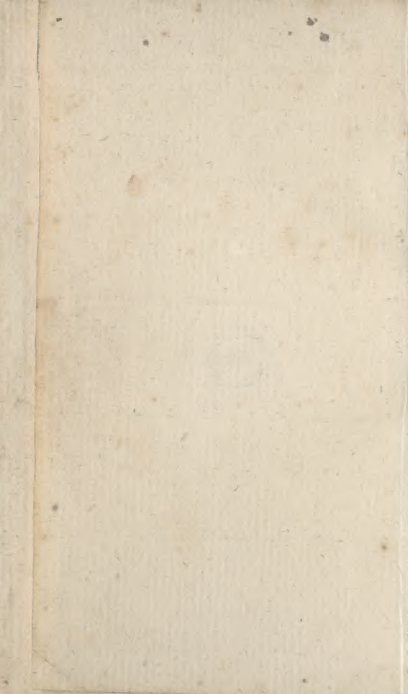


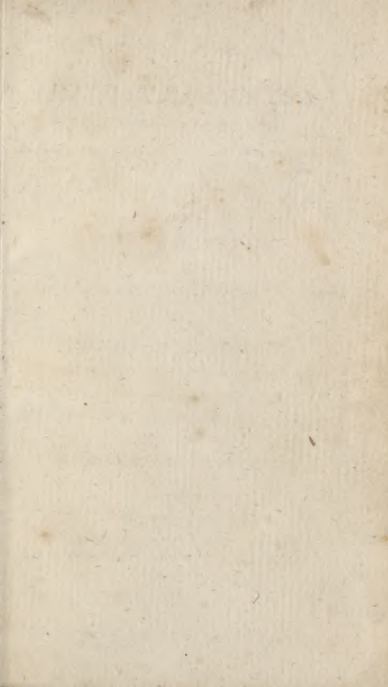


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*When the Fortes*

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# HISTORY

OF THE

## IRISH REBELLION,

WHICH BROKE OUT IN MAY, 1798;

Containing a brief Account of every Occurrence, from the  
commencement of the Rebellion, to the surrender  
of the French at Ballynamuck:

AND

## A NARRATIVE

OF THE

SUFFERINGS AND PROVIDENTIAL ESCAPE

OF

CHARLES JACKSON,

LATE RESIDENT AT WEXFORD, IN IRELAND,

INCLUDING

AN ACCOUNT OF SEVERAL BARBAROUS ATROCITIES

COMMITTED BY THE

IRISH REBELS IN THAT TOWN.

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GLASGOW:

PRINTED BY NIVEN, NAPIER & KHULL, TRONGATE,  
FOR R. HUTCHISON, BOOKSELLER, SALTMARKET.

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1801.





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## PREFACE.

TO induce me to publish the following Narrative of what I suffered, and of the scenes I witnessed, is, because I consider it my duty to my countrymen to exhibit to them the dreadful consequences which have resulted from the propagation of detestable principles among our fellow-subjects in Ireland.

The political doctrines, recommending schemes of reform in the state, which, for a considerable time past, have been industriously circulated, had unsettled the minds of the people, (as was evident to a common observer) and prepared them eagerly to embrace the wild and irrational French notions of liberty and equality, which soon exterminated every just principle.

May my happy countrymen reflect upon what has taken place there, and cherish, with never-ceasing attachment and respect, the true liberty and security which they so fully enjoy!

That no doubt may be entertained of the authenticity of this account, I have done all in my power to satisfy the minds of the most scrupulous, that I am worthy of being credited for what I have related.

The letters which are added, will, it is hoped, be vouchers for me.

CHARLES JACKSON.

*Copy of a Letter from Nathaniel Whitworth, Deputy  
Commissary General, to Lieutenant Colonel Brinley,  
Adjutant General's Office, Horse Guards, London.*

*Haverfordwest, July 3, 1798.*

DEAR BRINLEY,

I will offer no sort of apology for the favour I am about to ask, knowing you to possess a sufficiency of the milk of human kindness to relieve objects in real distress. The bearer has a tale to unfold, relative to his sufferings by the Rebellion, at present raging in the county of Wexford, which, I am sure, will excite your commiseration.

You may rest assured of the truth of what he may advance, which has been corroborated by the testimony of many respectable clergymen from Wexford. You will perceive, by a certificate in his possession, that he has been relieved by our committee with money sufficient to carry him to London.

What I have to request of you is, that you will have the goodness to point out the proper office for him to present the certificate he possesses, as I am morally certain it will be productive of a small pecuniary relief, to enable him to follow his business.

Your's,

Most truly,

N. WHITWORTH.

*Lieut. Col. Brinley.*

*Head-Quarters, Wexford, June 26, 1798.*

Permit Charles Jackson, his wife and child, to pass from hence to England, free and unmolested.

(Signed) F. G. LAKE,  
Aid-de-Camp to Lt. Gen. Lake.

*Port of Milford.*

The foregoing is a true copy of the pass, lodged in the custom-house, Milford.

Given under my hand and seal of office, this 29th June, 1798. GEORGE HOUGH, Collector.

I know Charles Jackson, being his Parish Minister, and certify that he conducted himself with true loyalty.  
W. EASTWOOD.

We certify, that we know Charles Jackson to be a very proper man, and a truly loyal subject.

John Jacob, (a clergyman of the church of England, near Wexford, and son of Dr. Jacob a physician, who is Mayor of Wexford, and Captain of the Wexford infantry.)

N. C. H. Hatchell, (first Lieut. Wexford infantry.)

Ralph Boyd, (Protestant minister of a church near Wexford.)

Joshua Nunn, (of St. Margaret's, county Wexford, a man of great property.)

J. Johnson, (a physician of Wexford.)

Robert Sparrow, (a Quaker and merchant).

*Haverfordwest, July 2, 1798.*

We do hereby certify, that the within-named Charles Jackson has received, from the fund for the relief of Irish Fugitives, ten guineas, for the purpose of carrying himself and family to London.

Francis Fortune—John Higgon—H. Phillips—Nathaniel Whitworth, Deputy Commissary-General.

A  
N A R R A T I V E  
OF THE  
SUFFERINGS AND PROVIDENTIAL ESCAPE  
OF  
CHARLES JACKSON.

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THE Author of the following pages was born an Englishman, and, at an early period of life, went to Ireland. In the beginning of the year 1797, he settled in the town of Wexford as a carver and gilder, where he was much employed, and enabled to support his family in a creditable manner, till the breaking out of the late horrid rebellion.

On Saturday night, May 26, 1798, information was first received of the rebels being in force, about twelve miles from Wexford.

On Sunday morning the alarm increased, on hearing that the rebels were burning the houses of all the Protestant farmers in the neighbourhood. A party of the North Cork militia, consisting of one hundred and six men, were ordered out under the command of Lieutenant-colonel Foote and Major Lombard, and marched to a place called Oulard, where they were met by the rebels. The situation of the ground was so unfavourable, that the party, after firing three rounds, (by which a considerable number of the rebels were killed) was surrounded and cut to pieces

pieces—Lieutenant-colonel Foote, and two privates, only escaping.

The terror of the inhabitants that night, can better be imagined than described. To add to it, all the families in the neighbourhood, who were able, were seen flying into the town, leaving their property behind them: the women who had lost their husbands in the late engagement, running through the streets, with their fatherless children, with all the expressions of distress and despair!

That night, Sunday, May 27th, the loyal inhabitants were all employed in making preparations for the arrival of our foes, and hourly in hopes of reinforcements from Waterford. No attack was made during the night.

The next day, Monday, May 28th, about one o'clock, we saw the smoke of the town of Enniscorthy, then in flames!

At about four o'clock this afternoon, no description can give an adequate idea of the scene presented at Wexford:—The inhabitants who had escaped from Enniscorthy and its neighbourhood, pushed into the town in crowds—persons of the first fortunes in that part of the country, covered with dust and blood, with their infants in their arms, and their wives clinging behind them; and such women as had not been able to procure a horse, or seats with their husbands, endeavouring to keep up with the mob of fugitives, with their children in their arms, and others hanging to them—women who, but a few hours before, were in possession of every comfort life could afford!

The next morning, Tuesday, May 29th, orders were given, that all fires should be put out, and that such houses as had thatched roofs should be immediately stripped, to prevent the disaffected party from following

following the example shewn by their associates at Enniscorthy.

On Wednesday, May 30th, in the morning, the troops, (the Donegall and Cork militia) near six hundred in all, went out to meet the rebels, who were now supposed to be about fifteen thousand strong. About three miles from Wexford, at a place called the Three Rocks, there was some firing, when the militia finding them so powerful from numbers, and in possession of the artillery taken the day before, retreated back to the town.

There was, at this time, in the gaol of Wexford, in consequence of an order from Dublin, Mr. Beauchamp, Bagnel Harvey, Mr. Fitzgerald, and Mr. Colclough—all men of property, and of great interest in the country. A council was called, and it was resolved—that it was impossible to defend the town. Two gentlemen, Mr. Richards, a counsellor, and Dr. Jacobs, a physician, mayor of the town, were appointed to offer to surrender the town to the rebels, and to endeavour to save the lives of the inhabitants, to which condition the rebels agreed.

In the mean time, the troops, accompanied by all the unmarried yeomen, effected their escape to Duncannon Fort, about twenty three miles off.—I now return to what more immediately relates to myself:—

On Thursday, May 24th, (three days before the breaking out of the rebellion) my wife was brought to bed; and, on the Monday following (the day of the battle of Enniscorthy) I thought myself fortunate in being able to remove her, with her infant, and place them on board one of the vessels, in which we had no doubt of being safely carried to Wales. In this vessel we continued, on the open deck, with only a sail to cover us, till Wednesday morning, May 30th, when, about two o'clock, we saw the toll-house, and  
part

part of the bridge of Wexford on fire! The town was immediately in an uproar; and, while the cavalry were endeavouring to cut away a part of the bridge, to prevent the flames from communicating to the town, the quays, and every avenue leading to the water-side, were crowded with women and children, begging, in the most pitiable manner, to be admitted on board the vessels, but that was impossible: they were already filled in every part! One young lady, in particular, threw herself into the sea, to get on board a small boat that was near the quay, and would have been drowned, had not some men in a boat taken her up; and they were immediately in great danger of losing their lives, owing to the numbers who pressed forward to reach their boat.

On seeing the flames, the vessels all weighed, and stood towards the mouth of the harbour, where they cast anchor.

About one o'clock, a white flag was seen flying in Wexford (a signal that the rebels were in possession of the town), and the captain of our vessel instantly answered it by another. His example was followed by the rest, except two, which sailed for Wales: they then again weighed anchor and stood for the town.

We now concluded the die was cast, and that we were to be given up to our enemies. Every entreaty I could urge was strenuously enforced, to induce the captain to carry us to Wales—but without effect! With a mind almost distracted, I went into the hold, where my wife and her infant were now lodged, to take, what I supposed would be—a *last farewell*! but the horror expressed in her countenance deterred me from communicating all my apprehensions!

At length we arrived at the quay; and, with my charge, I was landed on the beach, from whence I hastened to my house.

My

My wife lay down on a bed, and I crept under it, thinking to hide myself, in case I should be sought for. I had not been in this situation more than ten minutes, when I heard my name called, and a sound of feet on the stairs. Presently the door opened, and one Patrick Murphy, with six others, all armed, came into the room. This Murphy was a near neighbour of mine, and had always professed a great regard for me. My wife, on seeing him, threw herself off the bed, with the child in her arms, and fell on her knees, entreating them to spare me: one of them swore, if she did not say where I was, he would blow her brains out. On hearing this, from fear of her being injured, I shewed myself, and was immediately seized and dragged down stairs. My wife begged to be allowed to go along with me; but they told her, if she attempted to follow, they would run her through with their pikes.

I left my house, suffering the pangs of a man going to execution, and was conducted to the barracks, near a mile off, through streets filled with creatures, who appeared more like devils, than men.

At the barracks I was put into a room, in which there were about eight others, all expecting soon to be put to death. Every moment some of the rebels, with pikes and pistols in their hands, came to view us.

