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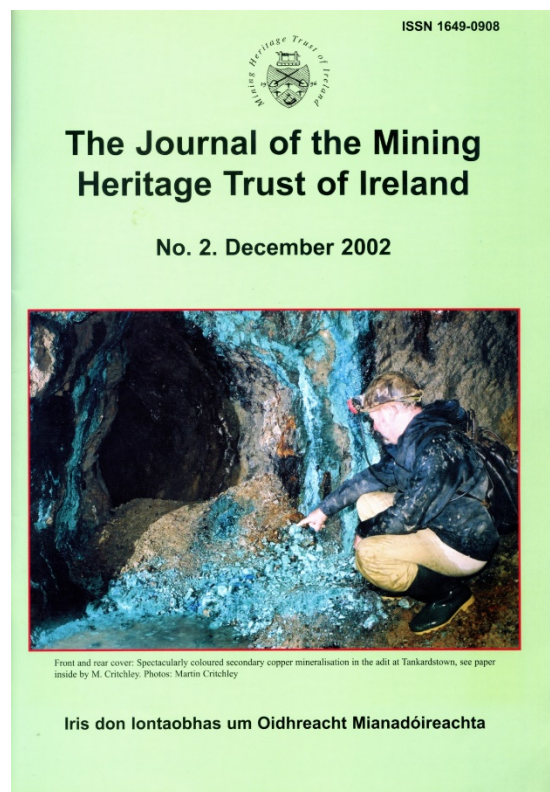
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Wyse Jackson, P. (2002) 'Sir Richard Griffith's Cataloguing of Mines and Mineral Occurrences in Ireland: Notes on various editions published between 1853-1862' *Journal of the Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland*, **2**, pp. 9-14

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SIR RICHARD GRIFFITH'S CATALOGUE OF MINES AND MINERAL OCCURRENCES IN IRELAND: NOTES ON VARIOUS EDITIONS PUBLISHED BETWEEN 1853 AND 1862

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Abstract: Richard John Griffith was for many decades of the eighteenth century one of the leading geologists in Ireland. A notable public servant who served as a Railway Commissioner and Commissioner of the Valuation he was responsible for the publication of the first large-scale geological map of Ireland in 1839; this went through several editions until 1855. From 1852 maps carried extensive information on mines and of mineral locations, and these were documented in a separately published pamphlet in 1854. The recent discovery of two earlier versions of this list, that both date from 1853, strongly suggests that these documents were authored by Richard Griffith or at the very least were compiled under his direction, for the use of field officers of the Valuation Survey. *Journal of the Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland*, 2, 2002, 9-14.

INTRODUCTION

In the first issue of *The Journal of the Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland*, published in 2001, John Morris documented a rare catalogue of mines and mineral occurrences in Ireland dating from 1854 (Morris, 2001). This he attributes to Sir Richard John Griffith. On reading the article I recalled that I had in my possession not only a copy of this 1854 document, but also two earlier editions. A number of years ago I acquired a slim bound volume by the celebrated mineralogist Sir Charles Lewis Giesecke (1761-1833). Giesecke who was a colourful character, was employed as Professor of Mineralogy at the Royal Dublin Society between 1813 and 1833. Prior to his arrival in Ireland he had conducted a notable mineralogical survey of Greenland and the Faeroe Islands (Jørgensen, 1996; Wyse Jackson, 1996). The volume contains a *Catalogue of minerals in the museum of the Royal Dublin Society to which is appended an Irish Mineralogy* (Giesecke, 1832).

Pasted between the title page and the text of the latter paper was a copy of an 1853 version of Griffith's catalogue, while a second catalogue, also dated 1853, was pasted onto the inside back cover. Folded neatly within the book, but not pasted into it, was a copy of the pale blue 1854 version, already described by Morris (2001). Quite why Griffith's catalogues were glued into the Giesecke volume is hard to understand, but fortuitous - I suggest that given the flimsy nature of the documents a previous owner may have been worried about losing them.

