The de Burgos or Bourkes of Ileagh.

By M. Callanan, F.R.C.P.I.

The ancient Territory of Hy Leughdeach, Oleigh, or Ileagh, in North Tipperary, was bounded on the north and west by Urmhumha, or Ormond, and Offaly, east by Eliogarty and part of Ikerrin, and on the south by Kilnalongurty, which, with Ileagh, are now incorporated to form the barony of Upper Kilnamanagh.

In addition to Ileagh proper the townland of Barracarragh, in the parish of Ballycaghill in Eliogarty barony formed part of the territory and is thus shown on the Down Survey map of Ileagh.

According to O Huidhrin, this territory originally belonged to the O Spillane sept, of whom he writes:

"The chief of Hy Leughdeach of ancient swords
Is O Spillane of the bright spurs.
Mighty is the march of the warriors' battalions,
Increasing as they proceed along the plains of Macha."

How or when the de Burgos dispossessed the O Spillanes from Ileagh is not recorded, but it probably occurred during the wars of Thomond in the latter part of the 13th century.

The earliest reference connecting the de Burgos with Ileagh is found in the Pipe Rolls of Ed. II., when Richard de Burgo accounts for £1 6s. 8d., the rent of Glenkyn, in Ileagh. Descended from William de Burgh, brother of Hubert, Justiciar of England, the de Burgos came of a fighting race whose deeds of valour and plunder fill numerous pages of Irish history, and it may be assumed that the small sept planted in the heart of Tipperary took an active part with their kinsmen in Connaught and the two Clanwilliams in the numerous wars with the native Irish and Anglo-Norman settlers.
No definite records have been found of the activities of the Bourkes of Illach till the reign of Elizabeth when, following the Desmond wars, the queen lavishly granted pardons to her unruly subjects in the vain hope that they would submit to English rule and in future refrain from rebellion.

From an inquisition (1) taken at the new town of Cashel on September 4th.-26th., Elizabeth, 1558, it is learned that Walter fitz John Bourke, late of Knockorden, was attainted of high treason and condemned. At the time of his attainder he was seised of the castle, town and lands of Knockorden, containing one tuoh or hundred. Apparently Walter was father of McWalter of Burres, whose name with those of his sons, Theobald and William, figure in the Flанts of the period.

Pardons were granted to Richard Mor fitz David Bourke of Pallis; Walter Bourke of Burres; Theobald Bourke fitz Walter; William Bourke fitz Walter, of same; Ullige Bourke of Rosenmoltiny; Shane Bourke, William oge Bourke, Thomas moyle Bourke, Shane reaghe Bourke, Rich. McCullige Bourke, Hubert and Rich. Bourke, husbandmen; John McTeige Bourke, William McShane Bourke, Ullige, Thomas and Geoffrey Bourke.

Previous to the rebellion of Hugh O Neill, Earl of Tyrone, Redmond Bourke, son of John of the Shamrocks, was at war with his uncle, Ullick, Earl of Clannrickard, on account of the murder of his father by the Earl, and the latter's refusal to acknowledge Redmond's right to certain lands and the baronety of Leitrim, to which he was by right entitled. At the instance of Tyrone, Redmond joined O Moore, the O Carrolls of Ely, and others from Leinster who marched into Ormond and laid it waste.

Early in the trouble, Dermot O Dwyer, of Clonyharp castle, a good fighter, joined the confederates who were then waging war on Clannrickard, but, for some unknown reason, Dermot deserted his comrades and was immediately appointed sheriff of the Palatinate of Tipperary by Black Thomas, Earl of Ormond.

In revenge Redmond Bourke marched a force of five hundred men into O'Dwyer's country of Kilnamanagh. Having divided his forces into three divisions, one of those was attacked by Dermot and cut to pieces. Six days later Redmond again entered Kilnamanagh and killed man, woman and child, burned all the houses, except the castles and carried off the cattle. (2)

Roused to fury, Dermot induced his brother-in-law, Walter Bourke, of Burres, and his kinmen to join the Queen's forces under Captain Fowler and Walter Butler, Earl of Ormond, and, advancing into Ormond, Ely O'Carroll and Ikerrin, laid waste the country, putting 250 to the sword and driving a number into the Nore, where they were drowned. Walter Bourke of Burres died in 1623 and was buried in Glankeen churchyard, where a fine monument, constructed before his death, may still be seen in good preservation.

