

THE
LIFE AND SPEECHES

DANIEL O'CONNELL, M.P.

EDITED BY HIS SON,

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"Hereditary bondsmen, know ye not,
Who would be free, themselves must strike the blow!"
BYRON.

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PREFACE.

THE ten years which are embraced in the present volume of this "Sketch of the Life and Collection of the Speeches of Daniel O'Connell" (to give the work its proper, though very awkward title) were among the most important of his entire career, in point of permanent usefulness to Ireland.

This assertion may appear at first sight strange; considering that the period in question included so small a portion of the workings of that great engine which he devised and put together, and by which he accomplished the great victory of Catholic Emancipation.

And in all probability the reasons advanced in support of the assertion may not seem as convincing, nor by any means as palatable, to some of those who shall chance to read this imperfect record of Mr. O'Connell's career, as I have little doubt they will be found when submitted to the majority of Catholic Ireland.

During the ten years, then, which occupy this volume, the struggle between the enemies and the defenders of the independence of the Catholic Church in Ireland was most severely carried on; and in effect decided for that, and

until the present, very perilous season. Mr. O'Connell, it will be seen, was the main agent in this, as in other manifestations of the right-mindedness and high-mindedness of the Irish Catholic people.

Ireland's hope is her Catholicity ! Pure she has preserved it for fourteen hundred years ; and pure she must preserve it, so long as she claims to rank among the nations. But all history and all experience tell us, that state contact never can operate otherwise than to contaminate and destroy the purity of religion, and wean from it the reverence and attachment of the people.

That there was a time when state alliance was of benefit, may be readily conceded, without in any degree weakening the argument. That time was in the infancy of civilization, when men had to obtain their lights and a knowledge of the first and leading principles of rational liberty from the teachings of the Church, and when, pending that instruction, it was well that the only institution which the rude license and ignorant passions of the barons at all respected, should have the countenance and support of the secular authority.

Yet even then, even under the peculiar circumstances of those times of violence, evil still resulted from the Church and state connexion—a fearful evil in the number of ecclesiastics who were found ready to support the brutal license and tyrannous rapacity of a William and a Henry, whenever they came in contact with the privileges and rights

which the Church held in guardianship for the humble and the lowly.

Ireland would, indeed, have profited little of the teachings of all history—of those of her own sad history in particular—were she ever to give her consent to the chaining of the ministers of her holy religion to the chariot-wheels of the state. Where would have been her consolations in the afflictions through which she has passed?—where the pure, bright Christian hope which is beaming upon her for the future, if those who administered the consolations, and who encourage that hope, were the *salariéd* or *selected* servants of a reckless and unscrupulous, or *of any*, temporal government?

If the attempted invasions of the independence of the Catholic Church in Ireland by the British government, in the period 1814–1824, were dangerous, from their boldness, and the perseverance with which, for at least a considerable portion of that period, they were urged on, their attempts at the present time are far more dangerous, from the insinuating and deceptive forms under which they are made. With the pretence of benefiting religion, and of favouring and forwarding the extension of education, the real design is, to enmesh the prelacy, and to master and control, and ultimately to pervert to anti-Catholic and anti-national purposes, the moral and intellectual training of the future men of Ireland.

The heart of Ireland was sound in the period 1814–1824 ;

and once aroused to the danger, as it was by Mr. O'Connell's warning voice, it speedily and utterly defeated the fell designs of the enemy. That heart is as sound now ; and catching up his warning once again, it will speedily and entirely defeat them now and for ever more.

The attacks which have in some quarters been made upon the first volume of this work, for what was styled its "sectarian polemics," will, of course, be revived, by the Catholic tenor of these prefatory remarks.

Such attacks, however, are of no account, where there is the consciousness of duty done. The advocates and abettors (open or concealed, conscious or unconscious) of indifferentism and of religious compromise, render, by those attacks, the duty only the more imperative, to proclaim and to insist upon the vital importance to Ireland's hopes, to all her prospects for the future, of preserving uncontaminated her religion, and all appertaining to it ; and the man of real statesman-like mind, whatever may be his creed, will, if he calmly consider the matter, allow that there is reason in this course.

What is the experience of nations ; and their experience as fully and as minutely tested as it is in the case of individuals ? That where there is not to be found some strong leading and guiding principle—some grand motive of action—some controlling power to appeal to—little that is stable, little that is safe, can be looked for in character and conduct. This principle and motive are not to be looked for in what

is of a political nature ; for political matters are, in their nature, temporary, variable, evanescent. Where, then, are we to look ? To that which, in its nature, is not temporary, not variable, not evanescent ; but ever enduring, ever identical, ever in presence with us—to religion !