The purpose of this brief article is to provide facsimile reproductions of the two 1853 documents, as well as giving brief descriptions of the various, known, editions of Griffith's catalogue. For details of Griffith himself and his various enterprises, readers should consult the paper by Morris (2001) as well as the volumes authored or edited by Gordon Herries Davies (Herries Davies, 1983; Herries Davies and Mollan, 1980).

1853 CATALOGUE (1ST VERSION)

This is a one page document (Figure 1) entitled *Catalogue of the several localities in Ireland where Mines or Metalliferous Indications have hitherto been discovered, arranged in Counties, and under their respective Post Towns* - a title that is consistent throughout all four known versions of the catalogue. This catalogue is printed on white paper (7.5 inches wide by 12 inches high), bearing a watermark of a fleur-de-lys above the date 1849. It carries in pencil the inscription "Richd Griffith Jr 1853 -". It is somewhat unusual that the tag of "junior" should have been added to the name, given that Griffith's father, also Richard, had been dead for over thirty years. Apart from this inscription there is nothing to conclusively date this document other than to note that it was not printed prior to 1849. However, by examination of the contents one can be almost certain that the inscribed date is correct.

On Griffith's 1839 geological map under a listing of "Table of Colours" on the left-hand side of the map, six economically important minerals - gold, iron, copper, lead, antimony, and coal - were denoted by characteristic symbols. However by the 1852 edition two more were added - gypsum and rock-salt. In addition under a "Synoptical View" located on the right-hand side of the map symbols for an additional 10 economic minerals are given with symbols, together with a list of some 252 localities where they were located. The symbols used correspond to those sixteen used in this catalogue. That for coal is omitted in this catalogue, but the coal-producing or coal-bearing regions are indicated by means of sketches of their geographical locations at the bottom of the document. These it notes were reproduced from Griffith's latest geological map, which was probably that published in 1852.

In this catalogue details of 182 localities in 26 counties are given.

CATALOGUE of the several localities in IRELAND where MINES or METALLIFEROUS INDICATIONS have hitherto been discovered, arranged in Counties and under their respective Past Towns.

[illegible]

Figure 1. Catalogue of 1853 (1st version) showing the symbols used for each mineral type, the list of localities, and the sketch maps of the coal districts of Ireland. Image is reduced in size by about 15%.

1853 CATALOGUE (2ND VERSION)

This is a four page document (Figure 2), printed on white paper (5 inches wide by 8 inches high).

On the top of page one the authorship of the catalogue is given in pencil: "By Richard Griffith Jr 1853 -". The handwriting is identical to that on the earlier 1853 version, but is not that of Griffith himself.

In this catalogue the characteristic symbols indicative of particular materials are not given; instead the materials are listed after the locality in which they are found. Coal is also omitted from the lists and the sketch maps of the coal districts are also missing.

This catalogue lists details of 248 localities in twenty-seven counties - Roscommon (Arigna mines for clay ironstone) is the additional county listed. This would suggest that this is the later of the two. In some cases, particularly in the major mining centres such as Castletown Bearhaven, County Cork and Knockmahon, County Waterford, several localities (6 and 6) are grouped under the collective terms 'Bearhaven Mines' and 'Knockmahon Mines' respectively. In the earlier 1853 version only the collective mine terms were used. Similar such additional locality information is given for other areas, and these largely account for the increase of 66 localities between the first and second 1853 versions of the list.

Unfortunately the bottom of this catalogue has been trimmed, and the name of the printer and the date (if any) has been lost. Comparison of the typeface used with that in the 1854 version described below, shows them to be identical which suggests at least that Alexander Thom and Sons of 87 Abbey Street were the printers.

Both of the 1853 catalogues are reproduced here so that they can be compared with each other and with that reproduced by Morris (2001).

1854 CATALOGUE

My copy of this pale blue, foolscap sized catalogue, on which the date June 1854 is printed, is identical to that described by Morris (2001). It is printed on paper bearing the watermark "J. Green and Son 1853". Green's were paper manufacturers, who coincidentally supplied the paper for Giesecke's manuscript catalogue of Greenland minerals donated by him to Trinity College, Dublin (Wyse Jackson, 1996).

