

LEINSTER PROVINCE.

DIVISIONS, POPULATION, REPRESENTATION, &c.—The number of baronies comprised in the county are nine—namely, Ballaghkeen, Bantry, Bary, Forth, Gorey, Scarawalsh, Shelburne, Shelmallere East, and Shelmallere West: these are divided into one hundred and forty-four parishes. The population of the county, by the census taken in 1841, was, males, 97,918; females, 104,115; total, 202,033. The number of houses inhabited, at that period, was 33,507; uninhabited, 1,103; and houses building, 103. Prior to the Union Wexford sent eighteen representatives to the Irish Parliament; two for the county at large and two each for the boroughs of Bannow, Clonmenses, Enniscorthy, Fethard, Gorey, New Ross, Taghmon and Wexford; but at the period referred to, all the boroughs were disfranchised, except New Ross and Wexford, which return one member each to the Imperial Parliament and the county to the gentlemen sitting for the latter are Captain Villiers Francis Hutton, R. N. Delgany, county of Wicklow, and United Service Club, London; and James Power, Esq. Edermine House, Enniscorthy, and Harcourt-street, Dublin. Lieutenant of the county the Right Hon. Lord Carew, Castle Borough, Wexford; Custos Rotulorum the Most Noble the Marquess of Ely, Loftus Hall, Wexford.

WICKLOW, a maritime county, bounded on the east by Saint George's Channel, on the west by the counties of Kildare and Carlow, on the south by a small intersection of the latter county, and by a limited extent of Wexford, on the north by the county of Dublin, and on the north-west by that of Kildare. Its greatest length from north to south is forty miles, and its breadth east and west somewhat exceeds thirty. The area of the county comprehends 500,178 statute acres, of which about 280,400 are arable; 17,600 in plantations; 340 occupied by towns; 1,160 under water; and the remainder, about 200,500, uncultivated or irreclaimable land. This county is not less remarkable for the variety and importance of its minerals, than for the wild and picturesque beauties of its scenery: it comprises the greater portion of the south-eastern mountain chain of Ireland, composed of formations of granite, mica-slate, clay-slate, quartz rock, trap, and porphyry. The interior rises into mountain groups, the highest summit of which is Lagnaquilla, 3,039 feet above the sea. It is intersected by deep and romantic valleys and glens, and embellished by several beautiful lakes. The soil of Wicklow is very fertile in the lower tracts, and along the river courses mud prevails: the sub-soil is granite in the mountain district, and clay-slate on the declivities. The county is rich in a variety of minerals; lead and copper are found in large quantities, and even gold has been obtained. The exportation of pyrites, containing sulphur, from the Orocra district, has amounted to 100,000 tons a year. The average rent of land is 12s. an acre. The climate of the mountains, though remarkably mild for their elevation, is necessarily moist, and rain frequently falls among them. The low lands, near the sea, although exposed to easterly winds, yet being completely sheltered on every other side, renders the climate in this part more genial than that of any other quarter of the county, and it is here that the arbutus, laurustinus, and other delicate shrubs flourish. The manufactures of flannel and frieze, formerly extensively carried on in the county, have declined; and the fisheries, once so productive, have failed of late years; oysters, however, are still obtained in abundance at Arklow. The rivers are numerous, but their courses are rapid and short, except some of those flowing westward; of which the principal are the Slaney, the Orocra, the Vartrey, and the Derry or Anghrim: the Liffey has its origin in Wicklow, and leaves the county for that of Dublin. The principal lakes are Lough Luggela, Lough Dan, Lough Glandalagh, and Lough Bray. In September, 1843, there were 41 national schools in the county, attended by 4,800 children.

DIVISIONS, POPULATION, REPRESENTATION, &c.—The number of baronies comprised in the county are eight—namely, Arklow, Ballinacor North, Ballinacor South, Newcastle, Rathdown, Shillelagh, Talbotstown Lower, and Talbotstown Upper: these are divided into fifty-nine parishes. The population of the county, by the census taken in 1841, was, males, 63,489; females, 62,654; total, 126,143. The number of houses inhabited, at that period, was 19,210; uninhabited, 664; and houses building, 57. Prior to the Union Wicklow sent ten representatives to the Irish Parliament; two for the county at large, and two each for the boroughs of Ballyglass, Blessington, Carysfort, and Wicklow; but since the event referred to its only representatives have been two for the county—those at present sitting are Lieutenant-Colonel William Acton, of West Acton; and Sir Ralph Howard, Baronet, Bushy Park, Bray, both in this county. Lieutenant of the county the Right Hon. the Earl of Wicklow, Shelton Abbey, Wicklow. Custos Rotulorum the Right Hon. the Earl of Meath, Kilruder, in this county. Wicklow confers the titles of Viscount and Earl upon the noble family of Howard.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF LEINSTER.

