

**GRANUAILE: A  
QUEEN OF  
THE WEST**

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Granuaile: A Queen of the West by Charles Richard Panter

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**CHARLES RICHARD PANTER**

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# GRANUAILE

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## A Queen of the West

A Poem in Six Cantos

BY  
CHARLES RICHARD PANTER

LL.D.

AUTHOR OF "ORPHEUS AND EURYDICE, AND OTHER POEMS"  
ETC.

LONDON  
JARROLD & SONS  
10 AND 11 WARWICK LANE, E.C.  
1901

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## PREFACE

This Poem was written nearly twenty years ago, and had been intended to follow, in publication, "Orpheus and Eurydice, and Other Poems:" but, in 1882, after a second edition of that work had appeared, I entered the Ministry of the Church, and my doubts as to the compatibility of secular poetry, and sacred functions, restrained me from giving this Poem, sooner, to the public; although the late James Anthony Froude strongly urged me to have it published, remarking:—"It is high time the Historico-Romantic Muse should take the field, and re-assert her sway."

With respect to the compatibility of things sacred and secular, I have changed my mind. A riper judgment forces one to believe that all things good are sacred. It is the use, or teaching, of anything which renders it good or evil.

It was my intention to leave the manuscripts of the ensuing Poem, and other poetical writings, for publication after my death, when the critics might,—if they liked the pastime,—make a target of my tombstone.

The Reader, it is hoped, will find in this Romantic-Epic a true depiction of some of the most courtly, and more of the rough characters of ENGLISH ELIZABETH'S REIGN.

There are a few historic anachronisms in this Poem, for which is claimed the pardon of Clio, and the protection of Poetic License.

C. R. PANTER.

*Wickhampton Rectory, Norfolk.*





THE subject of this Poem, Granuaile, or "Grace of the Heroes," was a daughter of the High Chief of the O'Malley Sept, whose possessions were situated in the West Coast of Ireland. This woman was notable for her powerful frame, her ardent love of rule; and, for success in such naval and military exploits as the piratical and tribal wars in her neighbourhood afforded.

With little consideration for right, she overrode, by strength of character, and force of arms, the claims of every candidate to the chieftainship of the O'Malley Clan. In time she became the undisputed, feared, but nevertheless, trusted, leader of the fortunes of her race; and during her long reign was the terror of those Septs at feud with her own people.

The Poem opens with the celebrated interview between Queen Elizabeth and Granuaile, who, at the former's invitation, had crossed from Ireland to visit the English Court. And it continues, and finishes, with the romantic adventures met by that Chieftainess on her return to Ireland.



# GRANUAILE :

## A QUEEN OF THE WEST.

### CANTO FIRST.

#### THE COURT.

'Twas afternoon,—a brilliant Lammas day,  
Well matched in brilliance by the proud array  
Of England's noblest born, in birth and brain,  
Who graced the lawn of Hampton Court domain.  
The Lammas sun's uninterrupted gaze  
Of glowing light, the wide champaign surveys :  
So searchingly were showered his floods of light  
The shadows fainted, and the shades grew bright.  
The outlands seemed as golden tents were piled,  
Where stood in stooks the sickled harvest filed,  
And meadowed cattle, burdened by the sun,  
Its fiercer heat, in wooded shelters, shun.  
The pleasance-ward, the Palace portals faced,  
Was canopied by trees, whose interlaced  
And linking arms hung draped in foliage flush  
Athwart its floor of mossy emerald plush.  
From flooding light, so latticed off by leaves,  
Few filtered rays the shade beneath receives ;  
Save shimmering, here and there, along the green  
Some percolated specks of light were seen ;