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Edited by John Thomas Gilbert

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Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town,  
Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi, Mexico City

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)

Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781108048873](http://www.cambridge.org/9781108048873)

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2012

This edition first published 1870  
This digitally printed version 2012

ISBN 978-1-108-04887-3 Paperback

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# HISTORIC AND MUNICIPAL DOCUMENTS

OF

# IRELAND,

A.D. 1172–1320.

FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, ETC.

EDITED

BY

J. T. GILBERT, F.S.A.,

SECRETARY OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE OF IRELAND;  
AUTHOR OF A HISTORY OF THE VICEROYS OF  
IRELAND, ETC.

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF HER MAJESTY'S  
TREASURY, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

LONDON:

LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.

1870.

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Printed by  
ALEXANDER THOM, 87 & 88, Abbey-street, Dublin,  
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

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## ERRATA.

Page	vi, line 30,	for three	<i>read</i>	nearly five.
"	lxxxxi, "	36, "	fisheries	" fishery.
"	54, "	20, "	messuagium	" mesagium.
"	136, "	5, "	vicesimo	" vicesimo.
"	141, "	29, "	libertatem	" libertatum.
"	142, "	14, "	feloma	" felonia.
"	144, "	38, "	prescutus	" presentus [ <i>sic</i> ].
"	148, "	16, "	levebantur	" levabantur.
"	158, "	26, "	cujusdum	" cujusdam.
"	183, "	32, "	disciplinam	" disciplinam.
"	199, "	3, "	apte,	" aperte.
"	219, "	18, "	adveniencium	" adveniencium.
"	220, "	38, "	termini	" termini.
"	225, "	16, "	scilicet	" scilicet.
"	294, "	24, "	victualibu	" victualibus.
"	496, "	36, "	ubicunque	" ubicunque.

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## P R E F A C E .

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THE history of the municipal, middle, and trading classes in Ireland, under or in relation with the rule of England in the twelfth and four subsequent centuries, has hitherto remained in almost entire obscurity.

Unless in connexion with the Church or the nobles, the interests of the middle classes are seldom even mentioned by the annalists or chroniclers whose works formed the bases of subsequent compilations on Irish history. Authentic evidences on this subject can consequently now only be gleaned from the existing remnants of municipal archives and co-relative records which have survived to our time.

The investigation is rendered more than ordinarily arduous by the documents being in diverse and distant custodies, and written during the early periods in contracted curial Latin or Law French, replete with archaic technicalities, originally of high importance, but now long obsolete.

As materials towards the elucidation of the history of the above-mentioned classes, a series of documents from A.D. 1172 to A.D. 1320, is printed in the present volume, mainly connected with North Leinster, which, as including Dublin and Drogheda, constituted a principal portion of the Anglo-Norman settlement in Ireland. The chief manuscripts from which the texts have been taken may be enumerated as follows :—

Royal charters, rolls, the “White Book,” the “Chain Book,” the “Recorder’s Book,” and miscellaneous muni-

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ments in the archives of the Municipal Corporation of the city of Dublin.

The “Crede Mihi” and “Alan’s Register,” now in the official custody of Archbishop Trench of Dublin.

The Chartulary of the Abbey of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Dublin, of the order of Citeaux, in the British Museum.

The Register of the Monastery of St. Thomas, Dublin, in the Library of the Royal Irish Academy.

The “Red Book” of the Court of Exchequer in Ireland.

Patent, Close, Exchequer and other rolls, and miscellaneous documents connected with the period from 1172 to 1320, in the Public Record Offices of England and Ireland.

Of such of these manuscripts as may be deemed to require special notice, the following is an account:—

Royal Charters: The extent to which important mediæval municipal documents of Ireland have disappeared is illustrated by the fact that of the charters and diplomas here collected concerning the commonalty of Dublin, issued by the Kings of England, or their representatives, between 1172 and 1320, there now survive among the municipal muniments of that metropolis but seven originals—namely, one of Henry II., two of John, one of Edward I., and three of Edward II.

Royal  
Charters to  
Dublin.

The grant from Henry II., the earliest Anglo-Norman Royal charter connected with Ireland, is but of small size, its length being six and a half inches, and its breadth three inches. Although injured by careless treatment and by indorsements in modern hands<sup>1</sup> recording its production in legal evidence, the writing and parchment, after a period of nearly seven hundred years, are in good condition, and a considerable fragment of an impression of the seal in green wax is still pendant from it.

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<sup>1</sup> The left corner of the back of John Bysse who was Recorder bears also an autograph signature of Dublin, A.D. 1634-1660.

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John's charters<sup>1</sup> are of large size, boldly written, and in good condition.

The writ of Prince Edward, issued in 1266, and the three charters of his son, Edward II., are scarcely decipherable from partial obliteration. The smallness of these parchments, and the minute character in which they are written, contrast remarkably with the large-sized charters of John.

The versions given of other royal charters and documents, the originals of which are not accessible, have been taken mainly from early official enrolments among the Public Records of England and Ireland.

