

**Dr William Frazer Papers**

**LA 41**



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## Introductory note

This small collection of correspondence, consisting mainly of letters received by William Frazer, was transferred from the University Library to the Archives Department in September 1988. Its provenance prior to that transfer is uncertain.

Frazer was a licentiate of both the Royal College of Surgeons and the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland. Elected to fellowship of the former, his failure to achieve the same in the College of Physicians was a source of resentment documented by one of the few items in the collection originating from Frazer; a petition to the Chief Secretary concerning representation on the Governing Body of Physicians [LA41/4]. He was an examiner in the Queen's University in material medica and published widely. But it is to his interests outside medicine, typically Victorian in their compass, that these letters relate in the main. These include archaeology, numismatics, geology, zoology and botany.

While the collection of ninety items is certainly fragmentary, it does provide a glimpse into the world and preoccupations of the nineteenth century antiquarian; and contains reference to at least one *cause célèbre* of contemporary museology, the Brighter Hoard [LA41/77]. Other letters are peppered with reference to accidental finds made in the course of digging drains, planting trees and, in one instance, a gamekeeper digging out a ferret [LA41/6]. There is additionally an abundance of evidence of the generosity which characterised the pursuit of learning. Articles are sent; woodcuts and illustrations are loaned; discoveries are described; information is freely exchanged; gifts of autographs are given.

The correspondence is as wide ranging in its origin as its scope; and includes letters from Horatio Robinson Storer, the noted Boston gynaecologist and medical numismatist [LA41/68-71]; Henry Gillenane, the United States consul in Jerusalem [LA41/40]; as well as letters from throughout the British Isles, from both individuals and the major centres of learning and curatorship.

The letters have been arranged in a simple chronological sequence with a couple of exceptions where a short sequence of letters from the same individual have been kept together irrespective of the general chronology. A small number of letters, neither written nor received by Frazer, presumably given to him for information or advice, have been separated as 'other correspondence' unless they contain some reference or direct relevance to Frazer.

The original processing of this material was carried out by Bernadette Chambers in 1989. This present list is based very much on her descriptive work. Letters are to William Frazer unless otherwise described.

Seamus Helferty  
July 2005



- 4 contd** should you deem it necessary, that by social position & professional rank I am fully entitled to hold said Fellowship. The income of this College is derived almost entirely from the fees of its Licentiates, which last year amounted to £772-12. It is not just there should be taxation without representation and direct representation of the Graduates is enjoyed by Graduates of London University, of the Queen's Colleges & recently by those of Trinity College Dublin. I therefore pray that his Grace the Duke of Abercorn and Her Majesties Government may be pleased not to grant any Charter to the College of Physicians which fails to secure for me and the other Licentiates direct representation on the Governing Body from which at present we are sedulously excluded'.  
William Frazer M.R.I.A. Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. Late Examiner in Materia Medica to the Queen's University. Lecturer in Materia Medica to the Carmichael Medical School. Member of Council of the Royal Geological Society of Ireland. 2pp fscap
- 5** 15 December 1874 Acknowledgement from the Office of the Lord Lieutenant of the receipt of Frazer's letter concerning the College of Physicians. 1p fscap
- 6** 21 June 1876 Robert H. Scott, Meteorological Office, 116 Victoria Street, London S.W.  
'There has been a find of about 50 coins made near the Hill of Down by a gamekeeper digging out a ferret. It has come into my sister's hands, as she knew the finder & he sent the lot to her. She has asked me to find out from you whether or not any one in Dublin would like to buy some ...'. 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 7** 18 November [1876] [J.H.?] Scott, Delgany, to Dear Robert [her brother, Robert H. Scott]. She has just received his letter and the one from Frazer he had enclosed, asking for information about the find of coins in her locality. She gives a detailed account of the hands through which the coins had passed since their discovery; and their sale to various collectors. 7pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 8** 19 November 1876 Robert H. Scott, Meteorological Office, 116 Victoria Street, London S.W. He has sent Frazer's letter to his sister and he gives a brief account of the find of coins and their sale.  
'... the find was peculiar in that most of the coins were rare, & of hardly any was there more than one'. 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>

