.—POLL, POL, and POUL are anglicised forms of the Irish *poll*, “a hole,” “pool” or “pit,” as

Pollaphuca, *poll a'puca*, "the hole of the pooka or demon." The word *poll*, according to O'Reilly's dictionary, also signifies "a pole (measure) of land." The names of over 230 Townlands commence with one or other of these words. A similar word, *poll*, is found in Scotch Gaelic, as Polbeith, "the pool of the birch tree" (Edinburgh). In Manx "a puddle," "a foul lake" or "mire" is *powll* or *poyll*, as Pooyllbreinn, "stagnant pool." Compare Welsh *pwll*, Cornish *pol*, and Breton *poull*.

PORT.—Many names of Townlands commencing with PORT are from the Irish *port*, a term which, in addition to "a port," "harbour," "bank" or "landing place," signifies "a fortress" or a "garrison," as Portumna, *port omna*, "landing place or bank of the oak." In Scottish Gaelic, the word for "a port," *port*, is the same as the Irish, as Portbriar, "friar's port" (Wigtownshire). In Manx it is *purt*, as Puir-ny-Mwyllin, "port of the mill." Compare Welsh *porth*, Cornish *porth*, and Breton *porz* or *yors*.

RATH.—There are about 48 Townlands named RATH, and over 700 where RATH is the initial syllable of the name. In Irish it is *rath*, "a fort" or "fortress," as Rathcormack, *rath Cormaic*, "Cormac's rath or fort." There are 88 Townlands named Raheen, which signifies "a little fort." A similar word occurs in Scotch Gaelic topography, as Raithburn, "fort of the stream" (Ayrshire).

RING, RIN, RINN.—RING, RIN, RINN, are anglicised forms of the Irish *rinn*, "a promontory," "a headland," as Ringbane, *rinn ban*, "white promontory." It will be seen from the Index that these words are numerous represented in Townland names. In the Gaelic of Scotland the word for "a point," is *roinn*; it is embodied in Ringdòo, "black point" (Luce Bay). In Manx "a long ridge of a mountain" is *rinn*, as Rhenshent, "holy ridge."

ROE, ROO.—The words ROE, ROO, enter largely into the composition of Irish place names. They are from the Irish *ruadh*, "red," as Roeillaun, *ruadh oilean*, "red island," a designation applied to seven islands in the Index. The word is the same in Scotch Gaelic, as Maol Ruadh, "red hill." In Manx "red coloured" is *ruy*, as Cronk Ruy, "red hill." Compare Welsh *rhudd*, Cornish *rudh*, and Breton *ruz*.

ROSS, ROS.—Ross and Ros are either from the Irish *ros*, "a promontory" or "isthmus," or *rós*, "a grove" or

"wood," as Rossbane, *ros ban*, "white grove." There are 58 Townlands named Ross, and over 330 where Ross or Ros is the initial syllable of the name. The word *ros*, "a promontory," occurs also in the Gaelic of Scotland, as Rosdhu, "black promontory" (Dumbartonshire).

SCART.—The term SCART is an anglicised form of the Irish *scairt*, "a thick tuft of shrubs or branches," "a thicket," as Scartaglin, *scairt a glinn*, a townland in County Kerry, which signifies "the thicket or copse of the glen." The word SCART appears as a prefix to 29 Townland names in the Index, and gives the entire name to 31 Townlands.

SHAN.—SHAN figures very numerously as a prefix to Townland names, there being over 400 such cases in the Index. It is an anglicised form of the Irish *sean*, "old," "ancient," as Shanbally, *sean baile*, "old town." The word *sean* is also found in the Gaelic of Scotland, as in Shantir (*sean tìr*), "old land" (Ayrshire), and in Manx in the form *shenn*, as Shenvalla, "old farm."