After remaining in this situation about an hour, one of the rebels, armed with an old bayonet fixed on the end of a long pole, asked *if there were any bloody Orange-men or informers there!* One of the townsmen pointed me out, upon which he made a thrust at my thigh—but the point was prevented from entering, by a thick cushion under my cravat. He then wounded me slightly just below my hip. At that moment counsellor Richards, belonging to the town, who had been obliged to join the rebels, to save his  
own



own life, came into the room with Mr. Bagnel Harvey; and, seeing the state I was in, I requested him to save me, which Mr. Harvey did, by taking me out with him. Where to go I knew not, and entreated Mr. Richards to convey me to a place of safety. He said he did not know what was best to do with me, but would take me to a Mr. Hughes, at the Foley, a brewer: he accordingly protected me through the midst of the mob, as we had to go almost two hundred yards from the barracks. Unfortunately, as I entered the house, one of the townsmen saw me, and informed others that an Orange-man had secreted himself in that house. I went up a back stair-case, and got into a small room at the top of the house, where was a bed lying upon the ground. Being almost exhausted, I intended to lie down, but had not been above five minutes in the room, until I heard persons below searching the house. I opened a window that looked into the garden, and thought to have leaped out, but fortunately saw the tops of some of the rebels' pikes just under me. I should then have crept under the bed, but providentially saw a small door, in the inside of the room, belonging to a cupboard, which was formed by the eaves of the house. I got in, but was forced to sit almost double. Soon my pursuers came into the room; and, not seeing me, were going out again, when one of them called the other back, to examine a cupboard he had just observed; I then thought nothing could save me; and, if ever living man felt the terrors of death, I then did! He opened the door of the cupboard; but, providentially, holding his musket slanting, the muzzle, pushed into the cupboard, struck against the roof; on which, supposing it empty, without turning his head, he went away. Thus disappointed, I heard them propose to set fire to the house, but that was over-ruled.

In

In that situation I continued till ten o'clock at night: I then ventured out, and got over the rocks to a place called Maudlin-town, (near a mile from Wexford) to the house of an old woman of the name of Cole, whom I thought I could trust. I found the house empty, except an old bead-stead, with some straw on it. Being fearful I should be seen if I lay at top, I was forced to get under it, and lay the whole night upon nothing but the earthen floor.

Having eat nothing the whole day, and being almost worn out with exertion and agitation of spirits, I endeavoured to sleep; but my terror, for fear the rebels should come in, and put me to death, prevented me. People came into the cabin several times during the night, but never looked under the bed.

About eight o'clock the next morning, May 31st, the old woman, who owned the cabin, came home; (she was a Roman Catholic,) and I made myself known to her, begging, in the most earnest manner, that she would permit me to remain concealed there, till affairs were a little settled. She told me she would as long as she could, without endangering herself; and that she would go into the town, and see how matters went on, which she accordingly did; and, in about two hours, returned with information, that the insurgents were searching all the houses for Protestants, and committing them to gaol; and farther told me, if I should be found there, that they would kill her, and burn the house; therefore it was necessary I should go to some other place.

I thought it prudent to comply. She then gave me some bread and beer, and advised me to try and get among the fields, to lie in the hedges by day, and travel by night. Accordingly, now, as every house was shut against me, and I had no house to fly to for refuge, I got out at the back door of her house,

house, and went about two miles across the country, when I met an old woman, whom I requested to shew me what road I had better take to effect my escape. She told me it was in vain to attempt it; *for that if I did not belong to the rebels my own brother would betray me.* I left her, and went on, but soon heard voices behind me, calling on me to stop, and 'I should have mercy. I turned round and saw six men advancing, with pikes in their hands. They seized me, conducted me back to the town, and put me into gaol, in which I found about *two hundred and twenty Protestants.*

The gaol is a very strong building, situate at a short distance from the barracks; and so built round with walls, that you can see no person pass or repass.

Towards evening, a fellow of the name of Dick Monk, (one who had formerly been a shoe-black in town, but now was raised by the rebels to the rank of a captain) came into the gaol, and bid us *prepare for death: for that all of us, except such as, upon examination, he should release, would be put to death at twelve o'clock that night!*

The manner of his examination was two-fold: first, politically, and then religiously.

The form of his political examination was this:

Q. Are you straight?—A. I am.

Q. How straight?—A. As straight as a rush.

Q. Go on then:—A. In Truth, in Trust, in Unity, and in Liberty.

Q. What have you got in your hand?—A. A Green Bough.

Q. Where did it first grow?—A. In America.

Q. Where did it bud?—A. In France.

Q. Where are you going to plant it?—A. In the Crown of Great Britain.

The preceding questions and answers appear to be

a part of the United Irishmen's Catechism, by which they know each other.

The religious examination was this:

Q. Are you a *Christian*?

If the person answered 'Yes,' he was requested to *bless himself*, and say the *Ave Maria*.

If he could do this, in the Roman Catholic manner, and go through the other form, he was immediately acquitted, and suffered to depart.

I believe Monk, after having gone through his examination with several persons, selected *six* to be saved, and took them with him out of the prison. The situation of us that remained, can be better imagined than described! We all went directly to prayer, and spent the night in the most horrid suspense! No one, however, came near us that night.

The next morning, June 1st, some potatoes and water were brought us, which proved a very seasonable relief.

On the Sunday following, June 3d, a man of the name of Murphy, by trade a labourer, but who had been an evidence against some United Irishmen at the previous assizes, (though none of them suffered,) was taken up by the rebels, and condemned to die!

On Monday morning, June 4th, about nine o'clock, John Gurley, one of the prisoners, came to me. "Jackson, (said he) the Lord have mercy on you! you are called to go into the yard, with my brother Jonas, and Kinnieth Mathews!" These words had such an effect on me, that my tongue cleaved to the roof of my mouth, for I thought I was called to be executed. The gaoler came in, and took us into the yard, where was one Edward Fraine, a tanner, who lived in John-street, and was supposed to make four hundred pounds a year by his trade; there were also many other persons there belonging to the town.

Fraine

Fraine was captain of the rebel guard for the day. As soon as I came out, he said, "Mr. Jackson, I believe you know what we want of you." I answered, "Yes,"—for I supposed I was going to die! I then fell upon my knees, and begged that, if that was the case, I might be allowed to see my wife and child. He swore that I should not, that I was not then going to die; but that a man was to die at six o'clock that evening, and he did not know more proper persons to execute him than me and the two others. He added, "I suppose you can have no objection, as he is a Roman Catholic?" "Why, Sir, (said I) should I have no objection to commit murder?" "You need not talk (replied he) about murder; if you make any objections, you shall be put to death in ten minutes; but if you do your business properly, perhaps you may live two or three days longer: so I expect you three will be ready at six o'clock this evening."

Another then came up, and said, "Mr. Jackson, if you could procure a few orange ribbons, to tie about your neck at the time of execution, it would, I think, have a very pretty appearance; and, at the same time, I have a couple of balls, much at your service, when it is over, as I think it is a pity you should get no return for the favour you confer."

We were then carried back to our cells, and spent the day in prayer till six o'clock; at which time, being brought to the great door, we found the prisoner, Murphy, with nearly a thousand men about him. The procession was arranged in the following order:

A large body of *Pikemen*, forming a hollow square.

A BLACK FLAG.

Drums and Fifes.

MURPHY.

The Executioners.

Another body of *Pikemen* closed the procession.

As soon as this arrangement was made, the Dead March was struck up, and beat from the gaol to the place of execution, which was a mile and a half off, at the other side of the bridge, on a wide strand.

The procession passed by my house: when I came opposite to it, I was so much affected, as almost to faint: some water was brought me, and I proceeded.

As soon as we reached the destined spot, all the rebels, with their arms in their hands, kneeled down, and prayed for about five minutes: this, I understood, was because the victim was a Roman Catholic. An order was then given to form a half circle, with an opening to the water. The poor man was afterwards directed to kneel down, with his back to the water, and his face towards us, which he did, with his hands clasped. I requested to be allowed to tie my cravat round his eyes: they told me not to be too nice about the matter, for in a few minutes it would be my own case. The muskets were then called for; but it was suggested, if they gave us three muskets, we might turn and fire at them; on which it was settled, that we should fire one at a time.

The first appointed to fire was Mathews, and it was remarkable that the piece missed fire three times. During this time, the countenance of the unhappy victim displayed such manifest symptoms of inexpressible terror, as will never be effaced from my memory! The man who owned the musket was damned, and asked, "What sort of a musket was that to carry to the field of battle?"

A common sporting gun was then brought, and fired by Mathews; the ball hit the poor man in the arm.

I was next called upon; and suspecting that I should

should not fire at their object, but turn upon them, two men advanced, one on each side of me, and held cocked pistols to my head; two also stood behind me, threatening death if I missed the mark. I fired; and the unhappy sufferer fell dead; after which, Gurley was obliged to fire at the prostrate body!

When it was over, a proposal was made, that I should *wash my hands in his blood!* but this was over-ruled; and they said, as I had done my business well, I should go back. A ring was now formed round us; and a song in honour of the *Irish Republic* was sung, to the tune of "*God save the King.*"

This dreadful business had taken up about three hours, when we were marched back to the gaol.

Several days passed without my being particularly noticed; but during that period, many prisoners were taken out, (a few at a time) and being carried to the camp, were piked!

On the day that information was received of the rebels being defeated at Ross, to revenge the loss, *fifteen* of the Wexford, and *ten* of the Enniscorthy people, were ordered out of the gaol. When this notice was given, I ran into my cell, got upon my knees in a dark corner, and pulled some straw over me; but a man of the name of Prendergast came in, and drew me out, uttering shocking threats against me. He dragged me into the yard, where I found my unhappy comrades upon their knees. One of them who had been a Protestant, but had become a Roman Catholic, and was now imprisoned on a charge of being an Orange-man, requested to have the priest with him before he died. This was immediately granted; and a messenger was sent to Father Curren, the Parish Priest of Wexford. He presently came; and to give effect to his admonition and intercession, he dressed himself in his *corul*, and

bore a *crucifix* in his hand. He held up the crucifix, and all present fell on their knees. He exhorted them, in the most earnest manner; he conjured them, as they hoped for mercy, to shew it; he made every possible exertion to save the lives of all the prisoners, but it was in vain. He said, he could witness that the Wexford people had never fired upon them, or done them any injury; and that he could not say mass to them, if they persisted in their cruel resolutions. At last, he influenced them so far, as to prevail upon them to return into the gaol the fifteen Wexford people; but, for those from Enniscorthy, he could obtain no remission.

With hearts overflowing with gratitude to the Almighty, we went back to our confinement; and in that state remained, every day seeing more prisoners brought in, and others taken out to be massacred; each of us apprehending it would next be his lot.

Lest any apprehension of the arrival of English troops should have an effect on the minds of the rebels, they were constantly informed that England was in the same state as Ireland; that three counties had already risen in rebellion; and, on that account, not a single one of the King's troops, could possibly be spared. They seemed, likewise, to place great dependence upon the Scots troops; and hoped, if they came to action together, the Scots would immediately come over to them; and one day a report was confidently propagated, that two Scots regiments had shot their officers, and joined the rebels in the county of Kildare.

To keep up the spirits of these deluded men, assertions were daily made of victories having been gained over the King's troops. One day, a rebel came into the gaol, and, knowing me, entered into conversation:—He told me, that Dublin could not hold out a week longer;



longer; that it was crowded with inhabitants, and that there were but a few days provisions in the town, which was so surrounded, that no supply could be received. I asked, if the town might not be supplied by sea? "That (he replied) was also impossible, as the mouth of the harbour was blocked up by their armed boats!"

Notwithstanding the care that was thus hourly taken to impress on the minds of the rebels every motive to keep them together, and to render them subservient to some order, it proved to be impossible. About a week after the rebels had got possession of the town of Wexford, the first attack upon Ross was made, and the rebels were defeated.

In the retreat, between three and four hundred of the country people, belonging to that part of the county of Wexford called the Barony of Forth, had, instead of proceeding to the camp appointed for them, gone to their own homes, it may be supposed heartily tired of a life of uncertainty and hardship. During the whole of the time they had been in the county of Wexford, they had been obliged to lie in the open air, without any thing under or over them, except some few substitutes for tents, made with the tickens of beds, or such kind of plunder as they could collect. They had no pay, and their supply of provisions was quite uncertain: some days having beef and mutton in such quantities, that they could not make use of it, but threw it about the fields, where it became putrid; at other times having scarcely any thing to eat.

