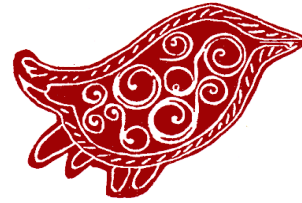


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with the Entrance Fee, has long since been swept away; but despite the present-day facilities and the vast increase in the number of books in the Library, which cannot number now less than 15,000, it is to be regretted that the Members have not increased in like proportion.

This time-honoured Cork institution has recently (1905) passed through a very perilous crisis owing to its having become necessary, at heavy expense, to renew the roof and outer walls of the building. But thanks to the zeal, liberality, and goodwill of the Members, especially in adopting the scheme devised for its preservation by Mr. Guest Lane, the Library has happily tided over this serious difficulty; and now bids fair to prolong its honorable and meritorious career into the far future, for the use, pleasure, and advantage of countless Cork citizens of literary, studious, or book-loving tastes.

This year, too, its premises have very appropriately become the meeting-place of the Cork Field Club, the Cork Scientific Association, and also of our own Society, the Cork Historical and Archæological Society.

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## Dr. Caulfield's Antiquarian and Historical Notes.

### NEWSPAPER LITERATURE OF CORK, AND THE MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF ITS INHABITANTS IN 1738.

ATTIRED in the wig, powdered hair, three-cocked hat, huge waistcoat with lappets and frills, long stockings, with silver or jewelled knee and shoe buckles of the period, we may contemplate the respectable citizen of Corke sitting down to read the "editorial" in the "Medley," at home or in the coffee house in Castle Street, at the sign of the "Grand Turk," about the year 1738.

The earliest Cork newspaper of which we have any satisfactory confirmation was called "The Freeholder," a single quarto sheet, which circulated here in 1716; while about the same time was another in small folio named the "Cork Newsletter." The "Medley" appeared in 1738: "Corke, printed by George Harrison at the corner of Meeting-house Lane, where Advertisements are taken in for this paper, and all manner of printing work is carefully done. 1738." It consisted of two sheets small folio; and was published about every eight days.

On Friday, April 28th, 1738, was given the London news of the 18th of that month. At this time the citizens were kept in a constant state of alarm from press gangs going about and seizing people indiscriminately; but we are here assured that there will be no further occasion for press warrants; "for the English sailors are so full of spirit and so eager to revenge the wrongs done their countrymen that such numbers will enter voluntarily as will be sufficient to man a fleet to chastise the haughty Spaniard for the utmost depredations on our merchants." Each number of the "Medley" contained a leading article written in rather a satirical strain, yet conceived in a philosophic spirit. These articles appear to be directed at some shortcomings of the citizens—the exact import of which it is now difficult to arrive at.

At this time Cork was only beginning to recover after the shock of the siege and the consequent domestic troubles; many of the old inhabitants had died and others never returned. Matters, however, were settling down. Dr. Robert Clayton was then Protestant Bishop and Dr. Timothy MacCarthy

(Rabach) Roman Catholic Bishop of Cork ; both remarkable for Christian toleration. Everything seemed to promise a long reign of peace and prosperity.

The advertisements for the sale of lands seem to be so frequently inserted that we may conjecture there was little demand at that time for property investments.

We have four or five hundred acres of land in the Little Island to be let on an encouraging lease by Courthorpe Clayton, Esq., or Mrs. Penelope Purdon, also a boat of 20 tons called the "Henry," and some cows ; but there was no offer.

The editor was determined to keep the citizens in good humour to make amends probably for his editorial castigations ; as in the number for April 24, 1738, appear the following advertisement : "Whereas, last Wednesday night a square piece of paper filled with black specks was at an unlawful time for reading cryed through this city, by certain unknown persons, who vehemently bawled out, 'Arrah, who will buy, who will buy my serio-jocular Medley ho?' Now this is to give notice to the Publick, that whoever will discover and bring the Author, Inventor, Engineer, Forger, etc., of the above said mottled thing to the undertakers of Harrison's 'Medley,' shall be rewarded with this 'Medley' once a week for seven years. In my next will be certainly published the Essay on Kissing by Sally Sweetlips."

This latter was duly fulfilled on April 28th. The Cork news of this date is as follows :—Yesterday the Freemasons belonging to the Grand Lodge of this city went in solemn manner from Mr. Keeley's house to the Theatre, where was acted, by desire of that Right Worshipful Society, Harry the 8th." "Last week Captain Mercer seized a ship near Kinsale for carrying prohibited goods to France."