SRA, SRAGH, SRAH.—The anglicised forms SRA, SRAGH, and SRAH are from the Irish *srath*, "a field on the bank of a river," as Srahmore, *srath mor*, "great holm." There are 23 Townlands named SRA, SRAGH or SRAH, while over 100 have one or other of these words as the initial part of their names. The word *srath* is also found in Scotch Gaelic.

TAWNAGH, TAWNA, TAWNIES, TAWNY.—TAWNAGH, also TAWNA, TAWNIES and TAWNY are anglicised from the Irish *tamhnach*, "a field." There are 24 Townlands named TAWNAGH, and various others in which in this or one of the other forms, it enters into the composition of the name, as Tawnaghbaun, *tamhnach ban*, "white field."

TEMPLE.—TEMPLE, in Irish *teampoll*, signifies "a church" or "temple" (derived from the Latin *templum*), as Templenacarriga, *teampoll na carraige*, "the church of the rock." There are over 80 Townlands in the names of which TEMPLE forms the first part. The Scotch Gaelic is *teampull*, "a church," and the Manx *chiamble* or *teambyl*. Compare Welsh *templ*, Cornish *tempel*, and Breton *templ*.

TI.—There are numerous Townlands whose names commence with TI, which are derived from the Irish *tigh*

“a house,” as Tinamuck, *tigh na muc*, “the house of the swine.” A similar word *tigh* occurs in Scottish Gaelic, as Tighnalin, “the house of the pool” (Perthshire), also in Manx as *tigh* and *thie*, as Thie-ny-Fidder, “house of the weaver.” Compare Welsh *tŷ*, Cornish *ty*, and Breton *ti*.

TIR.—Signifies “a land,” “country,” “region,” from the Irish *tír*. This word forms the first part of a large number of Townland names, as Tirboy, *tír buidhe*, “yellow land or district.” *Tír* is also found in the Gaelic of Scotland, as in Tírférgus, “Fergus’ land” (near Campbelton). In Manx it takes the form *teer* or *cheer*. Compare Welsh *tír*, Cornish *tír*, and Breton *tír* or *ter*.

TOBER.—There are 15 Townlands of the name of TOBER, and about 127 in which it forms the initial syllables of the name. It is from the Irish *tobar*, “a well,” “fountain,” “spring,” “source,” as Toberpatrick, *tobar Padraic*, “Patrick’s well.” The Scotch Gaelic word is also *tobar*, as in Tobar-na-h’Annait, “the well of Annat” (Invernesshire). Compare Manx *tiobyr*, “a fountain,” and *chibbyr*, “a well,” as Chibber Drine, “thorn tree well.”

TOM.—The word TOM is from the Irish *tuaim*, “a grave,” “a tomb,” as Tomduff, *tuaim dubh*, “black grave or tumulus.” It is largely represented as a prefix in Townland names. The Manx word for “a tomb” is *tom*.

TON.—TON, which forms the first syllable of the names of numerous Townlands, is usually from the Irish *toin*, (genitive of *ton*), “the backside,” as Tonbaun, *toin ban*, “white backside.” A similar word *tòn* occurs in the Gaelic of Scotland.

TOOR.—The Irish *tuar*, “a bleach yard,” is the source from which TOOR, a term which extensively figures in the Index, is derived. 23 Townlands bear the name of TOOR, while it forms the first syllable of over 180 other Townland names, as Toorard, *tuar ard*, “high bleach green.”

TREAN, TRIEN.—There are numerous Townland names into the composition of which these words enter. They are from the Irish *trian*, “a third part,” as Treanboy, *trian buidhe*, “yellow third.” The Manx word is *treein*. Compare Welsh *trian* and Breton *trédé*.