Women swarmed in their camp; and they had always spirituous liquors and music: all the *blind-fiddlers* and *bag-pipers* in the county were with them: and they had drums and fifes, many of which they found in the barracks of the North Cork militia. The weather in the month of June proved to be uncommonly

commonly warm and dry, or great numbers of this exposed mob must have perished by disorders. It was said among them, and foolishly believed, that there would be no wet weather till they had conquered Ireland; and that the great drought was ordained by God, to prevent their suffering in the open air.

Still, as I have observed, on the first check at Ross, parties began to fall off, which caused General Roach to issue a Proclamation to the following effect, which was circulated through the county and pasted up at our gaol:

*“ Dear Fellow Citizens,*

“ The World with astonishment beholds, and future ages will record, the wonderful and brilliant victories, achieved by men, almost wholly unacquainted with military tactics, and hardly able to find men to lead them on to conquer. But what force can withstand the name of *Citizens* fighting for *Liberty*! You find that by our exertions almost the whole country is in our possession! Yet but a few more struggles, and the day is our own! Your brethren in different parts of the kingdom have only been waiting for the signal; and you soon will see them flocking to the Standard of Liberty, by thousands.

“ Unanimity is what I have chiefly to recommend to you; with subordination, and speedy obedience to the command of your officers: by which means you will ensure success, and soon will see the downfall of that Government, which has long been tottering under the weight of its own crimes and enormities, and under the torture and burden of which you have so long groaned.

“ But, at the same time, let me beg of you to be  
particular

particular in your conduct towards your prisoners. Remember, that numbers whom you may have in your possession, may not be guilty through *principle*, but through *necessity*. Remember, that many have been forced to appear against us, for the sake of getting their bread, when their hearts have been with us. Remember, that this is not a war of religion, but *liberty*; that there are a great number of great men, who are Protestants, and who wish well to the cause in which we are engaged. Let the speech of the Protestant Bishop of Down, in the Irish House of Lords, when the famous Roman Catholic Bill was sent in, never be forgotten, but sink deep in all your breasts.

*Vinegar-hill  
Camp.*

ED. ROACH,  
General of the United  
Army of Liberty.

As Messrs. Harvey, Roach, Keughe, and Grogan, stood in conspicuous situations, as commanders, or leaders, of the rebels, I imagine some account of each of them cannot fail to be interesting.

*Description of the persons and characters of the principal  
leaders of the rebels in the county of Wexford.*

#### MR. BAGNEL HARVEY

Was the son of a Protestant Clergyman, who bore a most respectable character, and, in fact, his whole family were universally and deservedly beloved. He possessed a good estate in the county of Wexford; and, having been brought up to the bar, was usually called Counsellor Harvey.

His

His private character was much respected. Nothing occasioned more astonishment among the generality of the inhabitants of Wexford, than when the order came from Dublin to arrest him; but his future conduct sufficiently proved the accuracy of the information which Government had received concerning him.

The first time I saw Mr. Harvey after the rebels had taken possession of the town, was at the time I was carried a prisoner to the barracks; where I saw him and General Roach, taking possession of the King's stores, and endeavouring to reduce the infatuated unruly mob, of which he was nominal commander, to some degree of order.

Mr. Harvey wore his ordinary clothes, with the addition of silver epaulets; but when I saw him, he had no arms, except a pistol which he carried in his hand. He appeared to me to be about forty years of age.

#### EDWARD ROACH,

Who was appointed General, was a middling country farmer, near Wexford; and, before the rebellion, was permanent serjeant in Colonel Le Hunte's corps of yeoman cavalry. He was not much taller than Bagnel Harvey, but a great deal more corpulent, and about forty years old.

He wore a snuff-coloured coat, black waistcoat, corduroy breeches, and a round hat; but, for distinction sake, he had two most enormous gold epaulets, and a sash and belt, in which he carried a large pair of horse pistols: he also wore a sword.

#### MR. KEUGHE,

Who was made by the rebels Governor of Wexford, was originally a drummer in his Majesty's army—I believe in the thirty-third regiment, and, during

during the American war, had been advanced from that station to the rank of captain. He had quitted the army, and actually received half-pay when the Rebellion broke out.

He was about fifty-four years of age, rather above the middling size, and might be called a well looking man. His head was quite bald in front, and he wore his hair, which was remarkably white, tied behind. He had very much the appearance and manner of a gentleman.

He was married to a very handsome woman, much younger than himself, but had no children; and was comfortably situate in a very good house, in George's-street, Wexford.

When the rebellion broke out, (Whitsunday) on the alarm being given, he volunteered in one of the yeomanry corps, and, was employed, the evening of that day, in establishing fortifications to repel the rebels, and next day he was appointed to command a party of volunteers, which was to guard one of the entrances to the town; yet, on the rebels taking possession of the town, he joined them, was appointed chief governor, and continued in that situation till his Majesty's troops obtained possession of it.

Numbers of prisoners, who had been seized in the country, were carried before him officially, previous to their being committed to gaol.

#### MR. CORNELIUS GROGAN

Was a gentleman of, I believe, near sixty years of age, and was considered to be the richest man in the country. He resided at Johnstown, about three miles from Wexford, where he had a very large estate. He bore an exceeding good character among his tenantry, but was always thought to be of a retired, and remarkably clear disposition.

He

He had never been known to take an active part in political matters, but passed most of his time in trying mechanical experiments; and was esteemed to be, in this way, very ingenious.

He had two younger brothers, each of whom was colonel of a corps of yeomanry, and of approved loyalty. One of them was killed charging the rebels at the head of his corps, and the other was wounded.

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I never saw any thing like an uniform among the rebels, except upon Dick Monk, the shoe-black, who, shortly after his appointment to the rank of a Captain, had a light horseman's jacket of green, with silver lace cross banded in front; pantaloons to match, with silver seams, and a green helmet cap, with a white ostrich feather across the top.

The whole of the rebels, as I have observed, wore white bands round their hats: some, of the higher order, had the Irish harp drawn in a gold leaf, on a green ground, encircled with the words *Erin go braugh*, signifying Ireland for ever; others of a more desperate turn had a broad green ribbon bound entirely round their hats, with Liberty and Equality. Such was their veneration for that colour, that the women were obliged to have ribbons, and many of them neck-kerchiefs of the same; while, on the other hand, their antipathy to Orange colour was so great, that Colonel Le Hunte nearly lost his life, owing to his having a fire-screen, and the furniture of a room, trimmed with that colour.—But to return to my narrative.

On Wednesday, June 20th, about eight o'clock in the morning, we heard the drums beat to arms, and the town bell ring; which was a sure sign to us of  
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our friends being near, but, at the same time, we expected that we should be cut off before they could arrive and release us.

In this terrible state of suspense we remained till four o'clock in the afternoon, when we heard a horrid noise at the gate, and a demand of the prisoners! Eighteen or twenty were immediately taken out; and, in about half an hour, the rebels returned for more victims! In the whole they took out *ninety-eight!*

Those who were last called out, were seventeen in number: Messrs. Daniels and Robertson, both gaugers; Mr. Atkins, a tide-waiter; Mathews, Gurley, (who were with me at the execution of Murphy) and myself, were included in this lot.

The moment Mathews put his head out of the gaol, he was shot dead! which, I believe, would have been the fate of us all, had not a Mrs. Dixon, wife to a man who kept a public-house in the town, and who had been made a captain by the rebels, when Mathews fell, immediately advanced, and desired they would desist—as *they ought to allow the people on the bridge the pleasure of seeing us!*

We were accordingly marched to the bridge; and when we came in sight of the people assembled there to witness the executions, they almost rent the air with shouts and exultations!

I, and my sixteen fellow prisoners, knelt down in a row. The blood of those who had been already executed on the spot (eighty-one in number) had more than stained it—it *streamed upon the ground around us!*

They began the bloody tragedy by first taking out Mr. Daniels, who, the moment he was touched with their pikes, sprung over the battlements of the bridge into the water, where he was instantly shot.

C

Mr.

Mr. Robertson was the next; he was piked to death!—The manner of piking was—by two of the rebels pushing their pikes into the front of the victim, while two others pushed pikes into his back, and in this state (writhing with torture) he was suspended aloft on the pike, till dead! he was then thrown over the bridge into the water.

They ripped open the belly of poor Mr. Atkins; and, in that condition, he ran several yards, when, falling on the side of the bridge, he was piked!

Thus they proceeded, till they came to Gurley, who was next to me. At that moment one of them came up to me, and asked me if I would have a Priest? I felt my death to be certain, and I answered "No." He then dragged me by the collar, but was desired to wait till Gurley was finished.

While they were torturing him, General Roach rode up in great haste, and bid them beat to arms; informing them, that Vinegar-hill Camp was beset, and that reinforcements were wanting. This operated like lightning among them; they all instantly quitted the bridge, and left Mr. O'Connor, an organist; William Hamilton, the bailiff of the town, and myself, on our knees. The mob (consisting of more women than men) which had been spectators of this dreadful scene, also instantly dispersed in every direction, supposing the King's troops were at hand.

We were so stupified by terror, that we remained some time in this posture, without making the least effort to escape. The rebel guard soon came to us, and took us back to the gaol; telling us, that we should not escape longer than the next day, when neither man, woman, or child, of the Protestants, should be left alive! But it pleased God to prevent their



their dreadful intention from being carried into effect, by granting success to his Majesty's forces.

We entered the gaol with hearts overflowing with gratitude to the great Creator, for our late wonderful preservation. For the arrival of the troops we looked, with some hope and extreme anxiety, till about five o'clock in the morning, when we heard the joyful sound of cannon: our agitation increased, one moment expecting the troops to arrive, and the next, that we might, on the instant, be put to death. Now had arrived the crisis of our fate! when, about eleven o'clock, the turn-key came to inform us, that we might walk out into the large yard. He addressed us by the title of Gentlemen, from which we were assured that some great alteration had taken place; but we suppressed our feelings, lest the news which influenced them might not be true.

About three o'clock, the captain of the rebel guard, a Mr. Murphy, came in and addressed Major Savage, one of the prisoners, offering him the keys of the gaol, and arms for us all, if he would admit some of the rebels into the gaol, and strive to save them from that fate their own consciences told them they so richly deserved.

This Murphy kept an earthen-ware-shop upon the quay at Wexford. His offer was instantly accepted by all; and, accordingly, we obtained the arms of those, who, a few minutes before, were guarding us: as agreed upon, we were locked up by Major Savage, who brought all of us who had muskets to the iron rails on each side of the great prison door. Here we stood, determined to conquer or die, if attacked.

About five o'clock we had the heartfelt gratification of seeing the gallant Captain Boyd, accompanied

by eight of his own corps, riding full gallop through the town; but not a rebel was to be found.

All the green boughs were immediately torn from the windows, and Liberty and Equality, which before were conspicuous on every door, were now nowhere to be seen.

Captain Boyd was Member of Parliament for the town of Wexford, and Colonel of the Wexford cavalry. He recommended to us not to leave the gaol at that time, as the troops expected in town might suppose us enemies. This precaution, however, proved not to be necessary, for troops were encamped a mile short of the town, and orders issued by the Generals, that no man should be put to death, unless he had been first tried and condemned by a court-martial.

In about an hour after Captain Boyd left us, two companies of the Queen's Royals arrived, and, giving three cheers, set us at liberty.

Reprieved criminals only, can have experienced such feelings as ours, on being released. The scene that followed, no pen can describe! Women running in every direction towards the gaol, trembling for the fate of their relatives who had been imprisoned.—Wives seeking for their husbands—mothers for their sons—sisters for their brothers—and children for their fathers!—The ecstasy of those who discovered their friends, and the distraction of others who had lost their dearest connections, cannot be imagined. The gallant soldiers, who were witnesses of what passed, though at that time accustomed to distressing circumstances, could not refrain from shedding tears, or joining in the exultations. In some instances, the wife, seeing her husband, would rush into his arms, and overwhelm him with caresses; but, on inquiring for a brother, learned he was  
no

no more!—One instance I cannot refrain from mentioning:

A woman, of the name of Smith, whose husband was a hatter, and brother-in-law to Gurley, who suffered on the bridge, came, with her seven children, to the cell where I had been confined, to inquire for her husband. He was put to death the night before. While she heard his fate, she saw his hat lying on the ground; she seized it, and the children clung to it, with shrieks and screams, till she fainted away, and was carried off, followed by her weeping infants.

