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1st Muskerry Cavalry.

Notes from the Orderly Book of the First Troop of the Muskerry Legion of Yeomanry Cavalry, 1796.

BY ROBERT DAY, F.S.A., PRESIDENT.



AM indebted to the courtesy of George and Morgan Gallwey, esqrs., for the loan of the manuscript whose title heads this paper. The writing in many places has become so faint that it can scarcely be deciphered, and will soon, from the character of the ink, be altogether illegible; it is therefore all the more important to preserve the main features of its records in the

pages of this Journal. The muster roll of the officers and men forming the troop was fixed by the Lord Lieutenant in the following letter dated—

"DUBLIN CASTLE,

10th September, 1803.

SIR—I am commanded by the Lord Lieutenaut to acquaint you that His Excellency has been pleased to fix the establishment of the Muskerry Legion First Troop Corps of Yeomanry Cavalry under your command, at the numbers stated in the margin. Instructions have been issued accordingly to the respective officers of ordinance.

Signed, E. B. LITTLEHALES.

To A. Warren, esq., Captain Muskerry Legion 1st Troop."



Establishment.

Permanent Sergeant	
Sergeants	 :
Trumpeter or Drummer	 1
Mounted Men	 60
	64

The book commences with a list of the men and the dates of their enrollment, and embodies a record of each day's work down to February 24th, 1806, when it abruptly ends. A few extracts will show in what consisted the daily routine of the mounted Yeoman's life during the first year of the present century. Banded together in October, 1796, their roll call numbered forty-four, when, in the following December, the French made their descent on Bantry and struck terror and alarm into the peaceful inhabitants of the city and county of Cork, which practically undefended was alone preserved by the providential interposition of the Almighty from the inroads of a foreign and hostile soldiery. The names of those who formed this troop are eminently representative; men of equally good family were found in the ranks of the troop as among those who were their chosen and elected leaders. The duties that they were called upon to perform consisted chiefly in patrolling the country at night, acting as peace officers in bringing law-breakers to justice, carrying despatches from their head-quarters in Macroom to Cork, at one extremity, and to Bantry at the other, and by daily exercise and drill keeping themselves in a state of such soldierly efficiency that their services were counted by the Government for foreign duty. Here follows a list of the troop-

Name and A. Warren, capt. Samuel Swete, c Samuel Baldwin, Thos. J. Copping Walter McCarth, William Boyle, 2 Robert McCarth, Richard Barter, c Call. McCarthy, Henry Lindsey James B. Barry James Barry	Rank, apt. Ist lieut. er, 2nd lieut. y, P.S. nd sergt. r, 3rd sergt. orpl. private	 Residence. Warrenscourt Greenville Dromkeen Carhue Macroom Boyle Grove Macroom Dromkeen Stickstown Peake	When Admitted. October, 1796 Do. June, 1800 October, 1796 (1) July, 1798 (1) October, 1796 June, 1798 October, 1796 Do. Do. Do.		When Attested. October, 1796. Do. June, 1800. October, 1796. July, 1798. October, 1796. June, 1798. October, 1796. Do. Do. Do.
John Good		Kilbarry	Do.		
Thomas Good		Crossmahon Ardnanee	Do.		Do.
John Colthurst		Dripsey Castle	Do. Do.	• •	Do.

(1) Then a private.

