The Chairing of Thomas Spring Rice.
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By Robert Herbert.

The genesis of the present picture is to be found in the period immediately after the Williamite wars, when the government of the city fell into the hands of a corrupt Orange minority headed by Tocshet Roche.\(^1\) Hitherto the civic government had been exercised by a Corporation representing the various trades which were banded together into Guilds. In Limerick there were fifteen such guilds, headed by the Merchants of the Staple, or the Guild of Merchants, the richest and, therefore the most powerful. The Roches abolished this form of government and it was never re-established in Limerick.

The unjust rule of the Roches was almost as severe on the Independent Protestants as on the Catholics themselves, although it was the latter who gained the first victory. In 1721 they petitioned parliament against the payment of the Small or Cockett duties, levied on the importation of goods, and were successful.

Thirty years later a still more important victory was gained when, after another petition to parliament, the Roches were declared unfit to govern, and all their illegal acts declared void. Among the latter were the misappropriation of the public and the charitable funds, the unjust quartering of all garrisons on the Catholic tradesmen, without the compensation which Government allowed, and the alienation of practically the whole of the vast Corporation estates among themselves at ridiculously low prices on leases of 999 years.

The independent citizens who won this victory were headed by John O’Donnell\(^2\) of Liberty Hall and Trough Castle; Edmond Sexton Perry,\(^3\) later Speaker in the Irish House of Commons, and the Reverend Charles Massy,\(^4\) Dean of Limerick. There is in existence an amusing answer from the celebrated Dan Hayes,\(^5\) “an honest man and a lover of his country,” to O’Donnell’s request that he should use his influence with Lord Bute\(^6\) on behalf of the Independent citizens:

“Dear Jack—Your letter surprised me not a little, when I found that you had so far succeeded against my old friends the Corporation. But what in the name of wonder could suggest to you that I had, or could have, any intercourse with, or access to, Lord Bute. He is, believe me, too great a personage for any Irishman in this kingdom to address as you mention; except Lord Shelbourne.\(^7\) I could, perhaps, get a written memorial delivered to him, or inscribe him a book, or get now and then to the foot of his table. But to attempt influencing his voice, and that, too, in the Privy Council. Good God, Jack, what an idea you must have of a Prime Minister! I could, indeed, point out a very easy channel for your agent to come at the other secretary; but as the Corporation
of Limerick, the magistracy in particular, behaved to me with such unparalleled lenity and friendship, in my last and greatest distresses; it would be the basest ingratitude to attempt (however feebly) to subvert their interests. (8)

Besides, good Jack, believe me, that a partizan is of all officers the soonest forgot, and the least thanked or rewarded. If the agent for your Corporation has cleverness enough to procure Sir Harry Erskine (who has the greatest influence with Lord Bute; being his near relative, and having recently married his cousin) he may do you infinite disservice. For to my knowledge Sir Harry gratefully remembers the freedom of the city conferred upon him. (8) This, upon my honour, I never hinted to any man; and I suppose you can keep your own secrets. The future maxim of my life shall be, to steer wide of all parties, ruptures and dissensions; you are sure of enemies, who will engrave your actions on a table of brass; of friends who will commit them to a rotten cabbage leaf.

I have not seen either of the agents who have come over, but hope to have that pleasure before long; and after all that has been or that will be said upon this matter, my humble opinion is that Lord Halifax’s pleasure will direct the Committee-table; they say he is much admired among you; he is very much so here; and I believe there is not an abler or better man in England. You do not mention what party he espouses, or whether he meddles at all. I should, however, conjecture he is with you, as the Bill passed in Ireland. If so, you may almost depend upon success; nay, the Bills having past, and touching (I suppose) nothing upon the Crown’s prerogative, should in my conception, ensure its stability; for it can hardly be supposed that the memorial of any single body should countervail the two great councils of the kingdom. I should be excessively glad to serve James, and, perhaps, may before I die. My best respects to your wife, and believe me, Yours very truly, D. HAYES.

Write to me the news of the country without minding politics or the want of franks.”

The Act for the better regulation of the Corporation and City of Limerick, referred to by Dan Hayes, passed the Privy Council of Ireland, but was rejected by the Council of England, to whom it was represented by the agent for the Corporation as being mainly influenced by the Popish faction. However, Edmond Sexton Pery, by astutely introducing clauses of a similar nature into various other bills, achieved the desired results.