But to relate the particulars of that never-to-be-forgotten day, would fill a volume.—Of myself, I will not attempt to say more, than that, in the midst of such a scene as I have mentioned, my wife, with her infant, appeared before me. The sensations we both felt, left us no power of utterance—she saw me, as it were, restored to life, and I had remained totally ignorant of her fate. We had been separated three weeks and two days, during which time I had been in constant expectation of death; and she had lingered, with scarcely a gleam of hope that I should escape. My infant I had scarcely contemplated a moment, in peace, from the time of his birth.

We quitted a spot which had become horrid to me, and went to the place where I had once a comfortable home. The house, indeed, was standing uninjured, but every thing that it contained, even my working tools, had been destroyed, within half an hour after the first time I was taken to gaol. A lady in the neighbourhood humanely offered us an asylum, *and once more we sat down in security, glory be to our God!*

Before night, many persons who had joined the rebels, but still remained in the town, were taken up

and committed to gaol. The next day a military court-martial was assembled, composed of one General Officer and six Colonels, from different regiments.

Never were trials carried on with more impartiality, than those which now took place. Every man who gave evidence, was examined upon oath; and all the prisoners were allowed to call all whom they required in their justification. The trial of Mr. Bagnel Harvey lasted near eight hours, though it was universally known he had acted as commander in chief of the rebels.

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*The following is a copy of the general orders of the General and Officers of the United Army of the County of Wexford.*

Resolved—That the Commander in Chief shall send guards to certain baronies, for the purpose of bringing in all men whom they shall find loitering or delaying at home, or elsewhere; and if any resistance be given to those guards, so to be sent by the Commanding Officer's orders, it is our desire and orders, that such persons, so giving resistance, shall be liable to be put to death by the guards, who are to bear a commission for that purpose: and all such persons so found loitering and delaying at home, when brought in by the guards, shall be tried by a court-martial appointed and chosen from amongst the commanders of all the different corps, and be punished with death.

Resolved—That all officers shall immediately repair to their respective quarters, and remain with their different corps, and not depart therefrom, under pain of death, unless authorized to quit by written orders

orders from the Commander in Chief for that purpose.

Resolved—That a guard shall be kept in the rear of the different armies, with orders to shoot all persons who shall fly or desert from any engagement; and that these orders shall be taken notice of by all officers commanding such engagements.

Resolved—That all men refusing to obey their superior officer, be tried by a court-martial, and punished according to their sentence.

Resolved—That all men who shall attempt to leave their respective quarters, when they have been halted by the Commander in Chief, shall suffer death, unless they shall have leave from their officers for so doing.

Resolved—That any person or persons who shall take upon him or them to kill or murder any person or persons, burn any house, or commit any pillage, without special written orders from the Commander in Chief, shall suffer death.

It is ordered, by the Commander in Chief—That all persons who have stolen or taken away any horse or horses, shall immediately bring in all such horses to the camp at head-quarters; otherwise, any person that shall be seen or found to be possessed of a horse, not being the just owner thereof, shall, on being convicted, suffer death.

And any goods that shall have been plundered from any house, if not brought in to head-quarters, or returned immediately to the houses or owners—all persons, so plundering as aforesaid, shall, on being convicted thereof, suffer death.

(By order)

B. BAGNEL HARVEY.

F. BREEN, Sec. & Adjt.

*Carrick-Byrne Camp, June 6, 1798.*

Of

Of the necessity there was for their rulers recommending a spirit of moderation, such as is expressed in some parts of the foregoing proclamation, the reader will judge from the following circumstance:

The day before the proclamation was issued, seventy-five Protestants had been shut up in a barn together, at Scullabogue, about eleven miles from Wexford, and the barn was set on fire. Some of the miserable sufferers endeavoured to escape through a small window in the side of the barn, but were received on the points of the rebels' pikes, and forced back into the flames! All of them thus perished.

That the admonition produced no effect, was proved, as the most dreadful cruelties and murders were committed in Wexford after this period.

I do not believe that this cruel deed was in consequence of an order from any of the rebel commanders, but was an act of the mob; on the contrary, from what I saw while I was in confinement, or could learn, I think myself bound to say—that it is my opinion, that such of the rebel chiefs as had been in respectable situations, detested the system of murder and robbery, which was so universally adopted by the upstart officers and unruly mob, over whom they had little more than a nominal command.

So dreadful were my reflections at times while I was in the gaol, and the horror of my mind so great, from my apprehensions for my wife and child, and the constant expectation of being taken out and cruelly murdered, as to produce the most settled despair. This rose to such a pitch, that, one day, in conjunction with a fellow-sufferer, after we had consulted together as to the easiest mode of putting an end to our miseries, we agreed to bleed ourselves to death, by opening a vein; and sharpened a knife upon a stone for that purpose!

We

We knelt down to pray, before we committed the act, when it pleased God that our minds became softened, and we felt a ray of hope, which prevented us from completing our criminal and horrid purpose.

The next proclamation was issued on the 9th day of June, of which the following is a copy:

WHEREAS it stands manifestly notorious, that James Boyd, Hawtry White, Hunter Gowran, and Archibald Hamilton Jacob, late magistrates of this county, have committed the most horrid acts of cruelty, violence, and oppression, against our peaceable and well-affected countrymen.

Now we, the people, associated and united for the purpose of procuring our just rights, and being determined to protect the persons and properties of those, of all religious persuasions, who have not oppressed us, and are willing, with heart and hand, to join our glorious cause, as well as to shew our marked disapprobation and horror of the crimes of the above delinquents, do call on our countrymen at large to use every exertion in their power to apprehend the bodies of the aforesaid James Boyd, &c. and to secure and convey them to the gaol of Wexford, to be brought before the Tribunal of the People.

Done at Wexford, this 9th day of June, 1798.

*God save the People.*

The persons mentioned in the above proclamation were gentlemen of respectable characters.

In the town of Wexford, Protestant men and women were obliged to recant; and, with their children, were required to be baptized in the Roman Catholic chapel, after the Roman Catholic manner, and to attend mass. Even the protection, granted by

by the Priests to the Protestant men and women, after they had been thus baptized, was,

“Protect, in the name of Jesus Christ, A. B. he  
“ (or she) having been made a Christian, and a mem-  
“ ber of the Catholic Church.”

(Signed by the Priest.)

Here I must, in justice to many excellent Priests, make a distinction between them, and such others as fomented the disturbances.

It was not by the desire of the Priests of the town of Wexford, that the Protestants were forced to yield to this necessity: but it was owing to the ferocity of the mob, who could not bear the name of a Protestant.

The conduct of the Roman Catholic clergy of Wexford cannot be too much commended. The Titular Bishop (Caulfield), Father Curran, Father Broe, and indeed the whole of the Priests and Friars of that town, on all occasions, used their interest and exerted their abilities, in the cause of humanity. Every Sunday, after mass, they addressed their audience, and implored them, in the most earnest manner, not to ill-treat their prisoners, and not to have upon their consciences the reflection of having shed innocent blood. When they heard of executions going forward, they flew to the spot, and by every entreaty endeavoured to rescue the victims from destruction. Sometimes they succeeded; and when they failed, they shewed sufficiently how sensibly they felt for the unhappy persons they could not save.

Lord Kingsborough owed his life to the resolute interposition of the Catholic Bishop. The excellent character he had borne did not now avail him any thing; and this Nobleman, who, a few days before  
appeared



appeared to be almost at the summit of earthly happiness, having fallen into the hands of these mad and wicked reformers of the state, was by them confined in a dram-shop, surrounded by ruffian guards, denied any intercourse with his friends, and was in hourly expectation of being massacred. After a few days, the gaol was so crowded, that no room was left for the Protestant prisoners, who were daily brought in from different parts of the county. The rebels then fitted up two large sloops, as prison ships. A number of the most respectable gentlemen of the county, who were prisoners, were then put on board, and with them Lord Kingsborough and his officers. Several times did detachments come down from the rebel camp, to demand his life; and the day before the town was taken by the King's troops, which was the time fixed on for a general massacre of the prisoners, a party came to his Lordship's lodgings to demand his body, but the guards, who were chiefly townsmen, and generally speaking, less bloodthirsty than the country people, resisted. While this altercation continued, the Roman Catholic Bishop (Caulfield) arrived; and, finding that all the arguments he could use had no effect, he rushed through the crowd, and, forcing into the room where his Lordship was, he placed himself before him, and told the rebels, if they chose to fire they might; but, if they would murder his Lordship, it should not be before they had killed him.

This threat had the desired effect: the rebels went away, leaving Lord Kingsborough and the Bishop together.

I shall now conclude my Narrative with an account of the last moments of Mr. Colclough.

As soon as he came to the front of the gallows, he addressed the spectators with a firm, distinct voice,

voice, and without the least change of countenance, nearly as follows:

“ *Gentlemen,*

“ I am now come to that time, which is the most awful that man can experience! thank God, I am not afraid to die! I can smile at the gallows, and at the rope with which I am to be executed! I wish to feel if it be strong enough.” [He took hold of the rope, and proceeded.]

“ I shall thank you, gentlemen, for a little water, as I desire to drink a toast before I die. [Some water was immediately brought him, and he took the mug in his hand.]

“ Here,” said he, “ is success to the King and Constitution; and I hope my fate will be a warning to all mankind, not to interfere with the order of government, or to disturb the peace of their country.”

“ As I shall answer it to God, before whom I must shortly appear, [here he laid his hand upon his breast] I declare that I did not know of the rebellion breaking out till within three hours of the time when arms were taken up. But I acknowledge the justice of my sentence; for, about three years ago, I was one of the principal abettors in this business. I have now, gentlemen, only one favour to ask of you, and that is, that you will not take off my coat and waistcoat, as I have only an old borrowed shirt under them, and I wish to appear decently before the people.”

All the other criminals, it should be observed, were stripped to their shirts before their execution.

He then knelt down and prayed a few minutes; after which he was drawn up, and I quitted the spot while he was suspended.

*Proposa*

*Proposal for surrendering the town of Wexford, transmitted to General Lake by the Rebels.*

“THAT Captain M'Manus shall proceed from Wexford towards Oulard, accompanied by Mr. E. Hay, appointed by the inhabitants of all religious persuasions, to inform the Officers commanding the King's troops, that they are ready to deliver up the town of Wexford without opposition, lay down their arms, and return to their allegiance; provided that their persons and properties are guaranteed by the commanding officer: and that they will use every influence in their power to induce the people of the country at large to return to their allegiance also.

“These terms, we hope, Captain M'Manus will be able to procure.

(Signed)

“By order of the inhabitants of Wexford,

“MATT. KEUGHE.”

*Answer of Lieutenant General Lake to Mr. Keughe's Proposal.*

“Lieutenant General Lake cannot attend to any terms offered by rebels, in arms against their Sovereign; while they continue so, he must use the force entrusted to him, with the utmost energy, for their destruction. To the deluded multitude he promises pardon, on their delivering into his hands their leaders, surrendering their arms, and returning with sincerity to their allegiance.

(Signed)

“G. LAKE.

“Enniscorthy, June 8, 1798.”

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*The information of Mr. Grandy, of the County of Wexford, certified by four Magistrates of said county.*

[From the Report of the Secret Committee of the House of Commons.]