Religious feeling, religious attachment, form the only tie by which you can bind together men's souls from generation to generation, for those great designs by which the advancement of real civilization, and, with it, of the happiness of universal man, are to be promoted.

What has made the dangers of France ?—what is it that causes her social and political state to be a source of the greatest solicitude, not merely to the friends of a dynasty in that country herself, nor to foreign potentates, trembling for another European convulsion, while they half hope for it to indulge their rapacity, but really to the friends of peace, of social order, of Christian freedom ? Nothing but the imperfect hold which, after the shock of her hideous Revolution, religion has as yet been able to regain upon the minds of her people.

It is needless to multiply cases. The instinctive tendency of man towards *some* religion ; the impossibility, without regard being had to it, of constituting any society that shall cohere and endure ; the speedy and progressive deterioration of the human character when once religion has been abandoned ;—these are facts requiring no illustration, nor any lengthened comment, to be impressed upon the mind ; and

to cause a due appreciation of the singular Providence to Ireland, that has blessed her with such a sheet-anchor as is her ancient faith amid the wild currents and tempests of the world.

The foul and fell attempts of the assailants of that faith were, as we have said, baffled by Mr. O'Connell; and not once, but several times, during the period of 1814-1824—a period during much of which there was a very perilous stagnation of enterprize and spirit in the popular party. Had the enemy succeeded, none of the steps which Ireland has already made good, in her progress towards freedom, would have been gained—none of the assured good hopes of her onward-march to its entire accomplishment would exist; but the people, demoralized and degraded, deprived of the all-powerful restraint which religion supplies over their outraged feelings and maddening passions, would, in all human probability, have plunged, or be now plunging, into the worst and wildest excesses of anarchical violence and demoniacal crime!

By the success of the *anti-veto* struggle, the foundation was solidly laid, upon which the fair superstructure of rational and constitutional liberty has been since so steadily arising; and no English nor Irish section of latitudinarian ultra-*Liberals* must be permitted to hurl into ruin the glorious edifice, or even to retard its completion.

With regard to the speeches, &c., contained in this volume, the compiler has only to observe, that he experienced

considerable difficulty, from the scarcity of anything like good records of the proceedings of popular meetings, &c., during the period embraced. He is not, however, conscious of any serious omission, nor of any grave defect, in the mode in which he has presented to the public the material he has been enabled to collect.

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DELEGATE OF THE IRISH CATHOLICS TO ROME,

PRESENTED TO THE CATHOLIC BOARD, SATURDAY, 13TH DECEMBER, 1817.

“ON the 16th September, 1815, the nonstrance of the Irish Catholics was confided to me. Reaching Rome on the 25th of October, I lost no time in waiting on Cardinal Litta, and disclosing my mission. His eminence honoured me with assurances of support—denied that the Genoese letter conceded the Veto—and gave me a copy to send to Ireland. I found at once that my mission had to meet the implacable resistance of Cardinal Gonsalvi, secretary of state. He much complained at my not having selected him for my communication. I did not conceive myself warranted to submit, contrary to all practice, our religious concerns to the political cabinet.

“On the 9th of November, I had my first audience of his holiness, who received me and my documents in the most gracious manner. I had the satisfaction of removing some erroneous impressions, and hearing his declaration that he had never granted the Veto to the British Crown.

“The influence of his minister was, however, too visible—his holiness expressing a desire that I should place the papers in the hands of Cardinal Gonsalvi; but he accompanied the request with the warmest assurances of his personal care, and a promise to refer them to a congregation of cardinals.

“For some time I was engaged in arrangements, and was also much occupied in removing the effect of the extravagant misrepresentations of the vetoistical faction, aided by the public press, which was under the control of my opponents.

“Cardinal Litta's official deputation to the Austrian Emperor at

Milan, increased my difficulties. Scarcely was he gone when the secretary evaded the promised reference. However, after many efforts, I prevailed on two of the most venerable cardinals—Pietro and Somaglier—to interpose with the holy father, who was not aware of the evasion of his orders, and subsequently obtained another interview. I found his mind had been practised upon; and I had to put into his hands a strong protest against the arts and the whole conduct of his minister.

“ I expostulated with the latter; and, after much discussion, succeeded in inducing him to admit the injustice of the representation he had allowed to be made to the Pope, that the majority in number and respectability was, in Ireland, favourable to the Veto. I laid before him the plan of ‘ domestic nomination,’ of which he affected to approve, but evaded, by every means, the giving it any aid.

“ On the 9th of January, 1816, I obtained another audience of the Pope, for nearly an hour, during which I urged every argument against this obnoxious innovation. His holiness seemed much alarmed for the state of the Irish Catholics, and expressed an apprehension that they would be subjected to new persecutions, if he did not yield, in some measure, to the desires of the British government upon this head.

