

In addition to his history, Lenihan wrote many articles for the learned magazines, edited Doctor Arthur's *Fee-Book*, and collected manuscripts for the histories of Tipperary and Clare. He never completed these, and most of the manuscripts are now in the British Museum.

He was very prominent in public and in civil life, and, like most of the Limerick Corporation of the time, suffered severely from "The Bard of Thomond's" vicious satire—being always addressed by the latter as Saint Maurice or Maurice Birch. He was Mayor of Limerick in 1884, and was made a Justice of the Peace by Lord O'Hagan, who was his friend.

Lenihan, after all the time and money he had spent on his history, was neglected in his old age by the citizens. He was very poor when he died at No. 17 Catherine Street on 25th December, 1895. His son James continued to publish the paper for a short period and his daughter, who pre-deceased him, was a nun in Bruff Convent.

CHARLES LUCAS

Charles Lucas, M.D., Irish patriot and politician, was born in Corofin, County Clare, on 16th September, 1713. Having served for a time as an apprentice to a country apothecary, he went to Dublin, where, for many years, he kept a shop at Charles Street. Afterwards he obtained an M.D. degree, became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in London, and soon established himself in a large and lucrative practice in Dublin.

Lucas was a staunch advocate of the liberty of the subject, in this instance the Protestant Irish, and, even in early life, he had to flee to the Continent to escape punishment for his rash outbursts. On return to Dublin he was elected to the Common Council of the City, and, having made research into the old Dublin charters and records, published in 1748 a series of sixteen addresses against the corrupt rule and repressive statutes, including Poyning's Law, and told them they could not "consistently with their duty to their God, their king, their country, themselves and posterity, relinquish the claim to their birthright, Liberty."

When he was asked to stand for a vacant Parliamentary seat for the city in the following year, the Corporation, fearing the result, disfranchised him and the Attorney-General was ordered to prosecute him for his "libellous" writings. Knowing the likely result of such a charge, Lucas again fled the country and, while in England, occupied himself in writing a highly esteemed treatise on the quality of the waters of Bath.

Samuel Johnson, who met him at that time, wrote:—"The Irish Ministers drove him from his country by a Proclamation in which they charged him with crimes which they never intended to be called to prove and oppressed him by methods equally

irresistible by guilt or innocence. Let the man thus driven into exile for having been the friend of his country be received in every other place as a confessor of liberty and let the tools of power be taught in turn that they may rob but cannot impoverish.

On the death of George II Lucas returned to Dublin, and, being returned to Parliament by the City of Dublin in 1761, retained the seat till his death.

Many tributes have been paid to Lucas's spirit but few to the quality of his writing. Lecky, the historian, described his writings as tedious, but Grattan's son, from his personal knowledge of the man, wrote:—"Lucas was the first who, after Swift, dared to write the word Freedom he loved his country, he detested tyranny; no threats could terrify, no bribes could buy him." Incidentally, he was the founder in 1763 of that mercurial newspaper, "The Freeman's Journal."

Although suffering badly from rheumatism and gout, he married for a third time but did not live long to enjoy his young bride. He died in Henry Street, Dublin, on 4th November, 1771, aged 58, and was buried in St. Michan's graveyard.

Hardy, in his life of Lord Charlemont, describes Lucas's appearance in the House of Commons in his later years:—"His bodily infirmities, his gravity, his uncommon neatness of dress, his grey and venerable locks, blending with a pale but interesting countenance, in which an air of beauty was still visible, altogether excited attention, and no stranger ever entered the House of Commons without asking who he was."

A fine statue of Lucas by Smith stands in the Dublin City Hall, and on his tomb in St. Michan's the following epitaph is inscribed:—

"Lucas, Hibernia's friend, her joy and pride;
Her powerful bulwark and her faithful guide;
Firm in the Senate, steady to his trust,
Unmoved by fear and obstinately just."

EDWARD LYSAGHT

"Pleasant Ned Lysaght," barrister, wit and song-writer, was born in County Clare on 21st December, 1763, son of John Lysaght, of Brickhill, and Jane Eyre Dalton, of Deerpark, in the same County.

He was educated at Doctor Hare's school in Cashel, where Doctor Lanigan, the celebrated ecclesiastical historian, was his fellow-pupil, and, surprisingly, his friend, for no two friends ever bore such contrasting characters. Later, he graduated B.A. at Trinity College, M.A. at Oxford, and studied law at the Middle Temple in London.

For a time he practised at the English Bar, being employed as counsel in many election petitions, but not proving very