



Seen at the conferring of degrees at Trinity College, Dublin. Left to right—Derek Johnston, who received his B.Sc.; Mrs. P. J. Fleming, and Mr. P. J. Fleming, who received his B.Sc.

# OUT OF THE PAST

By ROBERT HERBERT

I a letter I received recently from Robert Graves, the author of the well-known biography, "Good-bye to all that," he mentions an interesting Limerick reminiscence: "I haven't been to Limerick since I was at Castle Barracks, as a Royal Welsh Fusilier (December, 1918 to February, 1919) and refused to go out and hunt Sinn Feiners. My C.O., an Irishman called Macartney-Filigate, told me that he understood and approved. So they sent out a nasty Scot instead."

## BISHOP GRAVES.

Limerick was, of course, no new experience to Graves, for he was directly descended from the brilliant Protestant Bishop, Charles Graves, and a relative of many other Limerick families. The Bishop was a mathematician, a noted and accepted classical scholar and translator, and a well-known writer on Irish antiquities. His work on Ogham inscriptions, written a century ago, is still held in high esteem. He died in the last year of the 19th century.

## THE GRAVES FAMILY.

The Graves family is so star-studded with genius that they would make the most poly-biographical (if such a word exists) family that I can think of. His father, Richard Graves, was born in Kilmone in 1763 and held consequently the chairs of oratory, Greek, and divinity and ended his days, in the year of Catholic Emancipation, as Dean of Ardagh, close to the place of his birth.

## GRAVES' DISEASE.

One brother of the Bishop, Robert, after being educated at Trinity, travelled with Turner, the artist, in the Alps. He has been described by Sir Charles Cameron as "one of the greatest physicians of this century, or indeed, of any century." His greatest claim to fame is as the

"inventor" of Graves' Disease. I think it hardly necessary to resurrect this unfortunate ailment "Out of the Past," for I understand it is still very much in the present. He was also, incidentally, a friend and disciple of Wordsworth as were our other Limerick poet, Aubrey de Vere and his father, Sir Aubrey.

## JOHN THE BIOGRAPHER.

Another brother, John, was a contributor to the well-known and still-used Smith's Classical Dictionary. He became a Doctor of Divinity, and edited his father's works in four volumes in 1840. A daughter, Clarissa, married into a noble German family; in fact, to Leopold von Ranke, the famous German historian, whose lives of the Popes is a standard work to-day.

## THE BISHOP'S SONS.

The Bishop had two sons, Alfred Perceval Graves, of ballad-fame, who needs no introduction to Limerick readers, and who died only in 1931; the other, Arnold F., was called to the Irish Bar in 1872, and was well known as an Irish social worker. He was Secretary to the Commissioners, Alfred Perceval, after a first marriage into the Cooper family, remarried into the Ranke family and had six sons and four daughters. Robert, the original subject of these, hence his second name, Ranke. Besides his biography, he has written many novels, and collections of poems and essays. In 1934 he was awarded the Hawthornden and James Tait Memorial prizes.

What a family. 1763 to 1954 and still going strong! What county in Ireland, or what country in the world, could produce such a record? It reminds me of the title of Robert's second book, a sequel to his autobiography, "Good-bye to all that!" He titled the second volume, published in 1930, "BUT IT STILL GOES ON!" May it ever continue so.

I said: "The doctor here." She came back minutes and asked she had any pain. "her that she had r told her that she some green stuff. 'There's nothing to about as you would of the number of g come in here after pennies and other after two or three c alright.' The Sister that if I got an alarmed to come back lowing morning."

"I took the chi as she was not my her back on Wed June. I went stral X-ray room and Domitilla. After so asked me was it m and I said no. A went into the X-r was X-rayed."

Witness went on the child was ta children's ward. On ing day witness was Supt.—And did yo the hospital?

Frantically witness did, I did."

Supt.—You saw h back; she was dea Sobbing bitterly, "Yes."

Witness further husband was a pa City Home Hospi moment.

Sister Brendan that on the evening June she directed witness to see the. She did not see her.

Sister Carmel said evening of the 28 Purcell took a child hospital at about 8 p Kelly was there at she told him about.

## HOUSE SURGEON'S

Dr. James Roche-K House Surgeon on

said in evidence that called with her daught

pital on the evening June. She said that

swallowed a half-per ined the child's mout

went on witness, "a foreign body with

of the top of th I enquired as t

was told that the particular discomfort

conclusion that the had probably pass

stomach and even i was not causing any

vised the mother to meal bread and p

would take it witho the child; (2) to con

following morning and finally, if the

trouble during the n was worried about i

back to me imm woman then left with To the Coroner, w

followed the stand