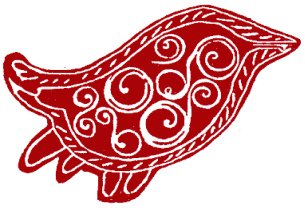
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Donogh Moyle McCarthy of Phale

By JOHN T. COLLINS

In Smith's *History of Cork* it is stated that Sir Owen McCarthy was ancestor to the McCarthys of Thrale in Carbery and to Owen McCarthy, a lieut.-colonel to McCarthy Mor in 1689.[1] There is no such place as Thrale in Carbery. It is a misprint for Phale, a townland situated on the south side of the Bandon river in the parish of Ballymoney near the village of Ballineen. The name is a contraction of Innsi-bhéil-atha-dos, 'the inch of the frothy ford.'

Further to the west (but on the northern side of the Bandon) at Carrigdurteacht in Kiltallowe, Donal Got McCarthy in 1232 inflicted a defeat on the O'Mahony's and established himself and his race in Carbery. In 1259 his son Fineen slew an O'Mahony chief at the inch of Phale in satisfaction for a previous slaying of Crom O'Donovan by O'Mahony herdsmen. In 1306 Donal Maol, another son to Donal Got, beheaded a kinsman, Donal óg McCarthy, at his house in Baile-I-Móinigh, which act was deemed a great calamity to the Gaels of Ireland.[2]

It is likely that the castle of Phale in Ballymoney was erected by Donal Maol McCarthy and from this centre his descendants radiated through Carbery. Following the Bandon river to the sea they wrested from the Barrys óge and De Courceys lands which those Anglo-Norman magnates had taken from earlier Irish owners. They elected the most worthy of their race, McCarthy Reagh, and seated him in Kilbrittain castle, once a De Courcey stronghold.

The territory around Phale was known as the Pobul of Sliocht Glas and its owners the Sliocht Glas McCarthys. The name may originally have had some connection with the Bandon river, called in Irish the Glaslinn. Cronnelly in his *History of the Clan Eoghan* surmises the Sliocht Glas were the illegitimate sons of Donal Glas (a descendant to Donal Maol) who was chief of Carbery and died in 1442.[3] He states the lands which belonged to this sept comprised large portions of the parishes of Ballinadee and Ballymoney. Their residence was the castle of Phale or Feale, which in 1601 was the stronghold of the three brother chiefs, Donough, Donal and Fineen, the heads of the Sliocht Glas. Fineen fled to Spain in that year; Donogh died soon after, leaving his brother Donal head of the Feale Carties. Owen son of Donogh was attainted in 1642. His son again called Owen-roe-glauhig of the Feale was remembered in the district as a cruel tyrant and the people pointed out a spot where stood a gallows from whence he used hang persons who displeased him. The old castle of Phale was standing until about fifty years ago (circa 1814) when it was taken down and its

[1] Book I. Cap. I. It appears in all editions of Smith's *Cork*.
[2] *Annals of Innisfallen*; 'McCarthaigh's Book' (contained in *Miscellaneous Irish Annals*); and other Irish Annals.
[3] *The Clan Eoghan*. By Richard P. Cronnelly. Constabulary Depot. Phoenix Park. Published in Dublin 1864.

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stones used in building Ballineen village and Ballymoney church, and not a vestige of the hospitable seat of the chiefs of the Sliocht Glas now remains.

Cronnelly describes himself as the lineal descendant of the princes of Cooley (Co. Louth) and says that he then held the initiatory grade in the Irish constabulary force. It seems reasonable to suppose that his account was acquired from comrades from the Phale neighbourhood with whom he came into contact in the training depot and was based on oral traditions. Like many such, it is inaccurate in detail. The ' brother chiefs ' who possessed Phale Castle in 1601 were not of the Sliocht Glas. They were Donogh and Fineen, two sons to Sir Owen McCarthy Reagh, who was chief of Carbery from 1576 to 1593. Fineen, his son, did not go to Spain in 1601. But in 1602, a ' Finin Kearigh of the Fioll,' probably a kinsman, went to Spain as recorded in *Pacata Hibernia*. Donogh McCarthy did not die soon after 1601. He survived until 1631. He led an eventful life and his name appears in many state papers where he is given the *leas-ainim* of Moyle, Meall, Meol, Mael, etc.

