

tended to. The jailor, however, betrayed White and told the Governor of the services being conducted in White's house.

Father Enright had heard the confessions of the faithful and was just preparing for Mass when the soldiers raided the house. He escaped by hiding under straw in the courtyard, but the chalice and the sacred vestments were found. White was arrested and threatened with death and the confiscation of his property if he wouldn't tell where Enright was hiding. He refused to betray the priest, but when the latter heard of White's danger he gave himself up and was immediately imprisoned. He was offered his freedom if he renounced his Faith, but, of course, refused and was condemned to death as a traitor to the Queen.

On the 30th April, 1586, this loyal servant of the Church was drawn at a horse's tail to the gallows, where he was hanged, taken down half alive and beheaded. Bishop Rothe wrote of him: —“ He spoke with such piety and wisdom that many were moved to tears and at the sight of the scaffold he threw himself on his knees in constant prayer amid the scoffs of the heretics.”

His head was placed on a spike over the town gate but his body was ransomed and received decent burial in the Franciscan Abbey. The citizens regarded Enright as a martyr and his grave would have become a place of pilgrimage had not the friars kept it a secret so that the soldiers wouldn't desecrate it. The Courtyard where White's house stood became known afterwards as Martyr's Lane.

In 1647, when the Catholic party returned to power, Father Enright's body was exhumed and reburied, with great ceremony and religious honours, in the Franciscan Abbey at Askeaton.

JOHN FERRAR

The Ferrar family have been long famous in England for the Anglican Community, which Nicholas Ferrar established in Little Gidding in Huntingdonshire in the beginning of the seventeenth century. One of the rules of the Community, which was not a celebrate one, was that each member should learn a trade; and that practised at Little Gidding was book-binding. Specimens of the work of the Community are now extremely rare and valuable.

Captain William Ferrar, a descendant of Nicholas, came to Ireland in the army of King William, and settling in Limerick after the siege, married Marie, the daughter of Richard Lloyd, of Drumsallagh, in the county. William Ferrar, a son of this marriage, took to the family trade of book-selling and book-binding, and his son John was Limerick's most famous printer and first historian.

Ferrar started the “ Limerick Chronicle,” which he owned, edited and printed from 1768 till 1781, when it was taken over by Andrew Watson, who married his daughter. He was author

of the History of Limerick, which appeared in two editions in 1767, and in a much enlarged edition in 1787. Strange to relate, Ferrar himself printed none of these editions. He was also the compiler of the first provincial Directory to appear in Ireland. This was published in 1769 by himself, "The Limerick Directory."

When Ferrar retired from the printing business he lived as an insurance agent on Sir Harry's Mall for a short while, but soon after removed to Dublin. He was a historian by birth and, although living in retirement in Dublin, he published while here "A View of Ancient and Modern Dublin," as well as the description of "A Tour of London." When only twenty-two, he wrote the usual volume of poems, and although these are by no means works of great genius, it can be truthfully said that they avoided most of the coarseness of their times.

His history is an excellent one, well arranged, moderately well indexed, and with plenty of original material. Although Lenihan, Limerick's later and greater historian, has subjected it to much criticism, it is a far better planned work than the latter's. It is also true that Lenihan copied much from it without acknowledgement, as he did from other sources.

Nothing is known of the date or place of Ferrar's death, or of the whereabouts of his burial; and the only record we have of his appearance is in the "Reminiscences of John O'Keeffe," the Irish actor and dramatist:—

"I knew Mr. Ferrar of Limerick, a printer, bookseller and author; he wrote an excellent history of Limerick, which, a few years ago, I heard read with pleasure. His little shop was at the corner of Quay Lane. Ferrar was very deaf, yet had a cheerful animated countenance; thin; and of the middle size."

A catalogue of Ferrar's book-selling wares in 1774 lists 214 plays for sale at 6½d. each. One would search many provincial cities to-day before finding such a selection to choose from.

GERALD FITZGERALD

Gerald Fitzgerald, the 3rd Earl of Desmond and Justiciar of Munster, was the son of Maurice Fitzthomas, the first Earl, by his wife, Eleanor Fitzmaurice. In 1356 he was taken as a hostage for his father's good behaviour, to England, but as the latter died in the same year, Gerald was released, and, on the death of his elder brother, Maurice, three years later, was created Earl.

He was confirmed in his large estates in Munster by the King on condition that he married Eleanor Butler, the daughter of the Earl of Ormonde, who was then Justiciar, and with whose family the Desmonds had already started their bitter quarrel. Gerald did so but, although his wife was "a charitable and bountiful woman," he neither made peace with Ormonde or conformed to English ways and customs as was expected of him.