- 9** 2 September 1878 Philip Dwyer, Bandon Street, Ennis, mainly concerning reviews of an unidentified work of his. [*A handbook to Lisdoonvarna and its vicinity* Dublin 1876?]  
I hope to join the Harleian [Society] by next year & to have funds for so doing'.  
2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 10** 18 March 1881 Margaret Stokes, Carrig Brear, Howth, concerning Mr Young's work on pencil drawings for an unspecified publication.  
' $\frac{3}{4}$  of the collection are archaeological – the remainder landscape'.  
2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 11** 5 October [1881?] Mary Eliza Haweis, [artist, illustrator and writer on art and decoration], The Amber House, Regent's Park, enclosing the syllabus of her new book. They are about to set out for Rome as she had told him when they met at Cambridge.  
1p 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 12** 28 October 1883 Mary Eliza Haweis, The Amber House, Regent's Park, bringing herself to Frazer's remembrance as having met him at Mr Dickson's at Cambridge 'a year or two ago, when you were kind enough to tell me some very useful things about prints &c'.  
She asks advice about suitable lodgings for a young friend travelling to Dublin to sit a Dublin University examination.  
'You have not passed through London I am sure lately, or you would have kept your promise to look us up. I could have shewn you some nice Hollars, but no Albert Durers!'  
4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 13** 25 February 18[8?]4 Joseph Wright, 39 Duncan Street, Cork, to W.H. Bailey, mainly concerning rows of interambulacra in the genus *Palachinus*; and whether the number of rows is a sufficient generic distinction.  
3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 14** 29 April 1884 C.A. Briggs, headed Dublin, but apparently written from Berlin, with an address care of Brown Shipley & Co., Founders' Court, Lothbury, London; outlining the inquiries in which Frazer has offered his assistance. These concern John Henry, a minister of the Presbytery of Dublin, received by the Presbytery of Philadelphia in 1710; and subsequent financial aid from Dublin to Philadelphia.

- 14 contd** Frazer will examine relevant Presbytery minutes and correspondence in Dublin and the account books of the general fund.  
The research will doubtless take a little time. For me in the preparation of my book it is of pressing importance. I would prefer to have access to the documents myself, because as a specialist in these enquiries it would be quite easy for me and my interest would stimulate me to complete the inquiries. I very much fear that you will be unable to give the necessary time to the investigation in season for my book. What is done, as far as I am concerned, must be done prior to my return to America early in July. If necessary I could run to Dublin from Belfast before or immediately after the Council'. 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 15** 6 June 1884 A. H. Jacob, Secretary, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, requesting Professor Macnamara, 95 St Stephen's Green, to thank Dr Frazer for his gift to the College of his valuable collection of materia medica and chemical specimens. 1p 4<sup>to</sup>
- 16** 7 June 1884 C.A. Briggs, 20 Bernard Street, Russell Court, London.  
'I leave London on Friday next for the North on my way to Belfast. You have not given me the information I so much need. Indeed I shall not rest satisfied until I can see for myself the Minutes of the General Fund.'  
He berates Frazer for not allowing him access to the Dublin records.  
'The purpose of my enquiry can in no way interfere with any interests in Ireland or Great Britain. I am only interested in American affairs. I am sure that even you, with all your knowledge of the Board, cannot give me all the help I want. Nothing but my own investigation will satisfy me'. 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 17** 9 June 1884 C.A. Briggs, 20 Bernard Street, Russell Court, London.  
'I received your letter of recent date with great pain. I cannot see what cause I have given for irritation. You very much misunderstand my letter if you suppose I designed to make any threats. I sent you an earnest letter requesting access to the minutes of the General Fund and informing you that I must soon return to America; that in Scotland & in England all such minutes of [?] & Ecclesiastical bodies have been freely open to me and that in returning thanks to all those who have aided me so freely, it would not be pleasant for either of us that I should be obliged to say that I was refused access to the Minutes of the General Fund alone. There is no threat in this. I never dreamt of such a thing'.



- 17 contd** Gives a lengthy exegesis of his own research and his contact to date with Frazer.  
 'I thank you still for the help given me, and only regret that you fail me at the sticking point. Your letter is the one and only unpleasant event in my historical investigations this summer'.  
 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 18** 12 June [1884] C.A. Briggs, 20 Bernard Street, Russell Court, London.  
 'Yours of 11<sup>th</sup> has been received. The clause you object to in my letter is a simple statement of what I shall be obliged to do in the preface of my book. It is no threat at all. I must refer to the sources of my information. I have evidence leading up to the General Fund. I shall be compelled to say that I could not secure access to the minutes of that Fund'.  
 He reiterates the course and purpose of his research, and the fact that the General Fund minutes are the only source closed to him.  
 'I very much regret that I have given so much trouble to yourself and others. The work I am engaged on is for the public good & will be of no personal advantage to me, so far as I can see & there is but one way of preparing it and that is to resort to the mss sources'.  
 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 19** 16 June 1884 J[ohn] R[ibton] Garstin, Castlebellingham, but on University Club, Dublin headed paper, returning Frazer's letter [not present] which Garstin mentioned at the Royal Irish Academy Council.  
 'As to the skull – you will find two papers in the Proceedings – one by Mr G. Armstrong – about 2 years ago on the find at Dundalk from which they were taken. Dr Browne from whom I got it can tell you all about this one'.  
 1p 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 20** 20 June 1884 Dr J. Browne, Dundalk.  
 'The skull you refer to was got in a slightly elevated piece of ground which had to be lowered in the creation of workmen's houses belonging to the Great Northern Railway. In the process of doing so they came on a series of graves – about 13 or 14 in number placed side by side – composed of stones for the sides and covered over with others on the top – constituting what I presume Wakeman has described as the mode of interment anterior to the introduction of Christianity into Ireland. If this interpretation of the date be correct, then the skull I gave to Mr Garstin must have been there for a period of fourteen or fifteen hundred years'.  
 Goes on to describe the general features of the site.  
 3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>