This catalogue lists details of 430 localities in twenty-nine counties - Fermanagh and Queen's County [= Laois] are the additional counties listed. In addition to the earlier versions details of ownership and operators of mining enterprises is given in some instances. The details of some localities were communicated by various individuals such as Joseph Backhouse, R.W. Townsend, William Conn, Fitz-Lionel Fleming, Dr Saunderson, John L. Worrall, Professor James

Apjohn (of Trinity College, Dublin) and Sir Richard O'Donnell (of Newport, County Mayo). Such individuals must have been aware of the earlier lists.

1861/1862 CATALOGUE

This catalogue was published as an appendix to Griffith's listing of localities of Irish Carboniferous fossils in the *Dublin Quarterly Journal of Science* for 1861 and in volume 9 of the *Journal of the Geological Society of Dublin*, published in 1862. As has been noted by Morris (2001) it is virtually identical to the listing of 1854. Morris gives the minor discrepancies between the two versions.

ORIGINS AND USES OF THE CATALOGUES

Why were these catalogues published and who used them? Given their flimsy

nature I suspected that it was unlikely that they were regarded as being permanent documents by their users, but rather they were working documents that provided some beneficial information. The answer to the above question is to be found on page 25 of volume 9 of the *Journal of the Geological Society of Dublin*, mentioned above. Here Richard Griffith writes "I have thought it desirable to add an appendix of the Irish mining localities, compiled from the Geological Map [*his map* - my italics] for the general use of the General Valuation of Ireland...". Griffith was the appointed Commissioner of the Valuation in 1830, and continued work until 1865. The first valuation, termed the 'Townland Valuation', was followed from 1846 by the 'Tenement Valuation' which is now widely known as 'the Griffith Valuation'. These catalogues of localities of mines and metalliferous deposits were probably produced for and carried by the surveyors employed by Griffith during the latter Valuation. Griffith issued printed instructions to the surveyors, but these men would not have had much, if any geological training. Nevertheless, to fuel his geological ambition Griffith instructed them to collect fossils and other materials which he used to compile and revise his geological maps. Thus it would have been helpful for his men to have an *aide-mémoire* to the areas and districts which had already produced materials of economic interest. The presence of such material would have had an effect on the valuation reached. As the valuation continued additional information became available and newer more comprehensive versions of the catalogues were produced.

AUTHORSHIP OF THE CATALOGUES

Some doubt has been thrown on the true authorship of some of Griffith's work. Archer (1980) has demonstrated that much of his geological map of Ireland owed much to the labours of Patrick Ganly (c. 1809-1899), who like many others was employed by Griffith in the Valuation Office but not as a geologist. Griffith failed to acknowledge Ganly's contribution. Perhaps the listings discussed here were in fact compiled by someone working under the direction of Griffith. The monu-

