

PEDIGREE

OF THE

O'Connors of the Co. Roscommon.

BY

R. O'CONNOR, Esq.,

BARRISTER.

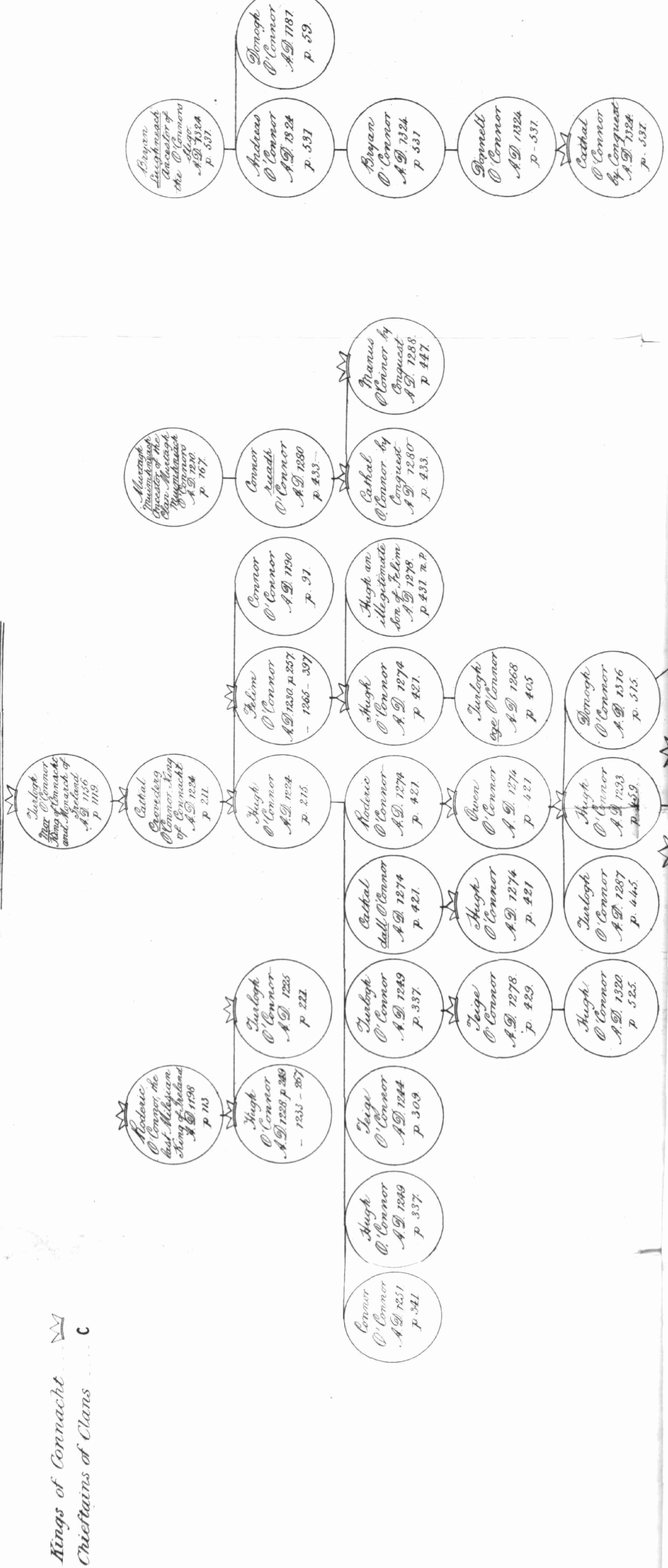
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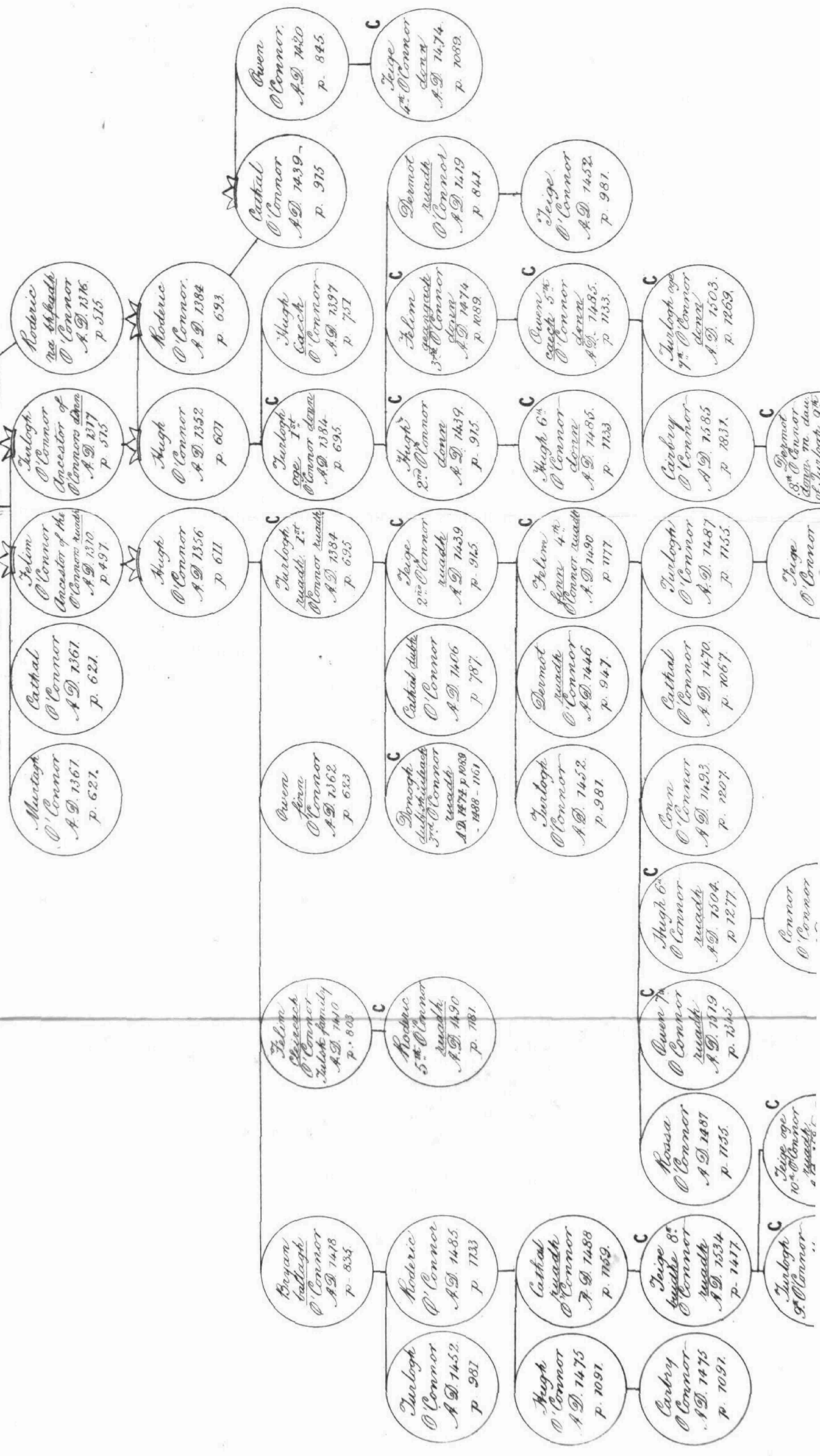