It was a case of one set of rogues out, another set in. The new rulers of Limerick were the Verekers, and their relatives, the Smyths and the Pendergasts. They added to the villainies of their predecessors by admitting their friends from all over the country to the freedom of the city, and refusing to grant the franchise to the legitimate merchants and traders who could not be depended on to vote for them.

In disgust, the merchants and tradesmen, headed by Edmond Sexton Pery left the city and built the still beautiful Georgian town of Newtown Pery. This was built on the slops of the Priors Land, once the property of the Augustinian Canons Regular, but granted to Pery’s ancestor, Edmond Sexton, in the reign of Henry VIII. Davis Duckart, presumably a Dutchman, who had designed Limerick’s most beautiful and most neglected building, the Custom House, was responsible for the layout of the new town, which with its wide, well-planned, straight streets and its regular houses, could compete with any city in the Empire.
The Corporation tried hard to get this new town, which was outside the old city, into their power, but the Independent Citizens resisted hard and gained the day. In 1807 it was put under the rule of a separate body of commissioners, and remained so until the Reformation of the Corporation in 1842.

The Independent Citizens continued to fight incessantly against the old Corporation. They were really representative of the old Guild of Merchants who met at their meeting place in Quay Lane until the year 1805. In that year they constituted themselves the Commercial Building Company and built the Commercial or Mercantile Buildings, the present Town Hall, which, in its exterior, may aptly be termed Limerick's second most graceful building. Ten years later, on 2nd June, 1815, they were incorporated by royal charter, "The Chamber of Commerce of Limerick." John MacNamara was the first President, Thomas Westropp the first Vice-President, and Martin Creagh, Joseph Fisher, William Hill, William White, Alan Francis O'Neill and Thomas Kelly, its first Directors. The sole interest of the Chamber from the beginning was the improvement of the trade of Limerick, and the names of its first directors shows that it was as little interested in religious as in political differences.

The struggle against corporate corruption was continued, first by Lord Glentworth,[10] then by John Howley[11] of Rich Hill, and John Tuthill,[12] who was afterwards bought over by the enemy; and finally and successfully by Thomas Spring Rice.

Rice was born at No. 2 Mungret Street, in 1790, and having qualified for the Bar, took up the cudgels on behalf of the Independent citizens of Limerick. In 1820 he stood for parliament and was defeated by 786 votes to 569, by Major Vereker.[13] However, on petition to parliament, the last of many, all the votes of the non-resident freemen were disallowed, and Rice was declared elected.

On the latter's return from Dublin the citizens went wild with excitement, and a full account of the magnificent reception given him may be read in the Limerick Evening Post of 24th July, 1820. Spring-Rice's portrait was painted and hung in the Chamber at a cost of £227 10s.[14] by the accomplished and most fashionable portrait painter, Sir Martin Archer Shee,[15] many busts were made of him, and the column in Pery Square,[16] topped by his statue, was erected. Spring Rice, who became Chancellor of the Exchequer and first Baron Monteaige, later fell from popularity during the O'Connellite regime, but this was only in conformity with the usual cycle of Irish political life, and does not concern us now.

The following is the description of the procession from the Limerick Evening Post:—

"The triumph so long and so anxiously anticipated—the chairing of Thomas Spring Rice, Esq., the Representative of this City, took place on Thursday.

At an early hour in the morning the busy preparations commenced. The triumphal arches were hung in the streets, highly festooned by the hand of taste, and many a blithesome note was gaily carolled by the animating voice of the Freemen, as the universal motto was:—

For now I'm free—no low spirits for me,
I laugh at all crosses I find—
I think as I please, and I sing at my ease
That "True liberty lies in the mind."
The Commercial Buildings were the centre towards which all hustled to claim the white wands and laurels for the friends of Mr. Rice, and a little before one, the Procession moved through the different routes to Clare Street, for the purpose of forming there and marching to meet "the friend of the free," who was to enter Limerick in his carriage from Dublin; accordingly at half-past one, he approached, drawn by the tenantry of Lord Clare(17) and Colonel Bourke,(18) and was received under a triumphal arch of laurel and evergreens, by the Committee of Independence and the United Body of Free Tradesmen. The procession advanced in the following order:

A rude car erected on wheels, bearing two stately poplars—drawn by the labourers.

The wheat sheaf and sickle followed. Another car, bearing Adam and Eve in Paradise, attended by an angel with a drawn sword, with her back to the procession, and the motto of "No impurity shall enter here."