Name and Ran	k.		Residence.	When Admitted.		When Attested.
Robert Travers, pri	vate		. Dripsey	October, 1796		October, 1796.
Corliss Hawkes	0		. Carbue ·	Do.		Do.
J. Williams			. Macroom	Do.		Do.
J. Williams, jun.			37	Do.		Do.
Paul Horgan	"		. Carrigagully	Do.		Do.
J. F. Whitney			. Mount Rivers	Do.		Do.
Richard Radley	"		10 1	Do.		Do.
Abraham Cross	"		Shandy Hall	Do.		Do.
Matthew Minhear	"		Rocklee	June, 1798		June, 1798.
Richard Ashe	,,		Ashgrove	July, 1798		July, 1798.
John Larymore	"		Gurteen	Do.		Do.
Epinetus FitzGibbon			. Shandy Hall	June, 1801		June, 1801.
Anthony Woodley	"		Dromkeen	Do.		Do.
Thomas Radley		•	Knockroan	July, 1803		July, 1803.
Thomas O. Mocher	11		Macroomp	Do.		Do.
Michael Williams	"		0 "	Do.		Do.
Peter Williams	"		Macroom	September, 180		
Henry Cavendish	"		Do.	July, 1803		September, 1803.
John Pearson	".		Mount Cross			July, 1803.
Basil Orpen	"		Macroom	September, 180	3	September, 1803.
John E. Orpen	"		Gorteenroe			Do.
Thos. S. Coppinger	"		Leemount	Do. Do.	•••	Do.
Wood Johnson	"		Bratown	Do.		Do.
Walter Baldwin	"					Do.
George Sullivan	n		Clohinco	Do.	• •	Do.
George Thornhill	"		Rossnascalp	Do.	••	Do.
Timothy Horgan			Bohemia	Do.		Do.
Denis Horgan	"		Carrigagully	Do.		Do.
James Williams			Do.	Do.		Do.
Robert Ashe	11		Currihy	Do.		Do.
	"		Ashgrove	Do.	••	Do.
John Leader	11		Ilecale	Do.		Do.
John Barter	11		Macroom	Do.		Do.
William Grainger	11		Rockville	Do.		Do.
Edward Barret	"		Carrigbuee	Do.		Do.
Alex. Larrymore	11	• •	Saintfield	Do.		Do.
Thomas Lindsay			Peak	January, 1804	J	anuary, 1804.
John Barrett, jun.	11		Carrigbuec	Do.		Do.
D. Murphy	"	• •	Macroomp	September, 180	3 5	September, 1803.
Thomas Swetman	0	••	Kilglass	Do.		Do.
Edward Grainger	11	• •	Kilbarry	Do.		Do.
	11	• •	Kilbarry	Do.		Do.
	n .	••	(Name illegible)			etober, 1796
John Huffman	11		Macroom	July, 1803	J	ıly, 1803.

The following letter written by Captain Warren, and the reply to it from his troop, reflects the brotherly kindliness and esteem in which each mutually held the other. It tells how the officers were selected by vote from among themselves, and how in this case the troop having by



a majority of votes elected Mr. Holland as their second lieutenant, he, feeling that it would tend to the greater harmony and efficiency of the corps, waived his right to election, and gave to the members a power to ballot again, when Mr. Thomas Coppinger was chosen.

" Sunday, 2nd October, 1803.

To the Gentlemen of the First Troop.

GENTLEMEN,-It has ever been my wish to live in friendship and good-will with all mankind, and in particular with the gentlemen of my own country; the length of time which our Corps has subsisted and the numerous exertions we have made together to preserve the peace and tranquillity of our neighbourhood, and bring to justice those who were guilty of the greatest crimes against society, have served to increase those ties of mutual regard and esteem for which the Muskerry Corps has been remarkable. I can with truth say that neither religious or party disputes have ever crept amongst us, and had either appeared I would have been the first to have crushed it. There now seems to be something arising which might disturb our harmony. I think it my duty, as well as you all know it is my inclination to prevent it in the bud, we will not agitate our minds with argument. I know you all too well to suppose for a moment you will return to me a man who is not fully qualified to undertake the honourable and arduous situation of an officer, and I shall feel as much pleasure in giving my approbation and recommendation of the man of your choice as I would in having in myself the sole nomination of him. With these sentiments you will agree with me, that from my experience of the gentlemen of the troop I would be censurable if I did not point out to themselves a man whose best exertions, ever since the formation of our corps, have been most cheerfully given for the advantages of the troop and for the service of the country. With your permission I will name him, Mr. Thomas Coppinger. If he meets your approbation and is returned by you to me, it will give me real pleasure in recommending a man of merit, which is, and ought to be, the first consideration in the nomination of an officer. I came here to attend General Myers before he quitted our district, but am prevented seeing him by his very sudden departure for his situation at Athlone, under the special order of Government. I am now waiting in the name of the Muskerry Cavalry to pay my respects to General Campbell, who succeeds General Myers, and as I cannot have an audience of him before twelve o'clock, I think it right to communicate my sentiments to you as early as possible on the business which is appointed for this day on parade. When that is over I beg leave to lay before you the heads of an address to cur favourite general and friend on his departure. Should it meet your approbation, you will let me have it as soon as you can that I may transmit it to him.