County of Wexford, }  
 TO WIT. }  
 \_\_\_\_\_ }  
 RICHARD GRANDY, of Ballystraco, in the county of Wexford, came this day before us, his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for said county, and maketh oath on the holy Evangelists—That he, this examinant, was attacked and seized at the cross roads of Kilbride, in said county, on Sunday the 3d of June instant, between the hours of nine and ten o'clock in the morning, as he was returning from a farm he had on the lands of Kilbride, by several persons armed with guns, pikes, and spears; that, amongst the number, were Michael Poor, Thomas Poor, Martin White, Richard See, Martin Couthon, Nicholas Brown, Michael White, John Moran, and Laurence Moran, all of Kilbride aforesaid, whose names this deponent knows not, though their faces were very familiar to him; and that examinant was conducted from thence to the rebel camp at Carrick Byrne in said county; and in the afternoon of same day was brought to Mr. King's house, at Scullabogue, in said county; that he was introduced into a room, where he saw Bagnel Harvey, of Bargy-Castle, in said county, Esq. William Devereux, of Taghmon, in said county, farmer; Francis Brien, of Taghmon, and Nicholas Sweetman, of Newbawne, in said county, with a few more, whom deponent did not know, but believes that John Colclough, of Ballyteigue, in said county, and a son of said William Devereux's, were of the number.

That deponent was closely examined by the said Bagnel Harvey as to the state of Ross and Duncannon Fort, and whether he was an Orange-man or an United-man. That said Bagnel Harvey proffered him to take the oath of an united Irishman, and become one of their community; that at last deponent obtained a pass from said Bagnel Harvey, with which he came as far as Bryan's-town, where he was stopped by the guard of rebels, who were stationed there; that he was conducted back again to Collop's-well, where he met with said Bagnel Harvey and said Nicholas Sweetman: that said Sweetman signed the pass he had got from said Harvey; that he had not gone far before the pass had been taken from him and torn, upon which deponent was taken prisoner to Scullabogue-house, where he was confined till the Tuesday morning following, with many other Protestants:

That about nine o'clock John Murphy, of Loughnageer, in said county, who had the command of the Rosegarland rebel corps, and was the officer of the guard over the prisoners, had ordered them out by fours, to be shot by his company of rebels, till thirty-five were massacred! that the rebel spear-men used to take pleasure in piercing the victims through, and, in exultation, lick their bloody spears!

That, while this horrid scene was acting, the barn, at said Scullabogue, in which were above one hundred Protestants, (as deponent heard and believes) was set on fire, and all consumed to ashes!

That examinant's life was spared because said Murphy knew that said Bagnel Harvey had given him a pass; and through his intercession with said Murphy, Loftus Frizzell was likewise spared.

That they were both tied, and conveyed within a mile of Ross, where they met said Bagnel Harvey,

said William Devereux, Cornelius Grogan, of Johnstown, in said county, and many others unknown to deponent, retreating from the battle of Rofs; that he heard, and believes it to be a fact, that said Grogan had the command of the Barony Forth rebel troops, at the battle of Rofs.

That deponent was taken to Foulkes'-mill, in said county, that night, where he continued for two days, under a guard, dressing the wounded; that he was afterwards conveyed to Ballymitty, in said county, when he obtained a pass from Edward Murphy, Parish Priest of said place, to pass and repass through his district, for the purpose of curing the wounded; that he was sent to Taghmon, where the sitting rebel magistrates, John Brien, James Harper, Joseph Cullamore, and Matthew Commons, were of opinion, that deponent might with the Priest's pass, have gone back again and remain there. That he strolled along the sea-side under the protection of this pass, till at last he effected his escape, across the ferry of Bannow, to Feathard, and from thence to Duncannon Fort.

Sayeth, that he heard it reported, that John Colclough, and T. M'Leard, were very active in promoting the rebellion; and that he saw John Devereux at Scullabogue, on Monday the 4th instant—and that he verily believeth he had a principal command in the rebel army; that he likewise saw Charles Reily, of Ramsgrange, in said county, at the camp at Carrick Byrne, amongst the rebels, very busy, and active to promote their cause.

Deponent further sayeth, that he attended mass, celebrated by Edward Murphy, Parish Priest of Bannow; that after mass, he heard said Edward Murphy preach a sermon, in which he said,

*" Brethren,*

*" You see you are victorious every where—that*  
*" the*

“ the balls of the heretics, fly about without hurting  
 “ you; that few of you have fallen, whilst thousands  
 “ of the heretics are dead—and the few that have  
 “ fallen was from deviating from our cause, and the  
 “ want of faith!

“ This is visibly the work of God! who now is  
 “ determined, that the heretics, who have reigned  
 “ upwards of one hundred years, should be now ex-  
 “ tirpated, and the true Catholic religion established.”

And deponent sayeth, this Sermon was preached  
 after the battle of Ross; and that he has heard several  
 sermons preached by other priests to the same effect:  
 and further sayeth, that he has heard several  
 of the rebels, who had been at the battle of Enniscorthy,  
 and elsewhere, declare, that Edward Murphy, the Priest,  
 did constantly catch the bullets that came from his Majesty's  
 army in his hand, and gave them to the rebels to load  
 their guns with.

Deponent further sayeth, that any Protestant who  
 was admitted into the rebel army, was first baptized  
 by the Roman Catholic Priest; and that every Protestant  
 who refused to be baptized, was put to death! and that  
 many, to save their lives, suffered themselves to be  
 baptized.

Sworn before his Majesty's Justices of the Peace  
 for said county, this 23d of June 1798, at Duncannon  
 Fort.

GEORGE OGLE,  
 ISAAC CORNOC,  
 JOHN HENRY Lyster,  
 JOHN KENNEDY.

Bound in the sum of two hundred pounds to prosecute,  
 when called on, this examination with effect.

RICHARD GRANDY.

(A true Copy.)

## PARTICULAR OCCURRENCES,

From the commencement of the Rebellion to the surrender of the French at Ballynamuck.

AT the commencement of May, 1798, the insurgents had taken steps to seize the camp at Loughlin's-town, the artillery and ammunition at Chapelizod, and the city of Dublin. The vigilance of government had penetrated their views: many persons had been seized and imprisoned, several had been tried and executed, for treason and other crimes: a number of persons had been taken at the house of Mr. Oliver Bond, and committed to prison, while many jails in the kingdom were crowded with persons accused of various crimes.

The impending trials, and past executions, had made the friends of the insurgents anxious for the safety of those in confinement; and their fears urged them to accelerate the means of liberating the accused. Numbers came from divers parts of the country, and the streets of Dublin were crowded with strangers. In this pressing emergency, search for concealed arms was made in every quarter, and troops were put in motion, for the protection of the country. On the 3d of May, the Earl of Clanrickarde issued an order for the surrender of arms at Galway, and similar orders were issued almost universally, especially by the Lord Mayor of Dublin; ordering likewise, lists of the inhabitants of every house to be affixed to the doors. Prisoners were daily bringing in, from sundry parts. The yeomanry of Dublin went into permanent duty, and patrols were established through every street: the county of Dublin had been already proclaimed, and, on the representation of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, the city was put under martial law, on the 19th of May.

Information



Information on oath having been received by administration, that Lord Edward Fitzgerald was a prime agent of the conspiracy for overturning the government, on the 11th of May, the Lord Lieutenant and Council issued a proclamation for apprehending his Lordship; and offering a reward of 1000*l.* for the discovery of the place where he was concealed. Some days previous to this proclamation, an order had been sent, in conformity to the alien act, to his lady, (the daughter of the late Duke of Orleans) to quit this kingdom.

Lord Edward had, we are informed, made fundry excursions into the country, and had recently come to town, to embody those men who were destined to seize the metropolis; in expectation of which event, great bodies of men in arms had approached the environs in almost every part, anxiously waiting the appointed signals, to rush in and effect their purposes. His Lordship finding his plan was discovered, and himself proclaimed, kept concealed, yet the design was hastening to a crisis! A day was fixed when the surprising of Dublin was to have taken place, and a number of his adherents, in yeomanry uniforms, were to be headed by his Lordship, and make themselves masters of the seat of government.

This settled plan was to have taken place on the 22d of May; and would, in all human probability, have succeeded, (at least so far as to have induced a scene of distress and confusion) had not fate interposed, and disconcerted their plans by the apprehension of Lord Edward, on the 19th of May, in the house of Mr. Murphy, a dealer in feathers and skins, in Thomas-street.

Mr. Justice Swan, accompanied by Major Sirr and Captain Ryan, went there between the hours of six and seven o'clock, with a party of seven soldiers, in  
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two carriages. Whilst Major Sirr and Captain Ryan were placing the guard to prevent an escape, Mr. Swan got into a small outer office, and from thence into the lower part of the house; he went up stairs, where meeting a woman, he pushed her aside, and got into a room on the first floor, where he found a decanter, with the remains of some wine, and glasses on the table; with chairs round it: meeting no person there, he rushed into a back room, two stories high, where he found the owner of the house standing in the room, Lord Edward lying on the bed, with his coat off, and his breeches and stockings on. Mr. Swan informed his Lordship he had a warrant against him for high treason: Lord Edward rose and snatched a dagger from the bed, with which he made several stabs at him that passed through his clothes without wounding him. His Lordship then closed upon Mr. Swan, shortened the dagger, and gave him a stab in the side, under the left arm and breast, having first changed it from one hand to the other, over his shoulder, whilst struggling together. Mr. Swan, although severely wounded, was unwilling to take his Lordship's life, desired him frequently to surrender, and strove to wrest the dagger from him: in the scuffle, his Lordship made many violent attempts to repeat his blow and extricate himself: Mr. Swan feeling himself wounded, and finding it impossible to restrain Lord Edward by other means, in defence of his life discharged a double-barrelled pistol at his Lordship, which wounded him in the shoulder: he fell on the bed, but recovering himself, ran at him with the dagger, which Mr. Swan caught by the blade with one hand, and endeavoured to trip him up. Captain Ryan, directed by the report of the pistol, ran up into the room, and found Mr. Swan bleeding, and entangled with Lord Edward: Mr. Swan said to Ryan,

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*"he has murdered me!"* On which Ryan threw himself on Lord Edward and Swan. Lord Edward made a strong effort, and rushing on Ryan, gave him three desperate wounds on the breast and belly. Major Sirr then came up, and found, on the landing of the stairs, Mr. Ryan down, wounded, clinging to the right knee of Lord Edward, whose right hand was raised, with the dagger in it, as if ready to strike, and Mr. Swan at his side, having a hold of Lord Edward by the left breast, with his right hand struggling for the dagger. Major Sirr instantly fired, and lodged several slugs in Lord Edward's shoulder; the soldiers then came up, and he surrendered, and was brought prisoner to the Castle, from whence he was committed to Newgate, where he remained in great agony till the 3d of June, when he expired, having the day previous been indulged with seeing his aunt, Lady Louisa Conolly, and his brother Lord Henry, who came from England on the occasion. His remains were interred in St. Weburgh's church.

Captain Ryan was so badly wounded, he was obliged to remain in the house for some time, from whence he was removed to the house of Mr Lawrence Tighe, of Thomas-street, where he died the 30th of May.

The dagger which Lord Edward Fitzgerald had was a short two-edged instrument, with a rising in the middle on each side of the blade, set in a black ebony handle. It was, strictly speaking, what is known as a stiletto.

The alarm caused by this event was almost inexpressible. The next day Messrs. Henry and J. Sheares, barristers, were apprehended.

The measures taken in the metropolis prevented any movement whatever; but acts of open rebellion were committed in the counties of Dublin, Meath, and

and Kildare. At about half past two o'clock, in the morning of the 24th of May, there was an attack made by a rebel force on the town of Naas, where Lord Gosford commanded with a party of the Armagh militia, and detachments of the 4th dragoon guards, and Ancient Britons. The rebels consisted of about 1000 men, armed with muskets and pikes; they made their attack with regularity, but were soon repulsed by the Armagh militia, and then charged and pursued by the 4th dragoon guards and Ancient British: their loss amounted to 200 men: two officers and a few privates were lost of his Majesty's forces. A small detachment at the town of Prosperous was surprised, and a party at the village of Clane had to cut their way to Naas.

An attack was made on a party of the 9th dragoons, near Kilcullen, which suffered; but in the course of the day, General Dundas came up with the rebels near Kilcullen hills, and routed them with the loss of 200 men. Several bodies which collected near Dublin, on the night of the 23d, were dispersed, and some prisoners and horses taken.

The mail-coach going to the north, was attacked, within a few miles of Dublin, by a select body, well armed; the passengers were taken, and the coach burned. The Galway mail-coach was also attacked, in the town of Lucan, but the rebels were driven off before its destruction was effected.