**TULLY, TULLA, TULLAGH.**—The last of these common prefixes in Townland names which may be mentioned are **TULLY, TULLA, and TULLAGH**, derived from the Irish word *tulach*, or *tulaigh*, meaning “a hill” or “hillock.” There are 88 Townlands named **TULLY**, and about 500 whose names begin with **TULLY** in the Index, in addition to numerous Townlands whose names have **TULLA** and **TULLAGH** for the prefix. The following may be cited as examples:—Tullybrack, *tulach breac*, “speckled hill,” Tullabeg, *tulaigh beag*, “little hill,” Tullaghcullion, *tulach cuilinn*, “the hill of the holly.” The Scotch Gaelic word for “a hillock” is *tulach*, as Tùloch, “a hillock” (Ross-shire). The corresponding word in Manx is *tullagh*.

#### **IV.—COMPARISON OF PREFIXES IN PLACE NAMES IN IRELAND, WITH THE CORRESPONDING WORDS IN THE OTHER CELTIC LANGUAGES.**

The Celtic languages are divided into two great families, each embracing three different languages. The first, the Gaelic, consists of Irish, Scottish Gaelic, and Manx, and the second, the British, of the Welsh, Cornish, and Breton or Armorican. I thought it would be of interest to present, in tabular form, some Prefixes in Place Names in Ireland with the corresponding words in the other languages of the Celtic stock, from which the affinity existing between them will be easily traceable, and append a Table showing this comparison:—

**Comparative Table showing the corresponding words in the Celtic Languages for some of the Prefixes most commonly occurring in the Names of Places in Ireland, as set forth in the General Topographical Index, 1901.**

Name or Prefix of Irish origin.	English Signification	CELTIC LANGUAGES.						
		Gaelic Family.				British Family.		
		Irish.	Scotch Gaelic.	Manx.	Welsh.	Cornish.	Breton.	
Agh, Agha ..	a field ..	ácaó ..	achadh ..	achadh ..	—	—	—	—
Alt ..	an eminence, a glenside	alt ..	alt ..	alt ..	alt ..	allt ..	als ..	—
Anna, Annagh	a ford ..	at ..	ath ..	àth ..	aah ..	—	—	—
Ard ..	a height, high ..	ard ..	ard ..	àrd, àird	ard ..	—	ard ..	—
Bally ..	a town, village ..	baile ..	baile ..	baile ..	balley .. (a farm)	—	—	—
Ballagh ..	a roadway, gap ..	bealach ..	bealach ..	bealach ..	boallagh ..	bwlch ..	—	boulc'h
Barna, Barn	a gap ..	bearna ..	bearna ..	bèarn ..	baarney ..	—	—	—
Barr ..	a top, head, summit	barr ..	barr ..	bàrr ..	baare ..	bar ..	bar ..	barr
Bawn, Baun	white ..	bán ..	ban ..	bàn ..	bane ..	bán, gwyn*	gwyn, gwên*	gwenn*
Beagh ..	abounding with birches, a birch	beiteac, beite	beitheach, beithe	beith ..	beith ..	bedwen ..	bedewen ..	bézô, bézven
Bell ..	a mouth ..	beul ..	beul ..	beul, ..	beeal ..	bala (an outlet)	—	—
Ben ..	a pointed hill ..	beann ..	beann ..	beinn ..	beinn ..	ban ..	bân	ban ..
Boher ..	a road, way, passage	bothar ..	bothar ..	bothar ..	baare ..	—	—	—