It may have been during Sir Owen McCarthy's long tenure of the chiefry that he had been able to supersede the Sliocht Glas and transmit their lands to his sons. Soon after being elected chief he obtained a pardon from the queen. It was issued in May 1577 and he is styled ' Eugenius or Owen mcCarthy esq., called McCarty reough of Kilbrittain.' (Fiant Eliz. 3038).

He was knighted, for in September 1578 a grant was made to ' Sir Owen mcCarthy, knight, of the office of seneschal or captain of his country of Carbery, with power to assemble the inhabitants for its defence ' etc. (Fiant Eliz. 3469). Throughout the Desmond wars he and his sub-chiefs were obliged to contribute money and food for the maintenance of the English soldiers cessed upon them. In 1583 he petitioned that his tenants were racked and ruined by the queen's sheriffs and claimed a sum of over £7000 for services rendered to the crown. He suggested he be given in recompence, lands attached to the abbey of Ballybeg, the abbey de Fonte Vivo, the priory of Ross and a revenue accruing from Teampul Fachtna near Rosscarbery. In later petitions he laid claim to Kinalmeaky which had been owned by his brother-in-law, Florence O'Mahony, but which had been confiscated through the death in alleged rebellion of Conoghor O'Mahony. He also claimed lands in Cloghane near Kilcoe and Rossbrin in Ivagha which had been declared confiscated. His petitions were unheeded and he made a fruitless visit to London. His two sons seem to have been at Oxford university and he offered to devote some of the expected compensation towards their maintenance. Sir Warham St. Leger who represented the queen in Cork was not exactly enamoured with Sir Owen McCarthy or his sons for he wrote to the privy council in 1588 that if Sir Owen McCarthy and his two sons were kept over in England till things became quieter here it would be a happy turn for this end of Ireland. He assured them that though Sir Owen appeared simple in show yet he was a very hypocrite and carried as cankered a mind against the English government as any man in Ireland if he dared show it. Moreover, he was a notorious

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papist who would be in rebellion if he only dared.[4] Sir Owen died in 1593 and in the Annals of the Four Masters his obituary notice indicates how he was regarded from the Irish standpoint: 'McCarthy Reagh, Owen, son of Donal, son of Fineen died. He was a sensible, pious, truly hospitable and noble minded man.'

The next McCarthy Reagh inaugurated was Donal, eldest son to Sir Owen's eldest brother, Cormac. He was married to Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas of Desmond and Sir Owen's son Donogh Moyle was married to her sister, Ada. Sir Owen's daughters were married into some of the prominent families of Munster: Johanna to Daniel O'Donovan of Castle Donovan; Ellen to Sir Fineen O'Driscoll of Baltimore; Katherine to Arundel of the Strand (near Clonakilty); Shile to Dermod, son to O'Sullivan More of Dunkerron in Kerry; Honora to Edmond, the knight of Glin, Co. Limerick; Grainne to Charles, son and heir to Sir Cormac McTeige of Muskerry; Elinor to McCarthy of Inniskeane in Carbery.

In 1598 Hugh O'Neill and Red Hugh O'Donnell defeated the queen's army at Beal-an-atha-buidhe. The news rapidly spread throughout Ireland and evoked many repercussions. Those undertakers in Munster who had begun parcelling out the lands which belonged to Gerald, the slain earl of Desmond and his adherents, fled into the city of Cork for safety and representatives of the one time owners again entered into possession. Hugh O'Neill sent a message to the two sons of Thomas of Desmond, James and John, that it was his will that James who was the elder should resume the title of earl of Desmond and if he had not the courage, to stand aside and let his brother John be proclaimed head of their race. James FitzThomas accepted and raised an army to defend his title and lands. In the winter of 1599 he was at Drishane, near Millstreet, with 1200 men and was met there by Florence McCarthy. Florence was eldest son to Sir Donogh McCarthy who had preceded his brother Sir Owen as McCarthy Reagh. He had married Ellen, daughter and heiress to McCarthy Mor of Kerry, and was tanist of Carbery. He claimed to be McCarthy Mor and chief of the Irish of Desmond as James FitzThomas was head of the Anglo-Irish stock. At the conference at Drishane were also Dermod McCreaghe, Catholic bishop of Cork, and Richard Tyrell, a Leinster captain of *buanachta*, who had been despatched by Hugh O'Neill to rouse Munster.

