

A. With the most flattering courtesy and favour. She promised to support his claims to the best of her power.

Q. Did Elizabeth keep this promise?

A. It is probable that at the time she intended to keep it; but, notwithstanding the manifest loyalty of his conduct, she listened to his enemies who impeached his intentions; and they, encouraged by an expression which she used, proceeded to effect his ruin.

Q. What was that expression?

A. "If O'Neill rebels," said the queen, "it will be all the better for my servants, for there will be estates enough for them who lack." On which, Elizabeth's Irish government determined to goad O'Neill into rebellion.

Q. How did they begin?

A. Sir Henry Sidney, who was now lord deputy, established a garrison of English troops at Derry.

Q. What right had O'Neill to complain of that?

A. It was a needless insult to him. The country being perfectly tranquil at the time, no troops were required to check disturbance; and the planting a garrison in the midst of O'Neill's country, showed a want of reliance on the good faith of the promises he had made to the queen's government.

Q. What did O'Neill resolve to do?

A. He resolved to get rid of the English garrison.

Q. How did he manage to do so?

A. He contrived to make them begin hostilities, and then sent to the lord deputy a bitter complaint of their conduct; at the same time proposing a conference at Dundalk to adjust all differences.

Q. Did the conference take place?

A. No; before it could possibly be held, the powder magazine at Derry was accidentally blown up, and the English garrison were obliged to quit the town.

Q. Did O'Neill then carry on the war against the government?

A. He did, but ineffectually, as he found himself deserted by the chiefs on whose support he had relied with confidence.

Q. Was their defection owing to English intrigue?

A. Yes; O'Neill found, to his cost, that the English garrison at Derry had been busily engaged in sowing the seeds of disaffection to him, from the first moment of their settlement.

Q. What was his fate?

A. He perished by the treachery of Piers, an English officer, who induced the Scotch commandant of a garrison stationed at Clan-hu-boy, to take advantage of a preconcerted quarrel at a banquet, to massacre O'Neill and his followers.

Q. What reward did Piers receive for his treachery?

A. He received the sum of one thousand marks from the government, on sending the head of O'Neill to the lord deputy.

Q. What became of O'Neill's estates?

A. They were divided amongst the managers of the queen's Irish government.

Q. Who was the next great Irish lord on whose destruction the government was resolved?

A. The earl of Desmond.

Q. How was this managed?

A. In a quarrel between Desmond and Ormond, about the boundaries of their estates, lord deputy Sidney, to whom the dispute had been referred, decided at first in favour of Desmond; but, on receiving the queen's orders to re-examine the case, Sidney not only decided this time in favour of Ormond, but loaded Desmond with all the expenses his rival had incurred.

Q. Did Desmond obey this new decision?

A. No; for he felt it was grossly unjust.

Q. How was he then treated?

A. He was seized by the lord deputy, and, after some delay, sent as a prisoner to the tower of London, where he was kept in captivity for many years.

Q. What disturbances followed?

A. Many serious ones: Munster and Ulster became embroiled; the former with the claims of the earl of Clancarty to the principedom of the province; the latter with the struggles of Tirlough O'Neill to augment his authority.

Q. What efforts did the Geraldines of Desmond make to avenge the imprisonment of the earl, their chief?

A. They are said to have negotiated with their old foes, the followers of Ormond, to effect a general insurrection.

Q. What steps were taken, meanwhile, by the government?

A. They ordered Sir Peter Carew to lead his army against the Butlers. He accordingly entered their country, and meeting an unarmed concourse of people, who gazed with curiosity at his forces, he commanded a general massacre; and about four hundred defenceless, unresisting people were put to death.

Q. What does Mr. Froude, the English historian, say of this Sir Peter Carew?

A. Mr. Froude, writing on the authority of documents preserved in the State Paper Office, has the following passage in his *History of England*:—"Sir Peter Carew has been seen murdering women and children, and babies that had scarcely left the breast; but Sir Peter Carew was not called on to answer for his conduct, and remained in favour with the deputy."—(*Hist. Eng.*, vol. x., p. 508.)

(To be continued.)

A pious cottager residing in the midst of a lone and dreary heath was asked by a visitor, "Are you not sometimes afraid in your lonely situation, especially in the winter?" He replied, "Oh, no! for faith shuts the door at night, and mercy opens it in the morning."