A party of rebels, to the amount of some hundreds, were attacked by a detachment of the Antrim militia, a party of yeomanry, and a few cavalry; and being driven into Baltinglass, lost 150 men.

May 26th, a body of between 3 and 4000 rebels having collected near Dunlavin, they were defeated by Lieutenant Gardner, with a party of the Antrim militia and some yeomanry: their loss was 300 men.

A body of rebels, who for some days had been in great force to the north of Dublin, were totally routed on the hill of Taragh, by a party of the Reay Fencibles and the neighbouring yeomanry: upwards of 350 were killed, (among whom was their commander) many more wounded, and great quantities of arms were taken: the king's troops had 9 killed and 16 wounded.

May 28th, intelligence was received, that the insurrection was spreading southward, and that it had broke out in great force in the county of Wexford: the rebels in that quarter assembled in such force, that they cut off a party of 100 men, of the North Cork militia, who were sent to meet them. Colonel Foote, who returned to Wexford, stated the number of the rebels to be at least 4000, and a great number of them mounted.

Accounts were received from Colonel Campbell, that he had several actions with the rebels; that at Monastereven he had killed four hundred, and at Carlow fifty.

May 24th, about half-past two o'clock in the morning, a dragoon, from an out-post, came into Naas, and informed Major Wardle, of the Ancient British, that a very large armed body were approaching rapidly on the town. The garrison immediately took up positions which had been previously chosen, such an event having been for some days expected: They first made a violent attack upon the troops posted at the gaol, but were repulsed; they then made a general attack, having possession of all the avenues into the town; and engaged the troops for three quarters of an hour, when they fled in all directions: the cavalry immediately pursued, and killed a great number. Vast quantities of arms were taken, and found in pits near the town, together with three men  
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with green cockades, who were hanged in the public streets.

May 25th, a large body of rebels attacked Hacket's-town. Lieutenant Gardner, having reconnoitred their force, which amounted to between three and four thousand, took post on the hill under the church, and when the rebels came tolerably near, the officers and men made a feint, and retreated into the barracks. The rebels seeing this, came on with a great shout, imagining the day to be their own. In a few minutes, Captain Hume came up, with about thirty of his men, and instantly charged them, on which the rebels retreated. A general pursuit took place, and so complete was the rout, that above three hundred of the miscreants lay dead on the field of battle.

On the morning of the 29th of May, Sir James Duff marched from Limerick, with sixty dragoons, Dublin militia, three field pieces, and two curricule guns, to open the communication with Dublin. By means of cars for the infantry, he reached Monaster-even in forty-eight hours; and at seven o'clock, on the morning of the 31st, he marched to surround the town of Kildare, the head quarters of the rebels, with seven pieces of artillery, one hundred and fifty dragoons, and three hundred and fifty infantry, determined to make a dreadful example of the rebels.

He found on his arrival at Kildare, the rebels retiring from the town, armed: he followed them with the dragoons, and sent some of the Yeomen to tell them, that on laying down their arms, they should not be hurt. Unfortunately, some of them fired on the troops: from that moment they were attacked on all sides, nothing could stop the rage of the troops. From two to three hundred of the rebels were killed: of the King's troops only three were killed, and a few wounded!!!

June

June 2d.—Accounts were received from Major-general Eustace, at New Ross, stating, that Major-general Fawcett, having marched with a company of the Meath regiment from Duncannon Fort, this small force was surrounded by a large body between Taghmon and Wexford, and defeated. General Fawcett effected his retreat to Duncannon Fort.

Same day, a letter was received from Colonel L'Estrange, of the King's county militia, stating, that the town of Newtown-Barry had been attacked the preceding morning, by a very large force from Vinegar-hill. They surrounded the town in such a manner, that Colonel L'Estrange at first retreated, in order to collect his force: he then attacked the rebels in Newtown-Barry, drove them out with great slaughter, and pursued them several miles, until night obliged him to return. Colonel L'Estrange's detachment consisted of two hundred and thirty of the King's county militia, seventeen dragoons, and one hundred yeomen. The rebels lost above five hundred men.

The picquet guard of yeomen, commanded by Mr. Cornwall, surprised, in the night, a party of rebels trying to enter Carlow, and completely defeated them.

Colonel Walpole met with the main body of the rebels in a strong post, near Slieve-bye-mountain, and having attacked them, was unfortunately killed, by a shot in the head, in the beginning of the action: his corps being in a situation where it could not act with advantage, was forced to retire to Arklow. The loss was fifty-four men killed and missing, and two six-pounders.

On the 5th of June, the rebels attacked New Ross with a very large force and great impetuosity—but, after a contest of several hours, they were completely repulsed. The loss of the rebels was very great—

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the streets being literally strewed with their carcases. An iron gun upon a ship carriage, was taken—and late in the evening they retreated to Carrick-Byrne, leaving several iron ship-guns not mounted. Two thousand rebels were killed: the loss of the King's troops was—ninety men, and fifty-four horses, killed—fifty-nine men, and five horses, wounded—and eighty-one men and four horses, missing. Lord Mountjoy was killed early in the contest.

The troops in the county Wicklow behaved uncommonly well, especially the yeomen of the town of Wicklow: from the 19th of May to the 5th of June they were on hard duty, the last ten nights of which time they were constantly up. The Shillelagh troops also acquitted themselves nobly, in beating back the Wexford rebels. The Wicklow rebels were numerous in the woods and mountains, but from the exertions made to disarm them before the rebellion broke out, and the assiduity exerted to prevent any falling into their hands after that period, they were prevented from acting with the same effect as their associates in Wexford. There were five different engagements in the county Wicklow, prior to the 5th of June, in which it was supposed, the rebels lost seven hundred men.

On the 9th of June, the rebels attacked, in great force, the position of Major-general Needham, at Arklow. They advanced in an irregular manner, and extended themselves, for the purpose of turning his left flank, his rear and right flank being strongly defended by the town and barrack of Arklow. Upon their endeavouring to enter the lower end of the town they were charged by the 4th dragoon guards, 5th dragoons, and Ancient Britons; and completely routed, in every direction, with much slaughter: the loss of the King's troops was trifling.

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Major-general Nugent having received intelligence of an insurrection intended in the county Antrim, and of a design to seize the magistrates, who were to assemble in the town of Antrim on the 7th of June, he ordered a body of troops to march thither. Their arrival was not early enough to prevent the rebels possessing themselves of the town; and our advanced detachment, which consisted of cavalry, were repulsed in their first attack, with the loss of three officers and twenty rank and file killed and wounded. Colonel Durham, however, soon arrived, and after a well directed fire on the town, drove the rebels out of it, without any further loss, retook two curried guns which had fallen into their hands, and took a six-pounder from the rebels, who were pursued to Shane's-castle with much slaughter. Lord O'Neill received a dangerous wound.

Another body of rebels attacked the town of Larne, where a subaltern's detachment of the Tay Fencibles maintained their post in the barrack with great gallantry.

The rebels were dispersed in all directions, except at Toome, whither General Knox, and Colonel Clavering proceeded; and many of them laid down their arms.

On the 8th of June, Mr M'Cleverty returned to Belfast from Donnegar-hill, whither he had been carried prisoner by a body of two thousand rebels. Whilst they were in this situation, they disagreed among themselves, and, from his influence, one thousand five hundred left the camp, broke and destroyed their arms, and swore they would never carry an offensive weapon against his Majesty or his loyal subjects; many more dispersed, and the commander of them was left with fifty men only.

On the 11th of June, Major-general Nugent  
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marched against a large body of rebels, who were posted at Saintfield. They retired, on his approach, to a strong position on the Saintfield side of Ballynahinch, and there made a shew of resistance, and endeavoured to turn his left flank; but Lieutenant-colonel Stewart arriving from Down, with a considerable force of infantry, cavalry, and yeomanry, they soon desisted, and retired to a very strong position behind Ballynahinch. General Nugent attacked them next morning at three o'clock, having occupied two hills on the left and right of the town, to prevent the rebels from having any other choice than the mountains in their rear for their retreat. He sent Lieutenant-colonel Stewart to post himself, with part of the Argyle Fencibles, and some yeomanry, as well as a detachment of the 22d light dragoons, in a situation, from whence he could enfilade the rebel line, whilst Colonel Leslie, with part of the Monaghan militia, some cavalry, and yeoman infantry, should make an attack upon their front. Having two howitzers and six six-pounders, with two detachments, the Major-general was enabled to annoy them very much from different parts of his position. The rebels attacked, impetuously, Colonel Leslie's detachment, and even jumped into the road from the Earl of Moira's demesne, to endeavour to take one of his guns; but they were repulsed with slaughter. Lieutenant Colonel Stewart's detachment was attacked by them with the same activity; but he repulsed them also, and the fire from his howitzer and six-pounder soon obliged them to fly in all directions. About five hundred rebels were killed in the attack and retreat, many were made prisoners, for several days after, and the remainder dispersed all over the country. Parts of the towns of Saintfield and Ballynahinch were burnt. Their force was, on the evening  
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of the 12th, near five thousand; but as many persons were pressed into their service, and almost entirely unarmed, their numbers were not so many on the morning of the engagement. Three or four green colours were taken, and six one-pounders, not mounted, but which the rebels fired very often, and a considerable quantity of ammunition. Their chief was Munro, a shop-keeper of Lisburn. The loss of the King's troops was one officer and five rank and file killed; one officer and fourteen rank and file wounded; several of the yeoman infantry were killed and wounded. Next day the rebels petitioned General Nugent for pardon, and offered to surrender all their arms and ammunition; the General in reply, promised to accept their submission, on condition of giving up their leader Munro, and the other principal traitors who had instigated them to their late wicked practices. Munro was, however, taken by General Nugent.

The Portaferry yeomanry, on the 11th of June, under the command of Captain Mathews, made a most gallant defence against a large body of the rebels, who attacked the town of Portaferry, the yeomanry having taken possession of the market-house, from which post they repulsed the rebels, who left behind them above forty dead; many more were carried off. Captain Hopkins, of a revenue cruizer, brought his guns to bear on the town, and was of great service in defending it.

Mr. Boyd, of Bally-castle, was, on the 12th of June, obliged to retreat to Colerain, where he collected the Dunseveniche and Giant's Causeway corps, with which, together with his own, he returned to Bally-castle, and beat the rebels out of the place.

The rebels in the county Kilkenny, on the 12th of June, attacked the house of a Mr. Kavenagh, in

which were twenty-nine of the Donegall militia, who, notwithstanding the incessant fire kept up on them for several hours, defended themselves in the most gallant manner, and killed several of the rebels.

On the 17th of June, a considerable body of rebels attacked Kilbeggan, but were repulsed by a detachment of the Northumberland Fencibles, under the command of Captain Thatcher. The rebels lost one hundred and twenty killed, and a great number wounded.

On the 19th of June, Colonel Irvine, with the detachment under his command, engaged a body of above two thousand rebels, at Oviol's-town-hill, about a mile from Hortland. The loss of the rebels was two hundred slain. The killed and wounded of his Majesty's troops did not exceed twenty-three.

On the morning of the 21st of June, at seven o'clock, Lieutenant-general Lake, with the troops under his command, attacked the rebel camp upon Vinegar-hill, and carried it in about an hour and an half. The relative importance of this very strong position with the operations of the army against Wexford, made it necessary to combine the attacks, so as to insure success: A column under Major-generals Johnson and Eustace, was drawn from Ross, and began the attack upon the town of Enniscorthy, situate upon the right bank of the Slaney, close under Vinegar-hill, upon the right, and rather in the rear of it. Lieutenant-general Dundas commanded the centre column, supported by a column upon the right, under Major-generals Sir James Duff and Loftus: a fourth column, upon the left, was commanded by Major-general Needham. To the determined spirit with which these columns were conducted, and the great gallantry of the troops, was owing the short resistance of the rebels, who maintained their ground obstinately

obstinately for the time before-mentioned; but on perceiving the danger of being surrounded, they fled with great precipitation. Their loss in killed and wounded was very great. Of his Majesty's forces, there were killed, two captains, two subalterns, two serjeants, sixteen rank and file; wounded, two field officers, two subalterns, one serjeant, sixty-two rank and file; missing, one serjeant, five rank and file. Three brass six-pounders, one three-pounder, seven one-pounders, two howitzers, and a vast quantity of ammunition, were taken from the rebels.

