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THE IRISH FUSILIERS

HISTORY OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

One of the Most Celebrated in the British Army—Gained Glory All Over the World—The Royal Irish Rifles.

The history of the Eighty-seventh regiment of foot of the British army, better known as the Royal Irish Fusiliers, begins with the declaration of war against Great Britain by Holland in the year 1793. Upward of 50 regiments of infantry were then authorized in various parts of Great Britain and Ireland, and among them was the afterward famous Eighty-seventh, which was raised by Lieutenant Colonel John Doyle, afterward General Sir John Doyle.

The first exploit of the Irish fusiliers was performed when it was on service in Flanders and there repelled the enemy at the outpost of Alost, the lieutenant colonel who raised it being the first to be wounded. In 1804 a second battalion was added to the first. Three years later the first battalion took part in the campaign in South America and took the city of Montevideo by storm, an exploit for which they were allowed to show the words "Monte Video" on their regimental colors and appointments. They subsequently, July 6, 1807, compelled the surrender of the troops defending Buenos Ayres to the number of 1,500. The first battalion of the regiment from the years 1808 and 1809 was stationed at the Cape of Good Hope. Its next place of service was India, where it compelled the rajah of Nepal, who had broken his treaty with the East India company, to sue for peace. Its subsequent service in India up to the year 1821 obtained for it the gift of silver cups and plate as well as special recognition for meritorious conduct by the governor general of India.

After a brief campaign in Burma on June 23, 1827, the Eighty-seventh was landed in England and placed on the British establishment from that day inclusive, with an effective strength of 208 rank and file. In token of its exploits the regiment now received the name of "The Prince of Wales' Own Irish Regiment of Fusiliers," and blue facings were adopted instead of green in order to make it uniform with the other fusilier regiments. On April 1, 1848, the regiment was augmented to 57 sergeants, 21 drummers, 50 corporals and 950 privates.

The second battalion, raised from the counties of Tipperary, Galway and Clare, was placed on the establishment of the army from Dec. 25, 1804, at 600 rank and file, augmented the following year to 800 and in the year 1807 to 1,000. The regiment next took part in the battle of Talavera. The English regiments, here putting the French skirmishers aside, met the advancing columns with loud shouts and, breaking in on their front, lapping their flanks with fire, pushed them back with terrible carnage. Ten guns were taken, and though the French rallied on their supports their effort was a vain one. The British artillery and musketry played too vehemently on their masses, and a Spanish regiment of cavalry charging on their flank at the same time the whole army redrew in disorder, and the victory was secured.

The Eighty-seventh next successfully defended the breach made by the French in the walls of the town of Tarifa, the drums and fifes of the regiment playing "Patrick's Day" and "Garry Owen" as the French, much more numerous, came up to receive their fire.

The battalion next performed several marches under circumstances of considerable hardship and difficulty. On one occasion, when the Eighty-seventh had taken up its ground on a hill not far from the enemy, a shell from a masked howitzer fell in the center of one of the companies. The men naturally tried to get out of the way, when James Geraghty, a private grenadier, called to the men that he would show them "how they played football in Limerick." He immediately kicked the live shell, with its burning fuse, over the edge of the hill. The moment it touched the ground it exploded without injuring anybody. For this gallant act the commanding officer made the man a handsome present.

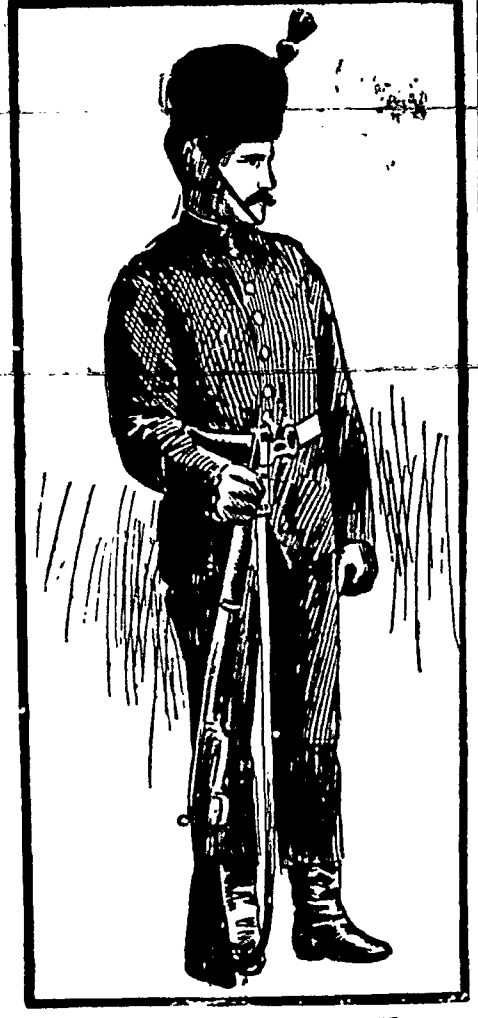
The Eighty-seventh also fought in the Netherlands in the war of 1814-5, at Ava in 1826 and took part in suppressing the Indian mutiny in 1857-8.