From an inquisition (1) taken at Clonmel in 1628, we learn some interesting particulars regarding Walter. The report of the inquisition was somewhat damaged and some parts were not decipherable.

An inquisition taken at Clonmel on August 22nd, 1628, shows that Walter Bourke, late of Borres O Leagh, decd. with Theobald Bourke, of Colloghill; James Stapleton, of Rathleste; Cnoagher McTeige Rian, of Gormilocanagh; Donogh Carroll, of Ballinlogha, in King's Co.; John Stapleton, of Kilvicorris, enfeoffed said Walter, while living, of the manor, castle, town and lands of Borres O Leagh, Graige Itteragh, Graige Oughteragh, containing 1/2 carucate of land; Moneduff, 1/2 carucate; Lismellogg, Knockbracke and Lemanella, containing 1/2 carucate; Knockekerny, 1/2 carucate; Cronevone and Gorteqcoghy, 1/2 carucate; Kylonane and Barncgowle, 1/2 carucate; Knockskeley and Gortedangaine, 1/2 carucate; Corbally, Ighteragh, 1/2 carucate; Brockhill, 1/2 carucate; Rosnemolinty, 1/2 carucate; Kilingowlane, Lisswiln and Gortelaghane, 1/2 carucate; Cappaghgowlagh, 1/2 carucate; the castle, town, and lands of Colloghill, 1/2 carucate; Briskelagh, fpantane, Knocknecarroe, 1 carucate; Killmooma, 1/2 carucate; Garranelaghane, 3rd part of a carucate; Affoolechean and Ardbane, 1 carucate; Caurraghtawe, Glankonee, Collena and Gortnemucky, 1 carucate and 2 parts of a quarter; 1/2 carucate in Kilcowlana, the town and lands of

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(1). Extracts from Transcripts in Irish Record Office.
(2). State Papers.
Garrangrey; 2/- out of 1 qr. in Cowline; 6/- out of Rathmoy, containing 3 qrs.; 3/- out of Glanbridy; 8/- out of Monchanan; 2/- out of Knockhaslan; 2/- out of Kilnelysheny and Shanaknock; 2/- out of Bollynahow and Lisheincyle; 4/- out of the castle, town and lands of Collohill, and 1 qr. in Cowlneveagh; 2/- out of Cowlneveagh; 8/- out of Garrylish; 6/- out of Racardan; 8/- out of Corbally Oughteragh; 2/- out of Garrane and Cowlcoile.

That said Walter and Theobald Bourke, Donogh Carroll, Cnocher Rian and John Stapleton, while seised of all and singular, enfeoffed William O Meara, Wm. O Carroll fitz Donogh of Ballinlogha, and Jas. Stapleton fitz John, of Kilvilcorris, in perpetuity as by deed dated April 10th, 1623, as by the aforesaid deed—more fully appears, of which deed the tenor is in these words. Know you by these presents, &c. That ______ Bourke and one Richard Bourke ______ June, 1625 ______ follows in these words, This indenture, &c.

That later Theobald Bourke, Richard Bourke, William fitz Donogh O Carroll, and James fitz John Stapleton, after the death of the aforesaid William O Meara on the 18th day of July, 1634, enfeoffed John Cantwell and Donnell Ryan, their heirs and assigns of all and singular premises to certain uses, in which deed of feoffment it more fully appears, in tenor as follows : This indenture, &c.

That Theobald Bourke, Richard Bourke, James Stapleton, William Carroll, John Cantwell and Donnell Ryan, on the 15th day of November, 1634, enfeoffed Thady O Meara, of Lissenuilkye, in the Co. Tipperary; Thomas Purcell, of Gotaranna, in county aforesaid, their heirs and assigns of and in the aforesaid premises of Killoena, Barnewglane, Curraghalie, Gurtynebearnane, Ballynehowe, Stuckevadychoyne, Lissencwill, Gortnabroscagh, Tuore, leghtragh, Leckaboye, Gearalakea and Knockechasleany with appurtenances, containing in all one carucate of land, to the use of Theobald Bourke during his natural life, and after his death to the use of Oliver Bourke, the 2nd begotten son of the aforesaid Theobald and the legitimate male heirs of his body begotten and to be begotten, and on failure of such heirs to the use of Richard Bourke and the legitimate male heirs of his body, begotten or to be begotten. Remainder then to such persons in the deed conferred on John Cantwell and Donnell Ryan.

