

Sweet Boyne Water

The Beauties of the Boyne, and Its Tributary, the Blackwater

William Robert Wilde

1849

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BELOW Dowth the banks of the river in many places rise high and abrupt from the water's edge, particularly on the left side, and the stream is, generally speaking, deep and sullen ; but although the scene presents much beauty, it is not easy of access ; so we must again follow the high road to Drogheda, although, in so doing, we miss many a beautiful view, which is presented below the wooded heights of Dowth and Farm, till we again join the river's bank, at the confines of the county of Louth, near Oldbridge, where the Mattock river enters the Boyne, and a short distance beyond which we first catch a glimpse of the obelisk and the battlefield of 1690. About a quarter of a mile above the "New Bridge" upon the Mattock rivulet, on the Meath side, stands the foundations of Proudfootstown Castle, but they scarcely deserve a visit. We now enter Louth. Here the road approaches almost to the water's edge, and, following a graceful curve, which the stream makes at this place, continues so for about half a mile, till we pass the Boyne obelisk, which marks the site of the celebrated battle of the 1st July. The first rapid upon the Boyne occurs here. It is now the site of a salmon weir, and the tide comes up as high as this. As we pass into this defile the scene becomes truly picturesque. Upon the left, the rocky banks of Townley Hall demesne, clothed with the most splendid foliage ; upon the right, the deep meadows and green inches are fringed by the woods of Oldbridge ; and in the centre, upon a massive rock, which juts over the water, rises the obelisk raised to commemorate the passage of the Boyne, when Stuart and Nassau contended for the crown of these realms. Grander battle-fields,—more extensive plains, as that of Waterloo,—or with the mountains looking upon the sea, as at Marathon,—may easily be found ; but for inland sylvan beauty, the diversity of hill and dale, with wooded banks, and a shining river, this scene of action may well challenge competition.

We suppose our readers are already acquainted with the political events which led to the "Battle of the Boyne," and of the details of the campaign, from the time of the landing of King William III. to the end of the month of June, 1690 ; and as we have neither space nor desire to discuss the various political circumstances which led to this engagement, nor at all to enter into the general history of the country prior to this event, we shall chiefly confine ourselves to a topographical description of the battle-field, not only because it is more immediately connected with the object of this work, but on account of the discrepancies which appear in the writings of various authors, from their want of knowledge of this subject. And as we approach the spot on which, for the last time in Great Britain, the crown of these realms was contested by kings in person, it is our duty to present our readers with a picture of the scene, and to point out to those who may visit the place, the most memorable and best authenticated localities.

After the Boyne passes the great monument of New Grange, it alters its course, turning towards the north, and, with various minor windings, forms a deep curve between that point and Drogheda, which is distant about five miles in a direct bird line. Having reached Townley Hall, it again turns to the south-east, towards Drogheda, and thus completes the curve or elbow to which we alluded. Within this bend of the river, upon the right or southern bank, the ground rises by a succession of smooth and gentle slopes to the hill of Donore, a conspicuous elevation, crowned by a ruined church, and surrounded by a few straggling ash trees. The Boyne winds round in front of this hill towards the north, from the summit of which it is

distant not quite an English mile. To the right, or east, the hill fines off towards Drogheda, about a mile and a half distant. Its western side abuts upon, and is completely protected by the high precipitous banks of the Boyne, now covered by the plantations of the demesne of Farm. Immediately behind it, towards the south, the way lies open to Dublin, along the sea-board line ; and toward the southwest, situated about three miles from Donore, is Duleek. To the extreme north-west lies Slane, between which and Drogheda, a distance of about nine miles following the windings of the river, there was not at the time of the battle, nor is there yet, a bridge. Several fords, however, occur between those two points ; descending the stream, some weirs, about half a mile below Slane, point out the site of ancient fords, but the principal shallow is at Rossnaree, immediately below the monuments of Knowth and New Grange, about three miles lower down than Slane, and something more than that distance from the hill of Donore. At the weir, where the tide ends, above the entrance of the Mattock river, the Boyne is fordable with difficulty, and the right bank rises rather precipitously immediately beyond its margin. The river then turns towards the south-west, and just below the site now occupied by the obelisk, it enlarges considerably, and several islands occur in it ; the most extensive of these are Grove Island and Yellow Island, the former containing more than five acres, and the latter about sixteen. The shallowest ford occurs here ; an old road leads down to it, and it is passable for a carriage and horses, at low water, in summer-time. Immediately opposite this ford, upon the Meath or southern side, stood, in 1690, the little village of Oldbridge. The locality which we have now described may, properly speaking, be called the battle-field of the 1st of July, a considerable portion of which, particularly opposite the fords, is obscured by the plantations of the adjoining demesne.

