

THE ANCIENT ANNALS ON THE O'DALAIGH

The "Annala Rioghachta Eireann," the "Annals of Clonmacnoise," the "Annals of Loch Ce," the "Annals of Senat," and other annalistic records of the Gael mention the O'Dalaigh repeatedly. These unique Gaelic annals as a whole form the most complete ancient national autobiography in existence today relating to the peoples of the nations of northern and western Europe.

On the family name, O'Dalaigh, the annalistic references begin at the year 1139, the date at which this surname is generally believed to have been first assumed. Prior to this date, back to the year 818 A.D., in the annals heretofore mentioned and at much more ancient periods in the Books of Leinster and Ballymote, the name Dalach appears in various forms. These earlier Dalach references undoubtedly possess in at least some cases a bearing on the antecedent history of the O'Dalaigh family.

Examples of the earliest known references to the name Dalach are listed in the collection assembled by the Reverend Barry, cited in a previous chapter and reproduced here as a convenience to readers.

"The 'Book of Leinster'" Barry says, "has nominative: Dalo, Dala, Dula and Dail- genitive: Dalo, Dala, Daula and Dula; and dative: Dalo. It mentions Dalo of Slige Dala 155b, 169b, and of Mag Dala 46b, of great antiquity; Dala mac Ferdmuin, of the third century 205i., Dail, 3269, also Dula 381a, also Dila 312a, son of Laidir, charioteer of Cuchorb, king of Leinster, early in the second century; Brec mac Dula, whose father was fourth from Colla Fochrick, who flourished A.D. 330, 383b; Diarniait mac Dala, 338h, and Findlaith mac Dala, 350d, whose fathers were ninth and eleventh from Ailill Olum, king of Munster, early in the third century; the very ancient Leinster family, the Hui Deccair Dala; Dalan mac Rosa Falgi, a grandson of Cathair Mor, king of Ireland (circ. A.D. 177) ; Dalach mac Umoir, at the beginning of the Christian era 152a, many a later Dalach and O'Dalaigh, now Daly; gen. Dalann, in a pedigree of St. Cainnech of Achad boin Upper Ossory 348i; and Dal, a female, 36a." ". . . And the family name Hui Deccair Dala 316b, given also at 133b, 'Book of Ballymote', and given as Hui Deccair at 388a L. L. [Book of Leinster].

The Hui Dala Mide were the O'Dalaigh sept of Corca Adaim Westmeath as the Reverend Edmund Hogan, S. J., points out in his scholarly work, *Onomasticon Goedelicum*, under the heading "Corcu Adaim."

Many Dalach and O'Dalaigh accounts are listed in the Annala Rioghachta Eireann (Annals of the Kingdom of Ireland), translated from the Gaelic by the scholars: Professors Owen Connellan and John O'Donovan, LL.D.

These works, better known as the Annals of the Four Masters, deal with Irish affairs from the earliest period down to the seventeenth century, the period of their compilation. This compilation began in 1632 in the house of the Franciscan Brothers of Donegal and ended about four years later. The compilers, now known as the Four Masters, were: Brother Michael O'Clery, Cucogry O'Clery, Conary O'Clery of Donegal and Peregrine Duigenan of Leitrim, assisted by two noted antiquaries of the time, Ferfesa O'Maolconery, son of Loghlin and Maurice O'Maolconery, son of Torna, both natives of County Roscommon.

Materials used in compilation were: the Annals of Clonmacnoise and the Annals of the Island of the Saints, for the period down to 1227 A.D.; the Annals of Maolconery, ending 1505 A.D.; the Annals of Senat Mac Magnus, ending 1533 A.D.; the Annals of Kilronan by O'Duigenan, for years 900 to 1563 A.D.; the Book of Cucogry O'Clery, for the years 1281 to 1537 A.D.; the Book of Maolin Oge Mac Bruadin, for 1588 to 1603 A.D.; the Book of Lughhaigh O'Clery, for 1586 to 1607 A.D.; the Annals of Leacon by McFirbis, also a vast number of miscellaneous records not specifically listed. Among the unlisted sources the Book of Cuchonnacht O'Daly was undoubtedly included, as Michael O'Clery in the year 1635 testified that he obtained from it his material for the work, *Wars of the Gaedhil with the Gaill*.

