

CONNAUGHT PROVINCE.

fishery, on the Moy, is very productive. The linen manufacture has greatly declined. In September, 1843, there were seventy-nine national schools, attended by more than nine thousand children.

DIVISIONS, POPULATION, REPRESENTATION, &c.—The number of baronies comprised in this county are nine, namely, Burrishoole, Carra, Clannorris, Costello, Erris, Gallien, Kilmaine, Murrisk, and Tirawley; these are divided into seventy-three parishes. The population of the county, by the census taken in 1841, was males, 194,198; females, 194,689; total, 388,887. The number of houses inhabited, at that period, was 68,425; uninhabited, 2,029; and houses building, 73. Prior to the Union, Mayo sent four members to the Irish parliament, viz.—two for the county and two for the borough of Castlebar; but only two representatives are now returned for the county at large; those at present sitting are Robert Dillon Browne, of Ellistron and Glencorrib, Esq. and Mark Blake, of Ballinacud, Esquire. The Marquess of Sligo, Westport House, is lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the county. Mayo confers the title of Earl and Viscount upon the Burke family.

The county of ROSCOMMON is separated from those of Longford and Westmeath, by the river Shannon on the east, and bounded by Galway on the south and south-west, on the west by Mayo, on the north by Sligo, and on the north-east by Leitrim. Its greatest extent from north to south is sixty miles, and about thirty-seven from east to west, where broadest; its surface comprises 607,691 acres, including 29,370 of water. The whole extent of the eastern boundary is watered by the Shannon, while the river Suck, for a considerable distance, divides it from the county of Galway. There are no lakes of any great magnitude in this county, although it abounds with small fresh water collections sufficiently extensive to diversify the surface and multiply its beauties. Lough Key is a small lake joined by two rivers to Lough Gara and the Shannon, and it is pleasantly interspersed with numerous streamlets, which direct their course to the river Shannon. Two miles from Kilkelly is a very beautiful glen, at the bottom of which runs a rivulet; the declivity on either side is ornamented with stunted ash, whitethorn, and evergreens, which give it a most romantic and agreeable appearance; but the echo of this glen is most remarkable, as it repeats a sound seven times loudly and distinctly. The mineral productions of Roscommon are exceedingly valuable, not only from their quality, but also from their contiguity to navigation. Iron ore and coal are found between Lough Key and the Shannon and Lough Allen; ochres eight miles north of Lough Key, and marble between Lough Rea and the Suck, the latter susceptible of an exquisite polish. The linen manufacture is expiring, and grazing is now the chief employment. The average rent of land is 13s. an acre. In Sept. 1843, there were 45 national schools attended by 6,400 children.

DIVISIONS, POPULATION, REPRESENTATION, &c.—The number of baronies comprised in the county are nine, namely, Athlone, Ballintober North, Ballintober South, Ballymoe, Boyle, Castlereagh, Frenchpark, Moycarn, and Roscommon; these are divided into fifty-eight parishes. The population of the county, by the census taken in 1841, was males, 127,016; females, 126,575; total, 253,591. The number of houses inhabited, at that period, was 44,037; uninhabited, 926; and houses building, 55. Prior to the Union, Roscommon sent eight representatives to the Irish parliament, viz.—two each for the boroughs of Boyle, Roscommon, and Talsk, and two for the county at large; those for the county are now the only representatives in the Imperial Parliament; the present being the O'Connor Don, of Belangare and Cloonalis, and Fitzstephen French, of French Park and Lough Errott, Esquire. Viscount Lorton is lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the county. Roscommon confers the title of Earl on the family of Dillon.

SLIGO: this is a maritime county on the shore of the Atlantic, having the bays of Donegal and Sligo on the north, and Killala Bay on the west, Mayo on the south-west, Roscommon on the south-east, and Leitrim on the north-east. Its extent from north to south is about forty miles, and about thirty-eight from east to west; its surface comprises 461,753 acres, including 12,740 of water. This county has a great diversity of surface—mountains, lakes, rich lands, and inclosures, contrasted with dreary bogs and commons; some small woods, however, scattered in different parts, relieve the eye from the monotony attached to many of the counties of Ireland. Its principal lakes are Lough Gill, Temple House Lake, Lough Tulla, and Lough Arrow. The two last are remarkable for large and fine-flavoured trout. The most considerable rivers are the Sligo, the Bonnet, the Owenmore, the Unshion, the Collooney, the Esky, and the Moy—the latter, for many miles, separating Mayo from Sligo. On the coast, in the barony of Tíreragh, is a stone, which bears a high polish, called serpent stone, from figures which it exhibits resembling the skeletons of those animals. Copper and tin are found in the western part of the same barony; and fine clays and talc near Drumleer, thirteen miles south-east of Sligo. Grain and potatoes are the chief crops, and linen and woollens are manufactured. The fisheries employed, in 1843, 326 registered vessels and 1,900 men and boys. The average rent of land is 10s. 8d. an acre. In 1843, fifty-seven national schools were attended by 6,500 children. Sligo may be considered for the most part a tillage county, though there are numerous tracts peculiarly suited to the fattening of cattle. The vicinity of Sligo presents a soil of great fertility. The climate is temperate, but variable, and so much does it partake of the latter character that, it is said, the best barometers are not to be depended upon in their indications.