<i>B. Richard Griffith 1829</i>		
<h1>CATALOGUE</h1>		
<h2>THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES IN IRELAND,</h2>		
<h3>WHERE MINES, OR METALLIFEROUS INDICATIONS HAVE HITHERTO BEEN DISCOVERED,</h3>		
<p>ARRANGED IN COUNTIES ACCORDING TO THEIR RESPECTIVE POST TOWNS.</p>		
<p><i>Note</i>—The localities with an asterisk prefixed are situate in Igneous Districts, or Rocks immediately adjacent to them; the remainder occur for the most part in Limestone. Mines now or formerly worked are printed in Italics; subdivisions of the Mines occur between brackets. The numbers attached to the localities refer to the Ordnance Sheets which contain them. Coal is omitted—the districts including it being marked on Mr. Griffith's latest Geological Map of Ireland.</p>		
<h4>ANTRIM.</h4>		
CARRICKTERGUS,	<i>Dunerrig</i> , thick beds of Rocksalt, Gypsum, and Clay-ironstone,	52
	*Dundressan, Iron, †	41
<h4>ARMAGH.</h4>		
Keady,	*Aughnagurgan, Lead,	20
	*Clap, Lead and Manganese,	19
NEWRY,	*Drumcland, Lead,	19
	*Drumlongher, Copper,	22
NEWTOWN-HAMILTON,	*Kilmonaghan, Copper,	22
<i>Drumaloney Mines,</i>	*Corrigallagh, Lead,	25
POINTSTOWN,	*Drumaloney, Lead,	25
	*Ballymore Mines, Lead,	14, 18, &c.
<h4>CAVAN.</h4>		
COOTEHILL,	*Cornamurragh, Lead,	22
SWANLISBAE,	*Cullough Mines, Clay-ironstone,	6
<h4>CLARE.</h4>		
QUINN,	<i>Ballyhicken</i> , Argenteiferous Lead and Copper with Zinc,	34
<i>Castletown Mines,</i>	*Culltown, Lead,	34
	*Moyricke, Lead,	34
ROADFORD,	<i>Kilbreckan Mine</i> , Argenteiferous Lead and Antimony,	34
TOMRANEY,	*Cranlin, Argenteiferous Lead,	4
TULLA,	*Doolin, Argenteiferous Lead,	8
	*Inghlish, Lead,	29
	*Gleadowe, Lead,	19 & 37
	*Milltown, Lead,	35
<h4>CORK.</h4>		
BALLYDEBORG,	*Ballygannick, Copper,	140
<i>Audley Mines,</i>	*Cappledglass, Copper,	140
	*Fahamuck, Copper,	140
	*Ince Island, Copper,	143
	*Inch, Copper,	140
<i>Ballydebb Mines,</i>	*Ballydebb, Copper,	140
	*Carrigrohane, Copper,	140
Roaringwater Mines,	*Ballyron, Copper,	140
BANTLEY,	*Leighlin, Copper,	140
	*Glenties, Copper,	123
	*Gortadoon, Copper,	123
<i>Hollyhill Mines,</i>	*Gortadoon, Lead,	118
	*Hollyhill, Copper,	118
	<i>Kilcreneger</i> , Argenteiferous Lead,	117
<h4>CASTLETOWN BEARHAVEN.</h4>		
	*Altish, Copper,	114
	*Cahernachloe, Copper,	127
<i>Bearhaven Mines,</i>	*Caminches, Copper,	114
	*Chan, Copper,	114
	*Coole, Copper,	114
	*Kesh, Copper,	114 & 127
	<i>Killynashin</i> , Lead,	127
CROOKHAVEN,	*Ballydebb, Copper, Silver, and Lead,	147
	*Callers, Argenteiferous Lead and Copper,	147
<i>Crookhaven Mines,</i>	*Crookhaven, Copper,	147
	*Kilbarrin, Argenteiferous Lead and Copper,	147
	*Mizen Head, Copper,	146
NOHAYAL,	<i>Spanish Cove</i> , Argenteiferous Lead and Copper,	147
<i>Ringabella Mines,</i>	<i>Ringabella</i> , Lead,	99
	<i>Ringabella</i> (2 miles West of), Lead,	99
<p>† When the word, Iron is used alone, Magnetic, Specular or other Ores, (proper), of Iron are those intended, Ironstone being rather a rock formation.</p>		

KERRY—continued.

