

ULSTER PROVINCE.

CAVAN.—This is an inland county, bounded on the north by the counties of Fermanagh and Monaghan, on the east and north-east by the latter county, on the south by Meath, Westmeath, and Longford, and on the west by Leitrim and Longford. Its greatest length is fifty miles, and its breadth twenty-eight, comprising 477,360 statute acres, of which about 375,500 are arable, 7,300 in plantations, 22,100 occupied by water, 500 the sites of towns, and the remainder irreclaimable or uncultivated. The county lies about midway in the island, between the Atlantic Ocean and the Irish Sea. The surface is very irregular, being everywhere varied with undulations of hill and dale occasionally rocky, with scarcely a level spot intervening; but the only mountainous elevations are situated in its northern extremity. To the north-west the prospect is bleak, dreary, and much exposed; but in other parts it is not only well sheltered and woody, but the scenery is highly picturesque and attractive, and numerous lakes, beautiful and extensive, adorn the interior. Its principal rivers are the Woodward, the Croghan, the Erne, the Ballyhays, and the Annahee, besides numerous streamlets, which flow in all directions, either to feed the various lakes, or add to the current of the more majestic rivers. The mineral productions are silver, copper, iron, lead, coal, ochres, marl, manganese, sulphur, fullers' earth, clays of different kinds and qualities, and a species of ja per. The chief natural curiosities are the mineral springs, of which the most remarkable are those at Swanlinbar and Derryhister, the waters of which are alterative and diaphoretic; those at Legnagrove and Dewra are used in nervous diseases; the well at Owen Breen, which has similar properties, and the purgative and diuretic waters of Carrickmoore. The mineral properties of a pool in the mountains of Loughlincha, between Bailieborough and Kingscourt, are also remarkable. There are several bleach-works in the county, but agriculture is the main occupation of the inhabitants. The average rent of land is 13s. 7d. per acre. In 1843 there were one hundred national schools in the county, attended by eleven thousand four hundred children.

DIVISIONS, POPULATION, REPRESENTATION, &c.—The number of baronies comprised in the county are eight, namely—Castlerahan, Clankce, Clannahan, Lougher Lower, Lougher Upper, Tollygarvey, Tollyhaw, and Tollyhanco: these are divided into thirty-six parishes. The population of the county, by the census taken in 1841, was, males 129,814; females 122,344; total, 252,158. The number of houses inhabited, at that period, was 40,964; uninhabited 1,349, and houses building, 70. Prior to the Union Cavan sent six representatives to the Irish Parliament; two for the county at large, and two each for the boroughs of Cavan and Belturbet, but since that period it has only been represented in the Imperial Parliament by the county members; those at present sitting are John Young, Bailieborough Castle, county of Cavan, Esquire, and Captain the Hon. James Prince Maxwell, Farnham, county of Cavan. The lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the county is the Marquess of Headfort, Virginia Park, county of Cavan, and Headfort, Kells, county of Meath.

DONEGAL.—This is an extensive maritime county, bounded on the north and west by the Atlantic Ocean, on the east by the counties of Londonderry and Tyrone, and partly by Lough Foyle; on the south by Fermanagh and Lough Erne, and by Leitrim and Donegal Bay. Its greatest length north-east and south-west is about ninety miles, and its greatest breadth south-east and north-west is forty miles, comprising an area of 1,193,443 statute acres, of which 393,200 are arable, 7,000 are plantations, 480 sites of towns, 23,100 occupied by water, and the remainder irreclaimable or uncultivated land. Much of the county is mountainous, but the valleys are rich and fertile. The coast is indented by many beautiful and romantic bays, and numerous lakes ornament and irrigate the interior; of the former the principal are Lough Swilly, Lough Foyie, Mulroy, Sneephaven, Teelin, Killybegs, Invee, and Donegal. The most remarkable of the lakes is Lough Derg, where is Saint Patrick's cell, a place of pilgrimage to this day. The principal rivers are the Erne, the Fin, and the Foyle. There are numerous islands off the coast, some of which are inhabited, and on one of them, Innistrahul, is a light-house. The inhabitants on the coast are much occupied in the fisheries, and those in some of the principal towns in the manufacture of linens; that of woollen, which at one time prevailed extensively, has declined. The chief agricultural productions are potatoes and flax. The sub-soil of the county is granite, slate, and limestone, and there is a silicious sand obtained and used in the manufacture of glass. Iron-ore, lead, and different kinds of clays, prevail at and near the head of Lough Swilly. The climate is moist and unfavourable to the growth of grain, except oats. In 1843 there were 156 national schools in the county, educating full fifteen thousand children.

