

Andrew M. Sherman.

THE O'BRIENS OF MACHIAS, ME.,

PATRIOTS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION :

THEIR SERVICES TO THE CAUSE OF
LIBERTY.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE AMERICAN-IRISH HISTORICAL
SOCIETY AT ITS ANNUAL GATHERING IN NEW
YORK CITY, JANUARY 12, 1904.

BY

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OF MORRISTOWN, N. J.,

Author of a "Life of Captain Jeremiah O'Brien," "Phil. Carver: A Romance of
the War of 1812," etc.

TOGETHER WITH

A SKETCH OF THE CLAN O'BRIEN,

BY THOMAS HAMILTON MURRAY.

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This paper on *The O'Briens of Machias, Maine*, from the pen of the Rev. Andrew M. Sherman, with the accompanying matter, is published for the American-Irish Historical Society. The expense of publication is generously defrayed by the Hon. John D. Crimmins, of New York. Mr. Crimmins is a life member of the Society, and was recently president-general of the same.

THOMAS HAMILTON MURRAY,

Secretary-General, A. I. H. S.

36 Newbury St., Boston, Mass.,

February, 1904.

BY WAY OF INTRODUCTION.

(Extract from the Secretary's Minutes.)

ON Tuesday evening, January 12, 1904, the American-Irish Historical Society held its annual meeting and dinner in New York city. The event took place at the Hotel Manhattan, Forty-second street and Madison avenue, and brought together a distinguished company.

The business meeting was presided over by the Hon. Thomas J. Gargan, of Boston, and the dinner by the Hon. William McAdoo, president-general of the Society.

The Rev. Andrew M. Sherman, of Morristown, N. J., a Presbyterian clergyman, was a guest of the Society, and had prepared a paper for the occasion dealing with the Revolutionary O'Briens of Machias, Me. He is a descendant of these O'Briens.

The Society sat down to dinner soon after 8 o'clock. Grace was said by the Rev. Henry A. Brann, D. D., rector of St. Agnes' Roman Catholic church, East Forty-third street, New York city.

The tables were handsomely decorated with cut flowers. An orchestra was stationed in a recess, and rendered appropriate selections during the evening. The occasion was thoroughly enjoyable, and will long be remembered by the one hundred and forty or more gentlemen participating. Among those present were members of the Society from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey. Letters

of regret at inability to attend were received from members in Delaware, Virginia, South Carolina, Illinois, Kentucky, California and other states.

There were present at the dinner the following:

Hon. William McAdoo, president-general; police commissioner of the city of New York; ex-member of Congress; assistant secretary of the U. S. navy, under President Cleveland.

Hon. John D. Crimmins, of New York city, life member and ex-president-general of the Society; life member of the New York Historical Society; member of the Municipal Art Commission.

Hon. Thomas J. Gargan, Boston, Mass.; of the law firm Gargan, Keating & Brackett; member Rapid Transit Commission; director United States Trust Co.

Hon. James A. O'Gorman, a justice of the New York Supreme Court.

Hon. John W. Goff, recorder of the city of New York.

Hon. John C. Linehan, treasurer-general of the Society; state insurance commissioner of New Hampshire; past department commander, New Hampshire G. A. R.; many years a director of the Gettysburg Battlefield Association.

Hon. Miles M. O'Brien, the well-known banker; for twenty-two years a member of the New York Board of Education; has been president of the Board of Trustees of the College of the City of New York and of the Board of Trustees of the New York Normal College.

Hon. Jeremiah O'Rourke, Newark, N. J., recently supervising architect of the U. S. Treasury Department.

Hon. Thomas C. O'Sullivan, recently a state senator, New York city.

Hon. Franklin M. Danaher, Albany, N. Y., member of the State Board of Law Examiners; many years judge of the city court of Albany.

Hon. D. Cady Herrick, Albany, N. Y., a justice of the New York Supreme Court.

Hon. Nicholas J. Hayes, fire commissioner of the city of New York.

Hon. Joseph F. Daly, recently a justice of the New York Supreme Court.

Hon. Wauhope Lynn, formerly judge of the Municipal Court, First District, New York city.

Hon. John Cavanagh, ex-mayor of South Norwalk, Conn.

Cyrus Townsend Brady, LL. D., New York city.

Rev. Andrew M. Sherman, Morristown, N. J.

Rev. Henry A. Brann, D. D., New York city.

Rev. John W. McMahon, D. D., Boston, Mass.

Rev. Philip J. Gormley, Boston, Mass.

Rev. T. J. Finn, East Port Chester, Conn.

Rev. John Talbot Smith, New York city.

Rev. James F. Ferris, New York city.

J. Duncan Emmet, M. D., New York city; great-grand-nephew of the Irish patriot Robert Emmet.

John F. Hayes, M. D., Waterbury, Conn.

Daniel J. Donovan, M. D., New York city.

John Aspell, M. D., New York city.

Bryan D. Sheedy, M. D., New York city.

Mr. Howard Constable, New York city, a descendant of Mr. William Constable who, in 1784, was a founder of the New York Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

Mr. Richard W. Meade, New York city, a son of the late Rear Admiral Richard W. Meade, U. S. N.

Mr. William R. Gregory, Montclair, N. J.

Mr. Vincent O'Reilly, Montclair, N. J.

Mr. John T. F. MacDonnell, Holyoke, Mass.

Mr. Francis C. Travers, of the Travers Bros. Co., 41 Worth St., New York city.

Mr. H. Van Atta, New York city.

Mr. Stephen J. Richardson, editor of *The Gael*, New York city.

Mr. Frank Haverty, New York city, a son of the late Major Patrick M. Haverty of Meagher's Irish Brigade.

Mr. John J. Lenehan, New York city.

Mr. Michael Brennan, proprietor of the Hotel San Remo, Central Park West, New York city.

Mr. Patrick Farrelly, of the American News Co., New York city.

Mr. William P. Dempsey, Pawtucket, R. I.

Mr. Thomas F. Donigan, Borough of Brooklyn (New York city).

Mr. John F. Kelly, Jersey City, N. J.

Mr. E. C. Smith, New Rochelle, N. Y.

Mr. Stephen Farrelly, of the American News Co., New York city.

Mr. Henry L. Joyce, New York city.

Col. John G. Healy, New Haven, Conn.

Col. James Quinlan, New York city, of the Eighty-eighth N. Y. regiment in the Civil War; served with Meagher's Irish Brigade; member of the Medal of Honor Legion.

Mr. Eugene J. Feeley, Boston, Mass.

Mr. William F. Clare, New York city.

Mr. Charles A. Geoghegan, New York city.

Mr. Patrick Kiernan, New York city.

Mr. James Curran, of the James Curran Manufacturing Co., New York city.

Mr. Charles N. Harris, New York city.

Mr. M. W. Leahy, New Haven, Conn.

Mr. William P. Burr, New York city.

Mr. John O'Sullivan, with the H. B. Claffin Co., New York city.

- Mr. Robert E. Danvers, New York city.
 Mr. Edward H. Daly, New York city.
 Mr. E. J. O'Shaughnessy, New York city.
 Mr. James Doyle, New York city.
 Mr. Nathaniel Doyle, New York city.
 Mr. Thomas H. Toomey, New York city.
 Mr. Andrew J. Toomey, New York city.
 Mr. James R. FitzGerald, New York city.
 Mr. Thomas Hamilton Murray, Boston, Mass., secretary-general of the Society.
 Mr. M. E. Bannin, of Converse, Stanton & Co., New York city.
 Mr. Frank Rheinberger, New York city.
 Mr. Robert E. McDonnell, New York city.
 Mr. Thomas A. O'Gorman, of the O'Gorman Co., Providence, R. I.
 Mr. Joseph M. Byrne, of the Joseph M. Byrne Co., Newark, N. J.
 Mr. P. F. Magrath, Binghamton, N. Y.
 Mr. William O'Connor, New York city.
 Mr. John Haddow, Newark, N. J.
 Mr. Peter McDonnell, New York city.
 Mr. Patrick Gallagher, contractor and builder, New York city.
 Mr. John F. O'Connell, Providence, R. I.
 Mr. Sylvester J. O'Sullivan, New York city.
 Mr. David McClure, New York city.
 Mr. Arthur Orr McBirnie, New York city.
 Mr. Patrick Sharkey, Providence, R. I.
 Mr. J. F. Edwards, Providence, R. I.
 Mr. Joseph I. C. Clarke, Sunday editor New York *Herald*.
 Mr. Vincent P. Travers, New York city.

- Mr. Edward J. McGuire, New York city.
- Mr. Michael O'Keefe, Providence, R. I.
- Mr. James P. Farrell, Borough of Brooklyn (New York city).
- Mr. Charles T. Henry, Borough of Brooklyn (New York city).
- Mr. E. L. King, New York city.
- Mr. John A. Drew, Borough of Brooklyn (New York city).
- Mr. John Jerome Rooney, New York city.
- Mr. John B. Manning, New York city.
- Mr. John F. Kehoe, Newark, N. J.
- Mr. E. M. Waldron, Newark, N. J.
- Mr. John W. Donovan, New York city.
- Mr. Jeremiah I. Bacon, auditor of the Police Department, New York city.
- Mr. Daniel Kennedy, Borough of Brooklyn (New York city).
- Mr. M. E. Kennedy, Borough of Brooklyn (New York city).
- Mr. D. J. Kennedy, Borough of Brooklyn (New York city).
- Mr. Terence O'Brine, Providence, R. I.
- Mr. William F. Clare, New York city.
- Mr. W. T. Noonan, New York city.
- Mr. Oscar I. Meyer, New York city.
- Mr. Frank V. A. Loucks, New York city.
- Mr. Thomas F. Brennan, New York city.
- Mr. Jeremiah O'Donovan (Rossa), editor *United Irishman*, New York city.
- Mr. J. C. Lynch, New York city.
- Mr. James O'Flaherty, New York city.
- Mr. James O'Flaherty, Jr., New York city.
- Mr. H. G. Bannon, New York city.