ELLARNEY	Monkross, Copper, Cobalt, and Sulphur Ore,	74
ENEM	Ross Island, Copper,	66
THALIE	*Behanagh, Copper,	106
	Ballybeggan, Copper,	106
	Ballybeggan, Lead and Copper,	29
	Ballymullen, Lead and Copper,	29
	Chichester, Silver, Lead, and Copper,	29 & 30
	Lissodown, Silver, Lead, and Copper,	30
	Ork Park, Lead,	29
	KILDARE.	
CLUBBAGE	Ardeogh, Lead,	14 & 15
EDWARDS	Whitfield, Lead with Zinc,	15
NEWGRIDGE	Fraugh, Lead,	3
	*Funchersgrange, Copper,	17
	KILKENNY.	
ENNETTER	Floodhills, Lead and Silver,	27 & 21
	KING'S COUNTY.	
DESEIRIN	*Vicinity of, Copper,	45
KINSHITY	*Sieve Bloom Mountains, Lead and Copper,	36, 37, &c.
	LEITRIM.	
DEMBREHAN	Creerda Mines, Clay-ironstone,	17, &c.
LEAGANOV	*Gortaskeagh, Copper,	11
	*Pallin, Copper,	11
	*Barrackpark, Argentiferous Lead,	7
	*Trillick, Argentiferous Lead,	7
	*Gortine, Iron,	35
	LIMERICK.	
ASKETON	Ballygreen, Argentiferous Lead and Silver,	11
RATHEALE	Cleghra, Argentiferous Lead,	20
	LONGFORD.	
LONGFORD	*Vicinity of, Argentiferous Lead,	14
CRABBY	*Cleeragh, Iron,	3
	LOUTH.	
PROGHEDA	Oldbridge, West of, Lead and Copper,	25 & 24
LOGHER	*Saltersdown, Lead and Copper,	16
	MAYO.	
NEWPORT	*Achill Island, (South Eastern shore), Copper,	65
	*Clare Island, Sulphur Ore,	85, &c.
	*Corran Mines, Copper and Sulphur Ore,	65, 75, &c.
	*Sheeffy Mines, Argentiferous Lead,	107
	MEATH.	
ABDCATH	*Chaghan, Lead,	33
ATHROY	South of, Lead,	29 & 35
SLANE	Beaupark Mines, Lead and Copper,	26
	Dollarstown, Copper and Lead,	26
	Patinstown, Copper,	32
	Brownstown, Copper,	32
	Cusacktown, Copper,	32
	Keshdown, Copper,	32
	MONAGHAN.	
BALLYBAY	*Corbrack, Lead,	19 & 24
	*Cornamucklagh, Lead,	19
	*Derinagh, Lead,	19
	*Sea, Lead,	24
	*Derryleigh, Lead with Zinc,	8
	*Knockan, thick beds of Gypsum,	30 & 31
	*East of, Lead,	25
	*Anagh, Argentiferous Lead,	14 & 15
	*Corrick, Argentiferous Lead,	14
	*Cooltraugh, Lead,	14
	*Lislassan, Antimony,	14
	*Tressa, Lead,	14
	*Tullyback, Antimony,	14
	ROSCOMMON.	
KEADEW	*Avigna Mines, Clay-ironstone in prolific quantity,	2
	SLIGO.	
BALLYSADARE	*Aghagha, Lead and Silver,	20
	*Lough, Lead,	20
SLIGO	*Glacashy, Copper and Lead,	6 & 9
	*Tomore, Copper and Lead,	9

TIPPERARY.