"Age of Christ 818. Dalach, son of Clonghus-successor of Daimhliag, died." [Now Duleek, Westmeath]

"Age of Christ 860. Dalach, son of Maelrathe, Abbott of Cluain-Iraird, died." [Cluain Iraird in Westmeath, now Leckin]

"Age of Christ 868. Dalach, son of Muirheartach, Lord of Cinel Conaill, was slain." [Cinel Conaill in Donegal]

"Age of Christ 960. Murcheartach, son of Higneachan, son of Dalach, died." [Of Cinel Conaill in Donegal]

"Age of Christ 1011. Dalach of Disert-Tola, successor of Feichlin and Tola, and a distinguished scribe, died." [Disert-Tola in Westmeath, now Dysart-Taula]

"Age of Christ 1139. Cuchonnacht Ua O'Dalaigh, chief ollamh in poetry, died at Cluain Iraird. He was of Leacain in Meath. [Cluain Iraird, Westmeath, now Leckin]

"Age of Christ 1161. Ragnall Ua Dalaigh, ollamh of Desmond in Poetry, died." [Desmond in Munster]

HISTORICAL AND TRADITIONAL O'DALAIGH GENEALOGICAL RECORDS

O'Dalaigh genealogical materials extant comprise two classes of record. Of these one represents mainly lineage traditions of an uncertain character historically. In this category would fall genealogical accounts like the one previously considered in which the O'Dalaigh were linked to King Conaire Mor. Other materials of this class are the earlier portions of the traditional Gaelic lineage records which are alleged to form a complete genealogical account of the O'Dalaigh and other Gaelic lines back to such remote ancestors as Noah, japhet and even Adam, the father of mankind.

These remote accounts based solely on the traditions which had been handed down orally from age to age may possibly be true in the main. However, sufficient evidence does not appear to exist by which their possible authenticity may be proven from an historical standpoint. It would therefore be rash to herald them as authentic records.

Fortunately, however, other O'Dalaigh genealogical materials exist dealing with the ancestry of the O'Dalaigh line within periods generally conceded to be definitely historical. Data of this nature centers in the historic King Niall of the Nine Hostages, an accepted progenitor of the Race of Dalach of Corca Adaimh. Niall of the Hostages reigned as Ireland's high king from A.D. 379 to 405.

From Niall's to our own time stretches almost fifteen centuries, a remarkably long period for which to expect that the genealogy of any family line could be extant. Yet this appears to be the case among certain O'Dalaigh branches.

During the ages when the Gael's own Brehon laws functioned in Ireland a genealogical record was both a necessity and an advantage to each Irish family. This condition changed however under the severe laws devised by the British to subjugate the Gael. Under these laws Irishmen soon learned that the English persecution often centered most heavily on those Irish who dared to defy England's will by heralding their Gaelic ancestry. As a result, O'Dalaighs who lived during those turbulent times in Ireland, discontinued in a majority of cases the ancient Gaelic practice of preserving records of their progressive lineage.

Some O'Dalaigh however continued to keep such records and yet escaped the English fury. But those O'Dalaigh had in most cases cast their fortunes with Ireland's oppressors to avoid the obscurity and the state of poverty which eventually became the lot of the O'Dalaighs who tenaciously resisted England's rule and were deprived of their lands and other wealth.

Mainly due to these circumstances the complete O'Dalaigh pedigree records extant today ordinarily are representative of those O'Dalaigh lines which in times past had alliances with the English interests in Ireland, and as a result were left practically unmolested and in social positions favorable to the preservation of ancestral records. Other extant O'Dalaigh pedigrees are in practically all instances incomplete. These usually lack the generation records for the periods covered by the past several centuries.