Thereafter James FitzThomas and Tyrell came south through Muskerry and Carbery into the Barry country of Ibaune and the De Courcey country near the Old Head of Kinsale. Reports filtering to the queen's commissioners at Cork intimated that his brother-in-law Donal McCarthy Reagh gave him £200 and levied 140 beeves in Carbery for his army's sustenance. A letter written by Dr Lyon, the Protestant bishop of Cork, stated that when James FitzThomas was in De Courcey's country not far distant, Florence McCarthy came to confer with his cousin Donal McCarthy Reagh. Both of them standing in the window of Kilbrittain castle which is next the sea, Florence asked Donal what part he would take. Donal answered he

[4] Vide *Life and Letters of Florence McCarthy More*. By Daniel McCarthy Glas. Published London 1867.

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would take the queen's side. Florence warned him to be very careful that the queen would not be able to overcome them; the English were divided in their councils, and that no man knew it better than he did.[5]

In the beginning of the year 1600 Hugh O'Neill came into Munster. His purpose was to reconcile opposing claimants to Irish chiefries and to estimate what support they were likely to give him in his fight against the queen's forces. James FitzThomas met him in the O'Dwyer country of Kilnamanagh in Tipperary. Dermot McCraghe, bishop of Cork and Owen McEgan, vicar apostolic, also joined O'Neill.[6] O'Neill's army came by the Glen of Aherlow, through the Fermoy country of Lord Roche, on to Upper Glanmire, thence westward by the northern suburbs of Cork, along the Lee to Carrigrohane, and pitched their camp at Inniscarra. To that camp came many of the Irish of Munster including Florence McCarthy and Daniel O'Donovan of Castle Donovan. From there Florence wrote a letter to Donogh Moyle McCarthy and his brother Fineen, asking them if they had any regard for their lands or living to meet O'Donovan, Owen McEgan and himself the next day (3 March 1600)[7].

In April 1600 Sir George Carew, as lord president of Munster, arrived in Cork and took up residence at Shandon Castle overlooking the city. Thenceforth he devoted every effort through force and guile to break up the confederacy which Hugh O'Neill had endeavoured to knit. From those chiefs whom he intimidated, he took hostages so that the queen 'should have stronger assurance of those slippery and wavering subjects.' About this time the O'Leary's of Iveleary made a creaght or cattle raid into Carbery and drove off cattle belonging to Donogh Moyle McCarthy and his brother Fineen. The McCarthys followed and rescued their cattle. The O'Leary's pursued them into Carbery, overtook them at Ahakeera in the parish of Fanlobbus, where conflict took place in which O'Leary and ten of the chief men of his name were slain and Fineen McOwen McCarthy dangerously wounded.

Cormac McDermod McCarthy of Blarney was very vexed at the slaughter inflicted on the O'Leary's, his followers, and asked permission of the council of Munster, sitting at Shandon Castle to avenge their deaths. Some of the council were willing, saying that no matter how many of either side were slain the queen would not lose one loyal subject, but Carew would not give permission.[8]

In May 1601 the queen's pardon was extended to many gentlemen throughout Co. Cork. This was done as a matter of policy to induce their

[5] Except where otherwise stated, events which took place from 1600 to 1608 are noted from the *Calendar of Carew Manuscripts* or *Calendar of State Papers, Ireland.*

[6] From the Catholic camp in Tipperary a letter was despatched to David Lord Barry, urging him to join them, 'like a good Christian Catholic and an obedient child of the Church as hitherunto you were'. It is signed by the bishop of Cork and 'Eugenius Heganius, Vicar Apostolic.' (*C.S.P.*, 1599–1600).