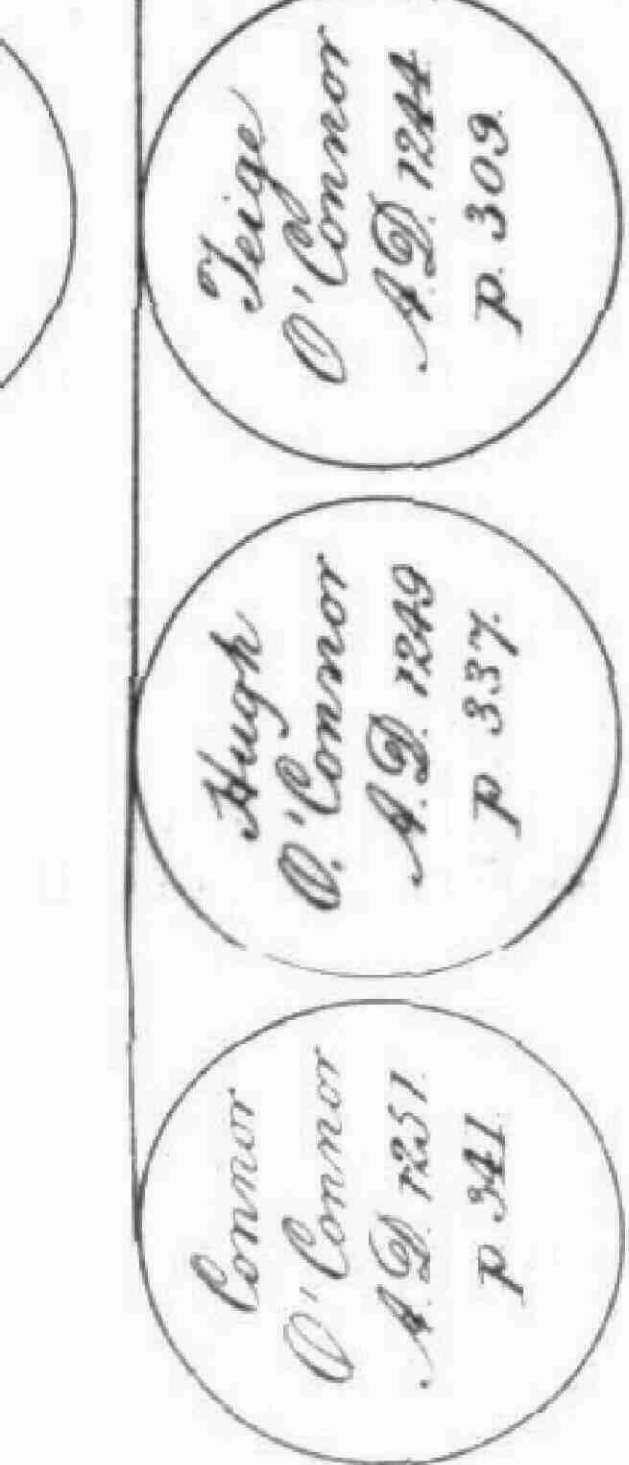
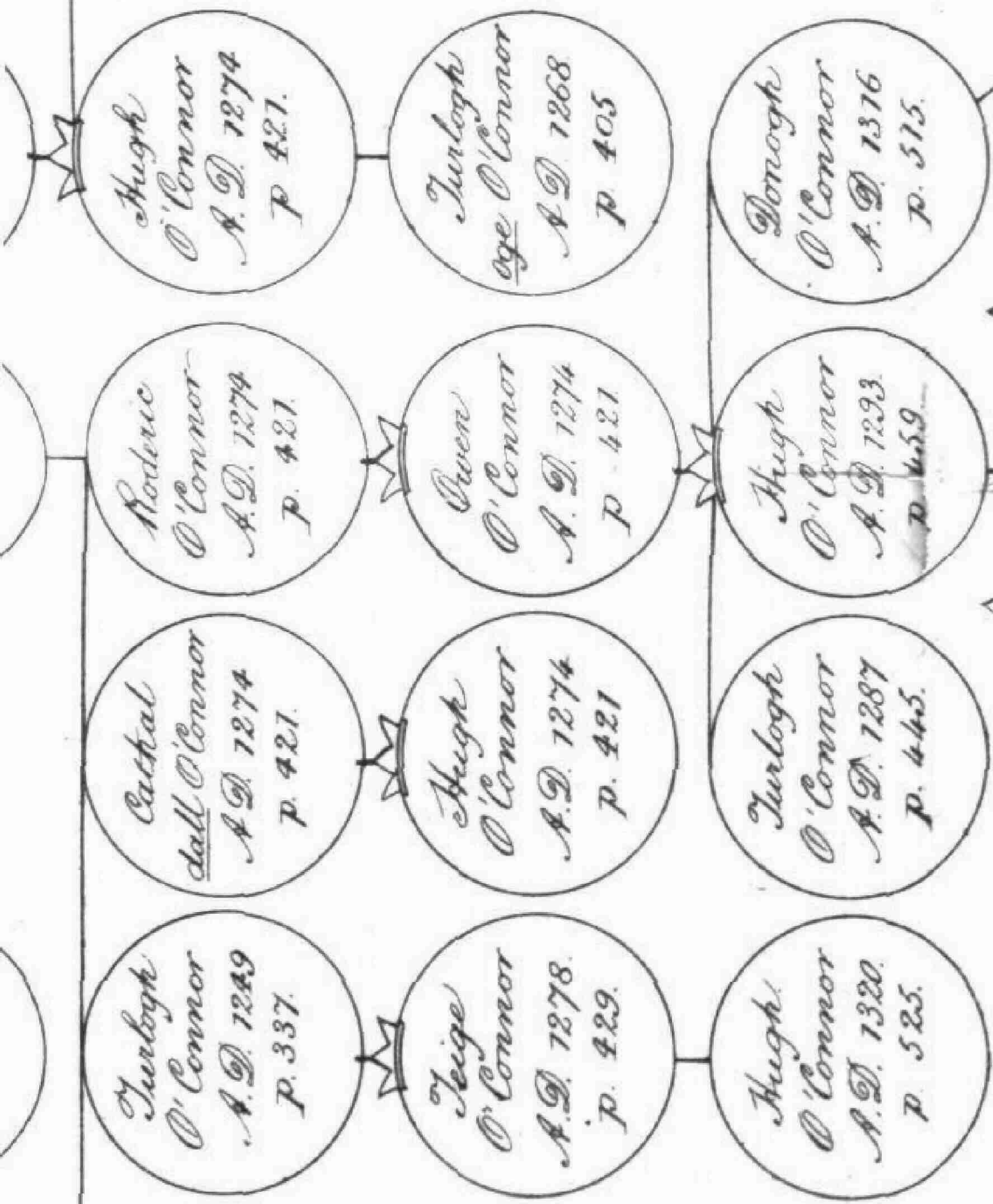
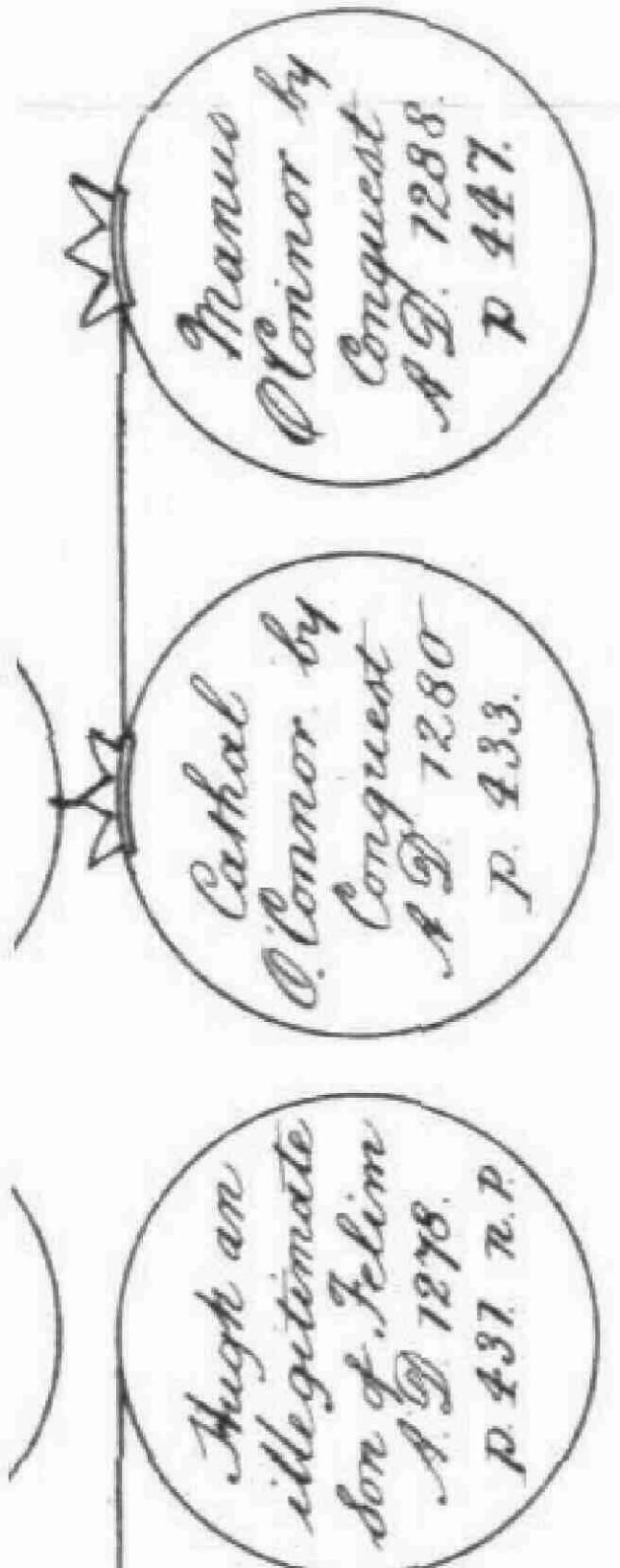
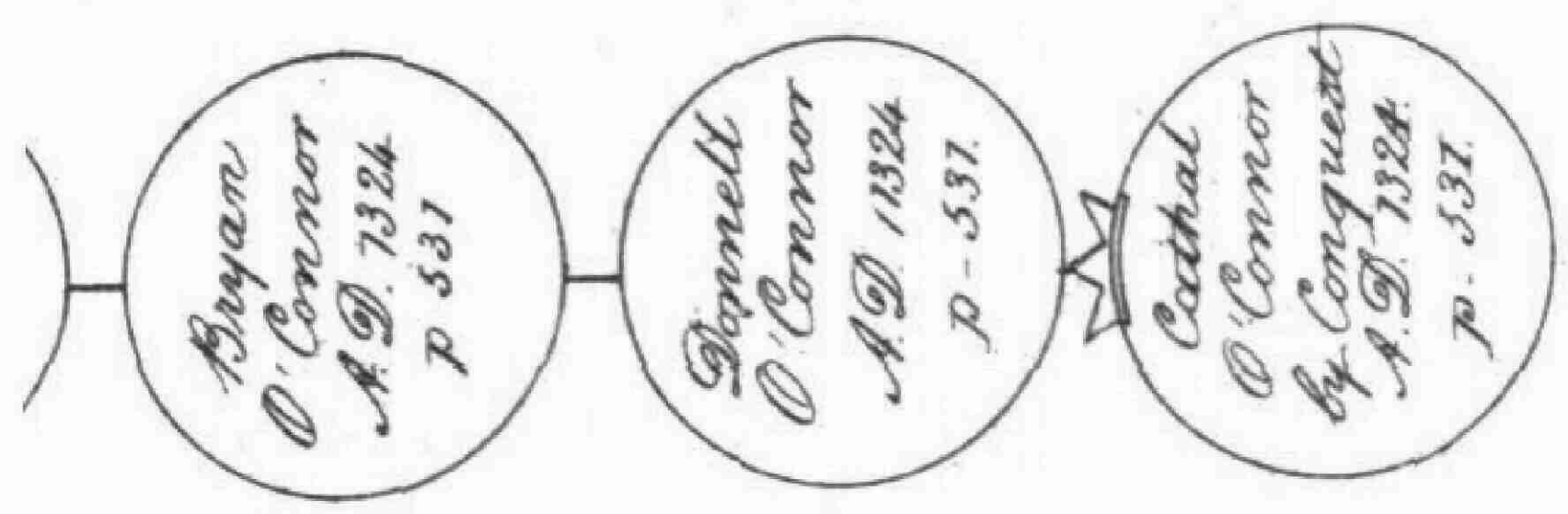
BROWNE AND NOLAN, PRINTERS,