Yet despite this absence of completeness in the majority of O'Dalaigh pedigrees, O'Dalaighs in general are undoubtedly fully justified in assuming that they are descendants of the ancient O'Dalaigh. For the records of history testify that but one common O'Dalaigh ancestral group actually existed. This evidence therefore centers all possibilities of an O'Dalaigh's descent in this ancestral line of the O'Dalaigh and thus apparently links the lineage of all those who legitimately bear a form of the ancient Gaelic surname "O'Dalaigh" by birthright, to the ancient O'Dalaigh.

The accepted O'Dalaigh ancestral records beginning at the earliest definitely reliable historical period center as indicated previously in King Niall of the Nine Hostages. Practically all authorities accept Niall as an historical O'Dalaigh progenitor. But when Niall's sons are considered in relationship to the O'Dalaigh, authorities differ as to which son is the true O'Dalaigh ancestor.

Duald McFiris and Peregrine O'Clery, Ireland's noted genealogical authorities, who flourished in the seventeenth century, both give the descent of the O'Dalaighs from the race of Eoghan, son of Niall of the Nine Hostages.

McFiris, however, questioned the correctness of this descent for the O'Dalaighs. He left a record stating that he did not believe that they descended from Eoghan even though he transcribed their genealogy from Eoghan as he found it recorded. His belief was that the O'Dalaighs were of the race of Maine, son of Niall of the Nine Hostages. O'Donovan agreed with this opinion of McFiris.

THE GENEALOGY OF THE O'DALAIGH

"The family of Daly, or O'Daly, is of very ancient origin, deducing its descent from Niall Naoigialach (Niall of the Nine Hostages), monarch of Ireland in the fourth century, who was also Common ancestor of the O'Neils of *Tyrone* and O'Donnells of *Tyrcontell*, from whom the pedigree of this family is lineally traced in the Herald's Office. Dalagh was 10th in descent from Niall whence the name Daly and from him also the O'Donnells are sometimes styled by the Irish Annalists - *Siol na Dala* or *Clan Daly*.* Of his descendants there were several kings of Meath and from thence a branch removed into Thomond and afterward into Connaught."

(*Burke's Peerage, Baronetage and Knightage*. Edition of the year 1910, page 634 (and earlier issues) Sir Bernard Burke, for years prior to his death served as the King of Arms for Ireland, i.e., The Chief Herald and supreme representative of the British Crown's alleged jurisdiction over Irish heraldic affairs.)

* Author's Note-Regarding this statement of Burke's which insinuates that both the O'Dalaigh and the O'Donnells descend through the same ancestor-Dalach 10th from Niall-see chapter entitled "O'Dalaighs of Ulster"; also the O'Dalaigh genealogical record which lists Dalach, the O'Dalaigh ancestor - as 12th from Niall.

King Niall of the Nine Hostages, the famed O'Dalaigh progenitor to whom Burke refers, is mentioned in Ireland's *Annals of the Four Masters* (i.e., the *Annala Rioghachta Eireann*) in the following and other passages:

"*The Age of Christ-379*. The first year of Niall of the Nine Hostages, son of Hochaidh Muighmheadhoin, in the sovereignty of Ireland."

"*The Age of Christ-405*. After Niall of the Nine Hostages, son of Eochaidh Muighmheadhoin, had been twenty-seven years in the sovereignty of Ireland, he was slain by Eochaidh, son of Enna Ceinnsalach, at Muir-Nicht, i.e., The sea between France and England." (Not far from the present site of Boulogne, France.)