- 21** 13 January [c.1885] E. Murphy, Kenmare, County Kerry, to William Hennessy, Record Office, Four Courts. Murphy describes his study of Irish language and placenames. He hopes Dr Todd 'will not accept of a mitre, for if he does he is like Graves lost to us – see what the apron has brought the little Dean to'. 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 22** 18 April 1885 [Sir] W[illiam] Turner [Professor of Anatomy, University of Edinburgh], 6 Eton Terrace, Edinburgh. 'My report on the Challenger series of Crania is I believe published as a separate memoir as well as a part of a volume'. He advises Frazer on the best sources, all French, for obtaining instruments. 'Broca's stereograph is probably the best instrument for drawing skulls, but it is expensive. The crania in my Report were drawn by a good draughtsman & carefully corrected by myself in accordance with the measurements'. 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 23** 15 August 1886 T.A. Emmet, Aberartro, Llanbedr, Merioneth, Wales. He thanks Frazer for the autographs and the portrait of Sirr, discusses his present projects and offers ten pounds for 'the set of letters you showed me written to some agent of the Government & containing the information picked up from attending the meetings of the United Irishmen'. 3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 24** 19 August 1886 Robert Atkinson [Professor of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology, Trinity College Dublin], Clareville, Upper Rathmines, Dublin. He has just had a visit from his old friend and teacher Professor Legge from Oxford. 'He wants to ask you about some letter he wrote [I think to you] on Chinese seals or something from Hong Kong; so I said you wd be delighted to have a chat with him, and that he would probably find you disengaged tomorrow (Friday) at 4; so he is going to see you then'. 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 25** 29 August 1886 W. M.[aunsell] Hennessy, 71 Pembroke Road, Dublin. 'I find that I have put in the Index to my ed.[ition] of the Annals of Loch Cé [1871] nine references to notices of these structures [crannogs] in the Annals ... I have not studied very much the history of Crannog architecture, which I believe to be of very modern introduction into these countries. I am of opinion that there is a great lot of rubbish written about the great antiquity of

- 25 contd** the Swiss Pfahlbauten and the Irish Craunocs, in which no very ancient specimens of manufacture have been found, and the necessity for the construction of which seems to me, at least, pretty plain. The action of regarding as prehistoric a species of structures which were commonly used down to the 17th century is simply preposterous'. 3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 26** 8 September 1886 D.R. Plunket MP, House of Commons, marked private.  
I assure you that it will at all times give me the utmost pleasure to be of any service to you that I can – but I am very sorry to say that some time ago I gave whatever little influence I had to another candidate for the office of Deputy Keeper of the Rolls – otherwise I would gladly now support your strong claims'. 1p 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 27** 16 March 1887 David R. Pigot, Churchtown House, Dublin.  
'Very sorry I cannot propose you at the [Royal Irish] Academy, as I am in bed with sudden and severe cold. I hope this will reach you in time to find a substitute for yours truly'. 1p 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 28** 20 May 1887 Lili Stacpool, Warwick Crescent, Maida Hill, London, concerning her application for the commission from the Royal Irish Academy to paint the portrait of Sir Samuel Ferguson. As the Academy is not a rich institution she will be happy to paint the portrait bust size for thirty guineas. 1p 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 29** 22 June 1887 Lili Stacpool, Warwick Crescent, Maida Hill, London, concerning her application for the commission to paint Ferguson's portrait. She is extremely anxious to get the commission due to the amount of responsibility on her at present. 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 30** 5 January 1888 Thomas Witherow, College Hill, Londonderry. He has sent the two volumes of his Historical Memorials [Historical and literary memorials of Presbyterianism in Ireland 2 vols. 1879, 1880] intended as a gift to the Library of the Royal Irish Academy. He is very grateful for Frazer's good offices in helping to obtain from the Council of the Academy permission for him to copy the 'Derry MS'. 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>