That Richard Bourke is son and heir of the said Theobald Bourke and of full age and married. That all and singular premises are held of the King in capite and by knight's service.

That Egid.m als Giles Dwyer, late wife of the afo'd. Walter Bourke, died before the afo'd. Theobald, and during the life of said Theobald.

That Walter Bourke was seised in fee of the castle, town and lands of Collohill, the Tamanee, the Corrath, Brestagh, Killinane, Garranologa, Ardubane, Athvollyshane, Knocknecurrae, 2 parts of a qr. of Knocknecurrae, 2 parts of a qr. of Knockennegeragh with appurtenances in Oleigh, containing 3 carucates; 1 carucate in Rathcarvan and Lismulkevraie, 1 carucate in Curroghnyadov, 2 parts of a qr. in Dromgile in Oleigh.

That Walter by his deed, dated 14th of July, 1614, enfeoffed John Stapleton fitz Piers of Dromon McWarran; Donogh ny Kelly fitz Wm. O Carroll, of Ballydoghage, in King's Co.; John Bourke, the 4th son of said Walter, and their heirs in perpetuity to the use of said Walter during his life, and after his decease to the use of Giles Dwyer, his wife, with divers remainders.

That Walter was seised in fee of Corbally Oughteragh, ½ of Dromardy, Russintamard and Gorteyloghcorry, and a ½ of Knock——.

That said Walter by his deed dated May 18th, 1623, enfeoffed Eac. McKnogether O Shannehane of Rathcardge, and Cnocher McTenge (Rian) to certain uses. All and singular were held of the King by knights' service in capite.

In the ruined church of Glankeen, in the territory of Ileagh, is the tomb of Walter de Burgo, of Borrisoleigh castle, who died on June 10th, 1623. The tomb, altar shaped, is placed against the west wall and surmounted by a panel bearing an inscription. Above the panel another, with moulded frame bears the de Burgo and O Dwyer arms in relief. The upper slab of the tomb has the inscription around the margin, while the centre shows a cross in relief. The shaft of the cross is slender and extends nearly the full length of the tomb. On either side of the arms of the cross are representations of
the sun and moon, and across the shaft the letters I.H.S. On a panel above the tomb is carved in relief the de Burgo arms, a cross in the dexter canton, the badge of Ulster empaling those of O Dwyer, a fesse in chief, 3 chevrons in base, an eagle displayed; the whole surmounted by a helmet.

Inscription—Spes mea in Deo est.


On a panel over the tomb an inscription reads:

Quisquis in haec oculos vertis monumenta, parupe, siste, lege et disce vivere, disce mori.

Natus erat coelo mundis per cuncta sequit. Hinc pulsus, illinc jure abigendus erat.

Tu mundi illiciebras sapiens vitare mement. Coelica regna tibi quaere precare mihi. Patricii Kerin me fabricavit.

WILL OF WALTER BOURKE OF BORRISOLEIGH. (4)

"In Dei nomen. Amen. I, Walter Bourke, of Borris O Leagh, in the Countie of Tipperary, Esq., being in perfect mynde and memorie, doe make my last will and testament in manner following, viz. First, I bequeath my soule to Almighty God, my maker and redeemer, and doe will my body to be buried in the grave for me built in the high church of Glankeyne, within the canthred of O Leagh in the aforesaid countie. Next I doe appoint, name and constitute my well beloved sones in law, William O Meara, of Lesnuskie, in the Count of Tipperarie, Esq., and Donoghue O Carroll, of Batillogha, in the King's Countie, Gents, my sole and only executors of my last will and testament."

He bequeathed to his sonne and heire, Theobald Bourke, my horse, my suit of mayle, my brewing furnace and aqua vita pott and two silver cups, price six pounds sterling, the cups. He leaves all his personal property to his well beloved wife, Elizabeth Dwyer, "with her to remayne to her own use and beheaste, and to her disgression, provided she shall not marry nor take the seconde husbande, which if she doe I doe not leave nor allow her but a third of my moveable goods." He also leaves the lands possessed by him to her use for life, she to pay his debts and pay £7 in discharge of my soule, and to take charge of all the charges and expenses to be made about my funeral. He leaves and bequeathes "unto the Chapter House of Borres the altar ramements and Mass book, saving only that I am pleased that my wife, Elizabeth Dwyer, may enjoy the same during her life."