NASSAU-STREET.

1862.

The Descendants of Cathal Crovederg O'Connor, King of Connacht, sustained by the Annals of Ireland, and authentic Public Records, — illustrative of "A Historical and Genealogical Memoir of the O'Connors, Kings of Connacht, and their Descendants."





*MS. see page 14. 15. &c. - for credibility
of John O'Donovan, LL.D.*

*+ 25 - 26, of
Dial de Fribis.*

LINEAL DESCENT

OF THE

O'Connors of the Co. Roscommon.

BY

R. O'CONNOR, Esq.

Barrister.

ILLUSTRATIVE OF A "MEMOIR OF THE O'CONNORS, KINGS.
OF CONNAUGHT, AND THEIR DESCENDANTS."

DUBLIN:

BROWNE AND NOLAN; PRINTERS,
NASSAU-STREET...

1862.

GENEALOGICAL DEPARTMENT
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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EXPLANATIONS AND PROOFS.

THE descent of the O'Connors of the County of Roscommon, from Cathal *Crovderg* O'Connor, King of Connaught, who died A.D. 1224, to the present time, a period of 638 years, is traced in the preceding Pedigree from generation to generation with the utmost accuracy, and demonstrated by references to the Annals of Ireland, giving the year in which the descent of each generation is recorded, and the page in "Hodges & Smith's" edition, which contains both the *Irish text* and the *English translation*; and by references to unexceptionable public records.

