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GERALD GRIFFIN.
AN APPRECIATION OF THE CAREER OF THE FAMOUS IRISH NOVELIST.

THE LESSONS OF PURE SOUL PATRIOTISM WHICH HIS WRITINGS CONTAIN—THEir REASON FOR ERRECT A MONUMENT TO HIS MEMORY.

A correspondent of the Munster News refers to Gerald Griffin, the famous Irish Novelist, in the following manner:—

There is no name, perhaps, in Irish literature which has been so neglected, in proportion to the merits of its owner, as that of Gerald Griffin. In all likelihood he has suffered considerably in this respect from what cannot generally be ascribed to Irish writers—the almost complete absence of any reference to political topics in his writings. Most of our Irish writers were strong party men, as well as *liberalists*, and for the fact that he was an exception to this rule, Griffin has been relegated to what is now a back seat in the history of Irish literature. But this should not be so. No doubt Griffin was not a nationalist in the sense that Davis, or even Moore, might be termed nationalist. He was not a politician, and had not the pronounced views upon the political questions of his time. Yet nobody who knew him as he studied his life, that he was a true Irish patriot, and through many of his works the spirit of pure-souled patriotism is breathed.

But apart altogether from these considerations Griffin was a literary man of the first order, and many of his works bear the impress of true genius. And there is much that young Irishmen may learn, as well as much that we may all be proud of, in his life. From the time when he first left "the groves of sweet Adara," to fight his way to the heights of fame, until very shortly before his death, he was engaged in one long and stubborn fight against adversity. Anybody who has read the story of his life in London, as told by his brother, cannot fail to be struck by the manly and independent spirit with which he met the difficulties which surrounded him on every side. Sometimes, as we learn from his letters, he felt sick at heart from the trials and disappointments which met him at every turn; but the thought of giving up the struggle never entered his mind, and he would sooner have borne any amount of suffering and trouble rather than acknowledge himself beaten. In one of the letters which he sent from London to his brother, we find the following characteristic passage:—"You have not a what a heart-breaking life that of a young scribbler beating about, and endeavouring to make his way in London, is; going into a bookseller's shop, as I have often done, and being obliged to praise my own manuscript, to induce him to look at it at all—for there is so much competition that a person without a name will not even get a trial, while he puts on his spectacles and answers all your self-compliments with a 'hum—um—' a set of hundreded vilains! and yet at no time whatever could I have been prevailed upon to quit London altogether. That horrid word failure. No! death first." And this was the key to the success which ultimately crowned his efforts. That horror of the very word "failure" was the guiding principle of his life, and guided by this principle he could not fail.

Unfortunately when the heights had been reached, and the ladder had at last been climbed, a complete, though not a sudden, change in his feelings deprived literature—and especially Irish literature—of one of its most brilliant disciples. But before he entered the religious profession he had written much which should die only with the death of Irish literature. Nothing more beautiful or more realistic, and yet more natural, than the "Colleen Bawn" has, I venture to say, ever been penned by any Irish novelist; and of his "Holland Tides" and "Tales of the Munster Fes" the same may be said. As a dramatist and a poet he also wrote much that is truly beautiful. Some of his poems, such as "Matt Hyland," "The Fate of Kathleen," "Shanid Castle," "The Night-walker," etc., are models of beautiful poetical word painting.

has been mooted, but, after all, the only real and lasting monument is that which is established in the hearts and feelings of his fellow-countrymen. And surely it is not incorrect to say that among Limerick people there are numbers who tenderly cherish the memory of the gifted and gentle Griffin. Let us hope that the generations of Irishmen that are coming may learn to value more highly still the lessons which are contained in the history of his life and labors."

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CATHOLIC PROGRESS IN SCOTLAND.

CHURCH IMPROVEMENTS IN INVERNESS.
We take the following from an English exchange. During the past few years ecclesiastical architecture has made great progress in Inverness, the capital of the Highlands, and the Catholic people of the town have not been behind-hand in beautifying and making their place of worship more suitable to their requirements, and a visit to the exceedingly pretty church of Inverness must be a real pleasure to lovers of art and architecture. A few years ago the old church, a fair specimen of Gothic revival, afforded more than ample space to the small congregation, but the increasing numbers rendered a considerable extension of the church necessary. Under the direction of Mr. Gair, ruther, architect, two new bays corresponding with the rest of the church have been added, together with an entirely new sanctuary and sacristy. An open timber roof, dark-stained and touched with gilding, has been constructed over the sanctuary, which is well lit by two large tracery windows on the north and south side. A moulded stone arch of wide span separates the sanctuary from the nave, and on the uppermost of the two sanctuary steps stands the Communion-rail in hammered and polished brass by Hardman, of Birmingham, who also supplied the gas-fittings. A new organ of exceedingly sweet tone has been placed in the west gallery. The beautiful baptismal font is of pure Carrara marble, and is the gift of Mr. James Walsh, a member of the congregation. The latest addition to the church is a superb set of Stations of the Cross from Messrs. Mayer & Co., of Munich. These stations give a finish and richness to the church that leaves nothing to be desired. They are simply and devotionally conceived, and most expertly executed in alto-relievo, each figure tinted in harmonious colors, picked out with gold ornaments. Altogether the church is a beautiful monument of the piety and self-sacrifice of Inverness Catholics.

GAVE AWAY HIS CRUTCHES

THE STORY OF MR. J. McDONOUGH, OF TIVERTON, ONT.

SUFFERED FROM TWO SEVERE ATTACKS OF RHEUMATISM—DOCTORS FEARED THE TROUBLE WAS GOING TO HIS HEART—PINK PILLS CURED HIM AND HE GAVE AWAY HIS CRUTCHES.