I am, gentlemen, with the highest respect,

Your very humble servant,

Cork, Sunday, October 2nd, 1803.

A. WARREN, C.M.L.

[REPLY.]

"SIR,—We are concerned that we could not have the pleasure of seeing you here to-day, and are happy to inform you that your kind and conciliatory letter has made your old troop singularly happy, and in order to meet your wishes and pay you every compliment in our power, Mr. Holland, in a very handsome manner, has given to the members of it the power to ballot again for a second lieutenant, which is to be brought

forward on Sunday next, and we also agree to and fully approve the address to General Myers. We have the honor to remain, &c., &c.,

By an order dated November 29, 1803, the route of intelligence from Limerick to Bantry and Berehaven was—

Limerick, by Croom, to Charleville	17	miles	12th Dragoons from Mallov
To Liscarroll		11	Do.
To Kanturk		11	Longueville Cavalry
To Millstreet	IO	"	Do.
To Macroom	7	11	Muskerry Legion
To Bautry	16	"	Do.
To Berehaven			Lord Bantry's Cavalry.

At this time one half of the Muskerry Legion were on permanent duty, one officer and one-third of that number being stationed at Inchigeela, the remainder quartered at Macroom. Their drill sergeant was Mr. Knolles, who, after completing the drill of Mr Hedge's Corps, was transferred to the Muskerry Troop.

On January 24th, 1804, Major-General Sir Eyre Coote arrived in Cork and took over the command of the South-West District from General Myers, who addressed the Muskerry Legion and Yeomanry as follows:—

"In leaving the important command of this district, I feel great satisfaction in conveying to the Yeomanry the high sense I entertain of their exertions, improvement and discipline, actuated, as they have been, by the noblest of motives—the protection of their Sovereign and the defence of their country from foreign and internal enemies. In such a cause a corps of men so determined must be successful should the enterprise attempt their shores. It is needless to call to their recollection that on this side of Heaven there is but one United Kingdom of liberty and independence. This is the trust committed to their charge; this is the motive which has called them to the field."

In April, 1804, a letter was laid before the troop by Captain Warren, from Sir E. Nepean, in which they were asked if they would volunteer for foreign service, to which Captain Swete sent the following reply:—

"Dear Sir,—I have laid before my troop Sir Evan Nepean's letter, with which you favoured me this morning, and I am instructed by them to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, that they are resolved to continue their services upon the same terms on which they at first associated in arms and have since given them, viz.: for the preservation of the peace of their district, which they are bold to say, though their district is extensive and has been principally left to their care for seven or eight years back, they had the happiness to effect. They beg leave, at the same time, to assure his Excellency that their not volunteering to go out of their district at present does not arise from any hesitation or tardiness on their part to come forward to meet the enemies of their King and country, wherever they may appear, but solely springs from their anxiety to watch over and guard their families and properties, which are tolerably extensive, and to the protection of which they humbly conceive ten times their number of any other species of his Majesty's forces may not be equally competent. I am, &c.

Samuel Swetze."



The parade ground of the Muskerry Cavalry and Infantry was Carrigadrohid, and here their monthly inspection took place, to which they were summoned by letter. Here is one such dated June 1, 1805-

"Lieut,-Colonel Morrison's compliments to Captain Comt. Warren, and begs he will have the goodness to have the Muskerry Legion, under his command, under arms at Carrigadrohid, at 12 o'clock on Wednesday, the 12th of June, for his monthly inspection, and to fire three rounds of blank cartridge per man, which will be obtained in Cork by applying to the Adjutant-General.

Cork, June 1, 1805."

The major part of this book is written by Sergeant Walter McCarthy, who devotes nearly half its pages to letters of instruction from Dublin Castle and Cork. The remainder contains a diary, and records the events of each day from August 1st, 1803, to February 24th, 1806. A few of these daily records will be sufficient to show what the duties of the Yeomanry really were, and how they resembled those now so ably and efficiently performed by the Royal Irish Constabulary.

"August I, 1803. This day received a letter from B. Major Fenton, ordering the Muskerry Corps upon permanent duty at whatever place or advance post the captain may deem most useful to the service; also requiring a return of the state of the arms, ammunition, etc., and to be forthwith made to General Myers, which was accordingly done. The captain ordered out one lieutenant and twenty privates into Nettleville Barracks, the remainder of the corps into Macroom. The captain ordered a patrol of a sergeant and ten men to scour the country every night if necessary.