The document which I have styled "Dublin Roll of Names," consists of six membranes, each averaging <sup>Dublin</sup> <sup>Roll of</sup> <sup>Names</sup> about twenty inches in length, and of an uniform breadth of nearly nine inches, written in double columns, both on face and back.

How many membranes may have originally preceded the surviving unheaded one, with which this roll commences, cannot now be determined. The top membrane bears traces of having been long exposed; portions of its face are obliterated and discoloured. Its back presents mainly a dark brownish surface, which friction has rendered rough in some parts, and glossy in others.

<sup>1</sup> An original of that of A.D. 1185, printed at page 49, from the "Recorder's Book," was sold at public auction in London in March, 1858, by S. Leigh Sotheby and J. Wilkinson, as part of the collection of William Monck Mason, Esq.

To the foot of John's charter of A.D. 1200, printed at page 57, a piece of vellum is attached containing the following, in an ancient hand:—

"Miskeningham—Hoc est quie-

tus de amerciamentis et querelis in curia coram quibuscunque inordinate sive transcriptive prolatis.

"Burgh-brech—Hoc est quietum esse de trangressionibus in civitate vel burgo factis.

"Stallage—Hoc est quietum esse de quadam consuetudine exacta pro placeis et capta vel assignata pro rebus carriandis ubicunque volueris in nundinis vel mercatis."

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On the latter portions some of the original entries may yet be dimly seen under favourable shades of light, but the writing has been entirely lost where the surface has become rough. The other membranes are in better condition, but disfigured by stains. The writing is of the solid, somewhat uncial, Anglo-Norman character of the twelfth century, and almost uniform so far as the left column on the face of the sixth membrane, and to the right column of the fourth membrane, after each of which it partly assumes a cursive, smaller, and irregular shape, with an occasional return to the original form.

Discovery  
of rolls.

This "roll of names" formed the wrapper of a bundle of parchments, which in 1866 I found in an obscure recess of the then unarranged Muniment-room of the Municipal Corporation of the city of Dublin. In addition to a roll of free citizens, hereafter mentioned, this bundle contained thirty-six membranes, which, from the style of the writing and the nature of the entries, appeared to be a sequel to the six membranes which formed their wrapper.

No entry specificatory of their age, class, or locality, is to be found in the six membranes forming the Dublin Roll of names (pp. 3–48) which, from palæographical and other characteristics, I assigned to the latter part of the twelfth century.

The general obscurity of members of ancient guilds or civic communities constitutes an impediment towards the ascertainment of the age of this document by entries elsewhere extant in connection with individuals registered on it; moreover, few records of any class of so early a period in Ireland now survive. Through independent external materials—chiefly in England—I have, however, succeeded in synchronizing persons<sup>1</sup> entered on its

<sup>1</sup> Norman Clater (p. 25); Gilbertus Burel (p. 31). The first of these is referred to as follows in a writ of King John, dated at Don-

caster, 23rd of May, 1207, addressed to his viceroy, Meiller Fitz-Henri: "De Normanno Clatere, qui, sicut mandastis, reli-

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fifth and sixth membranes with the early stages of Anglo-Norman settlement in Ireland, in connexion with which it thus appears to be the most ancient roll extant. This result is supported by a partly torn heading<sup>1</sup> of the twelfth membrane, indicating the latter to be a Dublin guild-merchant roll, while on its fractured corner a name—Warin de London—has, by chance, survived, which enables us to bring its date to the close of the twelfth century.

Advancing to the fourteenth membrane, we find in its shattered heading further confirmation that the roll was that of the Dublin guild merchant.<sup>2</sup> The succeeding membrane contains a full heading with the regnal year, tenth of Henry III., as printed at page 82.

From the thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth membranes are printed at pages 136–141 the entries under A.D.

quit civitatem nostram Dublin, ubi civis noster fuit, et ivit ad manendum in terra Walteri de Lascy, vobis mandamus quod terra et catalla sua seisiatis in manum nostram et corpus suum, si illud apprehendere possitis, capiatis et teneatis quousque voluntatem nostram precipimus de eo.”—Rotuli Litterarum, Patentium acc. T. D. Hardy, 1835, 71. Norman’s son, Henri Clater, is named in another writ of same year (ib. 77), and in the city document of 1229 printed at page 485 of the present volume from the Dublin White Book. Gillebert Burel was witness to a grant of land in the honour of Bray to the Monastery of St. Thomas, Dublin, executed by Gaultier de Ridelisford, a contemporary of Henry II.—Regist. Mon. S. Thome, MS. fol. 6<sup>vo</sup>. He is also named in two writs of King

John, A.D. 1215.—Rot. Lit. Claus. 1833, 218, 228.

<sup>1</sup> “Anno proximo post T. . . hii subscripti. . . in gillemercaturam: Warin de London. Walterus de Sancto. . . . Walterus. . . . Will. . . .”

Warin de London appears in a case connected with Dublin entered on the roll of curia regis in England in 1199.—Rot. curie regis, 1835, ii., 172. He was party to a deed executed before John’s accession in 1199, and we find him associated with Willekin and Godafrius Beablanc, whose names are entered on the fifth and sixth membranes (pp. 19, 25) of the Dublin Roll of names.—MS. Brit. Mus. Tiberius: A. xi., ff. 50 b; 89 b. See also Add. MS. 4797, f. 11 b.