Mr. A. J. Corcoran, Borough of Brooklyn (New York city).

Mr. A. J. Meister, New York city.

Mr. Charles N. Hogan, New York city.

Mr. W. H. Mahony, New York city.

Mr. Roger O'Donnell, Borough of Brooklyn (New York city).

Mr. F. L. Youmans, New York city.

Mr. John J. Haigney, Borough of Brooklyn (New York city).

Mr. Armagh O'Donahey, New York city.

Mr. Bartholomew Moynahan, stenographer to the N. Y. Supreme Court, New York city.

Mr. Robert McCreery, New York city.

Mr. Daniel F. Cohalan, New York city.

Mr. John J. Manning, New York city.

Mr. E. W. Paige, New York city.

Mr. George A. Zabriskie, New York city.

Mr. John O'Connell, New York city.

Mr. T. H. McInerney, New York city.

Mr. Lawrence J. Winters, New York city.

Mr. Joseph P. Day, New York city.

Mr. Christopher C. Day, New York city.

Mr. James W. O'Brien, New York city.

Mr. T. P. Kelly, of T. P. Kelly & Co., New York city.

Mr. G. L. Sterling, New York city.

Mr. C. E. Byrne, New York city.

Mr. Joseph A. Farley, New York city.

Mr. William P. Reilly, New York city.

Mr. Charles Flood, New York city.

There were also present Messrs. Thomas F. Howley, James J. Donovan, B. J. O'Donnell, J. F. O'Reilly, Anthony McOwen, and a number of other gentlemen.

The dinner committee of the Society having charge of the arrangements consisted of Messrs. John J. Lenehan, Francis C. Travers, John Crane, James Curran, John J. Rooney, and Stephen Farrelly, all of New York city, and T. H. Murray, of Boston. The result of their labors was very satisfactory.

Among those in attendance at the dinner were members of the following organizations: Boston Charitable Irish Society (founded 1737), New York Friendly Sons of St. Patrick (founded 1784), New Hampshire Historical Society, New York Historical Society, New York Gaelic League, Society of American Authors, Irish Literary Society of New York, Governor's Foot Guard of Connecticut, Medal of Honor Legion, Sons of the Revolution, Military Order of Foreign Wars, American Academy of Social and Political Science, U. S. Naval Academy Alumni Association, and the New York Chamber of Commerce.

Communications expressing regret at being unable to participate in the exercises were received from the following:

Hon. Hugh Hastings, state historian of New York, Albany.

Hon. Joseph T. Lawless, Norfolk, Va., ex-secretary of state of Virginia.

Hon. Thomas Z. Lee, Providence, R. I.

Hon. P. T. Barry, Chicago, Ill.

Hon. Patrick Garvan, Hartford, Conn.

Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Conaty, D. D., bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Los Angeles, Cal.

Rev. John J. McCoy, Chicopee, Mass.

Hon. Felix Carbray, Quebec, Canada.

Col. James Moran, Providence, R. I.

Dr. George W. McAleer, Worcester, Mass.
 Dr. J. C. O'Connell, Washington, D. C.
 Mr. James L. O'Neill, Elizabeth, N. J.
 Mr. John J. Cassidy, Wilmington, Del.
 Mr. James G. Hickey, Boston, Mass.
 Mr. Martin Mulroy, Boston, Mass.
 Mr. M. J. Harson, Providence, R. I.
 Mr. L. J. Callanan, New York city.
 Mr. Dennis H. Tierney, Waterbury, Conn.
 Capt. James F. Redding, Charleston, S. C.
 Mr. Joseph P. Flatley, Boston, Mass.
 Mr. J. F. Hynes, Lexington, Ky.

The scene presented at the dinner was one of great brilliancy. The arrangement of the tables, the floral decorations, the candelabra, the assemblage of men prominent on the bench, at the bar, in medicine, literature, architecture, banking, and in mercantile life, all lent attractiveness to the occasion. Added to these features were a choice menu, a delightful orchestra, and inspiring solo and chorus singing.

Upon the cigars being lighted, President-General McAdoo, who had been reëlected during the business meeting, opened the post-prandial exercises with a vigorous address, which he concluded by introducing the Rev. Andrew M. Sherman, who read the following paper:

THE O'BRIENS OF MACHIAS, MAINE.

BY ANDREW M. SHERMAN.

Mr. President-General and Members of the American-Irish Historical Society :

IT is with a twofold pleasure, I beg leave to assure you, that I rise to speak to you this evening. It is a pleasure, first, because of the privilege granted me of addressing the important body of American citizens, of which so many distinguished members are present upon this occasion; and a pleasure, secondly, because of the rare historic fruitfulness of the subject assigned me by your talented secretary-general, which, as already duly announced, is: *The O'Briens of Machias, Maine*—unquestionably one of the most interesting families prominently identified with the Seven Years' Struggle for American Independence.

Indeed, I will venture to express the opinion that we shall look in vain to discover its parallel in the annals of the Revolution—look in vain to discover the record of another family, seven male members of which were actively and honorably engaged in that sanguinary conflict, and of whom six were actual participants in one of its most brilliant achievements on land or sea.

As to the sources of my information concerning the

O'Briens of Machias, I will say that I have twice visited that truly historic town, each time with camera or kodak, which were faithfully used; I have personally conversed with several of its prominent citizens, and have also conducted with some of them an extended correspondence; I have also corresponded with several former residents of Machias, and with not a few descendants of the O'Briens, now scattered in different parts of the Union; I spent an entire month in Boston, a few years since, at the public library, the Massachusetts Historical Society's rooms, the N. E. Historic-Genealogical Society's quarters, and the state house, procuring, I will venture to say, everything procurable concerning my subject at these repositories of historic lore. Lastly, I had, for several years, the rare privilege of frequent conversations with a native of Machias, now deceased, who was not only personally acquainted with Jeremiah O'Brien, but had frequently heard from his lips the story of the early history of that town, including his own exploits as a privateer in the Revolution. This person was an eye witness of some of the thrilling events in connection with the occupation of Machias by the British in the year 1814.

Until about the year 1835, as nearly as I recall from memory, what is now the state of Maine was a part of Massachusetts; but in order to avoid repetition on my part, and perhaps confusion on yours, I shall, in the address of the evening, speak of Maine as if from the beginning of its history it had been a separate state.

The O'Briens of Machias, of colonial and revolutionary times, comprised Morris O'Brien, and his wife, Mary, and nine children; six sons and three daughters, namely: Jeremiah, Martha, Gideon, John, Joanna, William, Mary, Dennis and Joseph.

Mary O'Brien and her three daughters are deserving of far more attention than can consistently be given them this evening. Let it, therefore, suffice for the present to say of them that they were well endowed with strength of character; that they were highly respected in the community of which they were no insignificant factors; and that Martha O'Brien, in particular, was noted for a liberal measure of proverbial Irish wit, which made her companionship eagerly sought and greatly enjoyed.

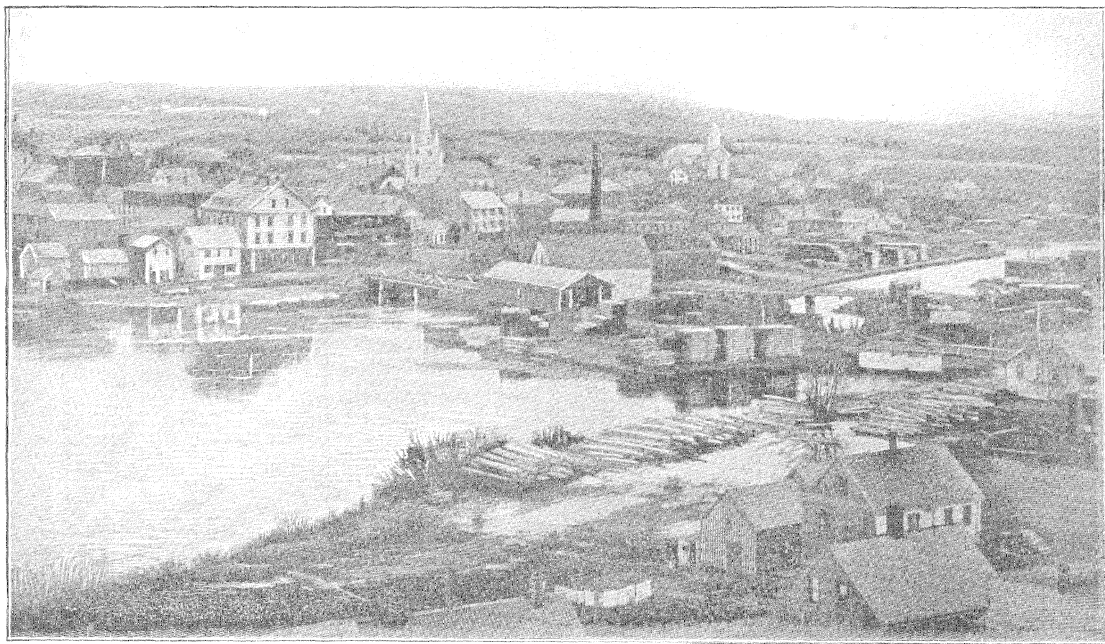
Martha O'Brien married for her first husband, Daniel Elliott, of Scarboro, Maine, and for her second, Ladwick Holway, of Machias. Joanna, a handsome lass, was wedded to Benjamin Balch, of Scarboro. Mary, after having lived in a state of single blessedness considerably beyond what is popularly regarded as the marriageable age, became the wife of Job Burnham, a leading citizen of Machias. The descendants of these estimable women, not a few of whom are still living, are reflecting credit upon their ancestors.