[7] *Pacata Hibernia*, book I. The suggested meeting place, 'Cloudghe,' must have been Cloughda Castle, which stands to the south of Crookstown. It was then owned by Brian Mc Owen Mc Swiney and his wife, Onora Fitzgerald. Two years previously they had caused an ornamental mantlepiece to be inserted in the chief room. It bears the inscription: *Anno Dni.* 1598. B. m S. O. C. The fireplace still remains there.

[8] *Pacata Hibernia* and Cox's *Carbriae Notica.*

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neutrality or (perhaps) loyalty when the Spanish invasion, which all expected, should materialise. Amongst those pardoned were Donell McCarthy alias McCarthy Reagh of Kilbrittain, Margaret FitzThomas, his wife, Donogh McCarthy of the Feale, Fineen McCarthy of Gortnicloghe and Elenor ny Gibbon, his wife. (Fiant Eliz. 6516).

On 29 May 1601 James FitzThomas was taken prisoner by Edmund Fitzgibbon, the White Knight, in the Grey Sheep's cave near Kilbehenny, taken to Kilbehenny Castle and there handed over to Carew'a forces who conveyed him to Shandon Castle.[9] Carew also laid a trap for Florence McCarthy and induced him to come to Cork and imprisoned him in Shandon. Soon after he despatched both prisoners to the Tower of London where they spent the remainder of their lives. Thus the two quondam leaders of the Anglo Irish and Irish of south Munster were safely out of the way when the Spaniards landed.

When the Spaniards landed at Kinsale in September 1601 Don Juan del Aquila eagerly enquired for Florence McCarthy and James FitzThomas and seemed deeply grieved on learning of their fate. Several McCarthys of Carbery, cousins to Florence and Donogh Moyle, who had been in military service in Spain, had come in the Spanish ships. One of those, Dermod or Don Dermutio, taken by the English at the capture of Rincurran Castle on being examined stated that Donogh Moyle, his brother Fineen, and Conor O'Driscoll (their nephew) had come to Don Juan at Kinsale and offered their services. Shortly before Christmas Carew wrote to London from the camp before Kinsale stating that O'Neill and O'Donnell had come into O'Mahony's country about six miles away, that a second landing of Spaniards had taken place at Castlehaven, that the chief gentlemen in Carbery had joined them including Donogh Moyle McCarthy, his brother Fineen, Sir Fineen O'Driscoll and his two elder sons. 'All these,' he continues ' have for the most part pledges in her Majesty's hands but (the people of) this barbarous nation have no respect for their children.' (*Cal. Carew MSS*, 1601). In other letters it is stated that Don Juan had allowed Donogh Moyle to raise 100 foot, Fineen his brother 120 foot and O'Donovan 100 foot, in the pay of the king of Spain, and that all Carbery but McCarthy Reagh who lived in his castle were gone into rebellion. In the *Pacata Hibernia* map of the siege and battle of Kinsale two companies belonging to McCarthy Reagh can be discerned a little to the west of Ringrone Castle on the opposite side of the Bandon river from Kinsale. It is likely that he sent them to aid the English as a matter of form and they seemingly took no part in that final conflict fought at the head of Tisaxon creek.

After the rout of Kinsale the Irish leaders held a conference at Innishannon. It was agreed that Hugh O'Neill should return to Ulster; that Red Hugh O'Donnell should journey westward to Castlehaven, sail to Spain and do his utmost to secure further aid; that O'Sullivan Bere should take charge of the Catholic forces in south Munster; and that Captain Tyrell and his

[9] It should be noted here that Donogh Moyle's wife was sister to the man who was betrayed and his brother Fineen's wife was daughter to the betrayer. Family relations must have been pretty complicated at Phale during this period.

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buanachta should remain to aid all who in Carbery, Muskerry and Bere would continue to fight.