On May 6th we have an editorial on "Happiness, addressed to the Good People of the City and Liberties of Corke." The Cork news items were : "On Thursday last was se'nnight, a fire broke out in the night at Garryhadin, near Blarney, which was occasioned by some Piggs rustling some firrs into the embers, which set the thatch on fire ; three young women consumed." "Last Wednesday and Thursday was fought the farmers' stag match between the county and city gentlemen ; the latter lost ten battles out of twelve."

On May 13th, we have an excellent article on Education. The writer of this able and instructive article signed himself "Philanthropus." Cork had reason to be proud of so able a public instructor at so critical a time. May 19th. A Mrs. May Drummond, of the Society of Friends, was at this time preaching a series of sermons in their meeting-house at Cork. These discourses seem to have excited the indignation of the writers of the "Medley" ; and a number of articles appeared in it having a true theological ring. Whoever was the writer, he must have been a man of uncommon genius. These sermons were reviewed until June 10th. In the number for June 17th, appeared an apology, of which the following is an extract : "In common justice to Mrs. May Drummond, I think myself obliged to let the public know that the two last discourses published in this paper, and called that lady's sermons, were taken by a soldier, who for want of sufficient skill in shorthand, has by a multitude of omissions, etc., splintered her sermon into a huddle of such incoherent shreds, that it is transformed into a thing no more like her genuine discourse than 'tis like a love-letter. Note.— They were inserted at the instance of a rich, weak, wellmeaning old man." Under the same date, May 19th, we find : "Archdeacon Russell offers a reward of £5 for the conviction of the thief who, while some stone-cutters were engraving an inscription on a tomb in St. Peter's Church, 12th inst., concealed themselves, and stripped the gold lace from the velvet Communion cloth belong-

ing to St. Peter's Church in Cork, and tore the gold tassels from the Common Prayer Books, and feloniously carried them away." "Yesterday was se'nnight, the postillion belonging to the Bishop of Corke was thrown off his horse as he was hunting, and the horse kicked his brains out."

"Died yesterday Mr. Richard Pike, senior, in the 78th year of his age."

"To be let the well accustomed inn called the Bleu (sic) Bell, in Cove Lane, near South Gate."

Bandon. "Mr. Timothy McCartie has removed from the Rose and Crown to the King's Head, near Saturday's Market House, where he will supply his customers with entertainment for man and horse as usual."

June 3rd. "Sunday last, was drowned near the Red House (now the Dyke House), a young man who went to wash himself."

June 16th. "We hear that a clergyman of this diocese, coming to attend the visitation, was robbed on the highway of about fifty pounds by robbers, who had more regard for his purse than reverence for his divinity."

Kinsale, June 4th. "Some time ago Captain John Maddox, commander of the 'Charming Sally,' of Bristol, on his passage home from Guinea and Jamaica, about 300 leagues westward of Ireland, unfortunately struck against a grampus of a prodejuous (sic) size, which was, as supposed, sleeping. The ship gave a terrible bounce, surprised all hands, and overset chests, etc., in the cabin and between decks. As it was by day, they plainly saw the fish, and believe the ship's keel, when she run over it, cut it in a very terrible manner—the sea being all stained with his blood. The ship immediately complained; and upon finding her to make water, to prevent her foundering, they stuffed in pieces of beef and pork between the planks, and so by continual pumping kept her above water for five days, when they happily espy'd a sail. The captain had just time to bring off his gold and gold dust, and some provisions, till their arrival to Cork." June 17th, we have a dissertation on poetry by Philomusus. June 11th, we have "A Receipt to Compose Friendship"; and on July 8th a poem of 168 lines on "Sham Religion, or Vice in Disguise." The entire poem is anything but complimentary to the devotional feelings of the citizens. Some ladies are mentioned under the pseudonyms of Mrs. Ruby, Miss Hemp, Miss Shrimp, and Miss Flaunt. The St. Peter's Church, the pavement of which these fair ladies once trod, has long ceased to exist. On July 15th is an article on "The Modern Transgressions of the Commandments," from which we learn that the use of strong drink was anything but an uncommon failing in Cork at that time. In a communication of this date, Lyddy Ficklethought gives us the following description of a young Cork gentleman of that period: "In the morning he lays out a thousand schemes for the division of the day, which he a thousand times varies, and at last pursues none. To dress is the business, and the only business, of the morning. He puts on black stockings, looks at his legs, damns his footman, and calls for white. The white are changed again for black. His clothes—that's another difficult article—first, a frock; then a coat will suit; then his velvet; and at last determines on his Newmarket coat and oaken stick. His servants are always new; his friends new; his taverns new. His mind is perpetually changing. He resolves, alters, affirms, denies, consents, dissents, loves, hates, is good-humoured, ill-humoured, gay, melancholy, everything and nothing, all in ten minutes."

