

MAP OF Noble Erin Island of Kings

Showing the Localities and Titles of the principal old Irish Families. The Milesian Chiefs are all distinguished by O and Mac. The Head Chiefs are placed about the middle of each Barony. The abbreviations are P.Prince, L.Lord, C.Chief, B.Baron, V.Viscount, E.Earl.



St. Patrick's Day Souvenir

This unique map, which every man with Irish blood in his veins should have framed or carefully preserved, is presented today as a souvenir of St. Patrick's Day.

The original of this map has had romantic history. It is supposed to have been compiled by the Irish Monks many centuries ago. The copy from which this reproduction has been made was drafted in Ireland, a modernized copy of the original, and is itself well over a century old. It was brought to America about 1850 by an Irish gentleman of the O'Sullivan family, who emigrated at that time, and the map is now the property of a son, George H. O'Sullivan, of Brooklyn, New York.

Old Irish families trace their descent to the Milesians, who conquered the country, according to Lardic tradition, about 1700 B.C. The Milesians originated in Scythia, but migrated to Egypt and thence to Spain, where they became rulers of the land. They are named after Miles, the head of the clan that went to Ireland. Of his eight sons, Eremac became King of All Ireland. There were 117 of his successors until the advent of St. Patrick.

TARA'S STONE OF DESTINY

The Milesians had been preceded by three other races, the Partholonians, who, according to tradition, came from Greece about three centuries after the Deluge. They were all wiped out by the plague. Following them came the Firbolgs, who had scarcely taken possession of the land before the Tuatha De Danann (Tribes of the God Danu) arrived, also from Greece, and brought with them the Lia Fail or Stone of Destiny, which they set up at Tara. They totally defeated the Firbolgs and remained in undisputed possession of Ireland until the arrival of the Milesians.

The latter the progenitors of all Irishmen whose names contain the O' or the Mac, developed a high civilization long before the Christian era. They had the clan system, the direct legitimate line of nobility, and paid high honor to scholar, statesman and soldier. Their nobles were merely heads of clans and did not, as under the feudal system, own the land. This was the property of the whole clan in common, and certain parts of it were set aside for the support of the chieftains. It was a perfectly democratic system.

After the introduction of Christianity by St. Patrick, Ireland soon became one of the centres of civilization, and its missionaries did much to spread Christianity in Western Europe.