Counties.	Area in Acres.	Baronies.	Parishes.	Inhabitants.		Total.	Families.	Houses.
				Males.	Females.			
CARLOW	221,342	7	47	72,428	43,800	86,228	15,210	14,562
DUBLIN (a)	226,414	9	99	170,930	601,843	372,773	76,276	45,460
KILDARE	418,436	14	116	58,030	56,458	114,488	20,338	19,379
KILKENNY (a)	509,732	10	140	99,114	103,306	202,420	34,805	33,338
KING'S COUNTY	493,985	12	51	72,651	74,206	146,857	26,683	25,584
LONGFORD	269,409	6	26	57,610	57,881	115,491	20,579	19,859
LOUTH (a)	201,906	6	64	62,297	65,943	128,240	24,595	24,240
MEATH	579,899	19	146	92,494	91,334	183,828	32,737	31,760
QUEEN'S COUNTY	424,854	11	53	76,403	77,527	153,930	27,442	26,408
WESTMEATH	453,468	12	63	70,383	70,917	141,300	25,693	24,803
WEXFORD	576,588	9	144	97,918	104,115	202,033	36,594	34,718
WICKLOW	500,178	8	59	63,489	62,654	126,143	21,182	19,951
Total	4,876,211	123	1,008	963,747	1,009,934	1,973,731	362,134	320,051

EDUCATION.—The number of national schools in operation in Leinster, in 1843, was 743, attended by about 103,000 children. The number of persons in this province, at five years old and upwards, who could neither read nor write was 766,053; the number who could read only was 379,788; and those who could both read and write numbered 594,097.

REPRESENTATION.—This province is represented in the Imperial Parliament by thirty-six members, which are thus distributed—two each for the above twelve counties, two for the city of Dublin; two for the Dublin University; one each for the boroughs of Athlone, Carlow, Dundalk, New Ross, Portarlington, and Wexford; one for the county of the town of Drogheda, and one for the city of Kilkenny.

(a) The county of Dublin includes the city of Dublin, the population of which, in 1841, was 232,726. The county of Kilkenny includes the county of the city of Kilkenny, 19,071. The county of Louth comprises the county of the town of Drogheda, 16,261.

DUBLIN.

THIS beautiful city, the capital of Ireland, is 292 miles W. N. W. from London, 138 W. from Liverpool, and 60 W. from Holyhead; situated at the mouth of the river Liffey, which empties itself into a large and noble bay, in the Irish Sea. The beauties of this entrance into Dublin are heightened by the grand elevation of the country towards the south of the city, which increases until it terminates in the wild magnificence of the Wicklow mountains, where the fine pointed cone of the Sugar Loaf stands a striking object in the diversified scenery. The picturesque Clontarf, and the lofty hill of Howth, form the northern boundary of the bay, while, in approaching the harbour, the numerous domes and steeples are beheld as graceful features in this fine panoramic picture.

EARLY HISTORY.—The Danes, in the beginning of the 9th century, made themselves masters of Dublin, and retained it during more than three centuries, though it was by no means an undisturbed possession; for many conflicts took place, in some of which the Danes had the worst of it. In 491 Saint Patrick died, aged 122, in the reign of King Lughaidh, a violent persecutor of the Christians. In 656 Lavinus was Bishop of Dublin, and, in 1181, John Comyn, a Benedictine monk, was elected the first Archbishop of Dublin. In 1014 was fought the bloody battle of Clontarf, between the Irish and the Danes, in which the latter were defeated. During the twelfth century, the English captured the city, and Henry II. granted Dublin to the people of Bristol, who occupied it by charter for many years. On Easter Monday, 1209, five hundred Bristolian citizens were recreating themselves near Cullen's Wood, when they were surprised and massacred by the Irish; that day was long commemorated as 'Black Monday,' and the spot is still known as the 'bloody fields.' The second charter was granted by John, Earl of Morton, and Lord of Ireland, in the reign of Richard I.; in 1207 King John gave a third, and, in 1462, a mint was established. In 1409 the chief magistrate of Dublin was styled mayor, and, in 1665, lord mayor, with a grant from Charles II. of £500. a year, to support the dignity.

