

was in his possession, and appeared to bid defiance to the utmost efforts of the enemy, as the river intervened and the bridges had been previously broken. Raymond, by whom its siege was undertaken, with a chosen band of six hundred men, advanced to its attack; and, discovering a place where the stream was fordable, though extremely dangerous, he succeeded in gaining the opposite side with the loss of only three of his men; and such was the effect produced upon the Irish by this desperate act of intrepidity that they fled in all directions, whilst the troops of the British commander entered the city in triumph, having slaughtered numbers of the fugitives without any resistance.*

A. D. 1175. In the meantime, Roderic O'Connor, who, amidst various afflictions, had held out for four years, and retained his hereditary dominions in Connaught, perceiving that no efficient aid was to be expected from those Irish princes and chieftains that still professed allegiance to him, and dreading an attack from the English by a force superior to his own, resolved to save his own province at least from the depredations of an incensed and victorious enemy, by a timely submission to the English monarch. This resolution was strengthened by the success which had attended the arms of the latter in other parts of his dominions, where, by the wisdom and vigorous execution of his plans, he had vanquished his unnatural

* "With the forcing of this passage, the fragment ends abruptly of Irish history left us by Maurice Regan, the secretary of Dermot, which generally agrees with the more full relations of Giraldus Cambrensis." *Gordon*. Vol. I., p. 112.