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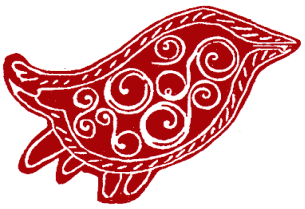

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Irish Historical Studies. Vol. IX. No. 36. September 1955.

The opening article is by David Large, M.A., B.Litt., and deals with the outlook of the House of Lords on legislation affecting Ireland from 1832 to 1850. The 'Irish' interest as represented in that body was ultra-Tory and the Duke of Wellington had a great deal to do to keep its extreme elements in check. Strange to relate, an O'Brien, earl of Thomond, and a Butler of Tipperary, as earl of Glengall and baron of Cahir, were two leaders of what we would to day stigmatise as anti-Irish activities. They had an intense dislike of O'Connell and all he stood for. They were delighted at his conviction after the Clontarf fiasco and when the Whig law lords reversed the judgment they thought the House of Peers as a whole should have been given the opportunity of voting on it. In 1847 they opposed the Poor Relief Bill for Ireland, though English public opinion, led by the *Times* newspaper, declared against them. In 1848 their spokesman, Earl Fitzwilliam, stated that, staggering under the weight of the new poor rates the Irish landowners were in danger of destruction. If the aristocracy disappeared, who then would stand between the English government and the Irish mob ? The Incumbered Estates Act, passed next year, foreshadowed the end.

The Irish Wine Trade, 1614–15, is pieced together from unpublished contemporary documents by H. F. Kearney, M.A. The imports of wine were mainly from St Maloes, Bordeaux, Calais and the Canaries. In the south Youghal, Cork, Kinsale, Rosscarbery, Castlehaven, Baltimore, Leamcon, Crookhaven, Bantry, Berehaven, Dingle and Tralee figure in the ports mentioned. The names of Cullen, Meaghe, Goold, Carter, Richardson, Punch, Meskell, Verdon, Roche, Terry, Murrough, Martell, Hunt, Galwey, Skiddy, are included in the list of merchants who imported wine. The collector of imposts for the western part of county Cork lived in Rosscarbery and had jurisdiction over all creeks as far as Bantry.

There are many pages of excellent reviews in this journal. J.T.C.

Irish Historical Studies. Vol. X. No. 37. March 1956.

The first article by I. A. Watt, B.A., Ph.D., concerns negotiations between Edward II of England in his capacity as Lord of Ireland and Pope John XXII. The king desired clerical support against the Bruces and this meant the appointment of politically reliable bishops. Dublin and Cashel were vacant archbishoprics and Edward had candidates whom he deemed suitable. He condemned the treasonable activity of some Irish bishops who, he asserted, were trying to destroy the royal power in Ireland by promoting the Scottish invasion and stirring up the people by public sermons to rebellion. He asked specially that no native Irishman should be promoted archbishop, or bishop, during those troubles except by royal assent previously obtained.

As a result of representation thus made, William FitzJohn, bishop of Ossory and chancellor of Ireland, was appointed to Cashel and Alexander Bicknor, another royal official, was in due course elevated to Dublin. That Edward gained his object was clear for the first duty enjoined on those new archbishops was to restrain the clergy, regular and secular, from preaching rebellion. The supporters of Robert and Edward Bruce were singled out for excommunication and those of the Mendicant Orders who were publicly preaching in their favour were condemned. Those proceedings gave rise to the famous Remonstrance of the Irish princes, led by O'Neill. Though the Pope did not actively espouse their case, he addressed himself to Edward in strong terms on the necessity of granting justice to the Irish and to refrain from all causes which may provoke the wrath of God against him. All this refers to the year 1316–1318 A.D.

A second negotiation is referred to as having taken place in 1325. The two archbishops mentioned with Philip of Slane, O.P., bishop of Cork, had held discussions with magnates and royal officials for the reformation of the Irish church. It was agreed that all the clergy were to preach loyalty, that the diocesan structure was to be remodelled and the national exclusiveness of religious houses was to be broken. The report on the presentation of those articles to the Pope and the replies thereto are given in the addendum to this study. They are taken from the Barberini MSS of the Vatican Library now in microfilm in the National Library through the initiative of Rev. Cathaldus Giblin, O.F.M.