CAPPAHWHITE	*Clonmacraha, Copper,	45
	*Glenough, Copper,	45
	*Lackanacraha, Copper,	45
	*Ragalla, Copper,	45
	*Lackanore, Copper,	38
	*Tooreen, Copper,	38
	*Ballygon, Argentiferous Lead,	26
	*Clonmacraha, Sulphur Ore,	26
	Cooleen, Lead,	31
	*Coolraha, Copper,	32
	*Garryard, Lead and Silver,	26
	*Gorteantha, Lead and Copper,	26
	*Knockanore, Lead with Zinc, Copper and Sulphur Ore,	26
	*Shalee, Lead, Silver and Copper,	26
	TYRONE.	
COAL ISLAND	Amagher, Clay-ironstone,	47
GORTIN	*Munterlony Mountains, Antimony,	12 & 19
POMEROY	*Cramogue, Copper,	45
	WATERFORD.	
BUSMAHON	*Ballynagilla, Copper,	25
	*Ballynassada, Copper,	24 & 25
	*Kildane, Copper,	25
	*Kilmartin, Copper,	25
	*Knockanore, Copper, Argentiferous Lead with Zinc and Cobalt,	25
	*Templeyric, Copper,	24 & 25
	*Seaheld, Copper,	24
	*Killergule, Iron,	7
	*Knockatella, Copper,	5
	*Dramslip, Iron,	35
	*Kiltoon, Copper,	32
	*Kilminin, Copper,	24
	*Coast opposite, Lead,	40
	WEXFORD.	
CARRICK	*Barrytown, Lead,	45
ENNISCORTHY	*Aghathappa, Argentiferous Lead,	19
	*Cain, Argentiferous Lead with Zinc, Copper & Sulphur Ore,	19
WEXFORD	*Kerlog, Copper,	42
	WICKLOW.	
ARKLOW	*Ballymore, Copper,	39
	*Ballycog, Copper,	39
	*Goldmine River, particles of Gold and Tin,	40
	*Moneybeg, Copper and particles of Gold,	39
	*Ashford, Copper,	25
	*Ballynacahara, Copper,	25
	*Boleybeg, Lead,	27
	*Bray Head, Copper,	8
	*Douce Mountain, Lead and Copper,	12, &c.
	*Powerscourt, Lead and Copper,	7, &c.
	*Glen of, Lead,	9
	*Aghavannagh Mountain, Lead,	28
	*Ballynagga, particles of Gold,	34
	*Ballygreen, Copper and Sulphur Ore,	35
	*Ballymore, Copper,	35
	*Ballymucklagh, Copper and Sulphur Ore,	35
	*Conary, Copper, Lead with Zinc, Sulphur Ore,	17
	*Antimony, Arsenic and Auriferous Silver,	35
	*Glenane, Copper with Zinc and Sulphur Ore,	35
	*Ballynagga, Lead,	23
	*Cannabogue, Lead,	22
	*Conkeen, Lead,	23
	*Conavilla, Lead,	23
	*Corrallagh, Lead,	23
	*Kilashel, Copper,	35
	*Kilnaco, Copper,	35
	*Kilnaco, Copper,	35
	*Knockanore, Sulphur Ore,	35
	*Luglaugh, Lead and Copper,	23
	*Seven Churches, Argentiferous Lead and Copper with Zinc,	17 & 23
	*Tigmore, Copper and Sulphur Ore,	35
	*Lough Dan, Lead and Copper,	17
	*Lough Tay, Lead,	12
	*Vicinity of, Lead,	43
	ROUNDWOOD	
	SHILLELAGH	

mental listing of Carboniferous fossils published in 1862 runs to 114 pages, and I find it difficult to believe that this was compiled by Griffith himself, particularly he was a busy public servant, and because his cabinet of fossils on which the list is based had been monographed for him by Frederick M'Coy in 1844 (Wyse Jackson and Monaghan, 1994). It is probable that the both the fossil and mines/mineral lists were compiled by an assistant in the Valuation Office, but their authorship was cited, due to deference, as that of Griffith. Could the lists be the work of Ganly, or of John Kelly (1791-1869), who served as a personal assistant to Griffith between 1814 and 1856 and was later employed in the Geological Survey of Ireland (Herries Davies, 1995)? While this is possible, there is no evidence at present to promote such a conjecture.

Griffith certainly had considerable knowledge of the mining districts of the country - information that he had first began to acquire during his association with the Dublin Society for whom he surveyed the Leinster Coalfield in 1809. He was appointed three years later as Mining Engineer to the Society and carried out a number of surveys in the years following. However, the final years of his tenure were somewhat clouded with the Society taking the view that Griffith was not actually doing much on their behalf, and he resigned in 1829. This and later work gave him a wealth of knowledge on the geology of Ireland.

Both of the 1853 versions reproduced here carry no printed indication of authorship, but as has been noted, above pencil inscriptions indicate that Richard Griffith was the author. If one accepts this as being true, then it follows that the later 1854 listing was also by him. Until other evidence comes to light to prove otherwise, the authorship of the 1853, 1854 and 1861/1862 catalogues should be ascribed to Richard John Griffith.

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