"August 3rd. The patrole were out last night and found all quiet and orderly,

"August 7th. The patrole were out and took up four disorderly strangers from Bantry, they said, but could give no account of themselves. Lodged them in bridewell. "August 11th. Sent off a party with prisoners to Cork, who brought back

1,056 pistol 843 musquet ammunition

Also 4 pistols, 88 pistol flints, 86 musquet do.

Received letter from B. Major Fenton, dated 3rd inst., ordering to secure the Pass at Hullsville, by orders of General Myers, which was done before; also apprising Captain Warren that his offer to ye Ld Lieutenant of augmenting his troop to 60 privates, of raising a second troop of the same number, also a corps of Infantry of like numbers, being accepted of, and the B. Major arrived on his return from Bantry whither he was then proceeding by orders of Genl Myers to inspect the entire corps, mounted and

"August 13th. Some of the gentlemen not having attended to go express escort according to their turn on the roaster, I do hereby order henceforward that any gentleman who is not ready to go on his duty shall be fined one week's pay-which shall go to the person next on the roaster who does his duty—for the first offence, and double that fine, say a fortnight's pay, for every other offence.

A. W. [Augustus Warren.]

It is my particular order that the officer commanding the garrison shall give no leave of absence to any gentleman except in some case of sudden necessity, and in no case that he has less than twelve privates on guard. That the guard shall parade every evening, mounted, at half-past seven p.m.

"August 16th. Patroled. A prisoner brought in, a rioter, and lodged in bridewell."

The next page is of more than usual interest to Muskerry families, as it has the autograph signatures of the ancestors of many who are still resident in the district and whose names are like household words in the county Cork. Each of these gentlemen upon receiving a certain amount of ammunition acknowledged it thus-

"We, the undersigned members of the Muskerry, acknowledged to have received from Sergeant MacCarthy ten rounds of Pistol Ball Cartridge for which we will be accountable to Captain Warren. Macroom, August 18th, 1803.

J. PEARSON		CAL MCCARTHY	10
WALT, MCCARTHY		Paul Horgan	
JAMS B. BARRY		THOS RADLEY	IO
JOHN EMANL ORPEN		MATT MINHEAR	10
HENRY CAVENDISH		DANL F. LEADER	10
JAMES BARRY	20	WM BOYLE, C.P.	
J. PEARSON	10	JOHN WILLIAMS, JR.	
PAUL HORGAN	10	ANTHY WOODLEY	10
ANTHY WOODLEY	10	RICHP ASHE	10
THOS S. GOOD	20	SAML BALDWIN	10
MATT MINHEAR	10	JN. COLTHURST	12
HENRY LINDSEY		RICHP BARTER	
DANL HORGAN		THOMS O'HERLIHY	
RICHD ASHE		M. WILLIAMS	
ROBT McCarthy		CORLISS HAWKES	

"August 18th. Went to Cork and brought home the arms and ammunition, etc., etc., for the second troop and infantry.

"August 25th. Received an express from Nettleville, 9 o'clock a.m., to be forwarded to Capt. Wallis, Millstreet, which was carried by J. Williams and Jno. Williams, jr., and delivered by them at 4 o'clock p.m.

"September 5th. Went out on information with the guard and took ten men in the parish of Donoughmore, charged with the burning of eight houses in that neighbourhood on the night of the 3rd inst., and lodged them in Macroom Bridewell.

"September 8th. Liberated three of the prisoners taken on the 5th inst., not having sufficient information against them. Escorted the seven other prisoners to Cork the same day, and lodged them in the County Gaol.

"September 22nd. The first troop went to parade and elected Samuel Swete, esq., captain of the first troop, Sam! Baldwin 1st lieutenant, and Sergeant Holland, 2nd lieut. The undernamed gentlemen of the first troop joined the 2nd troop-Epinetus Crook Henry Rubie, Wm. Crook, John R. Coppinger, John Gollock, Thos. O'Herlihy, Francis Carey, Nichs. White, Richd. Splaine.

"October 8th. John Leader was balloted for and admitted unanimously.

"October oth. The first troop paraded in Macroom and balloted for a second lieutenant, when Thos. J. Coppinger was unanimously elected and admitted.

