Cross at Abbeyshrule, County Longford.—The only cross of comparatively early date which I have been able to find in Longford is that shown in the appended plate. It is three feet in height and there is no surrounding ring; the shaft has been broken off above the socket and is now loose in the graveyard; the arms are missing. The outline is of that type in which the top and arms widen out towards the extremities. On one side the shaft bears a plait of five strands, and at the head a curious horse-shoe-like design formed of three concentric lines. On the other a cross of four lines is incised; it covers the entire stone.

Crosses of this kind are not common in Ireland. One of those at Tully, County Dublin, seems, however, to have been of this form; it is now greatly mutilated. Those members of the Society who took part in the Scottish Archeological cruise in 1899 saw a highly carved example of large size at Kildalton, in the Island of Islay. It has been illustrated in the Journal, vol. xxix., p. 309.

HENRY S. CRAWFORD.


Before my notes were written the late Mr. T. J. Westropp wrote some papers dealing with this district. In some cases I know his conclusions were arrived at rather hastily. It was this knowledge that moved me to prepare the map, with notes, in the Journal of the R. S. A. I., as above.


Slioveragh.—After the new 6th O.S. Map No. 49 was published, showing a stone circle on the east end of Slioveragh, Mr. Westropp—influenced no doubt by an incorrect description of the place—formed the opinion that this was the remains of Oioll Olum's residence, and that Slioveragh was the ancient Sliabh Claire, following O'Donovan's original mistake. (See my notes, p. 118.) This initial error is carried through all his writings, and has led to the many serious mistakes to be found in them. Up to this, Sliabh, or Mullach Claire, had always been identified with Duntryleague.

Claire.—Claire (see my notes, pp. 117-125) was north of the Samair (see p. 119), and probably a district, or territory.

Dodera's Carn.—The supposed "residence" on this barren rock was Carn Meic Nairbreach (see my notes, p. 112), or Carn Riabhach (in my notes, p. 115), Dadera Mac Dairbreach's burial
place. Mr. Westropp locates "the tomb of Dodera" on the western end of Slieveveagh—"perhaps at the two stones of Gatabaun." (Journal R. S. A. I., vol. xlviii., p. 119.)

The account of the battle between Olioll Olum with the Dergthene, and Mac Con with the Eranai, A.D. 186, published in Anecdota (see my notes., p. 112), is not noticed by Mr. Westropp. He places Olioll Olum, his fort, and residence, at the eastern end of Slieveveagh, south of the Samair, when every detail of the battle points to his being north of the river, and that the river and lakes were then a tribal boundary. In this way Mr. Westropp describes the battle as being confined to the western portion of Slieveveagh, and not at the eastern end (see my notes,, pp. 114-115), and makes no reference to "the ford."

Doonlara—Knocklara—Glenlara.—Doonlara Fort he describes as a stronghold of Olioll Olum and reads as Dun Claire (see my notes., p. 122). He explains Knocklara as Cnoc gClaire. It is Cnoc Leath rath (see my notes., p. 116), Glenlara, Glen Leath rath.

St. Molua's Well.—Mr. Westropp failed to see Mac Craith's (a Christian poet) direct reference to St. Molua's Well as over Lugaid's grave, "the Well to which the name clave" (Molua). He places this spring as at Glounacroghe, near Cush (Journal R. S. A. I., p. 119). (See my notes., p. 117.) It is north of the graves of the Eranai. He failed to give due consideration to Mac Craith's poem in other particulars.

Duntryleague—Mullach Claire—Gleneefy.—He looks on Cend Febrat (Slieveveagh) for Mullach Cuillen, while the poem describes it clearly as outside Cend Febrat (see my notes., p. 121), and identifies it with Duntryleague hill, or Mullach Claire, and Gleneefy (see my notes., p. 122 and p. 115) for Claire and Aife. (Journal R. S. A. I., pp. 118-119.)

Templenalawe.—The little church of Templenalawe, Mr. Westropp believed to be the Khrath of the Tripartite Life of St. Patrick, but the journey of St. Patrick, as described in the Tripartite, did not lead south of the Samair. The romance of the Agallamh na Senorach described St. Patrick as crossing the Samair, but this cannot be taken as history. (See my notes, p. 125.)

Khrath—Temair Erann—Temair Luachra.—Khrath was undoubtedly north of the Samair. The graves of the Eranai, as described in the Dindschenchas, enabled Mr. Westropp to locate Temair Erann correctly, but in some of his papers, while referring to the statement made by O'Donovan and O'Curry, that Temair Erann and Temair Luachra were the same, he appears to discredit it. (Journal N. M. A. S., vol. iv., p. 166.) Subsequently Mr. Westropp favoured my location of Temair Luachra on Slieveveagh (Proc. R. I. A., vol. xxxvi., p. 70). I have laboured to show
that Temair Errann and Temair Luachra are the same, and the location on my map is probably correct. It includes, as it should, the grave of Lugaid and the Dun of Dubthach, which may have been the fort of the Mesca Ulad. (See my notes, pp. 109-111.) Temair means a broad outlook; in fact, the slope of the mountain may be the Temair. A boundary line cannot well be drawn. My ellipse denotes the “region” only.

In preparing my notes for Journal R. S. A. I. I did not wish them to appear in a controversial form, and referred only in general terms to the errors now described; but to understand the object of my notes thoroughly it is necessary to refer to what Mr. Westropp has written.

P. J. Lynch.

Amber Beads found in Co. Cavan.—In June, 1921, when cutting turf by the lake shore in Skeagh bog, parish of Knockbride, Co. Cavan, John Smith, of Derrymamph, found, seven feet below the surface, nineteen amber beads: four of them were broken by the slane, or turf spade. The beads, apparently, had formed a necklace, each being perforated for a thick string. The largest one was nearly globular, about 1½ in. in diameter; the others are graduated in size, in pairs, the smallest being about the size of playing marbles. All of them, except the large one, are flattened on two sides. Three of them appear to have been split and put together again. They are all of a dark yellowish brown. The finder took them home as playthings for his children, and they remained in his house for two years, until seen by Mr. James McBreen, of Knockbride, who recognised what they were. They are now all in the custody of the writer.

Joseph B. Meehan.

A farmer named Mr. Michael O’Toole, while working on his farm at Annaghkeen, on the shores of Lough Corrib, near Headford, Co. Galway, on the 5th January, 1924, discovered a cist in a mound of earth which contained human bones and an urn. A complete account of the find appears in the current number of the Journal of the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society.

The urn is in perfect preservation, 4½ inches high and 6½ inches in its greatest diameter.

There were apparently at least three persons buried in the cist, one a child of about five years. The bodies were not burned, and one of the skulls was in fairly good condition, and proved to be Brachycephalic, its cephalic index being 81.5.

The burial belongs to the Bronze Age, and the find is important, as it affords an opportunity of measurements being taken of the bones (particularly the skull) of people who were buried with urns and other objects.

Thomas B. Costello, M.D.