500 Independents with white wands, tipped with laurel and gold. A splendid boat magnificently decorated and drawn by 4 horses, with postillions in crimson liveries, with the Union flag, carrying the Band of the County Limerick Regiment, playing "See the conquering hero comes, Sound the trumpet—beat the drums."

500 Independents in white wands and laurels; 34 richly decorated banners, of the various Trades united, formed a very singular and elegant appearance.

15 Guilds of United Tradesmen attended by their Masters and Wardens, marched 6 deep, in perfect harmony and time.

360 Independents, with white wands and laurel leaves. 3 Bodies of Tradesmen, four deep, with white wands, &c.

200 of the Friends of Independence, with white wands; the Friends of T. S. Rice, Esq., and the Committee of Independence, 4 deep with white wands, &c.

7 Independents on horseback, with wands and laurels.

MR. RICE. Drawn in a most beautiful car, with an arched canopy, of festooned silk, entwined with roses, pink hyacinths, shamrocks, gilt laurel leaves; clad in a silk toga of all the colours to be seen in the rainbows, formed of the rich cockades, and favours presented to him by the different Trades, &c., and produced a very novel and singular appearance. The chair was built by Thomas Quinlan of Shannon Street.

100 of the friends of the Independence, with white wands—the dove and olive branch following.

The Victuallers Company with a red and white banner—wand & laurels. The Hatters Company, with banner in front rank—wands and laurels. Cabinet-makers Company, with banner, wand and laurels. Shoemakers Company, with banner, wands and laurels. Four musicians playing "Garryowen."

The procession formed under a triumphal arch opposite Mr. O'Sullivan's in Clare-street, and a crown of roses was lowered down on Mr. Rice's head from the centre of it. A grove of trees was here and there to be met with, and as the splendid pageant approached Bank-place its numbers increased astonishingly.
When it had reached Charlotte's Quay, it halted opposite Mr. Howley, senior's house.—Mr. H. advanced to one of the balconies of his windows, and addressed Mr. Rice.

As soon as the applause had subsided—Mr. Rice advanced to the front of his chair, to thank his esteemed and worthy friend, Mr. Howley, as well in his own name as in that of his fellow-citizens, for the zeal, enthusiasm, and unabated exertions made in his behalf, by that gentleman and his valued sons in the progress of that struggle which had been crowned with so victorious a result. The extraordinary exertions made in his behalf by all classes of his fellow-citizens, rendered it quite impossible for him to make an adequate return. He promised, however, to do everything in his power to repay them, by assiduous and upright conduct as their representative. He again thanked Mr. Howley, for his kind and sincere congratulations. His son, Counsellor Howley, was the last individual he had seen in London, and nothing but the importance of the public business which he was deputed to discharge, prevented him from participating in a triumph to which he has so mainly contributed.

At the New Bridge, the joyous association was joined by M. Barrington, Esq., who had just returned from Ennis, and who attended in London as Mr. Rice's agent, and assisted in these arduous and enterprising exertions by which the friends of Independence became victorious. Mr. Barrington passed through the throng to Mr. Rice, and was loudly and repeatedly welcomed by the spectators.

On arriving at the Commercial Buildings, the procession halted and was received by the Chamber of Commerce and the merchants with loud cheering—The windows were filled with elegantly dressed females, waving their white handkerchiefs, and displaying a constellation of beauty, for which the fair ones of Limerick have ever been famed. They now proceeded up George's-street—near the new Theatre a black board was erected, displaying a Death's Head and Cross Bones, with the motto "Sacred to the memory of Corporate Corruption."