DIVISIONS, POPULATION, REPRESENTATION, &c.—The number of baronies comprised in the county are six, namely—Banagh, Boylagh, Inishowen, Kilmacrean, Raphoe, and Tirrugh: these are divided into fifty-one parishes. The population of the county, by the census taken in 1841, was, males 145,821; females 150,627; total, 296,448. The number of houses inhabited, at that period, was 51,389; uninhabited, 2,088, and houses building, twenty-six. Prior to the Union Donegal sent twelve representatives to the Irish parliament, thus distributed:—two for the county at large, and two each for the boroughs of Ballyshannon, Donegal, Killybegs, Lifford, and Saint Johnstown; but from the period named it has been represented in the Imperial Parliament by two county members only. Those at present sitting are Sir Edward Samuel Hayes, Bart., Drumboe Castle, Stranorlar, in this county, and Eaton-place, London; and Lieut.-Colonel Edward Michael Conolly, Castletonny, county of Kildare, and the Cliff, Ballyshannon. The Right Hon. the Earl of Leitrim, Manor Hamilton, county of Leitrim, is the custos rotulorum of the county, and the Marquess of Abercorn, Baron's Court, lieutenant.

DOWN.—This is a maritime county, its figure, perhaps, the most symmetrical of any county in the United Kingdom, and, but for the indentation caused by Dundrum Bay, would describe a perfect oval. It is bounded on the east by the Irish Sea, on the west by the county of Armagh, on the north by that of Antrim, Belfast Lough, and Carrickfergus Bay, and on the south-west by Louth county. In length from north to south it is about fifty miles, and its greatest breadth from east to west about forty. Its area comprises 612,495 statute acres, of which about 514,000 are arable, 14,300 plantations, 2,200 sites of towns, 3,400 occupied by water, and the remainder irreclaimable or uncultivated land. The southern part of the county is wild and mountainous—the eminences Iveagh and Mourne are of great extent and altitude, and that of Slieve-Douard, near Newcastle, rears its head to the height of two thousand eight hundred feet. There are numerous lakes that ornament and diversify the scenery; and meadows, well cultivated enclosures, demesnes of the gentry, pretty cottages, and grounds white with the bleached linen, impart an aspect of beauty and opulence to the county. The manufacture of linen, agriculture, and the fisheries, all conduce to its prosperity: the first may be considered its staple; the second is of importance, but not of so much consequence as in some counties, although great attention is paid to tillage. The fishery employs four thousand men and boys, and upwards of one thousand boats: the principal stations are Donaghadee, Bangor, and Newcastle, and large shoals of herrings are taken every year in Strangford Lough. The chief rivers are the Bann, the Newry, the Lagan, and the Ballynahinch, none of which are important to navigation; but the county enjoys the benefit of two canals, viz. the Newry, which passes along its western border, and the Lagan, from Belfast to Lough Neagh. The mineral waters are sulphureous and chalybeate, differing in the strength of impregnation; of the former quality, that at Ballynahinch is the principal, and near Downpatrick are the celebrated Struel springs, dedicated to Saint Patrick, and visited more for their ascribed miraculous properties than for their healing qualities. Granite occurs in the Mourne mountains, and copper in those of Iveagh; iron and fullers' earth are found west of Killyleah, and ochreous earths in various districts. The average rent of the land is 16s. per acre. In 1843 there were 224 national schools in the county, educating more than 21,600 children.

