

THE COUNTESS OF DESMOND.

E. Owens Blackburne, in his remarkable volume, "Illustrious Irishwomen," tells in graphic language the story of the "Old Countess of Desmond," who lived from the year 1464, to the year 1604; one hundred and forty years. Apart from this attractive narrative, we find in almost all the Irish historians some account of this remarkable lady. It is often a matter of surprise to find large numbers of Irishwomen dying at various ages, from eighty to one hundred years; yet, it would seem as if the race was a long-lived one in almost every generation for centuries back. Of course the Countess of Desmond's case is an exceptional one; but it is not at all wonderful when we scan the statistics of Ireland for three hundred years or more. Not only did she see her own generation pass away but the next, and the next again, and again another, did she see arise, play out their part in life and disappear. Yet she lived on. A wife for half a century, she became a widow at three score and ten; but even at this allotted period, only half of her earthly pilgrimage was accomplished.

For more than a century she beheld the members of her own race in regal magnificence and power, swaying the councils of their sovereigns and acting as their representatives, at home and abroad; and she lived to see the chief of her house an outcast and a wanderer, with a price on his head, finally hunted down like a wild beast and his seignories gone forever.

Lady Katherine Fitzgerald was born in the Castle of Dromana, in the third year of Edward IV., 1464. She was a Geraldine both on her father's and mother's side, being the daughter of Sir John Fitzgerald, and of Ellen, his wife, daughter of the White Knight. In 1488 she married her kinsman, Thomas, third son of Thomas, the eighth Earl of Desmond, and brother of James, the sixth Earl. The Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III., was at her wedding, and danced with the bride, who always described him as being straight and well formed, instead of having the misshapen body which historians give him. They had one daughter, and a son by the Earl's former wife. The Earl was a loyal adherent of the crown, and had it not been that he was surprised by death, he would have aided in the capture of "Silken Thomas," his cousin, who in Dublin Castle, had renounced his allegiance to the King.

When she became a widow she was seventy years old. Her jointure was the manor of Inchiquin, about five miles from Youghal. In the old castle of Inchiquin she lived with her daughter, Sir Walter Raleigh several times makes mention of the "Ladie Cathelyn" the name, needless, by which she was known amongst the people. In his "Historie of the World" he says: "I myself knew the old Countess of Desmond of Inchiquin, of Munster, who lived in the year 1589; and many years since; who was married in Edward the Fourth's time, and held her jointure, from all the Earls of Desmond since then; and that this is true all the noblemen and gentlemen of Munster can witness.

In her very advanced years her lands were seized, and she was reduced to great poverty. All her remonstrances were of no avail. Aged though she was, she crossed the Shannon in a sailing boat, from Youghal to Bristol, and proceeded to plead her own case before the Queen. The following account of the journey is to be found in the Irish Collection in the Library of the British Museum. It is all extracted from a "Table Book," of Robert Smyke, second Earl of Leicester, and it runs thus:

"The olde countess of Desmond was a married woman in Edward IV.'s time, of England, and lived till towards the time of Queen Elizabeth, soe as she needs must be 110 years old; she had a new sett of teeth not long before her death, and might have lived much longer had she not met with a kind of violent death; for she must needs climb a mulberry to gather nuts, soe falling down she hurt her thigh, which brought a fever, and that fever brought death. This my cosen Walter Fitzwilliam told me. This olde lady, Mr. Harriet told me, came to petition the Queen, and landing at Bristol, she came on foot to London; being then so olde that her daughter was decrepit, and not able to come with her, but was brought in a little cart, their poverty not allowing them better provision of means. As I remember, Sir Walter Raleigh, in some part of the history, speaks of her, and says he saw her anno, 1589. Her death was as strange and remarkable as her long life was, having seen the deaths of soe many descended from her husband's house ruinal in the rebellion and wars."

There is a slight error in the above; it was King James that she petitioned to do her justice, and not the Queen, Blackburne says:

"When the Countess of Desmond came to London to petition King James her portrait was painted, and is now in the possession of Colonel Herbert of Muckross. It is done upon canvas, is oval and about three feet long. She is represented as wearing a kind of hood, a lace collar, and her person is enveloped in a fur mantle. If she actually wore a lace collar—and that it has not been introduced by the painter for the sake of effect—it is a very odd guarantee that her worldly circumstances must have greatly improved—Jas. at that period being almost priceless. In one of the portraits of Mary Queen of Scots she is painted as wearing a pair of lace ruffles which she had brought with her from France, and upon which Queen Elizabeth looked with envious eyes for the latter possessed no lace, save a narrow piece of edging which had belonged to Catherine of Arragon; and which that Queen had brought from Spain.