Boley	..	a place for milking cows, a fold	buaile	..	buaille	..	buaille	..	bwoaillee	buarth (a cowfield)	búch (a cow)	-			
Brack	..	speckled, spotted	briac	..	breac	..	breac	..	breac	brych, brech	brith, bryth	breac'h brec'h			
Bun	..	the end, bottom	bun	..	bun	..	bun	..	bun	—	—	—			
Caher, Cahir	..	a city, stone fort	caéair, caéair	..	cathair, cathaoir	..	cathair	..	caayr	caer..	caer, câr	kéar, ker			
Cam	..	crooked	cam	..	cam	..	câm	..	cam	..	cam	kamm			
Carn	..	a heap of stones	cáir, cairn	..	carn, cairn	..	cârn, câirn	..	carn	..	carn	karn, kar-nak, kar-nez			
Carrick, Carrig	..	a rock, stone	carraig	..	carraig	..	carraig	..	carrog, carrick	carreg, craig	carrag	karreg			
Carrow, Carhoo	..	a quarter (of a townland)	ceathramh	..	ceathramhadh	..	ceathramh	..	kerroo	—	—	—			
Cashel	..	a bulwark, wall, circular stone fort	caiseal	..	caiseal	..	caiseal	..	cashtal	..	castell	castel	kastel		
Cavan	..	a hollow plain, field	cabán	..	cabhan	..	cabhan	..	—	cae	..	—	kao		
Clar	..	a plain or flat piece of land	clár	..	clár	..	clár	..	claare (a plate)	clawr	..	—	---		
Clash	..	a furrow, pit, dyke	clais	..	clais	..	clais	..	clash	..	clais	..	clédh	..	—
Clogh	..	a stone	cloch	..	cloch	..	cloch, clach	..	clagh	..	clog	..	—	—	—
Clon, Cloon	..	a plain, lawn, meadow	cluain	..	cluain	..	cluain	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cool	..	the back part of anything	cúl	..	cul	..	cùl	..	cooyl	..	cil	..	cil	..	kil

\* These forms are more properly analogous to the Irish "fionn," white.

### Comparative Table—cont.

Name or Prefix of Irish Origin.	English Signification.	CELTIC LANGUAGES.						
		Gaelic Family.				British Family.		
		Irish.		Scotch Gaelic.	Manx.	Welsh.	Cornish.	Breton.
Cool ..	a corner ..	cuil ..	cuil ..	cùil ..	cooill ..	cil ..	—	kil
Cosh, Cusli ..	a foot, leg ..	cos ..	cos ..	cos, cas ..	cass, coss	coes ..	—	—
Creeve ..	a branch, bough, tree	crabob ..	craobh ..	craobh ..	—	—	—	—
Croagh, Crogh	a rick, pile ..	cruac ..	cruach ..	cruach ..	creagh ..	crug ..	cruc ..	krug, kru- gell, krea'ch
Cross ..	a cross ..	cror ..	cros ..	crois ..	crosh ..	croes, crwys	crows, crois	kroaz, kroez
Cuil, Cuill ..	a wood ..	coill ..	coill ..	coill ..	keyll ..	cell, celli	coid ..	—
Curragh, Curra	a marsh, bog, fen	currac ..	currach ..	curach ..	curragh ..	cors ..	—	—
Derry ..	an oak wood ..	doire ..	doire ..	darach (oak)	dar, dar- ragh (oak)	dâr (oak)	dâr (oak)	derô, der ven (oak)
Doo ..	black ..	dub ..	dubh ..	dubh ..	doo ..	du ..	du, ..	dû
Doon, Dun ..	a fortress ..	dun ..	dun ..	dùn ..	doon, dooney	din ..	din ..	—
Dreen, Drin ..	a blackthorn, thorn	draighean ..	draighean	droigheann	drine ..	draen ..	draen ..	dréan, draen
Drum, Drom	a ridge of a hill	druim ..	druim ..	druim ..	dreeym ..	drum ..	—	—
Eden ..	the forehead ..	eudan ..	eudan ..	eudan ..	eddin ..	—	—	—

(face)

(face)