[From the Tiverton Watchman.]
Anyone seeing the robust health and active form of Mr. Jack McDough, who is managing Mr. A. Gilchrist's harness business during his absence in Scotland, would be considerably surprised to learn that only two years ago he was a confirmed invalid and unable to walk without the aid of crutches. But such is the case, and hearing of this remarkable cure from the exultating agency of inflammatory rheumatism by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, a representative of the Watchman called upon him to learn the particulars. Mr. McDough was found working at the harness bench, as well as active as any young man in the country, and in reply to a question about his cure said:—"Yes, mine was quite a remarkable case. Two years ago last spring, while at home in Wingham, I was suddenly taken down with rheumatism, my feet and ankles swelling so that I could not even put on an over-shoe. I was in bed for three weeks under the care of the doctor, and had to use crutches for a long time after that. The next spring the rheumatism came back again, worse than ever, attacking all my joints, but principally my ankles, knees, hips, elbows and wrists. The doctor gave me very little encouragement, and said he was afraid it was going to my heart and killing me. I had read a great deal about Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I determined to try them. At first I did not notice much change, but before I had taken a half dozen boxes I was so much improved that I had given away my crutches and have never required their use since. I still took the Pink Pills for some time longer and I have never had a touch of rheumatism since, and hope I never may. I can say that Pink Pills cured me of a bad case of rheumatism and I cheerfully recommend them to others suffering as I did."

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TESTING AN ATLANTIC CABLE FOR LEAKS.

When the insulated strand, or the "core" of the cable, as it is henceforth called, passes from this operation, it must go to the testing room, to determine if the insulation is really perfect, or if a little electricity still can escape from the copper. It would be useless to make this test in the air, since even without an insulator the current does not pass readily into air. It must be tested under water, in the medium in which it is to be employed.

Shallow tanks filled with water receive each section; and after a section has laid twenty-four hours in the water in order to come to the same temperature as the water, the test is applied. If the effect which ought to be produced on his galvanometer by passing into the core a certain quantity of electricity, does not result, the electrician knows that there is a flaw, and that the insulation is imperfect—that is, that the electricity is escaping.

There is nothing that can be measured with more accuracy than electricity. The laws which govern its flow in a body are perfectly understood. The electrician knows how much he pours in. He can draw it out, measure it, treat it, in short, as if it were water in a pipe. A leak in an electric wire is dealt with almost as a leak in a water-pipe is, and can be located quite as exactly. When once located it is easily repaired.—McClure's Magazine.

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M'KINLEY'S ANCESTRY.

HIS FOREFATHERS FOUGHT FOR IRISH FREEDOM.

WILLIAM M'KINLEY OF DERVOCK, ANTRIM, ONE OF THE "ENLIED IRISHMEN"—HELED A CHARGE AGAINST THE BRITISH, WAS CAPTURED, COURT-MARTIALED AND SHOT.

The "crimson thread" of kinship connects President McKimley in direct line with some of the best martyrs of Ireland. The man who has proved himself as gallant a soldier as he is brilliant in statesmanship is, as his name indicates, of true Irish descent. He comes of sturdy Irish patriots, of that same stock which has given so many great men to this country, among whom may be mentioned Andrew Jackson.

To the millions of men with Celtic blood in their veins he can have few lotteries more commanding recommendations than the fact that he is a descendant of one of the gallant most of United Irishmen who cheerfully laid down their lives upon their native heath one hundred years ago in their last great struggle for Irish national autonomy. Descended from an Irish martyr who died that the lovely land of his birth might be for all time what the God of nature intended her to be.

A martyred hero, lies buried in the beautiful little graveyard of Derrykighan, among the fair hills of Antrim, on the northeast coast of Ireland, where a moss grown, ivy-wreathed monument was long years ago erected to his memory by his faithful and loving compatriots. Their dead companion in arms was the gallant William McKimley of Dervock, one of the ancestors of the President-elect, whose name he bears and ought to be proud to wear. The United Irishmen were called to the field to battle, as did their fathers, with England's redcoats.

McKinley, at the head of his brave band of patriots, went southward past Ballymena until they joined General McCracken's forces. They were with him at the battle of Antrim, when victory for a time blessed the arms of the insurgents. As usual with men of Celtic blood, they were among the very last to seek safety in flight, when accident, combined with vastly superior forces, working on the British, turned the tide of battle, and defeat and disaster came down upon them. After the battle the gallant McKinley returned to Dervock, but as a tempting price was laid upon his head, being a prominent leader of the cause, he was taken by a party of countrymen searching for him, and before sundown he was tried by drum-head court-martial and sentenced to be shot on the public square of Coleraine.

Two of McKinley's uncles, James and William, came to this country many years before, having been driven from their homes by English misrule. James McKimley settled in Pennsylvania and was the father of David McKinley who fought through the Revolutionary War against the foe of his fathers. Among his children was James, who became the grandfather of William McKimley, of Union, Pa.

To millions of American citizens of his lineage to the chief magistracy of the land to give more pride or added to the effluence of Celtic blood. This is because no men are more devoted to the memory of those gallant men

Who rose in dark and evil days
To right their native land,
And kindled there a living blaze
That nothing can withstand.

No men more than Irishmen revere the memories of their departed great ones. Their hearts must cease to beat before they forget the names, the glorious memories of their illustrious dead. The peasant of the Tyrol swears by the name of Hofer that the foot of an invading foe shall never pollute his beautiful valleys. The chilled and bruised heart of Poland throbs with the warmth of the recovered youth when it recalls the names of Sobieski and Kosciuszko. And Ireland, too, the "Poland of the Ocean," as it has been truthfully called, has not forgotten, and never will forget, the names of those who nobly died in her service.

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Narcisse G. Gauthier, of the other part, Defendant.
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