In these extracts we have a fair picture of the moral, religious, social, and domestic habits of the citizens of Cork about the middle of the eighteenth century. If their shortcomings were many and grievous, they certainly had an able and faithful guide, philosopher and friend in the editor of "The Medley."

DESCRIPTION OF THE LIBRARY OF ST. FIN BARRE'S CATHEDRAL,  
CORK.

[The present sketch, in which all Dr. Caulfield's erudite references to libraries in general are omitted, may perhaps be considered a fitting sequel to his papers on Early Cork Literature, which have previously appeared in this "Journal."]

A stranger after visiting the Cathedral, and had satisfied his taste and curiosity with an artistic inspection of that magnificent edifice, internally and externally, would scarcely think the dingy building of red sandstone which occupies the south-east corner of the old cathedral precincts worth his notice, should his eye by chance alight on it. Yet there is more in this antiquated oblong-looking structure than its external appearance would lead one to suppose.

On entering the building you ascend a commodious old-fashioned staircase—pass through a door on your right-hand side; and you are immediately in a corridor, off which are three studies, whose woodwork somewhat resembles that of the late cathedral. On both sides of these studies are carefully arranged, according to a catalogue, as fine a collection of biblical, patristic, classical, historical, philological, and theological books, as could be found in any other cathedral library of the same dimensions. The editions are all the most costly and best, whether we seek those of the ancient philosophers and poets, or those which treat of the history of the early ages of the Christian Church. Here we meet with the very best company that the world ever saw, men whose names kings and emperors held in reverence, such as St. Cyprian, St. Chrysostom, Eusebius, St. Augustine, St. Jerome, and a host of like worthies who are represented here by magnificent editions of their works—the pride of Christendom, and the glory of London, Paris, Oxford, Eton, Amsterdam, Geneva, Leyden, Lyons, Basle, and other capital cities where they were printed.

In many parts of Ireland schools, or, as they were called by the annalists, universities, were established at a very early period. In our own county we had eminent establishments of this nature at Ross, Inniscarra, and Cork. At Ross a famous school flourished in the sixth century, where, the "Annals" tell us, "A city grew up in which there always continued a great school for scholars called Rossailithry" (the present Rosscarbery). St. Senan flourished at Inniscarra about the year 532, where he erected a church; and we read of a company of religious persons who arrived in Cork harbour from the Continent on their way to this place to study the Scriptures under St. Senan. But the school at Cork was pre-eminently distinguished both for the fame of its teachers and the number of its disciples.

Making every allowance for the early chroniclers' exaggerations and the errors likely to occur in documents of such high antiquity, it must be admitted that a great school once flourished on the ground now occupied by the Cathedral of St. Fin Barre and its immediate vicinity. Modern investigators have brought to light many of the manuscripts executed by the transcribers in these Irish schools for the use of their pupils; they are generally portions of the Gospels, and in their execution display all that peculiarity of design, both in writing and ornamentation, peculiar to the Celtic race. Such works must have been produced with an almost incredible amount of patience, considering the great difficulties under which the transcribers laboured, the preparation of the raw material into parchment, and all the necessary appliances, so that the bulk of their labour seems almost miraculous.

Of such was the first Cathedral Library at Cork; nor is there any great reason to doubt that the collection of books, greater or less, ever failed in the "Scriptorium" of this ancient seat of learning from the earliest times down to the present day. The nature of the books in mediæval times in the library of this Cathedral may be inferred from the usual character of those in similar institutions elsewhere. There is no catalogue preserved of the early books or manuscripts at Cork, as far as we are aware; but there is one of the early books in the Cathedral Church of St. Mary, Limerick, taken in 1624, now in the Bodleian Library, Oxford (Rawlinson, 486), the books or papers indicated in which were very few, the major part probably manuscripts on vellum.

The earliest recorded notice we have of a Library at St. Fin Barre's occurs in the Chapter Book under Nov. 4, 1627, when Richard Owen, Prebendary of Kilnaglory, "Presented towards the erection of a Library in the Cathedral Church £20, said Richard to have the use of the Library during his life, and at his death to remain for the use of the Prebendaries." It is impossible now to ascertain if any of the books of this donation still remain. There are a few old books scattered through the present library printed about 1500 or a little before that, which seem to belong to an old collection from their nature, the broken covers of oak, and the fragments of old rubricated manuscripts used for straps in the binding, still hanging to them.

The next benefactor was Archdeacon Pomeroy, who in 1725 left £60 worth of his own books to found a parish library. This bequest is recorded in a very neat white marble tablet, bearing a Latin inscription to that effect, which is fixed in the wall of one of the studies. The books appear to have been transferred at this time from the ancient cathedral to their present locality.

