

## All Ireland Review

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Gaelic and the Hierarchy

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fast. Carew went to Cork and made leisurely preparations, hoping every morning to hear that the Northerns had got too well into the heart of the Province to be attacked by him. For the service he had his own army, the army of Munster, between two and three thousand, and the rising out of East Cork under the Lord Barry, about fifteen hundred, and the Northern lords combined could not muster more. He marched slowly northwards with anything but fierce purposes and headlong valour. A correspondence now of a decidedly amusing, even dramatic character commenced between Carew, as he marched, or beat time upon the march, and the Lord Deputy in the camp at Kinsale. "The Northern host, as I learn by sure intelligence, is exceeding strong," wrote Carew. "Well," replied Mountjoy, "you can have the regiment commanded by Lord Howth's brother, coming to me out of Leinster, that will make you a thousand stronger." "It is not enough," replied Carew; "the Northerns are in very great force." "That is impossible," wrote the Lord Deputy; "I know what they can bring with them almost to a man. You outnumber them combined; attack them. I am sending you more troops out of the camp." "I am too weak," answered Carew; "I distrust the Lord Barry. Who is to defend West Munster if these Northerns slip past me?" Carew's pretended suspicions about the Lord Barry were vile. Alone, of the Irish lords of Munster, he had stood out against Tyrone when the Province was in Tyrone's hands, and the Queen's captains dared not show a nose outside of the walled towns. "Don't believe what others tell you," answered Mountjoy. "Believe what I tell you; you have to deal, I find, with O'Donnell only, without Tyrone, and O'Donnell is only 1,300 strong, don't believe his army is bigger even if you see it. He will dress up horse-boys, churls, and women, to look like soldiers and try to deceive you. If your eyes tell you he is more than 1,300 strong don't believe them. Now is your opportunity; beat them in detail, first O'Donnell, and then Tyrone. I send you the Earl of Thomond, with his horse, late landed from England; I send you the Earl of Clanricarde with the army of Connaught; I send more troops from the camp at my own great peril. Destroy O'Donnell."

On the outside of this letter Mountjoy wrote in large characters, "Haste, Haste, Post Haste," as, indeed, he did also upon several of these letters. What a picture these words call up—of swift horsemen galloping through sun, and shower, and dark, hallooing at the closed gates of cities; of horses blown and steaming, surrounded by link-bearing stable-boys, and of fresh horsemen and horses clattering forward, "Haste! Haste! Post Haste!" These letters are still shown in the Record Office, and are a curious relic of that eventful time. They bear written indications of speed. "Received in Cork at — of the clock;" "received in Mallow at —." We imagine posts galloping one way meeting posts galloping another, with rapid exclamations or a hurried give-and-take of tidings, and then in a few minutes miles asunder. "Haste! Haste! Post Haste!"

So Sir George Carew went to fight Red Hugh complaining of want of troops, though he had nearly three times as many as his antagonist. He had, in fact, no intention of fighting. Mountjoy was right. Tyrone had not arrived. When Carew reached the borders of the Province, he found there Hugh Roe only; Hugh Roe encamped, strategically, upon a rising ground covered with willow trees. Carew,

outnumbering him by three to one, sat down before Hugh Roe, and day after day, and for many days proceeded to watch him through his "prospective." Every post was a fresh spur from Mountjoy urging him forward to the attack, but these incitements were quite lost on the phlegmatic and prudent President. I say he had determined not to fight him. He was as unwilling on his side to fight the young barbarian as Mountjoy was to breach and storm Kinsale, and come to blows with the Spanish veteran.

(To be Continued).

#### Gaelic and the Hierarchy.

"If the Hierarchy and Priesthood are against us, as alleged, in this language movement how can we succeed?"—"A. I. R." September 22nd.

No one, of course, would be entitled to speak either for the Catholic Bishops or the Catholic clergy of Ireland, but fortunately the Bishops have themselves already spoken leaving no doubt as to their friendly attitude towards the movement. The following resolutions were passed by the Bishops at a meeting held at Maynooth on the 20th June last:—

1. "We strongly recommend that in the Primary Schools in all Irish-speaking districts the instruction should be bi-lingual, English being taught through the medium of Irish."

2. "We also regard it as most desirable that in the Primary Schools in other districts the Irish language should be taught to children of the third and higher classes, wherever the Manager of the school deems it advisable and the parents make no objection."

The Cardinal Archbishop, the Archbishop of Dublin, and the Archbishop of Tuam have taken an active part in promoting the use of the Irish language. All three understand the language, and two at least of them can speak it. I might cite other members of the Hierarchy, but enough has been said to show that they take an active part in the revival of the language.

Though the clergy as a body have not yet spoken the attitude of most of them towards the Irish language is friendly. A memorial signed by 157 of them as Managers of N. Schools in the Irish-speaking districts, was a few months ago laid before the Commissioners of National Education. They represented 1,007 schools. The memorial concludes in these words:—"We, therefore, pray that such provision be made at the earliest possible moment as will enable the system of bi-lingual instruction to be introduced without delay into our schools, and we ask this in the best and highest interests, both moral and material, of the population of our districts."—(See "An Claidheamh Soluis" March 10).

In Maynooth College, the great ecclesiastical College of this country, where Irish in the last generation received as little attention as it did in Trinity College, every student now is required to study Irish. Among our distinguished Irish scholars the priests still hold the foremost place. I will only mention the late Rev. Denis Murphy, Father Hogan, Father O'Leary, and Father O'Growney.

J. DOWLING.

Add Father Peter O'Leary, whose excellent little books I have been reading of late with much pleasure and profit.—Ed.

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

All communications, literary or otherwise, will in future be addressed to me to Archersfield, Kilkenny.