- 31** 26 February 1888 Edward A. Bond [Principal Librarian],  
British Museum. He will lay the request  
for a continuation of catalogues [to the R.I.A.?] at the next  
meeting of the Museum Trustees. 1p 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 32** 6 April 1888 F. Madan, St Mary's Entry, Oxford.  
I am much obliged to you for your note  
on an early Bradshaw. I have had several similar welcome letters,  
and shall, I hope, in a month or two gather up the additional  
information into a supplementary article where I will gladly  
acknowledge your aid'. postcard
- 33** 13 June 1888 Margaret Stokes, Lausanne,  
Switzerland, mainly concerning books  
borrowed from the library of the Royal Irish Academy.  
I have been hard at work all winter at the Handbook of Irish Arts  
for the Science & Art Department and watching the wood-  
engravers in London. Cooper in the Strand has executed them  
most beautifully I think. 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 34** 18 June 1888 E. Denning, Superintendent of the  
Galleries, Fine Art Department, Irish  
Exhibition, London, congratulating Frazer on his collection of  
autographs and prints which 'has enriched the exhibition  
considerably'. 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 35** 26 June 1888 Louis Fagan [Acting Assistant Keeper,  
Department of Prints and  
Manuscripts], British Museum, enquiring about the catalogue of  
Frazer's prints included in the Irish Exhibition and enclosing [not  
present] a catalogue of his lectures.  
'Will you strongly recommend me?' 1p 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 36** 17 November 1888 John R. Garstin, Braganstown, Castle  
Bellingham.  
Thank you much for your memorandum as to the Louth Medal of  
1755. There was an election in Oct. of that year but it does not  
agree with the statement in the Medallie Illustrations. I am going  
to town on Monday and hope to have a sight of your crosier head'.  
1p 8<sup>vo</sup>

- 37** 16 January 1889 Richard A. Hoblyn, Exchequer & Audit Department, Somerset House, thanking Frazer for a copy of his paper on the testoons of Henry VIII; and furnishing him with a detailed description of a fourth variety of the Bristol testoon, from the Cuff Collection now in the British Museum. 1p 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 38** 16 January 1889 G. F. Crowther, 25 Bloomsbury Square, London W.C.  
I am much obliged to you for your pamphlet on H[enr]y VIII; & am pleased to see you have met with an unpublished variety of the Bristol mint'. postcard
- 39** 17 January 1889 J.H. Hessels, Cambridge, offering belated thanks for his observations. He is seeking more information on Hugh Cuffe, the founder of the family of the Earl of Desart. Mentions that Professor Macalister is on his way to join his wife and daughters in Bonn where the girls are receiving some education in German. 3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 40** 28 January 1889 Henry Gillenane, United States Consulate, Jerusalem, Palestine, thanking Frazer for the paper on the testoons of Henry VIII.  
It gave me much pain to learn of your affliction in the death of your wife, and in which alone those can sympathise with you who have passed through a like sorrow. ...  
As you must know, my dear uncle, Revd John Winthrop Hackett, departed this life last November, at a ripe old age. "He fell with all his armour on", as the Archbishop said in his funeral address. ...  
I am expecting in a few days to take a leave of absence & visit Egypt, going up the Nile; & am looking forward with great pleasure to the trip; though it must necessarily be a short stay, probably about one month.  
Should I again visit Dublin I shall not fail to gratify your & my own desire in the renewal of our acquaintance. My son is now in Vienna where he has been since middle of October, prosecuting his medical studies under the great Professors'. 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 41** 21 February 1889 J[oseph] Anderson, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, seeking William Frazer's help in tracking a missing seal of the Campbells of Craignish, one of whom resided in Ireland for some time. There is a slight possibility the seal may turn up in some Irish collection. An outline drawing of the seal is attached. 3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>

- 42** 25 February 1889 [C.T.?] Herbst, Rosenborg. He apologises for his remissness in not replying earlier to communications from Frazer, pleading pressure of work and ill-health. Frazer's intention to propose him for honorary membership of the Royal Irish Academy is a great honour. He encloses [not present] as requested '4 small descriptions of finds of coins and antiquities and a french (sic) Catalogue of our Museum of northern antiquities (sic)'.  
2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 43** 14 October 1889 John Gwynn, Alderley Lodge, Cheshire, hoping that 'the little Syriac Testament has reached you safely'. The book had been loaned to Gwynn by Frazer.  
2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 44** 9 November 1889 T.K. Abbott, Trinity College Dublin. He once copied a note by Petrie on 'the harp called Brian Boroihue's' but neglected to note the source. He requests Frazer's assistance and asks can he 'add something of your own about the harp'.  
1p 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 45** 17 November [1889] Assheton Pownall, New Athenaeum Club, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, London S.W. He has received Frazer's registered letter and will have much pleasure in exhibiting the testoon that evening. 'It is unquestionably the very rare mint mark. I conjectured it might be from your drawing, and I congratulate you on the possession'.  
2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 46** 22 November 1889 T.K. Abbott, Trinity College Library, Dublin. I am much obliged by your reference to the Scottish Antiquaries' Proceedings. I have found the articles. The paper by Petrie about which I first enquired is I now find in the Preface to Bunting's Ancient Music 1840 ed[ition].  
1p 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 47** 20 February 1890 J.G.V. Porter, Shelbourne Hotel. 'After your pleasant conversation I asked Mr McSwiney & the pamphlet (1751) is now found, loose by itself, & he says that if you will kindly sign, & post to me at once, inclosed order, it can be lent to me, & I will be carefully responsible for its safety'.  
2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>