DIVISIONS, POPULATION, REPRESENTATION, &c.—The number of baronies comprised in this county are six, namely, Carbury, Coolavin, Corran, Leyny, Tíreragh, and Tírerrill; these are divided into forty-one parishes. The population of the county, by the census taken in 1841, was males, 89,563; females, 91,323; total, 180,886. The number of houses inhabited, at that period, was 31,443; uninhabited, 750; and houses building, 46. Prior to the Union, Sligo sent four representatives to the Irish parliament, viz.—two for the county and two for the borough of Sligo; the latter now returns only one to the Imperial Parliament; the present sitting members for the county are William Richard Ormsby Gore, of Porkington, Salop, Esquire, and John F. Foillett, of Hollybrook, Boyle, Esquire. Colonel Arthur Francis Knox Gore, of Belleek Castle, Ballina, is lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the county. Sligo confers the title of Marquess on the family of Browne.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF CONNAUGHT.

Counties.	Area in Statute Acres.	Baronies.	Parishes.	Inhabitants.		Total.	Families.	Houses.
				Males.	Females.			
GALWAY.....	1,566,354	18	120	219,564	220,634	440,198	78,368	75,394
LEITRIM.....	392,363	5	17	77,501	77,796	155,297	27,192	26,649
MAYO.....	1,363,882	9	73	194,198	194,689	388,887	70,910	70,527
ROSCOMMON.....	607,691	9	58	127,016	126,575	253,591	46,387	45,068
SLIGO.....	461,753	6	41	89,563	91,323	180,886	32,837	32,239
Total.....	4,392,043	47	309	707,842	711,017	1,418,859	255,694	249,877

EDUCATION.—The number of national schools in operation in Connaught, in 1841, was 307, attended by about 38,000 children. The number of persons in this province (at five years old and upwards) at the above period, who could neither read nor write, was 785,463; the number who could read only, was 142,636; and those who could both read and write numbered 200,677.

REPRESENTATION.—This province is represented in the Imperial Parliament by thirteen members, which are thus distributed; two each for the five counties, two for the borough of Galway, and one for that of Sligo.

TOWNS IN CONNAUGHT.

ATHENRY

Is a small incorporated market and post town and parish, partly in the baronies of Clare, Dunkellin, Kilmacneil, and Tyaquin, but chiefly in that of Athenry, 121 miles w. by s. from Dublin and 14 E. from Galway. This place, anciently called 'Ath-ri', 'the King's Ford,' or 'the abode of a king.' Sir James Ware considers it to have been the chief town of the *Anteri*; and at a remote period it was surrounded by walls, with round towers fifty yards apart, which indicate it to have been a place of considerable importance. The ruins of the walls and towers, together with a castle called the 'King's Court,' as it is considered to have been the residence of one of the provincial kings, and which was a building of great defence, are still to be seen. The ruin of a Dominican abbey here, from its antiquity and style of architecture, is the admiration of all strangers. It was founded by Myler De Bermingham, second baron of Athenry, in 1241, and was dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. A Franciscan friary was also founded here by the Earl of Kildare, in 1464. In 1577 the two sons of the Earl of Clanricarde, renouncing their submission to Elizabeth, assembled their partisans, and succeeded in reducing the town to a state of complete ruin. In this state it continued till the year 1584, when it was to a great extent rebuilt; but in 1596 the northern Irish invested it, and again it was reduced to ashes. From this time, though it

had formerly held a second rank in the county, it never recovered its ancient importance. The Dominican friars who, under the protection of the O'Dalys' of Caronakelly, took up their abode at Esker, about three miles from the town, still continue to flourish there. They have built a very neat chapel, and are about completing a college and agricultural school for the education of young gentlemen. There are also national schools there, wherein eight hundred of the children of the poor are daily educated, one hundred of which are provided with food. In a house of industry here, twenty-four boys are instructed and apprenticed to trades. The town is situated in the midst of a tolerably fruitful soil, though there is a considerable quantity of unreclaimed bog in the neighbourhood. The houses and shops are poor and the streets are narrow and unpaved. The magistrates regulate the affairs of the town, for which purpose they hold a petty sessions once a week.

The places of worship are a church, a remarkably neat building, and a Roman Catholic chapel, a plain slated edifice. There is a constabulary police barrack, a dispensary, and a national school. A chalybeate spring here is much resorted to. The market, entitled to be held on Tuesday, is not observed, and the fairs (which are but poorly attended) are May 5th, July 2nd, and October 20th. The parish contained, in 1841, 4,192 inhabitants, and the town 1,256 of that number.

POST OFFICE, Neptune Perse, *Post Master*.—Letters from all parts arrive (from CRAUGHWELL) every forenoon at a quarter before eleven, and are despatched thereto every afternoon at a quarter past two.