On the 20th of June, Brigadier-general Moore marched from Foulkes'-mill towards Taghmon, in order to advance towards Wexford. He had not marched above a mile, when he perceived a considerable body of rebels advancing towards him. He sent his advanced guard, consisting of the two rifle companies of the 60th, to skirmish with them, whilst a howitzer and a six-pounder were advanced to a cross-road above Goff's bridge, and some light infantry formed on each side of them, under Lieutenant-colonel Wilkinson. The rebels attempted to attack these, but were instantly repulsed, and driven beyond the bridge. A large body were perceived, at the same time, moving towards his left: Major Aylmer, and afterwards Major Daniel, with five companies of light infantry and a six-pounder, were detached against them. The 60th regiment, finding no further opposition in front, had, of themselves, inclined to the left, to engage the body which was attempting to turn it. The action here was, for a short time, pretty sharp, the rebels being in great numbers, and armed with both muskets and pikes: they were, however, forced to give way, and driven, though they repeatedly attempted to form, behind the ditches. They at length dispersed, flying towards Enniscorthy and

and Wexford. Their killed could not be ascertained, as they lay scattered over the fields, to a wide extent, but it must have been considerable. The loss of the King's troops was trifling. The business, which began between three and four, was not over till near eight o'clock; it was then too late to proceed to Taghmon, so Brigadier-general Moore took post, for the night, on the ground where the action had commenced. That night he was joined by the 2d and 9th regiments, which had been sent from Duncannon Fort, by General Johnson, as a reinforcement, to enable him to act with more energy against Wexford. In the morning of the 21st, as he was proceeding to Taghmon, he was met by an officer of the North Cork militia, who had been sent from Wexford with proposals by the rebels; he gave no answer to these proposals, but transmitted them to Lieutenant-general Lake. He proceeded immediately towards Wexford, and took post above the town, by which means he saved the town itself, perhaps from being laid in ashes, and prevented the massacre of the remaining prisoners, which the rebels declared their intention of carrying into execution the very next day; and there can be little doubt it would have taken place, for the day before they murdered above seventy prisoners, and threw their bodies over the bridge! Upon his approach, the rebels fled over the bridge of Wexford, and towards the Barony of Forth. They then formed a camp about five miles from Wexford; and their commander, Mr. Roach, sent Lord Kingsborough (who, some time before, had been taken prisoner by the rebels) to Brigadier-general Moore, to surrender upon terms: he referred his Lordship to Lieutenant-general Lake, who, on the morning of the 23d, entered Wexford, and received the submission of many of the rebels. The subscriber of the proposals, Mr. Keughe, and General

neral Roach, with a few others of their principal leaders, fell into the hands of General Lake without any negotiation.

Sir Charles Asgill having received intelligence that many of the rebels, who probably had escaped from their camp in Wexford, had collected near Black-stain-mountain, on the 20th of June, in the morning, he marched from Borris, with two hundred and fifty men, in two divisions, by two different routes, to attack them. He found them scattered through the country, in considerable numbers: upwards of one hundred were killed, the remainder dispersed, and several arms and pikes were taken.

On the 23d of June, Sir Charles received information that the rebels, who had escaped from Wexford, had formed a camp at Kellymount, in the county Kilkenny, amounting to several thousands, and were proceeding to Gore's-bridge. He instantly assembled all the force he could collect, and marched towards them. He did not arrive in time to prevent their defeating the detachment at that place; and taking twenty-four men of the Wexford militia prisoners, they marched off rapidly towards Leighlin: the troops at the latter place, consisting of a small party of the 9th dragoons, and two corps of yeomanry, killed sixty of them. Night coming on, Sir Charles could pursue them no farther; but, by the position which they took near Shano-hill, he conceived their intentions were to form a junction with the colliers at Castle-comer. As soon as the troops were able to move, he marched with nine hundred men to attack them; but was sorry to find they had burned the whole town, and forced the soldiers who were in it to retire, before his arrival. Having cleared the town with the guns, and attacked them on all sides, about four hundred were killed; the remainder fled. They were commanded

commanded by a Priest, called Murphy, and their numbers amounted to five thousand. The loss of the King's troops was inconsiderable.

Fearing the consequences that might result from allowing the rebels who had fled from Wexford to remain any length of time in the county of Kilkenny, Sir Charles Asgil preferred attacking them again, with the troops he already had, to waiting till a reinforcement should arrive. His whole force consisted of one thousand one hundred men, the rebels amounted to five thousand. He attacked them on the morning of the 26th of June, at six o'clock, in their position on Kilconnel-hill, near Gore's-bridge, and soon defeated them. Their chief, Murphy, the Priest, and upwards of one thousand men, were killed. Ten pieces of cannon, four swivels, their colours, and quantities of ammunition, arms, cattle, &c. were taken; and some soldiers, who were made prisoners by the rebels the day before, and doomed to suffer death, were, by this decisive victory, fortunately released. The remainder of the rebels were pursued into the county Wexford, where they dispersed in all directions. His Majesty's troops had but seven men killed and wounded.

On the 19th of June, Sir Hugh O'Reilly, with a party of two hundred and twenty of the Westmeath militia, (of which regiment he is Lieutenant-colonel) and two six pounders, were attacked, on their march from Cloghnakilty to Bandon, near a village called Ballynascarty, by a body of between three and four hundred rebels, who took up the best position on the whole march: they had but few fire-arms, and were armed mostly with pikes. They made their attack from a height on the left of the column of march, with very great rapidity, and without the least previous notice. The troops had hardly time to form, but



ut they soon repulsed the rebels, with considerable loss; they retreated precipitately, but not in confusion, and when they regained the height, they were joined by a very considerable force. Sir Hugh, with the greatest difficulty and risk to the officers, restrained the men, halted, and formed the greatest part of them: at the mean time he perceived the enemy filing off a high bank, in order to take possession of his guns. A detachment of one hundred men of the Caithness militia at Cloghnakilty, and hearing the fire of the latter, prest forward, and, very critically, fired on the rebels, whilst Sir Hugh's party was forming, and made them fly in every direction, with great precipitation. At the same moment a very considerable force shewed itself on the hills in the rear; and a vast number of pikes appeared, with hats upon them, and other signals, to collect their forces. Fortunately the guns were brought to bear upon them with good effect, as they dispersed in a short time, and left a considerable number dead: some were killed in attempting to carry away the dead bodies. It is supposed their entire loss amounted to one hundred and thirty men. One serjeant and one private only of the Westmeath militia were killed.

On the 20th of June, Lieutenant Pearce having sent a serjeant and four men to escort a prisoner from Hazel-Hatch to Sallins, at Ponsonby-bridge they fell in with a number of rebels. The serjeant immediately retired, and sent off an orderly with the account to Lieutenant Pearce, who instantly dispatched a serjeant and eight men to his assistance; and being joined on the spot by three of the yeomanry, an engagement took place, in which twenty-five of the rebels were killed. One of the serjeants received a slight wound on the hand from a pike.

On the 19th of June, Brigadier-general Dunn having sent a strong patrol from Rathangan towards Prosperous, under the command of Captain Pack, of the 5th dragoon guards, the Captain fell in with one hundred of the rebels, well mounted and appointed; he instantly attacked, and defeated them, taking eight horses, and killing from twenty to thirty men.

Lieutenant-colonel Stewart, of the 5th dragoons, having been detached to Prosperous, on the evening of the 19th of June, found a body of the rebels posted on a hill to the left of the town, who fled into the neighbouring bog on his approach. His advanced guard having been fired upon from the town, he brought two currie guns to bear upon it, and set fire to part of the town. Much cattle was left behind by the rebels which they had pinned up near the mess-room of the barrack, together with many pikes and drums. Eight of the rebels were killed.

On the 19th of June, a detachment from Mount-Kennedy attacked a body of three hundred rebels, near Ballynarush. The fire began from the rebels, who were posted behind a hedge, on the top of a commanding hill. After an engagement of about twenty minutes, they gave way in every quarter, leaving twenty dead behind them.

On Monday the 25th of June, a body of rebels, consisting of several thousands, descended from the mountains of Wicklow to attack Hacket's-town. On seeing them approach, Lieutenant Gardner, with his detachment of two hundred men, took post on the most advantageous ground near the town, to prevent the rebels from getting possession of it; but after a few rounds, the rebels filed off in every direction, with an intent to surround and cut him off. Lieutenant Gardner then retreated, to line the walls and windows of the barrack. The contest continued in the middle

midst of flames (for the rebels set fire to the town) for nine hours, when they were obliged to retreat, carrying off thirty car-loads of their killed and wounded. Lieutenant Gardner's detachment had ten killed and twenty wounded.

On the 30th of June, Major Ormsby, of the city of Limerick militia, attacked a body of three hundred rebels, with sixty infantry, and some yeoman cavalry, and entirely dispersed them, killing one hundred. His party experienced only the loss of two horses.

On Sunday, the 4th of July, a patrol of cavalry was attacked by a body of rebels from behind hedges contiguous to the road, and suffered some loss.

On the night of the 4th of July, Major-generals Needham and Sir James Duff marched from their different positions, in order to surprise a body of rebels, posted at the White Heaps. The rebels having moved early in the morning of the 5th from their post, were met by Sir James Duff's column at the Wicklow Gap, and after a few cannon shot, they retreated, Sir James pursued; General Needham's column was at too great a distance for his infantry to assist, but his cavalry joined in the pursuit, which continued for twelve hours, when they were stopped on some rising grounds: here Sir James Duff having brought the currie guns to bear on the rebels, they were dispersed in all directions, with great slaughter. The loss of the troops, was six men and six horses killed, and sixteen horses wounded.

It having been reported that the mountains of Wicklow afforded a retreat to large bodies of rebel fugitives, Lieutenant-general Lake received the Lord Lieutenant's commands to move different columns, in various directions, to clear that part of the country. He returned on the 15th of July to Dublin, having

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not found anybody whatever assembled in that district. —On the 12th of July, those rebels that had been in the mountains, passed over to the Bog of Allen, and on the 14th, a body of one thousand five hundred attacked the town of Clonard, where they were repulsed with the loss of sixty men, by Colonel Blake, who marched against them from Mullingar with fifty infantry and as many yeoman cavalry. This body after their defeat, moved towards Longwood, whence they were pursued, on the 15th, by brigadier-general Meyrick, almost to Culmullen; thirty were killed in the pursuit. A party of the Duke of York's Highlanders fell in with sixteen of them mounted, the next morning, and killed all but one, whom they took prisoner. The main body of the rebels having reached Dunboyne on the evening of the 15th, proceeded to the hill of Garret's-town on the 16th, whither Major-general Myers, with a detachment of the Royal Buckinghamshire militia, and of the Dublin yeomanry corps, was ordered to pursue them. The rebels, however, went off in the night for the Boyne, and passed it: they were pursued by two divisions, under Major-general Weyms and Brigadier-general Meyrick; and their cavalry having come up with them, the rebels formed, in a strong position, on the road to Ardee. As soon as the Sutherland, with the battalion guns, arrived, the rebels fell into confusion, and broke in all directions. General Weyms then ordered the cavalry and yeomanry to attack, and followed with the infantry to support them. The rebels fled into the bog, where a considerable number were killed, and a great quantity of pikes, guns, pistols, swords, and two standards, were taken.

Some of the rebels who escaped, went on towards Ardee, the rest retreated over the Boyne towards Garret's-town, where they were again attacked by  
Captain

Captain Gordon, of the Dumfries light dragoons, who had assembled one hundred and thirty-three infantry, consisting of detachments of the Fermanagh and Carlow militia, and Swords yeomanry, and about an hundred cavalry, being part of the Dumfries regiment, of the Fingal, the Coolock, the Ballybriggan, and Lord Gormanstown's yeomen. The rebels being mounted, Colonel Gordon ordered a great part of his cavalry to pursue: on their advancing, the rebels dismounted, and fled in all directions: not one hundred remained on the ground, when the infantry came up, and they were dispersed on the first discharge, and then pursued by Lord Gormanstown's troops. The loss of the rebels amounted to one hundred and fifty men killed, and two hundred horses. This service was performed without any loss on the part of his Majesty's forces.