"NIALL MOR,"-as John O'Hart, the Irish genealogist records-"succeeded his Uncle Crimthann; and was the 126th Monarch of Ireland. He was a stout, wise and warlike prince, and fortunate in all his conquests and achievements, and therefore, called 'Great.' He was also called *NIALL NAOI GHIALLACH* or *NIALL of the NINE HOSTAGES* from the royal hostages taken from nine several countries by him subdued and made tributary; viz.-1. Munster, 2. Leinster, 3. Conacht, 4. Ulster, 5. Britain, 6. the Picts, 7. the Dalriads, 8. the Saxons, and 9. the Morinia people of France, toward Calais and Piccardy; whence he marched with his victorious army of Irish, Scots, Picts, and Britons, further into France, in order to aid the Celtic natives in expelling the Roman Eagles, and thus to conquer that portion of the Roman Empire; and, encamping on the River Leor (now called Lianne), was, as he sat by the riverside, treacherously assassinated by Eocha, son of Enna Cinsalach, king of Leinster, in revenge of a former 'wrong' by him received from the said Niall. The spot on the Leor (,not 'Loire') where this Monarch was murdered is still called the '*Ford of Niall*,' near Boulogne-sur-mer. It was in the ninth year of his reign that St. Patrick was first brought to Ireland at the age of 16 years, among two hundred children brought by the Irish Army out of Little Brittany (called also Armorica), in France. NIALL MOR was the first that gave the name of '*SCOTIA MINOR*' to 'Scotland,' and ordained it to be ever after so called; until then it went by the name of 'Alba.' "

(*Irish Pedigrees or The Origin and Stem of the Irish Nation*, by John O'Hart, Vol. i, pages 710-711-Murphy & McCarthy edition, New York, 1923.)

The O'Dalaigh ancestry of times more remote than the age of Niall is linked to the "House of Heremon" by Ireland's ancient bardic genealogists.

"Heremon was the seventh son of Milesius of Spain, but the third who left any issue; from him were descended the kings, nobility and gentry of the ancient Kingdoms of Connaught, Dalriada, Leinster, Meath, Ossory; of Scotland, since the reign of Fergus MacEarca, in the fifth century; of Ulster, since the fourth century; of the principalities of Clanaboy, Tirconnell and Tirowen; . . ."

(*Irish Pedigrees or The Stem and Origin of the Irish Nation*, by John O'Hart, page 101, Edition of McGlashan and Gill, Dublin, 1876.)

THE NOBILITY OF THE O'DALAIGH

British laws have for centuries decreed that all Irish nobility springs from and depends upon letters patent granted by a British sovereign. It is, therefore, ordinarily assumed that the O'Dalaigh and other descendants of Ireland's ancient Gaelic families possess no valid right to claims of nobility by origin or descent, unless a king of England has authorized such a status in a grant or its equivalent. Despite the British contentions, however, the origin and traditional existence of Ireland's true nobility, the real aristocracy of the Gael, actually antedates by centuries the earliest assumptions by England of a jurisdiction over Irish affairs.

Therefore, associated with the history of the O'Dalaigh, these questions arise. Are the O'Dalaigh among the offspring of Ireland's nobility and may all O'Dalaigh descendants properly claim to be of noble descent or do decrees existent in the British laws actually discredit historically the claims of O'Dalaighs to a noble origin?

The O'Dalaigh as a whole are undoubtedly descendants of Ireland's true nobility. Historic records prove this fact. But the question of nobility among Ireland's peoples is so little understood generally, a clarification of it appears essential. In Ireland, there exist two standards designated as Irish nobility. One comprises a comparatively modern social status, the British-created peerage conferred officially by England's monarchs during the past few centuries on a limited number of Irish. These favored Irish, in a majority of cases, obtained this recognition from England by serving British interests better than they did those of their native Ireland. The other Irish standard of nobility roots in times of remote antiquity and is representative of the ancient aristocracy of the Gael. This, the true Gaelic nobility, antedates by centuries the times of the earliest ruling monarchs of all England. Associated with this fact is the following historical evidence.