Carew reviewed the situation in letters which he despatched from Cork to London in January–February 1602. He stated :

> In Munster none of the Irish relapsed but the Carties and the dependents of Florence McCarthy . . . The country in which they live to the westward of Kinsale is very mountainous and will be difficult to conquer . . . In my opinion both towns and country are very sorry the Spaniards did not prevail. When Tyrone and his army were upon our backs the townsmen of Cork were proud and would not know those Englishmen with whom they were familiarly acquainted but no sooner was the victory ours than their faces changed.
>
> The noblemen and gentlemen of the country came presently to us making semblance of joy at our happy success and some of the relapsed rebels are moving to be received . . . Few of the provincials here were in rebellion. The best of them namely Sir Fyneen O'Driscoll, O'Donovan and Sir Owen McCarthy's sons have not joined Tyrell and ask to be received to mercy. They say they only conversed with Tyrone, O'Donnell and the Spaniards and did no harm to any of her Majesty's subjects.

On 10 March 1602 David Lord Barry, his brother John Barry, and Captain Taafe, raiding Carbery slew eighteen of Donogh Moyle McCarthy's men and soon after he and his brother Fineen came in upon protection. It is related in *Pacata Hibernia* that 'Sir Fineen O'Driscoll, O'Donovan and the two sons of Sir Owen McCarthy since their coming in they and their followers are grown very odious to the rebels of these parts.' During the short period that they were in favour with Carew, a very untoward event took place in which they were concerned. Dermod Moyle McCarthy (brother to Florence, prisoner in the Tower) now the chosen leader of the Catholics in Carbery was slain while raiding for cattle by O'Donovan's men, led by Fineen McOwen his first cousin [10].

In June 1602 a ship from Spain sailed into the haven of Kilmakilloge in Kenmare bay. Four great boat-loads of munitions, wine and money were landed and deposited in Ardea Castle near by. Owen McEgan, the priest who had signed the invitation to Donogh Moyle McCarthy, at O'Neill's camp in Inniscarra over two years previously, was the chief personage on board. The cargo was the result of his endeavours to secure aid for the Irish Catholics on the continent. He sent a letter to Richard McGeoghegan, one of Tyrell's lieutenants who was in charge of the defence of Dunboy castle, urging him to hold out that an army was coming to his aid from Spain and that he had come from Rome to Spain with a papal nuncio who would arrive with the army. He sent money and munitions to Dunboy and Carew was informed that he distributed Spanish gold to various Irish chiefs including Donogh Moyle McCarthy, Fineen his brother, O'Donovan, Sir Fineen O'Driscoll, and Conor his son. Despite this aid Carew's army captured Dunboy On his return to Cork in July 1602 he sent news of his success to the privy council, but wrote that the impending arrival of the Spaniards had caused some to relapse and that Donogh Moyle and his brother Fineen had again gone into action. He continued :

> The revolt of these two brothers who I hear have received £300 of the Spanish

[10] I hope in a further article to give a sketch of the career of Dermod Moyle McCarthy.

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money brought over by Owen McEgan, the Pope's bishop of Ross, confirmed me in expectation of Spanish aid. These two gentlemen were never until the late arrival of the Spaniards touched with rebellion and then only stood neutral a few days . . . I wonder at their risking their lands and possessions now that Florence McCarthy and his brother are suppressed. They are the next heirs to possess the country of Carbery. (*Carew Calendar*).

When Dunboy was taken the Catholic forces dispersed into three sections: O'Sullivan Bere defended his own country, Captain Tyrell held to West Muskerry and the Kerry border, and Sir Owen McCarthy's sons with 400 men occupied the strong fastnesses of Carbery. But the news of Red Hugh O'Donnell's death in Spain upset all calculations of further continental aid. In the winter Captain Tyrell led his *buanachta* into Connacht and in the last week of December O'Sullivan Bere left Glengariffe on his famous march to Leitrim. Owen McEgan, now bishop elect of Ross, remained with the McCarthys in Carbery.