On making such references the reader will find *Owen O'Connor*, the *third* in descent from Cathal *Crovderg*, named *Hugh* in the *English translation*, but in the *Irish text* he is named *Eoġan*, i.e. *Owen*; and there are many similar mistakes in this edition of the Annals of Ireland.*

The pedigree commences with Turlogh *mór* O'Connor, who died A.D. 1156. His sons, Roderick, Murtagh *Muimhneach*, and Bryan *Luighneach*, are only introduced, because some of their descendants became kings of Connaught after the reign of Cathal *Crovderg*, by conquest, lest they might be mistaken for his descendants.

* In Connellan's translation of the Annals of Ireland, A.D. 1274, p. 89, he is also named *Owen*.

Sir Hugh O'Connor, of Ballintubber Castle, and Hugh *Mergagh* O'Connor, of Castleruby, County Roscommon, the respective representatives of the *two* great branches of the descendants of Cathal *Crovdery* O'Connor, being the last of their respective lines named in the Annals of Ireland, it becomes necessary to trace the descent *from them* in other public records, and by such means as are now available, which the reader will find satisfactorily done.

First, in relation to Sir Hugh O'Connor's descendants. It appears by an inquisition taken on the 21st January, 1616, at Tusk, in the County Roscommon, before Sir Charles Coote and another, of the estates of the O'Connors and others, subject to composition rents, that Sir Hugh O'Connor was then seised in fee of the castle and lands of Ballintubber, and of the lands of *Beagh*, *Cloonykerny*, and *Cloonyvindine*, and numerous other lands therein named ; and that his eldest son, *Charles O'Connor Dun*, of *Knockalaghta* (near Ballintubber) was seised of numerous other lands therein named ; and that his second son, *Hugh Oge O'Connor* of *Castlerea*, was seised of the castle and site of the town of Castlerea, and of numerous other lands therein named. These gentlemen took an active part in the disturbances of 1641. *Hugh Oge O'Connor* and Sir Lucas Dillon, having obtained "a safe conduct," enabling them to wait upon the Marquis of Clanricarde, then Governor of the County and County of the Town of Galway, presented a loyal letter from the leading gentry of the County Roscommon to his Lordship, seeking his

advice on certain proceedings in their contemplation ; which letter bears the signatures, amongst others, of *Charles O'Connor Dun*, and his brother, *Hugh Oge O'Connor*.*

Charles O'Connor Dun left a son, *Hugh O'Connor Dun*, whose interment is recorded in the register of James's parish, Dublin, under the date of 3rd September, 1662, and he is named in the 14th and 15th Chas. II., ch. 2, s. 27, as entitled to Royal gratitude, *for services beyond seas* ; however, according to the uniform tradition of the family, this branch became extinct at an early period.

Hugh Oge O'Connor, of *Castlerea*, the second son of Sir *Hugh O'Connor*, left a son *Daniel*, who left a son *Andrew*, who left a son *Daniel*, who are named in an inscription upon their family tombstone in the Parish of Kilkeevin, Co. Roscommon. *Andrew* had a brother, *Roderic O'Connor Dun*, not named in any of their family pedigrees ; but *Alexander O'Connor Eccles*, the present heir of this branch, has an ancient brooch, with the following inscription upon it—*“Rodrik O'Connor Dunn, dy'd the 22nd Feby., 1722,”* which identifies him as an elder brother of *Andrew O'Connor Dun*, and attests the extinction of the elder branch.

I have in my possession an Indenture, bearing date 30th October, 1779, between *Dominick O'Connor*, of *Clonalis* in the County of Roscommon, Esq., of the

* “Memoirs and Letters of the Marquis of Clanricarde and Earl of St. Albans, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, during the Rebellion of 1641 ;” fol. ed., p. 67-8 ; and see a similar letter, p. 442.

one part, and Elizabeth O'Connor, his sister, of the other part, which recites, amongst other things—
 “Whereas, some disputes and differences have subsisted between the said Dominick O'Connor and the said Elizabeth O'Connor, his sister, relative to the amount of the portion which the said Elizabeth claimed in virtue of a bond, bearing date the 30th day of August, 1768, *executed by Daniel O'Connor, Esq., deceased, the late father of the said Dominick and Elizabeth, to Thomas O'Connor, of Miltown, in the Co. Roscommon, Esq., in the penal sum of £2,000,*” on which certain proceedings were taken in the Court of Exchequer, which were terminated by arbitration, and an award made by *Charles O'Connor, of Belanagare, and William Irwin, of Leabeg, Esq.,* in said deed named, and made a rule of the said Court of Exchequer in the ordinary course.

Thus I have traced the descent of Dominick O'Connor, of Clonalis, from Hugh Oge O'Connor, the second son of Sir Hugh O'Connor, by evidence afforded by the recorded acts of his own family, with which he and they were manifestly well acquainted. He was the person who first assumed the *new name of Don*.*

Mr. Arthur O'Connor, of Elphin, a son of the late Mr. Mathew O'Connor, of Mount Druid, gives the family version of a pedigree compiled by Charles O'Connor, of Belanagare, for Dominick O'Connor, who it is evident did not know on what ground Charles O'Connor claimed descent from Sir Hugh O'Connor. He states,

* *Weld's Statistical Survey of the County Roscommon*. p. 382, and note at p. 378.

“The O’Conors of Clonalis, being *totally ignorant* of the particulars of their pedigree (!), applied to Charles O’Conor, of Belanagare, for information. And I have the original autograph pedigree *which he drew up for them*, together with the original autograph pedigree *which he drew out for his own family*. It was from that pedigree that *Owen O’Conor drew the one he gave to the Ulster King of Arms.*”^{*} Thus we have the important fact, that the pedigree in the office of the Ulster King of Arms is a copy of Charles O’Connor’s pedigree, made by the late Owen O’Conor, of Belanagare, which was received by the late Sir William Betham, on a mere certificate at foot thereof, that Owen O’Conor thought it was true *to the best of his knowledge and belief!!!*

It is obvious, from the pedigree itself, that it was furnished to explain Charles O’Connor’s claim of descent from Sir Hugh, for it really does no more, it only named “Brian *Roe* O’Connor, of Corrasduna,” and did not give a single one of his descendants. Both Charles O’Connor, whose brother was married to a daughter of Owen O’Connor, of Corrasduna, and Dominick O’Connor of Clonalis, knew the O’Connors of Corrasduna perfectly well ; and Dr. Charles O’Conor, the grandson of Charles O’Connor, of Belanagare, who was then the parish priest of Kilkeevin parish, and the chaplain of Dominick O’Connor, of Clonalis, was well acquainted with the Corrasduna O’Connor family. See his letter in “The O’Connors,

^{*} *Memoirs of a Controversy respecting the legal representative of the O’Connors of Ballintubber Castle*, p. 42.