- 48** 9 April 1990 J. Romilly Allen, 20 Bloomsbury Square, London, but on headed paper of the Cambrian Archaeological Association. Frazer is quite welcome to borrow some of the blocks of the illustrations from Romilly Allen's book on Christian symbolism  
 'The portion of my book which deals with Ireland is necessarily more or less imperfect as I could not visit all the places where crosses exist and many of these monuments have never been properly illustrated. I wish the R.[oyal] Archaeol.[ogical] Soc.[iety] of Ireland would take the matter in hand and get a complete list made of all the crosses and illustrate those not given in O'Neill's work [Henry O'Neill *Illustrations of the most interesting of the sculptured crosses of ancient Ireland* 1853], such as the cross at Durrow. Perhaps you could say a word about the importance of this matter in the review'. 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 49** 16 May 1890 Marcus M. Hartog [Professor of Natural History, Queen's College, Cork], 5 Roseneath.  
 'Prof. Houghton to whom I wrote on the subject tells me you can perhaps help me in this matter – my brother P.J. Hartog is interested in Kirwan's works, is anxious to get some details of his life. I believe our late President Sullivan wrote an account of him in some history of Irish worthies. Can you oblige me by any details of his life or reference to the book where I could find it'. 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 50** 28 May 1890 Form of acknowledgement from E.M. Thompson, Principal Librarian, British Museum for the presentation by Frazer of 'A Series of Papers on Irish Medals'. 1p 4<sup>to</sup>
- 51** 1 September 1890 R.S. Scharff, Science and Art Museum, Dublin, in apparent reply to a query concerning specimens from Sligo in the Museum, the largest being a loggerhead turtle found alive at Mullaghmore. 3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>

4 letters from Frank Renaud, 18 Barton Arcade, Deansgate, Manchester, mainly concerning the loan and exchange of traced copies of encaustic tiles, of which Renaud has a large collection of English examples.

- 52** 4 October 1890 'Antiquaries being notoriously a troublesome race, & I not being any exception, venture to write to you a letter on the subject of ancient encaustic tiles, a friend of mine who was recently in Dublin having said you were an authority on this subject, and possessor of traced copies of these interesting & fast disappearing examples of monastic art'. 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 53** 28 October 1890 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 54** 22 November 1890 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 55** 29 May 1891 'Please accept my thanks for copies of the interesting communications recently made by you to the members of the R.I.A., both of which I have read. The one relating to the old post & pane houses in Drogheda, together with illustration, has to me an additional charm, as at one time I made a number of drawings of English examples yet standing in Lancashire and Cheshire, in the expectation of finding an approximate date derivable from peculiarities of workmanship; but failed to do so'. 3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 56** August 1891 List of names and addresses of 4 distinguished members, with a note as to their specialisations, 'With Cambrian Arch[aeological] Assoc[iation] Dublin Aug[ust] 21/[18]91'. 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 57** 23 September 1891 J. Romilly Allen, 20 Bloomsbury Square, London W.C., returning the photograph of the base of the Ardagh chalice lent by Frazer [not present].  
The work on the Chalice is so extremely beautiful that I was anxious to study the minute details which come out so well in the photograph. I hope that the crozier which was exhibited at the Killarney meeting of the R. Soc. Ant. of Ireland will be well illustrated by large photographs of every portion of it. It is a far finer example than any in the Museum of the R.I.A. Could you not get it up to Dublin on loan?' 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>



