

## Notes and News

THE delay, much regretted, in the appearance of this and the preceding issue has been due in part to war conditions, in part to exceptional demands from other quarters on the editors' time. We are the more thankful that, though we have lost Dr. R. B. McDowell's valuable assistance in the reviewing of periodicals owing to his preoccupation with other work, we have secured the cooperation of Messrs. Kevin Nowlan, T. P. O'Neill, and W. A. O'Sullivan in this section of the journal. We are also grateful to Mr. E. G. Quin for his kindness in compiling the index to volume III.

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As the *Bulletin of the Irish Committee of Historical Sciences*, which publishes summaries of papers delivered before the Irish Historical Society and the Ulster Society for Irish Historical Studies, is now noticed in our survey of periodicals, we have discontinued the publication in these notes of the annual programmes of the two societies.

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The last instalment of 'Research on Irish history in Irish universities', published in September 1942, reported on the year January 1941—January 1942. The long interval between the concluding date of each report (January) and its appearance in this journal (September) was formerly necessary to enable us to include information for British and American universities. As such information is not now available, we have decided to publish the report in the March instead of the September issue, so reducing the time-lag by six months. The next instalment of 'Research in Irish history in Irish universities' will therefore appear in No. 13 and will cover the two years January 1942 to January 1944.

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Two years ago we recorded the deaths of five eminent Irish historians; since then four others have died: Mary T. Hayden, Ambrose Coleman, Timothy Corcoran, and Edmund Curtis.

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MARY TERESA HAYDEN, who was born in Dublin on 19 May 1862 and died on 12 July 1941, was the first professor of modern Irish history in the National University of Ireland. Graduating with honours in 1885 in the Royal University of Ireland, she proceeded to the degree of M.A. with a first class in 1887 and in 1895 secured by examination the Royal University junior fellowship in English and history. Appointed lecturer (1 November 1909) and subsequently professor (7 July 1911) of modern Irish history in

University College, Dublin, she concentrated mainly on the teaching of her subject during the following thirty years. Social activities, notably the women's suffrage movement and the organisation of a club for young children, took up much of her time but did not prevent her from writing numerous articles and reviews and collaborating with Mr. George A. Moonan in *A short history of the Irish people from the earliest times to 1920* (Dublin: Talbot Press, 1921). It is not too much to say of this work that, during the last twenty years, it has been the most widely used school and college text in Irish history. Miss Hayden, who was responsible for the sections covering the period 1520-1920 (except for the literary history), combined a vigorous style with a high degree of objectivity; but in subsequent editions, in which the work was extended to 1924, her strong personal feelings on more recent events somewhat obtruded into her narrative. Among her other publications may be mentioned: 'The songs of Buchet's house' (edited and translated from Rawl. B. 502 in *Zeitschrift für Celtische Philologie*, viii (1911). 261-73), 'Lambert Simnel in Ireland' (in *Studies*, iv (1915). 622-38), 'The origin and development of heads of bills in the Irish parliament' (in *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland*, iv (1925). 112-25), 'Giraldus Cambrensis' (in *Studies*, xxiv (1935). 96-110), and 'Prince Charles Edward and his Irish friends' (ibid., xxiii (1934). 95-109). Earlier articles appeared in the *Fortnightly*, the *Dublin Review*, the *Irish Educational Review*, the *New Ireland Review*, and in the *Sphere* (1908). In 1935 the National University conferred on Miss Hayden the honorary degree of D.Litt. Her last published article, 'Charity children in eighteenth-century Dublin', appeared posthumously (in *Dublin Historical Record*, v. 92-107 (Mar.—May 1943)), fittingly connecting her social and historical activities.

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We are indebted to Fr. Romuald Dodd, O.P., for the material for the following note on the late AMBROSE COLEMAN (1858-1942).