The cavalcade now appeared to the most perfect advantage, when viewed from the end of Rutland-street. It extended from Ellen-street to the Crescent, and so thronged were those streets that the greatest alarm was entertained at the time for the safety of the individuals, for no less than 80,000 persons were assisting the procession—and on taking a bird's eye view, it resembled a sea in a calm, occasionally undulating its bosom. It passed up William Street, Roche's Street, Boherbuoy, the Cork road, round by the New Infirmary, down by Garryowen, where the "boys" had prepared a Triumphal Arch, "in their own kingdom," with an appropriate inscription. It passed down the Irish town and up Mungret-street—half way up the street an arched trophy was displayed, in the centre of which stood erected a fine elm, with the motto "This represents Rice and our Cause," on the left were dangling two broken sticks and one broken reed, and the inscription "State of the Corporation"—on the right a bunch of laurel leaves thickly clustered, and supported by a shillelagh of native oak, with the motto of "State Independence."—Mr. Joshua Uthank displayed a large tree in full bearing as a type of the Cause. On arriving at Mungret-gate, a handsome canopy, formed of trees and festoon work was erected, bearing the following words on a white ground, "Our chains are broken; Limerick's sons are free"; and on the reverse "Rice and Independence Victorious"; across the street under this canopy a large chain was fastened, and on the arrival of Mr. Rice's car, a sword was handed to him, and several voices exclaimed, "See our chain, we are bondslaves."—Mr. Rice cut through it, and replied, "Behold you are free." This was
received with the most cheering acclamations. They next marched through Cornwallis-street, the Square, down towards Baal's-bridge, up Mary-street, Thomond-gate, and returned over the New Bridge. The Standard Bearers now entered the Commercial Buildings, from the top of which a new Union flag most magnificently waved in salutation, and displayed their trophies from the windows—the air rung with thousands of glad huzzas; Mr. Rice supported on the car by Messrs. M. & D. Barrington, Mr. Roche, Mr. Mark, Mr. Howley, and Mr. William Ryan, now addressed the triumphant thousands that encompassed him, but from the exuberance of popular feeling, and the confusion of vociferous joy, we could with difficulty collect his words.

Notwithstanding the vast number that composed the procession, the day passed off without the slightest accident and in perfect good humour; and at night immense turf-fires lighted on the pavement of the New and Old Towns, closed the festivities.”

The present picture is described as “The Chairing of Mr. Rice: the view is taken from nearly opposite the shop of Jonas Morris, at the time when the procession halted at the Commercial Buildings and Mr. Rice addressed the people.” In the centre of the picture, on a raised platform, or triumphal chair, is Thomas Spring Rice, surrounded by supporters of both sexes, and of all classes, conditions and sizes. On the platform with him are Messrs. Barrington, Roche, Mark, Howley and Ryan, all prominent Limerick citizens and members of the Chamber of Commerce. Apart from the banners, which I shall describe later, the picture is full of quaint details, old shop signs, lamp standards, monkeyish-looking children swarming up every available lamp-post, faces in the windows of the Commercial Buildings, even behind the glass, the “two stately poplars” drawn on a cart, the Band of the Limerick County Regiment in a triumphal boat, the wheat-sheaf and sickle, and Adam and Eve in Paradise, symbols of industry and knowledge, dating from the mediaeval pageants of the Guilds; in front an Eagle, perhaps a standard captured by a Limerick Regiment in the Napoleonic wars, soldiers, sailors, magnificent looking bonnets, a surly mastiff with his fat-bellied country master, a greyhound beside him, &c., &c. These minor characters are treated with far greater sympathy than the central figures which are rather weak and do not seem to have particularly interested the artist. He must have enjoyed immensely painting in the grotesques in an otherwise formal and dignified scene. Another interesting point is the excellent grouping of the banners and the extraordinary accuracy with which they are painted. They give a life to the picture which it would otherwise have lacked, and it would lead one to the conclusion that there were two artists at work, one a herald painter who put such colour and life into his beloved banners that he may be said to have stolen the picture from his more accomplished colleague, the other a thoroughly competent topographical painter, with a flair for caricature, but no real genius in portraiture. It may be said that such co-operation between artists was by no means uncommon in those days.

The following is a description of the banners as far as I could decipher them. (They are numbered left to right and top to bottom, more or less as one reads): —

1. A red and yellow flag, with a shield divided by a chevron and supported by lions. The devices on the shield and the crest are indecipherable but the motto reads: —Domine dirige nos, or Lord direct us.
2. Success to trade—united philanthropical. It is a blue and green flag with yellow fringes and contains many emblems, including a mill, Noah's ark, anchors, &c. It is probably the flag of the Merchants' Guild.

3. A dove with an olive branch and the motto "Nihil sine labore." Probably the Tallow Chandlers.

4. White, blue and red. A house over a shield with three hatchets (?). Probably the Carpenters.

5. Red, blue and white. The Initial L and the motto fides ... This may be a volunteer flag.

6. Blue, white and red. Two bulls rampant holding a shield with three bulls' heads and crossed axes. The crest a bull and above it a pastoral scene and a figure with a sword personifying Justice. The motto "Be just and fear not." This is the banner of the Butchers Guild.

7. A white flag with a shield supported by a man in blue wearing an apron and holding a hammer. The shield contains three towers divided by a chevron and the crest is a temple. The motto "We will build a temple to the Most High." This is the flag of the Masons Guild.