“ I told his holiness that the *Irish Catholics were no strangers to persecution; and that I was authorized to declare that they would prefer the re-enactment of the whole penal code to any injurious innovation upon that religious system for which they and their forefathers had, during three centuries, made such unprecedented sacrifices!*

“ I added, in reply to the anxious solicitude of his holiness—‘ We dread not persecution, holy father; but we dread your holiness’s sanction of a measure which we must resist; as we would be thereby deprived of those sympathies of the holy see, which have ever consoled us under the fierce trials we have endured for our attachment to the centre of unity.’ I informed his holiness that were he to allow the gratification of the British cabinet to be preferred to a compliance with the prayers of his faithful children in Ireland, I should find it difficult to persuade my constituents, on my return, that their religious interests were not made secondary to the political objects of the Roman court. I reminded him, that he had, in 1805, through Monsignor Coppola, then secretary of Propaganda, in his letter to the Right Rev. Doctor Milner, distinctly reprobated such a measure as is now proposed; and in which letter is quoted the declaration of Pope Benedict XIV. to the Bishop of Breslau, expressing an insuperable objection to the interference of any anti-Catholic prince or power in the nomination of a Catholic prelate. His holiness, on reading this letter, was much moved; and I retired, re-

newing my expressions of confidence in the paternal care of the holy see.

“ Two days after I had obtained this third audience, I waited on the cardinal secretary, who, to my great surprise, evinced considerable desire to see the affair concluded, by the enactment of domestic nomination. I found, however, ere long, that these professions of anxiety were equally — on this, as on every other occasion; and that so far from aiding me by his co-operation, he continued, as before, the ardent promoter of every measure prejudicial to me and my mission.

“ The Cardinal Prefect, Litta, having returned to Rome in February, I immediately waited on his eminence, and informed him of all that had occurred since his departure. Having urged him to execute his former intentions, he replied that he could do nothing further in the business, until it should be known how the prelates of Ireland had received the amended answer, which had been forwarded to them by the cardinal secretary of state.

“ The illness of Cardinal Litta, at this period, which continued for two months, interrupted my negotiations with his eminence, and I turned my attention to those officers of Propaganda from whom the rescript signed ‘Quarantotti’ had emanated, well knowing their influence, and the opportunities they enjoy for its exercise. I was now satisfied that the measure of domestic nomination was the only one which could substantially prevent the Veto; for it was manifest that if the appointment of our prelates was to rest in Rome, that the cardinal secretary would place it at the disposal of the British minister. I therefore urged that measure, and succeeded in inducing those officers to be as friendly to it as they had before been to the obnoxious innovation. I found his holiness and the sacred congregation willing to accede, as they disclaimed any views of patronage on their part, and expressed a desire for a settlement of the matter in the most satisfactory way.

“ On the 7th of March I had a fourth audience of the holy father, with a view to submit to his perusal an earnest and very able communication, upon the subject of the veto, which I had received, a few days before, from the illustrious Bishop of Cloyne and Ross, the Right Rev. Doctor Coppinger. I renewed my entreaties for an adjustment of the question, and his holiness was pleased to order me to bring the letter of the venerable prelate to Cardinal Litta, with whom he promised to confer upon its contents.

“ The Cardinal Prefect having been restored to health, and the resolutions of the synod of Kilkenny having arrived at Rome, towards the end of May, I again pressed on Propaganda the measure of domestic

nomination ; and I found that an intimation had been given to the Irish prelates, that the sacred congregation had no objection to the principle, and would establish the measure, provided a mode was proposed that should meet general approval. I felt much gratified at this determination, as our affairs were thus imperceptibly taken out of the hands of the political secretary, and had returned to their proper tribunal, where they remained until the period of my arrest. I therefore avoided any further intercourse with the minister of the Roman court, and confided my negotiations to the holy see through the legitimate medium of the Propaganda.

“ The anxious caution of the Cardinal Prefect gave rise to many interruptions in the progress of domestic nomination ; but the arrival of Sir John Cox Hippenley’s report, of June, this year, created a general alarm, and induced his eminence to resolve on an immediate decision. Many modes of domestic nomination had been proposed, as well in Rome as from Ireland. At length his eminence seemed to approve of one, which I had, at his request, submitted ; but he commanded and countermanded its being taken into consideration several times ; so that the entire summer of 1816 passed away in interviews and correspondence with the prefect and other members of the sacred congregation, on this subject, which was now become the primary object of attention in Rome as in Ireland. The details of this negotiation will necessarily constitute a principal portion of my future narrative. Suffice it here to say, that I laboured constantly and earnestly to collect and promote the views of my constituents on the subject.

