

From the Edinburgh Review.

ORIGIN, NATURE, AND TENDENCIES OF ORANGE ASSOCIATIONS.

- ART. IX.—1. *Report: Orange Lodges, Associations, or Societies in Ireland.* Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 20th July, 1835.
2. *Second Report from the Select Committee appointed to Inquire into the Nature, Character, Extent, and Tendency of Orange Lodges, Associations or Societies in Ireland, with the Minutes of Evidence, and Appendix.* Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 6th August, 1835.
3. *Third Report: Orange Lodges, Associations or Societies in Ireland.* Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 6th August, 1835.
4. *Report: Orange Institutions in Great Britain and the Colonies.* Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed 7th September, 1835.
5. *Report of the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the Origin, Nature, Extent, and Tendency of Orange Institutions in Great Britain and the Colonies, and to Report the Evidence taken before them, and their Opinions to the House.* Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 7th September, 1835.

[CONTINUED]

We regret to say that it is not in Canada only that the discipline of the army has been tampered with. The grand lodges of England and Ireland have done so for years, under the hand and seal of His Royal Highness Field Marshal the Duke of Cumberland. In the body of their proceedings there are frequent resolutions which attest this fact. The 15th rule of Irish society, for 1824 (App. 1—17), declares, 'that regiments are to be considered as districts, and the masters of all regimental lodges shall make yearly returns of the numbers, names, and rank of the members of their lodges, to the secretary of the grand lodge.' And in the rules of the English society, which have undergone various revisions and corrections, the following article appears in the latest editions of 1826, 1833, and 1834. 'No person can be admitted into this institution for a less fee than 15s., except in cases of non-commissioned officers, soldiers, and sailors, when the fee of admission shall be at the discretion of the committee.'—[Eng. Appendix, 135.] The forgetfulness of the Orange witnesses with respect to the existence of lodges in the army, is almost miraculous. Lord Kenyon, for instance, says, 'with respect to the grand lodge of England, I can state most explicitly, that to my own knowledge, since I knew his Royal Highness the Duke of York had forbidden the establishment of any lodges in the army, I not only never have consented to the establishment of any such, but I stated distinctly that none such must be granted. Now the committee reminded Lord Kenyon that the rule we have just quoted formed a part of the code which was frequently revised and amended by his lordship [2752, &c. and 2809.] They showed him also another rule equally strong [2738] respecting military lodges;—also eight or nine letters from privates of different regiments respecting their lodges, and addressed to the grand secretary

[2793.] They informed him that Serjeant Keith is stated, in the circular revised by himself, to have appeared at the grand lodge at his house in Portman Square, as proxy for a regimental lodge, on the 16th April, 1833 [2759.] They pointed out to him the letters of Mr. Nucella, written in 1838, some of which were read, and all of which are stated to have been praised by him in the grand lodge, and which letters recounts Mr. Nucella's proceedings with the military lodges at Malta and Corfu (2784.) The lodge also put before his lordship the following letter addressed to himself:—

'Canterbury Barracks, 19th Nov. 1832.

'My Lord,—I take the liberty of stating that the annual contribution from this lodge was sent in May last to Mr. Chetwode, deputy-grand secretary to the loyal Orange institution of Great Britain, the receipt of which has not been noted to me. I hope your lordship will have the kindness to cause an acknowledgement to be sent, as also the present rules and regulations of the institution, as there are none in possession of a later date than 25th March, 1822, with the exception of the opening and closing prayers.

'I have heard that Mr. Chetwode is not now in office, and not knowing whom to address, will I trust plead my excuse in thus troubling your lordship.

'In granting my request, your lordship will confer a lasting obligation on myself and brethren of the lodge of the 1st or Royal Dragoons, and I beg leave to subscribe myself,—Your Lordship's most obedient and very humble servant, (Signed) THOMAS SHIELDS, 1st Royal Dragoons.

Memory being thus pungently excited his lordship could not choose but to say, 'A little while ago I gave that answer' (the denial of all knowledge of the existence of military Orange lodges); but when this letter, &c. is put in my hand, of course I admit I must have known it at the time. [2766.] After this acknowledgement, when asked by the committee 'If you had perceived that Mr. Nucella had established lodges in the army, would you have taken steps to stop it?' [2783]—his lordship despondingly replies, 'I have seen so many instances of negligence, that I cannot say what I might have done; but I am persuaded that, consistently with my duty to his Royal Highness, I ought to have interfered.'

The warrant-book of the Irish grand lodge affords evidence on a larger scale. It appears from this record that there are some two-and-thirty regiments to which warrants for holding lodges have been granted by the Irish establishment. Col. Blacker, the assistant grand secretary, succeeded in showing that only some few of them were dormant or extinct. Still, after making the most liberal allowance for these pleas, there remain in confessed activity the twenty following military warrants, all of which have been issued within a few years.

In 1827,.... 78th regiment.
1829,.... 60h.
1830,.... 15th and 66th regiments.
1831.... 1st dragoon guards.
1832.... 50th, 80th, 81st, and 82d regiments.