Esker ..	a ridge of mountains or sand-hills	εἰρσίη ..	eiscir ..	—	—	esgair ..	—	esger
Farn ..	the alder tree ..	φάρηη ..	fearn ..	féarna ..	faarney ..	gwernen ..	gwernen ..	gwern
Farran ..	land, ground, country	φάρηανη ..	fearann ..	fearann ..	—	—	—	—
Freagh ..	heath ..	φραοῦ ..	fraoch ..	fraoch ..	freoagh ..	—	—	—
Gall, Gal ..	a stranger ..	ἑλλ ..	gall ..	gall ..	gaildagh ..	—	—	gall
Garry ..	a garden ..	ἑάρρηδα ..	garrdha ..	garadh ..	garey ..	gardd ..	garth ..	garz
Glas ..	green or grey ..	ἑλαρ ..	glas ..	glas ..	glass ..	glas ..	glás ..	glâz, glás
Glen, Glan ..	a glen, valley ..	ἑλεανη ..	gleann ..	gleann ..	glione ..	glŷn ..	glen, glyn	glen (M.B.)
Gol, Goul, Gowl ..	a fork ..	ἑαβαλ ..	gabhal ..	gobhal ..	goll ..	gaf ..	—	gaol
Gort, Gurt ..	a field ..	ἑορτ ..	gort ..	gort ..	gart ..	gardd ..	—	—
Greenan ..	a sunny spot ..	ἑρηανῶη ..	grianan ..	grianan ..	grianagh, grianey	greian (the sun)	—	—
Illan, Illaun ..	an island ..	οἰλεῶη ..	oilean ..	eilean ..	ellan ..	—	—	—
Inis, Inish, Inch	an island ..	ἰνῆρ ..	inis ..	innis ..	innys, inys, insh, innis	ynys ..	enys, enés, ennis, ynys	énez, éné- zen
Keel ..	slender, narrow ..	καοῖ ..	caol ..	caol ..	keyl ..	cul ..	cúl ..	—
Kil, Kill ..	a church ..	κῖλλ ..	cill ..	cill ..	keeyl ..	cell ..	—	kell
Kil, Kill ..	a wood ..	κοῖλλ ..	coill ..	coill ..	keyll ..	cell, celli ..	coid ..	—
Knock ..	a hill ..	κνοκ ..	cnoc ..	cnoc ..	cnoc, cronk	cnwc ..	cruc ..	krec'h, kneç'h (M.B.)
Lack, Leck, Lick	a flag, flat stone	λεακ ..	leac ..	leac ..	lhiack ..	llech ..	—	lec'h
Laght ..	a grave ..	λεακτ ..	leacht ..	leachd ..	lhiaght ..	—	—	—
Lis, Liss ..	a palace, fortified place, court	λιος ..	lios ..	lios ..	—	llys ..	lês, lys, lis	léz

### Comparative Table—cont.

Name or Prefix of Irish Origin.	English Signification.	CELTIC LANGUAGES.						
		Gaelic Family.			British Family.			
		Irish.	Scotch Gaelic.	Manx.	Welsh.	Cornish.	Breton.	
Lough ..	a lake, loch ..	lóc ..	loch ..	loch ..	logh ..	llwch ..	lûh ..	louc'h
Lug, Lugg, Lag, Leg	a hollow ..	lág ..	lag ..	lag ..	lhag, lhaggey	—	—	—
Maghera ..	a plain ..	macáirne ..	machaire	machair ..	magher .. (a field)	—	—	—
Maul, Meel ..	a hill, bare head- land	meall, maoil	meall, maoil	meall ..	meayl ..	moel ..	moel ..	moal
Mon ..	a bog peat, turf	móin ..	moin ..	mòine ..	moain ..	mign	—	—
Moy ..	a plain ..	máḡ ..	magh ..	magh ..	magh ..	—	meath ..	—
Muck ..	a pig ..	muc ..	muc ..	muc ..	muc ..	mochyn ..	môch ..	môc'h
Mullagh ..	a top, height, summit	mullac ..	mullach ..	mullach ..	mullagh ..	—	—	—
Park ..	a field, park ..	páirc ..	paire ..	paire ..	pairk ..	parc ..	parc ..	park
Poll, Pol, Poul	a hole, pool, pit ..	poll ..	poll ..	poll ..	powll, poyll	pwll ..	pol ..	poll
Port ..	a port, harbour, fortress	port ..	port ..	port ..	purt ..	porth ..	porth ..	porz, pors
Rath ..	a fort, fortress ..	rath ..	rath ..	rath ..	—	—	—	—
Ring, Rin, Rinn	a promontory, headland	rinn ..	rinn ..	roinn ..	rinn ..	rhyn ..	rhyn ..	rûn

