

his public thanks, and heaped innumerable favors upon the Irish soldiers in his service. This Irish triumph was the occasion of an excellent poem from the gifted pen of Thomas Davis, the last verse of which is,

"News, news, in Vienna! King Leopold's sad.  
News, news, in St. James! King William is mad,  
News, news, in Versailles—"Let the Irish  
Brigade

Be loyally honored, and royally paid."

News, news, in old Ireland—high rises her pride  
And high sounds her wail for her children who  
died

And deep is her prayer—God send I may see  
MacDonnell and Mahony fighting for me."

One of the last, but by no means least remarkable achievements of Irish valor in the ranks of the French army was at the famous battle of Fontenoy. France may well thank Ireland for that victory. The French had well nigh exhausted their strength in vain efforts to check the steady and destructive advance of the English veterans upon the village of Fontenoy. Duc Richelieu hurled mass upon mass of infantry upon the steadily advancing English column under the Duke of Cumberland. But all to no effect. So hopeless seemed the effort to check their progress, that Louis had decided to leave the field. But then it was that General Saxe ordered up his last reserve—the Irish Brigade. This was the signal for Dame Fortune to turn the scales. The great bravery of the Irish corps sealed the fate of England's army and won the day for France. The Irish Brigade on this memorable occasion consisted of the regiments of Clare, Lally, Dillon, Berwick, Roth, Buckley, O'Brien, and Fitz James's horse. After the French had failed to check the onward march of the British column, the Irish were ordered to charge them; and charge they did with right good will, bearing down everything before them in their mad rush to avenge their country's wrongs. An historian describing the struggle relates, "They were led to immediate action, and the stimulating cry of "*Cuimhnighiaí ar Luimneac argus ar pheile na Lacsunach*" (Remember Limerick and British Faith) was echoed from man to man. The fortune of the field was no longer doubtful, and victory most decisive crowned the arms of France. The

English broke before the Irish bayonets, and tumbled down the side of the hill, disorganized, hopeless and falling by hundreds. The Irish pursued them until the victory was bloody and complete." It is said by writers of that time that King Louis rode down to the Irish bivouac and personally thanked the Irish for their bravery. And it is related that George the Third on hearing of the defeat of the English exclaimed, "Cursed be the laws which deprived me of such subjects." 'Tis true the victory was a bloody one and cost many true Irish lives, but it was a glorious victory and has taught the world the true calibre of the Irish soldiers. Well might the poet exclaim.

"On Fontenoy, on Fontenoy, like Eagles in the  
sun,  
With bloody plumes the Irish stand—the field  
is fought and won."

These are only a very few of the brilliant military achievements of Irishmen abroad and were we to attempt to render due homage to each and every "soldier of fortune" who won distinction in foreign lands, our task would be a rather lengthy one. But some of the names which adorn the pages of history claim our special attention and it would be unpardonable to pass them by unnoticed.

First among these whose memory has been revered, and the subject of whose deeds has been the inspiration of gifted poets, is the great Sarsfield. His very name has become a household word in every Irish family. The remembrance of his exploits and heroic death, causes a thrill of exultation to vibrate in the bosom of every true Celt. Yes! Irishmen can point to him with pride and exclaim: There was a warrior! There was a soldier whose eminent qualities fitted him for the manifold duties of military life. After the fatal termination of the English Revolution Sarsfield at the head of numbers of Irishmen entered the service of France, and there for three years this noble exile fought the battles of Louis, winning the unbounded admiration of the French people. At the battle of Enghien Sarsfield at the head of the Irish Brigade fought so valiantly, and with such success that he was publicly thanked and made a