1833,.... 59th.
1834,.... 1st (two warrants,) 70th, 85th and 89th regiments.
1835,.... 15th hussars, 4th dragoon guards, 1st (2d battalion,) 7th and 60th regiments.

But whilst our neighbors in Dublin have been thus actively recruiting, their brethren in England have in no degree been idle. This may be gathered from two reports of the Orange lodges in England. The first is corrected up to the year 1830, and contains the numbers of thirty regiments to which warrants have been granted [App. 19, 141.] The second is without a date, but appears to have been corrected up to a later period than the first, and furnishes a return of thirty-seven military lodges, with short notices respecting their stations &c. [App. 21, p. 157.] Several of these lodges also are said to be dormant or extinct. But happily the few letters, with the inspection of which Colonel Fairman indulged the committee before he absconded with his public-private letter-book, threw light enough to revive many of these so-called dormant lodges, and to introduce others not mentioned in those returns. For instance, the lodge of the 5th regiment is stated to be dormant, and that all correspondence with the 43rd had ceased since 1824. Yet (at page 173 of the Appendix) we find, amongst the private letters, that the 50th are doing well, having got a warrant from the Dublin grand lodge. 'The 43d have a London warrant, and their master is Corporal Lowrey.'—Please to send us one of the last circulars, and by so doing you will much oblige No. 1780. I remain yours, JONES KENNES, First Committeeman.'

This is duly endorsed for Serjeant William Walker of the 50th. Other letters mention lodges in the 9th battalion of the artillery [page 137,] the 71st regiment (page 181; the 32d, 38th, and 37th (page 189;) and that the soldiers of the 12th, 84th, and 86th attended a lodge at the Antelope, at Portsmouth, in 1833 (page 153.) Thus, then, we must justly assume there are many more existing in the army than appear on the face of those two returns; although we freely admit, that out of the thirty-seven English, and twenty Irish warrants, which they enumerate, there are a few entered as belonging to both associations, and some may be truly dormant or extinct. But take these returns in any way the most favorable, we shall find, independently of the revelations of the private correspondence, that more than fifty regiments have, or lately had, Orange lodges established in them, either by the grand lodge of Dublin or of London.

Now, these proceedings are directly contrary to the rules and regulations of the army. So long ago as July, 1822, the Duke of York issued an order against the establishment of Orange lodges in regiments; stating 'that his Royal Highness cannot too strongly reprobate a practice so fraught with injury to the discipline of the army.' (Second Irish Report, page 12.) This order was repeated in November, 1829, and further enforced by

Lord Hill, calling upon commanding officers of regiments to exercise the utmost vigilance to prevent the introduction, and to ascertain the existence of, Orange lodges in their regiments; and to warn their men that their meetings as Orangemen cannot be permitted under any pretence, but 'will subject them to trial and punishment for disobedience of orders.' (Second Irish Report, page 12.) These orders have been of course most widely circulated. That of 1822 was forthwith embodied in the printed code of rules and regulations, with which every officer is ordered to supply himself (71.) It is thus hardly possible, that some of the military officers, who are Orangemen, should have been ignorant of the precise nature of these orders. Indeed, Lord Kenyon refers to a conversation respecting them in the grand lodge with his Royal Highness (2712.) 'One of the first things,' he says 'that occurred subsequently to the vote that his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland should become grand master was a matter of that description,—(military lodges)—on which occasion I recalled to his Royal Highness's attention that order of his Royal Highness the Duke of York, and he most explicitly stated that no such Orange lodge should be allowed to be established in any regiment.' This settles the question as to the cognizance of the leaders of the English association. With respect to the Irish, Mr. Stewart Blacker admits, that to his own knowledge there is a vast difference of opinion on that subject with many of the intelligent and influential members belonging to the grand lodge of Ireland. Some do not think it right, or proper, or conducive to the well-being and discipline of the army in general that such societies should exist; but they have been overborne by a certain majority on that point.'—(Irish Report, 2327.)

From the True Tablet.

DESECRATION OF OLD ENGLISH CHURCHES.

[CONCLUDED]

• • But it is to be remembered, that although these ancient glories were by God's blessing brought to the highest perfection in this land, we did not possess or hold them as Englishmen, but as Catholics; our country was as indeed a bright gem, but it was only one jewel in the crown of the Catholic Church. And although in the days of Faith we were permitted to excel most other nations in the majesty of our rites, it was by virtue of our communion and holy obedience to Christ's vicar, the Bishop of Rome, successor to the Prince of Apostles. Once severed from his authority, cathedrals, abbeys, cloisters, altars, shrines, bishops, priests, lands, and privileges, availed nothing; they passed away at a breath. Their glory was a dream, and their place knew them no more: the source of life was severed, and they were dried up and withered away. And let those who think by mere arch or pinnacle to revive solemnities and retrieve the past, read the awful lesson of England's punishment written with iron hand on every glorious pile. When courtier bishops and trembling priests first signed the fatal act of schism that separated England