Carew instructed all his available forces to march into these parts, and on 5 January 1603 Captain Taafe's foot entering this fastness seized a party of two or three hundred cows and horses. The McCarthys followed in pursuit of their cattle, charged and routed those who had taken them. Captain Taafe in return charged with his horsemen and drove them in disorder into a wood. Owen McEgan, to put fresh heart into the company, with his sword in one hand and beads in the other, led a hundred men into the fray and kept up a hot skirmish until he was slain with a shot. Taafe's horse charged again, whereupon the Irish were so amazed by the bishop's death and their own danger, that they broke and fled. Some leaped into the Bandon river and many were killed or drowned in it. Carew records that besides Owen McEgan—whose death was of more worth than all the rest—there were slain or drowned more than 120 rebels. He further states that the death of that traitorly priest was more beneficial to the state than to have the head of O'Sullivan or any other capital rebel. The respect borne him by reason of his authority from the pope and the credit he had obtained in Spain was so great that his power was absolute over them all and he only was the cause of their obdurate obstinancy. His dignity in being the pope's *vicarius apostolicus* held them in vassalage to him and to paint him in his true colours a more malicious traitor against the state and crown of England never breathed.

In Don Philip O'Sullivan's account of this conflict (written in 1621) he states that Donogh Moyle McCarthy, his brother Fineen, Donogh oge McCarthy, Dermod O'Driscoll, Teige O'Crowley, Teige O'Mahony, Morrogh McSweeney and other gentlemen in Carbery had raised 400 men. Against them came Taafe, an Anglo-Irish captain, the White Knight and the infantry of Muskerry and Fermoy. On the first day Teige O'Mahony encountered the Muskerry foot at Clodagh wood and put them to flight. On the second day the McCarthy's, O'Driscolls and McSwineys slew 40 more of the enemy's foot. Then the McCarthy foot were attacked and routed by the queen's troops and in the ensuing confusion Owen McEgan was mortally wounded by a sword-blow. He was clad in his holy vestments and carried only his spiritual weapons, his breviary in one hand and rosary beads in the other.

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He was a priest of the most spotless and innocent life, a doctor of sacred theology and had been appointed by the pope bishop of Ross.[11]

After this defeat the McCarthys applied to Captain Taafe that their submission be accepted. He brought them to Carew, whom they met on the high road near Mallow. Carew sent a letter to the privy council asking that their pardon be granted to ease the country, for their strength was great and their friends were many. So it was done and on 7 March 1603 the queen's pardon was granted to Donogh McOwen Cartie of the Fale, Florence McOwen Cartie of same, Elinor ny Edmond Gibbon his wife, Teige McDermod O Crowly alias the O Crowley, and many of the name. Teige O Collane alias Teige y totane and many O'Collaines, O'Donovans of the Clan MacAneslis, O'Mahonys, O'Regans, O'Hurleys and other inhabitants of Carbery (Fiants Eliz., 6770). Carew had no illusions about their loyalty for he wrote from Cork that though their rebellion was absolutely broken, no matter how obedient they protest or seem to be, nothing but the sword held over their heads would ensure their subjection.

In June 1603 Donal McCarthy Reagh, Cormac McDermod McCarthy of Blarney, Daniel O'Donovan of Castle Donovan and Donogh McOwen McCarthy of Phale ('de Pfeol') went surety for the good behaviour of Maelmo O'Mahony who had been detained in Cork since 1601. His son Cian was still detained as further security. In July Donogh McCarthy 'de Fyall' and Florence McCarthy of Kilgobban Castle signed a bond for the loyalty of Owen McSwiney of Macroom.[12]

Early in the new reign Donogh Moyle again got into trouble. Thomas Sarsfield, mayor of Cork, refused to proclaim James I as king. On the day of the expected proclamation the council of Munster walked to the high cross of Cork (at Cross Street) expecting the mayor and aldermen to meet them there but nobody came. Whereupon the king was proclaimed a few days later on the hill outside Shandon Castle. Then the mayor and aldermen repented and on 16 May proclaimed the king at the high cross, but they only gave one hogshead of wine to the citizens to drink his health.