Morris O'Brien, and his six sturdy sons, of whom, as I understand, I am expected to especially speak this evening, are each deserving of a separate address; and of Jeremiah and John and William, because of their more

prominent and extended services in the Revolution, and in the War of 1812, this is emphatically true. To speak of these seven ardent American patriots in the aggregate—patriots in peace no less than in war—within the brief space of an hour, will, therefore, necessitate the most cursory treatment. Indeed, I shall be able only to touch lightly here and there upon their remarkably interesting careers. My address will, consequently, partake more of the character of a mosaic than of an orderly literary production. If, however, it does not appear as a mosaic of rare beauty, it will not be the fault of the excellent materials used in its construction.

According to the best available information, Morris O'Brien was born in classical Dublin, Ireland, in the year 1715. That he was descended from Brian Boru is highly probable. In his native city he early learned the tailor's trade, and, for a time, after the completion of his apprenticeship, worked as a journeyman in that city. About the year 1737, when in his twenty-second year, he bade a hasty farewell to Dublin, in consequence, as seemingly reliable family tradition informs us, of having actively participated in a revolt against British tyranny.

He seems to have tarried for a time, en route for America, in the city of Cork, from whence he subsequently embarked for this country; and this temporary residence in Cork probably accounts for the opinion expressed by some historical writers that he was born in that city. On his arrival in America, he is by some



VIEW OF MACHIAS, MAINE.

The above view was taken from a point on the southerly side of the Machias river. Machias in the year 1780 was a village of about twenty houses. There was at that time a small fortification mounting seven guns, with a garrison of fifteen or twenty men. The trade of Machias was wholly in fish, lumber, and furs, and there being but little money, the settlers were ready enough to barter for West India goods. Machias now has a population of nearly 2,500.

thought to have first landed in Boston; but a faithful search of all available records has failed to substantiate that opinion. Morris O'Brien may have brought with him from the Green Isle a young bride; but if so, she must have died during the long and tedious voyage across the Atlantic, or soon after their arrival in this country, since, so far as I have been able to ascertain, there is not the slightest trace of her on this side of the water.

The first reliable information we have of Morris O'Brien on this side of the Atlantic is, that about the year 1738 or 1739, he was in Kittery, York County, Maine; situated, as we are aware, on the opposite side of the Piscataqua river from Portsmouth, New Hampshire. In Kittery, Morris O'Brien engaged in the tailoring business. About the year 1739 or 1740 he married Mary Cain, a widow, whose maiden name seems to have been Mary Hutchins.

In Kittery there were born to Morris and Mary O'Brien three children, namely: Jeremiah, Martha, and Gideon. In the year 1745, Morris O'Brien was a member of a military company commanded by Captain Peter Staples, and with this company he participated, under Sir William Pepperell, in the famous siege of Louisburg, which, on the 28th of June of the year mentioned, surrendered to the combined American and English forces.

About the year 1750, Morris O'Brien removed his family to Scarboro, some fifty miles to the eastward of Kittery, on the sea-coast. In Scarboro he again engaged in the tailoring business; having a shop at Dunstan on

what was known as the "landing road." During their residence in Scarboro six children were born to Morris and Mary O'Brien, namely: John, William, Joanna, Mary, Dennis and Joseph.

As an illustration of the splendid material of which the mother of the O'Brien boys was made, I will relate a single incident in connection with her life in Scarboro. The English settlers, in what was then a wilderness, lived in constant dread of attacks from the hostile Indians, incited by the French. The people were so much alarmed by the savages prowling in the vicinity of Scarboro, and threatening the feeble settlement, that they fled from their homes and sought a hiding place in the woods. Among the fugitives was Mary O'Brien, the wife of Morris, with a babe in her arms.

The rest of the company, fearing lest the child's cries might betray them to the enemy, insisted upon the mother going on without it. True to the motherly instinct, however, she heroically refused compliance, saying: "I will keep the child quiet!" Drawing the babe more closely to her bosom she pressed on with the company, thus saving a child, who, in after years became as fine a specimen of American manhood as one would wish to see; and a man who also, by reason of his active participation in the Revolution, became famous—that man was Captain John O'Brien.

In the year 1764, Morris O'Brien and his two eldest sons, Jeremiah and Gideon, and a few others, made a

prospecting trip by sailing vessel to Machias, which, by the way, had been settled by the English, mostly from Scarboro, only the year previous. The prospectors were so favorably impressed with the new country that in the spring of the year following the entire O'Brien family removed to Machias. They settled on the southerly side of the Machias river, which divides the village into two sections, one of which is known as the "northern village," and the other as "Dublin;" the latter having been so named in honor of Morris O'Brien, in view of the generally-entertained belief of his having been born in the city of that name in his native land.

Immediately upon their arrival in Machias, in the spring of the year 1765, Morris O'Brien and his sons Jeremiah and Gideon embarked in the lumber business, in which they became prosperous. They soon became owners of real estate, and were prominent in town affairs, holding important offices, in which they served with credit alike to themselves and to their constituents. In the outdoor sports of the village, and in connection with the affairs in general of the growing lumber settlement, Jeremiah O'Brien, in particular, became one of the recognized leaders.

About the time of the removal of the O'Briens to Machias there commenced the series of British encroachments upon the charter liberties of the American colonists, which at first called forth the earnest protests of the hitherto loyal subjects of George the Third, and which

culminated in the Revolution. None was more earnest and fearlessly outspoken in protestation against the increasing tyranny of the British government than Morris O'Brien, and his six sturdy sons, who were of sufficient age to realize the situation, and to become deeply interested in the rapidly accumulating events of the period, which pointed unmistakably to an eventual rupture with the mother country.

Into the minds of his six boys Morris O'Brien had assiduously instilled his long-cherished hatred of the government from whose oppressions he had fled many years since; hence, the entire family were roused to the highest pitch of patriotic indignation when the news of Lexington and Concord reached Machias by sailing vessel a few days subsequent to those stirring occurrences. As the people of this frontier settlement gathered about their family hearthstones; while engaged in their daily avocations; as they met on the streets and in the stores of the village; and when they came together for the transaction of the town business, in which gatherings the O'Briens were influential factors, the growing encroachments of the British government were the engrossing theme of conversation; and as they mused upon their wrongs the fire of righteous indignation burned, until at length it reached the white heat of open revolt against their foreign oppressors.

In the early part of June, of the year 1775, there arrived in Machias from Boston, two vessels, the *Unity* and the *Polly*, under convoy of the British-armed schooner *Mar-*

garetta, the latter in command of Captain James Moore, a relative of Admiral Graves of the royal navy.

It was soon vaguely reported about the village that the *Unity* and the *Polly* were expected to take lumber back to Boston for use in the construction of barracks for the king's soldiers; hence, plans to thwart this scheme began at once to assume shape in the fertile brains of such men as Jeremiah O'Brien and his older brothers, and Capt. Benjamin Foster of East Machias, four miles away. The sight of the *Margaretta* riding at anchor off "White's Point," in the Machias river, with her guns pointing threateningly toward their homes, was a perpetual irritant to the super-sensitive patriots of this border settlement, whose blood was already at fever heat, and serious trouble was evidently "in the air."

A liberty-pole had been erected on an elevation in the village overlooking the river. To Captain Moore, as he beheld it from the deck of his vessel, this emblem of Freedom proved a most unwelcome sight, and his repeated threat to fire upon the village, if the pole was not taken down, was the one circumstance which, more than all others, precipitated the local revolt against British authority as represented by the handsome but meddlesome young commander of the *Margaretta*.

"That pole, sir," John O'Brien is said to have remarked to Captain Moore while the latter was on shore one day, "was erected by the unanimous approval of the people of Machias!"

"Well, sir," rejoined the officer, "it is my duty to declare it must come down!"

"Must come down! Must come down!" repeated John O'Brien, "Those words are easily spoken, my friend; but you will find, I apprehend, that it is easier to make than to enforce the demand."

"What! Am I to understand that resistance will be made? Will the people of Machias dare to disregard orders from me, a representative of the British government?"

"The people of Machias," replied O'Brien, "will dare do anything in maintenance of their principles and rights!"