It is difficult to ascertain the boundaries of the city when the Danes first enclosed it by a wall, but so late as the year 1535, there was a small harbour near Cork hill, with a strand of considerable length, which was not embanked till the reign of Charles II. The south side of the Liffey is obviously the most ancient portion of the city, Saint Patrick's Church being founded in the fifth century, and Christ Church in the eleventh, are among the proofs of this. The Castle was commenced about 1205, and was finished in 1220. In 1385 the old bridge of Dublin gave way. In 1434, the mayor and community did public penance, by walking barefooted along the streets to Christ Church for having insulted the abbot of Saint Mary's, and taken the Earl of Ormond prisoner. In 1534-5 Lord Thomas Fitzgerald, grandson of the turbulent and powerful Earl of Kildare, and usually called 'Silken Thomas,' from the circumstance of his select armed followers wearing silk fringes about their head-pieces, rode through the city to Saint Mary's Abbey, at the head of one hundred and fifty mailed horsemen, disdainfully threw down his sword of allegiance, defied the royal authority, murdered the archbishop of Dublin at Arlanc, drew up a powerful force against the city, and made a vain effort to become master of it by a *coup de main*. In 1583, a judicial combat was fought by two of the O'Connors within the walls of the castle, in presence of the archbishop, the lords justices, and the council. In 1646 the Marquess of Ormond, lord-lieutenant, successfully maintained the city against a siege by the Irish army; and in the following year he reluctantly relinquished it to the parliamentary forces rather than allow it to fall into the hands of the Irish. In the interval between the close of Richard Cromwell's brief protectorate and the restoration of Charles II. the city was seized by the royalists, retaken by the parliamentarians, and again, after a siege of five days, subdued by the royalists. In 1689 James II. visited Dublin, where he held a parlia-

ment, and established a mint, in which a quantity of base metal was coined. The year 1690 is marked by the decisive battle of the Boyne, after which James passed one night in Dublin castle, during his precipitate retreat from the kingdom; and in 1701 an equestrian statue of William III. was erected on College-green to commemorate that victory. In 1798 the Leinster Provisional Committee of the United Irishmen were seized with all their papers, and Lord Edward Fitzgerald, their chief leader, was arrested and lodged in prison, where he shortly after died of the wounds he received in his capture. In 1803, an insurrection, headed by a young and talented barrister, named Robert Emmett, broke out in the neighbourhood of Thomas-street, and spread toward the castle, but was promptly crushed with the loss of a few lives, and the capture of the leaders, who were subsequently executed. Two centuries and a half ago all the private houses of Dublin were constructed of wattles and clay, and presented, as a work on Ireland so expresses it, 'the appearance of a great assemblage of large mud wigwams huddled round the castle and the churches.' In the reign of Elizabeth, structures of timber, in the cage-work style, and covered with shingles, slates or tiles, superseded the houses before mentioned; but in consequence of their inflammable nature whole masses and streets of them were frequently destroyed by accidental fires. In the reign of James I. edifices, partly of stone, but chiefly of brick, came into common use; and since that period they have multiplied in number and progressively improved in commodiousness and elegance. In 1610 the city or walled town was all on the south side of the Liffey, and did not exceed a mile in circuit; its streets and lanes did not amount to thirty in number, and were narrow, crooked and irregular. Dame-street was built only on the north side, and was not more than one hundred yards in length; all the space now occupied by the quays, the Custom House, Bachelors' walk, and adjacent pictures and streets up to within a short distance of Trinity College, was a low expanse, overflowed by the tides; and all the large area east and south of George's-lane, now the most sumptuously built part of the city, displayed little else than a continuous series of enclosed fields. Since the year 1770 or 1775, the larger portion of all the northern side of the city has been built, extending its wings to Graunge-gorman, Stoney-batter and Glasmanogue, which formerly were distinct villages, at a considerable distance from the city; and on the north-east, expanding into spacious squares and elegant streets, sufficient of themselves to form an important town. Since that period, some of the old parts of the south side of the city have been materially improved. Stephen's-green, Merrion-square, and most of the streets south-east of Golden-lane, Stephen-street and Great George-street South have been built, while at a much more recent date Fitzwilliam-square, and the several elegant streets in its vicinity have been formed.

PRESENT STATE OF DUBLIN.—Dublin is erected in an extensive valley, of gentle and pleasing declivity, with ranges of hills and mountains on the north and south; the lands are rich and highly cultivated, interspersed with pleasant villages, and seats of the nobility and gentry, rarely exceeded for their taste and elegance. The river Liffey divides the city into two nearly equal parts, which are connected by numerous fine bridges, the newest of which is of iron, and a toll of a halfpenny from each passenger is demanded. The river from Ringsend and North Wall is confined by walls of granite to a distance of more than three miles westward, extending quite through the city. Adjoining the custom-house is a capacious dock, and near to Ringsend are others, capable of holding several hundred sail of vessels. The light-house, which rises at the extreme end of an immense wall that stretches for three miles into the sea, is a noble object; and a most efficient protection to vessels entering the port. On the left, approaching from the bay, is Kingstown, with its pier and harbour; see KINGSTOWN, page 58. On the right is the beautiful