“ Nothing decisive having been done, and observing the approach of the annual October vacation, and of the solemnities of November, Christmas, &c., I resolved on returning to Ireland, at least for the winter, in the hope of finding such an unanimity amongst the prelates and clergy, on the mode of establishing this indispensable measure, as might ensure success in the future discussions. I communicated my intentions to Cardinal Litta, who delivered me a letter, dated 5th of October (since published), declaring that the letter from Genoa, in favour of ministerial control, was not mandatory, condemning the pretensions set forth in Sir John Cox Hippenley’s report, and admitting the principle of domestic nomination. His eminence at the same time promised to obtain, in the first general congress of November, a decree for the mode which had been submitted.

“ On the 8th of October, I repaired to Castle-Gandolfo, the country residence of his holiness, where I was admitted to my fifth and last audience. I repeated my former prayers, that he would graciously

please to attend to the desires of his faithful children in Ireland, and having placed in his hands an address expressive of their attachment and veneration, I obtained, on their behalf, the apostolic benediction.

“ My intention of departure being generally known, I received from all friendly quarters entreaties to desist from a perseverance therein, as it would probably occur, that the measure of domestic nomination would be put to rest if I were to depart, particularly during the winter season, when much danger of a prejudicial influence was to be apprehended, from the influx of British travellers. I yielded to these apprehensions, which, after the vacations, I soon found to be too fatally realized; and I had the satisfaction to learn, that my stay was approved of by a vote of the aggregate meeting of the Catholics of Ireland, held in this city on the 17th of December.

“ In January, 1817, I renewed my correspondence with Cardinal Litta, and addressed to his eminence a long letter, re-arguing the subject of domestic nomination, and urging its discussion in the congress, which had been promised to take place three months before. His eminence again commanded and countermanded the consideration of the question; but at length, after some earnest expostulation by friends of the measure, he ordered the plan which I had drawn up to be prepared for immediate discussion. The summary of this plan, as amended by his eminence, was—That the parish priests, including the members of chapters, should elect three candidates; that the metropolitan and suffragans should unite their sentiments with respect to the qualifications of each; and that the sacred congregation should institute on the joint testimony. That, with regard to coadjutors, the incumbent prelate should propose the candidate to his parish priest and canons, who should declare their assent or dissent by a plurality of votes; that the metropolitan and suffragans should transmit their opinions of him to the holy see; and the sacred congregation institute accordingly.

“ The publication of a letter which I had addressed to a member of this Board increased, if possible, the hostility of the vetoistical party against me, as it exposed the arts and misrepresentations of the Roman minister and his adherents. The most active of my enemies was the Baron Ompteda, Hanoverian ambassador—distinguished only for his servility and intrigue, and who presumed to take a prominent station in the affair. I was, however, informed of his unworthy designs, and succeeded in counteracting them for several weeks.

“ Regardless of the calumnies which were circulated now with increased industry, in proportion as the period for adjusting the measure approached, I directed my attention to make arrangements previous to the general congress, which was finally fixed for Monday, the 19th of

May. The plan of domestic nomination had been printed by Propaganda three weeks before, and distributed among the cardinals who were to attend. I hold a correct copy of this plan, and propose to include it in my future narrative. Several reasons in favour of domestic nomination are adduced in the *penenza*, or printed case, laid before their eminences, who unanimously approved of it, including the aged Cardinal Quarantotti, whose prominent zeal I would deem it injustice to overlook, as I found his eminence a most earnest supporter, and apparently anxious to compensate thereby for the mischievous rescript with which, in an inconsiderate moment, under the influence of the grossest misrepresentation, he suffered his venerable name to be associated.

“The divisions in the Catholic Association gave new life to the vetoists. However, all the cardinals voted for the decree, except Cardinal Fontana; and he prevailed on Cardinal Litta to postpone it. Thus was lost domestic nomination, though the pending appointments in Ireland had been decided on its principle.

“The triumphant vetoists laboured for my expulsion. Two months were gone since my letter in the Irish papers had been known, and the sensation in Rome on the subject had died away. However, as I seemed abandoned by the Dublin Association, it was thought a favourable opportunity to drive me from Rome; and I was accordingly ordered to leave that city in twenty-four hours, and the states in three days. I remonstrated in vain. Fever then attacked me; yet my persecutors did not desist. They broke into my bed-room, placed guards over my person, and continued them to the day of my deportation—a period of eight weeks.

“On the 16th of July, I was conveyed, by a military escort, to the frontiers of the Roman states; and having remained some days at Florence to recruit my health, reached home finally on the 24th September.”