King James's army, having fallen back towards Leinster, passed through Drogheda, and occupied the northern face of the hill of Donore, and the sloping ground between that elevation and the fords near Oldbridge, within the sweep of the river already alluded to. The Irish cannon were planted upon two elevations commanding the fords, one a little to the south of Oldbridge village, which was here intersected by narrow lanes ; the other nearly opposite the Yellow Island, on some projecting hillocks in advance of the right of the Irish lines ; the latter place is now marked by a fir plantation. According to Story's map, a third battery was placed opposite the ford, near the Mattock river. Some temporary breast-works were also thrown up in front of the Village. [1]

James and his staff took up a position on the summit of the elevation, and His Majesty, it is said, slept in the little church here the night before the battle. Of this ruin nothing now remains but portions of the walls and the east window, beneath which, and within the enclosure of the church, we find the handsome altar tomb of one of the Synnotts. It is probable that this church was a ruin in 1690. The view from this point commands the entire scene upon the north and east, including Drogheda and the mouth of the Boyne. It is a lone, deserted spot, seldom visited by the tourist, though memorable as the place at which the sceptre passed for ever from the last monarch of the royal line of Stuart.

Upon the left, or Louth bank of the river, a bluff hill, sloping off upon its northern face, continues on from Townley Hall towards Drogheda, intersected here and there by deep, narrow defiles, which run down toward the water's edge ; behind it is the rising ground of Tullyallen. At the end of Townley Hall demesne, a deep, narrow gorge, now generally known as King William's Glen, opens out upon the river, from which it is not more than three hundred paces distant, and, owing to the circumstance of a projecting brow of the hill through which it cuts, as well as its winding direction, the view up this valley is completely obscured, so that a whole army, of many thousand men, within it, might be screened from cannon-shot, and hid from observation, even from the eminence opposite. On the high bank above, and to the east of this valley, was placed King William's chief battery.

William and his army marched in two columns from Ardee, upon the 30th of June. Having arrived within view of Drogheda, the position of the Irish encampment, stretching along the slopes of Donore, was at once recognised. A person standing upon any of the elevations in that neighbourhood, could with ease recognise every tent in the Irish camp. The English army then turned slightly westward along the northern slope of the ridge we have described, and by which it was in a great measure concealed from the Irish, and took up its position nearly parallel with the Boyne ; its right descending into the hollow of the King's Glen, and its left resting in another narrow ravine, at the eastern extremity of the hill, and very similar to the former. It had thus the advantage of being able to reach the Boyne in a few minutes through either of those two deep, narrow ravines ; and William not only had this advantage of position, but, while his own army was completely concealed from view, every tent in that of his opponent was plainly mapped before him, and many of them within point-blank range of his cannon. The English being encamped, and the batteries erected, the firing commenced upon both sides, and was continued during the greater portion of the day. The old ballad says, and perhaps truly :

“ King James he pitched his tents between
The lines for to retire,
But King William threw his bomb-balls in,
And set them all on fire.”

It is related, that the Prince of Orange rode with his staff along the heights which run parallel with the river. George Story, an eye-witness of the scene, relates the following incident, which we insert, principally because we have been enabled, from a very careful examination of the locality, to decide upon the exact spot where it occurred.