- 58** 4 March 1892 Letter from T.[homas] Olden, Ballyclough, Mallow, acknowledging receipt of 'the journal', which he doubts will review his forthcoming *The Church of Ireland*.  
 'I think I can guess why? Any work touching on religion though not really controversial is regarded as such by people holding different views. The very title of my "History of the Church of Ireland" is controversial I fear'. 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 59** September 1892 Memorandum by H. Pakenham Walsh, [Bishop of Ossory], The Palace Kilkenny, but on 17 Trinity College Dublin headed paper.  
 'The tibia was found on the surface of the stallagnite (sic) floor, which usually forms the bed of the large spring (or pond) in the lowest of the three caves, known as the Dunmore Caves ... the existence of this lower cave is not generally known, the only approach, which is extremely difficult, having been, so far as I know, first discovered by a party of lads from the Palace Kilkenny some 10 years ago'. He will send a drawing of the cave as soon as he has a little leisure. 3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 60** 2 November 1892 Letter from [John Douglas Sutherland], Marquis of Lorne, Inveraray, concerning 'The Legend of the Throwing of the Ball of Fat at the Charging Boar' which is told in Glenshee. He adds a cartoon illustration. 3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 61** 2 March 1894 Thomas J. Westropp, Royal Dublin Society Members' Room, with a list of localities in Clare of which he has made sketches. 7pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 62** 21 May 1894 Lieutenant Colonel R.J. Rice, Bushmount, Lixnaw, County Kerry.  
 'Many thanks for your reply, though I thought the circular stone I sent you might have been of ancient workmanship – all the land about here is what we call brownstone, and there is no limestone nearer than 2 or 3 miles.  
 I have no photographs of the old Fort [rath] I mentioned, but I may remark that the greater portion of this district (North Kerry) abounds with these structures. There are at least ½ doz 'round my place, and 3 of them are so close to each other that one could easily throw a stone from one to the other.  
 The fort you ask about is 21 yards in diameter and has, as usual, a sort of beehive-like cell, about 6 ft. high by 5 ft., dry wall work,

- 62 contd** stones overlapping and capped by 2 large flags'. Proceeds to give a detailed description of the dimensions, structure and features of the interior of the fort.  
9pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 63** 8 June 1894 R.J. Rice, Lixnaw, County Kerry, concerning the characteristics of the raths in the area which he describes as 'the ordinary ones'. He describes in some detail a larger rath he explored in the townland of Dromkeen East and includes a pencil sketch of the souterrain.  
8pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 64** 23 June 1894 R.J. Rice, Bushmount, Lixnaw, County Kerry. He had gone to see the rath at Dromkeen East but found the ground planted with potatoes in blossom and could not identify the entrance. He gives a description and an ink sketch of 'the 2nd little rath' and mentions excavating yet another 'not 100 yards from the house'.  
5pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 65** 23 October 1894 R.J. Rice, M.R.S.A.I., Bushmount, Lixnaw, County Kerry. He describes to Frazer the discovery made by his ploughman, of what he thought was an old sewer; but which Rice thinks may have been a grave. He describes the features and encloses an ink sketch.  
3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 66** 19 January 1895 J. Edenburgen, Lynn House, Gillsland Road, Edinburgh, mentioning ornament appearing in the miniatures of the Queen Margaret Gospel Book. A complete reproduction of the book is being sponsored by the Marquis of Bute.  
3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 67** 16 February 1895 Miller Christy, Pryors, Broomfield, N<sup>e</sup> Chelmsford.  
'I am extremely obliged to you for your two letters & postcard. The information they convey is exactly of the kind I am in search of & will be most useful to me in connection with the matter I am now investigating. I will look up the articles to which you refer me at the British Museum in the course of next week & will then write you again'.  
2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>

4 letters from H[oratio] R[obinson] Storer [gynaecologist and numismatist], Newport, Rhode Island, mainly concerning aspects of medical numismatics.

- 68** 14 November 1895 He acknowledges the receipt of two letters from Frazer.  
 'The Thompson medals proved very interesting, & I am greatly obliged for the impressions of that of the Order of St John of Jerusalem which was new to me ... You were very kind to refer so pleasantly to the little that I have been able to do towards the numismatic history of our profession. I could have accomplished nothing whatever, had it not been for the cordial & self-sacrificing assistance of my friends'.  
 1p 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 69** 15 June 1896 A winter illness contracted in New York has caused him to fall behind in his correspondence.  
 'The papers upon the St Patrick's & the Cromwell medallion both came safely'.  
 He has proposed Frazer for honorary membership of the American Numismatic & Archaeological Society of New York.  
 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 70** 31 January 1897 'I was much interested to learn of your personal connection with the history of anaesthesia. I sent your letter to my son, who inserted a portion of it in the *Boston Medical & Surgical Journal* ... You probably know that in that city the very mention of the word chloroform is like waving a red flag in the face of a bull, the civic pride in having first employed sulphuric ether for the purpose is still so intense. ...  
 It is somewhat surprising that so few among your colleagues have the slightest appreciation of the interest of the medallic history of their profession, for it has been generally supposed that all English, Scotch and Irish physicians were necessarily scholars as well as practitioners'.  
 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 71** 27 September 1897 He has been confined to bed with a long-standing medical condition.  
 'I was glad to know of the Robertson medal, even though it was not engraved. That of the Manchester Infirmary I have in two varieties, which were described in my published list'.  
 1p 8<sup>vo</sup>

