The Irish Half of the American Revolutionary Army.

Mr. T. D. Sullivan, M.P., writing in the Nation, supports Michael Davitt's statement that the Itish comprises half of the army of American Indepen-dence The Westminster Gaz the of the 28th ult, published a strong letter from Mr. Harold Frederick, challenging-or rather, embagically, contendation dence The Westminate: Gaz the of the Sthu lit. published a strong letter from Mr. Harold Frederick, challenging—or rather, emplacateally contradicting—a statement contained in some letters of Mr. Michael Davit to the encer that one-half of the army that fought under Washington and won the independence of the United States were Irishmen It is not, I feet sure, enything in the nature of anti-Irish prejudice that has caused Mr. Frederick to take up this line. He is an American journalist and litterateur who, during the whole course of the Home Rule movement showed himself imbued with warm sympathies for the Irish National Cause to which in the columns of the induential American journals with which he is corrected he rendered inestimable service. But it seems to me that Mr. Frederick, sharing a feeling common to a good many of his countrymen, does not like to hear too much insistence on the large part played by Irishmen in the liberation of the American colonies from the British yoke, and-naturally—objects to what he regards as an endeavour to exaggerate that service. Mr. Frederick treats the statement he desires to controvert as if it were a new thing, resting on no authority. After some introductory observations, he says:—

"What I really wanted to speak about is Mr. Davitt's amazing statement that over half of Washington's army was Irish. He of the mane in the time. Now he has become so enamoured of it that he lugs it into an incet everything he has become so enamoured of it that he lugs it into an incet everything he has become so enamoured of it that he lugs it into an incet everything he has become so enamoured as he is in the history of his Woulry's it is, indeed, and magning thing

emissioned or it that he lugs it into aimcet everything he writes In the name of all that is miraculous, where can he have got it from ?"

Well read ashe is in the history of his country it is, indeed, an amazing thing if Mr. Frederick never saw that eatimate until lately. For my own part, I always thought it looked somewhat large; but there was testimony for it quite as good as there is for many historical statements which are commonity accepted as truths. To give one instance, I refer to the proceedings of a committee of the House of Common which sat in June, 1773, to enquire into committee of the House of Common which sat in June, 1773, to enquire into causes and conduct of the American aumber of military officers and others who "were there" were examined. Lord Germain asked Major-General Robertson, who had served 24 years in America, "how were the American forces composed, whether mostly of native Americans or of emigrants from various nations of Europe," and he was thus answered:—
"Some of the corps consist mostly of natives; others, I believe the greatest number, are enlisted from such people that can be got in the country, and many of them may be immigrants. I remmber General Lee telling me that be believed half the rebel army were from Ireland."

On the same occasion one Joseph Galloway, a native of Penusylvania, who

from Ireland."
On the same occasion one Joseph Gallowsy, a native of Pennsylvania, who had, for twelve years, been Speaker of the Assembly of that place, but who took the side of the Royalists in the war, was exumined at considerable length, and touching the point abovementioned he was asked:—"That part of the rebel army that enlisted in the service of Congress, were they chiefly composed of natives of America, or were the greater part of them English, Scotch, and Irish?" Here is his reply:—

Scotch, and Irish rece and ply:—
"The names and places of their nativity being taken down. I can answer the question with precision. There were scarcely one-fourth of America, about one-half Irish, the other fourth English and Scotch."
This catimate of the nationalities re-measured in the revolutionary army

English and Scotch."
This estimate of the nationalities represented in the revolutionary army may have been a rough one; it was commonly accepted at the time, and probably was not far from the fact. Mr. Edward O'Meagher Condon, in his excellent work entitled "The Irish Hace in America," treats this subject very fully. Hasjing his statements on American and other historical authrities, he several times gives the proportion of Irishmen in Washington's army as about one-half, and he gives references to the authors and the works that support his view of the case. Really so meet that estimate in print at this time of day ought hardly be unovel experience to any literary man.

land previous to and during the American war of independence. "An-thing like a considerable immigration from Ireland," he says, "did not begin until 198." In this he is mistaken, There was a steady and considerable immigration from both the North and the South of Ireland. The Northerns, Pres-South of Ireland. The Northerns, Presi-byterians mostly, fled from the revol-l attors and rackrents that were being imposed on them by some of their great inaulords, especially by the Mar-quis of Donegal; the Southerns fled from the pressure of the penal awas, Writing of this period, Marmion, in its "History of the Marktime Ports of Ireland," says:—

From Belfast, says the writer just quoted, there sailed in the transpars and conduct, to Separate the United States from the British Crown. The emigrantion the Contending for independence, and contributed by their numbers, as well as by their courage and conduct, to Separate the United States from the British Crown. The emigration to America during the years 1711, 1712, and 1713 exceeded all precedent."