Kings of Connaught, and their descendants," p. 91-2. Daniel O'Connor, of Clonalis, selected Thomas O'Connor, of Miltown, to be the trustee of his daughter's fortune, secured as above mentioned, and left his brother Denis, of Willsbrook, a legacy of £50, *as his cousin*. It was not Charles O'Connor's pedigree that apprised him that he was his cousin. Dominick O'Connor wanted no information about the Corrasduna family, and Charles O'Connor gave him none. But he did persuade him that he was himself descended from Charles O'Connor, of Belanagare, who he alleged was the third son of Sir Hugh, which placed him in the next branch of the family to Dominick O'Connor's own branch. Dominick O'Connor thereupon made his will, and devised Clonalis estate to Charles O'Connor's own family, the Corrasduna family, and the Castleruby family, successively in strict settlement; and Owen O'Connor came by the Clonalis estate *under that devise*, and assumed the new name of "*O'Connor Don*." It is curious enough that in Owen O'Connor's copy of Charles O'Connor's pedigree, remaining in the office of the Ulster King of Arms, he gave all the O'Connors down to, and even including himself, the old name of *O'Connor*, then gave his son Denis the name *O'Connor*, and finally signed the certificate at foot thereof with the name of "*O'Connor Don*." The late Daniel O'Connell used to call him "the gentleman without the Christian name."*

* Alexander O'Connor *dun*, Dominick's brother, was not aware of the pedigree drawn up by Charles O'Connor, for he insisted in the year 1817, by his letter in the *Dublin Evening Post*, that Charles O'Connor was descended from some collateral branch of the O'Connor family, and not from Sir Hugh O'Connor.

Bryan *roe* O'Connor, of Corrasduna, was too young in the year 1616 to have been then provided for, but afterwards obtained from Sir Hugh part of the lands whereof Sir Hugh was then seised, as above mentioned. It appears, by the Book of Survey and Distribution of the County Roscommon, that *Captain Bryan O'Connor, brother of Charles O'Connor dun*, was, in 1641, seised of the lands of *Beagh* and *Cloonykerny*, named in the inquisition of 1616. And it further appears, by the schedule annexed to the claim of Roger O'Connor, his son, that he claimed the said lands of *Beagh*, *Cloonykerny*, and *Cloonyvindine*, as the estates of his ancestors, and that Mary O'Connor, on behalf of her said son Roger, obtained a decree on the 1st September, 1655, at Athlone, by which the said lands of *Beagh* and *Cloonykerny* were adjudged to Mary O'Connor for life, with reversion to the said Roger in fee.

It further appears, from the Book of Postings of Lands forfeited in 1688, and sold in Chichester House, Dublin, in 1703, that the lands of *Beagh* and *Cloonykerny* were sold as the estates of the said Roger O'Connor, to Colonel Henry Sandford, in trust for James Walker, in whose charge the said lands still remain, in the Quit-Rent Office, Custom-House, Dublin.

Roderic O'Connor having attained the rank of Colonel in the service of James II., passed over to France, and attained the same rank in the French service.* He died in *Douay*, A.D. 1730, leaving a

* "Illustrations of King James's Irish Army List," by John D'Alton, Esq., vol. I. p. 142.

son Owen, and two of his daughters, Margaret and Elizabeth, in Ireland. Margaret married Redmond Fallon, of Ballina House, County Roscommon, Esq., and is named in the following inscription on their family tomb in Dysart Church-yard :--“This monument was first erected by William Fallon for his wife Anne Egan, his father Redmond, and his mother Margaret O'Connor, Feb. 20, 1720.” Elizabeth married her own cousin, Hugh O'Connor (son of Teige, son of Hugh *mergagh* O'Connor, of Castleruby). Owen O'Connor, of *Corrasduna*, married Catherine, daughter of Major Edmond M'Dermot, of Emlagh, County of Roscommon, the ancestor of the Springfield family, by whom he left four sons and three daughters :—

I.—Roderic O'Connor, of Ballycahir, Co. Roscommon, Esq., who married Mary, daughter of John Fallon, of Cloonagh, Co. Roscommon, Esq., and with an elder son, who died without issue, and a daughter Jane, who married Andrew Browne, of Mount Hazel, County Galway, Esq., left Thomas O'Connor, who married Margaret, daughter of Peter O'Flanagan, of the ancient family of Clancathal, and died at Newgarden, in the County of Galway, A.D., 1832. His son Roderic O'Connor, of East House, Galway, is now the heir and representative of the *Corrasduna* O'Connor family.

II.—Thomas O'Connor, of Miltown, County Roscommon, Esq., who attained the rank of Major in the French service, married, in 1749, Mary, daughter of Gerald Dillon, of Dillon's Grove, County Roscommon, Esq., was a J.P., and served

as Sheriff of the said County. He died, A.D. 1800, leaving an elder son, Roderic O'Connor, of Miltown, who married Bridget, relict of Colonel Thomas Wills, of Willsgrove, County Roscommon, and daughter of James Browne, of Browneville, County Galway, Esq., descended from Geoffrey, third son of Dominick Browne, of Barna, ancestor of the Brownes of Castle-mac-garret, now represented by Lord Oranmore, and died, A.D. 1831, leaving his eldest son, Roderic O'Connor, of Miltown, Esq., J.P., Barrister, who married Cecilia, daughter of John MacDonnell, of Carranacoon, County Mayo, Esq. He served as Sheriff of the County Roscommon, A.D. 1839, and is the representative of this branch of the Corrasduna O'Connor family.

III.—Denis O'Connor, of Willsbrook, County Roscommon, Esq., married Sarah, daughter of William Irwin, of Leabeg, County Roscommon, Esq., and died A.D. 1799, leaving a son, Daniel O'Connor, of Willsbrook, Esq., who married Mary, daughter of Joseph MacDonnell, of Carranacoon, County Mayo, Esq., and left a son, Michael O'Connor, of Willsbrook, Esq., who married a daughter of Christopher Tyrrell, of Annagh House, County Mayo, Esq. Michael O'Connor is now the representative of this branch of the Corrasduna O'Connor family. The following inscription, with the O'Connor arms, appear carved on a stone on the vault of the Willsbrook family at Ballintubber:—"Pray for the souls of Denis O'Connor, of Willsbrook, Esq., and Sarah

O'Connor, *alias* Irwin, his beloved wife, who caused this monument to be erected for themselves and their posterity in the year 1799."

I.—Catherine, who married Hugh O'Connor, brother of Charles O'Connor, of Belanagare, Esq., by whom she left a son, Denis O'Connor, who married Lady Harriet O'Brien, and a daughter, Catherine O'Connor, who both died without issue.

II.—Mary, who married Joseph Plunket, uncle of Colonel Plunket, of Castle Plunket, County Roscommon, from whom Michael James Robert Dillon, twelfth Earl of Roscommon, who obtained his title by a decree of the House of Lords on the 19th June, 1828, was descended.*

Owen O'Connor died at Corrasduna, A.D. 1766, having previously had a tombstone prepared for his family, which was removed from thence to Ballintubber, by the directions and at the expense of Mrs. Browne, of Mount Hazel, † and is on the family vault in Ballintubber graveyard, with the following inscription upon it :—"Pray for the souls of Owen O'Connor, Esq., and his wife, Catherine O'Connor, *alias* M'Dermot, and children, who caused this monument to be erected for themselves and their posterity, June 20, 1762."

In relation to the second great branch of the descendants of Cathal *Crovderg*, Hugh *Mergagh* O'Connor *Ruadh*, of Castleruby, is the last of his line

* "Memoir of the O'Connors, Kings of Connaught," p. 69.

