# ANTIQUITIES OF CASHEL

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As might be expected of a place of such historical importance, Cashel was formerly rich in articles of artistic and literary interest. Nearly all these are now dispersed among various collections, so that a catalogue of the provenance of the more important items may be useful as a record. (This list does not claim to be altogether complete, and the writer will be glad to hear of additional material).

These relics may roughly be divided into three classes:

i Ecclesiastical objects.

ii Manuscripts and objects deriving from Cashel Corporation.

iii Manuscripts and printed books from the Cashel Library founded by Archbishop Theophilus Bolton in 1740. The more important items from this library have been deposited for safe keeping in the Cashel Collection in the Library of the Representative Church Body, 52 St. Stephen's Green East, Dublin.

## CATALOGUE. (i)

1. **The Bell of Cashel,** a typical bronze bell of the early Christian period, was found in 1849 during excavations near the Rock. *In the Dunraven Collection in the Limerick City Museum.*

2. **The Cashel Brooch.** A large silver brooch dating from the late Norse period and decorated with the Scandinavian thistle design. *In the Library of Trinity College, Dublin.*

3. **The Cashel Crozier,** circa 1250. This is a gilded copper crozier-head, set with turquoise and sapphire. Of Limoges manufacture, depicting St. Michael and the Dragon. Found on the Rock and now in *the National Museum, Dublin.*

4. **The Kearney-Crux Crozier.** A crozier containing a remnant of the reputed staff of St. Patrick which is traceable back to Archbishop O'Grady (1332-45), and which during the seventeenth century passed into the hands of the O'Kearney family. *In the Museum of St. Patrick's College, Thurles.*

5. **Manuscript miscellany,** of Canterbury origin, circa 1170 (described with other Cashel MSS. in Cork H. and A. Journal, Vol. LII. 1947), *in Cashel Collection, R.C.B.*

6. **"The Psalter of Cashel."** A substantial portion of this miscellany of early Irish history is in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, to which it was left in the seventeenth century. The manuscript is a mid-fifteenth century copy, originally owned by Edmund Mac Richard Butler. The Bodleian reference is MS. Laud. Misc., 610. There is a full analysis of its contents in J. H. Todd, *"Description of The Irish Academy" 1842-3, pt. vii., p. 336.*

MS. Rawl.B.502 fol. 51-3 contains a catalogue of saints in a 12th century

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hand from "The Psalter of Cashel." The manuscript is described in *Catalogi Codicum Manuscriptorum Bibliothecae Bodleianae pt.V. fasc. 1. R. Rawlinson codicum classes duas priores* by W. D. Macray, p.719-22 which cites Dr. Todd's description in *Proc. Royal Irish Acad.* V. 164-8. This catalogue of saints is omitted in Dr. Todd's list. It is described in the catalogue as:

X. A Catalogue of saints; from the Psalter of Cashel, ff. 51-53.
Omitted in Dr. Todd's list. Eight columns in a page. At the end is written: "Hii omnes sancti (sic) invoco in auxilium meum *** Maria sanctificari (?) *** quarum et quorum dicuntur nomina *** et quos præscivit prædestinavit conformes fieri imaginis Filii Sui in vitam æternam in Christo Jesu. Amen."

7. **The Cashel Pyx,** given by a member of the Sall family in the early seventeenth century for the Cashel Franciscan Abbey. *In the possession of Mr. John Hunt.*

8. **Cashel Chalices.**

(i) The O'Fogarty Chalice made 1641 for the Cathedral of St. Patrick's Rock. *In the keeping of the Very Reverend Dean O'Donnell of Cashel.*

(ii) 1649 Chalice, inscribed "For the use of the Cathedral Church of St. Patrick, 1649." *In the keeping of the Very Reverend Dean O'Donnell of Cashel.*

(iii) The Fulwar Chalice and Paten, London 1661 (Flagon 1667). *In the keeping of the Very Reverend Dean Jackson of Cashel.*

(iv) The Palliser Chalice, Paten and Flagon, Dublin, 1715, with another similar chalice and paten, Dublin 1727, *in the keeping of the Very Reverend Dean Jackson of Cashel.*

(v) The Knockgraffon Chalice by Buck of Limerick, 1715, *in the keeping of the Very Reverend Dean Jackson of Cashel.*

9. **The Verge,** Dublin silver of 1725 by Mountjoy, *in the keeping of the Very Reverend Dean Jackson of Cashel.* (For all the above Church Silver see Buckley and also Seymour).