From Belfast, says the writer just quoted, there sailed in the tarce years named, 30 ships filled with emigrants, from Londonderry 38, and from Newry 22, and he estimates the number of their passengers at over 25,000. The Rev. Mr. Gordon, a Protestant clergyman, in his "History of Ireland," after describing the agrarian disturbances in the north, syss:—

So great and wide was the discontent The effects of this agrarian insur-

Gordon, a Protestant clergyman, in his "History of Ireland," after describing the agrarian disturbances in the north, syas:—
So great and wide was the discontent that many thousands emigrated from those parts of Usiser to the American settlements, where they soon appeared in arms against the British Government, and contributed powerfully by their seal and valour to the separation of the American colonies from Great British.

Mr. Frederick says:—"There used to be a notion, arising out of religious confusion, that Manyland was settled by Irishmen." It take it on Mr. Frederick's word that such a notion existic, but I doubt that it ver was widely prevalent. "But we know," he says, "that there were about as many Irish in Maryland as elsewhere—that is to say, athin and haphanard scattering of gentlemen's younger sons, of merchants, professional men, and nondescripts of a roving and adventurous spirit, answering in its make up very largely to the Dogith and Sootoh-born elements of the same communities." Granting that Maryland was not an Irish settlement, I think Mr. Frederick underrates the numbers of the Irish element. Mr. O'Meeghen Condon, who made a careful study of the whole subject for the purpose of his work, says.—

"Trish immigrants, driven from thein navy numbers into Maryland, as indeed, they did into all the other colonies, and the occurre measures of the British Government, poured in extraordinary numbers into Maryland, as indeed, they did into all the other colonies, during the five or six years preceding the revolution. In a Baltimore paper of August 20th, 173 (the Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser), the belief that the increase of marylation to Amenica to whiled they led, justify the belief that the increase of marylation to Amenica to whiled they led, justify the belief that the increase of marylation to Amenica to whiled they led, justify the belief that the increase of marylation to Amenica to whiled they led, justify the belief that the increase of marylation population from 55,000 in 178, t

500 in 1775, an increase of nearly ninety thousand in twenty-six years, was in great part owing to the rapid influx of Irish immigrants."

On the whole I would say that on this part of the case, and generally throughout Mis letter, int. Prederick exhibits a desire to minimize the indebtedness of America to Ireland in the trying times and circumstances from which she emerged a great, free, and independent nation.

wery fully. Basing his statements on American and other historical authorical, he several times gives the proportion of Irishmen in Washington's army as about one-half, and he gives references to the authors and the works that support his view of the case. Really to meet that estimate in print at this time of day ought hardly be a novel experience to any literary man.

After some references to Irish generals on both sides in the war of independence, of which I shall have some remarks to make presently, Mr. Frederick, cos on to say:—

"But, leaving generals aside, where were thos great masses of Irish groups? Where does Mr. Davitt magine they came from ? To have a big number of Irish population. Where does Mr. Davitt magine they came from ? To have a big number of Irish recruits you must have a very large Irish population. Where doed in the columber when they good of inhabitants in the columber when they revoluted, and we are agularly rich in information abe... I those people, their differences of race, religion, temporament, and civilisation. We know about the various kinds of paritans in New England; we know given the Dutch and Palatines of Rew York; the Swedea, Quakers, and Palatines of examples of the parities and Delaware; the cavallers of Virginia and the Carolinas. But I find nothing about any province, or even considerable settlement, moulded, or even affected, by the character, moulded, or even affected, by the characteric, at the time of the revolution, and the beneficent effects of which remain to this day. Turning from Mr. Frederick's estimate the volume of the emigration from Irish industries, at the time of the revolution, I cannot help being struck by the palms hear time of every nationality in the cotonies, including those who, in the

because of their progenitors having been somewhat longer in the country, called themselves native Americans Some of those Insimen, he point to our bed expeditions uginat the rebels, and infected in them great loss and suffering. Yes they were of that class of men whose fathers had done the same thing against rebels in Indiand. They were, however, but few in number. The fixt is in-lisputable that the great mass of the Irish of every class and creed in America took the side of the revolution lists grace splendid service to the patriot cause, and attested with their blood their right to be ranked amongst the founders of American liberty. Going on with his argument on the same line and in the same spirit, Mr. Frederick observes that amongst the officers of the revolutionary army very few were 'frish. He mentions three, and says he knows of no others. Here are his words:—

