

THE SOVEREIGN DÁIL ÉIREANN COURTS ON CIRCUIT

Record No: 22-11-11

THE IRISH REPUBLICAN BROTHERHOOD

V

THE PAPAL BULL LAUDABILITER 1155

AND

THE CROWN OF IRELAND ACT 1542

AND

THE ACT OF UNION 1801

Exhibit

MK 2

Melissa Kelly

Séala Cúirteanna Dáil Éireann

29 OCT 2022



Treaty of Windsor (1175)

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For other treaties called "Treaty of Windsor", see [Treaty of Windsor](#).



The main kingdoms in Gaelic Ireland.

The **Treaty of Windsor (1175)** was a territorial agreement made during the time of the [Norman invasion of Ireland](#).^[1] It was signed in [Windsor, Berkshire](#) by King [Henry II of England](#) and the Ard Rí or [High King of Ireland](#), [Ruaidrí Ua Conchobair](#) ([Rory O'Connor](#)).

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Treaty[edit]

Overall, the agreement left O'Connor with a kingdom consisting of Ireland outside the provincial [kingdom of Leinster](#) (as it was then), [Dublin](#) and a territory from [Waterford](#) [Dungarvan](#), as long as he paid tribute to Henry II, and owed [fealty](#) to him. All of Ireland was also subject to the new religious provisions of the [papal bull Laudabiliter](#) and the [Synod of Cashel](#) (1172).^[*citation needed*]

O'Connor was obliged to pay one treated cow [hide](#) for every ten cattle. The other "kings and people" of Ireland were to enjoy their lands and liberties so long as they remained faithful to the kings of England, and were obliged to pay their tribute in hides through O'Connor.^{[*2*]^[*verification needed*]}

The witnesses were [Richard of Ilchester, Bishop of Winchester](#); [Geoffrey, Bishop of Ely](#); [Laurence O'Toole, Archbishop of Dublin](#); [William, Earl of Essex](#); [Justiciar Richard de Luci](#); Geoffrey de Purtilco, Reginald de Courtenea (Courtenay) and three of Henry's court chaplains.

The [Annals of Tigernach](#) recorded that: "[Cadla Ua Dubthaig](#) came from England from the Son of the Empress, having with him [the peace of Ireland](#), and the kingship thereof, both Foreigner and Gael, to Ruaidhrí Ó Conchobhair, and to every provincial king his province from the king of Ireland, and their tributes to Ruaidhrí." The Annals also listed the ongoing violence in Ireland at the time.^[3] The text reveals a misunderstanding of the scope of the treaty and the matters agreed by the two kings that soon proved fatal to the peace of Ireland. Henry saw O'Connor as his subordinate within the [feudal system](#), paying him an annual rent on behalf of all his sub-kings; O'Connor saw himself as the restored [High King of Ireland](#), subject only to a very affordable annual tribute to Henry.^[citation needed]

Treaty Text^[edit]

"This is the agreement which was made at Windsor in the octaves of Michaelmas [October 6] in the year of Our Lord 1175, between Henry, king of England, and Roderic [Rory], king of Connaught, by Catholicus, archbishop of Tuam, Cantordis, abbot of Clonfert, and Master Laurence, chancellor of the king of Connaught, namely: The king of England has granted to Roderic [Rory], his liegeman, king of Connacht, as long as he shall faithfully serve him, that he shall be king under him, ready to his service, as his man. And he shall hold his land as fully and as peacefully as he held it before the lord king entered Ireland, rendering him tribute. And that he shall have all the rest of the land and its inhabitants under him and shall bring them to account [justiciet eos], so that they shall pay their full tribute to the king of England through him, and so that they shall maintain their rights. And those who are now in possession of their lands and rights shall hold them in peace as long as they remain in the fealty of the king of England, and continue to pay him faithfully and fully his tribute and the other rights which they owe to him, by the hand of the king of Connaught, saving in all things the right and honour of the king of England and of Roderic. And if any of them shall be rebels to the king of England and to Roderic and shall refuse to pay the tribute and other rights of the king of England by his hand, and shall withdraw from the fealty of the king of England, he, Roderic, shall judge them and remove them. And if he cannot answer for them by himself, the constable of the king of England in that land [Ireland] shall, when called upon by him, aid him to do what is necessary. And for this agreement the said king of Connaught shall render to the king of England tribute every year, namely, out of every ten animals slaughtered, one hide, acceptable to the merchants both in his land as in the rest; save that he shall not meddle with those lands which the lord king has retained in his lordship and in the lordship of his bat:ons; that is to say, Dublin with all its appurtenances; Meath with all its appurtenances, even as Murchat Ua Maillethlachlin [Murchadh O' Melaghlin] held it fully and freely [melius et plenius] or as others held it of him; Wexford with all its appurtenances, that is to say, the whole of Leinster; and Waterford with its whole territory from Waterford to Dungarvan, including Dungarvan with all its appurtenances. And if the Irish who have fled wish to return to the land of the barons of the king of England they may do so in peace, paying the said tribute as others pay it, or doing to the English the services which they were wont to do for their lands, which shall be decided by the judgment and will of their lords. And if any of them are unwilling to return and their lords have called upon the king of Connaught,

he shall compel them to return to their land, so that they shall dwell there in peace. And the king of Connaught shall accept hostages from all whom the lord king of England has committed to him, and he shall himself give hostages at the will of the king. The witnesses are Robert, bishop of Winchester; Geoffrey, bishop of Ely; Laurence, archbishop of Dublin; Geoffrey Nicholas and Roger, the king's chaplains; William, Earl of Essex; Richard de Luci; Geoffrey de Portico, and Reginald de Courteney."

Outcomes^[edit]

The treaty broke down very quickly, as O'Connor was unable to prevent Norman knights carving out new territories on a freelance basis, starting with assaults on [Munster](#) and [Ulaid](#) in 1177. For his part Henry was by now too distant to suppress them and was preoccupied with events in France. In 1177 he replaced [William FitzAldelm](#) with his 10-year-old son [Prince John](#) and named him as [Lord of Ireland](#).^[*citation needed*]