He leaves and bequeathes unto his sonne, Theobald, all my hand pieces and suits of mayle, saving one hand piece and my head piece, which I leave to my sonne, John Bourke. In witness of this, my last will and testament by me made, being of perfect and sound minde, I herewith put my hand and seal the 28th day of May, An., Dm., 1623. Walter Bourke (X—his marke). Seal.

Shily, wife of McWalter Bourke, was sister of Dermot O Dwyer, of Clonyharp castle, in Kilnamanaagh, and, if tradition can be relied on, appears to have been a lady of exceedingly cruel disposition.

Local tradition, however, is unanimous in the belief that she resided at Cullagh hill castle, where the numerous misdeemours were committed. Known by the name of Shiel na Guira, numerous tales are still recounted in the district of her harsh treatment towards those who incurred her hostility.

One in particular is that, owing to a moral lapse on the part of her sister, Shiel suspeded her by the heels from the battlements of the castle and, pouring boiling water on her body, scalded her to death. It is also recounted that a favourite form of punishment adopted by Shiel was to place an enemy visitor in a barrel thickly studded with sharp pointed nails and roll it down the steep hill at Cullaghill.

(3). From Transcript in Irish Record Office.
(4). From original, formerly in Irish Record Office (Cashel Wills).
On another occasion she deeply insulted Reiny beg Ryan, of Commaun, near Templederry, who had twenty full grown sons.

Reiny challenged Sheila to meet him and his sons with her forces near Ross. The challenge was accepted and the contest took place near the village of Carrickboy, where a number of mounds are said to mark the burial place of those killed in the fray.

Another story is that Sheila and her sister in law of Cullaghill were deadly enemies and each morning they were in the habit of mounting to the summits of their respective castles and by hostile gestures and other demonstrations continued to bid defiance to each other until compelled by exhaustion to desist from the contest.

At length Sheila adopted the ruse of placing a lay figure on her castle pointing the finger of scorn towards her enemy, which so irritated the latter that she prematurely succumbed to spleen and apoplexy.

Another tradition connected with the castle of Borrisoleigh relates that in Elizabeth's reign the occupants, learning that the castle of Knockagh, in Drom parish, had been RAID by troops, engaged five men to bury by night their store of gold and silver, including a gold pig and several piglets, beneath the floor.

Having concluded their task, the men were invited to breakfast; four accepted the invitation and were never seen again; the fifth, warned by a female servant, escaped and fled the country.

It is surmised that the others were murdered and buried within the precincts of the castle.

It is related that Dermot O Dwyer, of Clonyharpe, and Theobald Bourke, of Cullaghill, being enemies, were accustomed to collect their respective forces and raid each others territories in quest of prey.

Bourke, of Curragha castle, usually made the assistance of his kinsman of Cullaghill, which so exasperated Dermot, that he attacked Curragha castle but failed to gain an entrance.

Calling off his forces, he shortly returned alone and lay in wait beside the gate till the owner, carrying his young son in his arms, came out to see if the enemy had departed, whereupon Dermot attacked and mortally wounded him. Before expiring, he left an injunction on his son that when he reached manhood he should put to death his murderer, which was accordingly done.

According to the "Triumphalia" written by Brother Bernard Hartley of Holy Cross Abbey in 1646, the relic of the True Cross first left the Abbey for the purpose of putting an end to a long drawn out feud between Dermot O Dwyer, of Clonyharp castle, and Richard Bourke, of Borris. As Dermot died in 1629, when Richard was a minor, it is scarcely probable that the feud referred to existed at that period.

There are records in the "Triumphalia" that the relic had been carried from the Abbey as early as the 1st year of that century, so the fixed mentioned must have been in operation at an earlier period in the previous century between the respective families.

McWalter Bourke, of Borris, was succeeded by his son, Theobald Bourke, of Cullaghill and Borris, who died in 1634.

The following funeral entry in the office of the Ulster King-of-Arms, by Richard his son, furnishes interesting details. The entry is dated September 17th, 1635.

The entry is dated September 17th, 1635.

That McWalter's eldest son and heir, Theobald Bourke, of Borris, descended from the Bourkes, of Cavan, departed this mortal life at Borris on November 14th, 1634, and was interred in the parish church of Clanchine. He married Annestance, daughter of Redmond Morrish, of Conocagh (Knockagh), by whom he had five sons and five daughters, viz. : Richard, the eldest, who married Ellis, daughter of Morice Hurly, of Cnoklong, Co. Limerick.