- 72** 4 February 1896 John Evans, Nash Mills, Hemel Hempstead, providing Frazer with references in various numismatic publications to the medal inscribed 'PROVINCIA CONNAGH'. 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 73** 25 March [1896] Robert H. Scott, 6 Elm Park Gardens, London S.W., thanking Frazer for the references to his papers.  
 'It was Sir Charles Wilson who never had heard of the find, and at that I was much surprised. I shall send on your letter to him'.  
 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 74** 27 June 1896 Robert Munro, 48 Manor Place, Edinburgh. He has just returned from a tour of the Orkney and Shetland islands and found Frazer's 'most interesting' article on 'Five gold tibulae lately discovered in the south of Ireland'.  
 'I wish you had told us how these fibulae were used. The collection & discovery of these old things are not sufficient to satiate the craving for knowledge and, I think, even at the risk of occasionally being wrong, we ought to have conjectures about the method of manufacture & uses of antiquities. ... From initials I suspect I owe to you the flattering notice of my book on Bosnia ...'  
 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 75** 9 September 1896 Walter Fitzgerald, Kilkea Castle, Mageney, with thanks for information on the two coins he had sent Frazer.  
 'By "an imitation of the Confederate money", do you mean the copper coin is a forgery?'  
 1p 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 76** 11 September, 4 October 1896 2 letters from Sir Montague Chapman. From Leenane, County Galway, where he has gone to fish. He expects to be back home at Killua Castle by 1 October. If it suits Frazer to come down to inspect the ornament, he will be happy to see him (2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>). From Killua Castle, Clonmellon, County Meath, suggesting arrangements for Frazer's visit to see the unspecified ornament (3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>).
- 77** 24 September 1896 Robert Day, Myrtle Hill House, Cork, mainly concerning the characteristics and the circumstances of the discovery of items he had purchased.

- 77 contd** 'Did I tell you of the gold things I purchased from a jeweller in the North some months ago [Brighter gold hoard]. You will soon have an opportunity of seeing them. There is a boat with [tants?] and oars, mast and yard arm, boat hook and fish species. 2 chains. A torc twisted, and a very fine collar with late Celtic work'.  
2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 78** 1 March 1897 [Wilson?] Baird, U[nited] P[resbyterian] Manse, [Mandeline?] concerning books on tokens, their quality and availability.  
'Rev. Robert Dick, Colinsburgh, Fife, has issued a book on the tokens of the U.P. Church and may still have a copy'.  
2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 79** 2 March [1897] [J.W.] Stubbs, Drumiskin House, Castlebellingham, County Louth, replying to Frazer's query about marked stones.  
'I cannot give any further information than what I communicated to Mr Cochrane. They were not found by me in situ. The men who gave them to me had brought them from other places'.  
He includes a sketch of the markings on one of the stones and describes others forming part of a stone wall not far from Blackstaff National School, some with 'runic characters'.  
2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 80** 8 April 1897 Major Martin A.S. Hume [editor, State Papers Spanish, Public Record Office], Cavendish Mansions, Portland Place, London W., thanking Frazer for his identification of McGlanogh's Castle on Lough Melvin.  
'It is always gratifying to have one's theoretical conclusions confirmed by actual knowledge. It was my intention to have gone to Ireland this Spring for the purpose of seeking and identifying the castle and several other spots mentioned in Cuellar's and other narratives of Armada survivors, and of Spaniards who went to Ireland to aid in Tyrone's rebellion'.  
3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 81** 13 May 1897 Robert Munro, 48 Manor Place, Edinburgh. He regrets very much being unaware of Frazer's work on the bronze sickles of Ireland in preparing his own recent work [Prehistoric problems, being a selection of essays on the evolution of man 1897].  
'I hope you will therefore excuse my seeming want of courtesy to your work. Ignorance fits me better than discourtesy ... The main object of publishing it is the new theory of the influence of the erect posture in the evolution of man.'  
4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>