LETTERS FROM MORGAN O'CONNELL, ESQ.,

CORNET OF HUSSARS IN THE SOUTH AMERICAN LEGION, UNDER GENERAL D'EVEREUX,*
TO DANIEL O'CONNELL, ESQ.

“SOUTH AMERICA.

[The following is an extract of a letter from the son of Mr. O'Connell, who, accompanied General D'Evereux to South America. We believe it is the most authentic account that has reached Europe from this quarter. The friends of General D'Evereux, amongst whom we ranked ourselves, in evil report and in good report, will be glad to hear,

* At the early age of fifteen.

that up to the 13th of August he was well. For the particulars we refer to a youth's letter, upon which no suspicion can rest.]

"Head Quarters, Barranquilla, Monday, August 13, 1820.

"MY DEAR FATHER—Mr. Burke, a most particular friend of the general's, having told me that he will have an opportunity of sending letters to-morrow to Jamaica, I embrace the opportunity to send you a few lines, giving an account of our voyage and arrival here. After a few days' tedious passage from Jamaica, we anchored in the Bay of Savanilla, and none but the general was allowed to land, accompanied by two aides-de-camp. Your humble servant was one of those; but the general not being able to procure horses enough for us, I was left behind. As soon as the general saw Admiral Brion, he solicited permission for all of us to land, which the admiral granted, and sent down a large Bongo, or boat, for us to come up from Savanilla to Barranquilla, 22 miles distant. The Bongo came down, but the crew never mentioned a word of the message; they loaded her from several vessels with different articles, went up the river, and we never knew she was for us until she was gone. The passage up the river always occupies from twenty-four to thirty hours for large boats, in consequence of the strength of the current running down. As soon as the general saw we were not come, another large boat was despatched; and after lying at Savanilla for a week, we came up here, after twenty-four hours' passage. On our arrival here, the officers and soldiers were billeted on the inhabitants, and supplied with excellent rations—of beef, 3lbs. each; of bread, a good loaf; and rice, candles, &c. I, being on the general's staff, stop at the same house with him. The admiral behaves very well to the general; and, indeed, we are all treated here with the greatest respect.

"It seems that Montillo has refused to give up the command of the army to the general; in consequence of which the general has despatched Hall and Bennett to the President, to lay the matter before him. The general regrets greatly my not being up here in time, else he would have sent me to the President instead of Bennet. Bolivar is at present within ten days' journey of this.

"I rode yesterday, with Mr. Burke, to Soledad, about seven miles off, where 400 Creoles are stationed. I was presented to Admiral Brion and to Madame —, a superannuated old duchess. You will be surprised to hear, and no doubt rejoiced, that I have got Thady O'Sullivan as servant, who came out with Palmer, of the Lancers. My dear father, I will write again to you before I leave this.

"MORGAN O'CONNELL.

"The messenger who goes with this is just going off, so I must

finish abruptly. Mr. O'Mullen, Maurice O'Connell, &c., &c., are all well. We are to attack St. Martha in a few days."

[The same gentleman writes from Kingston, Jamaica, under date July 17, stating, that the Viceroy of Carthagena had arrived there, accompanied by six officers and four friars; that General D'Evereux took with him about 160 Irish troops, and 100 Creoles; which, added to 150 on board Brion's fleet, and 300 at Angostura, will constitute a force of 500 Irish, and 100 Creoles; that the army under the President's special command is 12,000 strong, which is intended for an attack on Caraccas, in conjunction with the divisions of Generals Paez and Urdaneta.]

" Head Quarters, Margarita.

" Government House, Wednesday, June 14.

" MY DEAR FATHER—Here we are at last, in the sandy oven of Margarita, where we arrived about six o'clock on Wednesday evening last, and where we were received with every demonstration of joy and satisfaction. On our arrival here, Colonel Hall and Major Bennett went ashore; but in a short time the latter returned along with Colonel Low, A.D.C. to the President, and Colonel Richards, deputed to wait on the general to the constituted authorities. They hailed the general with all the respect due to his rank as lieutenant-general of the armies of the republic, to which high rank he was promoted, as one of the first acts of the President, on his triumphal entry from Angostura into Santa Fe. The general, after perusing his despatches from the supreme chief, went on shore the next morning, all the forts and armed vessels in the bay of Juan de Griego having saluted him with thirteen guns each. In the course of the evening, some of the officers who had been left behind sick by Aylmer, but who go on at present with us, came on board.

" O'Kelly's nephew is here. The officers said that the legion mustered about a thousand men before leaving this, but only about eight hundred went, the rest being either in a bad state of health, or having misconducted themselves. Young Sexton, Maurice O'Connell's friend, fought a duel coming out, but was not wounded. There are at present in the stores here and at Angostura, eighteen thousand stand of arms, &c., all provided by the general.