ULSTER PROVINCE.

DIVISIONS, POPULATION, REPRESENTATION, &c.—The number of baronies comprised in the county are nine, namely—Ards, Castlereagh Lower, Castlereagh Upper, Dufferin, Iveagh Lower, Iveagh Upper, Kinclarty, Lecale, and Mourne, and the lordship of Newry: these are divided into seventy parishes. The population of the county, by the census taken in 1841, was, males 173,538; females 187,903; total 361,446. The number of houses inhabited, at that period, was 65,102, uninhabited, 3,633, and houses building, 153. Prior to the Union Down sent fourteen representatives to the Irish Parliament, thus distributed; two for the county at large, and two each for the boroughs of Bangor, Downpatrick, Hillsborough, Killyleah, Newry, and Newtownards. The county now sends four members to the Imperial Parliament, viz. one each for the boroughs of Downpatrick and Newry, and two for the county. The gentlemen at present sitting for the latter are Viscount Castlereagh (eldest son of the Marquess of Londonderry), Mount Stewart, in this county, and Park-street, London; and the Earl of Hillsborough, Hillsborough, in this county, eldest son of the Marquess of Downshire, lieutenant of the county. The custos rotulorum is the Marquess of Londonderry.

FERMANAGH.—This, although an inland county, is separated from Donegal Bay, on the Atlantic, only by a narrow southern apex of Donegal county, which, with that of Tyrone, forms its northern boundary; on the east it is bounded by Monaghan, and on the south-west by Leitrim and Cavan. Its greatest length from north-west to south-east is forty-five miles, and from north-east to south-west about thirty, comprising an area of 457,195 acres, of which about 289,200 are arable, 6,150 plantations, 200 sites of towns, 457,000 occupied by water, and the remainder irreclaimable or uncultivated. Of the amount of water surface, the celebrated Lough Erne stretches in a north-eastern direction the entire length of the county, or full forty-five miles: it is navigable during winter throughout that extent, and a steamer passes between Enniskillen and the Ulster canal. Malran and Maccean are also considerable lakes. The principal river is the Erne, which enters the county near Belturbet, and flows into Lough Erne. All the rivers empty themselves into the same lake, besides fifty smaller streams, which assist to swell the waters of this great reservoir of the county. Bog abounds in several of the parishes; coal and iron are found in small quantities, while sandstone and limestone is plentiful. The soil is variable and moist—the climate is likewise of the same character. The butter trade of this county is considerable, and coarse linens are made to a limited extent; indeed, Fermanagh may be said to be exclusively an agricultural county. The average rent of land is 12s. 3d. per acre. The Newry, Dundalk, and Enniskillen Railway is projected to pass through this county; if so accomplished, the farming interest will doubtless derive material advantage therefrom. In 1843 there were eighty national schools in the county, affording education to more than seven thousand children.

DIVISIONS, POPULATION, REPRESENTATION, &c.—The number of baronies comprised in the county are eight, namely—Clanawley, Clankelly, Coole, Knockminy, Lurg, Magheraboy, Magherastephana and Tirkenny. These are divided into twenty-three parishes. The population of the county, by the census taken in 1841, was, males 76,982; females 79,499; total 156,481. The number of houses inhabited, at that period, was 26,756; uninhabited, 1,095, and houses building, 43. Prior to the Union Fermanagh sent four representatives to the Irish Parliament, viz.—two for the county at large, and the like number for the borough of Enniskillen: the borough named returns now but one member to the Imperial Parliament, and the county two, as before; these are Sir Arthur Brinsley Brooke, Bart., Colebrook, Brookborough, in this county; and Captain Mervyn Archdall, of Riversdale, in this county. The Right Hon. the Earl of Erne, Crom Castle, Lisnakea, is the lieutenant and custos rotulorum of Fermanagh.

