Sir

When I left Dublin I had thoughts of troubling you often (in all this time) with some account of our Observations, but intending not to Continue above a Month or Six Weeks in Scotland I deferred writing till my Return in hopes of some Novelties to acquaint you with; It so happen’d that having travelled a hundred Miles in the Highlands to our Satisfaction we grew Luxurious of our good success and Curious to see the Lowlands and so advanced first to Glasgow and afterwards to Sterling and Edenborough. We found a great Deal of Civility and kindness as well in the Highlands as the Lowlands And tho the highlanders be Represented both in England & Ireland Barbarous and inhospitable we found ’em quite otherwise, the Gentlemen men of good Sense and Breeding, and the Commons a subtil Inquisitive People & more civill to Strangers in Directing them the way (the mean occasion we had of their Kindness) than in most other Countys [sic] The mean cause of their being reputed Barbarous I take to be no other [p. 285] than the Roughness of their Countrey as consisting very much of Barren Mountains and Loughs, and their Retaining their Antient Habitts Custom & Language. On which very Account many Gentlemen of good sense in England esteem the Welsh at this Day Barbarous, & talk so much of Wild Irish in this Kingdom.

But to give you some Account of our Journey one of the most Remarkable Occurrences in our way hither from Dublin was a large Tumulus or Barrow at a Village calld new Grange within four Miles of Drogheda. It has on the Top a Stone pitchd on End and others Vastly large, pitchd round about it; at Bottom; within it is a Cave, the Entry whereof is guarded on each side with large rude Stones standing on End, having somtimes a Barbarous Sculpture on ’em not unlike the Ruin Monuments in Wormius’s Monumenta Danica and on the Top of these are other Stones laid across but no Letters at all. At the first Entry these supporters are so pressd with the Weight of the Hill and the Top
Stones are so that they that goe in must Creep but by Degrees ’tis still higher till you goe into the Cave, which may be about 6 or 7 Yards in Height. Having enterd the Cave you have on each Hand a Cell or Apartment and another streight forward. In the right hand Cell there is on the Ground a very large Stone Bason or Cistern and within that another with its Brim odly scituated and some very Clear water within it; dropt from the roof of the Cave, tho but an Artificial Mount of Stones. On the left hand there is a Single Bason with the same Sort of Brim, but we found no Water in’t. The floor of this Cave is nothing but a smaller loose Stones, amongst which were found great Quantity of Bones, [p. 286] Staggs horns, and as they said a peice of an Elkshorn, peices of Glass and some kinde of Beads. Near the top of this Mount they found a gold Coyn, which Mr Campbell the Proprietor of this Village shew’d me and tis a Coyn of the Emperor Valentinian. However not withstanding this Coyn, I cannot think this Mount a Work of the Romans in regard the Carving of the Stones is plainly Barbarous and the whole Contrivance too rude for so polite a people. I should have been very apt to Conclude it Danish, but the Date of the Coyn is several Centuarys older than their first coming into Ireland, which (as far as the Irish Annalls Informe us) was about the year 800. Thus being neither Roman or Danish it remains it should be a place for sacrafice us’d by the Old Irish, and Mr Cormuck Oneil told me they had a vulger Legend about some Strange Operation at that Town in the time of Heathenisme which I shall endeavour to get from him more particularly. We <saw> several of the Antient Towers you told us of, that Journey, which I take to have really been (as the Vulger People still call them Steeples or Bellfryes for they are allways by old Churches (or perhaps Monasterys) and we observd the Cross, about the Door of one of them. All we saw were but old Monasterys as particularly one at Swords; another at Munster Boys near Drogheda, a third at old Antrim &c. Besides the Tower at Munster Boys¹ there are two or three Remarkable Crosses full of Carving, which seem very old on one of which we found an² Irish Inscription which none of the Criticks in that Language we shewd it to (in both Kingdoms) could as yet Interpret. We have since mett with Several other Irish Inscriptions but can find no Interpreter: tho both ours and those Will Jones transcribd in Connacht begin all with the same Word. This Cross at Munster boys seems to have been [p. 287] Erected in the time of King Muirdach or Moriertacus who Died about the year 534 at least, that word seems plain in the Inscription.