" I never enjoyed better health in my life. This place is not near so hot as I have heard it reported.

" Mr. O'Mullen has just bid me tell you, that you had better send your letters to me through Colonel Kenny, who will send them on along

with the general's, and we will direct ours through the same channel. The general is named by Bolivar in his despatches as the senior lieutenant-general in his service, and he has the government of the island during our stay. He and his staff, of which I am a member, dine every day, at the expense of the government. Bolivar sent a beautiful white charger for his use; it is at present at Rio de la Hache; it was taken from a Spanish general, was all through the campaign, and originally cost five hundred guineas. The legion, at the taking of Rio de la Hache, lost not a man, the town having surrendered without firing a shot. The time the legion were here they got regular rations and pay. Everything is going on well on the main. One of the expressions of the supreme chief in his despatches to the general was, that the Irish legion had contributed greatly to the liberation of new Grenada. A Buenos Ayres privateer came in this morning, with news that Artigas was carrying all before him—that a royalist general had joined him, and that the whole country had declared against the Portuguese. . . . I had scarcely finished my letter of yesterday, when an order from the general came, saying that as he dined with General Arismendi, he desired I should come ashore in full uniform, where I should find a horse ready to bring me to him. Having done accordingly, I rode from the landing with Colonel Lowe's young son, a fine boy, not eight years old, who has been all through the campaign with his father—can ride any horse, attends parade every day, and performs his sword exercise in half the time a regular trooper would do it. As we rode hard, we soon arrived, and were met by Arismendi, General D'Evereux, Colonels Low and Hall, and Major Bennett.

“General D'Evereux presented me, saying who I was, what you had done for the cause, &c. Arismendi answered in Spanish, that he felt truly happy in seeing the son of such a man joining the cause, and would do me every service in his power, which is very great, he being second in command to Bolivar. I was then presented to Arismendi's lady and sister, and Mrs. English, a nice little woman, very handsome and gay, and I think very like —.

“After my presentation, Admiral Clementi, who is also General, came in with a large number of officers and others, and we sat down to dinner—Arismendi at the foot, and his wife at the head. He is a small, active, thin man, with large black moustaches, and very like the picture you have of Bolivar, only a little wrinkled. I never saw such a dinner. We began with turtle soup; then fowls, fish, yams, bananas, game, &c., and the largest turkey I ever beheld, as large as a sirloin of beef! all sorts of spiced and forced meats, and a dessert of fruits, half of the names of which I don't recollect. Immediately after, Arismendi stood

up and said—' Brindesi, fill your glasses,' and then gave the President's health, three times three; and we all sat down with cries of ' Vive la Colombia, vive la Patri !' Then ' Admiral Brion,' ' General D'Evereux,' &c. The next toast, ' Daniel O'Connell,' was given by Colonel Low, a fine fellow and an Irishman. He proposed you as the most enlightened, the most independent, and the most patriotic man, not only in Great Britain, but in all Europe. This was drank with the most enthusiastic acclamations, and Colonel Low's son, standing on his chair, shouted, ' Viva el Counsellor O'Connell !'

" Several other toasts followed. The last was also from Colonel Low's little son; who quite spontaneously getting up on his chair, gave—' May the first man that deserts his colours have a sword through his body !' His father assured us he had not said a word of it to him. The little fellow also said to our general, in Spanish—' General, there are ten thousand enemies in front; lead on your men, draw your sword, and remember the cause !' He is a little Irishman.

" After dinner, Arismendi, taking me by the hand, said, that as my father had evinced such feeling for the cause of Columbia, if any thing happened to D'Evereux, he (Arismendi) would consider me as his own son, and provide for me as such.

" About half-past eleven o'clock we mounted our horses, in number about eighteen, and cantered off, headed by Mrs. English, who kept us at a good pace.

" We saw Don Gomez this morning, and breakfasted with him. He looks for all the world like a sergeant-major of horse; but is, I understand, very brave and determined.

" Your affectionate Son,

" MORGAN O'CONNELL."

" Friday, June 16.

" We dined last night with Don Gomez, the Governor. He is a man of no education; but has rendered himself famous for the number of Spaniards killed with his own hand. It was he who challenged Morillo to single combat, in order to decide the fate of South America. Morillo declined, else by this time we should have had a different story.

" After dinner we drank nothing but champagne, and that not in glasses, but tumblers; and I assure you we did great justice to it. After the usual toasts the general gave your health; drank with the greatest acclamation. We then had a band of music, and several Spanish patriotic songs, of which the airs were beautiful, particularly one called ' Por la Patria viver o morir !' On breaking up, we were all invited to a ball by General Clementi, for this night.