The Countess of Desmond lived during the reigns of Edward IV., during whose reign she was married

—of Edward V., Richard III., Henry VII., Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary and Elizabeth, and she died in the second year of the reign of James I."

AN EXCITING MOMENT.—Miss Catherine Curtis, aged eighteen, and her sister Martha, aged fourteen, daughters of a Newtown farmer, were driving over the Brookfield road, Conn., from the railroad station last week, when a bull sprang into the road a short distance in front of them, and charged upon them head down, and bellowing.

It was too late to turn back, even if the road at this point had not been too narrow. Calling to her sister to jump if she saw a chance, Catherine took a firmer grip on the reins, and when the bull was a few feet away pulled the horse around sharply, thus saving the horse from being impaled on the beast's horns.

The bull now doubly enraged, turned and charged again, and this time crushed the dashboard.

In the meantime the younger sister faintly. When the bull drove away to prepare for a third charge, Catherine quickly drew her sister into the bottom of the wagon, and lashed the horse with the whip. She was not an instant too soon, for the bull's horns tore one of the spokes from the rear wheel as the wagon shot by.

People along the usually quiet country road saw a frightened horse dash madly along, guided by a girl, who was clinging tightly to the reins, her face set with determination, the broken buggy jolting over the uneven places in the frozen roadway, and threatening to hurl her over the wheels. A few rods behind came the bull in angry pursuit. But the chase was too hot, and the bull exhausted abandoned it a quarter of a mile further on.

NOTES OF THE WAR.

Continued from Page One.

Nicholson's Nok after the disaster at that place on October 28, witnessed a sickening spectacle of dead and wounded, maimed and killed horses, and mules, remains of unfinished meals, and many other melancholy proofs of the dreadful conflict. The most touching object he met with was lying beside the dead body of an Irish Fusilier. It was a number of pages of a "Preparation for Confession." So affected were the correspondent and his companions (a chaplain named Macpherson and a Catholic Boer) by the pious memento that they shared the leaves between them.—London Universe.

IRISHMEN IN THE WAR.—The number of Irishmen prominent in the war is extraordinary. Lord Lansdowne, the Minister of War is a Kerry man; Mr. Wyndham, the Under-Secretary, is a great grandson of Lord Edward Fitzgerald, and his living image; Roberts is a Waterford man, and is proud of the fact. His title is Lord Roberts of Waterford and Kandahar. Kitchener was born on the Kerry coast. White is an Avon man; Clery, a Cork man; French a Roscommon man.

Dr. Barth, the German liberal leader, who is one of the most steadfast friends of Great Britain, and America, but who also condemns the present war of Great Britain in South Africa, has given his opinion in an interview. He said in part:

"At present it looks as if England would lose the whole of South Africa. I have private information from Africa by way of Holland, according to which the rebellious movement among the Cape Boers has assumed much more serious proportions than the English newspapers admit.

"There never was a greater piece of political stupidity than that shown by Mr. Chamberlain in provoking war without having made the necessary military preparations. If England had only waited a few years she could have had everything without war."

The London correspondent of the New York "Herald" says: "Another interesting item of news at hand this morning is that the Hamburg steamer Bundesrath has been seized by her Majesty's ship Magicienne in Delagoa Bay, having, it is alleged, three German officers and a number of men on board, who were on the way to fight with the Boers against Great Britain.

"The Bundesrath had also on board a cargo of what is described as contraband of war, and has been brought to Durban for adjudication by a prize court.

An English correspondent of an American journal thus sums up some of the effects of the war on general business affairs in London. He says: "The effects of the war in various unexpected directions are quite extraordinary.

"Most of the leading medical and surgical specialists here have private hospitals where they treat patients.

"An eminent surgeon to-day informed the World correspondent that a majority of these hospitals are closed for want of patients, and the specialists are having a ruinously bad time.

"The patients all come from the moneyed class. Many of them are under no urgent necessity for treatment, as is evidenced by the fact that when something occurs to distract their minds the specialists suffer.

"The large body of university tutors who prepare candidates for the bachelors have lost their occupation because the War Office is giving commissions freely without examination.

"The theatres, of course, are feeling the war severely, while the publishers' business has come almost to a standstill. Jewellers and fancy-goods merchants seem face to face with absolute ruin.

"Private entertaining is almost suspended and the important branches of business dependent upon it are stagnant beyond all precedent.

"On the other hand, coal is 70 per cent. dearer than at the corresponding time last year, with a prospect of advancing to a still more exorbitant figure, both because of the large demands for the fleet and transports and the scarcity of labor, due to the heavy withdrawal of miners for the army reserve.

"The managers of racetracks anticipate a disastrous season, and a proposal is being considered for reducing the number of fixtures to cut down the inevitable losses.

