

Keogh, had lived in the very fine stone house, Castle Troy, the ruins of which can still be seen, jutting out into the Shannon. The family was deprived of its estate through its loyalty to Charles I.

Keogh was educated at Trinity College, where he graduated M.A. in 1678, and gained a high reputation as a mathematician. He entered the Church of Ireland, and, having married the daughter of Dr. Rous Clopton of Stratford-on-Avon, he was given the living of Strokestown. Here he settled down, and, although he had twenty-one children and was by no means rich, was reputed never to have taken tithes from the poor.

His published works consist of 1, *Scala Metaphysica*, or a demonstration of the dependance which the several degrees of animated nature have on the Creator. 2, *A Hebrew Lexicon*. 3, *De Orthographia*. 4, *The solution of mystical problems*. 5, *A Latin Grammar*. 6, *A prosody*. 7, *A Greek grammar*. 8, *An analogy of the four Gospels*. And 9, *A demonstration of the Trinity in Latin verse*.

Keogh's work was much admired by Sir Isaac Newton, particularly the one last listed; and for answering a problem which was sent from a mathematician in Paris and baffled all the experts in Great Britain, the following inscription was fixed in gold letters over one of the hall doors of Oxford University.

*"Reverendus Doctor Johannes Keogh, magnus  
Hibernicus solvebat talem questionem tali die."*

Keogh died in the year 1725, being survived by six only of his children, one of whom was also an eminent Irish author. Many of his manuscripts are still preserved in Trinity College Library.

## SIR HEMPON PIERCE DE LACY

Sir Hempon Pierce de Lacy, the first great Irishman from that ancient Norman family, was the son of Sir William de Lacy, Lord of Bruff, by his wife Honora Mulryan, who afterwards married Sir Richard Bourke and was mother to Sir John Bourke of Brittas. He was thus, a uterine brother of Sir John, and, like him, was a staunch supporter of the old Anglo-Irish Catholic regime. He fought fiercely in support of the House of Desmond until the latter's destruction and the death of the Sagan Earl. Contemporary descriptions of de Lacy vary, according to the bias of the writer. O'Sullivan, the Irish Catholic historian, describes him as a "man of spirit and an eloquent speaker," while Lord Carew, President of Munster, calls him "a wise and malicious traitor," and "a son of perdition, not to be admitted on any terms."

Originally a Justice of the peace and a Sheriff of the County, de Lacy revolted against English rule and was one of the most hated and feared of the the soldiers who fought with Desmond. With Owny O'More of Leix, he led an army into Limerick in order to make James Fitzthomas Earl of Desmond, but the President, Sir Thomas Norris, declined battle and retreated out of reach of the Irish Army. de Lacy, having devastated the country and driven the undertakers from their ill-gotten lands, restored the old proprietors and garrisoned his castle at Bruff. However, on the approach of a tremendous army, under the able commander, Carew, in the following year, he abandoned the castle and took to the woods. A month later we find him, together with the Knight of Glin, attacking Castleisland and liberating the Earl of Desmond, who had been imprisoned there.

When the power of the Desmonds was broken and the Earl had gone into hiding, Sir Pierce maintained himself against all the force of the English Army in his castle at Bruff for a considerable time. After the betrayal and death of the Earl, he went to Ulster on a mission to Hugh O'Neill, but fell into an ambush set by the English soldiers, and with many of his followers was slain. Fynes Morrison, the English historian, describes the event: — "And after these our men had given them a volley in the teeth, they drew away and we heard no more of their drums or bag-pipes, but only mournful cries, for many of their best men were slain, and among the rest, one horseman of great accompt, Pierce de Lacy, an arch-rebel of Munster." The Lord Deputy wrote to Sir Robert Cecil: — "I dare undertake we have rid my Lord President of the most dangerous rebell of Mounster and the most likely to have renewed the rebellion."

## COLONEL PIERCE DE LACY

Colonel Pierce de Lacy, last of that renowned Anglo-Irish family to achieve fame in his own country, was born in the first quarter of the 17th century. As a young man he defended Limerick against the attacks of Cromwell and Ireton; as a middle-aged man he fought for the Jacobite cause on the Continent, and in old age he returned to Ireland and lost his life defending the city against William of Orange.

During the first siege de Lacy, who was a Lieutenant-Colonel in Sir John Hamilton's Regiment, was totally opposed to surrender, and yet, when the city yielded, the citizens so trusted him that he was one of the emissaries sent out to discuss terms with the victors. In the final terms he was one of the few denied pardon by name, but the death sentence was later remitted to exile for life. With 1,000 others he was sent by sea to Spain, but when the boat was on the high seas the exiles mutinied, took control of the ship, and landed in France. Here they joined up with the exiled King of England, Charles II.