

His ill health continuing, he left Paris, in June, 1825, for his native country, bringing with him a highly honorable testimonial, addressed to the Rt. Rev. Peter McLaughlin, of Derry. "His conduct," wrote Dr. Ryan, "has been most exemplary, and his talents conspicuous."

On visiting his uncle, Professor Slevin, at Maynooth, the latter strongly recommended his return to Paris, to contest a chair in his *Alma Mater*; but the Bishop whose subject he was, took a different view of his duties—raised him to the Priesthood the same year (1825) and appointed him to the curacy of Moville, on the Lough Foyle side of Innishowen.

The barony of Innishowen covers that remarkable peninsula of the north of Ireland, flanked by Lough Swilly and Lough Foyle, and terminating in the lofty double landmark of Dunaff and Malin Head. If Ulster may well be called the most persecuted Province of Ireland, Innishowen may contend for the honor of being the most persecuted portion of Ulster. A natural military base, easily occupied and supplied from the sea, it plays an important part throughout all the religious wars of Ireland. Culmore, on the opposite entrance to the Foyle, Derry, at the head of the harbor, and the several strong castles of Innishowen, were vital points of attack and defence for twenty years of Elizabeth's reign. Its hardy population adhered, through that unequal contest, to the gallant Earls of Tyrone and Tyrconnell, the joint