"It is useless to bandy words," rejoined Moore, visibly nettled at the determined spirit manifested about him, "that pole must come down, or it will be my painful duty to fire upon the town!"

Captain Moore was, however, prevented from executing his rash threat by the persuasions of Stephen Jones, a resident merchant and a man of conciliatory spirit, whose influence over the hot-headed young officer was again and again exercised in the interests of the settlement; but the threats of the king's officer rankled in the hearts of the aroused patriots of Machias.

At a town-meeting dominated by the O'Briens and other ardent local patriots, it was unanimously voted that the liberty-pole be allowed to stand until it rotted away. It was also voted by the people of Machias, in town-meeting assembled, that no lumber should be taken to

Boston for the British army. At a subsequent meeting, however, the vote of the previous meeting was reconsidered, and permission was granted by a small majority to Captain Ichabod Jones, the owner of the *Unity* and the *Polly*, to load these vessels with lumber for Boston, Jones having positively refused to furnish the people with sorely-needed provisions, which he had brought from Boston for them, without such permission.

In justification of this latter vote it should be said that when taken it was not clearly understood by the people of Machias that this lumber was to be used for the British army in Boston, and irrefutable evidence of this fact was discovered when too late to rescind the vote in town-meeting. It was, however, rescinded by the people, acting, as may be said, as a "committee of the whole." To the lasting glory of the patriots of this isolated New England town it should be said that the coveted lumber never saw the city of Boston, nor did either of the three vessels in the river return to that city to report to the British authorities there the momentous local occurrences of the preceding ten days.

A secret meeting was decided upon by some of the more daring of the Machias patriots, including the O'Briens, to consider the matter of capturing the three vessels lying in the river, and messengers were promptly dispatched to some of the adjacent settlements, requesting the presence, with their arms, of those who were willing to join in the hazardous undertaking.

The meeting was held on Sunday morning, June 11, 1775, at a spot on the Machiasport road known as "O'Brien's brook," which brook ran through land belonging to Morris O'Brien. At this meeting it was unanimously resolved, after protracted discussion, to first capture the officers of the *Margaretta*, who, it was expected, would be at the village church in the afternoon of that day, and then seize the vessel. This, it was thought, would save bloodshed. Among the first to commit themselves, at the meeting mentioned, to the plan of capturing Captain Moore and his officers were the O'Brien boys, of whom a local historian has aptly spoken as "six strapping fellows." One of the preliminaries agreed upon at this secret meeting was this: that John O'Brien, then about twenty-four years of age, should take a seat directly behind Moore in the church, and at a signal mutually understood—a shrill whistle to be blown outside—he should seize the British officer and secure him, while others should seize the remaining officers and afterward take possession of the *Margaretta*, which would render the seizure of the *Unity* and the *Polly* an easy matter. John O'Brien carried out to the letter his portion of the programme up to a certain point. Owing to the impulsiveness of a negro in the church the well-devised plan, so far as the capture of the officers was concerned, miscarried.

The British officers, taking alarm, escaped from the church through an open window, reached the deck of the

Margaretta, and, hastily weighing anchor, dropped down the river to a place of supposed safety; not, however, until a few shots were fired over the village for the purpose of intimidation. The people followed the British vessel, and from the river banks fired upon her with their small arms, until she was compelled to drop still further down the stream, where she anchored for the night.

Early next morning, Monday, June 12, it was resolved by a few of the patriots of Machias, among whom were the O'Brien boys, to seize the sloop *Unity*, then lying at anchor in the river, and pursue and capture the *Margaretta*.

Let us pause a moment, gentlemen, and consider what it signified for these Machias patriots to assume the bel-ligerent attitude, already outlined, toward Captain Moore and the government he represented.

The people of this extreme frontier settlement were completely isolated from the colonists to the westward, there being no roads in that direction, the only means of communication being by sailing vessel; they were in close proximity to Nova Scotia, a loyal British province, and to Port Royal, the headquarters of the British naval forces in American waters; there were less than one hundred men in the village; their provisions were nearly exhausted and, as the enemy had control of the Machias river, which was the only outlet to the sea, a further supply was a matter of great uncertainty; they had but a scanty supply of small arms and ammunition; and yet, single-handed and

alone, without a thought of assistance from their fellow-colonists to the westward, they had, at O'Brien's brook, virtually declared war against one of the most powerful governments on earth, and were making active preparations to attack one of the armed vessels of that government.

Should they fail in their hazardous undertaking and fall into the hands of the British they would be treated as pirates, for war had not yet been declared by the colonists, and piracy was then punishable with slavery. Of these facts they were well aware; but they hesitated not for a moment when great political wrongs were to be righted, and when the achievement of national freedom seemed to be in sight. Surely, gentlemen, the names of the Machias revolutionary patriots deserve to occupy a high place upon the roll of our nation's heroes!

The *Unity* was forcibly seized and brought to one of the wharves in the village. Arms, ammunition, and provisions, such as were available, were hastily placed on board, and, with a gentle northwest breeze, the sloop set sail down the river. Her crew consisted of about thirty-five picked men—mostly young men—among them being the six sons of Morris O'Brien. Joseph, the youngest, a boy about sixteen years of age, in his determination to take a hand in the affair, smuggled himself on board the *Unity*, where he secreted himself until it was too late to put him ashore. The father, who was then sixty years of age, was persuaded only by the earnest remonstrances of his boys to remain at home.

From East Machias, Captain Benjamin Foster set sail on the same morning with a volunteer crew, intending to meet the *Unity* below Machias and assist in the capture of the British vessel; but on the way down the East Machias river Foster's vessel ran aground. He immediately dispatched a messenger to Jeremiah O'Brien notifying him of the situation. With enthusiastic cheering the men on the *Unity* declared they could capture the *Margaretta* without any assistance, and this message was taken back to Foster. It was no fault of Captain Foster that his vessel was not floated until high tide at noonday; hence, he took no part in the capture of the British vessel.

Not until the *Margaretta* was sighted in Machias bay was a leader selected for the *Unity's* crew; and then, without a dissenting voice, Jeremiah O'Brien, upon the nomination of Joseph Wheaton, was chosen. As the two vessels neared each other Captain Moore called out from the quarter-deck:

"Ship ahoy! Keep off, or I'll fire into you!"

Undaunted by this ominous threat, Captain O'Brien's voice rang out over the intervening waters: "In America's name I demand your surrender!"

The threat to fire into the *Unity* being repeated, one of her officers replied: "Fire away and be ——!"

The *Margaretta* immediately opened fire, killing one man outright and mortally wounding another on the American sloop, and was answered by a volley of musketry from the *Unity*. *Thus was commenced the first*

naval fight of the Revolution. In this city [New York] is a physician who is a direct descendant of the American killed on the *Unity* that morning.

The two vessels came together, and John O'Brien leaped upon the *Margaretta*. The vessels soon separated, however, leaving young O'Brien alone on the enemy's deck. Almost immediately seven British muskets were discharged at the intrepid boarder, but he was unharmed. The British sailors then charged upon him with their fixed bayonets, and, to save his life, John O'Brien leaped into the water, and, amid a shower of bullets swam to the *Unity's* side, where he was assisted on board by his brother Jeremiah, and by him was warmly complimented for his rare bravery and for his remarkable escape.

Again, the two vessels came together, and in accordance with a previous order of Captain O'Brien the *Unity* was this time lashed to the *Margaretta*. While standing on the gunwale of his vessel throwing hand-grenades into the midst of the *Unity's* crew—one writer states he deliberately threw one of these death-dealing missiles at Captain O'Brien—the gallant Moore was mortally wounded and fell backward upon his own deck. Led by their commander, twenty picked men boarded the British vessel. A hand-to-hand engagement ensued. The midshipman upon whom, after Moore's fall, the command of the *Margaretta* devolved, became so overwhelmed with fright at the impetuous onslaught of the American boarders that he fled into the ship's cabin, where he remained.

At the end of an hour the *Margaretta* was surrendered to Captain O'Brien, and with his own hand he hauled down the British flag. As an illustration of the inaccuracy of some writers I will say that since accepting the invitation to address you this evening I have received a letter from the author of a little book entitled "An American's Patriotic Catechism," saying that in her book she has given Joseph Wheaton the credit for having hauled down the *Margaretta's* flag, and inquiring what is my authority for giving the credit to Jeremiah O'Brien. I immediately replied, saying, that among the sources of information from which I have drawn is a letter of Wheaton himself, written from Washington, D. C., in the year 1818, to Gideon O'Brien, of Machias, in which he explicitly says—and I quoted his exact words—that he hauled down the *Margaretta's* pennant, and that Captain Jeremiah O'Brien hauled down the ensign—and the ensign, as I reminded this author, a member, by the way, of the Daughters of the American Revolution, was the distinguishing mark of the *Margaretta*, in short that it was the British flag.

This is not the only, nor is it the least significant, inaccuracy of history concerning those who have rendered invaluable services to the American Republic in her various wars; and in the name of Justice I wish here and now to say that I am sincerely glad of the existence of the Society under whose auspices we meet this evening, one of whose objects as I understand, is to see that the class of American patriots suggested are given the credit due

them, and to see also that their names and their services occupy in future their rightful places on the pages of our nation's history. I should be lacking in some of the essential elements of a true American citizen; indeed, I should be less than a man, if I were to withhold my sympathies from this Society in its laudable endeavor to see that credit is given where credit is justly due.