On the 1st July, a body of rebels, above two thousand in number, attacked the town of Carnew, upon the confines of the county of Wexford and Wicklow, but were repulsed by the yeomanry with great spirit, who killed a great number of the rebels, and drove the rest into the country. A party of the Ancient Britons, however, who were coming to the aid of the yeomanry at Carnew, suffered. The rebels had very artfully formed a scheme for this purpose, in preventing the communication, by barriers of baggage carriage, which, while the Ancient Britons were endeavouring to force, the rebels fell upon their rear, and cut them to pieces, after a very gallant resistance. The rebels then renewed the attack upon Carnew, and, after an interrupted contest of two days, were again repulsed by the yeomanry; but the town of Carnew was completely destroyed.

On the 10th of July, six prisoners were brought into Dublin by a detachment of Beresford's cavalry,

being part of a body of rebels, intercepted by that corps, in their progress to the neighbouring hills, whither they were conveying some ammunition to a large body of their brethren. The chief of the escort was killed on the spot, another wounded, and four of them were hanged at Rathfarnham. Some of the rebel insignia, viz. a couple of standards, and several green cockades, were taken from the insurgents.

On the 10th of July, the Cork mail-coach was stopped at Kill, by a body of rebels, well armed and mounted, who deprived the guard of his arms. The Galway coach was stopped at Cloncurry the same morning, and on the 11th, at Maynooth, by a large party, equally well mounted and appointed, who effected a like plunder.

Early on the morning of the 13th of July, the Nethercross cavalry fell in with the main body of the rebels at Robert's-town, and, after gallantly cutting their way through them, and killing some, gave the first intelligence to government. The next morning, about three o'clock, they went in search of them again; but the rebels having fled the night before, they immediately went in pursuit of them, and, having met the army under the command of General Myers, gave the General the first intelligence of their flight from Robert's-town. After being employed on different services during the course of the day, they, on their return to their barracks at night, fell in with some of the rebels well mounted, near Chapel-midway, and, though very much fatigued, immediately pursued them; they with much difficulty came up with them, shot some, and took their horses. On the 15th, in the morning, about five o'clock, they again surprised a party of rebels in the fields near St. Margarat's, and, after a spirited and vigorous pursuit, killed a number of them; in the pockets of  
some

some of them were found pistols and plenty of ammunition.

On the 22d of July, Captains 'Aylmer and Fitzgerald, of the county Kildare, two noted rebel commanders, together with thirteen of their officers, who had voluntarily submitted to his majesty's mercy, were escorted to Dublin. Aylmer and Fitzgerald were lodged in the castle, and the others committed to the custody of the yeoman guard in the Royal Exchange.

The St. Sepulchre's corps of yeomanry were disarmed on parade, by a part of the Stephen's-green infantry, conformable to an order of government—it having appeared that (a few excepted) its members were in a state of disaffection. Several of them were arrested.

On the 17th of June, at seven o'clock in the evening, the Right Honourable Lord O'Neill died, at Shane's castle, in consequence of the wounds having mortified which he received in the affair at Antrim on the 7th.

Captain White, of the Ballaghkeen troop, (commanding officer in Gorey) having received information that the inhuman and sanguinary rebel Hacker, (or Antrim Jack) with the small remnant of his party which had escaped the yeomanry, were committing great depredations between Gorey and Arklow, assembled immediately his corps, and, with that of Gorey, commanded by Captain Woodruff, and the Wingfield, by Captain Gowan, came up with this rebel and his party, on the lands of Ballyrad: on the approach of the corps, they took shelter in the wood, which the troops surrounded, and kept up a brisk and continual fire for near an hour, which was warmly returned. Three yeoman were wounded. The rebels being under cover, and the yeomanry exposed to

their fire, Captain White formed two parties to breast the wood, which he did with good effect, and killed four: Hacket proved to be one of the number, and his head was fixed on the market-house of Gorey.

A detachment of the Duke of York's Royal Highlanders, commanded by Major Meredith, fell in with the noted rebel Holt, on the 10th of August, at a village near the Glen of Finmal. The darkness of the morning favoured Holt's escape, but seventeen of his associates were killed, and one wounded. The latter was made prisoner, and some useful information was obtained from him. Holt himself was shot in the thigh and foot; but he contrived to crawl to some distance, when, meeting with a horse, he was just able to mount, and thus eluded the punishment that awaited him.

The activity of the Duke of York's Royal Highlanders so unremittingly harassed Holt and his gang, that they were reduced to a small number. In a short time, therefore, after the above action, Holt availed himself of the clemency of Marquis Cornwallis, and surrendered to Lord Powerscourt, who transmitted him to Dublin; and in a few days he was sent on board one of his Majesty's tenders for transportation.

The remains of the gallant Lord Mountjoy were interred in a vault of Thomas's church, with military honours. Above four thousand of the Dublin yeomanry marched in the funeral procession.

In the month of August, a proclamation was issued, to be filled by the respective generals commanding his Majesty's forces in this kingdom, offering pardon and amnesty to such of the rebels as would come in, to a place appointed in each district or county, surrender and give up their arms in fourteen days from the date thereof: and certificates of protection were to be granted to all who would take an oath of allegiance,



giance, abjure their former treasonable obligations, and bind themselves to be of the peace.

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*Executions of Rebel Commanders.*

DR. THOMAS ESMOND,

Lieutenant in the Yeoman Cavalry of the county Kildare, convicted of not only being absent from his duty, but aiding and leading on the rebels at Prosperous, was executed, pursuant to his sentence on the 14th of June, on Carlisle bridge, Dublin.

HENRY MUNRO,

Shop-keeper, of Lisburn, who, with others, commanded the rebel troops, amounting to six or seven thousand, on the high grounds above Lord Moira's estate, was executed, on Saturday the 16th of June, at four o'clock in the evening, opposite his own door, in Lisburn. After hanging a considerable time, his head was severed from his body, stuck on the top of a pike, and affixed on the market-house thereof.

JAMES DICKEY,

Attorney, from Crumlin, found guilty of acting as a Captain of the rebels at Kells, was, on the 22d of June, hanged and beheaded, at Belfast, and his head placed on the market-house thereof.

This unfortunate man was in the vigour of his youth, was bred an Attorney, and had moderate practice. The Reverend Mr. Kelburne prayed with him for a considerable time before he was launched into eternity, but he appeared very insensible to his awful situation. He was dressed in a light-coloured coat, swandown vest, grey pantaloons, with half boots.

JAMES

## JAMES CHORDE,

Commonly called Doctor Chorde, found guilty of having a command in the rebel army at Saintfield and Ballynahinch, and of being leader of the rebels in the engagement with the York fencibles and Newtown-Ards yeomanry, at Saintfield, on the 9th of June, was executed at Down-Patrick, on the 23d of June.

## JAMES M'CANN,

Of Killinchy, convicted of being active in forcing persons into the rebellion, of instigating others to rise, and of being a leader in the rebel army at Killinchy, was executed at Down-patrick on the 27th of June.

## MESSRS. HENRY AND JOHN SHEARES,

Were executed for high-treason, at Newgate, in Dublin, on Saturday, the 14th of July.

They spent several hours previous to their awful exit in spiritual communications with two Protestant clergymen. Both of them received the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Henry professed, on the scaffold, that his political views were confined to a reform in Parliament, in which declaration, and an abhorrence of indiscriminate massacre, he was joined by his brother John. The last words of the latter were, "I forgive the world, as I expect to be forgiven."

After decapitation, the trunks and heads of both were delivered to their friends, and interred in St. Michan's church-yard.

Bagnel Harvey, Captain Rowson, Mr. Gray, Cornelius Grogan, Mr. Colclough, and Generals Keughe and Roach, commanders of the rebels in the county and the town of Wexford, were executed in Wexford, with others, during the month of July.

The

The above chiefs of the rebels were dressed in green jackets, turned up with white or yellow, white or yellow vest, buck-skin breeches, half boots, hats with white cock-neck feathers, and green cockades, the hair without powder, and cropped close.

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In the rival contest between William III. and James II. in this Kingdom, the British, Irish, and French forces did not amount in the whole, to sixty thousand. In 1641, Cromwell's entire force for the reduction of Ireland was only between twenty and thirty thousand. At present the number of troops in this country, regulars, militia, fencibles, yeomanry, &c. amount to near one hundred and fifty thousand men!

On the 1st of August, the Right Honourable Thomas Fleming, Lord Mayor of Dublin, raised to public view, in the mansion house garden, to the front of Dawson-street, the equestrian statue of George I. of glorious memory, that had lain in an obscure situation since it graced old Essex-bridge in 1750. It is raised on an handsome pedestal, on the front of which is placed, on a tablet, the following inscription:

Be it remembered,  
That at the time rebellion and disloyalty were the  
characteristics of the day,  
The loyal Corporation of the city of Dublin re-erected this statue,  
Of the first Monarch of the illustrious  
House of Hanover,  
*Anno Domini 1798.*

## PROGRESS

OF THE

## FRENCH INVASION,

*To their Defeat and Surrender at Ballynamuck.*

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ON the 22d of August, three French frigates came and anchored in Killala Bay. The French proceeded to land some men, which was opposed by about twenty fencibles, and some yeomen who were quickly routed, and the French took the town, and made the Bishop of Killala and his family prisoners. On the 23d, a small party of the French advanced seven miles, to the town of Ballyna, where the yeomanry killed one of their horses, and wounded two of their men: they retreated, but were reinforced to about two hundred, sixty of them mounted on horses they had taken in the country. In the mean time expresses had been sent to Ballinrobe, from which place a party marched at ten o'clock in the morning, and came to Castlebar, where it was joined by the carabineers quartered there, and thirty yeomen infantry: with these they arrived at Ballyna about five in the afternoon, and drove the French back, but on advancing to Killala, found they were entrenched: our men then fell back, and took a position about a mile and an half from the enemy, but whilst they were feeding their horses, they were attacked by the French, and obliged to retreat to Ballyna, from thence to Castlebar, having had a few wounded, and a serjeant missing. On the 26th, General Lake arrived at a village near Castlebar, where he was collecting his force, when

when on the morning of the 27th, he was attacked by the enemy, who having been joined the day before by a multitude of rebels, had marched from Killala in great force. After a smart conflict the General retreated to Hollymount, with the loss of six field pieces, and the French entered Castlebar.

On the 28th his Excellency Marquis Cornwallis arrived at Athlone from Dublin, and collected his forces: on his approach, September 4th, the enemy retreated from Castlebar to Foxford, from thence without stopping, through Swineford, Ballaghy, and Tubbercorry; to Colony, on the 5th, where they were attacked by Colonel Vereker with a detachment of the Limerick militia, but he was repulsed.

The next morning early, on having received intelligence that Cornwallis was at their heels, they abandoned Colony, and took the road to Drumahaire: General Lake, with his column, entered Colony shortly after; and on the 8th of September, after a most severe chase of near one hundred miles, his advanced guards came up with the French at Ballynamuck, and summoned them to surrender, but as the enemy did not attend to this summons, they were instantly attacked, on which about two hundred French infantry threw down their arms, thinking that all their army would do the like; General Cradock and Captain Pakenham rode up to them, but they instantly commenced a fire of cannon and musquetry, which wounded General Cradock.

The action lasted about half an hour, when the French surrendered at discretion. A dreadful slaughter of the rebels then took place: they fled, in all directions, but the light cavalry pursued, and for three days and nights the carnage never ceased.

The French prisoners amounted to eight hundred and forty-two, officers and men; and ninety-six rebels were

were taken, three of them general officers, their names, Teeling, Roach, and Blake; the two latter were immediately executed, but Teeling being commissioned in the French service, was transmitted to Dublin, where, in a few days, he was tried and found guilty of treason and rebellion, and, pursuant to his sentence, was hanged and beheaded on Arbour-hill. During his trial, and at the place of execution, he shewed the greatest fortitude.

Twelve pieces of cannon, a great quantity of ammunition, seven hundred stand of arms, and a vast number of pikes were taken.

The Kings forces had but one officer wounded, three privates killed, twelve wounded, and three missing; eleven horses killed, one wounded, and eight missing.



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