Roe, Roo ..	red ..	ruadó ..	ruadh ..	ruadh ..	ruy ..	rhudd	rudh,	rúz
Ross, Ros ..	a promontory, isthmus	ruor ..	ros ..	ros ..	—	—	ridh	roz
Ross, Ros ..	a grove, wood ..	ruór ..	rós ..	ros ..	ros ..	—	—	ros
Shan ..	old ..	ruan ..	sean ..	sean ..	shenn ..	hen ..	hên ..	hen
Sra, Sragh, Srah	a field on river bank	ruat ..	srath ..	srath ..	—	—	—	—
Temple ..	a church, temple	teampoll ..	teampoll	teampull	teambyl, chiamble	templ ..	tempel ..	templ
Ti ..	a house ..	tiú ..	tigh ..	tigh ..	tigh, thie	tý ..	ty ..	tí
Tir ..	a land, country, region	tír ..	tir ..	tir ..	teer, cheer	tir ..	tir ..	tír, ter
Tebori ..	a well, fountain	tobar ..	tobar ..	tobar ..	tiobyr .. chibbyr	—	—	—
Tòm ..	a grave, tomb, tumulus	tuaim ..	tuaim ..	tom (a hill, knoll)	tom ..	tom, tomawd ..	—	—
Ton ..	the backside of anything	tón ..	ton ..	tòn ..	—	—	—	—
Trean, Trien	the third part, third	trian ..	trian ..	trian ..	treein ..	trian ..	tregé (third)	trédé
Tully, Tulla, Tullagh	a hill, hillock ..	tulac ..	tulach ..	tulach ..	tullagh ..	—	—	—

## V.—IRISH NAMES OF HISTORIC INTEREST.

I shall now very briefly draw attention to a few of the many Irish names of historic interest which appear in the Index.

### IRISH NAMES DATING FROM THE PAGAN PERIOD.

NAVAN, (CO. ARMAGH).—In the Townland of Navan, Parish of Eglisli, Barony and County of Armagh, there stands an interesting monument of antiquity, *i.e.*, the remains of the palace of Emania, the seat of the Northern Kings of Ireland, which, Irish authorities state, was founded about 300 B.C.

According to Tigernach, one of the most accurate of the Irish annalists, this great Palace was destroyed by the famous Collas in A.D. 333. Its outlines consist of two outer ramparts, and a fosse or ditch comprising an area of about eleven Irish acres, inside of which are a moat, commanding an extensive prospect of the country in every direction, and also a rath. The remains bear the name "Navan Fort," being the Irish name Evan, with the article *an* contracted to *n* placed before it, giving the sound Navan. Thus the name of this Townland brings us back about three centuries before the Christian era.\*

LARNE.—The town of Larne, (Co. Antrim), derives its name from Lathair (Laher), a son of Hugony the Great, who was King before the Christian era. The latter divided his dominions amongst his children, and gave Lathair lands in Ulster called after him "Latharna," a name which in process of time has been shortened into Larne.†

CREEVEROE.—The Red Branch Knights of Ulster, celebrated in history and song, who flourished in the first century A.D., were so called from their location in a part of the Palace of Emania called *Craobhruadh* (Creeveroe), or "The Red Branch." The name of this place has come down to us in the Townland of Creeveroe "Red Branch," adjoining that of Navan in the Parish of Eglisli, Co. Armagh.‡

ARDEE.—The name Ardee, (Co. Louth), is written by Irish authorities as *Ath-Fhirdia*, Ahirdee, signifying the "ford

\* Ordnance Survey Letters, Co. Armagh (O'Donovan).

† Book of Rights; "Annals of Four Masters."