“ His majesty rid on to the pass at Oldbridge, and stood upon the side of the bank, within musquet-shot of the ford, there to make his observations on the enemies' camp and posture ; there stood a small party of the enemies' horse, in a little island within the river ; and on the other bank, there were several hedges, and little Irish houses almost close to the river, there was one house likewise of stone, that had a court, and some little works about it ; this, the Irish had filled with souldiers, and all the hedges and little houses we saw, were lined and filled with musqueteers ; there were also several brest-works cast up to the right, just at the ford. However, this was the place through which his majesty resolved to force his way ; and, therefore, he and his great officers spent some time in contriving the methods of passing, and the places where to plant our batteries. After some time, his majesty rid about 200 yards further up the river, nigh the west of all the enemies' camp ; and whilst his army was marching in, he alighted, and sate him down upon a rising ground, where he refreshed himself ; whilst his majesty sate there we observed five gentlemen of the Irish army ride softly along the other side, and make their remarks upon our men as they marched in ; those, I heard afterwards, were the Duke of Berwick, my Lord Tyrconel, Sarcefield, Parker, and some, say Lauzun. Captain Pownel, of Colonel Levison's regiment, was sent with a party of horse and dragoons, towards the bridg of Slane ; and whilst his majesty sate on the grass (being about an hour) there came some of the Irish, with long guns, and shot at our dragoons, who went down to the river to drink, and some of ours went down to return the favour, then a party of about forty horse advanced very slowly, and stood upon a plowd field, over against us, for near half an hour, and so retired to their camp ; this small party, as I have heard from their own officers since, brought two field-pieces amongst them, dropping them by an hedg on the plowd land undiscovered ; they did not offer to fire them, till his majesty was mounted ; and then, he and the rest, riding softly the same way back, their gunner fires a piece, which killed us two horses and a man, about 100 yards above where the king was ; but immediately comes a second, which had been almost a fatal one, for it grazed upon the bank of the river, and in the rising, slanted upon the king's right shoulder, took out a piece of his coat, and tore the skin and flesh, and afterwards broke the head of a gentleman's pistol.”

William took, it seems, but little notice of the affair, but rode quietly back into the glen ; the enemy were, however, so far deceived, that they raised a great shout, and an express was immediately sent off to the Continent, and bonfires, it is said, actually lighted in Paris to celebrate the fall of Nassau.

The place where this accident occurred was on the side of a small hillock, by the water's edge, a little below the glen, and from which the stones have been taken to build the obelisk erected just beside it.

In one of the editions of the Memoirs of the Duke of Berwick there is related a curious account of what would appear to be the same story, of which the following is an outline. The day before the action a considerable number of the officers of the Prince of Orange were standing together in a group. As it appeared probable that the Prince of Orange was one of the number the young Duke of Berwick exclaimed : “ ‘ Behold a splendid opportunity for putting an end to this war ! We must attack that troop and destroy the Prince of Orange.’ ‘ And who will dare to do it ?’ observed some one. ‘ I, myself,’ said the Duke ; and immediately, followed by a band of officers drawn on by his example, he attacked and defeated this very troop where he hoped to find the Prince. He looked about in search of him in defiance of every danger, but the Prince was not there.” [2] This account of a piece of heroism, however, ceases to interest us when we remember the fact that at the time alluded to the Boyne at full tide was rolling between the belligerents ! Of such tales, however, is history, and the history of battles in particular, often composed.

Thus ended the 30th of June, and thus stood the hostile armies upon the eve of the engagement. We have written the foregoing description of the battle-field from a careful examination of the scene, and the perusal of the most trustworthy documents within our reach. The exact position of each general's division in either army has not been ascertained with certainty, neither has any veritable military plan of the battle ever appeared. -

Heretofore, the descriptions of the battle of the Boyne have been almost all one-sided. The authorities from which the historians drew were nearly all Williamite ; but within the last few years the gleaners in this department of Irish history have had access to documents written by officers in the Irish army in every way worthy of credit, and which must now induce the calm searcher after truth to very much modify some, and altogether reject other statements put forward by the former, and which have been generally received as facts. To give these latter their fair share of merit, and to weigh and discuss the adverse statements of both parties, would not suit the intention of the present work, and would require a more critical examination of the subject than our space would warrant. [3]

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We should like, 'tis true, to fight this battle over again, and record the gallant deeds of the O'Neals and Schombergs,—the Caillemottes and Sarsfields,—of Berwick, Sidney, Ginkle, Geraldine, Hamilton, and others who have left material for many a tribute to their fame. But this, at present, is denied us ; perhaps some other day we'll try our hand at this “ grievous battle,” so bravely fought by a comparatively young, but experienced general,—gallant in the field and wise in council, with a highly disciplined army, a part of which had been trained in many a hard contested battle,—against a weak and vacillating prince, advanced in years, and borne down by misfortunes, neither wise in council nor gallant in action, standing in the rere of, but not commanding an army, which, however great its devotion, was totally unable to cope with its opponent.