England was a subjugated territory, ruled by the Roman conquerors from about 80 A.D. to 400 A.D. Historically, the first king of all England was Egbert, who reigned beginning about 827 A.D. This English monarchy, which began at Egbert's time, was not successive, owing to the Danish conquests and other events. Finally, about 1066, conquerors overwhelmed England again, and she became subject to the Normans of France, led by William the Conqueror. William became England's king and with this ruler the succession of England's present line of monarchs actually begins.

Ireland, in contrast, possessed Ard Righs or High Kings as early, at least, as the period of Cormac MacArt, about 275 A.D. This is conceded by practically all historical authorities; it does not, however, take into consideration the traditional Irish claims to high kings in ages remotely prior to Cormac MacArt's time.

In the regal courts of Ireland's High Kings and their territorial rulers a minutely regulated nobility flourished. This nobility was based, fundamentally, on ownership, culture and dignity; the proofs and details of it are recorded in the Brehon Codes, which governed Irish life until England succeeded about the seventeenth century in temporarily subjugating the Gael.

Contrasted to this ancient and traditional nobility of Ireland is the synthetic and modern social status associated with the so-called Irish peerage. Of it the late Reverend John Hamilton Gray, Vicar of Bolsover, England, says:

"In Ireland that class to which modern ignorance restricts the nobility, viz., the peerage, is but a poor specimen of the real aristocracy of the land. In England, and still more in Scotland, the peerage may be regarded as, upon the whole, giving a favourable specimen of the nobility of the two countries.

"But this cannot be said of the Irish peers, very few of whom belong to the original illustrious races of the island. With the exception of some splendid houses of Anglo-Norman descent, and a few respectable families of the Elizabethan times, the great body of Irish peers must confess their inferiority to those of the same class in Great Britain. And it is quite astonishing how few among them are, like O'Neil and O'Brien, connected with the history of their native country during the days of its independence. The real nobility of Ireland are often to be found in very subordinate stations in their own island, or in the service of foreign princes, where they have occasionally risen to honors as high as, or even higher than, those which graced their fathers in the old country.

"No country in Europe has had such astonishing revolutions of property as Ireland. The high have been laid low, and the obscure have been exalted, not, as in England and Scotland, by gradual decay and equally gradual advancement, but by sweeping catastrophies which have overspread the land like a hurricane or a flood. Earl Stronglow, Essex, Strafford, Cromwell, William the Third, and, last and greatest of all the spoilers, the hammer of the Encumbered Estates Court, have prostrated successive generations and races of Irish land-holders, and introduced new men into the possessions of the banished lords of the old soil."

(Extract from: *Essay on the Position of the British Gentry*-published as part of the introduction to Sir John Bernard Burke's *Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry-Year 1868*.)

Among the descendants of such banished Gaels are the O'Dalaigh of Ireland, and those scattered throughout the world, exiled from the patrimonies of their ancient ancestors. But scattered though the O'Dalaigh be, the proofs of their noble inheritance have not disappeared. In "Senchus Mor," the age-old law codes of the Gael, these proofs are preserved.

"In it [Senchus Mor] were established laws for king and vassal, queen and subject, chief and dependent, wealthy and poor, prosperous and unprosperous.

"In it was established the 'dire'-fine [honor price] of each according to his dignity; for the world was at an equality until Senchus Mor was established.

"In the Senchus Mor was established equal 'dire'-fine [honor price] for a king, and a bishop, and the head of the written law, and the chief poet [ollamh] who composes extemporaneously, and for the brewy [keepers of houses of hospitality] who is paid 'dire' for his hundreds and who has the ever-full caldron and his lawful wealth."

(*Seitchus Mor*, Vol. 1, O'Donovan's edition and translation, from the Gaelic.)

Senchus Mor then, in its legal passages proper, specifically designates the classes of Ireland's nobility. These passages read:

" 'Saer-nemed'-persons, i.e., noblemen who are named [of dignity] or upon whom there is nem-senchus. These are the 'saer-nemed'-persons which are namely, churches, chiefs, poets, feine. 'Saer-nemed'-persons, i.e., these are the 'saer-nemed,' persons that are 'nemed' or upon whom there is nem-senchus. They are, i.e., in the book, or there is their law."