The ensign hauled down by Jeremiah O'Brien was without question the first British flag to come down on water by American hands in the Revolution; and the capture of the *Margaretta* was the first naval victory of that long war. The captured vessel, with her wounded commander on board, was taken the same day in triumph to Machias. Captain Moore died on the forenoon of the next day, June 13, at the house of Stephen Jones, and was buried in the village.

It is generally conceded, I think, by those conversant with the facts of the case, that the capture of the *Margaretta* was one of the most brilliant achievements of the Revolution; and it is my opinion that that achievement alone is sufficient to immortalize the names of Captain Jeremiah O'Brien and his five brothers, and the brave men who assisted them in the capture of the *Margaretta*.

Did time permit I could quote you many endorsements of the opinion just expressed. Of this achievement the Hon. John D. Long, ex-secretary of the United States navy, says: "In this bold, spirited, and determined fight in Machias bay, off the little frontier village of Machias,

Captain O'Brien did his duty as Paul Jones did in the larger battle of the *Bon Homme Richard* and the *Serapis*, and was animated by the same spirit that animated Hull on the deck of the *Constitution*, and that fired Decatur in the very teeth of destruction to board and burn the *Philadelphia*, or of Somers on the *Intrepid*, or Farragut lashed to the rigging of the *Hartford*, or Wainwright driving the frail *Gloucester* against the Spanish torpedo boats. It is all the same characteristic quality of the American sailor, unflinching, never turning back, driving victory home—something that is more than personal courage or the absence of craven fear, and is rather that ultimate nerve which dares assume responsibility and to risk and court rather the chance of success than the chance of failure.

“O'Brien's brilliant feat in capturing the *Margaretta* has, however, this peculiar significance, that it was not merely the personal heroism of a single encounter, but was the first challenge of the infant American navy to the giant and almost omnipotent naval power of Great Britain. Independence spoke in the voice of its cannon, and in the very word of command of its captain. It was the first in the series of the glorious victories of the Yankee sailor; and O'Brien, full Yankee, though of Irish descent, deserves rank with our naval heroes.”

Under the superintendency of Jeremiah O'Brien the *Unity* was immediately refitted; part of the *Margaretta's* armament was transferred to her; her name was

changed to the *Machias Liberty*, and, acting under instructions from the Machias Committee of Safety, Captain O'Brien set sail in search of two British armed vessels, the *Diligent* and *Tapnaguish*, which were reported to be cruising in the Bay of Fundy, and which according to some historians had been sent out from Port Royal, Nova Scotia, for the express purpose of capturing Captain O'Brien, in retaliation for his capture of the *Margaretta*.

In the meantime, John O'Brien was sent by the Machias Committee of Safety to the Provincial Congress then in session at Watertown, Mass., to officially report the capture of the *Margaretta*, and to ask instructions as to future action. The news of this brilliant naval achievement in Machias bay aroused unbounded enthusiasm throughout the colonies. A vote of thanks was extended by the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts to Captains O'Brien and Foster, and to the brave men who assisted them in their hazardous but successful undertaking in the *Unity*. At the end of a three weeks' cruise Captain Jeremiah O'Brien returned to Machias without having sighted the British vessels he had been seeking.

Word soon came to Machias, however, that these vessels were at Buck's harbor, on the western shore of Machias bay; and Captain O'Brien in the *Machias Liberty*, and Captain Foster in a schooner from East Machias, met in Machias bay, and acting in conjunction, captured the two British vessels without a shot being fired on



FORT O'BRIEN, MACHIAS, MAINE.

So named during the Civil War in honor of Jeremiah O'Brien. This fort, which was constructed during the War of the Revolution, for protection against attack from the British naval forces, is situated on the northern side of the "Rim Narrows" on the Machias river, about three miles below Machias. It was here that on the 13th of August, 1777, a sharp fight took place between a British force of several hundred men and the American force under Capt. Benjamin Foster. The British were driven back to their vessel with serious losses. The mound at the right of the picture above is the powder magazine. The water in the background is a portion of the Machias river.

either side. On his way up to Machias with the two British prizes Captain O'Brien was met by his father, who, anticipating bloodshed in the attempt to capture them, had started down the river in a row boat, with a surgeon on board.

Captains O'Brien and Foster were sent to Cambridge with the prisoners captured on the *Diligent* and *Tapnaguish*, where they reported in person to Washington the important captures made by them.

The enthusiasm of the American colonists was raised to the highest pitch when the news of this second brilliant naval achievement in Machias bay reached their ears. The impulse given to the infant American navy by these achievements it is scarcely possible at this late day to estimate.

As a reward for the prominent part borne by Jeremiah O'Brien in the captures made in Machias bay he was made a captain of the marine by the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts; and he was also assigned to the command of the *Machias Liberty* and the *Diligent*, and instructed to cruise along the coast "in defense of American liberty." Returning to Machias, Captain O'Brien made preparations for his cruise. Crews were procured for both vessels. Of the *Machias Liberty*, Jeremiah O'Brien took personal command, with his brother William as his first lieutenant. John Lambert was given the command of the *Diligent*, with John O'Brien as his first lieutenant.

Captain Jeremiah O'Brien, as already intimated, was the commander of both vessels; and in one document, at least, he is referred to as "the commander-in-chief" of the two cruisers, which have been aptly termed "the first flying squadron of the Revolution." For a period of sixteen months the "flying squadron" cruised up and down the coast.

Joseph Wheaton is authority for the statement that, among other exploits of Captain O'Brien while in command of "the flying squadron," he sailed to St. John, where he captured a fort and several British vessels lying in port there. With an insufficiency of ammunition; with poorly-fed and scantily-clothed crews; with growing discontent amongst his men, owing to their meagre and irregularly paid wages—discontent which sometimes almost reached the point of mutiny; engaged in what may very properly be termed pioneer naval work; harassed by the thought of tory influence being constantly exerted against him from his home; with a sea-coast of at least five hundred miles to patrol; acting under the embarrassment of the racial prejudice of the times—Captain O'Brien achieved excellent success as a privateer in the colony service, capturing many British prizes. The quality of his patriotism may be inferred from the fact that he spent nearly his entire monthly wages to provide his men with the necessities of life. Had he not done so, not a few of them must have died from starvation and cold.

After his dismissal from the colony service, Captain

O'Brien commanded successively the privateers *Resolution*, *Cyrus*, *Tiger*, and *Little Vincent*, capturing several valuable prizes. The series of cruises in these vessels ending, he returned to Machias. During his temporary sojourn at home he rendered good service to the cause of Freedom as captain of a company of Rangers, which seem to have been employed as a means of defense against unfriendly Indians. Captain O'Brien's military services being no longer needed in Machias, his fondness for the water again asserted itself; he could not be content to "praise the sea, and keep on land." Beside, his country's independence was not yet achieved; and with his ardent temperament he could not be an idle spectator of the unequal struggle with the powerful British government.

During the year 1780 John and Joseph O'Brien, two younger brothers of Jeremiah, and a few others associated with them, built at Newburyport a vessel intended for the privateer service. She was named the *Hannibal*, and was to carry twenty-four guns and one hundred and thirty men. On her first cruise to San Domingo she was commanded by Captain John O'Brien, who captured several important prizes. Upon the return of the *Hannibal* to Newburyport, Mass., it was arranged that on her next cruise Captain Jeremiah O'Brien should command her; and he was commissioned by the Honorable Council of the General Court of Massachusetts as her commanding officer.

While cruising off New York harbor the *Hannibal* fell in with a fleet of British merchantmen under convoy of several British frigates. Upon sighting the *Hannibal* two of these frigates at once started in pursuit of her. Captain O'Brien, recognizing the futility of engaging with two vessels, each of which was superior to his own, turned his vessel's stern upon them. It may have been the hope of Captain O'Brien in running from these frigates, to separate them, and, by attacking them one by one, to overcome them. But the frigates did not part company. After an exciting chase of forty-eight hours the *Hannibal* was overtaken and captured by the frigates. As the ranking British officer approached Captain O'Brien to receive his sword, he tapped him on the shoulder remarking good naturedly:

"Captain, it is your turn to surrender to-day, but it may be mine to-morrow!"

The *Hannibal* was taken into New York, and Captain O'Brien and his officers and men were placed on board the infamous prison ship *Jersey* in Wallabout bay. After a confinement of about six months on the *Jersey*, Captain O'Brien was transported to England, and confined in Mill prison, Plymouth. From Mill prison, after a confinement of about eighteen months, he made his escape, and returned home by way of France. He arrived in Machias during the summer or autumn of the year 1782, where he remained.

After the declaration of peace he again identified him-

self with the public affairs of the town and county, and held several elective and appointive offices. He served also under state commission as lieutenant-colonel of a militia regiment, and from that time he bore the title of "Colonel"; and on his headstone in the family burial ground in Machias, his name appears as "Colonel Jeremiah O'Brien."