In other ways they were disrespectful to the crown. They said the king was of their own religion. They went to St. Finbar's cathedral, took it over, and newly washed and painted the images on its walls which

[11] Vide 'Ireland Under Elizabeth', portion of *History of Catholic Ireland*, by Don Philip O'Sullivan Bere. Translated by Mr J. Byrne. 1903. It seems likely that O'Sullivan conversed in Spain with some who had taken part in this conflict. He states the first day's encounter was at 'Cladacham sylvam' or Cladach wood. Clodagh or Cladagh was the name of a townland north west of Ballineen, and on the northern side of the Bandon river. The earl of Cork relates how in 1617 he purchased from Owen McSwiney his interest in Darrigrath-yerragh, Cloddagh and Cloynaregg. (*Lismore Papers*). In 1620 a crown grant to the earl includes 'the two Derrygratheas, Cloddagh and Clonyreagh.' (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, Jas 1). Derrigra and Cloonyreague still survive as townland names but Cloddagh is obsolete. Mr Jeremiah O'Mahony, N.T. (than whom there can be no better authority) informs me there is a place in the vicinity still known as Maidhm-a-Cladaighe, which could be interpreted as the battle-rout of the Claddagh.

The remains of Bishop McEgan were conveyed to the friary of Timoleague and Father Mooney, who visited the friary about a dozen years later, states his grave is at the north west angle of the cloister and marked by a small cross on the wall.

[12] Vide Extracts from the *Council Book of Munster*: Appendix A. Caulfield's *Kinsale.*

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had remained since Mass was formerly celebrated therein. The cross was carried like a standard before the mayor and city council to the door of the cathedral when attended by 3000 people and guarded by 200 armed men they entered and again heard Mass celebrated there. They refused admission to the king's army and forced them to lodge in the suburbs outside the north-gate ; they fired on Shandon Castle where lady Carew was lodging ; they took Skiddy's Castle which contained the king's munitions ; they demolished Elizabeth fort and mounted cannon on the tower at the south gate bridge, from which they fired shots at Bishop Lyon's palace where the council of Munster were in residence. In all these activities the principal part was taken by William Meade, the recorder of Cork, and his brother John.

Lord Mountjoy was compelled to march on Cork with a large army and did not secure admittance until Meade and his friends were out-voted in the council chamber. William Meade was then tried for treason at Youghal and amongst the jury were the brothers-in-law Donogh Moyle McCarthy of Phale and Daniel O'Donovan of Castle Donovan. They (having been often on the wrong side of the law) joined with the others in finding Meade not guilty. They were summoned to Dublin and asked why against the evidence given and the judge's charge they acquitted Meade, they answered that in their private consciences they knew he did not intend treason but gave no reason for their pretended knowledge. The jury were deemed guilty of perjury, heavily fined and sentenced to wear paper hats on their heads declaring their offence at the next sessions in Cork city.[13]

In 1605 Mr Justice Saxey mentions Donogh Moyle McCarthy, Barrett of Ballincollig and three sons of Fineen O'Driscoll as being men of desperate fortunes beyond the seas, who may skip over and do mischief. Another report of the same period lists Donogh Moyle amongst the Irishmen of Munster that are continually beyond the seas and suspected of commanding companies in Spain. A further report (circa 1607) states that Donogh Moyle McCarthy, cousin to McCarthy Reagh and to Florence now in the Tower, stated that Franciscan friars were being sent from Spain to endeavour again to withdraw the gentlemen of Munster from their allegiance. His brother-in-law James FitzThomas died in the Tower of London in 1608 and a report (which must have been written soon after) noted that the wife of Donogh Moyle McCarthy, the sister of James who died in the Tower, was in Spain with her two sons and six attendants.

At some time subsequently Donogh Moyle, his wife and family returned to Ireland and again took up their abode at Phale. Carbery was looked upon as confiscated territory on account of the treasonable activities of its inhabitants during the last year of Elizabeth's reign, and the king granted it to a Scotch favourite, Sir James Semple of Beltries. A scheme to plant it in the same manner as Ulster had been mooted, but it was not deemed practicable. Chichester, the lord-deputy, wrote to Sir James Semple 9 December 1614 to the effect that a composition was being arranged with the gentlemen and pretending freeholders to which he hoped the king and

