

was written on "The Grave of Gerald Griffin" in the Christian Brothers' graveyard in Cork: —

Neath the green grassy turf of the Monks' churchyard,  
 By the pathway that leads to the school;  
 Sleeps Griffin, the purest and tenderest bard  
 That ever gave praise to the soft sunny sward,  
 Tall mountains and dark grottos cool,  
 Of a land, all whose brightness and beauty are marred  
 By the proud Saxon's tyrannous rule.

## EYRE COOTE

Sir Eyre Coote, General, was the youngest son of Rev. Chidley Coote of Ash Hill, County Limerick, by Jane Evans, sister of the first Lord Carbery. He was born at Ash Hill in 1726, and entered the army at a very early age. When only nineteen he took part in the war against Scotland.

In 1754 he embarked for the West Indies, where he served with distinction and was promoted Captain. He took part in the battle of Plassey, commanding the 3rd division, and on Clive's recommendation was promoted lieutenant-colonel. In 1760 he gained a great victory over the French under the Comte de Lally of the Irish Brigade, who were besieging them at Wandewash.

In 1770 he went to Madras as commander-in-chief of the East India Company, but shortly after returned to England. In 1779 he took command of Calcutta, and one of the articles in Warren Hastings' impeachment was that he allowed Coote £18,000 a year field allowances, in addition to his salary of £16,000 a year, even when he was not on active service.

Coote's greatest action was that in which, with about 10,000 soldiers, he defeated Hyder Ali and his army of 40,000. This was the beginning of his great campaign of 1780, which was a whole series of successes until Coote had to retire to Bengal in ill-health. He sailed to Madras, but died two days after reaching it on the 26th April, 1783. His body was brought back to England, landed at Portsmouth with great pomp and ceremony, and buried at Rockburne Church, in Hampshire, where the East India Company erected a monument over it.

Coote was married but had no children, and his estate passed to his nephew, also Sir Eyre Coote, and also a famous British General.

## JOHN SINGLETON COPLEY

John Singleton Copley, the son of Richard Copley by his wife, Mary Singleton, of Quinville Abbey, was born in the year 1737, shortly after his parents had emigrated to Boston from the Co. Clare on account of his father's ill-health.

His father died while Copley was still young, and his mother,