

(O) **Biggane, Biggins** *Ó Beagáin* and *Ó Bigín*. This has been largely superseded in Munster by the English names Little and Littleton (*beag*, little). Beggan(e) is the Ulster spelling, mainly Co. Monaghan. Biggins is used in Co. Mayo.

**Biggar** This is normally of Lowland Scottish toponymic origin; but some Biggars and even Bickerstaffs of Co. Down are actually of the sept MacGivern. MIF

(O) **Biggy** *Ó Bigigh*. Presumably derived from *beag* (small). It is mainly a Co. Mayo name.

**Bigley** A variant of Begley.

**Binane** See Bunyan.

**Binchy** This family came from England in mid-seventeenth century and has since been closely associated with Charleville and adjacent areas of north Cork.

**Bindon** Though the Bindons first settled in Co. Tipperary in 1580 the family has since the following century been prominently associated with Co. Clare. MIF

**Bingham** An English toponymic now numerous in Ulster but formerly associated with Co. Mayo, where Binghamstown locates them. Bibl.

(Mac) **Biracrea** See Barragry.

**Birch** A locative name of mid-seventeenth century introduction. Families of the name settled in Offaly and adjoining areas. Bibl.

**Bird** This well-known name is used in Ireland as a synonym (by pseudo-translation) of Heany, Hegney, Henaghan and MacEneany. MIF

(Mac) **Birney** See Burney.

(O) **Birrane** *Ó Bioráin*. As modernized forms of this Byrne, Byron and even Burns have been recorded in various parts of Connacht and Munster. Woulfe suggests *bear*, a spear, as the derivation of this and the cognate Berrane.

**Birrell** See Berrill.

**Birt, Burt, Byrth** In Munster these are occasional synonyms of Brett. A family of English origin, using the variants Burt, Birt, Bert and Byrth has been established in Co. Derry since early eighteenth century. The name Birt occurs in the Pale in the mediaeval period as a variant of Britt.

**Bishop** This well-known English name is used in Ireland as a synonym of MacAnespie and Gillespie by translation.

**Bissett** A Scottish family in the Glens of Antrim, who adopted the Irish patronymic of *Mac Eoin*, Mac Keown. Bibl.

**Blacagh** A synonym of Blake found in bi-lingual areas of Connacht.

**Black** A Scottish name (connected with three clans—Lamont, MacGregor and MacLean of Duart) very numerous in Ulster. It is also used as a translation or synonym of Duff and Kilduff. Black again is a common English name. Bibl; App.