The Irish fusiliers were nicknamed "The Old Fogs," also "The Faugh a Ballagh Boys," from "Fag au Bealae" ("Clear the way"), its cry at Barossa; also "The Eagle Takers." The regiment bears the plume of the Prince of Wales; also an eagle with a wreath of laurel, from the capture of a French eagle, as described above; also a harp and crown.

The Eighty-third and Eighty-fourth foot make up the Royal Irish Rifles, which were organized in Ireland in 1793 and saw their first active service in the West Indies a year later and until 1806. In that time the regiment lost 26 officers and 870 men. Then the regiment was sent to the Cape and placed in Cameron's brigade.

The history of the regiment is a long chapter of bravery and heroism, and at some of the battles where the Eighty-third took part the Irishmen were conspicuous because of their dash and daring and their devotion to duty. At Badajoz, where the carnage was so great that when it was told to Wellington "the pride of conquest sank into a passionate burst of grief for the loss of his gallant soldiers," the Irish regiment was the first to rush to the assault, their bugler, though grievously



PRIVATE ROYAL IRISH RIFLES.

wounded, sounding the advance as he lay helpless beside the heading rush of furious men. The uniform of the regiment is green, with facings of dark green, and the badge of the regiment is the Irish harp surmounted by a crown on a Glengarry. On the helmet plate is the sphinx with the word "Egypt" and a bugle with a scroll having the motto, "Qui Separabit," and the record of the battles, which are: "India," "Egypt," "Cape of Good Hope, 1805," "Bourbon," "Talavera," "Busaco," "Fuentes d'Onor," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Salamanca," "Vitoria," "Nivelle," "Orthez," "Toulouse," "Peninsula" and "Central India." Being a rifle regiment, the Royal Irish Rifles carry no colors.

An Appeal For Assistance. Rev. John P. Connolly, pastor of Achill, County Mayo, has made an appeal for financial assistance to help him in having three churches in his parish renovated and repaired. British misrule has so effectually destroyed all Irish industries that Father Connolly's parishioners have a terrible fight every day in the year with the wolf-hunger. Many hundreds of them of both sexes are compelled every year to go to the country which has ruined their own in order to earn a few dollars in saving the harvest of the Britishers. Under these conditions the pastor is forced to seek assistance from the Irish in the United States and in other countries. His appeal will be generously responded to, particularly by men from the grand old Irish province of Connaught. But for the deliberate misrule and robbery of the country by the British appeals of this kind need never be made by Irish priests, and they ought to state it in their appeals.

The Hill of Victory. Collis Victoria, this is the proud title ("Hill of Victory") anciently borne by the Hill and Abbey of Knockmoy, near Tuam, Galway. From an ancient petition it would appear that the monks of the abbey of Knockmoy were possessed of the rectory of the collegiate church "Jure quo nascitur." The abbey of Collis Victoria, or Abbeyknockmoy, was founded by Cathal O'Connor, king of Connaught, about the year 1180.

The Tower of Maynooth. The grand tower now being erected in connection with the church of Maynooth will be an imposing structure. It now stands 104 feet high, and 146 feet have to be added to complete the contract. Even in the incomplete stage it presents an imposing appearance. The erection of a tower of such dimensions is a tedious process, involving a great deal of labor and a heavy outlay.

OUR IRISH GIRLS

COMING TO THIS COUNTRY FINDS A SAFE REFUGE

At the Mission House of Our Lady of the Rosary, New York City—Father Henry's Circular to the Friends of the Institution.

MISSION OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY, For the Protection of Irish Immigrant Girls.

7 State Street, New York, Oct. 1, 1900. Dear Friends:

A few months hence the nineteenth century will be gathered to its forefathers. The century, whose birth saw the depopulation of Ireland still beholds, in its dying hours, the enforced emigration of the Irish people. During the past year about 23,000 Irish men and women left their native land and entered America by the Port of New York.