"There were on the American side four important commanders who were

the history of their race on the American continent, and I have no doubt they will be able to refer him to facts he may rot have met with in the course of his reading. In Mr. O'Meaghe Condon's work I find mention of General William Thompson, Commander Fitse. ald, Major-General Clinton, General Edward Haud, Major-General Stark General William Maxwell, General Walter Stewart, Mator-General Those Convay, and several others. Some of those men were born in Ireland, others in America, of Irish parents, of one or two the Irish origin was one generation in America, of Irish parents, of one of two the Irish origin was one generation more remote. They all gave brilliant service to their new country. Mr. Frederick mentions General John Sullirederick mentions General John Suii-van, but passes him by with a sur-prisingly light touch, and a statement that he was "born in the State of Maine, and so was his father before him." On the latter point, Mr. Fredthat he was "born in the state of Maine, and so was his father before him." On the latter point, Mr. Frederick is in error. I have before me avolume entitled "The Military Bervices and "2wible Life of Major-General Join Suillivan, of the American Revolutionary Army, by Thomass C. Amory," published at Boston in 1868, which gives a different account of the matter. Mr. Amory, I may explain, is (for I hope he still living) a member of the general's family, a grand-neplow, I think, of the revolutionary here, he presented me with this volume in 1871, when he was in Ireland for the first time visiting the old home of his race. He gives in an appendix an account of the parentage of General Suilivan, from which I take the fellowing passages:—"Mention is occasionally made of the father of General Suilivan, in connection with his sons, four of whom too. an active part in the Revolution. These statements have not always been precisely accurate; and, as what is known of his history explains in part what was remarkable in theirs, it may not cut of place to correct them.

A native of Ireland, and in birth not are removed from the cheleftainship of a once powerful sept, he came to America cherishing little loyally to the Government that had dispossessed them of their Inheritance."

In another part of the same volume we ired:—

terd:—
"General Sullivan was of Irish de-scent. His father was oorn in Ardea in 1691, came to Berwick, Maine, as early as the year 1723, and aled in 1796, ages 105 years. His mother came over several years after from Cork. She was born in 1714, and died in 1801, aged 87.

corn in 1714, and died in 1891, aged 87.

After all wealth is the test of the welfate of people, and the test of wealth is the command of the precious metals. Nonsense: Treat wealth is a great blessing to a man who knows what to do with it; and for honours, bey are inestimable to the honourable.

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which is a Langurour continuous, and Platmany, says—
the Ontatio School of Chemistry and Platmany, says—
the Ontatio School of Chemistry and Platmany, and the Charles Charles

non-packs, and was cured by Dr. Casses Casatric Cure. I. PALLMER, HAIR DRISSER, 670 QUERN STREET WEST, TOKONTO, could not sleep for rears on ascount of the insure dropping lane the invest joured by Dr. Cha-s Casatric METHODIST DOCK MOOK, O'RONTO, aschered for two years, bursed by one box of Dr. Chase's Custra Case. MRS, COWIR, &F QUERN STREET RAFT, TORNITO, distreet; puers agent it was to have any relief until she read Dr. Classer, Custra Care. If suppose troublest "Ar Casatric Case of Krs. Cawle she will give her redoration as to here care.

THE QUEEN'S OLDEST SUBJECT

THE QUEEN'S OLDEST SURJECT

Mr. Taylor, the late postmaster at Scarva, was much it oldest man in the United Kingdom, protatuly in the whole of the Queen's dominions. It is asserted by some, writes a Banbridge correspondent, that he was born in 164, this date being arrived at by comparison of events current in his youth with which he was more or less contained to the more of the strong, and by the agree of manating from himself while his memory was yet strong, and by the agree of others who died many years ago, and who claimed to be more youthful than he.

While, however, people who were infinately acquainted with him hold the belief that he was 134 years of ago, ethers are disposed to fix his birthday in 1780. In any case, it is quite clear that his birth-year is a matter of considerable doubt, and his portrait, quite a recent one, does not suggest a man 130.

Taylor bore the burden of his years very lightly. He first saw the light in a humble cottage situated between the towns of Tandragee and Scarva, part of the region once haunted by a notorious rapparee named Redmond O'Hanlon, who levied tribute on the English pay when he had opporturity.

Mr. Toylor used to tell many stories

Mr. Taylor used to tell many stories of this highwayman. Here is a typical

Mr. Taylor used to tell many stories of this highwayman. Here is a typical one:—

"One time, when closely pursued by the sodgers, O'Hanlon went the whole way from the Newries to where Belfast now is on the branches of the trees, for it was all a wood in them times. He was killed at last by one of his own men's treachery, his head was took into Newry, and the rest of lim buried over the rood there. O'Hanlon's grave is still pointed out in the little cemetery at Ballinabeck.

