

= Domnall Gerrlámhach =

Domnall Gerrlámhach (died 1135) , also known as Domnall Gerrlámhach Ua Briain , Domnall mac Muirchertaig , and Domnall Ua Briain , was an obscure twelfth @-@ century Uí Briain dynast and King of Dublin . He was one of two sons of Muirchertach Ua Briain , High King of Ireland . Domnall 's father appears to have installed him as King of Dublin in the late eleventh- or early twelfth century , which suggests that he was his father 's successor @-@ designate . Although Domnall won a remarkable victory in the defence of the Kingdom of Dublin in the face of an invasion from the Kingdom of Leinster in 1115 , he failed to achieve the successes of his father . After his final expulsion from Dublin at hands of Toirdelbach Ua Conchobair , King of Connacht , and the death of his father , Domnall disappears from record until his own death in 1135 . He was perhaps survived by two sons .

= = Background = =

Domnall was one of two recorded sons of Muirchertach Ua Briain , High King of Ireland (died 1119) ; the other being Mathgamain (died 1129) . Domnall was a member of the Uí Briain , a branch of the Dál Cais , descended from the eponymous Brian Bóruma mac Cennétig , High King of Ireland (died 1014) . Domnall 's mother was his father 's wife , Derb Forgaill , daughter of Lethlobar Ua Laidcnén , King of Airgíalla . The Annals of Tigernach accord Domnall the epithet gerrlámhach (" short @-@ armed ") which may indicate ? if the term is taken literally ? that he suffered some sort of deformity .

Muirchertach Ua Briain was one of three sons of Toirdelbach Ua Briain , High King of Ireland (died 1086) , a man who secured control of the Kingdom of Munster in the 1060s before gaining the high @-@ kingship of Ireland less than a decade later . In 1175 , in an act of overlordship over the Kingdom of Dublin , Toirdelbach Ua Briain appointed Muirchertach Ua Briain King of Dublin , following a precedent set by Diarmait mac Mail na mBó , King of Leinster (died 1072) , a previous claimant to the Irish high @-@ kingship who had done the same to his own eldest son , Murchad (died 1070) , in 1052 . When Toirdelbach Ua Briain finally died in 1086 , his sons bitterly contested the kingship of Munster before Muirchertach Ua Briain succeeded in securing it for himself . By 1091 , the latter appears to have regained control of the Dublin , only to lose it to Gofraid Crobán , King of the Isles (died 1095) , who united it with the Kingdom of the Isles . Gofraid 's reign in Ireland was short @-@ lived , as Muirchertach Ua Briain forced him from Dublin in 1094 . After the Gofraid 's death the following year , Muirchertach Ua Briain appointed his own nephew , Domnall mac Taidc (died 1115) , as King of the Isles . Uí Briain influence in the Isles was similarly short @-@ lived , however , as Domnall mac Taidc was apparently forced from the region , and Magnús Óláfsson , King of Norway seized control of not only the Isles , but perhaps even Dublin itself , before falling in battle in 1103 . Later in 1111 , Domnall mac Taidc temporarily seized the kingship of the Isles in an act that appears to have been opposed by his aforesaid uncle . The reasons for Domnall mac Taidc 's exit from the Isles are uncertain . Although he may have been forcibly ejected by the Islesmen , he may well have returned to Ireland to take advantage of Muirchertach Ua Briain 's rapidly failing health .

= = Kingship of Dublin = =

In 1114 , the power of a now gravely ill Muirchertach Ua Briain 's began to waver . The kingship of Munster was temporarily seized by Muirchertach Ua Briain 's half @-@ brother , Diarmait Ua Briain (died 1118) . The record of a grant to Christ Church Cathedral , in which Domnall is styled " King of Ireland " , appears to suggest that he attempted to assert a claim to the kingship as well . In fact , Mac Carthaigh 's Book specifically states that Domnall was installed in the kingship of Dublin by his father in 1114 . Although Muirchertach Ua Briain 's problems were lessened with the death Domnall mac Taidc in 1115 , within the year the co @-@ Kings of Leinster ? Donnchad mac Murchada (died 1115) and Conchobar Ua Conchobair Failge , King of Uí Failge (died 1115) ? took advantage of

his own decline , and attempted to gain control of Dublin by way of a major assault upon the town . In fact , Domnall 's father and grandfather had excluded the Kingdom of Leinster from overlordship of Dublin for the last forty years ; and whilst Conchobar was an unremitting opponent of Muirchertach Ua Briain , Donnchad was married to Domnall mac Taidc 's sister , and further possessed a claim of his own to the kingship Dublin , as both his father and grandfather ? the aforesaid Murchad and Diarmait mac Maíl na mBó ? had held it during their careers .