"Ill fares the land to hastening ills a prey, Where wealth accumulate and men decay. Princes and lords may flourish or may fade, A breath can make them as a breath has made; But a bold peasantry, their country's pride, When once destroyed, can never be supplied."

The blight of landlordism, the continued opposition of England to the development of the native Irish industries, the dread of enforced enlistment in the English army drove, during the past year, thousands of the youth of Ireland to America. The number of Irish immigrants who landed at this port alone exceeded the number at a corresponding period of last year by at least 2,000. As the number of Irish girls who land is usually larger than the number of Irish boys, we may, in the absence of precise figures, calculate that over 12,000 young women from Ireland reached our shores during the past twelve months.

These figures tell a sad story. How many homes made desolate! How many heart-strings rent asunder! How many a bitter tear shed at the parting! How many sighs and sorrows at the cruel, unnatural, perhaps life-long separations of those nearest and dearest to them on earth! How many a young heart launched on the sea of life exposed to all its storms! How many will reach the haven of safety! How many will be wrecked on the rocky coast of adversity! "Goodbye and God bless you, Asthore!" "May the Blessed Virgin be your guide, mavourneen!" Such are the pathetic parting words still heard at the railway stations in Ireland as the trains move out that bear the youth of Erin from their homes to the emigrant ships. Such scenes are witnessed daily in that hapless country. A large majority of these emigrants never traveled before; many have little or no idea of conditions of life in America. Few, indeed, who have not with them addresses of friends supplied by kindly neighbors. But whether these friends are in New York, Boston, Omaha or San Francisco—whether they are able or willing or fit to receive and provide for them, are matters that do not enter into their calculations. They know they are going to America and they know their friends are there, and with this knowledge they are content. It will not require a great deal of reasoning to reach the conclusion that these young, inexperienced, confiding emigrants have a very hard and perilous journey before them. In the case of the Irish girls—for the first time away from the sacred environment of home, exposed for the first time to the wiles of a designing world—their youth and pre-eminence heighten the moral dangers to which they are exposed. Until they reach Queenstown these 12,000 young women may be said to be comparatively safe, but once they step from the sacred soil of their native land and board the foreign-bound vessel, perils to body and soul confront them.

And here it is where the Providence of God is shown. Here is seen the evidence of the powerful influence of the Mother of God in response to the tearful appeals of Irish parents for the welfare of their exiled children. Let it be told for the great honor and glory of God and to the credit of the Irish race that there is in New York an institution of charity called the Mission of Our Lady of the Rosary, whose object is to safeguard these emigrant girls. It extends the arms of its protecting influence even over the blue waters of the Atlantic and these 12,000 young women have, during the past year, been saved from every danger until their friends were met or they were started in an honorable career in a strange land.

Who has not heard of Father Riordan or of the Immigrant Home founded by him near Castle Garden? His name and his Home have become by words in two continents. Seventeen years ago he was appointed by his superiors to investigate the condition of the immigrant girls landing at Castle Garden, with a view to safeguarding their interests. His investigation revealed the many and terrible dangers to faith and morality to which these girls were exposed. Notwithstanding the laudable efforts of the Irish Im-

grant Society, he found there was a distinct need for charitable work amongst the young girls from Ireland. After leaving Castle Garden these young girls often knew not where to face, and so fell victims to schemers, thieves and ruffians of every description that, at that time, infested the vicinity of Castle Garden. In 1888 Father Riordan bought on two acres a house situated at 7 State street and called it the Home for Irish Immigrant Girls. In the evening of the day when the transatlantic liners dis freight at the landing depot, Father Riordan gathered altogether all the young Irish girls and brought them to the Home. They were welcome to remain until friends were found or employment in decent families secured.

From the day the Home was founded until now it has been an inviolable rule that no immigrant girl be charged for her support. Her stay at the Home has always been free of expense. The charitable contributions of the public have enabled the Directors of the Home to make ends meet without calling upon the often scanty means of its guests. Father Riordan's two successors, Father Kelly and Father Callaghan, have died since, but the holy work of the Mission goes on apace and upon the old lines.