In the year 1811, Colonel O'Brien was appointed, by President Madison, collector of customs for the district including Machias. This appointment, which came to him unsought by himself and unsolicited by his friends, was made through the intercessions of the Honorable Albert Gallatin, secretary of the treasury, under Jefferson. Accompanying his commission as collector was a letter from Mr. Gallatin breathing the spirit of sincere friendship. When, in the month of September, 1814, the British forces landed on the Maine coast and were marching overland toward Machias, Colonel O'Brien, who had kept himself informed of their movements, offered to lead his fellow-townsmen out against the approaching enemy. He was then seventy years of age. Seated on his one-eyed, white horse, he brandished his old Revolutionary sword, saying:

"If a dozen of you will follow me we will go out to meet the British!" But not a man could be persuaded to face the enemy; they feared the burning of the village by the British if resistance was offered them.

During the occupancy of Machias by the British,

Colonel O'Brien's house was searched for arms and ammunition; none were found, however. Before leaving the house, the British officer and his detail were invited to partake of refreshments, and there then occurred an incident which more completely than any other in his career, furnishes the key to the character of Colonel O'Brien. The British officer suggested that Colonel O'Brien offer a toast, and instantly he jumped to his feet, and lifting the mug of cider in his right hand high in the air, he fearlessly exclaimed: "Here's to the success of the American arms!"

For a moment there was complete silence; and then the officer and soldiers burst into hearty laughter over the audacious pluck of their aged host. This incident, which is given by an eye witness, illustrates in a most striking manner the impulsiveness and utter fearlessness of Colonel O'Brien.

Colonel O'Brien died, after a brief illness, on the 5th of September, 1818; and was buried on the 7th, beside his wife, who had passed away several years previously, in the O'Brien burial ground situated a few rods to the westward of his residence.

Of Colonel O'Brien's patriotism it should be said: It was of the unselfish kind that withheld nothing from the cause of Freedom in which he early embarked; and which burned brightly upon the altar of his heart even after the infirmities of age had bowed his once athletic form, and he was no longer able to efficiently wield the

sword in the interests of the country whose independence he had materially aided in achieving, and under the folds of whose starry flag he was content to lay down his life.

Henceforth let Colonel Jeremiah O'Brien, the ardent and unselfish American patriot, the fearless and able pioneer naval commander, the staunch friend and kind-hearted gentleman, and the eminently useful citizen, occupy a place amongst the foremost of the noble souls who labored and fought and suffered in their inflexible purpose to establish upon the shores of the western continent the republic whose inestimable privileges we now enjoy. And for all coming time let his name, and the invaluable services for which it stands, be honored and appreciated and sacredly cherished by a free and independent and progressive people.

After the capture of the *Hannibal*, Captain John O'Brien, and a few others, built at Newburyport a vessel designed for the privateer service. She was named the *Hibernia*. While in command of this vessel, a small one, but a splendid sailer, carrying only six three-pounders, Captain O'Brien made several important captures, among which were the following: He attacked, and after some fighting, took the British armed vessel *General Pattison*, on her way from New York to England. This vessel was pierced for 20 guns, and mounted 61 six and nine-pounders, with six swivels. She was commanded by Captain Chiene. In addition to her officers and crew there were on board the *General Pattison* when captured

a considerable number of British army officers bound for home.

The same day Captain O'Brien captured a merchant vessel loaded with masts. She carried 12 six-pounders. On another occasion, Captain John O'Brien, in conjunction with another American privateer, captured an entire fleet of British merchantmen—sixteen in number, I think—and brought them safely to port. While cruising off Barnegat, on the Jersey coast, O'Brien was chased by a British frigate, to attack which would have been folly. She was gaining on the *Hibernia*. As night approached, Captain O'Brien lowered into the water a hogshead ballasted with stone, from the upper end of which issued a pole. At the top of this pole a lighted lantern had been placed. When darkness had settled upon the sea O'Brien radically altered the course of the *Hibernia*, put on full sail, and sped like a bird from the enemy.

The British pursuers steered straight for the light on the hogshead, thinking it was the coveted American privateer; and learned when too late that they had been duped by the resourceful Irish-Yankee commander. There is a tradition, which I have not as yet been able to verify to my own satisfaction, that, in the early years of his privateering—it must have been near the opening of the Revolution—Captain John O'Brien floated the *Margaretta*, which, after her capture was run upon the shore in Middle river a few miles above Machias, and refitted and used her as a privateer, renaming her the *Hare*.



BUCK'S HARBOR, MAINE.

Buck's Harbor is a small village at the western entrance to Machias Bay. It was just outside the narrow entrance to Buck's Harbor that Jeremiah O'Brien and Benjamin Foster captured the British armed cruiser "Diligent" and her tender the "Tapnaquish," on July 12, 1775.

While in command of this vessel he was chased by one or two British frigates, and, being hard pressed he ran her aground in shallow waters on the Maine coast—he and his men escaping in small boats to the shore, and fleeing into the surrounding country. The *Hare* was burned to the water's edge by the British, and for many years thereafter her ribs and other timbers were to be seen.

Captain John O'Brien, it should be said, achieved unusual success as a privateersman. After the close of the Revolution, he retired to Newburyport, where he engaged in the merchant shipping service; and in his own vessels he sailed into various parts of the world. Did time permit I could relate not a few additional incidents of his life, both as a privateer and as a merchantman, of the most deeply interesting character.

When too aged to longer follow the sea, Captain John O'Brien removed to Brunswick, Maine, where, through the influence of friends who knew of his invaluable services in the Revolution, he was appointed postmaster.

Among those who assisted him in procuring the appointment was Joseph Wheaton, who then held some government position in Washington, D. C. Captain O'Brien died in the year 1832, and was buried in the town where his closing years had been passed. "I have some of the family silver, his Bible, his sword, his satin knee-breeches and waistcoat," writes a descendant of Captain John O'Brien to me. The career of this famous Revolutionary patriot was of the most varied and romantic

character, and deserves to be put in suitable form for preservation for future generations.

After the capture of the *Margaretta*, William O'Brien engaged for several years in privateering under his brother, Jeremiah, with whom he seems to have been a favorite. As already stated, he was first lieutenant of the *Machias Liberty* during her cruise of nearly a year and a half. As nearly as I have been able to ascertain William O'Brien was a man of particularly lovable character. I have in my sanctum at home a large photographic copy from a painting of Captain William O'Brien, representing him in the uniform of a naval or privateer officer. While on a cruise as a merchantman, after the close of the Revolution, he died of fever at Bilbao, Spain, and was there buried. His widow survived him a few years, and at her decease left one child, Lydia O'Brien. Into his own home Colonel O'Brien took this orphan, tenderly rearing her, and giving her the best education the times afforded.

It was this orphaned daughter of Captain William O'Brien, and not, as some historical writers state, the daughter of Colonel Jeremiah O'Brien, who became the wife of a Mr. Hale, of Eastport, Maine. Lydia, the daughter and only child of Colonel O'Brien, married a gentleman from Plymouth county, Massachusetts. The Honorable John P. Hale, formerly United States senator from New Hampshire, was a son of the Mr. and Mrs. Hale, just mentioned; and Mrs. William E. Chandler, wife of

ex-Senator Chandler of New Hampshire, is the daughter of the Honorable John P. Hale, and hence a great-granddaughter of Captain William O'Brien of Revolutionary fame.

Joseph O'Brien, after the capture of the *Margaretta*, was associated during the Revolution with his brother, Captain John O'Brien, in the building of privateers, and to some extent followed privateering.

After the achievement of national independence he was associated with the same brother in the building of merchantmen at Newburyport, Mass. He eventually removed to Pennsylvania, where he settled; and some of his worthy descendants are still residing in that state—among them being Albert O'Brien, Esq., a lawyer, of Philadelphia.

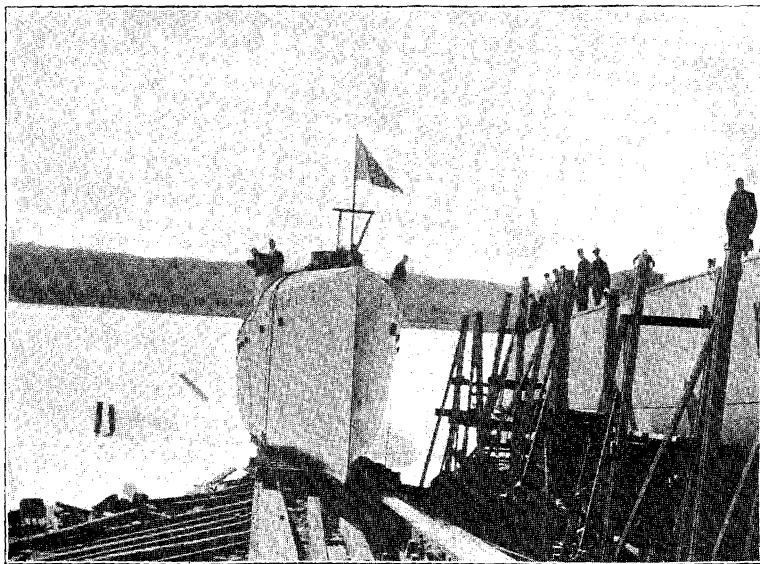
Dennis O'Brien, also, removed to Pennsylvania, where some of his descendants may be found.