8. A dark flag, with a crown over a harp supported by Saint Patrick and another figure, with the motto "Prepare ye the Kingdom of Heaven." This may be the flag of the Limerick City knot of the Friendly Brothers of Saint Patrick.

9. A yellow flag with nothing decipherable.

10. White and blue. Two winged horses rampant, supporting a shield divided by a chevron and containing three saddles (?) the crest Apollo in his chariot, also race-horses, &c., on background. The banner of the Saddlers or Coachbuilders. The motto "Clouds after sunshine."

11. Indecipherable except for the words "BRETHREN."

12. Two kings, each holding a boot supporting a shield containing three goats' heads. The crest a goat. The motto "If God be with us who can be against us." The Shoemakers.


14. A shield supported by two figures each carrying a hat, and containing three hats divided by a chevron. The crest a king being crowned or hatted by two floating females. The inscription. We assist each other in time of need. Hats first made 91. First made in Ireland 120. Incorporated—Unfortunately date of incorporation missing. The Hatters or Feltmakers.

15. A blue and yellow flag. Containing a smith with a hammer and anvil, the motto "By hammer in hand all arts do stand." Last three words only appear on banner. The Smiths.

16. Blue, green and red flag. Shield divided by chevron and containing a hammer and hoop. The motto "By the integrity of our cause." Coopers.
17. A shield supported by two men in white and containing three sacks of flour divided by a chevron. Crest a mill. Motto: "Every man his grist." This is the flag of the Miller or Bakers.

18. A yellow and white flag, containing Adam and Eve in Paradise with a serpent winding round a tree. There is a modest wreath in Eve's hand and above can be seen an angel blowing a trumpet, and the sun, moon and stars.

19. A blue, gold and red flag, with a shield, containing a tent and supported by speckled horses. Motto: "alter . . . ." The flag of the Tailors.


22. Indecipherable.

23. The arms of the Butchers or Victuallers as above, No. 6.

24. Indecipherable.


27 & 28. Indecipherable.

29. Gold, blue and red flag. Hand holding a hammer surrounded with motto: By hammer and hand, all arts do stand. Some subsidiary Guild of the Smiths as the Founderers, Millwrights, &c.


31. Indecipherable.

32. Do.

The picture is unsigned but a small clue has led to the partial identification of the painter. An exhibition was held in Limerick in the year 1821, and advertisements regarding it may be found in the files of the Limerick Chronicle. In it were twenty-four pictures by William Turner, fourteen by John St. John Long, the Newcastle West painter who later became Harley Street quack with a ready remedy for consumption, and many others by "the artists and amateurs of Limerick. The first two pictures were by William Turner and are entitled "The King's grand entrance into Dublin," and "The Chairing of Mr. Rice." No description of the size of the canvas, the medium used, &c., is given, but two such pictures are now in the possession of the Chamber of Commerce, and there is definite evidence that the former was purchased by them for £45 10s.

There is little doubt that this picture was painted by the mysterious Mr. Turner, though I can identify him no further. There were two Turners working in England at this time, the great Joseph Mallord William Turner, and William Turner of Oxford. It was certainly not by the former, who was, in
any case, on his first trip to Italy when George entered Dublin, and there is no evidence at the moment that the latter, who usually worked in water-colours, ever visited Ireland. Among the other paintings by Turner listed in the exhibition catalogue are portraits of Wellington and Bonaparte, and views of the Shannon, Killala, Bunratty and Ennis Courthouse. He was the pupil of John Varley, who also taught Mulready, the Clare painter, and whose daughter was unhappily married to the latter. But since the latter is said never to have re-visited his native land, after he left it early in life, this does not suggest a connection between Turner and Limerick. It seems strange that this man who painted such important subjects, and who, to judge by our own examples of his work, was a very competent artist, should now be completely forgotten. There may be a clue in some of the added information given above, but, forgotten or not, he was certainly responsible for what may now be described as Limerick's most important historical painting, and one which any city would be proud to possess among its records. The citizens owe a debt of gratitude to the Chamber for restoring so fine a representation of the life of the city over 120 years ago.

The picture has been cleaned and restored by J. Gorry of Dublin.

NOTES.