During the past year the accommodations of the Home were often taxed to the utmost. This is evident from the following statistics: APRIL 15th there came to the Home from the S. S. "Teutonic," 102 girls; April 24th, from the "Ivernia," 108; May 10th, from the "Oceanic," 108; May 23d, from the "Ivernia," 79; May 26th, from the "Lucania," 56; May 31st from the "Majestic," 115 while we had from the "Cymric," June 4th, 111. The great majority of the immigrant girls come from the different Counties of Ireland but of the total England contributed 23; Scotland 10, while we had a few representatives from Wales, France, Germany, Australia and Buenos Ayres. Situated as we were found for 512 girls during the past year.

About 202,000 young Irish girls landed at the port of New York since the Mission was established in October, 1888. What the Mission has done for them may be summed up as follows:—1st. It has exercised a moral influence over steamship lines to safeguard the immigrant on board their vessels. 2d. It has watched over, guided and assisted at the landing depot those who intended to proceed by rail or steamboat to destination. 3d. It has examined the claims and wishes of the relatives or friends who called for the immigrant. 4th. It has provided a Home at No. 7 State street, where were kept free of charge all those whose friends did not call on the day of their arrival, or who had no friends at all, or who were unable to proceed on their journey. 5th. It has tried to locate relatives of those who brought indefinite addresses. 6th. It has secured positions in good families for those ready to go to work. 7th. It has provided a Chapel before whose altar the immigrant has knelt to receive comfort, encouragement and strength for the battle of life before her. 8th. It has supplied the good offices of the priest, in whom alone the Irish girl is ready to confide. And so conscientiously and faithfully has the Mission performed its duty that not one girl during the seventeen years of its existence has failed either to reach her destination in safety, and her friends or secure employment.

His Grace, Archbishop Corrigan, on his recent visit to Rome, took with him a very beautiful album which he presented to the Holy Father. The album contained photographs and descriptions of the churches and institutions of charity erected in New York in recent years. It was meant to illustrate the wonderful growth of the Catholic population and of Catholic energy in the metropolis. Amongst the foremost of the charitable institutions thus brought to the attention of His Holiness was the Mission of Our Lady of the Rosary. The establishment at the gateway of the New World of a Home for the protection of the Catholic immigrant seemed to afford particular pleasure to the Sovereign Pontiff.

Indeed, no Report of the progress of American Catholicity would be accurate or impartial if due credit were not given to the share Irish immigration had in its advancement. The extraordinary increase of Catholicity in America may be largely attributed to the great influx of the Irish people, in the words of the Psalmist, "their sound hath gone forth into all the land and their words unto the end of the world." The Catholic churches and the Catholic institutions of this country have been built and supported principally by the generosity of the Irish immigrants and their descendants. It was only fitting, then, that in the Archbishop's Report to the Holy Father of Catholic progress in New York, proper mention should be made of the Home for the protection of the Irish Immigrant girls.

Complimentary references from such high sources are the best endorsement of the Mission's work and should commend it to the charitable public as a worthy object of their generosity. It depends entirely on charity for support, receiving no aid whatever from the City, State or Federal governments. On each recurring October 1st (Month of the Rosary) we bring our claims to the attention of the public and appeal for funds to carry on the work.

are engaged. Since the days of Father Riordan, the "Rosary Society" has been the chief source of the Mission's revenue. The "Rosary Society" works this wise. Cards of membership are sent to authorized Collectors in every State of the Union. The Collector's duty is to secure members for the society. Membership costs only twenty-five cents. This entitles the member to a share in the merit of the good work accomplished by the Mission and to the benefit of the masses which are offered at the Home every week during the year for the living and the dead. We urge upon the old and new Collectors to work hard for the interests of the Home. A Home that has been such a blessing to the young exiles of our race.

The new landing depot at Ellis Island is fast approaching completion. It will be opened none too soon, as the present quarters are entirely inadequate for the proper handling of so large an immigration as we have had during the past year.

We thank the present commissioners, Hon. Thomas Fitchie and Hon. Edw. F. McSwaney, for courtesies extended and facilities in the work of the Mission afforded during the year. Our relations with all the Barge office officials continue to be of a friendly character. The Press of the country has been and is still kind in its reference to the Mission's work. We are grateful for their generous notices. I remain, Dear friends, Sincerely yours, M. J. Henry

Among those who died recently in County Cork, Ireland, were three who had passed the four-score year. The names and ages reported are: James Sullivan-Green, at Air Hill, Glanworth, August 28th, 88 years; Octavius O'Driscoll, August 20th, at Down Hill, 84 years, and Daniel Cronin, at New street, Newmarket, August 21st, 84 years.

