
The author uses three famous figures to illustrate the three phases of the Anglo-Irish rise to power; together they compose the "man of the Ascendancy." The men are Richard Boyle, 1st earl of Cork, and a capitalist settler; James Butler, 1st Duke of Ormonde, an aristocratic landlord; and Jonathan Swift, Dean of St. Patrick's Cathedral and protestant patriot. An interesting presentation of 150 years of Irish history.


A biographical dictionary of Irish poets, including some who were known more for prose than poetry. Only scanty biographical facts are given in many places, but the compiler does list bibliographies of the poet's works. The interest of this work lies in the fact that, at its publication, there was no book of similar nature in existence; it was meant really as a beginning for a dictionary of Irish writers.


Ryan finds little to criticize about his subjects. His purpose is to "reveal them... in their early grandeur" or "at least to lead us to the spots hallowed by their presence, to shew us the memorials of their hands, and point out the sublime track by which they ascended to immortality." Outdated, but has some interesting facts.


Compact sketches of deceased Irish men and women, from earliest times to date, distinguished for their deeds or qualities. Also includes those not born in Ireland who figured prominently in Irish affairs or wrote important works on Ireland; but does not include those born abroad of Irish parentage or in Ireland of non-Irish parents, unless they spent considerable time in the country or were educated there.

Individual


A memoir of Dr. William Stokes by a friend, meant to be a prefix to a memorial edition of Stokes' *Diseases of the Chest*. The emphasis is on Stokes as a man, rather than on his works as physician and author. Stokes was President of the Royal Irish Academy, and had a keen interest in Irish history and antiquities.


A short article about the author of *Harry Lorrequer, Charles O'Malley, The Knight of Gwynne*, and *The Martins of Cro Martin*. Lever was a popular writer in his day, as well as a physician and world traveler. He was born in Dublin of Anglo-Irish ancestry.

This book contains memories and anecdotes about James Joyce and his family by his close friends, the Colums. The reader gains insight into Joyce's personality, and much is revealed about his circle of friends.


John Philpot Curran, born in co. Cork in 1750 was a barrister, a member of the Irish Parliament, poet, orator, and master of the rolls in Ireland. The book relates the major incidents in Curran's life and times, and includes several of his poems.


First full-length biography of Curran in almost a century and a half; throws new light on his career. Curran is described as "almost a gentleman, nearly a poet, not quite a statesman, a parliamentary liberal in advance of his time, accounted by the outstanding wits ...the most accomplished of them all." Curran was a defender of free speech and press, of Wolfe Tone, Napper Tandy and William Orr.


An extremely partisan view of Cromwell, whose Protectorate, according to the author, was "one unbroken success." Sets forth the view that Cromwell was neither s despot nor a professional soldier, but a "country gentleman" called in to restore order and secure peace, who always sought to surround his authority with legal limits.


A collection of Swiftiana, in which "we find ourselves amongst the living breathing personalities who made up that circle in which Swift lived--and reigned." Jackson's authority in the study of Swift was established by his 1939 work, "Jonathan Swift Dean and Pastor."


A colorful biography of the 1st Earl of Orrery, based primarily on ms. sources. In a varied and controversial career, Boyle served both Cromwell and Charles II. The earl produced the first Restoration heroic play and the only full-length Restoration heroic romance, as well as writing the first English treatise on the art of warfare.


Bibliography: p. 211-216.

A biography of Donn Byrne, who was born in America and grew up in Ireland. Byrne wrote 13 novels and story collections before his death in an accident at age 38. Much of the material for this volume was taken from Mrs. Dorm Byrne's diaries, and letters written by and to Donn Byrne himself.


A life of MacCarthy compiled from his own writings and those of Sir Robert Cecil, Sir George Carew, successive Deputies, Presidents of Munster, and numerous correspondents of the English Ministers and Privy Council. Florence MacCarthy Mor, born c. 1563, was a well-educated man brought up in the old style of the chiefs. He spent many years in prison for participating in rebellions against
Elizabeth I. This biography is favorable, and attributes to MacCarthy only the best motives.

   Bibliography: p. 316-331.
   Examines the origins of O'Connell's party, the first Irish party at Westminster and forerunner of Parnell's Home Rule Party; traces the party's roots in Irish politics, its influence in England, and its importance in British politics. The major issues in the pre-1830 years with which the book deals were the Irish Poor Law, municipal reform and the tithe question; these questions faced the government at a time when the Irish party was allied with the Whigs. Macintyre shows O'Connell's movement to be evolutionary and reformist, but more politically than socially oriented, and ultimately having little to offer.

   Bibliography: p. 247-249.
   Vere Foster, following the Great Famine, promoted and financed Irish emigration to America. He also reformed the Irish National Schools, improved teacher's status, and introduced new school textbooks. In this first complete biography, MacNeill illustrates Foster's acquaintance with many famous contemporaries, and gives his firsthand accounts of his American travels in which he sought to secure suitable openings Irish emigrants. Based on family papers, letters, and education reports, among other sources.

   A memoir of Edward Fitzgerald, a leader in the Insurrection of 1798, who later emigrated to Hamburg where he died in 1800. Vol. I covers his life to 1796, and Vol. II the years 1797 and 1798. An appendix contains selected letters and documents in Moore's possession connected with the history of Lord Edward's Attainder.

   Biography of the great actor David Garrick. Garrick was theater manager, and as such reformed public taste to a certain extent; he also encouraged new authors. As an actor, he was noted for his tremendous command of Shakespearean drama, and his abilities were instrumental in restoring and reviving drama. Garrick was also an author. Appendices contain some of his writings, poems and letters written about and to him, and a copy of his will.