1. There was a Catholic as well as a Protestant branch of the Roches at the beginning of the 18th century in Limerick. Toxeth represented the latter while Philip Roche, "merchant and venturer," represented the former. According to the White Manse, Philip became one of the greatest merchants in the south of Ireland. His father two years before, fitted up the Catherine Letter of Marque, mounting fourteen sixteen-pounders—the first ship of the kind ever seen in Limerick—for the West India trade. This family later became the celebrated Limerick bankers, the only bank in the South of Ireland not to close their doors and stop payment in 1815. William the banker was prominent in the fight against the Corporation and later became M.P. for Limerick City. Strangely enough, Sir David Roche, a representative of the Protestant branch of the family was also M.P. for Limerick City at the same time.

2. Liberty Hall was outside Thomond Gate, on the site of the present City Hall. According to Lenihan, the Limerick Branch of the O’Donnells were really Daniels or Donylls. John O’Donnell was secretary to the free citizens and worked all his life against the Corporation. According to his papers, the following toasts were drunk whenever the free citizens met:—"The King," "The Free Citizens of Limerick and their Candidates—Pery and Massy," "The Glorious Memory," "The Lords Justices and the Minority of the Privy Council," "May the Commons of Ireland ever hold the purse of the nation," "A Patriot Parliament," "William Pitt, the father of free citizens," "The Linen Manufacture of Ireland and the promoters of it," "The Corner Stone of the New Quay," "May the electors of Ireland have a constitutional right of judging of the conduct of their representatives every seven years," "The author of the corn bill."

3. See the present writer's "Worthies of Thomond."

4. Massy's interest in the dispute arose from the fact that the charitable funds of the city, of which he was custodian were retained by the Corporation. He was author of "A collection of resolutions, queries, &c., wrote on occasion of the present dispute in the City of Limerick . . . 1740."

5. See the present writer's "Worthies of Thomond."

6. John Stuart, Earl of Bute, the friend and confidant of George III., who held many offices, including that of Secretary of State.

7. William Petty, first Marquis of Lansdowne, better known as Lord Shelbourne, a descendant on the male side of the famous Sir William Petty of the Cromwellian Survey of Ireland, the friend of both George III and Bute, he also held many offices in the English Government.

8. Hayes's bakery had caused his hurried flight from the city—apparently with the connivance of the Limerick magistrates.
9. There is no record of the conferring of this freedom on Erskine in the Register of Limerick Freemen.

10. Edmund Henry Pery. See the present writer’s ‘‘Worthies of Thomond.”

11. John Howley of Richhill, between Annacotty and Castleconnell, and his son John Howley, Junr., Queen’s Counsellor, were both prominent in the struggle against the Corporation. The latter was also the agent for the Catholic party in the struggle for Catholic Emancipation. John Hurley erected a cairn on the old hill of Cahernerry (recte Carnarry) to commemorate the victory over the Corporation. On it is the inscription:—

In memoriam libertatis Limericensis restitutae,
Hunc Turrem posuit Johannes Howley.
1820.

When name and fame, whence came are all forgot,
Who raised this obelisk, peace be his lot.

12. Tuthill had been long fighting against Corporate corruption and had spent much energy and money in the cause. In 1816 his action on behalf of the Independents against the Corporation was defeated because one member of the Jury, William Taylor, who was afterwards presented with the freedom of the city in a gold box for his action, was in favour of a decision for the defendants. There is a description in Lenihan (p. 446) of another magnificent procession in honour of Tuthill after he had been defeated in the election of 1817 by the illegal votes of the Verekers. It was a great disappointment to his followers when he deserted his just cause and went over to the Corporation. His residence was at Faha in the County.


14. In addition, the framing cost £45 12s. 4d.

15. One of the most famous and most popular Irish portrait painters of all time. Born in Dublin, 1769, President of Royal Academy from 1830, when he was also knighted, to the year 1845, when ill-health caused his resignation. Died 1850.

16.

17. Colonel Richard Hobart Fitzgibbon, 3rd Lord Clare.

18. Later Major-General Richard Bourke of Thornville.

19. Agent to the Independents. In 1829, together with his father, Sir Joseph Barrington Bart., and his brothers, Daniel, Croker and Samuel, he erected Barrington’s Hospital.

20. A Quaker merchant.

21. Now Gerald Griffin Street, once an important thoroughfare, containing the entrance to Heaphy’s theatre.

22. Now Mathew Bridge.

23. William Roche the banker.


25. A member of an eminent Catholic family of merchants who gave over £1,500 to the cause of the Independent party.

26. See the present writer’s “Worthies of Thomond.”