<sup>2</sup> “De prepositura de Gillemercatura, Willelmo de Flemstid et Widone Cornubiensi, prepositis.”

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1256, 1257, the fortieth and forty-first years of Henry III. The last and forty-second membrane is of A.D. 1264, the forty-eighth year of that king. The writing on these rolls is in double columns on front and back, so far as the sixteenth membrane, after which the indorsements terminate. The membranes which lay in the interior of the bundle are for the most part in excellent preservation.

Roll of  
Dublin  
citizens.

The roll of free citizens of Dublin, printed at pages 112–123, and mentioned as part of the bundle already noticed, differs from its companions somewhat in form and caligraphy. It consists of three membranes, varying in length and breadth,<sup>1</sup> written only on one side, and much injured by acid on the later portions.

Dublin  
White  
Book.

The Dublin “White Book”—to which I have restored its long lost original name—is a vellum manuscript of one hundred and eleven leaves, containing copies of documents connected with the properties and rights of that city, transcribed from the thirteenth to the seventeenth century.

The Municipal Corporation of Dublin possess no information in connection with this volume, now in their custody, beyond the fact that their predecessors, in 1830, purchased it from Sir William Betham, Ulster King of arms, who<sup>2</sup> asserted it to be “the ancient Chartulary of the City of Dublin,” called the “Domesday boke of Devylin Cittie.” There is, however, no evidence that the book now under notice was styled “Domesday,” until it received that title from Sir William Betham.

<sup>1</sup> The first membrane is  $25\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, the second is two inches larger, the third does not extend beyond nine inches. The breadth of the first membrane is  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches, that of the third membrane  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

<sup>2</sup> “Dignities, feudal and par-

liamentary, and the constitutional legislature of the United Kingdom . . . by Sir William Betham, Ulster King of arms, and Keeper of the Records of the Tower of his Majesty’s Castle of Dublin.” 8vo., Dublin: 1830, page 256.



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The authentic particulars which I have been able to gather from records in connection with this manuscript are as follows:—

The earliest independent reference to the Dublin “White Book” is the following endorsement on an original grant of Henry IV<sup>1</sup>, A.D. 1402-3, now in the city archives:—

“Irrotulata in Albo Libro civitatis Dublin, tempore  
 “Thome Cusake, maioris, civitatis Dublin, Ricardi Boue et  
 “Thome Shorthals, ballivorum ejusdem civitatis.”  
Dublin  
Liber  
Albus

The transcript of the document thus mentioned appears on the back of the leaf numbered 40 in the present manuscript, and apparently in the hand of the writer of the endorsement.

The “White Boke” is named in a city act<sup>2</sup> of 1464-5. In 1467 the Assembly of Dublin city ordered that all patents and charters touching their commonalty should be copied in the “White Boke;”<sup>3</sup> and on an almost obliterated fragment of a leaf of a city court register of about the same period, among the Dublin muniments, I found an entry referring to the “Liber Albus.”<sup>4</sup>

In the early part of the reign of Elizabeth, the volume now before us was in the custody of John Dyllon, clerk of the Tholsel, or city court, of Dublin, in whose writing the following entry appears at the foot of the back of its 118th leaf:—

“Memorandum that this boke from borde to borde  
 “conteyneth six score and fyftene leaves. Scriptum  
 “xviii<sup>o</sup> die Novembris, 1563. J. Dyllon, clerck.”<sup>5</sup>

The “White Book of the Tholsel” is mentioned in the accounts of the Dublin guild of tailors in 1566; and the

<sup>1</sup> “Teste meipso, apud West-monasterium, quinto die Martii, anno regni nostri quinto.”

<sup>2</sup> <sup>3</sup> Rot. Mem. Civit. Dublin 4 and 6 Edward iv. (3 & 8).

<sup>4</sup> “John Kelly, tayllor, queritur de Roberto Corkerane,

tailor, de placito per statutum albi libri.”

<sup>5</sup> Payment to Dyllon for services in connection with the municipal records is entered on Dublin City Assembly roll, 2 Elizabeth, fourth Friday after Christmas (1560).

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entries in it of deeds connected with the city conduits are referred to as legal evidences in an act of the Dublin City Assembly in 1567.

The latest reference in the city rolls to this manuscript is an Act of Assembly of 1687, ordering Sir Richard Ryves, the late Recorder of Dublin, to deliver to his official successor, Sir John Barnewall, “the book commonly called the White Book, wherein many ancient charters, deeds and customs, are enrolled, which book,” adds the act, “is usually kept by the Recorder for the time being.”<sup>1</sup>

From 1687 we lose sight of the “White Book” for one hundred and forty-two years. Divested of its original title and unrecognised, it reappeared in 1829 as an anonymous manuscript, described as follows in the catalogue<sup>2</sup> of the library of James Bradish, sold by auction at Dublin in that year:—

“MS. No. 2. Transcript of the Charter and Liberties of Dublin, and notices of various very interesting antiquities.”