- 82** 18 June 1897 W[illiam] C[opeland] Borlase, Bedford Court Mansions, Bedford Square, London.  
 'I am so very sorry to hear from Westropp that you have been poorly. He will have told you that my book is out. ... I should be grateful for a line to say you are better. I hope to come to Dublin ere long. London has gone mad over the Jubilee which all rational beings wish was over'.  
 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 83** 13 September 1897 W.H.D. Haggard [a brother of Rider Haggard], Huntington Castle, Clonegal.  
 'I am much obliged to you for your kind and courteous answer to my enquiry about the Chinese seals. Your explanation seems the reasonable one – but I can quite understand Sir W. Wyld's disgust ...'. Envelope annotated by Frazer as to Haggard's sibling.  
 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 84** 1 February 1898 [Arthur Edward Guinness, Lord] Ardilaun, Ashford, Cong, County Galway. He is very glad to hear that Frazer's name has been added to the Board of Visitors [of the Royal Dublin Society?] and asks whether he can undertake the report on Economic Botany.  
 2pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 85** 10 November 1898 Walter FitzGerald, Kilkea Castle, Mageney, thanking Frazer for sending 'the Baron of Lecaes' letters; they interested me greatly as they mention a son killed in action, & a daughter, no mention of whom appeared in my father's Earls of Kildare, nor Burke's Peerage'.  
 1p 8<sup>vo</sup>

## II. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE, 1813 - 83

- 86**            26 April 1813                            A.W. Quin, Ballyornan [County Wicklow] to W[illiam] M[onck] Mason, concerning the earthen vessel uncovered on his land.  
 ‘Since I have had leisure to make out the vile scratching of the earthen vessel formerly mentioned to you I have had no favourable opportunity of sending it to you. Lady Monck however goes to town this day, & has taken charge of it with as accurate an account of its history as I can supply you with. I need not tell you that I am a wretched draughtsman – the specimen speaks for itself on that subject, but in fact the work is so coarse that nothing but coarse drawing could give an idea of it – by mere accident I have lately uncovered a few pieces of the vase itself which had been for many years mislaid & (as I thought) lost. These I shall have great pleasure in submitting to your inspection, in order to satisfy you that the thing did exist, and at the same time you will have an opportunity of examining the nature of the material employed in forming the vessel’ (2pp 4<sup>to</sup>).  
 Attached are 2 memoranda in Quin’s hand, one signed, concerning the uncovering and nature of the vessel.  
 ‘I am perfectly incompetent to give any satisfactory information on the several subjects mentioned in the paper sent to me – all I know is that an earthen vessel of curious & I think beautiful form was found on my land in Nov: 1796 when holes were ordered to be dug for trees to hide out my offices then very recently built. It was broken by the eagerness of the people to search for supposed treasure near it – but a sufficient number of the fragments were saved to give a very perfect idea of the vessel’ (2pp 4<sup>to</sup>).  
 ‘The Vessel of baked Earth, of which the annexed drawing gives an exact Representation with respect to Form & Dimensions in every Part, was found within a foot or little more of the surface of the earth in November 1796 by a Labourer employed to dig holes for the reception of young trees on Mr Chas Quin’s Farm at Ballyornan, Parish of Powerscourt, County of Wicklow, about ten miles from Dublin - ...’ (4pp 4<sup>to</sup>).
- 87**            21 February 1853                            James O’Neill, Kilkenny, to John O’Donovan, Dublin.  
 ‘Feeling that you must naturally be somewhat interested in the affairs of this which I may call your native city, particularly in matters of a literary character, I beg to hand you enclosed copies of “Resolutions” & “Circular” adopted at a public meeting recently held in this city for the purpose of providing a Testimonial to the memory of John Banim’.  
 He requests O’Donovan’s assistance in ‘getting a few subscriptions from some of your rich friends in the Metropolis’.  
 Dr Cane has been lecturing on the Irish Confederation of 1642 of

- 87 contd** which Turlough O'Neill, 'from whom you say I have the honour to be descended', was a member. 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 88** 7 December 1867 Whitley Stokes, Lincoln's Inn, to Dr [James Henthorne] Todd concerning Todd's *Cogadh Gaedhel re Gallaibh* and the editorial conventions he adopts.  
 'If you are determined on following the blundering, inorganic modern system of spelling Irish, I have no more to say'.  
 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 89** 13 January 1868 Rev. Silvester Malone, Vicar-General of Kilkee, to Very Rev. James Henthorne Todd, Trinity College Dublin, congratulating him on the 'able manner' of his translation of the Book of Leinster and discussing suspect readings. He enquires about possible translations of other manuscripts including the Book of Iniscathaig (sic), the Gospels of Roscrea and the Annals of Nenagh which would have 'a kind of domestic interest' for him. 3pp 8<sup>vo</sup>
- 90** 3 February 1883 F[rederick] W[illiam] Rudler, Museum of Practical Geology, to [W.H.] Bailey.  
 'You may rest assured that anything I may be able to do with the view of forwarding your interests at the Council of the Geological Society shall be done with unfeigned pleasure'.  
 He discusses the prospects of the Society financially supporting the publication of a second volume of Bailey's *Characteristic Fossils*.  
 4pp 8<sup>vo</sup>