GENTRY AND CLERGY.

Bateman Thomas G. Esq. Ivy Lodge
Blake Peter, Esq. J. P. Holly Park
Bodkin John D. Esq. Bugarra
Braddish Mr. John, Ballinacraig
Browne Mr. Barthol. S. Athenry
Browne Lieut. Mercer, Gloves
Burke Edmund, Esq. J. P. Tyaquin
Burke Mr. James, Moor Park
Burke Mr. Lambert, Tyaquin
Callogh Rev. Michael, Esker Convent
Clarke James, Esq. J. P. Graig Abbey
Cruise Mr. Richard, Cressan Grove
Cullinan Rev. Daniel, p. p. Athenry
Cullinan Mr. John, Mount Brown
Fitzpatrick Rev. Wm. Esker Convent
Healy Rev. Daniel, c. c. Athenry
Kelly William, Esq. J. P. Rockville
Kinneen James, Esq. Carton House
Kinneen Mr. Michael, Boy hill
Lambert Walter, Esq. J. P. Castle-lambert
Lambert Walter, Esq. J. P. Castle-lawless
Lawless Rev. John, D. D. Esker Convent
Lopdell John, Esq. J. P. Prospect
Loughlan Mark, Esq. Gloves

M'Hanly Mr. Michael, Athenry
Madden Mr. James, Carronakelly
Madden Rev. John, Esker Convent
Mahon Major Thomas, Belville
Perrin Rev. Mark, Castle Turvin
Perse Burton, Esq. D. L. & J. P. Moyode Castle
Smyth Mr. Lawrence, Caherfinischa
Smyth the Very Rev. Peter D. D. D. Esker Convent
Smyth Mr. William, Church Park
Taylor John, Esq. Mulpit

PROFESSIONAL PERSONS.

Barrett James, land agent
Lopdell John, barrister, Prospect House
McCalman Lawrence, surgeon
Tully John, master of national school

INNS AND PUBLIC HOUSES.

Barrett Margaret, *Hotel* (and post-ing house)
Cannon Matthias
Dunleavy John
Holleran John
Whealan John

SHOPKEEPERS & TRADERS.

Barrett Joseph, grocer and draper
Burke John, grocer and draper
Cabill Patrick, butcher
Collins Michael, provision dealer
Connolly Bartley, grocer
Culkeen Daniel, car maker
Fahy James, clothier and dyer
Grealey Patrick, draper & stationer
Hynes John, chair maker
Kelly Bryan, nail maker
Kennedy James, gunsmith
Kilroy Eliza, provision dealer
McKigue John, boot & shoe maker
Mahon Patrick, carpenter

Public Institutions, &c.

CONSTABULARY BARRACK—Charles Ramsey, chief constable. [Medical attendant]
DISPENSARY—Lawrence M. Calman, M.D.
DOMINICAN CONVENT—The Very Rev. Peter D. Smyth, D. D. superior.
SESSIONS HOUSE—Henry Mackey, clerk; Margaret Mackey, keeper.
STAMP OFFICE—John P. Cooney, distributor.

CONVEYANCES.

The nearest conveyance is from CRAUGHWELL, four miles distant.

BALLINA,

A MARKET and post town in the parish of Kilmore-moy, barony of Tyrawley, county of Mayo, 154 miles n.w. from Dublin, 20 n. from Castlebar, and 30½ n. by E. from Westport, finely situated on the banks of the river Moy, which here separates the county of Mayo from that of Sligo. The river, which is crossed by two handsome stone bridges, is navigable from the sea about six miles distant, to within a mile and a half of the town. Not far from the town are the fine ruins of Rosserk or Rosserick Abbey, built by one of the Joices, a family of much consequence in England and Ireland in the fourteenth century. On the 26th August, 1798, this town was seized by the French, under General Humbert, immediately after landing at Killala, where the rebels committed many atrocities, until the surrender of the French at Ballynamuck. Ballina is a thriving place, and improvements of some magnitude have been completed in new roads, buildings, &c. while others are further contemplated. A quay, some time since, was constructed, about a mile down the river, and the cutting of a canal from it to communicate with

the town was commenced by government, but after expending £1,000. the work was abandoned, with, however, a probability of its being resumed and ultimately accomplished. The trade in corn is considerable, and is the principal article of export; the salmon fishery is also of importance. There are extensive corn mills, two breweries, a foundry, two branch banking establishments, and the like number of principal inns—of the latter, the 'Royal Mail Hotel,' in Knox-street, is an admirably conducted house. In a convenient court-house general sessions are held in January and July, and petty sessions every Tuesday. A subscription news room is well supported in the town, and liberally supplied with the principal journals of the day and the best magazines and periodicals.

The places of worship are the parish church, and chapels for Roman Catholics, Baptists, and Methodists. The church, which is situated in the suburb of ARDNAREE, is a well-built but plain structure, with a tower and spire. The Roman Catholic place of worship is the Cathedral Church of the See of Killala, and is a hand-