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<sup>1</sup> Dublin Assembly Roll, 16th February, 1687. m. 9. Barnewall was appointed third serjeant on 6th of May, 1687, in place of Ryves, removed. On 2nd of March, 1688, he became Baron of the Exchequer, and was succeeded as Recorder by Gerald Dillon, Prime Serjeant.

From the following entry on the back of the folio numbered 128 of the “White Book,” we learn that a transcript, now missing, had been previously made of it:—

“Hic liber transcriptus fuit anno Domini millesimo, sexcentesimo septuagesimo primo, Jo[hanne] Totty, m[aiore] Dub[lin], per mandatum Willielmi

Davis, militis, recordatorem [sic] et clericum [sic] theolonii civitatis Dublin, anno Domini, 1671.”

Sir William Davis, here mentioned, was appointed Recorder of Dublin in June 1660, and in February 1664, obtained, during his tenure of this post, a grant of the “Tholsel Office,” which he resigned in 1674.

<sup>2</sup> “A Catalogue of the very rare and valuable Library of the late James Bradish, Esq., of Laurel Hill, Queen’s Co., which will be sold by auction by Samuel Jones, at his rooms in Trinity-street, on Monday, July 13th, and following days.” 8vo., Dublin: 1829.

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At this sale the book was purchased for sixty-four pounds and one shilling by Sir William Betham, who, in the succeeding year, obtained one hundred and fifty pounds<sup>1</sup> for it from the Municipal Corporation of Dublin.

The present initial page of the manuscript is numbered xxvi. in Roman and 36 in Arabic figures. The preceding leaves had apparently been absent when the volume was bound in ordinary brown calf towards the commencement of the present century.

From some manuscript memoranda, in the British Museum,<sup>2</sup> dated 11th of July, 1635, we find that the now absent leaves were chiefly occupied with transcripts of royal charters to Dublin, and but for this chasm at its beginning the book would seem not to be defective. The entries are in general fair specimens of the writings of their respective periods, and those of early date have blue or red colophons and rubric head lines.

Allusion to, or evidence of, the existence of a "Dublin Domesday Book" has not been found in public or municipal archives. Vestiges, however, survive of a now missing Dublin "Roll of Domesday," hitherto unnoticed in any historic work. The disappearance of this roll is the more to be regretted as it would seem to have been the only record compiled in Ireland, under the title of "Domesday." References to the "Roll of Domesday" in the Dublin "White Book"<sup>3</sup> probably led to the erroneous assumption, already noticed, that the latter volume was the "Domesday of Dublin." Some of the lost leaves of the Dublin "White Book" were, we find,<sup>4</sup> inscribed as having been copied from Domesday Roll; and Dublin

<sup>1</sup> The payment of this sum to Betham appears in the accounts of the Treasurer of the Corporation in September 1830.

<sup>2</sup> \* <sup>4</sup> Sloane Collection, 4793 ;

Codex Clarendon, vol. XLVI.; Plut. CLIX.D.

<sup>3</sup> "Irrotulata in Domesday," — "White Book," fol. 63; see also page 283 of present volume.

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deeds<sup>1</sup> of the fourteenth century bear endorsements of registration on it.

An instrument under the seal of the provostship of Dublin, in 1396, demonstrates that the Roll of Domesday was at that time accepted as an authentic public record by both civic and ecclesiastical authorities<sup>2</sup>. Sixty-five years later a Dublin Assembly Act of 1461 referred to the “roll callyt Domesday” as then extant.

So far as we can now glean, the contents of the missing roll would appear not to have been confined—like those of English Domesdays—to rentals or records of territorial rights, but to have included copies of charters, leases, wills, and enrolments of admissions to city freedom.

The Dublin “Chain Book,” is of smaller dimensions than the “White Book,” and appears to have originally commenced with a calendar for the twelve months, which occupies the pages now numbered from 42 to 53. Next to the calendar, its oldest leaves are those numbered from 54 to 105, containing the city regulations and the “Laws

Dublin  
Chain  
Book.

<sup>1</sup> MSS. in Library of Trinity College, Dublin: Stearne, 23 etc.

<sup>2</sup> “Thomas Cusake, maior civitatis Dublin, Ricardus Giffard et Galfridus Parker, ballivi ejusdem civitatis, omnibus ad quos presentes littere pervenerint salutem. Inspecimus irrotulamentum quarundam litterarum patentium officialis curie Christianitatis loci ejusdem nuper maiori et ballivis de civitate directas in rotulo de Domesday ejusdem civitatis irrotularum in hec verba: Memorandum quod sexto decimo die Julii anno regis Edwardi [tercii] post conquestum regni sui Anglie vicesimo octavo [1354], regni vero sui Francie quinto decimo, officialis curie Dublin mandavit litteras suas patentes in hec verba: Nobilibus

viris et discretis, maiori et ballivis civitatis Dublin, officialis curie loci ejusdem salutem in salutis Auctore. Universitati vestre recolendum tenore presencium significamus quod magister Thomas de Kilmor, concivis vester nonnuper condidit testamentum,” etc. . .