Gideon O'Brien remained in Machias, Maine, and was a highly respected and useful citizen. Of the six O'Brien boys, Gideon may be called the man of peace. His son, the Honorable Jeremiah O'Brien, Jr., so named after his uncle, Colonel Jeremiah, represented his district in the lower house of the United States Congress with credit to the name. Several of the worthy descendants of Gideon O'Brien still reside in Machias and other portions of Washington county, Maine.

And now, Mr. President-General and gentlemen, thanking you for the privilege of addressing you this evening

upon the deeply interesting subject of *The O'Briens of Machias, Maine*, which, of necessity, I have treated quite superficially; and begging your pardon for having occupied more of your time than was intended, I bid you a hearty good-night, with the expression of the sincere hope that this Society may for many years continue its highly laudable work of seeing that credit is given to whom credit is justly due—and of seeing, also, that the names and services of such shall henceforth occupy their rightful places upon the multiplying pages of our increasingly glorious national history.

The Rev. Mr. Sherman was frequently applauded during the reading of his very able and entertaining paper, and at its close he was warmly congratulated. Remarks in praise of the paper were made by President-General McAdoo, the Hon. Thomas J. Gargan, of Boston; the Hon. John D. Crimmins, of New York city; and the Hon. John C. Linehan, of Concord, N. H. Mr. Sherman was given a cordial vote of thanks for his contribution to the programme of the evening.



LAUNCH OF THE TORPEDO BOAT "O'BRIEN"

The Torpedo Boat "O'Brien," named in honor of Capt. Jeremiah O'Brien, by the Hon. John D. Long, Secretary of the United States Navy, was launched from the Crescent Shipyard, Elizabethport, N. J., on the 24th of September, 1900. The view above shows the boat as she was leaving the ways and gliding gracefully into the water. A large party of government officials and others witnessed the launch, which was effected without a hitch.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE REV. ANDREW M. SHERMAN.

ANDREW MAGOUN SHERMAN, of Morristown, N. J., was born in Marshfield, Plymouth county, Mass., May 5, 1844. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Simmons Sherman. On the paternal side he is descended from William Sherman, who came from England to Plymouth, Mass., in the year 1630. William Sherman, Jr., was a soldier in King Philip's war (1675-'76). Ebenezer Sherman, great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a soldier in the Revolution. The flintlock musket carried in that conflict by him, now converted into a percussion-cap gun, is still in the possession of a resident of Marshfield, Mass., who is a descendant through another line of said Ebenezer. Aaron Sherman, grandfather of Andrew Magoun Sherman, commanded a company of militia during the War of 1812, and on the reported approach of the British for a landing at Scituate, Mass., proceeded with his company to that town to aid in its defense. In this company Aaron Simmons Sherman, above mentioned, was a drummer.

On the maternal side, Andrew Magoun Sherman is descended from the O'Briens of Machias, Me., patriots of the Revolution. The services of these O'Briens to the patriot cause he has very ably set forth in the foregoing paper. He was educated in New England schools. During the Civil war he served in two Connecticut regiments,

and was a good soldier and comrade. In 1869 he entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church, subsequently transferring his ecclesiastical relations to the Congregational church, in which body he was regularly ordained. He has held pastorates in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey, his last being exercised in connection with a Presbyterian church in Morris county, in the last named State. In 1901 he received a unanimous call to the pastorate of a Congregational church in Marshfield, Mass., his native town, but declined the call.

During the past eight years he has been engaged in literary pursuits, preaching only occasionally. Among his published works are the following: *Morristown, N. J., in the Spanish-American War*; *Memorials of Lydia Whitney Sherman* (George W. Sherman, collaborator); *Poetical and Prose Selections from the Works of Mrs. Ellis Winslow Holmes* (Lydia Leavitt Sherman), which he edited; *Life of Captain Jeremiah O'Brien, Machias, Me.*; and *Phil Carver: A Romance of the War of 1812*. He has several other works in preparation, among them being a *History of Morristown, N. J.*; *Life of Captain John O'Brien*, of Machias; and *Memorials of the Hon. Joshua S. Salmon*, a member of Congress, deceased.

Rev. Mr. Sherman had twelve brothers and sisters, four of whom are deceased. The list, in order of birth, was as follows: Horatio Nelson Sherman, Lydia Leavitt Sherman, Isaac Winslow Sherman, Amelia Bartlett Sherman, Helen Crocker Sherman, Nathan Lazael Sherman, George Witherell Sherman, Lucy Lovell Sherman, Ebenezer Lester Sherman, Ann Abbott Sherman, Jacob Perkins Sher-

man, and Charles Lester Sherman. Five of the boys, including Rev. Andrew M. Sherman, served in the Civil war, and the patriotic mother of these five boys, when commiserated by a friend for their absence, heroically remarked: "Had I fifty sons my country would be welcome to their services!"

Rev. Mr. Sherman married Arabella Malvern Woodruff, a native of Bristol, Conn. They have four children living, namely: Lillian Bell Sherman, Ada Winslow Sherman, Clara Louise Sherman, and George Howard Sherman.

A SKETCH OF THE CLAN O'BRIEN.

SUPPLEMENTARY to the Rev. Mr. Sherman's excellent paper, it may be stated that the Clan O'Brien is one of the most famous in Irish history. It traces descent from a very remote period, and has given to the world a host of people eminent in war and peace.

In ancestral glory, merited and undenied, it easily ranks with the proudest families in Europe. In point of age many "old families" are quite modern when compared with this ancient and puissant Irish sept.

For a long period the O'Briens were the ruling family of Thomond, or North Munster, their lords being inaugurated in what is now the county of Clare, and holding their regal court at Kincora. Their leading armorial bearings are thus described in heraldic language: Gules, three lions, passant, guardant, in pale, per pale, or and argent. Crest: On a wreath issuing out of clouds, a naked arm, embowed, the hand grasping a sword, all ppr. Motto (in Irish), meaning: "The strong hand uppermost." Among the titles held by the O'Briens since the English invasion of Ireland have been Earls of Thomond, Viscounts Clare, Barons of Inchiquin, Barons of Burren, etc. On certain O'Brien blazons, three leopards appear instead of lions, but a majority of the blazons bear the lions, arranged one above the other. Now and then an O'Brien blazon has the lions two and one; that is, two in the upper line and one in the lower.

One of the greatest names in the history of the clan is that of Brian Boru, or Brian of the Tributes. He was born A. D. 926, became king of Munster and, subsequently, monarch of Ireland. He had eleven brothers, four of whom left issue.

Brian has also been styled "Emperor of the Scots" as, for instance, in the following passage:¹ "I, Calvus Perennis, have written this in the sight of Brian, Emperor of the Scots, and what I have written he determined for all the kings of Maceriae," *i. e.*, Cashel. In this connection it must be remembered that the people of Ireland were long called Scots and that they were the original Scots of history. Ireland was styled Scotia Major, and Scotland, Scotia Minor.

Brian is described as of "fine figure, large stature, of great strength, and undaunted valor." He is also referred to as a man of intellect, a warrior and a legislator. The family had been prominent in the Irish kingdom of Munster for many generations, and about the middle of the tenth century, Mahon, a brother of Brian, became king of Munster.

At this period the invaders known as Danes or Northmen had strongly established themselves in Dublin and along the Leinster coast. Their invasion of eastern Ireland had begun about A. D. 795, so that when Brian ascended the Munster throne, on the death of his brother, they had been in the country for a long period.

They aimed to secure in Ireland a dominion similar to that which they had obtained in England, but after a struggle lasting for over 200 years, they were finally defeated and their power broken. Brian's military career

¹ Translated from an entry in the *Book of Armagh*.

was largely devoted to conflicts with these invaders, upon whom he inflicted several defeats. In one engagement, Ivar, a Danish commander of Limerick, was slain, together with a host of his followers.

We are devoting this attention to Brian of the Tributes as many bearers of the O'Brien name claim descent from him, and because the O'Briens of Machias, Me., may have been among these descendants. After ruling for a considerable period as king of Munster, Brian was crowned monarch of Ireland. After his accession to the Irish throne, he greatly distinguished himself in the arts of peace. He caused wise and beneficent laws to be enacted, had roads and bridges constructed, founded and restored churches, monasteries, and educational institutions, and in many other ways contributed to the welfare of the people. The Four Masters have termed him the "Augustus of Western Europe."

Resolving to crush forever the Danish power in Ireland, Brian mustered a large army for that purpose. Meantime, the Danes realizing that a tremendous conflict was at hand, had sent envoys to France, Germany, Scandinavia, the Hebrides, Scotland and other points to summon auxiliaries to assist in the impending conflict. They collected a large force, and their ships in great numbers anchored off the coast in the vicinity of Dublin, which was then a Danish stronghold.

In April, A. D. 1014, the Irish army in three divisions, under Brian, arrived near Dublin, preparatory to attacking the Danish hosts. The Irish monarch, though then 88 years of age, had ridden at the head of his forces, but previous to the battle was induced to assign the active command to his son Murrough. Present with the army

were many of Brian's kinsmen, including all his sons but Donogh, his nephews, a grandson and other relatives.

On Good Friday, April 23, A. D. 1014, the battle took place. The aged Irish monarch, bright of eye and clear of mind, had with uplifted crucifix exhorted his army to deeds of valor for faith and fatherland. On the Irish side that day fought the Great Stewards of Mar and Lennox, with their forces from Scotland, and rendered valiant service. Approximately, forty thousand men (40,000) participated in the engagement. These were about evenly divided between the opposing armies.

