

Book Reviews.

An exchange of publications has been arranged with the following Societies:—The Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, the Cork Historical and Archæological Society, the Galway Archæological and Historical Society and Irish Historical Studies. The Journals of these Societies are available to members on application to the Hon. Secretaries.

THE JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF IRELAND. Vol. LXX. Parts 1, 2 & 3 (Mar., June, Sept., 1940).

Part One is devoted almost entirely to an excellent article by Mr. C. P. Curran on "Dublin Plaster Work." The 18th century, the golden age of Irish plaster-work, is Mr. Curran's field, but he does not altogether neglect the earlier plasterers. The article is well documented and beautifully illustrated, and we know of no person better qualified than Mr. Curran to undertake the survey which he himself insists as so necessary and urgent.

In Part Two, Irish craftsmanship of the 18th century is again the subject of an article: this time by Miss Ada K. Longfield on "The History of Carpet-making in the 18th century." Miss Longfield has sought far and wide for her information, and gives her authority for every statement made or fact given. Among her list of carpet-weavers is one Limerick man, Denis Duffy, who sent a memorial to the Dublin Society in the year 1772. The paper contains but one illustration. In this part also, Mr. D. F. Gleeson contributes a note on the bronze spearhead recently found in Clare and now in the Limerick City Museum; and, as a supplement, Mr. Buckley's well-illustrated article "Some Irish Altar Plate" is continued.

The Third Part contains two articles on excavations; one at Rough Island, Co. Down, by H. L. Movius, Junr., under the auspices of the Harvard Archæological Expedition; the other of Cashelbane Cairn, Loughash, Co. Tyrone, by O. Davies and J. B. Mullin. Rough Island, which is the first raised beach site in Co. Down to be excavated, has established the presence of the Early Mesolithic culture of the Antrim Coast in the Strangford Lough Region of North East Ireland.

JOURNAL OF THE GALWAY ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY. Vol. XVIII. Nos. III & IV., 1939.

In "The Tumulus-Cemetery of Carrowjames, Co. Mayo," Mr. Joseph Raftery writes of two years excavation carried out under his own supervision. He maintains that Carrowjames is the most westerly of the Cordoned Urn Group, and dates it to about 300 B.C. The razors found on this site are of a type with those which had been previously dated by Dr. Mahr to the Middle Bronze Age. This paper is amply illustrated.

In "The use of leisure in old Galway" Mrs. M. D. O'Sullivan contributes a very interesting article on Irish sports and pastimes of the 16th century. Among the past times were hunting, shooting, and tennis, at which, among other games, the Galway apprentice was forbidden to "plaie his said master's goodes." The Corporation regarded the hurling of darts and spears as laudable, but favoured playing "with the great foote balle" to "the horlinge of the litill balle with hockie stickes or staves," and to "hande ball played without the walles."

In addition, Mr. M. O Duigeanain writes on "The Temporalities of the Augustinian Abbey of St. Mary the Virgin, Cong, Co. Mayo," and "Two bronze age burials at Carrowbeg North, Co. Galway, are described by Mr. G. F. Wilmot.

IRISH HISTORICAL STUDIES. Vol. II., Nos. 5 & 6 (Mar., Sept., 1940).

This new periodical maintains the high standard of its first volume and continues its very excellent bibliographies. One would like to know, however, if and how it is possible to obtain access to the many papers listed in their bibliography "Research on Irish history in Irish and British Universities, 1939-1940." The list contains two M.A. theses of University College, Dublin, which should be of special interest to Limerick antiquaries. "The Eoganacht state of Ui Fidgeinte," by Rev. P. Barrett, and "The Eoghanacht Kings of Munster," by Mr. M. Bourke.

In No. 5, an appendix to an article by Mr. R. B. McDowell, entitled "The personnel of the Dublin Society of United Irishmen," gives a list of all those known to have been members, together with all the information obtainable about them, or the sources where that information may be obtained.

In No. 6, Dr. Eoin MacNeill refutes the argument that "The hymn of St. Secundinus in honour of St. Patrick" was written by an Irish scribe after Patrick's death, and not by the Secundinus of whom the Annals of Ulster relates "Secundinus, Auxilius, et Iserninus mittuntur in Hiberniam in auxilium Patricii." On the other hand, "The annals attributed to Tighernach," by Rev. P. Walsh, argues that these annals were not written, as is generally supposed, by the Tigernach Ua Braein, who died in 1088. In the same number, Professor T. W. Moody gives a selection of documents relating to Conn O'Neill at Eton during 1615-1622. Conn was the second of Hugh O'Neill's three sons by his fourth wife, Catherine Magennis, and was "by accident left behind" at the time of his father's flight.

JOURNAL OF THE CORK HISTORICAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.
Vol. XLV., No. 161. January-June, 1940.

In "Place-names and antiquities of Imokelly (Part I.), by the Rev. P. Power, the antiquities relate only to actual antiquarian remains in the Barony. No references are given to documents beyond the Down Survey and the Inquisition Rolls of Charles and James, and in most cases the placenames seem to have been derived arbitrarily. The reprint of Elizabethan Fiants relating to Cork is continued by Mr. J. T. Collins, who finds no difficulty in his notes in bridging the gap between 1585 and the troubled times of 1921. Mr. W. D. O'Connell reprints with notes an interesting contemporary manuscript on the Augustinian Academy at Brunswick Street, Cork, at the end of the 18th century, and Dr. O Riordain writes on a Tipperary pole-lathe now in the folk-culture section of the National Museum of Ireland.

—R. H.