The army of King William amounted, according to the most moderate calculation, to 36,000 men ; all well-disciplined soldiers ; numbers of them tried veterans, whose prowess

had been tested and their courage schooled in many a well-fought field in Europe ; hardy warriors, well-appointed, and composed of the greatest number of nations that ever fought for or against the crown of England before or since—Danes, Dutch, and Flemings, Swiss, French Huguenots, English, Anglo-Irish, and Germans,—led by some of the most esteemed officers of the day, the Schombergs, Douglas, Sidney, and La Mellionere, and commanded by one of the greatest generals of the age, personally brave, energetic, and well-skilled in war. To this was opposed an army scarcely three and twenty thousand strong, a large portion of which, the French excepted, was composed of raw levies ; undisciplined, and but ill supplied with arms ; under generals no doubt brave and skilful, but whose interests were so constantly clashing that it was with great difficulty they could even be brought to act in unison ; and moreover commanded by a Prince whose weakness, imbecility, and bigotry, had already lost him a crown, who was totally unskilled in war, and whose heart was not in the country nor the cause of the men who fought for him. With all their faults the Stuarts elicited more loyalty than the world will ever witness again. We will not say that James II. was a coward,—he had previously shown his bravery upon sea,—but certainly he was no general His defeat here was, however, inevitable. Under the circumstances he should not have delayed nor fought at the Boyne, where he had got into a most unlucky position, the apex of a triangle, one side of which was formed by the sea ; and when William hemmed him round, defeating him at every point, not only by the superior discipline of his troops, which, after all, is courage, but by force of numbers and generalship, then retreat—flight, was the inevitable, the last resource. Looking back at this distance of time, it would appear to have been a safer plan for James to have retreated with his small army, and have garrisoned the principal fortified towns, and by laying waste the country, and destroying, as was intended, the English fleet in the Channel, thus cut off William’s supplies, while a guerilla warfare would have greatly harassed and considerably diminished his forces. James cared nothing for Ireland nor the Irish, except so far as they could be made use of to secure him the crown of England ; he also hoped that a counter-revolution would have been got up in his favour in England, and that the King of France would have lent him assistance. This, however, is not the place to discuss these subjects further.

There is one point in the battle of the Boyne on which sufficient stress has not been laid, although it would appear to have a greater influence on the issue of the fight than historians are aware. The right wing of the Irish army was completely protected by Drogheda, the Boyne, and the sea ; its left towards Slane was unprotected : this could not escape the notice of a skilful opposing general, neither was it unknown to some of the advisers of King James, although he himself does not appear to have paid sufficient attention to it. At break of day upon the morning of Tuesday, the 1st of July, William despatched 10,000 men under the younger Schomberg, General Douglas, and Lord Portland, to cross the river at the fords, near Slane, of the existence and passability of which he appears to have been well informed. Proceeding behind the hill, now included in the demesne of Townley Hall, and crossing the Mattock river at Monk-Newtown, they were concealed from the Irish until they appeared on the elevated banks near Knowth, above the ford of Rossnaree, where it would appear the cavalry crossed with scarcely any opposition, except from the regiment of Sir Neal O’Neale, who himself was killed in the skirmish. The foot passed round by the bridge of Slane, two miles farther off, but joined the English cavalry before a sufficient force could have been despatched by James to oppose them. Here then was an army, nearly half the size of that of King James, advancing upon the left wing of the latter, and then it was (for William was informed, by express, of Douglas having made good his position) that the passage of the Boyne at Oldbridge was commenced at half-past ten o’clock, A. M., while the left wing of the Irish army was already engaged two miles off with the division under Douglas and Count Schomberg.

We have already remarked upon the admirable position of the English army, protected by the immense battery immediately opposite the ford, and screened by the natural lie of the

ground. The tide being out, the passage of the river was attempted in four different places. The Blue Dutch guards, the Irish Enniskilleners, and the French Huguenots, led by the gallant old Schomberg, passed quickly out of the little glen opposite the principal ford, and dashing into the water both there and over the upper end of Grove Island, a little lower down, formed upon the opposite side, and carried the village and rude out-works at Oldbridge; not, however, without considerable opposition, some of the Irish soldiers rushing into the water to meet them. It was here Schomberg, then Duke of Leinster, was killed. [4] The principal Irish battery, very much inferior in nombre and calibre of guns to the English, placed upon a slight rising ground, nearly opposite the lower end of the Yellow Island, does not appear to have done much execution. The third crossing was made by the Danes and Germans, at a shallow between the two principal islands, where the water must have been up to their arm-pits, while the left wing, entirely composed of cavalry, consisting chiefly of Danes and Dutch, passed or swam across opposite the eastern valley which intersects the hill of Tullyallen, and effected a landing, apparently with little opposition, at a very deep and dangerous part of the river, nearly opposite one of the Irish batteries, and where the margin of the stream is wet and swampy. Here it was, however, that William himself, with his arm in a sling from the effects of his wound, plunged into the stream, with Colonel Woolstey, and passed with great difficulty, “ for his horse was bogg’d on the other side, and he was forced to alight, till a gentleman help’d him to get his horse out.”