At Lysbourn, I waited on Dr Smith the Bishop of Downe and he was pleasad to give me Letters to Mr Brownlow of Lurgan and one Mr McNeile a Minister who lives (to his no Smal Cost) just by the Gyants Cawsey. Mr Brownlow shewd me an Irish Grammer and very antient MSS in that Language intermixt with Some³ Lattin. He also gave me two peices of the Reputed

¹ Omitted from the Trinity College Dublin copy: ‘near Drogheda … Munster Boys’.
² Omitted from the Cardiff Manuscripts copy: ‘Crosses full of carving … we found an’.
³ Omitted from the Trinity College Dublin copy: ‘some’.
petrifyd Wood of Lough Neagh but added that tho he had tryd several
Experiments in this Loch with holly and other Woods yet he could not find that
any of ’em did petrify; nor be at all satisfied about the Question whether it be
petrifyd Wood or Stones purely Mineral having that sort of Grain. He shewd me
a very large Crystal about 9 Inches long and as gross as a Mans Arm turnd up
by the Plow somwhere near his house, but it was but of a Yellowish Colour: and
also told me of a Well near him where some Amber-like small Crystals are
gather’d every May Day; but he had none of these by him, and ’twas out of my
way to see the Well. The Account you have printed of the Gyants Cawsey is so
tru and Compleat that nothing can be alterd or added only we observd the
Seams of the Joynts at some Angles differing (to the best of my memory) from
the form of all expressd in the Draught, a further Account whereof you may
Command hereafter. We have this very same Stone on the Top of Cader Idris in
Meirionydhshire (one of the highest Mountains of North Wales) but it never
breaks off in regular joynts nor is it near so elegant as this Gyants Cawsey. I
find ’tis often the nature of Iron Stone to break into Concave and Convex
figures. I found smal pyramidal peices of it in Scotland that came off in such
Shells. Will Jones in his [p. 288] Diary in Connaught takes notice of a very fair
Natural Chequerd pavement of Iron Stone, but does not mention whether he
took any Draught of it: but I suppose you have seen all his Draughts ere this.
Both he and Robin Wyn have had so good success in their Several Pilramages
that I have some thoughts of continuing in thei Kingdom till Midsummer in
order to review the same places. I return you most humble Thanks for supplying
their Necessities in my Absence, and shall pay the mony readily according to
your Directions. These parts of the Country near the Sea abound with Flint; and
afford Several figurd Stones, such as Balemnites succini adinstar pellucious 2.
Lapis Judaicus vulgari similis, minor 3. Radiolus medius vulgatior. 4. Echinites
galeatus siliceus. 5. some variety of Pectinite. 6. Alveolus fusiformis siliceus
&c but most of these are scarce to be mett with excepting the Balemnites. In
Scotland we also mett with variety of Figur’d Stones, but all either in Limestone
or Iron Stone in which latter I had never found them before. We there found 2 or
3 toto genere new to us, and some entrochi half (and other three Quarters)
converted into Iron Stone. We also found Shells Stones in the midst of Lime5
Stone half converted into a Brittle sort of Flint and some Entrochi wholly changd
into common Spar, the Cylindraceous form and Rotulæ or joynts still remaining.
’Twas too late by the time we came to Scotland to serch for Plants, however we
mett with in our way some I had never seen before vizt 1. Alchemilla alpina
quinquefolia in the Isle of Mull. 2: Vaccinia rubra foliis myrtinis crispis D.
Echi<n>um marinum Phyt: Brit. in the Isle of Y Columb Kil. 5. Pyrola alcines

4 Cardiff Manuscripts copy: ‘such’ for ‘so’.
5 Cardiff Manuscripts copy: ‘Large’ for ‘Lime’.
observations in the Highlands are Chiefly. 1st Copys of Inscriptions which [p. 289] are somewhat numerous. 2: Draughts of the Tabulæ or (as they call ’em Broasts) worn by the Women which seem a Continuation of the Antient Roman fashion and 3 Draughts of their antient Amulets, which are surely for the most part Remains of Druidism: viz 1st: Crap y Naithreach. 2. Cloch Iwn Kyli. 3. Kloch Losgwn. 4. Crap Suil 5 Cr3 chôrig. 6. Kloch Sheligeg. 7 Leag. 8. Sàed-hi. 9. Kloch Kranioig: 10: Kloch Fav. i.e. Adderbead, Cocknee-Stone, Toadstone, Eye-button or bead, the Combat Stone, the Snail Stone, the Healing Stone, the Elf-Arrow, the Hedge-hog Stone and the Molestone, all which have their various Virtues and hidden Qualities thô the first be no other than the Glass Beads I have accounted for in the Notes on Denbigshire in Cambdens Britannia, the 2d an Echinites pileatus minor of Flint, the 3d a River Pebble with an odd Mark on it the 4th an Agat Resembling somewhat the pupil of an Eye, the 5th an Echinites galeatus. The Sixth an annulated Cylinder of Glass. the 7th a Trigonoval or Hemispherical Cristal called by Dr Plott and Dr Lister in the Phil. Trans. Ombria pellucida. The 8th a Flint Arrow head, set in silver and worn about the Neck. These are the same the Natives of New England head their arrows with and with those you showed me some Specimens off. The 9th is a Smal Glass Cylinder surrounded (in the midst) with 15 white Knobbs or Prickles, and the tenth is a blew Glass bead like a Button-Mold furrow’d on the outside. I translated Mr Rays Dictionariolum trilingue into the Highland Tongue, and find about two thirds of it to be a manifest Dialect of the Brittish. I intend to paralell all these words with those usd in the three Provinces of Ulster Connacht and Munster.

