

WITH THE STORY TELLERS

notwithstanding the vast amount of money expended on it. His failure in consequence, aroused so much indignation in England that it cost King Richard both his crown and his life.

McMurrough's proudest achievement was the battle of Kilmainham (1410) where he defeated an army of sixteen thousand men, composed largely of English veterans, of whom four thousand were slain; only a thousand making good their retreat to their barracks in Dublin. The rest fled panic stricken from the battelfield; the darkness aiding them to escape further slaughter.

FOURTEENTH NIGHT

Art McMurrough

Of Dermot McMurrough all have heard,
 Basest of Leinster's kings;
Who to support his rotten cause,
 A foreign army brings.
From Britain's hostile shores it came
 To save his crown and smirch his name
And still 'tis right that all should know
That 'twas not Dermot, nor Strongbow,
 That caused our endless woes;
But the dissensions of the clans,
That kept them from adopting plans,
 To oust our ruthless foes.
Thus their divisions paved the way,
For servile chains and tyrants sway.

But we have with us here tonight,
A harper who will you delight;
Of Art McMurrough he will tell,
Of Leinster's greatest prince;
I heard the story long ago
 But have not heard it since.