The prospect of enduring overlordship from nearby Leinster , as compared to the more distant and anaemic overlordship of Munster , appears to have compelled the Dubliners to oppose the Leinstermen . The ensuing battle itself is recorded by both the Annals of Ulster and the Annals of Inisfallen , which reveal that it was Domnall himself who marshalled the forces of Munster to victory . Considering Munster 's weakened state , his triumph in Dublin was remarkable achievement . Unfortunately for Donnchad , however , he lost his life in the encounter ; and according to the thirteenth @-@ century ecclesiast Giraldu Cambrensis (died 1220 x 23) , the Dubliners added insult to injury by burying his corpse with that of a dog as a show of contempt to the Leinstermen . There is uncertainty as to when Domnall originally gained the kingship of Dublin . His father could have installed him as such upon assuming the Irish high @-@ kingship , or perhaps following the aforesaid ousting of Gofraid Crobán in 1094 ? although it is not impossible that Domnall mac Taidc was installed as king at this point instead . Another possibility is that Domnall had been appointed king not long before his victory over the Leinstermen , or else not long afterwards . Whatever the case , the evidence of Domnall 's kingship indicates that Muirchertach Ua Briain was the third consecutive claimant to the high @-@ kingship to appoint an intended successor to the kingship of Dublin .

Although Muirchertach Ua Briain recovered enough to regain power in Munster within the year , Dublin was later lost to Donnchad 's kinsman and Leinster successor , Diarmait mac Énna meic Murchada , King of Leinster , who died there in 1117 . Meanwhile , as Muirchertach Ua Briain 's power continued to evaporate , the authority of Toirdelbach Ua Conchobair , King of Connacht (died 1156) ever increased . In 1118 , several sources , such as the Annals of Loch Cé , the Annals of the Four Masters , Chronicon Scotorum , and the Annals of Tigernach , indicate that Toirdelbach Ua Conchobair gained control of Dublin . In fact , the later source specifies that he had driven Domnall from the kingship once and for all , revealing that Domnall had regained the kingship following Diarmait mac Énna 's death in 1117 . Although this source also relates that hostages from the " northern half of Ireland " were recovered from Dublin by Toirdelbach Ua Conchobair , a statement perhaps indicative of the power that Domnall managed to preserve over northern realms once firmly under his father 's suzerainty , at his height Domnall 's father had been one of the most successful Uí Briain monarchs , and Domnall was unable to match his accomplishments . Domnall 's victory in Dublin marked the beginning of the end of Munster domination of Norse @-@ Gaelic Dublin . Before the frail Muirchertach Ua Briain finally died in 1119 , he was forced to resign the kingship of Munster in favour of his half @-@ brother . When the latter died in 1118 , Toirdelbach Ua Conchobair had the realm partitioned between Tadc Mac Carthaig in the Kingdom of Desmond , and the sons of Diarmait Ua Briain in the Kingdom of Thomond . Domnall himself was excluded from the kingship .

= = Death = =

Thereafter Domnall disappears from record until his death , as an old man at Lismore , dated by the Annals of the Four Masters to 1135 . The annal @-@ entry itself describes him as a one @-@ time lord of Leinster , which could be evidence that he had tried to seize Leinster at some point in his career . The Annals of Tigernach apparently also record Domnall 's death , although the annal @-@ entry identifies him as a grandson of Muirchertach Ua Briain . Long afterwards in 1157 , Muirchertach Mac Lochlainn , King of Cenél nEógain (died 1166) , a contender to the Irish high @-@ kingship , invaded the partitioned Munster and forced the submission of Diarmait Mac Carthaig , and further drove out Toirdelbach mac Diarmata Uí Briain ? the son of Domnall 's aforesaid uncle , Diarmait Ua Briain ? and replaced him with another Uí Briain dynast , Conchobar mac Domnaill Uí Briain , King of Ormond . The latter was likely a brother of Lughaid mac Domnaill

Uí Briain who was slain in the battle of Móin Mhór in 1151 . Both men ? Conchobar and Lughaid ? could well have been sons of Domnall himself , although another candidate may be his like @-@ named first cousin , Domnall mac Taidc .

= = Ancestry = =