*Original Mss. by St. Patrick's College, Thurles. Translation by Rev. Denis Murphy, S.J.*
Oliver the 2nd married Ellis, daughter of Teige Riane of Lishnyselly, gent. Redmond, the 3rd son; —— the 4th son, and Edmond, the 5th.

Ellinor, the eldest daughter, married Thomas Purcell, of Gortanna. 
Ellen, the 2nd daughter, married Simon Cantwell, of Killings, Co. Tipp. 
Mary, 3rd daughter, married Daniel O Logan, Co. Tipp.

Mabel, 4th daughter, married John McEgan, said Co.; and Margaret, the 5th, unmarried.

Teige Ryan, of Lisnaselly, above mentioned, was ancestor of the Ryan family of Inch.

Thomas Purcell, of Gortanna, or Annfield, was brother of Theobald Purcell, baron of Loughmoe, and was killed at the seige of the president of Munster's castle, in Cork, during the rebellion of 1641.

Though his father, Theobald, and his grandfather had lived in strenuous times, Richard was destined to endure hardships following the rebellion of 1641 more drastic than any sustained by his progenitors.

McWalter's 2nd son, William, of Garrylish, died in 1627.

An Inquisition (5) was taken at the town of Clonmel on September 14th, 1629, before Philip Percival and others, when sworn witnesses said that Walter (?) William Bourke, late of Garrelsh, in the county Tipperary, in full life was seised in fee of the town and lands of Garrelsh, Cnockshiarchone and Dromvoynagh, containing in all one carucate of land in County aforesaid.

That the aforesaid Walter (William), while thus seised of the premises by his deed given on the 18th day of May, 1616, enfeoffed Eac McConagher O Shanahane, of Rathuiridine, in Offane of Gurtmenarragh, in county aforesaid, his heirs and assigns, to the use and intention following in these words—to the only use, benefit and behoof, &c. That Walter (?) (William) Bourke by virtue of said deed entered into possession of the premises and thus seised died on December 28th, 1627.

That Walter Bourke is his son and heir, aged 14 years, and unmarried.

That all and singular premises were held of the late King by Knights' service.

That Unnoly Kennedie, als Bourke, was the wife of the aforesaid Walter, and is now living.

1627. Dec. 19th—WILL OF WILLYM BOURKE, OF GARRILLISSE, CO. TIPPERARY.

Extracts. To be buried in the Parish Church of Glankne, and appointed as exrs. Theobald Bourke, of Bores., Esq.; my brother; Bryan McGrath, of Bleane, said county, Esq.; Donnogh O Carroll, of Ballalough, King's Co., gent; and Myles Bourke, of Corbally, said county, gent, my brother.

Bequests to parish priest and rest of clergy according to discretion of exrs.

To wife, Finola Bourke, 3 of goods. To 2nd daughter, Ellean Bourke, towards mayntenance and preferment, 20th part of all my cowes, with 12 mares and garrans, and three score sheep.

To 3rd daughter, Joane, 30 sheep and 4 garrans.
To 4th daughter, Anable Bourke, 20 sheep, to be bred out of the two parts, and also 2 garrans, likewise out of above parts.
To son and heir, Walter, £100 due upon a mortgage on the castle, town and lands of Keppoghe Rin.
To 2nd son, Myles Bourke, £100 and £20 towards mayntenance and education and 4 garrans, one of which testator's brother, Theobald, shall have his choyee, eyther my best horse or my English mare, together with my best speare.

(5). From Transcript in Irish Record Office.
Both my nephews, Richard, and his brother, Oliver, to have my Targett and head-geare.

My saddle to my brother, Myles Bourke, and to brother John my swords.

If competent some made by sale of my corne, 2nd son, Myles, to have £20 above mentioned. 3rd son, John, to have also £10 as exrs. see fit.

To wife, Finola, a legacy of £20 over and above her 3rds., according to exrs.


An inquisition held at Clonmel on September 14th, 1629, before Philip Percival and others, shows that David fytz William Bourke was seised in fee of seven acres of land with appurtenances at Meenalaghagh, and died on September 10th, 1628.

That Ullick Bourke was his son and heir, of full age and married.

All and singular premises were held of the king by knight's service.

