

Johnston's greatest work, "Chrysal, or the Adventures of a Guinea," appeared in four volumes during the years 1760 to 1765 and showed that Johnston must have been more than intimate with most of the society intrigues and scandals of the day. It created a sensation by revealing many political secrets and exposing the profligacy of several well-known public men who had formed themselves into a club of hell-fire rakes. In the words of a contemporary, it was the "best scandalous chronicle of the day."

Other works of Johnston's, although they never attained the success of "Chrysal," were "The Reverie, or a Flight to the Paradise of Fools," published in two volumes in 1762; "The History of Arbases, Princes of Betlis," in two volumes (1774); "The Pilgrim, or a Picture of Life," in two volumes (1775); and "The History of John Juniper, Esq., alias Juniper Jack," in three volumes, 1781.

Walter Scott, who called Johnston "a prose juvenal" on account of his satirical powers, thought highly of him. He wrote:—"His language is firm and energetic, his power of personifying character striking and forcible, and the persons of his narrative move, breathe and speak in all the freshness of life. His sentiments are in general those of a high-minded and indignant censor of a loose and corrupt age; yet it cannot be denied that Johnston, in his hatred and contempt of the more degenerate vices of ingratitude, avarice and baseness of every kind, shows but too much disposition to favour Churchill and other libertines who thought fit to practise open looseness of manners, because, they said, it was better than hypocrisy.

Tiring of the artificiality of life in London, Johnston set out for India in May, 1782, and was nearly drowned on the voyage. For a time he worked for a Bengal newspaper under the pseudonym "Oneiropolos" but eventually became joint-proprietor of another journal in the same province and is said to have acquired considerable wealth. He died near Calcutta in the year 1800.

PATRICK WESTON JOYCE

Patrick Weston Joyce, educationalist, scholar, historian and musician, was born at Ballyorgan, County Limerick, in the year 1827. After education in private schools he became a national school-teacher in 1845, and gradually improved his position until 1860 when he was made Principal of the Marlboro' Street Model Training Schools in Dublin. His work in Dublin gave him the opportunity of attending Trinity College, and he graduated here, B.A., in 1861; M.A., in 1864, and was granted the honorary degree of LL.D. in 1870. In 1863 he was elected a member of the Royal Irish Academy, and from 1906 to 1908 he was President of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland.

Two years after being admitted to the Academy, Joyce submitted papers on his proposed history of Irish place-names, and, being encouraged in the work by Petrie and Todd, brought out the first volume of this great work in 1869. It was the first really detailed and scientific analysis of place-names ever to be published and its success was immediate. The second volume was published in 1875 and the third and final volume in 1913, a month before his death.

Doctor Joyce was as prolific and versatile a writer as he was a popular one. His first book, "A Handbook of School Management . . ." was issued in 1863, and was the standard text on the subject for close on thirty years. There followed, as well as the history of place-names, a "Grammar of the Irish Language" in 1881; a "Short History of Ireland to 1608," in 1893; "Old Celtic Romances," in 1894; "A Child's History of Ireland," which sold 86,000 copies in 1898; "A Social History of Ancient Ireland," in two volumes, in 1903; "A Smaller Social History," in 1906; "The Story of Ancient Irish Civilisation," in 1907; "Outlines of Irish History," which sold over 70,000 copies, in 1905; "English as we Speak it in Ireland," in 1910, and "The Wonders of Ireland," in 1911. What a life of industry!

From his youth Joyce had been interested in the old Irish music and folk songs and, as a young man, he gave Petrie many Munster airs for his famous collection. In 1909 he himself published a collection of 842 Irish airs and songs. He retired from the Department of Education in 1893 and devoted his whole time to the study of Irish literature. He was at work on a new edition of what is probably his greatest work, "The Social History of Ancient Ireland," when he died on 7th January, 1914, in Dublin, at the ripe old age of 87.

Joyce was a scholar of the old school, the last link with those giants of Irish research, O'Curry, O'Donovan and Petrie; and in addition to his scholarship, he had what they lacked, i.e., the knack of writing in a popular manner and giving to the common people the fruits of his serious and scientific research work.

ROBERT DWYER JOYCE

Robert Dwyer Joyce, poet and ballad-writer, was born at Glensheen, County Limerick, in the year 1830. He was the younger brother of Patrick Weston Joyce, and like him, was educated privately and afterwards became a national school-teacher. Tiring, however, of this profession, he went to the Queen's University, in Cork, where he took out a science degree and graduated M.D. in 1825.

Joyce had already begun his patriotic ballad-writing and while in Cork many of his songs appeared in the "Nation," "Harp," "Dublin's Saturday Magazine," "Celt," and "Irish People." He usually wrote under the pseudonym, "Feardana,"