† Statutory Declaration of the late Jane Browne, of Mount Hazel, taken at Versailles in France, April, 1855.

named in the Annals of Ireland. His brother John and his son Teige formed two cousin branches. It appears from the inquisition of 1616, already mentioned, that Hugh *Mergagh* O'Connor was seised of Castlerone, *i.e.* Castleruby, Corneboy, Carrowkeille, and Mullaghgallane, County Roscommon. And it further appears, from the Report of the Sub-Commissioners to the Commissioners for carrying into effect the Acts of Settlement and Explanation, made upon the claims of Teige O'Connor, *sonne and heir* of Hugh *Mergagh* O'Connor, that he was the *heir* of the said Hugh *Mergagh* O'Connor, of Castleruby.* Teige's son Roderic, and Roderick's son Michael, are both named in the following inscription, curiously cut *in raised letters*, on a stone in the old abbey of Tulsk:—
 “Pray for the souls of *Roger O'Connor*, of the ancient family of Castleruby, Esq., and Anne O'Connor, *alias* Crofton, of Mote, his wife ; and for the souls of such of their ancestors and posterity as dyed or will dye in a redeemable state. This monument was erected by the order of *Michael O'Connor*, Esq., remainder man of said family, and his wife Bridget O'Connor, *alias* Farrell, of the family of Ardanra, the 2nd day of May, 1755.”

John O'Connor and Peter O'Connor, of Tumona, being of our own time, require no observation to identify them with the Castleruby family.

In Dr. O'Donovan's letter of 24th August, 1837, he gives the pedigree he obtained from Denis O'Connor,

* Vol. 2, Reports and Schedules, Public Record Office, Custom House, Dublin.

of Lanesborough, of his family, as follows :—“ John O’Connor (above named) brother of Hugh *Mergagh* O’Connor *Roe*, of Castleruby, born in 1630, who had been dispossessed by Cromwell ; Teige, his son, born 1660, lived at Cloonfree, who married a daughter of O’Brennan ; Denis, his son, born 1690, married a daughter of O’Hanly, of Slievebaun, lived to the age of 70, and was interred at Lisonuffy ; Teige, his son, born in 1726, married a daughter of Forster, of Esker, County Dublin, and died in 1795, aged 69, and was interred at Cloontuskert ; Denis O’Connor *Roe*, aged 72, married the daughter of Plunket, of Ardkeenagh, who was then in his 90th year ; his son John, aged 40, married a daughter of Costello, of Gurteen, near Coolavin.

The above named Denis O’Connor, born in 1690, had a second son, Charles, born in 1731, who had a son, James O’Connor, of Ballagh, County Roscommon, Esq., the father of Denis O’Connor, of Ballagh, and Corrig-avenue, Kingstown, Esq., J.P.

Dr. O’Donovan, the lavishly paid agent of the O’Connors, by a note in the Annals of Ireland, introduced at the instance of the late Mr. Matthew O’Connor, of Mount Druid, states, in reference to Sir Hugh O’Connor—“ This family is now represented by the member for Roscommon, Denis, the son of Owen, son of Denis, son of Charles the Historian, son of Donagh *Liath*, son of *Cathal*, son of *Cathal*, son of Hugh O’Connor Don. The only surviving members of this family are Denis O’Connor of Mount Druid, Arthur O’Connor of Elphin, and Matthew O’Connor, Esqrs.,

sons of Matthew, son of Denis, son of Charles the Historian." This statement was of course founded on the *autograph pedigree* drawn up by Charles O'Connor the Historian, which Dr. O'Donovan, in 1837, stated in his letter, was defective, as he could not carry the descent "from Sir Hugh to Denis *Liath*."* Dr. O'Donovan seldom gave any authority for his *pedigrees*, and they are mere unauthenticated statements, quite undeserving of notice. In the translation of the *Topographical Poems* of O'Dubhagain and O'Huidhrin, published by the Archæological and Celtic Society, he made a sly attempt to give some little value for all the money thrown away upon his unprofitable researches and labours, for the last five years. He states, in the Introduction (p. 40):—"The late Owen O'Connor, M.P. for Roscommon, assumed the epithet Don on the extinction of the senior branch, although he was the sixth in descent from the last ancestor who had borne it." What senior branch? What last ancestor? Whose ancestor? No ancestor of Owen O'Connor's ever bore the epithet Don. He shrunk from stating particulars, and even omitted his usual proof for all his unauthenticated assertions (the parenthetical *recte*), with which he settled so many abstruse questions. In his note on the subject of the epithets Don and Roe, and their application to the two Turloughs, he concludes—"Turlogh Don" (*recte* O'Connor Don), "Turlogh Roe" (*recte* O'Connor Roe), "from the colour of their hair;" yet there was no such name as Don, it was *donn* (dun or brown colour), nor any such name

* "O'Connors, Kings of Connaught, and their Descendants," p. 54.

as Roe, it was *ruadh* (red colour), nor any such name as "O'Connor," it was O'Connor. So much for the *recte*. He has given several unwarrantable notes in the Annals of Ireland, affecting the character of Dr. O'Connor, on what he calls his *innumerable, absurd, and inexcusable blunders* beneath criticism, while he was himself paying very little attention to the translation of those Annals. The following corrections will show how cautious the reader must be in adopting his translation, without reference to the *text*, notwithstanding the many pages of "Addenda and Corrigenda" in the second and sixth volumes !

OMISSIONS AND MISTRANSLATIONS

128

Dr. O'Donovan's Translation of the Annals of Ireland.

The words in crotchets are omitted by him.

FROM VOL. 2.

- Page 859. The clergy of Munster and the chiefs [and princes] gathered together with Donagh, the son of Brian, *i.e.*, the son of the king of Ireland [with Cele, the son of Donnacan, with the chief ecclesiastics of Ireland], who assembled at Cill-Dalua, *i.e.*, Killaloe. See page 909. "Cele was chief senior of the Gaeidhil, *i.e.*, the Irish, and bishop of Leinster." It is difficult to understand why those Irish words were introduced into an English translation.
- „ 979. Conchobhar, son of Maelseachlainn [son of Conchobhar], Lord of Teamhair.
- „ 1035. An army was led by Ua Lochlainn [*i.e.*, Conor, the son of Donal, and the men of the north of Ireland].

FROM VOL. 3, &c.

- Page 641. He has "From Dublin to Drogheda," instead of from Dublin to Athlone, as in the Irish text.
- „ 355. Flann Mac Flynn [Archbishop of Tuam] died in Bristol.
- „ 735. Philip [the son of Hugh] Maguire, Lord of Fermanagh, died.
- „ 1167. Nicholas [O'Casey], &c., died.
- „ 1122. Felim, the son of Felim O'Connor, of Corcomroe [was treacherously slain by the son of Conor O'Connor; Carbre, the son of O'Connor Roe]. died.
- „ 107. Iodnaidhe O'Monahan, Lord of Hy-Briuin na Sinna [died].
- „ 1241. MacManus, of Seanadh, *i.e.*, Cathal Oge, the son of Cathal [son of Cathal], son of Gilla Patrick, son of Matthew, &c.
- „ 1529. Donagh More O'Brien, *first* Earl of Thomond—First is not in the Irish text, and Donagh More was the second Earl.
- „ 1129. Sabia, daughter of Teige O'Brien — Should be, daughter of Teige O'Connor, as in the Irish text.
- „ 1531. The son of the Earl of Ossory [Thomas, the son of] James, the son of Pierce Butler, &c.
- „ 1547. It was the goodness of his steed that enabled O'Connor to escape from him—It is O'Carroll in the Irish text!
- „ 1043. The *English of Leinster* gave him his demands—Should be, The *Irish of Leinster*, as in the Irish text.
- „ 1057. Much distruction was caused by Garret, son of the Earl of Desmond, in *Munster and Leinster*—Should be, in *Meath and Leinster*, as in the Irish text.
- „ 947 Donagh, the son of Art, son of Donnell, &c.—Should be, son of Dermot, as in the Irish text.
- „ 709. Sabia, wife [of the son] of John Bisset died.
- „ 561. Donnel Roe O'Mally and Cormac, his son, were slain on *St. Martin's night*—It is *St. Stephen's night* in the Irish text.