A later inquisition, also held at Clonmel, on May 2nd, 1630, related that a William Bourke was seised in fee of a fourth part of Curraghleigh, and died ten years previous to the taking of the inquisition.

That Richard Bourke was his son and heir of said William, and was of full age and married, and that the premises were held of the king in capite and by knight's service.

THE TERRITORY OF ILEAGH.

CIVIL SURVEY, 1654.

At a Court of Survey, held at Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, for the Territory of Ileagh, on July 24th, 1654, before Charles Blount and others, the following jurors were sworn:—

Walter Bourke, of Colloghilk, gent.
Mlaghlin Shanaghan, of Rathmoy, gent.
Wm. Bourke, of Fountaine, gent.
Edmond Bourke, of Graige, gent.
Miles Bourke of Macnane, gent.
Daniell Magrath, of Garryly, gent.
Mlaghlin Shanaghan, of Borres, gent.
Thomas McShane, of Curraghbehy, gent.
Patrick Purcell, of Borres, gent.
Rowland Bourke, of the same, gent.

In 1640 the lands held by the Bourkes in Ileagh were as follows:—

Walter Bourke, of Garrylish, gent, Irish Papist, Garrylish, 400 acres; Richard Bourke, als McWalter, of Borres, Ileagh, Esq., Irish Papist, 4,000 acres. Upon the said lands stood the castle and bawn of Borres in good repair, with an orchard, a water corn mill, six thatched houses and many cabins. A Court Baron was held by the landlords of the manor twice a year.

Richard Bourke, als McWalter Cuologhilk, Cronovone, Fountaine, Glantane and Knockikill, four ploughlands. Upon the lands stood the castle of Colloghill, the walls of a stone house and some thatched cabins.

Ullick Bourke, of Moncanane, I.P., 94 acres.
Olliver Bourke, of Gurtenabarnewane, gent, I.P., 460 acres.
Myles Bourke, of Corbally, gent, I.P., 319 acres.
Richard Bourke, of Caraghbehy; Wm. Bourke, Edmund McTheobald and Ullick Bourke, all of the same I.P., 88 acres.
Theobald Bourke, of Dromtarsny; Wm. Bourke, Edmond and Laghlin Ryan, of same, I.P., Dromtarsny, 160 acres.
John Bourke, of Barracurragh, gent, I.P., 276 acres.
The townland of Rathcardane, in the barony of Ellogarty, also belonged to the Bourkes, and was included in the Territory of Ileagh.

The proprietors in 1640 were Richard Bourke, of Barracurry; Redmond and John Bourke, of same, gent, I.P.

The Down Survey and Book of Distribution show the various townlands in the Territory of Ileagh, with the names of the proprietors in 1641, and the grantees under the Commonwealth from 1654 to the Restoration.

**TERRITORY OF ILEAGH.**

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<td>Wm. Shanahan of Glankeene, Wm. McThomas (Bourke) of same.</td>
<td>Moncanone, 92 acres. 4 parcels of Clebe, 10 acres.</td>
<td>Duke of Ormond Church land.</td>
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<td>Ullick Bourke, gent, of Moncanone, Irish Papist.</td>
<td>Part of same 58 acres.</td>
<td>Eliza Swinnick.</td>
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<td>Matthew Ryan, gent</td>
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<td>Ullick Bourke</td>
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Miles Bourke
Corbally, 319 acres.
Roger Jones
Hen. Avocke
Duke of Ormond
Sir Tho. Brewerton

Derby Ryan and
Daniel Ryan
Glantane, 150 acres
Terryterragh
Eliza Swinnock

Theobald Bourke,
Wm. Bourke, Edmund and
Laughlin Ryan, of
Drumtarsney
Drumtarney, 94 acres.
Hen. Avocke
Duke of Ormond
Sir Tho. Brewerton

Richard Bourke, Wm. Bourke
Edmund McTheobald and
Ulick Bourke
Currajoh, Curraghleagh, 344 acres
Owen Silver
Hen. Avocke

Ulick Bourke and
John Bourke
Glanbreidge, 203 acres
John Fisher

John Bourke
Rathcardane, 276 acres
Jos. Brown
Edward Woods
Sir Tho. Brewerton

Connor Ryan and
Connor Shannaghan
Gortnacreadagh, 59 acres
Rathmay, 120 acres
Sir Tho. Brewerton
Duke of Ormond

Richard Bourke,
Redmond Bourke and
John Bourke, all of
Barracurry
Barracurry, 170 acres
Richd. Alchorne

In the Civil Survey the name of Walter Butler, of Nodstown, appears as proprietor of Pallis, but in the Book of Distribution the name of Walter Bath is substituted.