‡ "Irish Names of Places," (Joyce).

of Ferdia," a chieftain slain in battle there in the first century A.D.\*

**BANTRY.**—The town of Bantry, (Co. Cork), owes its name to Beann, son of Conór MacNessa, king of Ulster, who flourished in the first century A.D. Beann's descendants were called Beanntraighe, viz. :—the race of Beann, a word now anglicised into Bantry.†

**ABBEYLEIX.**—The principality of Leix, the name of which is preserved in the word Abbeyleix, (Queen's Co.), and also in the Parliamentary Division of Leix, was given in the reign of Felim the Lawgiver (A.D. 1111 to 1119) by the King of Leinster to Lewy Leeshagh, for assistance rendered in the expulsion of the Munstermen who had taken possession of Ossory. The descendants of Lewy (the O'Moores) took their tribal name and called their habitat from him, Leesh, a designation corrupted into Leix.‡

**DUNTRYLEAGUE.**—The Townland of Duntryleague, in the parish of Galbally, Barony of Coshlea, and County of Limerick, took its name from a *dun*, which was erected there for Cormac Cas, King of Munster, son of Olioll Olum, in the third century A.D. Being wounded in battle he was removed to this place, where there was a spring, with the water of which his wounds were washed. His bed rested on three pillar stones, hence the name Dun-tri-liag "the fortress of the three stones."§

**CORCOMOHIDE.**—The name of the Parish of Corcomohide, portion of which is situated in the Barony of Orrery and Kilmore, and County of Cork, E.R., the other part being in the Barony of Connello Upper, and County of Limerick, is written in Irish Corca-Muichet, *i.e.*, "the race of Muichet," one of the disciples of the famous Druid *Mogh Ruith*, who lived in the reign of Cormac Mac Art in the third century A.D.||

**KNOCKLONG.**—Knocklong Townland (Parish of Kilfrush, County Limerick), which signifies "the hill of the camp," *cnoc-luinge*, takes its name from the camp which Cormac, Monarch of Ireland, in the middle of the third

\* O.S. Field Book (O'Donovan); Leabhar-na-h-Uidhre.

† Book of Rights; O.S. Field Book (O'Donovan); "Irish Names of Places," (Joyce).

‡ Book of Leinster; "Irish Names of Places" (Joyce).

§ Book of Lismore.

|| Book of Lismore; Forbais Druimdamhagaire; Book of Lecan

century, pitched there when invading Munster, after that province had refused to pay him his tribute.\*

#### IRISH NAMES DATING AFTER THE ADVENT OF ST. PATRICK.

The introduction of Christianity in the fifth century led to a number of fresh names in our local topography, as Aglish (*eaglais*), Donagh (*domhnach*), Kill (*cill*), Temple (*teampoll*), all of which signify "a church"; numerous names of saints, as Drumcolumb, "ridge of Columb"; names of various ecclesiastical officers, as Rathaspick, "fort of the bishop," from *easbog* "a bishop"; Ballysaggart, "the town of the priest," from *sagart*, "a priest"; Kilmanagh, "church of the monks," from *manach*, "a monk"; Ballynagalliagh, "the town of the nuns," from *cailleach*, "a nun"; and religious rites, as Lugganaffrin, "the hollow of the Mass," from *afrionn*, "the Mass." †

SAUL.—The name Saul, in the Barony of Lecale Lower, County Down, is a contracted form of *sabhall*, "a barn." It takes its name from the barn presented to St. Patrick by Dicho, the chief of the district, for the purposes of his mission in the north of Ireland after his expulsion from Wicklow. ‡

DOWNPATRICK.—The name Downpatrick (Co. Down) marks the reputed burial place of the Saint. The first portion "Down," refers to the *dun* in the neighbourhood, from which the place was called Dun-da-leth-glas, "the fortress of the two broken locks or fetters," afterwards shortened into "Down," to which the word Patrick was subsequently added in commemoration of the Saint. §

KILDARE.—Kildare (*cill dara*), "the church of the oak," takes its name from St. Brigid's favourite cell under a high oak tree. ||

ASSEY.—The Townland of Assey, County Meath, commemorates a bloody conflict which is recorded by the Four Masters as occurring in 524 A.D. The annals state "the battle of *Ath-Sidhe* (Ah-Shee), was gained by Muircheartach, against the Leinstermen, where Sidhe (Shee), the son of

\* Book of Lismore; Forbais Druimdamhghaire; Book of Lecan.