“Nos autem tam irrotulamentum litterarum predictarum quam irrotulamentum et executionem earundem factam et consecutam ad requisicionem Ricardi, filii Rogeri Giffard, tenore presencium duximus exemplificanda. In cuius rei testimonium presentibus sigillum prepositure civitatis predictae est appensum. Data vicesimo die Augusti anno regni Ricardi secundi vicesimo [1396].”—MS. T.C.D., F. 1, 8, ff. 678–9.

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and usages” of Dublin, which, with the other articles printed from the same book in the present volume, were apparently transcribed early in the fourteenth century.

The calendar of the “Chain Book” is in black Gothic letters, interspersed with blue and red characters. A page is devoted to every month, and each, as its opening line, has successively one of the following, commencing with January :—

“Prima dies mensis et septima truncat ut ensis.

“Quarta subit mortem, prosternit tertia fortem.

“Primus mandentem dirumpit, quarta bibentem.

“Denus et undenus est morte vulnere plenus.

“Tercius occidet et septimus hora relidet.

“Denus pallescit, quindenus federa nescit.

“Tredecimus mactat, Julii denus labefactat.

“Prima necat fortem sternitque secunda cohortem.

“Tercia Septembris et denus fert mala membris.

“Tercius et denus est mors sicut alienus.

“Scorpius est quintus et tercius est nece cinctus.

“Septimus exsanguis virosus denus ut anguis.”

The writing in the other primary portions of the “Chain Book” is large and elaborate, with blue and red capitals and colophons. A considerable portion of the volume is now composed of leaves apparently added at comparatively modern periods, and covered with contemporaneous entries connected with municipal affairs, down to the early part of the eighteenth century, written mostly in an unfinished style. Several pages have been defaced by acids, and more than twenty-five leaves, which formed portion of the book about sixty years ago, are now missing, nor have we any exact account of the nature of their contents. The binding is of thin oaken boards, covered with dark leather. On each of the covers are visible traces of perforations, believed to be those through which were secured the fastenings of the chain by which the book was attached in the Dublin Guildhall, and whence it derived its

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name. In the city records and acts of Assembly, down to late in the seventeenth century, frequent references are made to the "Chain Book" as a standard authority on points of municipal law and regulations.

Dublin  
Recorder's  
Book.

The Dublin "Recorder's Book," commenced in 1667, is composed of transcripts, generally incorrect and defective, of city documents. A partly verbatim copy of an inaccurate old list of the contents of this book, but with additional errors, by J. Warburton, Deputy Keeper of Records in Bermingham Tower, was published at London in 1818, in Whitelaw's so-called "History of Dublin," under the title of "a synoptical table of the several charters granted to the City of Dublin, carefully extracted from original patents." This "table," replete with inaccuracies, has, like other portions of the publication of which it forms part, been a fertile source of error to those who have relied upon its dates, statements, or references.

Crede Mihi.

The manuscript known as "Crede Mihi," consists of thirty-seven folio leaves of vellum, containing copies of documents chiefly concerning the archbishops of Dublin, transcribed towards the latter part of the thirteenth century, mostly in an elegant and finished character, entirely unornamented. Some of the pages are annotated in old hands, the most recent of which is that of Alan, archbishop of Dublin, from 1528 to 1534, who used it for his compilations, and referred to it as an ancient authority<sup>1</sup> in his "Register." On the fifty-fifth folio of the latter

<sup>1</sup> "In registro nostro antiquiori vocato Crede Mihi," Register, fol. 37r.; "Antiquum registerum quod vocatur apud nos Crede Michi," ib 125r. Alan's memoranda in Crede Mihi are chiefly from fol. 109 to 113. At the head of the former (v.), he wrote: "Composui ego, Alanus, novum Repertorium sive tabulam,

quia tempora mutantur et nos mutamur, etc." Alan's monogram appears in the margins opposite to each of the much faded copies of eight documents—Nos. 160–167, on folios 115v. and 116r. Of the now absent leaves of "Crede Mihi," 8, 30, and 32 are cited by Alan in his Register, ff. 36v., 91v., 75v.

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manuscript may still be read a charter copied in Archbishop Alan's hand from the present eighty-eighth leaf of "Crede Mihi." The old pagination of "Crede Mihi" indicates that seventy-nine leaves are now wanting at its commencement, some at least of which were extant in Alan's time; but that in the seventeenth century the manuscript was defective, as at present, appears from the following note, ascribed to Ussher, written on the inside of the front of its vellum wrapper :

" Pars hæc est antiqui registri Archiepisc. Dublin ; circa annum 1275, conscripti ; quod appellatur CREDE MIHI, ut constat ex novo Registro Johannis Alani, archiepiscopi, fol. 64. b. Antiqui, vero, hujus pars tantum posterior extat, viz., a fol. 80, ad 105 et finem."

Ware, in 1628, referred to this manuscript as "registrum antiquissimum, quod Crede Mihi vocant."<sup>1</sup> Dudley Loftus, later in the same century, assigned its compilation to the period mentioned by Ussher, both probably having based their opinions on the circumstance that the latest document copied in it (folio 102), in a similar style to the original writing, bears the date of 1277.<sup>2</sup> The manuscript is in good preservation, the oldest and most care-

<sup>1</sup> "De Præsulibus Lageniæ, Jacobo Waræo, autore," Dublin: 1628, 105; "Hibernia Sacra," ib, 1717, 107.