Archbishop Noailles, with Bishop Hovis and ten friars, has left the Philippines for Spain. He goes to render his decennial religious report. He says he expects to return again to Manila. During his absence the affairs of the archdiocese will be administered by Mgr. Chapelle.

It is expected that the Catholic school building of Elkton, South Dakota, will be ready on October 15th. Mother M. Joseph, the superior of the Presentation Nuns, from Abertown, was at Elkton the other day in consultation with Father Sheehan about the school. Five Sisters will go to the school, and the school will be under the charge of the U. S. Marshal.

An official list of the awards received by the Brothers of the Christian Schools for their work at the Paris exposition has been received by the Brothers in this country. There are three grand prizes, 11 gold medals, 21 silver medals, 14 bronze medals and six honorable mentions. The first three special prizes were awarded the Brothers for successful methods in primary, secondary and professional education.

Chicago's parochial schools are attended by 54,347 pupils taught by 1,109 teachers.

Bishop Fitzgerald, of Little Rock, is now almost completely restored to health.

The death is announced of Mother Ramunda Cremadell, prioress and provincial of the Order of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, in Los Angeles, Cal. Mother Ramunda was 78 years of age at the time of her death. She was a native of Spain and came to this country thirty years ago, during which time she made five foundations of her order.

The annual report of the Covington, Ky. Diocese show that there were 1,788 baptisms administered and 782 confirmations; 111 marriages solemnized, 364 deaths occurred and 165 persons were converted to the Catholic belief. There are 9,251 Catholic families, or about 50,000 Catholics in the diocese.

The hatred of the Jews in France is becoming more and more rampant. Besides the men who are exploiting this passion are themselves witnesses to the practices of any religion.

Rev. M. E. Smith, O. S. F., who was in charge of the Eastern missionary band last year, has been assigned as director of the San Francisco house of the Fathers succeeding Rev. Henry Wyman, who founded the California house several years ago. Father Wyman will be with the Western missionary band this year. Rev. Peter J. O'Callaghan, O. S. F., will be director of the Eastern missionaries. Fathers Moran and McNichol have been transferred to San Francisco and Fathers O'Keefe and McCarty return to New York. Fathers O'Callaghan and Harney opened a mission in Danville, Illinois last Sunday. Father Menton and McCarty opened a mission in St. Elizabeth, Chicago two weeks ago. Fathers Doherty Conway and O'Connell closed a two weeks mission in Sackett, Conn. recently. Rev. Thomas F. Burke has just finished a mission in Churchville, N. Y. Rev. Thomas Cullen conducted a mission in Fordham, N. Y. Rev. Thomas Cullen will be with the Western missionary band this year.

CATHOLIC NOTES

Mrs. Shroeder, formerly at the Catholic University, has been honored by the Emperor with the cross of St. Sava.

The Corporation of the Holy Spirit, a prominent philanthropic organization, has been organized into the Church.

Notker M. Hapler, who has been announced in Australian papers, has been out to Toronto about thirty ago. He had three sisters in America, one in India, and one in the West Indies.

Miss Alberta Bell, eldest daughter of the former editor of the Catholic Voice of Louisville, Ky., Miss Bell was quite a literary contributor, being for years her father's assistant writing from time to time on many important topics.

At Teramo a priest was poisoned recently while celebrating mass. The death-dealing substance was found in the sacramental wine by some unknown means. The priest, who also partook of the wine, narrowly escaped the unfortunate fate.

Recently the Bishop of Javelin, in the name of the Pope, and in presence of the German court, 500 German pilgrims left the altars of the church which he erected at Mt. Elon on the day when Abbot Hildm presented to King William on the occasion of the Jubilee to the Holy Land.

The devotion and self-sacrifice played by the nuns in South America are strikingly illustrated by a letter to a correspondent of the "Pitt." "I know for a fact that a Sister, for more than one year of unrelieved because she was unable to find food in the convent, starved to death. The superior died of starvation, though the point is to be always present."

News has been received of the appointment of a new Bishop for the diocese of Little Rock, Ark. The new Bishop is a native of the diocese and is a member of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus.

The new St. Vincent's school, Little Rock, Arkansas, has been dedicated. The school is a fine building and is a credit to the diocese. The school is under the charge of the U. S. Marshal.

At a conference of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, the question of the school was discussed. The school will be opened in the fall and will be under the charge of the U. S. Marshal.

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