'The Irish Adventurers and the English Civil War' is the title of an article by J. R. MacCormack, M.A., Ph.D. It is related that the insurrection which broke out in Ulster in October 1641 was viewed with equanimity by many members of the English

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parliament who had landed interests in Ireland and who expected further additions when the country would be reconquered. To this end they adventured their money to finance an army for the conquest. Amongst the members mentioned is William Jephson, M.P. for Stockbridge. His father had gone to Ireland with Essex and married the heiress of Sir Thomas Norris, lord president of Munster, who, in the course of a long career which was ended by an Irish pike, had acquired broad acres along the Blackwater in Co. Cork. His relatives in the House of Commons included John Pym, Richard Whitehead and Sir John Evelyn.

A group of London merchants approached the House of Commons in February 1642 with a plan to suppress the Irish rebellion by raising a military force, and one of the conditions was that they were to have satisfaction out of the rebels' lands. The scheme in its final form, as sanctioned, provided that an 'adventure' of £600 would bring the investor 1,000 acres in Leinster, £450 the same extent in Munster and £300 and £200 being required in Connacht or Ulster. And so the Cromwellian land settlement was foreshadowed and, according to the Declaration of both Houses, the country will be replanted with many noble families of this nation and of the Protestant religion. The names of the adventurers who were members of the House of Commons, the amounts subscribed and the acreage assigned are given in an appendix.

It is difficult to establish a reason why the third article should be included in Irish Historical Studies for Ireland is not mentioned in it from beginning to end. It deals with the negotiations leading to the Anglo-Polish Agreement of 31 March 1939 by Professor T. Desmond Williams. It is a well-reasoned article, but its place is in the story of British diplomacy of Polish-German relations and the tragic outcome.

The siege of Carrickfergus Castle 1315–16 is presented by Professor G. O. Sayles. It was besieged by Edward Bruce who had landed near Larne in May 1315. In September he held north-east Ulster with the exception of this castle. In September 1316 the garrison surrendered on honourable conditions and became the base for Bruce's later operations in Ireland. In July 1317 one Henry of Thrapston stood his trial at Drogheda for having admitted Thomas Dunn, a Scot and an enemy, into the castle and for having sold foodstuffs out of it after Bruce's landing, so that the castle was denuded of supplies. Thrapston was acquitted and this document, edited by Professor Sayles gives the account of his trial.

Researches into Irish History show that in January 1956 a number of theses were in progress. They included—Belfast, Queen's University: 'The Repeal Movement in Ulster in the first half of the nineteenth century,' by H. A. Boyd; Cork University College: 'Edmund Burke and religious toleration, with special reference to Ireland, by John J. McCarthy'; Dublin, Trinity College: 'The Old English in Ireland, 1625–42 by Aidan Clarke, and another which should have a special interest for Cork people, viz:—'William O'Brien and the All-for-Ireland League,' by F. K. Schilling.

In University College, Dublin, Seán Mac Airt, who made such a masterpiece in his edition of the 'Annals of Innisfallen,' was at work on an edition of the 'Annals of Ulster,' and in University College, Galway, the Rev. Frederick M. Jones had in preparation a thesis on 'Pope Clement VIII and the Counter-Reformation in Ireland 1592–1605.'

J T C

The Butlers of County Clare. By Sir Henry William Butler Blackall, Q.C. Reprinted from *North Munster Antiquarian Journal*, 1953–55.

In this genealogical survey the many Butler families in Clare and Galway are traced to their origins in Tipperary and so to the great house of Ormonde. Thus the ancestor of the Butlers of Cregg is shown to have been a younger son of the second earl of Ormonde. While the families of Doon, Bunnahow, Walterstown and Ballyline descend from the Butlers of Grallagh and Boytonrath in the barony of Middlethird in Tipperary.

The keep of Grallagh Castle still stands in the parish of Graystown. A lady nurtured therein became the chatelaine of Blarney Castle. She was Joan, daughter of Pierce Butler and became the wife of Sir Cormac MacTeige McCarthy. When he died in 1583 she succeeded in retaining Carrigadrohid Castle as a dower-house. She resided there for at least twenty years and it is likely her place of interment is with her husband in Kilcrea friary.

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