From folio 80—the present initial page—of "Crede Mihi," Ussher printed the document commencing "Alexander, episcopus, servus servorum Dei, venerabili, fratri Laurentio, Dublinensi archiepiscopo, ejusque successoribus, canonicè sostituendis in perpetuum."—"Veterum Epistolarum Hibernicarum Sylloge," Dublin: 1632, page 112. At page 155, in his "Epistolarum recen-

sio," he referred as follows to this MS. :—"Eo tempore Dublinensi suæ metropoli præsens hoc impetratum est ab eo [Laurentio, archiepiscopo] privilegium ; ex antiquo Dublinensis archiepiscopi regesto, quod Crede Mihi appellat, a nobis exscriptum."

<sup>2</sup> "Anno 1270. About this time the famous Registry of the Archbishops of Dublin was written, called by the name of Crede Mihi."—D. Loftusii Annales Hiberniæ, MS. in Marsh's Library, Dublin.

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fully written pages are free from damage, but entries by less regular pens have faded, and in some instances nearly vanished.<sup>1</sup> The articles now extant in "Crede Mihi," amount to 169, and they are numbered consecutively throughout in an old hand.

Stitched in the same wrapper, after the fragment of "Crede Mihi," but of different and somewhat wider vellum, are thirty-nine pages of later date. These contain a copy of the constitutions of Clement V., as promulgated by John XXII.; two epistles of the latter dated in the second and one in the seventh year of his pontificate; Scripture references to the word "visitatio;" the titles of Cardinals; and the form of oath for archbishops and bishops. The Clementine constitutions, occupying thirty-five pages, are in a large Gothic character, with blue and red initial letters and rubric head-lines. The entries on the concluding four pages of the manuscript are in irregular hands of the fourteenth century.

Alan's  
Register.

"Alan's Register," a folio volume, written on strong vellum, towards 1530, consists of copies of documents<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This applies specially to the following leaves:—105r<sup>o</sup>, 108, 113v<sup>o</sup>, 115v<sup>o</sup>, and 116.

<sup>2</sup> The loss of early muniments of the see of Dublin is noticed as follows in a charter of 1360, confirming grants of free warren to the archbishops, the original documents having become illegible through age and injury by worms:

"Edwardus, Dei gracia, rex Anglie et Francie, et dominus Hibernie, archiepiscopus, episcopus, abbatibus, prioribus, ducibus, comitibus, baronibus, militibus, iusticiariis, vicecomitibus, prepositis, ministris, et aliis ballivis et fidelibus suis salutem.

"Supplicavit nobis venerabilis

pater, Johannes [de Sancto Paulo], archiepiscopus Dublin, quod cum quedam carte per progenitores nostros, quondam reges Anglie, dudum archiepiscopis Dublin, predecessoribus dicti archiepiscopi, de libera warena in omnibus dominicis terris suis archiepiscopatus predicti habenda concessa adeo vetustate consumpte et vermibus corose, existant, quod legi non poterunt, et quedam confirmaciones inde propter defectum custodie debite casualiter sunt amisse vel, causantibus guerrinis invasionibus, elongate, ususque warrenne hujusmodi tam per vacaciones dicti archiepiscopatus et frequentes



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relative to the properties and rights of the Archbishops of Dublin.

John Alān, its compiler, was for a time employed at Rome by Warham, archbishop of Canterbury; he subsequently became chaplain to Cardinal Wolsey, and in 1528 was appointed to the archbishopric of Dublin and chancellorship for Ireland. Alan held the latter office till 1532, but in 1534 he was killed near Dublin, at the commencement of the outbreak of Thomas FitzGerald, against whose family he was believed to have intrigued.

The "Register," sometimes styled the "Black Book of the archbishops of Dublin," is written in the official chancery character of its time, and contains on almost every page annotations or additions in the obscure hand of Alan, by whom it was revised with much care. The date of 1530 appears in his autograph on pages 18 and 125; that of 1532 on pages 53 verso, and 75 verso; and on the margin of page 81 verso, we find a note by him dated "hodie 1533"—the year which preceded his death.

His epistle on the Palleum—"Pallei significatio activa et passiva"—is extant on pages 72 and 73, with the marginal autograph note: "Alānus hanc epistolam edidit tempore receptionis pallei." Another treatise by him, extending from page 143 to 146, is entitled "De consuetudinibus ac statutis in tuitoriis negotiis observandis, instar curie Cantuarie," etc.

In the following entries on page 18 of his "Register," Alan recorded that by payment of nearly one hundred ounces of his own silver he redeemed the Dublin archie-

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capciones ejusdem in manus regias, quam per nimiam dudum archiepiscoporum negligenciam quandoque extiterit interruptus, velimus prefato Johanni archiepiscopo et successoribus suis archiepiscopis dicti loci ipsam warennam confirmare, etc. . .