"Churches, i.e., the grades of the church."

"Chiefs, i.e., the chieftain grades."

"Poets, i.e., the poet grades."

"Feine, i.e., these are the 'brugaid! farmers and stewarts to the king."

(*Senchus Mor*, Vol. 5, page 15-O'Donovan's Edition.)

From these ancient codes of the Gael it is therefore evident that the poets of the Gael belonged to Ireland's nobility. Of these, the most noted group was the poetic O'Dalaigh of ancient times to whom all extant O'Dalaighs apparently are linked genealogically.

"The bards," says Connellan, the Irish historiographer to King George IV and William IV, "held a rank in the institutions of the country equal to the chief nobility, and had some of the highest seats appropriated to them at banquets and places of entertainment. They had extensive landed properties allotted to them, and many of them had their stately castles in after times. When surnames became established, the chief Bard was always styled as a prince or chief, with the definite article 'The' prefixed to his name, as The MacEgan or The O'Daly, just in the same manner that the Prince of Thomond was styled 'The O'Brien.'"

(*The Proceedings of the Great Bardic Institution*, pages xxi-xxii, edited by Professor Owen Connellan for the Ossianic Society.)

Ireland's ancient lineage accounts also depict and confirm the nobility of the O'Dalaighs; for Irish genealogies show that the O'Dalaighs are direct descendants of one of Ireland's most renowned high kings-King Niall of the Nine Hostages.

In the light of the foregoing evidence based on Ireland's historic Brehon laws and other ancient records of the Gael, few will dispute the O'Dalaigh's "noble" inheritance. But lest there be some who, while they acknowledge the nobility of the O'Dalaighs in past ages, demand proofs associated with modern times in order to be convinced that a noble status is actually attached to the present day O'Dalaighs, the citation of the following evidence should remove their doubts.

Fundamentally, the nobility of the O'Dalaighs of modern times roots-aside from their descent from Ireland's Gaelic aristocracy and regality-in the fact *that all the O'Dalaighs possess the right to bear "Arms."* Even the British Crown authority necessarily concedes that all O'Dalaighs possess the right to bear "Arms" and offers to legalize this right-under the British law-by granting them a "Patent of Confirmation." This established and accepted right of the O'Dalaigh, which entitles them to bear "Arms" is in itself undoubtedly sufficient evidence of the present-day nobility of the O'Dalaighs. Proof of this exists in the following testimony from the current issue of Debrett's-the English heraldic and social reference publication-which is rarely disputed among informed persons.

"The true criterion of 'nobility' "-states the highly authoritative *Debretes Peerage, Baronetage, Knightage and Companionage*-*"i*, now as it has always been, the lawful bearing of arms, and in all countries outside the United Kingdom, the term 'noble' is habitually used in this, its original sense, and in France at least precedence is invariably regulated by the date of the grant of arms, and not according to titular distinction, but in England the custom has arisen, however incorrect in itself, of practically restricting the use of the word 'nobleman' to members of the peerage, and those who by courtesy bear titles in virtue of their immediate connection with noble houses; it should, however, always be borne in mind that, strictly speaking, every one bearing duly authorized arms is equally entitled to be styled 'noble', be he Peer, Baronet, Knight or Gentleman.

"The nobility (using the word in its proper acceptation) of this Kingdom [The United Kingdom] is usually divided into two classes-the *greater* and *the less* (*mobiles majores and mobiles minores*)-the former customarily consisting of all degrees of peers spiritual and temporal from a Baron upwards and inclusive."

(Debrett's Peerage, Baronetage, Knightage and Companionage. Page XXXVIII. Edited by C. F. J. Hankinson. Published in London in the year 1937.)

