



CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

SHAWN NA SOGGARTH; OR, THE PRIEST-HUNTER. AN IRISH TALE OF THE PENAL TIMES.

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(Concluded.)

There was no attendance at the wake beyond the drunken household, with the exception of a few aged peasants, male and female...

There is no will or memorandum of any intended bequest or legacy; he said when the search was closed, and the few papers found minutely examined...

"I believe, Sir John, I will save you the trouble of looking after one moiety of the estate, at all events," said Baker, with difficulty suppressing a grin...

"It must be all a fabrication," exclaimed Ffolliot violently, "or else you (to Baker) got him to sign it in his drunkenness..."

"I can attest that such was your intention at all events; and I would advise you as a friend, Mr. Ffolliot, to be a little more guarded in your language..."

"The papers are, I dare say, all correct," said Sir John glancing carelessly over them; "but they can have no effect in altering the course I mentioned as my duty..."

Not had an earthquake shaken the ground beneath him, could the attorney have looked more frightenedly bewildered...

"But surely, Sir John," said Ffolliot, "I will be paid at once the six thousand, for which I hold the mortgages..."

"I will be plain and brief with you both, gentlemen," said Sir John, looking from one to the other, "particularly as I am limited in point of time..."

And no further admission or encouragement could either attorney or magistrate obtain from the baronet, though the conference lasted for some minutes after, during which they argued, complained, and entreated.

Mingled with the annoyance felt by the over-reached plotter, as they rode together from the Hall, was one thought, that gave each some consolation, namely, that his companion was unsuccessful as well as himself...

"Well," said Ffolliot, "Sir John would be an overmatch for old Nick himself; and I would bet the interest of my money that he'll manage to get the property into his own clutches..."

"Why, considering whose grasp is now on the estate, I wish we had even that without trouble or delay. However, I think we shall succeed so far at least, by rather going with the current of...

Sir John's own schemes, than attempting to thwart them.

The funeral procession was almost as thin as the wake had been, being limited to the same persons that had attended the former, with the addition of Sir John, Mr. Gordon, and a few others...

We shall now, according to what we may call almost imperative prescription, say a few words about the other principal personages of our tale, and drop the curtain.

Arthur and Frank obtained commissions in the Irish Brigade, where their gallant bearing among the gallant, achieved for them both fame and rank. When the long expected annals of that Brigade, so renowned for its heroic bravery...

Arthur renounced his paternal surname, and assumed that of his mother, Reilly; and it was under that name he received the hand of Ellen Lycech, the ensuing year, as she had resisted all his importunities for their union during that interval...

Frank's marriage with "the rose of Ballintubber" took place at the same time with Arthur's, and Betsy always, previously, replied laughingly to his proposals and entreaties...

A few months after her marriage, Aaron made a journey to Rotterdam to meet herself and her husband, a journey to which he was as much induced by the persuasions of Hetty Matthews (now Andrews) whom he had taken as a helpmate...

Fergus, in imitation of his favorite "master Frank," enrolled himself in the ranks of the Brigade, and literally fought his way, through bloody field and deadly breach...

His father, too, was placed, through the influence of Arthur and Frank, among the corps of sutlers in attendance on the army—a berth which Ned found to be entirely congenial to his inclinations...

treated with patronizing kindness; though, to be sure, now and then, he asserted his own superiority, by some disparaging allusion to by-gone times...

We must not omit, in reference to Ned, that he wrote an epitalamium for the wedding of his favorite "the rosebud," which was choicest of the names of heatlen deities and heroes...

Johnny likewise became a follower in the army, and having the means of supplying himself with a varied stock, what between his skill in selling, his ready wit and humorous habits...

We shall now briefly allude to the personages of our tale that remained in Ireland, with apologies to the reader for having omitted to state before, that in the same vessel with Aaron Andrews and his wife...

Ffolliot was fain to accept, after considerable delay, six thousand pounds—the bare amount of the different monies he had lent, without a single pound interest—from Sir John...

Well were it trusting even to that! But, unfortunately, the watchful attorney attempted some resistance, when the profligate son of an evil-minded parent, excited by drink and the recollection of his father's heartlessness...

Time, the alleviator of all human woe, had its usual influence on him too, by gradually softening down the bitterness of his grief...

But Arthur, in his reply, returned a most decided, though respectfully couched refusal, expressing his high relish for his profession...

We shall just remark in passing, that Dixon was not appointed to the parish as he expected, on the promotion of the rector. It was bestowed on a man whose mild and tolerant spirit was more kindred to that of his benevolent predecessor...

of its produce, scarcely more remained at his death than covered the funeral expenses.

The ebb of fortune's tide swept with it more of worldly comfort and hope from the attorney, than even from Ffolliot. The reader will remember a bitter allusion made by Baker...

Smarting under the pain and disgrace of this public punishment, he deserted. He was, however, speedily captured and again punished. A second time he deserted, with the same result...

The world was now before him, and he turned his thoughts to home. Home, accordingly, he came, to torment and disgrace his griping and unloving father.

The attorney could not, of course, and would not sanction the expelled deserter; and young Baker resorted to crime and fraud for the maintenance of his evil life.

This utter abandonment pressed heavily on his mind; and, shortly after his liberation, having learned that his father had just received a considerable sum...

Well were it trusting even to that! But, unfortunately, the watchful attorney attempted some resistance, when the profligate son of an evil-minded parent...

As opposite to the closing career of the two personages of our tale just mentioned, as he was unlike them in character, was that of the worthy rector.

Time, the alleviator of all human woe, had its usual influence on him too, by gradually softening down the bitterness of his grief...

After having got over his concern for the loss of his little "Naegel," Heavideises, still continuing to retain his matrimonial inclinations, was, in the next town in which he was quartered...

suitable for him than would have been the rosebud of Ballintubber. She was as good humored as himself; she was also careful and bustling, and made him an excellent soldier's wife...

Sir John Ingram, the highest in rank, and one of the most prominent of our dramatic personae—what shall we say of him? He met with no striking reverses or misfortunes, such as the reader might look for as instances of poetical justice...

That he felt the gnawing of the worm that dieth not, no one that knows the human heart, can doubt; and it was strongly evinced on his death-bed...

The winds that flutter the rich try drapery, and sing their mournful dirge through ruined cloister and aisle, sweep over the bones of persecutor and persecuted...

The deeply blood-stained priest-hunter, who seemed, through life, to have neither loved nor feared God or man, was also interred in a little dismantled chapel adjacent to the abbey...

Our say is said; and if we have been enabled to present the reader with a picture of our country in her days of darkness and persecution...

Reader, farewell.

PASTORAL OF HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP.

The following pastoral letter was read in all the churches and chapels of the diocese on Sunday:—

VERY REV. BROTHERN—Allow me to request of you, to exhort your faithful flocks to celebrate the approaching festival of the Immaculate Conception of the Holy Virgin Mary with great fervour and devotion...