Nicholas White left the 1st troop and joined the 2nd troop.

"October 14th. Paraded in the morning, and sent off summons to such of the corps as were about to go on an excursion.

At six o'clock set off with the following detachment, being reinforced in Millstreet by Captain Wallis and 10 of his corps on the representation of a man who promised



We the undersigned members of the Musking: acknowledge to have received from Sugarent reporting ten ty for rounds of Pettet Bull (artridge for which we will be accountable aptain Worren Macroom august 18th/88.3.

REDUCED FACSIMILE OF PAGE OF ORDERLY BOOK COPIED IN PRECEDING PAGE.

to show us a depôt of upwards of three hundred stand of arms of different kinds, near Killorglin, twenty miles north-west of Killarney, in ye county Kerry. Arrived at the spot at daybreak next morning, found the cave, but the arms were removed. Many of those who went returned to Killarney and staid there one night; came home through Glanflesk."

Here follow the names of the gentlemen who went to the county Kerry, and the amount of their "travelling expenses"—

"Captain Swete, Sergeant McCarthy, Corporal Barter, Corporal McCarthy, Henry Lindsay, James Barry, Thomas Good, Cornelius Hawkes, John Williams, Paul Horgan, Mathew Minhear, Walter McCarthy, Richard Ashe, Anthony Woodley, Thomas Radley, Thomas O'Meagher, Michael Williams, Henry Cavendish, John Pearson, Daniel Horgan.

The amount of the hotel bill, etc., at Millstreet was at Killarney ... £3 9 2

Total .. £19 3 7½

The amount of their expenses at Macroom 'the night we returned' is left blank"

"October 22nd. The first troop met on parade this day in consequence of an alarm that spread that the French lauded near Sligo. Richard Splaine left the first and joined the second troop.

"October 24th. Received orders, dated Dublin Castle, 15 Oct., 1803, allowing two guineas per man to the corps for new clothing. Signed, 'E. B. Littlehales.'

"October 26th. The troop paraded and exercised. John Barter and Wm. Grainger admitted. Edwd. Barrett and A. Larimore were balloted for and admitted.

"October 31st. Copy of letter from the B. Major-

'Kinsale, Nov. 1st, 1803.

MY DEAR SIR,—You will be pleased to cause the Muskerry Legion Corps of cavalry and infantry, under your command, to be under arms at 12 of the clock on Saturday next, the 5th inst., for their monthly inspection. Yours &c.,

THOMAS TEMPLE FENTON, B. Major.'

"November 26th, 1803. The Muskerry Legion, cava!ry and infantry, were inspected by B. Major Fenton in Macroom.

Field return made to the Brigade Major-

2 captains
2 lieutenants

2 sergeants

2 lieutenants 32 rank and file 14 absent on leave

It was unanimously resolved and agreed that there should be a fine of $3/9\frac{1}{2}$ on every member that would be absent on Thursdays, which is to be the general parade day in every week,

"November 28th. Lieut. Coppinger, with a sergeant and twelve men of the 1st troop went about two o'clock in the morning and apprehended seven men for house burning and lodged them in the co. Gaol."

Here a correspondence occurs arising out of an order from Capth-Warren, in which he requests Lieutenant Coppinger to escort a deserter of the 16th Regiment from Millstreet to Bandon. That officer refuses because it is not the duty of the cavalry, and the deserter is, in consequence, handed over to four privates of the M. L. Infantry.



"January 14th, 1804. Four o'clock a.m.-Received from one of the 12th Dragoons from Mallow a packet for Admiral Sir R. Calder, Bantry. The same day Matt. Minhear and Richd. Ashe went express with the above packet to Dunmanway and delivered it at seven o'clock to Sergt. Rutledge of the 12th Dragoons.

"January 26th. This day the first troop paraded with new clothing at Carrigadrohid. Captain Warren proposed the following young men to be members of the 1st troop, and was seconded by Lieut. Coppinger: -Thos. Lindsay, John Barrett, jun-, Cornelius Delany, Maurice Lane, John Lane, Edward Grainger. To be called for next

"January 30th. Two of those proposed on the 26th were admitted, viz., Thos. Lindsay and Jno, Barrett, ir.