By the decree of the Commissioners of the Commonwealth given at Loughrea in January, 1654, Richard Bourke and his kinsmen, with all landowners over £10 valuation, were ordered on penalty of death to transplant across the Shannon before the 1st May of that year. In 1656 Richard was allotted 1,700 acres in Connaught, but returned at the Restoration and died in Borrisoleigh in 1665. His first wife, Ellis or Alice Hurley, having died, he married secondly —— Butler. The following are extracts from his will:

WILL OF RICHARD BOURKE, OF BORRISOLEIGH.
son of Theobald and grandson of McWalter Bourke. 1665.

He directs that his body be buried in Glankeyne and that his debts be payd, including £4 to Lieutenant Ottway.

He leaves his wife, Jane Bourke, alias Butler, his household effects, and constitutes his son, Walter, his heir.

He leaves the house and lands of Garrylisse to his second son, William, in tail male, but should he succeed Walter, the lands of Garralisse to pass to third son, Thomas. His personal property he divides into two equal parts, one half to his wife, the other to be divided between his four younger sons.

To son, Thomas, the lands of Greenan, Foilnamon, &c.

His heir, Walter, to pay £100 to each of his sons, Richard and John.

£150 to his son-in-law, Murtagh McBrien, or his wife, Honora Bourke

His very loving friend, John Meagher, of Boulebane, gent, and John Stapleton, of Clonesmullen, gent, appointed executors and given £6 for his soul. He entreats his right honourable cousin, Piers Lord Viscount I. Kerrin, to oversee and amend any errors that may be committed in his premises. In a codicil he leaves his estate in the town and lands of Killruane to his wife.
According to the Hearth Money records (Laffan) a number of the Bourkes of Illaght had returned there from transplantation in 1666-7, as shown by the following records:

**TERRITORY OF ILLAGHT.**

**Borrase.**
Walter Bourke, Esq., 9 hearths.
David McRichard (Bourke), 1 hearth.

**Pallice.**
William Bourke.
Richard Bourke
Connor McThomas (Bourke).
William Bourke.

**Gorteenabarna.**
Edmund Bourke, 2 hearths.
Edmund Duffe (Bourke).
Robert Bourke.

**Killamoy.**
Richard Bourke, 2 hearths.
Richard Bourke.

**Corbally.**
Ulick Bourke, 2 hearths.
Edmund Bourke, 2 hearths.
Katherine Bourke.
Sheely Bourke.
Edmund Bourke, Jun.
Thomas Bourke.
Ulick Bourke.
John Bourke.

**Drumgill.**
William Bourke.
Edmund Bourke.
John McDaniel (Bourke).

**Rathleagh.**
Richard Bourke.

**Cullaghill.**
Wm. McPhillip (Bourke).
Donogh McDaniel (Bourke).
John Bourke.
Connor Mc Tory (Bourke).
Miles Bourke.

**Fantane.**
Richard Bourke.

**Glanbreedy & Garryliesse.**
Edmund Bourke, 2 hearths.
William Bourke.
Miles Bourke.
Ulick Bourke.
Edmund Bourke.
John McPhillip Bourke.
Wm. McEdmund Bourke.
John Bourke.
Wm. Bourke.
Teige McPhillip Bourke.
Rowland Bourke, 2 hearths.

**Garrangreeny.**
Wm. McEdmund (Bourke).
Richard Bourke.
John Bourke.

**Upper & Lower Graige.**
Donogh McTeige (Bourke).
Tobias Bourke.
Oliver Bourke.

**Rathmoyle.**
Wm. Bourke.

**Knockharny & Gortenyorane.**
John Bourke, 2 hearths.
Danniell McTeige (Bourke).
Elllice Bourke.

**Toreen.**
Wm. Bourke, 2 hearths.

Under the Acts of Settlement and Explanation, 1666-84, a further distribution of the lands of Illaght took place whereby the Duke of Ormond was granted Burresseoleagh, Affolishane, Garrilisse (E. part), Glankene, Garrangreny, Gortcloher, Lissardbane, pt. of Burresseoleagh, Garrymore, Garrane (A. part), Gortegilly, Grange Upper, alias Graige, Gortilogha, Shanaknock (part), Rathmoyle, Curraghmore (part), part of Burres and Kilcolan, Capulonelagh (part of Burres), Knockearn, Gortenorny, Gortinlogh, Curragheele (part), Drumtarsney (part). Total quantity, 1,456 a., plant. Total rent, £22 5s. 6½d. Inrolled Dec. 19th, 1666.