Thus, then, there were six and twenty thousand men, with a large battery, arrayed against fifteen or sixteen thousand, for we must subtract those already engaged, under Lauzun, towards Slane, nearly three miles off. The natural consequences followed : the Irish centre and right wing fell back upon Donore, and finally, towards the close of the day, retreated in tolerable order to Duleek, towards which place the left wing, already beaten above Rossnaree, had retired. Here, with the Nanny Water between them, both parties halted for the night, with the exception of King James, who fled to Dublin, which he reached about ten o’clock, so that he must have left the battle-field between six and seven o’clock in the evening.

The numbers killed at the battle of the Boyne were not considerable. On the Irish side the number killed was upwards of a thousand, and upon the English above four hundred. The orange and green have long been party words in Ireland ;—are our readers aware of the fact, that while the Irish troops wore pieces of white paper in their caps, every English soldier was decorated with a branch of *green* ?

Thus ended the battle of the 1st of July, 1690, the cause of so much subsequent party feud and so many heart-burnings in this country. To the one party it gave victory ; liberty, civil and religious ; broad lands, power, and dominant sway : while the other suffered not only present defeat, but subsequent confiscation, penal laws, exile. Since then the fierce advocate of one party has cursed, “ bell, book, and candle-light,” the Williamite and the Orangeman ; and the defender of the other has, upon bare, bended knees, pronounced a malediction (which, for sentiment and strength of language, is unsurpassed in the cursings of ancient or modern times) upon all who would not drink the “ Battle of the Boyne,” and the pious memory of the man who first robbed Ireland of her manufactures, and signed the warrant for the massacre of Glencoe ! Times, however, are changing, let us hope for the better ; mutual asperities are softening down ; prejudices of birth, of religion, so-called, of education and position, are happily being removed ; men can now calmly discuss those subjects without passion or without offence. The memory of “ The Boyne Water” must be dear to every Irish Protestant—every lover of Protestant liberty ; let him drink it, if so minded, but couple not with it the idol of College-green.

Had the Scotch Royalists and Lowlanders been allowed to celebrate the anniversary of the victory of Culloden, in processions, with flags flying, drums beating, fifes playing, “ in the

teeth” of the Highlanders, whose forefathers bled for Charles Edward, Scotland would not be the happy, prosperous country it is to-day.

As the little work already alluded to, “ *Histoire De la Revolution d’Irlande, arrivée sous Guillaume III.*,” is not generally known, we extract the following notice of some facts connected with the Battle of the Boyne from it. It is evidently written in support of the Williamite side of the question, but it seems tolerably correct.

King William, it says, advanced at break of day towards Drogheda and the River Boyne, along which King James’s army was encamped, in order to prevent the English crossing the river. The infantry and artillery did not arrive until very late, so that nothing could be done by King William that day, except to reconnoitre the enemy’s position, and to try and find out the fords by which a passage could be effected, for haste was now very necessary. This work then gives an account of the wounding of King William the day before the battle by a six-pound shot, but it adds little to the account of that transaction already related : “ As soon as the king’s wound was dressed, he again took horse, and acted for four hours more before retiring to his tent, and resolved to cross the river with his army the next day. On the evening of the same day on which His Majesty was wounded, he ordered Count Menard de Schomberg, with the cavalry of the right wing, two regiments of dragoons of the left wing, the infantry brigade of Trelawney, and five small field-pieces, to go next morning to a ford known to be about three miles higher up than the camp, to try and pass it, and to take the enemy in flank, or compel them to retire. The Count Schomberg having passed the night in giving orders and disposing of the army for the passage, advanced early in the morning to this ford, and found on the other side of it eight squadrons of the enemy drawn up to oppose his passage. He entered the river with his troops and crossed to the other side, and attacking the enemy roughly, routed them and disposed his troops in battle array, intending to march against the enemy at the first order of the King, who was immediately informed of his position, in order that he should in other places attack the army of King James, lest all the enemy should fall on him (Schomberg). The King then sent word to the Count that he was going to cross over to the other side with the rest of his army.”