"Data per manum nostram, apud Westmonasterium, vicesimo die Junii anno regni nostri Anglie tricesimo quarto, regni vero nostri Francie vicesimo primo."—Alan's Register, fol. 30. v°.

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piscopal cross and crozier, after they had lain in pawn for almost eighty years :

“Item. Nota quod post obitum Ricardi Talbot, Archiepiscopi Dublin, 1449, erat crux Dublin archiepiscopi impignorata cum Richardo Whyte, scissore, pro quinque marcis per Johannem Streynshue, alias Barbor. Et oportebat priorem Sancte Trinitatis et conventus ejusdem luere, per diffinicionem Michaelis Trigure, successoris proximi dicti Richardi. Quoniam qui sentit honorem et commodum sentire debet et onus. Alanus.—Vero ego, Alanus, Johannes [archiepiscopus], septimus, propriis expensis, recuperavi tam crucem quam baculum, dando uncias ferme centum argenti de meis. Igitur orate pro anima mea.”

The beginning, end and some other portions of Alan's "Register" have been cut away or removed. In its present imperfect state the volume consists of one hundred and sixty-four leaves, most of which, with the exception of the much-worn initial one, are in good condition.<sup>1</sup>

Chartulary  
of St.  
Mary's  
Abbey,  
Dublin.

The Chartulary of St. Mary's Abbey, in the Cottonian Collection, was, in 1628, presented to Sir Robert Cotton

<sup>1</sup> The following appear on the present penultimate leaf, formerly numbered 192—now 163 of the existing leaves in the volume :—

“This was the end of this book when it was delivered by me to Thos. Clarke, esq., register of the consistory court of the see of Dublin, this 15 day of June, 1816,

“John Hare, agent to the earl of Normanton, who presented the same to the see of Dublin.”

“Received pursuant to an order of lord Manners, lord chancellor of Ireland, and his grace

Charles, lord archbishop of Cashel, for that purpose.

“June the 15th, 1816.

“Thos. Clarke, D[eputy] Regr.”

“Delivered this book to J. C. Erck, esq., by direction of his grace the archbishop of Dublin, and for which he has given a voucher, 10th May, 1826.

“John Samuels, Dy. Regr.”

The earl of Normanton, mentioned in the first of these entries, died in 1868. His father, Charles Agar, was translated in 1801 from the see of Cashel to that of Dublin; created first earl of Normanton in 1806, and died in 1809.

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by James Ware,<sup>1</sup> who cited it as one of the authorities used in his treatise “*De Præsulibus Lageniæ*,” published in that year.

Thomas Smith, at the close of the same century, in his catalogue of the Cottonian Manuscripts, entered it as “*Registrum chartarum abbathiæ S. Mariæ, Virginis, Dublin.—Donum viri clarissimi D. Jacobi Waræi.*”<sup>2</sup>

This manuscript was rescued from the fire of the Cottonian collection at Ashburnham house, London, in 1731, but not without serious damage. Of the book which in Ware’s time was described as “a fair chartulary” there now survive but one hundred and two leaves, injured by fire and water. The remnant, noticed in 1802, as in a wretched condition, preserved in a case,<sup>3</sup> has since, with much care and skill, been repaired and bound. The writing of St. Mary’s chartulary may be assigned to the early part of the fourteenth century; it is irregular in size and without ornamentation, excepting a few rubrics.

The Register of the monastery of St. Thomas, Dublin, is a vellum volume composed of transcripts of documents connected with that house, compiled by William Copinger, of Cork, in 1526, as we learn from the following entry in large Gothic letters on the first page:—

Register of  
Monastery  
of St.  
Thomas,  
Dublin.

“*Copia vera quarundam evidenciarum monasterii Sancti Thome, martiris, iuxta Dublin, extracta per me Willielmum Copinger de Cork, sue nacionis capitaneum, anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo vicesimo sexto: 1526.*”

The volume is written in the chancery hand of the period, with large but not finely executed initial letters of black and red, and in some instances rubric headings

<sup>1</sup> “*Writers of Ireland*,” by W. Harris. Dublin: 1746, 148.

<sup>2</sup> “*Catalogus librorum manuscriptorum Bibliothecæ Cottonianæ.*” Oxonii: 1696, p. 21.

<sup>3</sup> “*Registrum chartarum abbathiæ S. Mariæ, Virginis, iuxta*

Dublin. . . . Codex membranaceus in 4to, pessime habitus: quæ supersunt capsula asservantur. Sec. xiv.”—*Catalogue of the MSS. in the Cottonian Library*, deposited in the British Museum. London: 1802, p. 34.

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are prefixed to the articles. The book is in good preservation, bound in oaken boards, from which the two clasps have been removed. It is paged throughout in an old hand, the final leaf being numbered 150. An entry on the inside of the back of the cover, dated 20th of June, 1629, and signed "John Paycocke," records that the book then contained "one hundred and fifty and two leaves, written and unwritten."