LONDONDERRY.—This is a maritime county, lying between those of Donegal and Antrim, the two most northern counties in Ireland; bounded on the west by the first named and Lough Foyle, on the east by Antrim and Lough Neagh, on the north by the Atlantic Ocean, and on the south by Tyrone. Its greatest extent from north to south is about forty miles, and from east to west thirty-four; comprising an area of 518,595 statute acres, of which about 318,300 are arable, 7,700 plantations, 1,560 sites of towns, 10,300 occupied by water, and the remainder irreclaimable or uncultivated land. The soil of this county is for the most part fertile, and like to the contiguous one of Antrim famous for the flax produced both in quantity and quality, and, in consequence, the manufacture of linens has been for years its staple. The chief crops, besides flax, are oats, barley, and potatoes, with some wheat. The sub-soil is mica-slate, clay-slate or basalt, limestone, and sandstone. The finest rock crystals are found in Fin-glen, Dungiven, Banagher, and in the mountains near Larmor. Iron is found disseminated through many of the strata of the county, and in the basalt district so abundant as to affect the needle. Ironstone was formerly worked in Slieve-Gallion, and coal, copper, and lead, have been found in inconsiderable quantities in several districts. The rivers are the Foyle, the Faughan, the Glen, the Roe, the Bigoney, the Mayola, the Clady, the Agivey, the Macosquin, the Given-beg, and the Bann, with many nameless streams tributary to the rivers. The last named divides this county from Antrim, and is partially navigable. The coast abounds with all the ordinary kinds of fish, but the principal fisheries are those of salmon and eels, in the Bann, which are very extensive and important, as employing a great number of persons. An act has passed the legislature for constructing a railway from Londonderry to Enniskillen and Coleraine, and the Armagh and Portrush line will pass through the county. The average rent of land is 12s. 3d. per acre. The Irish Society, and the twelve companies of the city of London, are the proprietors of nearly the whole of this county, which is leased out by them. In 1843 there were one hundred and thirty national schools, in which 11,500 children were educated.

DIVISIONS, POPULATION, REPRESENTATION, &c.—Londonderry is divided into the four baronies of Coleraine, Keenaght, Loughinsholm, and Tirkeeran, and the two liberties of Coleraine and Londonderry, which include the city and town of these names, and containing altogether forty-three parishes. The population of the county, by the census taken in 1841, was, males 106,825; females 115,349; total 222,174. The number of houses inhabited, at that period, was 38,657; uninhabited, 2,359, and houses building, 23. Prior to the Union Londonderry sent eight representatives to the Irish parliament, thus distributed; two for the county at large and two each for the city of Londonderry, and the boroughs of Coleraine and Newtown-Linavady; it now sends four to the Imperial Parliament, viz. one for the city, one for Coleraine, and two for the county; the present members for the county are Thomas Bateson, Belvoir Park, Belfast, Esquire; and Captain Theobald Jones, of Bovagh, Coleraine. Sir Robert Alexander Ferguson, Baronet, the Farm, in this county, M. P. for the city of Londonderry, is lieutenant of the county, and the Marquess of Londonderry, Mount-Stewart, county of Down, and Holderness House, Mayfair, London, is custos rotulorum.

MONAGHAN.—An inland county, bounded on the east by Louth and Armagh, on the north by Tyrone, on the west by Fermanagh and Cavan, and on the south by Meath and Cavan. Its greatest extent from north to south is about forty miles, and from east to west twenty-five, comprising an area of 319,757 statute acres, of which about 286,000 are arable, 5,800 in plantations, 300 sites of towns, 6,000 occupied by water, and the remainder irreclaimable or uncultivated. Considering how much it is encumbered with bogs and mountains, the county may be considered as of average fertility and productiveness. Agriculture decidedly predominates in the occupation of the inhabitants, and spade husbandry is a rival to the plough. The main crops are oats, barley, potatoes, and flax, which latter, from its improved culture, is greatly increasing both in quantity and value. The linen manufacture has not, however, progressed, but, on the contrary, has been declining for some years past. The culture of wheat and of green crops of late has profitably engaged the attention of the farmer.