The account of the passage at Oldbridge is nearly the same as that given by Story. Regarding the death of Duke Schomberg, he writes : “ This brave general had crossed one of the first, being only preceded by the regiment of La Mellonniere, which had roughly repulsed the enemy. The Duke had crossed over to a village very near the river in order to pursue them. Unfortunately Tyrconnel’s guards, taken by a desperate fury, charged this regiment with such impetuosity that they brake through it, and tried to prevent the crossing of those who were still in the water, but the greater part of them having been cut down, and the few remaining being unable to execute their purpose, they turned towards the village, where having met General Schomberg, they gave him two sabre cuts in the head, and, as many reported, a pistol shot. Nevertheless it is certain, as it is known to all those who belong to La Mellonniere’s regiment, that when it was evident that Tyrconnell’s guards were running towards that village, the officers commanded the fire to be directed that way, and that on all sides the words were heard, ‘ kill, kill’ ” [*tue, tue.*] So that it is probable some shots might have been unwittingly directed towards the Duke of Schomberg, who was killed by a ball which penetrated his throat, and died soon after without being able to utter a word.

In years gone by the Corporation of Drogheda paid an anniversary visit to the obelisk erected to commemorate the first of July, [5] when they used to drink “ the glorious, pious, and immortal memory” in the waters of the Boyne, and sing—

“ July the first, in Oldbridge town.
There was”

- [1] From an old French bird-eye view of the Battle-field, published shortly after the action, as well as the tapestry in the Irish House of Lords, it would appear that there was, at the time of the action, a small church in the village of Oldbridge.
- [2] Mémoires du Maréchal de Berwick, Due et Pair de Prance, et Generalissime des Armées de Sa Majesté. Tome Premier. A Londres, aux Depens de la Compaigne, 1758, pp. 64, 65.
- [3] We feel it the less necessary to enter into a critical examination of the history of the battle of the Boyne in this place, because there is a work now in process of publication by the Irish Archaeological Society,—“*Macariæ Excidium*, or the Destruction of Cyprus,” edited by John C. O’Callaghan, Esq., Author of “The Green Book,” a gentleman of literary acquirements and critical research. In the mean time we may refer our readers to the various Lives of King William which have appeared : to a continuation of the impartial History of the Wars of Ireland, &c., London, 1793, written by “George Story, chaplain to the regiment formerly Sir Thomas Gour’s, now the Earl of Drogheda’s,” who appears to have been himself at the battle of the Boyne, and whose statements, until they are contradicted by irreproachable evidence, must, as far as mere matters of fact, be received as historic evidence. A Captain John Richardson, who was an “eye-witness of the scene,” published a plan of the battle, to which is appended a short account of the engagement. The second edition of the Green Book, by Mr. O’Callaghan, should be consulted by those wishing to make a minute inquiry into the history of the battle. The Memoirs of the Duke of Berwick and the Memoirs of King James II. should also be examined, and their statements carefully compared with writers on the other side of the question. In 1791 there was printed at Amsterdam a little work styled, “*Histoire de la Revolution d’Irlande, arrivé sous Guillaume III.*,” which contains a description of the battle of the Boyne, some extracts from which we have given, because it has not as yet appeared in English, at least that we are aware of, while that by Story has been the principal ground-work for all modern writers. We are indebted for the use of this work to our friend Dr. Cane of Kilkenny. A portion of the *Macariæ Excidium*, edited by T. Crofton Croker, Esq., has been printed by the Camden Society. In the Royal Hospital there is a large oil painting of the Battle of the Boyne, and the scene is represented on the tapestry still remaining in the House of Lords (in the Bank of Ireland) ; there also exists an old mezzotinto engraving of the battle, from an original painting by Wyke, in the possession of the Earl of Leicester.
- [4] Schomberg’s body was immediately carried back across the river, to the English camp. His skull is still shown in the cathedral of St. Patrick’s, where Dean Swift caused a monument to be erected to him. The family vault of the Schombergs is in the cathedral of Mayence. The heart of James II. was embalmed, and is now in a shrine in a small chapel on one side of Champs Elysees in Paris.
- [5] There is a long inscription on the base of the obelisk, descriptive of the passage of the Boyne, and the death of Schomberg, which took place immediately opposite, on the other side of the river.

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