10. **Seals.**

(i) Matrix cut in bloodstone set in silver, of John, Archdeacon of Cashel. 13th century. (See Armstrong, "Irish seal-matrices," fig. 50). *In National Museum.*

(ii) Seal matrix of Archbishop Brennan of Cashel, 17th century. (See Armstrong, fig. 76). *In National Museum.*

(iii) Seal matrix of Emly Chapter, c. 16th century. (See Armstrong, fig. 54). *In National Museum.*

(iv) Matrix of seal of Dean of Cashel, c. 18th century, *in St. John's Cathedral Museum, Cashel.*

(v) Matrix of seal of Vicars Choral, c. 18th century, *in St. John's Cathedral Museum, Cashel.*

(vi) Matrix of seal of Chapter of Emly, 18th century. *In St. John's Cathedral Museum, Cashel.*

11. **Mediaeval Manuscripts (ii).**



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(i) A service book, illuminated, of the 13th century: a 14th century Commentary on the Psalms: Part of a 14th century Hundred Roll: Portion of the 15th century "Graecismus" of Eberbard of Bethune:—*All in the Cashel Collection, R.C.B.*

(ii) Collection of single leaves of mediæval writings from the 13th to the 15th centuries—*in the Museum of St. John's Cathedral, Cashel.*

12. **Later manuscripts.** A group of medical works of the 17th century: two volumes of monastic deeds probably translated by Archdall: A view of the state of Ireland 1640-52: A formulary for the coronation of George I, 1714, etc., *all in the Cashel Collection, R.C.B.*

13. **Three Irish Manuscripts** of eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, of which the most important is a large volume containing, inter alia, extracts made in 1714 from the Psalter of Cashel by Dermod O'Connor, then in Limerick. *In the Cashel Collection, R.C.B.*

14. **Binding.** Calf binding of 1634 on a MSS. copy of Aristotle's "Commentaries." (The oldest item in Foyle's exhibition of Irish bindings, 1954). *In the Cashel Collection, R.C.B.*

15. **Early Printed Material.**

(i) Two sheets of Caxton's 1486 ed. of Chaucers "House of Fame."

(ii) 1501 "Pica Ecclesiæ Sarum" by Richard Pynson.

(iii) 1522 "Repertorium Do. Nicholaus de Milis," in Catherine of Aragon's library binding. *All above in Cashel Collection, R.C.B.*

16. **Local Cashel Printing.**

(i) "The Psalter of Cashel." Early 19th century literary miscellany, *in T.C.D. Library.*

(ii) Collection of John Davis White, 19th century printing, *in Cashel Collection, R.C.B.*

17. **Manuscripts of Dorothea Herbert.**

(i) "Retrospections," *in possession of Miss Mandeville, Kilsheehan, Clonmel.*

(ii) Volume of Poems by Dorothea Herbert, *in Waterford Cathedral Library.*

18. **Cashel Corporation objects.** (iii).

(i) The Maces and Sword of Cashel. *In the National Museum.*

(ii) Seal of matrix of Cashel Corporation, 17th century silver. *In the City Hall, Cashel.*

(iii) Charters of James II and of William and Mary. *Belonging to Cashel U.D.C., on temporary loan to the National Library.*

(iv) Corporation minute books, 17th to 19th centuries. *Belonging to Cashel U.D.C., on temporary loan to the National Library.*

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