

REVIEW

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The current issue of this valuable Journal, now approaching its 200th issue, is of very great interest. John T. Collins continues his account of the MacCarthys of Blarney and Ballea, with extracts from hitherto unpublished wills and deeds of the 17th century showing some of the consequences to the family of the Acts of Settlement and Explanation of Charles II. A remarkably interesting and fully illustrated paper by Caoimhin O Danacher gives a detailed account, vouched by historical references and travellers tales, of the use of the flail and other threshing methods in Ireland with comparative references to continental usage, and the technical terms employed in making and using it. The "Tour of John Harden in 1797" is continued (Communicated by Michael Quane). Previous issues had contained intimate descriptions of Limerick and places around it and of some of its citizens. In the present issue we are in Killarney, with a full account of what the late 18th century traveller had to see there. Sean O Coindealbhain presents documents from the French archives describing a duel between John Swiney and Thomas Corbett, both officers in the Irish Legion of Napoleon in 1804. The quarrel arose out of Swiney's part as a United Irishman. Professor Michael O'Kelly, who will be well known to our readers, if only on account of his admirable talk on Irish cooking places, describes a shell midden discovered on the site of the Red Abbey in Cork. Dr. Pender continues his "Studies in Waterford History" with an account of the Waterford Guilds 1650-1700 from material mostly taken from the city archives. Perhaps the most interesting paper of general interest is that of Dr. A. E. J. Went on "Irish Monastic Fisheries." There is a list of fisheries owned by the Irish monasteries and Friaries as an Appendix, though it may be noted that this list and the textual references are hardly exhaustive. Some of these fisheries were by Irish Charter before the Normans came, and even later. The paper is illustrated by most interesting photographs. Finally there is an account of "Old Irish Dances" by Micheal O Se, which may even startle some of our ultra Gaels by introducing "crooners" from the Book of Lismore.—D.F.G.