"February 9th. Henry Cavendish went to Dublin. Woods Johnson in his

"February 16th. Mr. John Leader sent in his letter of resignation. "February 22nd. Robert McCarthy appointed agent of the troop.

"February 24th. Received from a detachment of the Millstreet cavalry two French prisoners to be escorted to Cork, and paid the corporal of the detachment £1 14s. 14d. expenses attending the conveyance of said prisoners from Killarney to Macroom as per route. Thomas S. Maher went express to Captain Swete to inform him of the arrival of the above prisoners, and brought orders to have them sent to-morrow to Magourney barracks, escorted by a corporal and four, namely, Rob. McCarthy, Mattw. Minhear, Richard Ashe, George Thornhill, Jno. Pearson.

" April 24th. Henry Cavendish quitted the 1st troop and joined the infantry.

"July 15th. Robt. McCarthy went express to Cork with a packet from General Floyd for General Sir Eyre Coote. N.B.—This packet was received at five o'clock a.m. from a Millstreet yeoman, and sent off at half-past five a.m.

"July 16th. Paul Horgan went express to Cork at night with a dispatch from General Payne, Limerick, for Captain Butcher, (2) of the Royal Navy. Received dispatch from a Kenmare yeoman at half-past ten and sent it off at eleven.

"August 4th. Richard Radley sent in his resignation and arms, viz., a sword and pistol. N.B.-He took them back again.

"November 21st. Wm. Minhear and John Orpen were balloted for and admitted members of the 1st troop.

"December 20th. Mr. Michl. Rogers was balloted for and admitted a member of the 1st troop of M. L.

" April 13th, 1805. Balloted at the guard-room for the following members, who were unanimously admitted :- Thos. Barter, John Johnson, Ben. Swete.

" April 28th. James Boyle balloted for and admitted a member 1st troop M. L. "May 2nd, 1805. Reed from M. FitzGibbon Mr. Abm. Cross's sword. Nothing

"May 31st. James B. Barry's sword and pistol were sent in by Richd. Radley.

"June 12th. Received from Captain Comt. Warren £101 178, the pay of the first troop for the months ending 24th February and 24th March, 1805.

"June 22nd. Dan Horgan sent in his arms, viz., a carbine, a bayonet, a pistol. No buckt. strap or cartridge box.

"July 14th. John Good, junt, and Henry Cavendish balloted for, and admitted unanimously.

(a) Afterwards Admiral Butcher. I remember, when a very small boy, sitting on his knee at Glenbrook and listening to his stories. His family are still represented in Cork.

"Seplember 22nd. Received from the magazine, Cork: 306 rounds ball cartridge

816 ,, blank ,, 102 flints

"October 20th. Edward Barrett, sen .. balloted for, and unanimously admitted.

"February 24th, 1806. Received from Charles Fort, Kinsale:

380 rounds ball cartridge 146 carbine and pistol flints

"March 24th. Mr. Charles Crofts was balloted for and admitted."

And here follows the last entry in the book:

"The Legion was inspected at Carrigadrohid by Major Fenton, March 24th, 1806, and March 25th, 1806."

When it was disbanded I am unable to say, but Mr. Herbert Webb Gillman, whose home is in Muskerry, and whose ancestor was a member of the 2nd troop of the Muskerry Legion, has kindly promised to supplement this notice of the first troop from family papers and records in his possession.

(To be continued.)

The Rise and Progress in Munster of the Rebellion, 1642.

(FROM A MANUSCRIPT IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.)

EDITED BY HERBERT WEBB GILLMAN, B.L., VICE-PRESIDENT.

(CONTINUED).



OW, the poor townspeople of Moyalloe thought it very feasible for them to keep many of the stone houses, if the enemy should not exceed two to three hundred, by placing three or six musketeers in every of them, and by planking the windows, and making spike-holes for shooting. And with that intention they brought much of their goods, which were bulky, especially corn

in great abundance, into the houses, and sent to the Great Castle their choicest goods, and such as were most portable. But so soon as they saw that the "monstrum(1) horrendum, deforme ingens," was like to fall on them, they quit those houses and went into the Great Castle, leaving

(1) Eneid, bk. iii. verse 658. The desire of the writer of the manuscript to air his knowledge of Latin has been previously noticed. In this case he misquotes Virgil, deforme for informe. His quotation would not scan.