"Hunting has fallen off extensively and sure bankruptcy stares some of the most noted packs in the face. "Numerous orders for commissioning steam and sailing yachts for the Mediterranean season have been cancelled, leaving the large class of yacht sailors on their beam ends.

"Swell establishments are being curtailed or broken up, throwing great numbers of servants and dependents out of work.

"In fact, excepting the industries directly stimulated by the war, such as shipping, provisioning, outfitting, and the manufacture of ammunition, commerce is depressed in all directions. These, moreover, are only the first ripples of a great tidal wave of depression, with all its resultant distress, discontent and social disorder, which every portent indicates is about to sweep over this country as a consequence of this war."

CAUTION.—Beware of substitutes for Pain-Killer. There is nothing "just as good." Unequalled for cuts, sprains and bruises. Internally for all bowel diseases. Avoid substitutes; there is but one pain-killer, Parry-Davis'. 25 cents and 50 cents.

DOMESTIC SERVICE.—Australian women are not spared perplexity over the servant girl problem. They are agitating the advisability of call-

The S. CARSLY CO., Limited.

Notre Dame Street. Montreal's Greatest Store. Jan. 6, 1900.

JANUARY CHEAP SALE

Unrivalled January Sale.

Positive instructions have been issued to the managers of the different departments. To reduce everything in stock for our January Cheap Sale. No matter what you buy here during all next month the price is sure to be considerably lower than at any ordinary time.

Never before has the management made such an onslaught on prices. New, fashionable, reasonable and reliable merchandise will be sold in many cases at a mere fraction of their former value. This means a big loss to the Company, but

The Stocks Must be Sold

Sweeping reductions will take place throughout every department, so great that they will wash out KU YERS' MISTAKES and clear out thousands of remnants and forgotten things. The power of clearing lies in the prices. Read them.

Ladies' White Underwear.

This January cheap sale of ladies' White Underwear will certainly eclipse any of our former sales. Enormous quantities of beautiful Lingerie will be brought forward at prices that would hardly represent the price of the material.

LADIES' WHITEWEAR.



CORSET COVERS, Ladies' White Cambric Corset Covers, tight fitting, and high neck, worth 15c, Sale price 8 cents.

CHEMISES, Ladies' White Cambric Chemises, cut full with high neck, sizes 30 to 38 inches, worth 20c, Sale price 12 1/2 cents.

DRAWERS, Ladies' White Cambric Drawers, 2 styles, extra value at 20 cents. Sale price 12 1/2 cents.

NIGHT DRESSES, Ladies' Night Dresses of white cambric, yoke front and back, trimmed with lace edging, worth 50 cents. Sale price 36 cents.

WHITE SKIRTS, Ladies' White Skirts, good width, three tucks, and deep hem, yoke band, worth 40c. Sale price, 28 cents.

January Cheap Sale of LINENS, FLANNELS, COTTONS.

A continual Series of bargains in this section will make it the busiest portion of the Big Store during the January Cheap Sale.

LINENS.

TOWELLING—50 pieces Heller Towelling, splendid value at 9 cts. a yard. Sale price 3c.

HUCKABACK TOWELS.—320 dozen Linen Huckaback Towels, red border, fringed ends, worth 6 1/2 cts. each. Sale price 3 1/2 cents.

FLANNELS. GRAY FLANNEL.—Heavy Gray Flannel, plain or twill weave, worth fully 14c a yard. Sale price 9 cents. FLANNELLETTE.—Hundreds of

pieces of Fancy Flannellette, good value at 6c or 7c a yard. Sale price 3 1/2 cents.

COTTONS. GRAY COTTON.—14 bales good useful Gray Cotton, the regular 5c a yard kind. Sale price, 2 1/2 cents.

WHITE COTTON.—12 cases White cotton, strong weave, 37 inches wide, usual 7c a yard. Sale price 4 cents.

The S. CARSLY CO. Limited.

1765 to 1788 Notre Dame St. 184 to 194 St. James St., Montreal.

ing the class "household employees" it may be interesting to local societies given to the solution of the question to learn. There are to be two "shifts" of employees, one to work from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the other from 2 p.m. to 8 or 9 p.m., so that they may have the afternoons and evenings of every alternate week. It is stated that the expenses of the household would not be increased by adopting this course, the domestic service under this new condition of affairs would be rendered so attractive that servants could be readily obtained at half the present wages.

BLESSING THE BELLS.

A Solemn Ceremony Elizabethport Witnessed Last Sunday.