Owen Silver, Fountain (part), Curraghehey, Glantaine, Grangerae. Total, 474 a. Rent, £7 4s. 0½d.

Christopher Render, Glanbreedy, ye west part of Garrylish, 295 a.
Richard Alchorne, Esq., the castle, messuages, gardens, orchards, the greater part of the bawn, with two of ye turrets and gatehouse, and ye south part of the lands of Burlesleigh next Affolishane, as it was separated by the divisional line run by the surveyor, who divided the same between the said Richd. Alchorne and Thos. White and John Dawling, out of ye N. part of Affolishane, of ye north part of Pallice, Barreccury. Total, 556 a. Rent, £8 8s. 8½d.

Thomas White and John Dawling, gents, south part of Knockane, Garrygortigill and Glankeene; Locr Graiges, north of Burrows, with ye N. part of ye bawne as divided between them in ye stable, and two turrets. Total, 866 a. Rent, £9 4sfl 3d. Inrolled Nov. 16th, 119.

Roger Jones, Esq., Corbally (part) wood in ye same. Total, 397 a. Rent, £3 14s. 3½d.


Sir Thomas Brereton, bart., two parcell of Garrylish, Gurteenbaran, Killemeane, in Drumtarsney, Rathcardane, next after ye lands confirmed to Edward Wood and Joseph Browne, Gortnacranagh. Total, 834 a. Rent, £12 13s. 1½d. Inrolled October 3rd, 1671.

Eliza and Sarah, daughters and co-heirs of Swynoch, late of Woolwich, in Kent, son and heir of Robt. Swynoch, late Majeston, Kent, Coolekill, Moncarnan, Curraghkeale, W. part, Fountaine. Total, 559 a. Rent, £5 12 5½d. Inrolled July 12th, 1676.

By the Act of Settlement of 1662 the grantees of the Commonwealth were generally confirmed in the lands allotted them, but few, if any, settled in the territory of Ieagh.

The Bourkes, who survived the transplantation, on returning from Clare, were obliged to become mere tenants on their former estates under the Duke of Ormond and others, and in less than thirty years those who survived, and their sons, were swept into the vortex of war in support of the most worthless representative of the Stuarts James II. In the course of the 18th century John Damery, the banker of Shronell, purchased the greater part of Ieagh, from whom it descended to Lord Portarlington, who sold the greater part under the Encumbered Estates Act in 1856.

The principal families of the Bourkes in the latter part of the 18th and early 19th century were those of Burris, Curraghbaha, Curraleigh, Springfield, Summerhill, Cronavone and Pallis. The last representative of the latter family, Miss Margaret Bourke, survived up to the early part of the present century.

The castle of Burres was originally of considerable dimensions, but suffered the same fate as the majority of similar structures at the hands of the Cromwellians.

The Down Survey map shows the castle as an ordinary square Anglo-Norman keep within a bawn or enclosure which had a circular tower at each angle. North west of the castle is a larger structure, with enclosure and towers, but this representation is crossed out, being apparently a mistake on the part of the cartographer.

Towards the end of the 18th century the remains of the castle came into the hands of the Bidolph family who established a distillery in the village. They had the greater part of the building demolished and utilised the material for the erection of a number of houses. In the end wall of a dwelling close to the remains of the castle is a mural tablet inscribed: —Richard Bourke, Alice Hurley. Marmore cur surgat op facit, hospes, hostis. Hospes in amplexus sed procul hostis eat.

This stone probably occupied a position over the entrance gateway to the castle in the time of Richard Bourke, the grandson of McWalter. The portion of the building still standing consists of a considerable part of the original keep, which rises to a height of about thirty feet and is partly covered with ivy.

There is no trace of the Castle of Cullahill, but the oblong building mentioned in the Civil Survey still surmounts the steep hill and forms a landmark visible for many miles.

(6). From original, formerly in Irish Record Office.