- Page 995. Manus McMahon [O'Cahan] and all the O'Neills, &c.
 „ 1563. Donnell, the son of Conor, son of Turlogh, son of
 Teige [son of Turlogh], son of Brian.
 „ 1603. Joan, the daughter of James, son of Maurice, son of
 Maurice, died—Maurice should be *Thomas*, as in
 the Irish text.
 „ 2079. And *James*, the second son of Thomas *Roe*—James
 should be *John*, as in the Irish text.
 „ 2177. And the quarter part of the inhabitants of *Connello*,
 in the County of Limerick, and of *Kerry*, came to
 them—Kerry should be *Kenry*, in the County of
 Limerick, as in the Irish text.
 „ 2149. *Cathal Duv*, son of Donnell, son of Owen, was slain
 by the Costelloes, after having gone on a predatory
 incursion against them; but *Calvagh*, his other
 brother, carried off the prey in triumph.*

This is a curious mistranslation of the words, *an Calbhach Caoch*—designed to represent *Calbhach* as a Christian name, in which sense it was never used in the Annals of Ireland. The article, *an* (the) uniformly precedes it, and Dr. O'Donovan, in order to pass *Calvagh* for a Christian name, has in over fifty instances left the *an* untranslated without note or comment! and in the above instance left both *an* and *caoch* untranslated; and in the translation of the Topographical Poems of O'Dubhagain and O'Huidhrin (Introduction, p. 56), states, without a shadow of authority, that the O'Conors of Connaught changed Cathal and Calbhach to Charles, although he must have known that Calbhach never was applied to any of the descendants of Cathal Crovderg in the Annals of Ireland. The above omissions and mistranslations are but a few of those I have discovered in my researches; their importance will be manifest to persons engaged in such researches. It is to be hoped that the Brehon laws may be more carefully translated.

* The foregoing omissions and mistakes may be tested, by comparison with "Connellan's Edition of the Annals of Ireland."

Page 531. The King of Connaught, Cathal, son of Donnell [son of Teige] son of Brian, son of Andreas, son of Brian Luighneach, son of Turlogh More O'Connor.

FROM VOL. 2.

- „ 931. And [the son of] Domhnall, son of Mael-na-mbo, &c.
 „ 820. Gormlaith, iníon Murchada, mic Fínn, Maethair
 iníon Dall, † Sitric, ⁊ Donnchad, mic Brian
 iníon Muir, ⁊ Choncobair, mic Maollechlainn,
 iníon Tíne, décc.

TRUE TRANSLATION.

Gormly, daughter of Murrogh, son of Finn, the mother of the King of the Danes, *i.e.* Sitric, and of Donnagh, son of Brian, King of Munster, and of Connor, son of Melaghlinn, King of Tara, died.

DR. O'DONOVAN'S TRANSLATION.

Gormlaith, daughter of *Murchadh*, son of Finn, mother of the King of the foreigners, *i.e.* of Sitric; *Donnchadh*, son of Brian, King of Munster; and *Conchobhar*, son of *Maeleachlainn*, King of *Teamhair*, died.

The above unscholarlike translation of a very simple sentence demonstrates how little dependence can be placed in the accuracy of Dr. O'Donovan's edition of the Annals of Ireland, which his brother-in-law so hastily recommended to the Students of the Catholic University as being "*most perfect* as regards typography, and *most copious* and *correct* as regards translation and annotation." (O'Curry's Lectures, p. 160.) It also illustrates the mischievous and absurd practice of retaining numerous *Irish words* in his English translation, which renders it imperfect and quite unintelligible to *English readers*, for whom it was required. Professor O'Curry's own annotations are not over trustworthy; in speaking of *Rathcroghan*, where the ancient Kings of Con-

naught had their principal palace, he says, “the remains of the *rath* of *Cruachan* may still be seen near *Carrick-on-Shannon*, in the *modern* County of Roscommon.” (Idem. p. 33, note 23.) Had he even looked into the Ordnance Survey Map, he would not have placed the remains of the *rath* of *Cruachan* at the *small village of Croghan*, near Carrick-on-Shannon!!!

The descendants of Sir Hugh O'Connor, who assumed the epithet of *dun*, are not treated as chieftains, in the preceding pedigree, as by the deed of composition with Queen Elizabeth (3rd October, 1585) the *names, styles, and titles of Chieftainship*, and all *elective and customary divisions of land*, were *utterly abolished for ever*, and there could have been *no lawful* election of a chieftain from thenceforth;* and accordingly, it was the *heir-at-law*, under the English law of primogeniture, who afterwards called himself *O'Connor dun*, without any authority whatever.

The *autograph pedigree* compiled by Charles O'Connor for his own family (which has been effectually disproved by incontrovertible legal evidence,† and the copy made thereof by Owen O'Connor for Sir William Betham, as already mentioned (p. 7), and the spurious copy made thereof by Mr. Mathew O'Connor, of Mount Druid, for publication in Hardiman's “West Connaught” (p. 137), as well as the statements of modern historians, and the pedigrees founded on them

* Memoir of the O'Connors, Kings of Connaught, p. 47.

† Idem. p. 74, &c.

and published in "The Landed Gentry," by Sir Bernard Burke, LL.D., Ulster King of Arms, and in "The County Families of the United Kingdom," by Edward Walford, A.M., which merely set forth the claims of the parties on their own authority, without any evidence to sustain them, are not, as evidence of descent from Sir Hugh O'Connor, worth the paper they are written upon, and are none of them admissible as such evidence. They all hinge on the mere statement of Charles O'Connor, son of Denis *liath* O'Connor, of Killintrany, in the county of Sligo, which, if living, he would be incompetent to prove, and which is wholly irreconcilable with the pure and impartial evidence of public records. The *autograph pedigree* is itself unaccountably erroneous in the important matter of *known dates*. It states that Sir Hugh O'Connor died in the year 1627, instead of in the year 1632 ! and that Major Owen O'Connor died in the year 1688, instead of in the year 1692 ! which demonstrates the untrustworthy character of the compiler of the pedigree, and his ignorance of those family occurrences which he undertook to record.