The Henry McShane Manufacturing Co., of Baltimore have delivered to St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Elizabethport, N.J., the chime recently cast by them for Rev. Father Martin Gosmar, Pastor of St. Patrick's. Last Sunday the chime was blessed, and later will be placed in position in time for its inauguration on New Year's eve. This is a wonderfully sweet set of bells, the largest of tenor bell weighs 3,750 pounds, and the smallest 250 pounds; total weight of the ten is 13,200 pounds. Beside the universal commutation of critical visitors present at the preliminary tone tests at the McShane foundry, the bells are highly praised by experts from the great Idaho house of Wm. Knabe & Co., who pronounced them perfect in musical and harmonious qualities. St. Patrick's chime is destined to become as famous as the most noted of the McShane creations.

FANCY DRESS GOODS that were 75c to \$1.25, now 49c, less 10 per cent off extra for cash.

FANCY DRESS GOODS that were \$1.25 to \$2.25, now 89c, less 10 per cent off extra for cash.

LADIES' JACKETS. Great reductions, 25 to 50 per cent, with an extra 10 per cent off for cash.

MAIL ORDERS FOR REDUCED GOODS CAREFULLY ATTENDED TO.

OGILVY'S

Cor. St. Catherine and Mountain sts.

Advertisement for MENTHOL D&L PLASTER, featuring a testimonial and product details.

A RECKLESS Cheap Sale!

Before Stock-Taking.

A Great Cleaning Out of Stock.

No Closing Down to re-mark goods for our Annual Clearing Sale. Our Cheap Sale will be in full swing, and continues for 10 days.

All Goods Reduced in Price 25 to 50 percent.

And all odd lines clearing out at prices regardless of their original value to clean them completely out. This is the time to get Bargains, and this is the store where you are sure to get them.

Bargains in Men's and Boy's Clothing. Bargains in Men's and Boy's Underwear and Furnishings. Bargains in Men's and Boy's Hats, Fur and Cloth Caps, Etc., Etc.

Read over the list of prices, come early and get your choice, as many of the lots are limited, and the best lines are sure to be picked up first.

Neckwear. 10 dozen BOW TIES, to clear at 8c, were 15c. DERBY AND PARIS TIES, to clear at 8c two for 15c. 20 dozen BOW TIES, regular 25c each, to be sold at 15c, two for 25c. 15 dozen PARIS TIES, to make bows, regular 25c; sale price, two for 25c. 3 dozen DERBYS, or FOUR-IN-HAND, 15c; now two for 15c. 5 dozen PUFF TIES, were 25c; sale price, 15c. WIDE FLOWING ENDS, were 8c, to go at 25c. FINE PUFF TIES, were 50c, to go at 25c. FINE HAND, were 25c, now two for 15c. BEST FOUR-IN-HAND KNOTS and DERBYS, were 60c; choice for 35c.

Collars. Our entire stock to be cleared out (except the W. G. & R. Collars); all other lines, regularly sold at 15c each, to be sold 50c per half dozen. We have nearly all sizes in all shapes, but the big selling sizes, 14, 15 and 16, will be sold out first. There will be lots of the other sizes, 16, 16 1/2, 17 and 17 1/2, and customers requiring these sizes will be sure to get them at this sale. They are FINEST-CLASS G. ODS; Regular Stock Lines.

Gloves. It is just a good time now to buy WINTER GLOVES, and not withstanding our very low prices, and the big advance we will have to pay on these goods now, we will, during this sale, give 20 percent off all lines.

Underwear. Our stock is the best we ever had, and many lines are worth 50 percent more today than what we are asking, but we will still make a reduction during the sale on all lines of 15 percent. You must remember that our prices on these lines are already very low.

Hats. During this sale we will give every Hat for 25c, less than regular price, and as most of our Hats are new, already received for Spring Trade, this is quite a saving, and all Hats that we have to buy ourselves will cost on an average 25c each more from the makers.

CAPS—WINTER CAPS, 20 percent off. Clothing. FOR MEN, YOUTHS AND BOYS, 25 percent off all lines. Some odd lines reduced 25 to 50 percent. UMBRELLAS AND RUBBER COATS, 20 percent off.

COME IN AND LOOK AROUND AND SEE THE BARGAINS YOU CAN PICK UP HERE.

CORNER Craig and Bleury Streets AND 2299 St. Catherine Street.

JANUARY DISCOUNT SALE

Everything in our large Carpet warehouses will be offered at discounts of TEN and upwards, with an extra discount of FIVE per cent for cash. Our stock is heavy and all recent openings are offered in this sale, which is an advantageous one to purchasers.

Curtains, Rugs, Drapes. Thomas Ligget, 1834 Notre Dame Street, 2446 St. Catherine Street, MONTREAL, 175 to 177 Sparks St., OTTAWA.