[13] Vide Smith's *Cork* ; *Lismore Papers* ; *Cal. Egmont MSS.*

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Semple would agree. The uncertainty of the king's title to the lands and the hazard of a trial with men so long in possession had induced him to that course. He confessed that the planting of English families in the barony would be of great advantage to the king in securing and civilizing that part of Munster but too much mischief and discontent would ensue therefrom.[14] It was speedily made known to the gentlemen of Carbery that Sir James Semple would give a new title for a cash consideration and a number availed of the offer. Anongst those was Sir Walter Coppinger who in January 1615 received a patent as assignee of Sir James Semple, of a vast tract in Carbery including 'the castle, town and lands of Fiall, containing 3 carucates one half adjacent to the castle and the remaining parts in Knockconeadin and Currygullagra in the puble of Slught Glasse.' It seems to have been understood that the new grantees were to alienate the lands to those in possession, doubtless for some money composition, and in this manner Donogh Moyle secured a new title.

At this period Richard Boyle, earl of Cork, was buying land or mortgages on land from any who would sell same, in order to extend his power throughout Munster. In September 1614 he purchased from Donagh Moyle McCarthy a mortgage he held on the ploughlands of the Shanavoghes (Shanaway) in the parish of Ballymoney (*Lismore Papers*).

In November 1615 Boyle purchased for £100 the interest which Donogh Moyle of 'the ffyal' and his son Owen had in the fifteen ploughlands of the Slught Teige O Mahown in Ivagha (Ballydehob district). In 1622 he agreed with Conogher McDermod McCarthy of Knocknacullen (Hollyhill, parish of Desertserges) that he, his wife and her feoffee Donogh Moyle McCarthy should release title of the lands to Boyle and accept same on lease (*Lismore Papers*).

In 1631 Donogh Moyle McCarthy peacefully ended his chequered career at Phale. An inquisition taken in August 1632 found that he had died seized of the castle, town and lands of 'the Fiall' and other lands which he held of the King *in capito* and that Owen McDonogh was his son and heir.[15] Ten years later the name of Owen McDonogh McCarthy of 'the Fyall' figures amongst those gentlemen of Co. Cork indicted for high treason at Youghal sessions and subsequently declared outlawed by the king's bench (vide Appendix B, Caulfield's *Kinsale*). A despatch sent from Bandon to the earl of Cork in March 1642 gives details of a conflict which had lately taken place between the garrison of that town and the Irish of Carbery. It is stated that amongst the Irish of note who were slain were Daniel, eldest son to the O'Donovan : the eldest son of McCarthy of Phale Castle also, and a brother to the McCarthy Reagh for whom there was great lamentation at Kilbrittain. (*Lismore Papers*).

Ten years later that long drawn out struggle ended with the triumph of the forces of the English parliament. The lands of those who had been attainted in 1642 were now declared forfeited and at the disposal of that parliament. In the 'Down Survey' of the forfeited lands it is recorded

[14] *Chichester Letters*, 105., *Analecta Hibernica*, March 1938.
[15] Unpublished Transcriptions of Co. Cork Inquisitions, R.I.A.

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that two castles stood in the parish of Ballimónie, one Ardea or Ballincarrig which had been held by Randal oge Hurley and the other Phéall which with 300 acres of land had been held (prior to 1641) by Owen McDonogh McCarthy.

The lands of Phale were granted to one Bryan Wade who seems to have been a Cromwellian trooper. Wade was confirmed in possession by the acts of settlement in the reign of Charles II. Nevertheless it is stated that Owen McCarthy who was colonel of King James II's 36th regiment of foot was descended from Sir Owen McCarthy Reagh (presumably a grandson of Donogh Moyle or his brother Fineen). This Owen McCarthy was M.P. for Clonakilty in King James's parliament of 1689 and accompanied the king to France after the battle of the Boyne in 1690.[16]

The lands of Phale passed in the last century into the possession of Lord Carbery of Castle Freke. A magnificent mansion styled Phale Court was erected on the level land to the north of the old castle. This building was burned to the ground in the present century. As already stated, the castle had been demolished in 1814. Oral tradition had become uncertain regarding the McCarthys who erected and maintained it, and it is only by piecing together old records that the story can be told of Donogh Moyle McCarthy of Phale and his kinsmen of Carbery, who did not yield until twelve months after the battle of Kinsale.

[16] Cork M.P's. By C. M. Tenison. *J.C.H.A.S.*, II (1896).

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