Since its pagination some portions have been removed, and the volume at present consists of one hundred and forty-one leaves. It was for a time in the possession of John Carpenter, Roman Catholic archbishop of Dublin (1770–1786), in whose autograph the following entry appears on the back of the present forty-third leaf:—

"Liber D. Joannis Carpenter, Archiepiscopi Dublin, Hiberniæ Primatis et Metropolitanæ; Consecr. in festo Pentecostes, die 3<sup>a</sup> Jun., 1770."<sup>1</sup>

This Register passed successively into the libraries of the Right Hon. William Burton Conyngham, Austin Cooper, and Charles Haliday. With the "Haliday Collection," it was presented to the Royal Irish Academy in 1867.

Red Book  
of Exche-  
quer in  
Ireland.

The "Red Book of the Exchequer" is the oldest extant official volume connected with the courts of justice in Ireland. It consists of eighty-nine written leaves, occupied chiefly with copies of documents, memoranda and miscellaneous entries, transcribed from the thirteenth to the seventeenth century, as well as the forms of oaths<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A Gaelic version of the above entry is inscribed as follows in archbishop Carpenter's hand on the back of the second leaf:—

"Do leabhráibh Shean Mhíe an t-Shaor, Comharbálaírcan uí Thuatail, ceona Arís Eapros Átha clíach, Dubhlíne, aḡar ḡruomharoh Eirleáñ: no coir eḡab 'Don tShuíde rín an tnear la vo lun, MDCCCLXX."

<sup>2</sup> On this subject the following appears at the foot of page 64, immediately after the end of the missal portion of the manuscript:

"De periculo iuramenti:  
Qui iurat super librum tria facit:

Primo, quasi diceret omnia que scripta sunt in hoc libro numquam michi proficiant, neque lex

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which were formerly administered to officials on this manuscript. The present thirty-second page contains an old drawing of the Exchequer comprising thirteen figures, some of which were wantonly defaced in former times. A calendar for each of the twelve months, written in black, blue, and red, with rubric head-lines similar to those quoted at page xiii., occupies six lines (37–48), interpolated with many ancient memoranda, now nearly obliterated.

The pages from 49 to 64 are devoted to the canon of the mass with the missal-lessons, gospels, and prayers respectively for the festivals of the Holy Trinity, the Holy Cross, the Holy Ghost, and the Blessed Virgin.

The missal portion is in large solid black, blue, and red Gothic characters, with some elaborately colored initial letters; and page 52 contains on its right an illumination representing Christ on the cross, with a figure standing at each side.

The “Red Book” is not in good condition. Its ancient pagination cannot now be satisfactorily traced, as the leaves were removed from their original sequence, and numbered by an unskilful hand, when the manuscript was rebound with but little care towards the commencement of the present century. Some pages are stained by acids; from others, especially those of the calendar, the writing has been rubbed apparently by the touching and kissing in administration of oaths.

The earliest memorandum roll of the Exchequer in Ireland is that of the year 1303.<sup>1</sup> With the preceding

nova neque vetus, si mencior in hoc iuramento.

Secundo : Apponit manum super librum, quasi diceret numquam bona opera que feci michi proficiant ante faciem Jesu Christi nisi veritatem dicam, quando per manus significentur opera.

Tercio et ultimo, osculatur librum, quasi diceret numquam

oraciones neque preces quas dixi per os meum michi ad salutem anime valeant si falsitatem dicam in hoc iuramento michi apposito.”

<sup>1</sup> The first membrane is headed: “Diversa regem tangentia in termino S. Michaelis, anno regni regis Edwardi tricesimo primo, incipiente tricesimo secundo.”

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rolls of this series are also missing those for the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth years of Edward II., 1316--1319, which might have supplied valuable cotemporary evidence on the state of Ireland during the occupation of Bruce.

The letter from the mayor and commonalty of Dublin to Edward I. (page 202), and their appeals to the king and council in England, are of small size, with the exception of that numbered LIX. (pages 204--11), which, unusually large for its class, measures nine inches in breadth and twenty-two in length.

Details have not reached us of the arrangements made by the first Anglo-Norman adventurers and their Irish allies for the internal rule and administration of the towns<sup>1</sup> in Ireland of which they obtained possession by arms, and over which Henry II. subsequently assumed sovereignty.

Municipalities in Ireland.

The Anglo-Norman municipal system for Ireland may be said to have been initiated by the first charter of Dublin from Henry II., which bears no date, but having been attested at Dublin, must be assigned to the period of his sojourn there, which was from the eleventh of November, 1171, to the first of the following March.

Bristol, from times long preceding its association with Dublin under this charter, was a chief port of communication between England and Ireland; as part of the earldom of Gloucester it afterwards became united with the lordship of Ireland in the person of John.

On the first Dublin charter from Henry II. and on his grant executed at Saint Lo, in Normandy, were based the

<sup>1</sup> Cambrensis, after chronicling the capture of Waterford, says merely: "dispositis urbi custodibus . . . cuncta communiter versus Dubliniam vexilla reguntur." Of Dublin, after the repulse of Hauskuld, he gives no details beyond

the following:—"Cum itaque comes [FitzGislebert] per aliquot dies de statu urbis disposuisset ibidem Milone Coganensi custode relicto." "Expugnatio Hibernica" ed. Dimock, 1867, 255, 257.