It deserves notice that although Charles O'Connor devoted the 12th section of his "Dissertations on the Ancient History of Ireland," published A.D. 1753, to giving an account of the chief Milesian families, and amongst them gave the *descent* of Dominick O'Connor, the eldest son of Daniel O'Connor Dun, from Cathal *Crovderg*, through Hugh *Oge* O'Connor, the second son of Sir Hugh O'Connor, it did not then occur to him to claim for himself any such descent, or any

descent from the ancient O'Connor family, or to adopt the new name *O'Conor*; but in a second edition of his "Dissertations," in 1766, he omitted the twelfth section altogether, and adopted the new name *O'Conor*, but did not claim to be descended from Sir Hugh O'Connor!*

In the glorious days of Chevalier O'Gorman, who kept an office in Dublin for the sale of pedigrees, and of Dr. Curry, the friends and correspondents of Charles O'Connor, when a few Irish scholars monopolized the mysteries of the Annals of Ireland, and other ancient Irish manuscripts, it was easier to compile a pedigree *to order* than to make a pair of brogues. Charles O'Connor had a great collection of Irish manuscripts which he *borrowed* from different persons, and never restored to the owners, for which he has been severely censured, as they were removed to the Stowe library, and lost to this country. They were afterwards sold to Lord Ashburnham, who even refused access to them for public purposes. He compiled some pedigrees for persons connected with his own family, which, like his own, cannot be maintained. The system adopted in

* Dr. Curry, the intimate friend and correspondent of Charles O'Connor, in his "Review of the Civil Wars of Ireland," published in 1775, states, that Hugh *oge* O'Connor had the estates of Castlerea settled on him in his father's life-time; that he married Jane, daughter of Sir Lucas Dillon, of Loughglyn, and lived to see his estates seized by the usurper Cromwell; and that Dominick, the then *O'Conor dun*, was descended from Hugh *oge* O'Connor, in the fourth generation; and adds—"This Hugh *oge* had *two brothers*—*Charles*, who died A.D. 1634, and *Brian roe*, who died A.D. 1651. From *Charles* is descended, in the third generation, my particular and highly-esteemed friend, *Charles O'Conor*, of Belanagare, in the county of Roscommon, now living"—(Appendix, 425); and in a subsequent edition, published A.D. 1793, omits this notice of the O'Conors altogether.

the construction of such pedigrees is no secret. Those expert genealogists introduced a *new* branch in an *old* pedigree, by giving some convenient ancestor a supposititious son, and deducing a fictitious descent from him. Hence the junction of the *new branch* with the *old trunk* is the point to investigate, and the translation of the Annals of Ireland affords the means of detecting much imposition in the pedigrees *to order* of old Irish families.

The copy made by Owen O'Connor of the *autograph pedigree* differs in essential particulars from the one made thereof by Mr. Mathew O'Connor, which is easily accounted for, as the former was compiled to *found* the *claims* of Owen O'Connor—the latter to *exclude* the claims of *all* the other O'Connors of the County of Roscommon. Accordingly, *in the former*, the old name *O'Connor* is retained throughout, and the *new* name *O'Conor* is only introduced at the close of the pedigree, as *an alteration then made*, and to be, *from thenceforth*, adopted by his own descendants. And Bryan Roe O'Connor, of Corrasduna, the ancestor of other O'Connor families, is therein named as a son of Sir Hugh O'Connor; but *in the latter*, the *new* name *O'Conor*, which was intended to be the future test of the ancient family, is given as having been the true family name since the year 1030 !!! and of course Bryan *Roe* O'Connor is struck out of the pedigree, which he pompously entitled “The Regal House of O'Conor.” (“Hardiman's West Connaught,” p. 137.)

Mr. Mathew O'Connor was well acquainted with the published works of his brother, the Rev. Charles

O'Connor, D.D., and knew that in his "Life and Writings of Charles O'Connor, of Belanagare," he not only names Bryan *Roe* O'Connor, but also enumerates *the estates his father gave him*, and in his "Historical Address" states, upon the authority of the original settlement, that the Ballintubber estates were limited in remainder to "Roger, son of Bryan *Roe* O'Connor," by Hugh, the eldest son of Charles O'Connor *Dun*. One would suppose that such statements would have chilled the courage of Mr. Mathew O'Connor in his genealogical career. The O'Connors *Dun* and *Ruadh* and the O'Connors *Sligo* were connected by their intermarriages, as well as by their descent, from a common ancestor, Turlogh More O'Connor, King of Ireland. Even more recently, Dermot O'Connor, Sir Hugh's father, married a daughter of Turlogh, ninth O'Connor *Ruadh*, of Castleruby ;* and Bryan *Roe* O'Connor, the third son of Sir Hugh, married Mary daughter of Hugh *Mergagh* O'Connor, Turlogh's son. Charles O'Connor *Dun*, Sir Hugh's eldest son, married Mary, daughter of Lord Viscount Bourke, of Mayo, by Maud, daughter of Charles O'Connor *Sligo*. Thus, in the commencement of the 17th century, they were all connected by intermarriages, which accounts for the general language of cousinship so prevalent in the O'Connor families, and explains the *devise* of the Clonalis estate, in remainder [after

* Charles O'Connor, in one of his Pedigrees, states that she was the daughter of Turlogh O'Connor, and in another that she was the daughter of Teige *buidhe* O'Connor, Turlogh's father.—*Hardiman's West Connaught*, p. 138.

the Corrasduna family] to Peter O'Connor of Tumona, the then representative of the Castleruhy family, from which Dominick O'Connor, of Clonalis, was descended, through Miss O'Connor *ruadh*, Sir Hugh's mother.

The O'Molloys, of Oughtertire, were also connected both with the Ballintubber and Belanagare families : William O'Molloy's second son, Edward, married Mary, daughter of Sir Hugh O'Connor, and Charles O'Connor, of Belanagare, son of Owen O'Connor, of Belanagare (of 1585), married Anne, daughter of William O'Molloy. It also appears that the O'Connors and O'Molloys acted in concert in the disturbances originating in the rebellion of 1641, for previously to the important letters of the gentry of the County of Roscommon, addressed to Lord Clanricarde, already referred to, there was a meeting of the gentry at Ballintubber Castle in relation thereto, ["D'Alton's Annals of Boyle," vol. 1, p. 111], and William O'Molloy's signature is subscribed to them, and immediately followed (in the letter dated 28th August, 1643) by the signature of "*Charles O'Connor Roe*," whom, it may be fairly presumed, was his son-in-law, *Charles O'Connor, of Belanagare*, for otherwise, he, (Charles O'Connor,) took no part in those important proceedings, which is wholly incredible.

There is another Charles O'Connor of that period whom Duaid Mac Firbis describes as *Cathal Oge O'Connor*, son of Hugh (of Castleruby), son of Turlogh, son of Teige *buidhe*, son of Cathal *Ruadh*, son of Teige, son of Turlogh, first O'Connor *Ruadh*. He was, it seems, a younger brother of Teige, son of

Hugh Mergagh O'Connor, of Castleruby, ancestor of
 the O'Connors of Tumona, who had dropped the
 epithet *Ruadh* before the inquisition of 1616, finding
 his estates already mentioned [p. 14], which was never
 afterwards revived by any of his descendants. Duald
 ✓ Mac Firbis made a great mistake in tracing the descent
 of *Cathal Ruadh*. He was not son of *Teige*; he
 died of the plague in 1488, and was son of *Roderic*,
 son of Brian *Ballagh*, brother of Turlogh, first O'Con-
 nor *Ruadh*, as recorded in the Annals of Ireland, and
 mentioned in the preceding pedigree.