Thomas Coleman was born at Leeds on 18 July 1858 of Irish parents, and educated at Radcliffe College. He entered the Irish Dominican province at Tallaght, co. Dublin, in 1874, taking the name Ambrose in religion, and after his novitiate and philosophical course went to Rome where he obtained the degree of Lector in Theology. His interests were at first mainly theological, and when he took up the study of the history of the Irish Dominican province, which was to be the core of his historical work and which he materially advanced, he was without any specialised training in historical studies. The first sign of his new interests was a series of articles entitled 'Thomas de Burgo, author of the "Hibernia Dominicana", and bishop of Ossory' which appeared in the *Irish Ecclesiastical Record* in 1892 (series 3, xiii. 587-600, 707-19, 828-41, 1010-25). Seven years later, in addition to an article on one aspect of the later penal laws ('The general exile of 1698', ibid., series 4, v 18-30) he published a defence of a catholic mission (*The friars in the Philippines*, Boston: Marlier, Callanan). In 1900

appeared his revised, corrected and largely re-written edition of *Historical memoirs of the city of Armagh* by James Stuart, which he had undertaken at the request of Cardinal Logue (Dublin: Browne & Nolan; M. H. Gill). 'The primatial see and its cathedral' (in *I.E.R.*, series 4, vii. 193-208), which appeared in the same year was a by-product of this work. About this time he was busily occupied with the recently founded *Irish Rosary*, of which he was one of the first editors. In 1902 appeared his translation of the work of John O'Heyne, the early eighteenth century Irish Dominican, which Fr Coleman entitled *The Irish Dominicans of the seventeenth century* (Dundalk: Tempest) and which he supplemented by *Ancient Dominican foundations in Ireland* (Dundalk: Tempest, 1902), a descriptive account of all the houses of the order previous to the eighteenth century<sup>1</sup> with biographical notes of the leading personalities in O'Heyne's work. His work on Stuart's *Armagh* naturally led to Fr Coleman's selection in 1906 as editor of the Ulster section of the calendar of the papal first fruits levied in Ireland (1400-1535) which had been prepared by another Dominican, Fr M. A. Costello. This work was issued in 1909 under the title *De annatis Hiberniae* (vol. i, Ulster) and contains a useful historical introduction by Fr Coleman (and some additional notes by W. H. Grattan Flood). To the first volume of *Archivium Hibernicum* (1912) Fr Coleman contributed 'Regestum monasterii Fratrum Praedicatorum de Athenry' (pp. 201-21) from the copy made for Sir James Ware of the monastic register of the Athenry Dominicans (B.M., MS. 4784, pp. 43 ff).

At this point, Fr Coleman's more scholarly work largely closed. He probably considered that, with the selection of Fr. M. H. McInerny to write the *History of the Irish Dominicans*, of which the only volume issued appeared in 1916, the story of his order was henceforth for others to investigate. But he continued to publish occasional popular articles on Dominican life and history, many of which were issued as separate booklets. It was probably in 1905 that he had published *The Blackfriars in Dublin*; he participated in the production of three successive summaries of Dominican history between 1916 and 1926<sup>2</sup>; and produced popular accounts of the other Dominican foundations:—Urlar, co. Mayo (Dublin, 1914), Black Abbey, Kilkenny (Kilkenny, 1925), Limerick (Limerick, 1927), and again Dublin (*Irish Rosary*, xxxix (1935). 13-17, 110-16, 198-203, 297-302, 380-5, 458-63, 545-50, 698-702, 782-7). He also published two studies of contemporaries: 'William Canon Carrigan: historian of Ossory'

<sup>1</sup> This work in turn led to an article on the Irish monastic suppressions under Henry VIII (*Ir. Rosary*, vi (1902). 87-100).