In the Lowlands we found several Inscriptions on Adrians Wall which is [p. 290] calld now Greams dyke, and at Edenburg we saw the Museum Balfourianum and were very kindly Receivd by Sir Robert Sibballd and their Industrious Botanist Mr James Southerland, who beside his skill in Plants excells in the knowledge of antient Coyns whereof he has one of the best Collections in Brittain; allmost all found in Scotland. We shall Continue here about a fortnight or three Weeks and then remove to the County of Donnegal which my Lord of Clogher told us might probably afford somwhat Remarkable, from thence we shall remove to some place in Connacht and continue there till about May and afterwards remove towards Kerri which I find affords several rare Plants no where to be mett with in England or Scotland. If you can Recommend us to any persons or places in the Counties of Derri or Donnegal &c be pleased to Direct your Letters to one Thomas Cliffords in this Town and they’l come safe to the hands of

(most Worthy Sir) 9

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6 Cardiff Manuscripts copy: ‘Fibulæ’ for ‘Tabulæ’.
7 The number 3 is written, the copyist’s error for Lluyd’s y (or perhaps yogh).
8 This word is represented by the letters ‘Cr’ followed by a ‘3’, again perhaps for ‘yogh’.
9 Not included in the Trinity College Dublin copy.
I have Enclosd some Draughts of Inscriptions vizt one of each sort we met with.

\’tis strange how Roman Coins should be found in Scotland that never was Inhabited or Conquerd by the Romans but the Roman Coin found in the mount of new Grange above mention’d shew their Coin sprea further than themselv’s //

The 1st Figure\textsuperscript{11} is a Roman Inscription of the 2d Century and the reading: Imperatori Cæsari, Tito Âelio Hadriano Antinino Augusto Pio, patri Patriæ, Legio Secunda Augusta per ter Mille passus &c. meaning so much of the Wall built by that Legion. As to the figures at each end of the Stone: they puzzle me, and I should be glad to know your own thoughts.

\[p. 291\] The 2d seems to be the Tomb-Stone of one Gethus K. of the Picts: In \'oc tumulo jacet Vetta filius Victi. The Brittain’s pronounced those names with a $G$ which the Romans wirtt with a $V$ ex. Vitellinus, Gwythelyn; Vortigernus, Gwertherym; Vortimer Gwrthevir &c. Tis a Circle of Stones on a Common and is calld by the People the Cat-Stene. The Letters seem to be towards the 5th or 6th Century.

The 3d is the Cross above mentiond at Monster Boys.

The 4th is a Cross at the Town of Loch-heed or Cameltown in Cyntire in the Highlands: and may be about 400 years standing: \textit{Haec est Crux Domini Ivari Mac Heasma}\textsuperscript{12} quondam Rectoris de Kil Keke[n] et Domini Andres Nati ejus Rectoris de Kil Coman qui hanc crucem fieri faciebat.

The 6th is an adders bead of Earth and the Seaventh is another of Glass with a Snake drawn upon’t whereof I met considerable variety all I suppose older than Christianity.

The 5th is an old Copper Trumpet found in a Carn or heap of Stones (together with several more) near Karreg-Fergus. The blowing hole is at the Side at (a).

ADDITION FOUND IN THE CARDIFF MANUSCRIPTS COPY:

\textsuperscript{10} The Trinity College Dublin copy reads: ‘Your humble servant’.

\textsuperscript{11} The word ‘figure’ is omitted from the Trinity College Dublin copy.

\textsuperscript{12} The Cardiff Manuscript copyist wrote ‘Mac Hea3rna’, apparently using a yogh in the middle of the word.
Memorandum Mr Charles Cambell told me since (who was the 2d man that went into the Cave upon its first Discovery) that he found the skull and bones of a Man in one of those Cisterns and the bones of another human Body lying on the Ground in another part of the Cave somewhat remote from the Cistern, from whence I gather it must certainly have been the sepulcre or burying place of some person of Note that had his Wife Interred with him and not a place for sacrifice it seeming no ways proper for that propose for the Cave has no Window to lett in Light nor any vent to Discharge the Smoak of a burnt Offering and the Close and Narrow passage into it will not allow one to Imagine the people ever assembled here, the Staffs Horns and Elke or rather Mose horne that were found here seem to lport that the person here buryed had been in his Life time a great Lover of the Chase and a mighty hunter of these sort of Deer and as a Memorial the most lasting parts of ’em their horns were interrd along with him, as we see it is the fancy of some in our own Days to desire that such things they delighted much in when alive should be Buryed with them.