

course at Brest, with 4,500 of the expatriated Irish, while a remainder of 19,059 men and officers arrived in France about the same time, in three other divisions, all of whom King James reviewed and regimented. On Sarsfield's arrival in France, the king appointed him to the command of the second troop of Irish Horse Guards, that of the first having been committed to the Duke of Berwick. During the short interval that he outlived the Stuart dynasty, he addressed various letters (offered for sale in the Southwell collections some years since), signed by himself as Earl of Lucan, to De Ginkle, Earl of Athlone, in which he set forth the displeasure of Louis XIV. by reason that "the capitulation of Limerick had not been punctually performed," and requiring that the delay to so doing should be removed with all imaginable despatch. These communications passed in the year 1692. In the following year he fell on the field of battle. "This year," (1693), says O'Connor, "is memorable in the annals of the Irish Brigade, for the death of Patrick Sarsfield, Earl of Lucan. He had been instrumental in brining over a great part of the Irish army to the service of France, and had the command of the troops destined for the invasion of England. After the destruction of the French fleet of La Hogue, the Irish troops marched to Alsace; and Sarsfield, at the close of 1692, was ordered to join the French army in Flanders, under the Duke of Luxembourg; in 1693, he was killed in the battle of Landen, at the head of a French division. He fell leading on the charge of strangers; his contemporaries long deplored the loss of this gallant officer, and his memory is still cherished with enthusiastic admiration in his native country. Sarsfield possessed admirable qualifications: Brave, patient, vigilant, rapid, indefatigable, ardent, adventurous, and enterprising; the foremost in the encounter, the last to retreat; he harassed his enemy by sudden, unexpected, and generally irresistible attacks; inspiring his troops with the same ardour and contempt of danger with which his own soul was animated. His valour prolonged the contest in Ireland; and if he had but

possessed a corresponding degree of military skill, might materially have altered the issue of the contest." "Patrick Sarsfield," writes a more recent biographer, "may be quoted as a type of loyalty and patriotic devotion. In the annals of Irish history he stands as a parallel to Pierre du Terrail, Chevalier de Bayard, in those of France, and may be equally accounted, *sans peur et sans reproche*. In his public actions firm and consistent, in his private character amiable and unblemished; attached, by religious conviction and hereditary reverence for the rights of kings, to the fallen house of Stuart, he drew a sharp sword in their cause."

GALILEO AND POPE URBAN.

II.

We have seen that the greatest lights of the age, Bacon, Burton, Tycho Brahe, Riccioli, Ramus the Huguenot, Thomas Lydiate, Gilbert, Milton, Alexander Rosse, equally with Pope Urban rejected the new philosophy—we have seen that the whole world, Protestant as well as Catholic, at that time, was of a like opinion—we have seen that when Galileo advanced his theory so contrary to all preconceived notions, he himself could give no *valid* proofs of its truth—nay, that the very arguments on which he most relied for its verification were futile and erroneous. Let us now advance a step further and we shall see that not only were Galileo's arguments erroneous, but that the true proofs were not discovered until long after Galileo and his supposed implacable enemy, Urban, were in their graves—nay more; that one of those arguments at least (and that not the least important), is not yet fully demonstrated, nor can it be at the soonest until the observations of the last transit of Venus, in 1874, are made known.

The three great theories on which the present theory of the Solar System is founded are:—

1st. Newton's splendid theory of gravitation.

2nd. His equally ingenious theory in explanation of the shortened pendulum.

3rd. The theory of the velocity and aberration of light.

And here we would point out, at the