<sup>2</sup> Finbar Ryan and A. Coleman, *St. Dominic and his order: Benedict XV and the Dominicans; the Dominicans in Ireland*. Pp. 40. Dublin: Irish Rosary Office. 1919. Finbar Ryan and A. Coleman, *St. Dominic and the Dominicans: the Dominicans in Ireland, 1216-1916*. Pp. 32. Dublin: Irish Rosary Office [c.1920]. A. Coleman, *The Dominican order in Ireland*. Pp. 24. Dublin: Catholic Truth Society of Ireland. 1926.

(*I.E.R.*, series 5, xxx (1927). 623-38; xxi (1928). 56-78, 256-72, 384-95, 491-505, xxxiii. 57-72), a personal tribute to a literary friend; and 'The mysterious murder of Father Griffin' (*Ir. Rosary*, xxxv (1931). 90-5) which deals with a tragic incident in the Ireland of 1920.

Fr. Coleman was quick to enter a controversy where his religion or his order appeared in need of defence by some historical argument. In reply to an article by the Rev Samuel Hemphill in the *Church of Ireland Gazette* (22 June 1906), he argued against the acceptance, as evidence for the attitude of the Irish bishops to the Elizabethan religious settlement, of the statements of the Franciscan Thomas Strange in 1629 (*I.E.R.*, series 4, xx (1906). 193-206). The Church of Ireland's celebrations of the fifteenth centenary of St. Patrick's mission (1932) similarly provoked him to a series of articles in the *Irish Rosary* which were reprinted in 1934 as *Sidelights on the 'Church of Ireland'* (Dublin: Catholic Truth Society of Ireland).

A man of very wide interests, although an invalid in the last years of his life, Coleman retained his mental alertness to the end. He died at Tallaght on 13 March 1942.

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TIMOTHY CORCORAN, who was born at Honeymount, Roscrea, co. Tipperary, on 17 January 1872 and died on 23 March 1943, throughout a lifetime connected with education was particularly attracted to history. After entering the Jesuit order, he spent some years teaching in secondary schools before proceeding to the degree of B.A. which he obtained in the Royal University with first class honours in history and economics in 1903. Father Corcoran became first professor of education at the Dublin college of the National University, and in 1912 was awarded the degree of D.Litt. after the publication of *Studies on the history of classical teaching, Irish and continental, 1500-1700* (1911). His interest in history continued to influence the trend of his publications. Special mention may be made of *State policy in Irish education, 1536 to 1816, exemplified in documents collected for lectures to postgraduate classes, with an introduction* (1916), which formed the basis of the more restricted *Education systems in Ireland from the close of the middle ages; selected texts with introduction* (1928). His other works include: *Newman's theory of liberal education in the discourses on liberal knowledge introduction, texts and exercises* (1929), *Some lists of catholic lay teachers and their illegal schools in the later penal times [in the province of Cashel]* (1932); *The Clongowes record, 1814-1932 with introductory chapters on Irish Jesuit educators 1564 to 1813* (1932). In addition to frequent articles published in *Studies*, the *Irish Monthly* and the *Catholic Bulletin*, he contributed a long section entitled 'The education of peoples since the renaissance' to the co-operative work, *European civilisation*, directed by Mr. Edward Eyre (vi (1937). 941-1020). Perhaps it should also be mentioned that he planned a series of simple historical maps for practical schoolwork and urged the Irish Historical Society to project a more comprehensive but equally simplified series. In his presentation of historical material Dr Corcoran

was frankly the apologist rather than the historian. His views were sometimes expressed with a vigour which provoked strong resentment; notably so in the case of the famous pseudonymous articles contributed to the *Catholic Bulletin*, from 1923 to its extinction in 1939. But he will chiefly be remembered by the many who, not necessarily sharing his views, were inspired by his enthusiasm for the study of history, and learned from him to base their work on original records and to regard Irish history from the European standpoint. Dr. Corcoran's interest in the Irish Manuscripts Commission and in the foundation of the Irish Historical Society and of *Irish Historical Studies* was genuine and practical.

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A notice and bibliography of EDMUND CURTIS (1881-1943) appear elsewhere in this issue.

THE EDITORS

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