† O. S. Field Book (O'Donovan).

‡ Eccl. Antiquities (Reeves). Ussher—Works of, Vol. VI.

§ Eccl. Antiquities (Reeves).

|| Animus—Fourth Life of St. Brigid; Book of Leinster.

Dian, was slain, from whom *Ath-Sidhe* (Sidhe's ford) is called."\*

ARDNAREE.—Ardnaree Townland, portion of which is now incorporated with the town of Ballina, Co. Mayo, is in Irish *Ard-na-riagh*, "the hill or height of the executions." This place obtained its name from the execution of four persons in the seventh century A.D. for the murder of Kellach, a Bishop.†

In addition to the Irish names of historical interest the Index abounds with names referring to physical features, trees, plants, legends, etc.

## VI.—DANISH AND ENGLISH NAMES.

DANISH NAMES.—A few names testify to the presence of the Danes in our Island, as Carnsore, Carlingford, Dalkey, Howth, Lambay, Leixlip, Strangford, Waterford, and Wexford.

ENGLISH NAMES.—The English conquest, 1172 A.D., brought a new element into our topography. The English settlers introduced their own personal and family names into the places in which they settled, and thus we have in the Index, names of places compounded of English and Irish names, as well as many of distinctly English origin.

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It would be beyond the scope of this paper to go into further detail on this interesting subject. In the Report prefixed to the first edition of the General Alphabetical Index of Townlands, published in 1861, it was observed that it would greatly increase the value of a publication of this nature, if it were accompanied by a glossary or explanation of the names, and an account of their origin; and that distinguished Irish scholar and antiquarian, the late Right Reverend William Reeves, D.D., advocated the introduction into the Index of an etymological column. Apart, however, from the additional expense which would be involved, the difficulties of dealing with the numerous cases where the meaning was unknown or was disputed, would have rendered

\* "Annals of Four Masters."

† "The Tribes and Customs of Hy. Fiachrach.

this task a formidable one, and on the occasion of the last Census the old form of the Index was retained, columns being introduced to provide for the changes in administrative areas, consequent on the operation of the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898.

NOTE.—I desire to express my obligations to the Council of the Royal Irish Academy, who courteously allowed me access to the valuable works in their library, specially to the MS. letters of the late Dr. John O'Donovan, written during the progress of the Ordnance Survey, which were deposited in the custody of the Academy by the Government; to the Superintendent of the Ordnance Survey Office, Phoenix Park, for his kindness in permitting me to inspect the "Field Books" of the Ordnance Survey, containing the names of the Townlands written in Irish by Dr. O'Donovan; to Mr. E. E. Fournier d'Albe, B.Sc., M.R.I.A.; to the Reverend Morris R. Davies; to the Reverend John Lewis, Minister of the Welsh Presbyterian Church in Dublin, and to Mr. Michael G. Dowling, of the General Register Office, for their very kind aid.

With respect to Irish names, I am much indebted for information to Dr. Joyce's excellent Books on Irish Names of Places. As regards Scotch Gaelic names I have consulted "Scottish Land Names," by Sir H. Maxwell, Bart.; "The Gaelic Topography of Scotland," by Colonel James Robertson, F.S.A., Scot., and "Place Names of Scotland," by the Reverend J. B. Johnston, B.D., and respecting Manx names, Mr. A. W. Moore's interesting work, "Surnames and Place Names of the Isle of Man."