But the principal addition to the Library was the fine collection of Bishop Crow, of Cloyne, which was purchased from his widow for the small sum of £115 by the Dean and Chapter in 1727. Bishop Crow was one of the ablest scholars of his day; and a great benefactor to his See. He was born in the Isle of Man, educated at St. Bees' School, and at Queen's College, Oxford, and came to Ireland as amanuensis to Dr. Andrew Sall, a Jesuit, who embraced the Reformed religion. Dr. Sall was one of the distinguished theologians of the seventeenth century; and a close examination of Bishop Crow's library has led to the conclusion that many of the books, as well as from their controversial nature as from the towns in which they were printed, had once been in Sall's possession. From Chaplain to the Lord Lieutenant Bishop Crow was raised to the See of Cloyne in 1702. He founded a grammar school at Cloyne, recovered £8,000 to the See, left bequests to the widows and orphans of the Cloyne clergy, and presented the cathedral with some massive silver plate. Bishop Crow died June 26, 1726, and was buried in Cloyne Cathedral.

The last bequest to the Library was from Bishop Stopford, who by will left it all his books, with orders that his manuscript sermons should be burnt.

Amongst the literary curiosities preserved in the Library we may mention a vulgate edition of the Bible in six folio volumes, in black letter type: Basle, 1498—a very fine specimen of early typography. Another notable work is a copy in Latin of the Epistles of St. Jerome, Rotterdam, MDXXVI., edited by Erasmus. This book formerly belonged to the Franciscan Library at Valladolid, in Spain, and seems very likely to have been one of Dr. Sall's books, as it was subsequently in Bishop Crow's possession. Occupying a quiet niche not far from it is the "Index Librarum Prohibitorum et Expurgandorum," a large folio

printed at Madrid in 1657. To attempt even an enumeration of the leading works in this grand collection would far exceed due bounds.

Bishops Crow and Stopford's libraries contain a rich and extensive collection of bound pamphlets, embracing a wide range of literature. Those of the former relate chiefly to the seventeenth century, and abound in all kinds of subjects, from speeches cried about the streets to essays on Arabic manuscripts; those of the latter (the Stopford collection) are mostly confined to Irish political and domestic affairs of the eighteenth century, with numerous others on a variety of literary subjects, some printed at Cork.

J. C.

## Notes and Queries.

**Fermoy Printers.**—Sleughleigh.—Freke Pedigree.—The O'Flynn's of Ardagh.—Belzoni the Egyptian Explorer in Cork.—A Curious Incident in the Tithe War.

**Fermoy Printers.**—Can any of your readers say when the "Lindsey" family began printing in Fermoy? I have two undated pamphlets with "J. Lindsey and Brothers" as the printers. One is a Grammar, the other a report of a "1798" Trial. Judging from paper, type, etc., I would date them in the first decade of last century, but provincial printing of like appearance may be found of a later as well as earlier period than that decade.

17 Kildare Street, Dublin.

E. R. McC. Dix.

**Sleughleigh.**—In Mr. J. M. Burke's interesting paper on Castlehaven in the last number of the *Journal* he mentions the name Sleughleigh as given by Smith. This name should, I believe, be Sleugh or Slught Teige, the family or kindred of Teige O'Mahony, of Rosbrin, feudal Lord of West Carbery. See *Cork. Hist. and Arch. Journal*, 1897, p. 306. The Great Earl of Cork had a good many lawsuits with the Slught Teige, as they refused to surrender the lands forfeited by the head of the family for his part in Desmond's rebellion. He, however, bought out their rights in three ploughlands—Dromreagh, Dromalour, and Ardogenan, and settled the lands, in February, 1626, on his nephew, Edward Boyle, on his marriage with Mary, daughter of Sir William Hall. See *Lismore Papers*.

[The castle of Rosbrin, it is to be regretted, fell down during the great gale in the spring of this year, 1905.]

**Freke Pedigree.**—When editing the *Council Book of Clonakilty* for this *Journal* in 1895, I was unable to identify Brigadier-General George Freke, M.P. for Clonakilty and Bandon. Complete pedigrees of the Freke family have lately appeared in *The Ancestor*, vols. x., xi. from which I extract the following, adding one or two notes from the Great Earl of Cork's papers:

Robert Freke, of Shroton and Upway, had a son, Sir Thomas, of Shroton, whose grandson was George Freke, of Upway. The family fortunes seem to have decayed in his day, as he is said to have "restored ye antient mortgaged estate and grandly assisted to ye support of all his brothers and sisters" with the wealth that he acquired during his long military career. He appears to have left no sons by either of his wives.

Robert Freke, of Shroton, had many children, his eighth son, William,