About eight o'clock we entered the ball room. We were greatly entertained with the ridiculous stiff and awkward manœuvring of the dancers. I did not waltz; but there was one English country dance, in which I shone forth. I never saw so many ugly faces of both sexes in any ball-room before in my life. . . . Maurice went to dance a fandango; he got through it miserably, and tore a lady's gown with his spur. In short, we had great fun; and if we have more to-day, I shall let you know of it. . . .

" June 17.

. . . . " We dined last night with Arismendi. We had the standing toast, 'The wisdom of the President, who had appreciated the noble character of General D'Evereux, and attached him to the service of the republic;' other usual toasts also—such as you, Arismendi, &c. &c. . . . My dear father, I hope the next time you hear from me, that I will be on the Spanish main—on the theatre of, I hope and trust in God, our future glory; and I also tell you to rely on it, that I will never do any thing to disgrace the name I bear, either as a soldier or a gentleman.

" I remain, my dear Father,

" Your affectionate Son,

" MORGAN O'CONNELL,

" Cornet Hussar Guards, Staff of the Irish Legion."

" EDINBURGH.

" DINNER TO MR. O'CONNELL.

" SEPTEMBER 21ST, 1835.

(From *Times*, 25th September, 1835.)

" The Chairman () then gave—

" 'Mrs. O'Connell and the Roof Tree of Darrynane.' "

" MR. O'CONNELL, in expressing his gratitude for the toast they had just drunk, said that it gave rise to emotions which were not translatable into language. They were, indeed, too domestic to intrude on the company. He would, however, say, that Mrs. O'Connell was the choice of his youth, the comfort of his life, and his solace in all his troubles and trials. No man could struggle well for his country whose nest was not warm at home—(cheers)—and it was quite certain there was no honey

in the cup of life, if not administered by the hands of those we love. (Renewed cheers.) For his own part, he owed much (perhaps the entire) of his public character to Mrs. O'Connell. When, in consequence of the chills of disappointment, and the disgusts at the treacheries which every public man, in a long course of life, is apt to meet with, he felt himself driven almost to give up politics, and betake himself again to that profession in which he had been so successful, he yielded to her earnest solicitations to the contrary, and he always found himself more loved at home for continuing the struggle for his native land. (Immense cheering.)"

BRIEF SKETCH OF THE O'CONNELLS OF KERRY,

FROM THE CROMWELLIAN CONFISCATION TO THE PRESENT TIME.

ACCORDING to the most consistent accounts we can discover, the ancient and illustrious House of O'Connell of Kerry derives its origin from the same source whence descended the royal lines of Scottish Kings.

Their common ancestor was Conaire the Second, Monarch of Ireland at the commencement of the third century, through Cairbrie Riada—called Reuda by Venerable Bede—a Prince of West Munster, and son of that monarch by his marriage with the daughter of Conn of the Hundred Battles, his predecessor on the imperial throne of Erin.

At the epoch of the Anglo-Norman invasion of Ireland in the twelfth century, the O'Connells were possessed of the midland district of the present county of Kerry, now called the Barony of Magonihy, their chief residence being then, and long afterwards, at Aghadoe, a town of some magnitude at that early period of our annals.

From this territory, it would seem, they were gradually evicted by the M'Carthy's, who were themselves forced westwards by pressure of the Fitzgeralds, Cogans, and De Barrys, and they finally settled down in comparative tranquillity in Iveragh, whence they appear to have displaced the O'Sheas, and of which they were found, by Sir William Petty, to have been but recently the principal proprietors, when he commenced the Down Survey, during the Protectorship.

Leaving their previous history to antiquarians, we will content ourselves with a brief sketch of their fortunes from that remarkable era down to the present time.

At the period from which we start, they formed but one and the

same family, but have since diverged into distinct branches, which follow in their order of seniority :—

The O'Connells of Brentree, county Clare, now extinct.

The O'Connells of Tralee, now the eldest line.

The O'Connells of Ennis, a branch of the foregoing.

The O'Connells of Darrynane, the most important branch.

The O'Connells of Ballybrack, a branch of the Darrynane family.

The O'Connells of Ballinablown; and

The O'Connells of Riverstown, county Kerry, or of Tarmans, New South Wales.

MAURICE O'CONNELL, OF CAHERBARNAGH.

* HEAD, OR CHIEF, OF THE SEPT OF O'CONNELL OF KERRY, 1641, 1656.

(Temp. Cromwell.)

Maurice O'Connell, of Caherbarnagh, was chief of his sept in the war of 1641, but by his great age was prevented from taking part at either side. He was elder son of Rickard, the preceding chief, and his wife, Julia, daughter of Teige M'Owen M'Carthy, of Drishane, in the county Cork, and was the *stipes*, or common ancestor, of the seven branches just enumerated. He had two brothers, John O'Connell, of Ashtown, county Dublin, who died without issue, and Rickard, Bishop of Kerry, who was martyred by the Cromwellians, about the year 1652, at Ardfer.