"Robin Taylor," as he was familiarly cailed, could not be claimed as one of the native Irish; his forbears no doubt came across the water, for Armagh and Lown being "forfeited" counties, were stocked witu immigrants from the sister isles. Armagh, indeed, with its hundreds of fruit orchards, is still celled "the English county."

About a century ago the "Peep-oray Boys," "Wreekers," and "Defenders" were rampant in both of these counties, and fierce battles often occurred between the two "religious sections" whom they represented. The famous "Battle of the Diamond" came of when Robert Taylor was well out of his teens; half a century a deterwards is eyes would giltter when reminded of those events, and like Goldsmith's vectara, he would recount many a tale of slaughter and tell "how fields were won."

veteran, he would recount many a take of slaughter and tell "how fields were won."

He has often stated that in 1780, when in his sixteenth year, he olayed music in front of a troop of light infantry raised about Tandragee, and commanded by Dr. George Washington Patton. The little regiment was called away to Countr Louth, and Taylor was oilleted for a considerable period in Drogheda, where he improved his knowlege of hand-loom weaving when tot exercising military arms.

Taylor remained a bachelor until arter he had passed his century. In his meridian, attired in blue swallowtail ter he had passed his century. In his meridian, attired in blue swallowtail cost, knee breches, white waistoat, beaver hat, and buckles on his shoes, he was the cynouure of all eyes when traversing the Mall op his way to worship in Tandragee church. Between 1799 and 1812 he officiated as precentor in the First Presbyterian meeting house at Banbridge, of which building not a trace har been visible for the last 30 years.

Early to the present century when

not a trace har been visible for the last 30 years.
Early in the present century, when he had probably resolved to "hang his trumpet in the hall and study war no more," Mr. Taylor set up a little grocery store in Scarva. In course of time it became a place of call for letters, and eventually was subsidized as a post-office.

post-office.

"Oh, aye," he would say, "I mind well when hardly a letter came to the countryside, and any that did commostly cost a tenpenny for carriage; the sheet of paper would be folded up and sealed with wax, and, maybe, tied with slik if they were for the gentry, for there was no envelopes in them lays."

days."

Though he might have retired long ago, he refused to be put upon the shelf, and declared that he would "Aye be postmaster of Scarva"—truly the

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record postmaster of the Victorian eta.

It 1872 he contracted matrimony with a Miss Dunlop, a native of an adjacent parish. Some facial resemblance has been traced between Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and the celebritles of Hawarden, but the portrait of the old man speaks for itself. He was a fine old fellow—honest, straightforward, and manly, and a lifelong student of the Bible.

Bably, and a meong broader of many beautiful relics of pest ages have been found in the neighbourhead of Scarva; but the grandest antiquity of them all was this staunch old gentleman, who had seen so many years, both before and since the Union, living and at last dying within a stone-throw of where he was born, and in whose time the world in science, literature, civilisation, and discovery mane greater progress than during the life of any other person.

AN UNGRAMMATICAL AMBASSADOR.

AN UNGRAMMATICAL AMBASSADOR.

The British Foreign Office has perpetrated an absurd jeke. It issued a
Farilamentary paper in relatica to the
China question, which is an epitome of
the most amasting and acrusing blunders ever issued from the press. Embedded in a despeton, and reading directly as part of it, there appears an
annotation (obviously from the pen of
the Foreign Secretary, or one of als
immediate Heutenaries) from the year
immediate Heutenaries) in the way of
criticism of Sir Charles McDonald's
grammar, but as if to accentuate the
"ske, the commentator himself makes
an intake in grammar, and concludes
an intake in grammar, and concludes
an remarks with the observation that
Sir C. McDonald and the Trung-LiTamen must be left it use bad grammar if they prefer." When the mistake was discovered Mr. Curzon sent
out a nurried note to the editors appealing to then to omit the marginal
notes, 'at this note in several instances
arrivad too late.

Recenti, 'Speaker Reed wished to see

arrived too late.

Recenti, Speaker Reed wished to see some man on some pending legislation and telegrar hed to him to come to Washington. The man took the first train available, but a wash-out on the road made it impossible for the train to proceed further towards its destination. Going to a telegraph station he ent this despiach to the Speaker:—"Washout on the line. Can't come." Washout on the line. Can't come." When Reed read the measage he sent back this rely:—"Buy a new shirt and come anyway." and come anyway."

and some anyway."

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