

## ARCHÆOLOGICAL SURVEY OF MUNSTER.

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In October last we received the following letter from the President of University College, Cork. Since then the first number of the College "Official Gazette" has been published, and we find Section XI devoted to this subject, with the matter of the enclosure referred to in Dr. Windle's letter, set out more fully in detail. We have decided to publish the article in the "Gazette" instead of the circular letter, as we believe it provides more necessary information

" University College, Cork,

" October 1st, 1910.

" DEAR SIR—I shall be very greatly obliged to you if you can find room for the enclosed in the next issue of your journal, and I shall further be greatly indebted to you if you can help me in the project in which I am interested.—Yours sincerely,

" BERTRAM C. A. WINDLE.

" The Editor N. M. A. S. Journal."

### ARCHÆOLOGICAL SURVEY OF MUNSTER.

*(From Official Gazette, University College, Cork, January, 1911.)*

In connection with the teaching of Archæology in the College, the Governing Body has recently decided to set up the apparatus for a full and complete survey of what may be called Collegiate Munster, *i.e.*, Munster other than the County of Clare, which, as is well known, is by the Irish Universities Act of 1908, wrested from its natural connection with the rest of Munster and attached to Connacht. It is felt that for the sake of workers in Archæology and National History, and for the sake also of those anxious to assist in preserving those ancient monuments of former inhabitants which have survived to this day, it is essential that a record should be made and kept in some central place where it will be accessible to all persons genuinely interested in the above-named

subjects. The University College of Munster seems to be the natural head-quarters for such a record, and in association with its Library—described in another part of this “Gazette”—the natural place where information of the kind which the record is capable of affording, would be looked for. The Governing Body have taken up the matter, and have provided the necessary apparatus on the most generous scale. It is now for the antiquarians of the district in question to assist the authorities of the College in getting together a mass of information which will be, when collected, a mine of gold for all future generations of archæologists and historians.

In working at the antiquities of a county or of a smaller district, the first difficulty met with is to ascertain what objects of the class or classes under study actually exist, or have been known to exist, in the district to be dealt with, and when that difficulty has been faced a further one remains, namely, to ascertain what has already been written on the subject. When the survey now initiated by the College is complete, these difficulties will once for all have come to an end as far as our Province is concerned. That it will take a long time to make the survey complete is admittedly the case—how long will entirely depend upon the amount of assistance which friends and workers are willing to afford to the undertaking. It is hoped that the description now about to be given will encourage some persons to offer assistance, and will make it clear how that assistance may best be given.

The apparatus consists of (i.) a cabinet containing a complete set of the sheets of the six-inch Ordnance Survey of the Counties of Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Tipperary, and Waterford, with an index map to each county. All these maps are mounted on linen, and each has a conspicuous numeral in its lower left-hand corner, so that after reference to the index map the desired sheet may easily be discovered. (ii.) A large filing cabinet, with card dividers giving a dictionary division of about six hundred compartments.

These cabinets have both been installed in the Library Research Room.

The scheme for using this apparatus is as follows :—When a note is received in connection with any object, the location of that object will be sought upon the proper sheet of the O.S. When found, the



name of the object will be underlined on the map with red ink, and a number will be affixed to the name, the numerals running consecutively and without any reference to county or district. The note sent in will be transcribed on one of the reference sheets, of which a reduced example, given at foot, will, perhaps, be interesting, and will, at least, serve to make clear the kind of information which is desirable. When the sheet has been filled it will be placed in a "folder," and with it will be associated any photograph, drawing, picture post-card, or other illustration which may be available. The folder will then be placed in the appropriate compartment under the dictionary division most nearly approximate to its name.

In this connection it may be added that some kind of picture of the object is a most valuable addition to any note which may be sent, and that information as to printed descriptions when sent to the College will save a great deal of laborious hunting through journals on the part of those who are concerned in the keeping of the Record.

In the example which follows it will be noted that the Stone Circle in question is situated at Drombeg, in the County of Cork; that it is to be found on Sheet 143 of the 6-inch O.S., and that there are two figures of the circle deposited in the folder with the note. The special feature of the circle is noted, and a reference to a description of the same appears under the heading "Bibliography."

The consecutive numbering is for the purpose of keeping together all papers and figures relating to any particular object. For example, it may easily be understood that the "folder" relating to the Rock of Cashel will, in time to come, be a tolerably full one. Each paper in that folder, as well as the folder itself, will bear the same key number, so that it will always be possible to keep together all the papers relating to these remains.

# I, University College, Cork.

## ARCHÆOLOGICAL SURVEY OF MUNSTER.

County—*Cork.*

Locality—*Drombeg, near Tralong.*

O.S. Map, No, *143.*

Figures No. *Two.*

Object—*Stone Circle*

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NOTE.—*Circle with recumbent stone of so-called "Aberdeenshire type"*  
*Full account with compass bearings as below.*

BIBLIOGRAPHY.—*Captain Boyle T. Somerville, R.N.*

*"Notes on a Stone Circle in County Cork" (three figs).—Journal  
 Cork Historical and Archæological Society. 2 Ser. xv., 83, p.  
 105.*

We feel confident that the members of our society will be willing to assist Dr. Windle in his praiseworthy efforts to prepare this record.

We understand there will be no necessity to direct attention to such monuments as have already been described in the various Transactions of Archæological Societies, or books on the subject, as these will be collated at the College.

There will still remain a number of ancient monuments, such as churches, castles, cahers, raths, &c., marked on the 6-inch O.S. maps, old and new series, which have not been described; some will have disappeared, and we should say the best way to prepare a reliable list of the remaining ones would be to issue an inquiry sheet for each townland or group of townlands, with a map showing the monuments, and giving particulars of the information required.

There are many other remains, viz., dolmens, souterrains, circles, cahers, raths, &c., which are not marked on the map, and in many cases not even generally known. These will present difficulties which we feel sure the promoters fully realized, as it is admitted that "the survey will take a long time."

In our opinion such a survey as this, to include all Ireland, is a matter of urgency. After the sale of the land to the present occupiers, many of these monuments will disappear in land improvements, drainage, and building operations, and a work of such pressing National importance should not be allowed to depend on voluntary effort, which at its best must prove slow and unsatisfactory.—ED.