In the "Book of Forfeitures and Distributions," lodged in the Record Office, Custom-House, Dublin, Maurice O'Connell, of Caherbarnagh, is set down as late proprietor of the eighteen estates which follow, and which he forfeited, and as actual proprietor of the estate marked 19, which never then, or since, went out of the possession of his family.

Estates of Maurice O'Connell, of Caherbarnagh.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1. Clohanehanachane. | 12. <i>Ffearglia</i> , alias Puffin Island. |
| 2. Keanburrin. | 13. Ballinahaw (in part.) |
| 3. Garra West. | 14. Kinagh (in part.) |
| 4. Crooma. | 15. <i>Flaneboy</i> (in part.) |
| 5. Ballinagloragh. | 16. Killeearagh (in part.) |
| 6. Ballinahann. | 17. Rathkesne (in part.) |
| 7. Killonogha. | 18. Aghgort (in part), and, |
| 8. Caherbarnagh. | 19. <i>Barkenagh</i> , called Innish- |
| 9. Murisk. | Ishmulty, and Drumlabort, |
| 10. Spankane. | which never were forfeited. |
| 11. <i>Iniets</i> , and, | |

THE DARRYNANE FAMILY.

To render more clear the genealogy of this, the most illustrious branch of the O'Connells, it will be necessary to revert once more to the chieftain in Cromwell's time.

Maurice, of Caherbárnagh, who was father of Bartholomew, left two sons : Maurice, ancestor of the extinct house of Brentree ; and Geoffrey, second, who follows.

Geoffrey, the second son, had two sons : Maurice, ancestor of the Tralee family already mentioned ; and Daniel, ancestor of the Darrynane family.

John, of Darrynane, was his eldest son and heir, who had Maurice, second son, ancestor of the Ballybrack family ; and Daniel, who follows, his son and heir.

Daniel, of Darrynane, son of the foregoing John, left three sons : Maurice, the eldest, who died *s. p.* ; Morgan, who follows ; and Daniel, Count O'Connell, Major-General in the French, and Lieutenant-Colonel in the British, service.

Morgan O'Connell, of Carhan, was the second son of the aforesaid Daniel, and father of

Daniel O'Connell, M.P., the Liberator of Ireland. His brothers are : John, of Grena, and James, of Lakeview ; and his sons, by his marriage with his cousin in the fourth degree, Mary, second sister of Captain O'Connell, of Tralee, head of the sept :—

Maurice O'Connell, M. P.

Morgan O'Connell.

John O'Connell, M.P.

Daniel O'Connell, jun., M.P.

His daughters are :—

Ellen, married to C. Fitzsimon, Esq.

Kate, to Charles O'Connell, Esq.

Betsey, to N. J. French, Esq.

The Liberator retains in his possession an unforfeited portion of the estates of his ancestors—a concealment in the penal times—of which another part has not yet departed from the Tralee branch of the family. It is believed to be the very same property saved by Maurice of Caherbárnagh, even from the Cromwellian depredators. Its preservation is accounted for by the fact of its having been mortgaged for the support of the "King's Guards"—the O'Connell troop of horse—during the siege

of Ross Castle, and held by the mortgagee till the troubles were over, when it was restored by him to the family.

Of this branch and their connexion, no less than eighteen members were officers of the Irish Brigade at one period of the last century. One of them, Count Daniel O'Connell, rose to the highest distinction in the French service, and received his title as a reward from Louis XVI., who declined his offer to batter the city of Paris at the commencement of the Revolution, which act of decision would, in all probability, have effectually suppressed it, and for the achievement of which the Count possessed the means as well as the energy, being then in the actual command of fourteen thousand men, in the environs of the capital. At the period of the revolution of July, 1830, he was on the point of being created a Marshal of France, by Charles the Tenth, whose life he had saved in 1792. The expulsion of Charles the Tenth, and his own refusal to transfer his allegiance to Louis Philippe, shut the career of further honours to him.

At the period of the emigration in 1792, when he was transferred to the British service, he was offered a *bribe* by the Duke of York, on condition of changing his religion, which he spurned with disdain, in the very presence of the august proselytizer. The bribe offered was the royal patronage, and the highest promotion attainable in the army.

The *Ballybrack, or Tarmans Branch*, descends from a younger son of John O'Connell, of Darrynane. Of this family was the late Baron O'Connell, Chamberlain to the Emperor, Francis of Austria, and uncle to Captain Maurice, of Ballybrack, and Geoffrey, of Cork.