THE O'DALAIGH ARMORIAL CREST AND MOTTO

Almost without exception the armorial motto of the O'Dalaigh has been featured as *DEO ET REGI FIDELIS*. However, it would appear from the following records that the O'Dalaigh had used a Gaelic motto prior to the adoption of Deo et Regi Fidelis by those O'Dalaigh who wished to signify their loyalty to the reigning English monarchs. The following interesting data relating to the O'Dalaigh armorial bearings is therefore of extreme historic interest. From the historical O'Dalaigh records compiled some years ago by his father, the late James D. Daly, Esq., M.A., J.P., B.L., Dermot Daly, Esq. of Castle Daly, Loughrea, County Galway, Ireland, kindly copied this account for the O'Daly history.

"As regards the [O'Dalaigh] Crest and Motto I obtained a curious piece of information. from the late Domnick Daly, who was a Barrister in London. Domnick was one of the Dalys of Muintervarra and wrote a little book on that branch. He died in 1911 and is buried in Glasnevin. He refers in this little book to meeting in Paris a Mr. Ceasar Daly. This Mr. Ceasar Daly thought that his name originated from the district of D'Ailly in Picardy and had only a faint suspicion of an Irish origin but when Mr. Domnick Daly went through some old letters and papers (all in French) he found a sketch of the crest with an Irish motto: *LAUDIR AGUS MIR* (i.e. Swift and Strong) and he observed several Christian names of Galway Dalys such as Bowes, Denis, etc. He, therefore, concluded Mr. Ceasar Daly must have descended from the Dalys of Galway and that the origin was remote seeing that it had been lost sight of by a family of position and culture. 'As to the motto: "*LAUDIR AGUS MIR*," writes Domnick Daly-'it is clearly descriptive of the Daly crest whereas the usual one [DEO ET REGI FIDELIS] i.e. Faithful to my God and King is neither descriptive of the crest nor of the (mostly) disloyal family of Dalys. I therefore take the former to be the older and the latter [DEO ET REGI FIDELIS] a more recent invention due to English influence. My father died when I was quite young and I was brought up in France by a French aunt. I never returned to live in Ireland and have no known paternal relatives there, but so far as I can surmise my ancestors did not indulge in coats of arms (nor probably in other coats to any luxurious extent) but amongst the things that came down to me is a pretty solid gold finger ring bearing on the stone the familiar Daly Crest and the Motto, *FORTE ET VITE* which I take to be the equivalent of *LAUDIR AGUS ALIR.*'

"Mr. Domnick Daly was kind enough to send me an impression of the interesting seal he speaks of. I have been unable to obtain any further information in regard to the Irish Motto."

(Copied by Dermot J. Daly at Castle Daly Loughrea, 18th October, 1936.)

O'DALAIGH TOMBSTONE INSCRIPTIONS OF IRELAND ANCIENT AND MODERN

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COUNTY ROSCOMMON - *Kilmeane Churchyard in Mote Park demesne the family home of Crofton*

"Pray for the soul of Catherine Daly alias Hayes who departed this life the 19th day of Nov. A. D. 1831 aged 44 years. Erected by her fond husband Martin and loving son Patt Daly."

COUNTY ROSCOMMON - *Druin Churchyard*

"Lord have mercy on the soul of Ismy Daly who departed this life the 28th day of December 1847 aged 70 years. Relict of late Daniel Daly of Athlone and daughter of Richard Walsh of Mount Talbot."

COUNTY ROSCOMMON - *Miltrustan Graveyard*

"Lord have mercy on the soul of Mary Daly alias McGarry - departed this life-27th January-1838. Aged 55-years. This monument erected by her loving Husband James Daly and her Sons, John, Thomas, James, Andrew and Patrick Daly for hers and their posterity. R.I.P."

COUNTY WESTMEATH - *Moate Church and Graveyard*

"To the memory of Joseph Morgan Daly, Esq., of Castle Daly who died 1st of December 1838 in the 63rd year of his age. Also to the memory of Cuthbert Featherstone Daly Esq., C. B. Rear