The Danes fought, generally speaking, with their backs to the sea, their fleet riding at anchor some distance off shore. The Irish faced the sea, the Danes thus being in a position between the Irish army in front and the sea behind. Having given the signal for battle, the venerable Brian retired to a tent, where, surrounded by a royal guard, he devoted himself to prayer for the success of his army. He was kept informed of the movements of the contending forces and, from time to time, gave such advice and issued such orders as seemed necessary. The battle opened about 8 o'clock in the morning and lasted some nine hours, closing at or near 5 o'clock in the afternoon. It was fiercely contested and for a long time the advantage shifted from side to side. But, finally, the impetuous charges of the Irish began to tell on the foe.

A thousand mail-clad Danes were cut to pieces, their armor proving no protection against the terrific sweep of the Irish battle-axes. This was but one incident of many during the great conflict. The main body of the Danes at length gave way, and soon the flight became general. The Irish pursued, cutting right and left. Many of the

Danes, wishing to escape death on shore, sought to reach their ships. But it being flood-tide, great numbers were drowned, and greater numbers still were killed before they could reach the water. Others retreated toward Dublin. Thousands of Danes were left dead on the field, and the Irish, too, lost heavily. Many leading officers were killed on both sides, and many illustrious Irish families suffered deep bereavement.

Among the Irish lords and knights participating in the battle were Malachy, king of Meath; Cian, lord of Desmond; O'Carroll, prince of Oriell; O'Kelly, lord of Hymany; O'Heyne, lord of Aidhne; Felim, of the Silver Shield, and many other people of note. Murrough, son of Brian, was among the slain, as were the lords O'Kelly and O'Heyne. The Great Steward of Mar, who had espoused the Irish cause, was also killed.

At the close of the battle as the Danes were in full flight, a Danish officer, Brodar, at the head of a band of fugitives, attacked the Irish royal tent. Brian drew his sword and stood on the defensive, but was instantly overwhelmed and killed. Thus perished one of the most remarkable rulers in history. The Danish party was immediately cut down, but too late to save the king. The news of the Irish victory at Clontarf, and the overwhelming defeat of the Danes, caused a tremendous sensation throughout Europe. The battle was recorded in the Norse sagas, and told and related for a long period after. The Danes in Ireland never recovered from the effects of the crushing blow they had received at Clontarf, and though they continued numerous in the country their power was forever gone.

The O'Briens and others descended from Brian of the

Tributes have every reason to be proud of their eminent ancestor. Few names in Ireland have been borne by more distinguished people than that of O'Brien. Bearers of the name, of Irish birth or extraction, long ago attained prominence in France, Spain, and Austria, and, like the O'Briens of Machias, have had an honorable career in America. The clan has been a prolific one, and its representatives to-day are found throughout the world.

The following O'Brien chronology will be found of interest. It has been specially compiled for this volume, mainly from Cronnelly's *History of the Dal-Cais or Dalcassians, Descendants of Cais, of the Line of Heber* (Dublin, 1865), and from the *Annals of the Four Masters*. It will be noted that the names Donal, Donogh, Murtoogh, Torloogh, etc., prevailed in the family for century after century.

A. D. 1014. After the death this year of Brian Boru, his sons Donogh and Tadg began reigning conjointly over Munster.

A. D. 1023. Donogh, a son of Brian Boru, became sole king of Munster, and titular monarch of Leath Mogha (Meath, Lenister, and Munster). His reign covered a period of forty-nine years, when he abdicated in favor of his nephew Torloogh O'Brien, became a monk and died in Rome.

A. D. 1051. This year, during the reign of Donogh (son of Brian Boru), Harold Conan, son of Earl Godwin, fled from England to Ireland after the rebellion of his father against Edward the Confessor. Harold remained "all the winter" under the protection of the Irish king. Donogh's second wife was the sister of Harold.

A. D. 1074. Torloogh O'Brien was monarch of Ireland

at this time, and during his reign received a Latin letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury, which was thus inscribed: "Lanfrance, a sinner, and an unworthy Archbishop of the Holy Church of Canterbury, sends his benediction, with his service and prayers, to the magnificent Terdeluacus, King of Hibernia."

A. D. 1086. Death of Torlogh O'Brien, king of Munster and titular monarch of Ireland. He passed away in the "twenty-second year of his reign, and in the seventy-seventh year of his age, on the Ides of June."

A. D. 1098. Death of the Lady Dervogill, mother of the Irish lords Murtogh and Tadg O'Brien.

A. D. 1101. Murtogh O'Brien having convoked a gathering of the people and clergy made a solemn grant of the city of Cashel to the church, dedicating the place "to God and St. Patrick."

A. D. 1101. Murtogh O'Brien, titular monarch of Ireland, made a grand tour of the country, at the head of a large military force.

A. D. 1111. A synod was held in Meath, at which were present, among others, "the noble Senior of Ireland," fifty bishops, 200 priests, and 300 students. There were also present, Murtogh O'Brien and other Irish lords.

A. D. 1114. The Irish monarch, Murtogh O'Brien, is seized with a "languishing disease," and soon resigns the throne in favor of his brother Dermot.

A. D. 1118. Donal O'Brien, who had been appointed by his father, the monarch Murtogh, to govern the foreigners of Dublin, resigned. He subsequently entered holy orders, and died A. D. 1135.

A. D. 1119. Death of Murtogh O'Brien, "one of the most powerful princes of his age." He had succeeded his

father on the throne, and after a reign of thirty years retired to a monastery (Lismore).

A. D. 1120. Dermot O'Brien, king of Thomond, died after a reign of four years. He was succeeded by his son Conor, who died A. D. 1142.

A. D. 1120. Conor O'Brien succeeds his brother Dermot on the throne of Munster.

A. D. 1129. Death of Mahon O'Brien, son of King Murtoth.

A. D. 1165. Donatus O'Brien, bishop of Thomond, died.

A. D. 1167. Died, Torlogh O'Brien, after a reign of twenty-five years.

A. D. 1167. About this time the Irish monarch held a great muster of the Irish lords and their forces. Among those attending were Cormac, lord of Desmond; O'Brien, lord of Thomond; Dermot, lord of Meath, and many others.

A. D. 1167. Torlogh O'Brien died. He was "the best man that came in his time for bestowing jewels and wealth upon the poor and the indigent of God."

A. D. 1169. Donal O'Brien founds a religious house "afterwards the cathedral church," in Cashel.

A. D. 1174. Donal O'Brien, an Irish lord, assisted in defeating Earl Strongbow and an English force in Munster.

A. D. 1176. Donal O'Brien expels the English from Limerick.

A. D. 1179. Constantine O'Brien, bishop of Killaloe, participated in the third Lateran Council.

A. D. 1185. Donal O'Brien administered a defeat to the English, under John, son of Henry II, who had come to Ireland with a large force to govern the country.

A. D. 1188. The Lady Edina, wife of Murtogh O'Brien, and daughter of the lord Donogh O'Quin, died. Her death took place while she was engaged on a pilgrimage.

A. D. 1192. Munster invaded by the English of Leinster and great damage done. The invaders were severely chastised by the forces of King Donal O'Brien.

A. D. 1194. Death of Donal O'Brien, king of Munster, "a beaming lamp in peace and war, and the brilliant star of the hospitality and valor of the men of Munster and of all Leath Mogha."

A. D. 1240. Death of the Lady Sabina, wife of Donogh Carbry O'Brien, ruler of Thomond.

A. D. 1242. About this year died Donogh Carbry O'Brien, king of Thomond. The Four Masters describe him as having been "the tower of generosity and excellence of the South of Ireland." He founded a number of religious establishments.

A. D. 1260. Conor O'Brien, king of Thomond, defeated an English force at Kilbarron.

A. D. 1261. Bryan Roe O'Brien demolishes Castle Connell in Limerick.

A. D. 1270. The O'Brien, head of the clan, captured a castle from the English, near Killaloe.

A. D. 1275. The English king, Edward I, granted the territory then comprised in the kingdom of Thomond to Thomas le Clare, son of the Earl of Gloucester. By this act was annulled that of Henry III who had granted the territory to Donal Moore O'Brien.

A. D. 1303. Maurice O'Brien, dean of Kilfenora, was made a bishop. He died A. D. 1316.

A. D. 1306. Died, Torlogh O'Brien, the hero of MacGrath's *Wars of Thomond*.

A. D. 1310. Death of Conor O'Brien, heir presumptive to the lordship of Thomond.

A. D. 1311. Donogh O'Brien, "distinguished for his hospitality and heroic deeds," is killed.

A. D. 1311. Torlogh O'Brien killed. He is highly spoken of in the Irish annals. At one period he "granted the lordship of Thomond, for three years, to the Poor Friars for the purpose of aiding them in building the monastery of Ennis."

A. D. 1343. Murtogh O'Brien, ruler of Thomond, for thirty-two years, died.

A. D. 1343. Died, the Lady Slainey, wife of Torlogh O'Connor, King of Connaught. She was a daughter of Murtogh O'Brien, ruler of Thomond.

A. D. 1350. Byran Bane O'Brien, son of Murtogh just mentioned, died. He had succeeded his father, and was "a distinguished warrior."

A. D. 1364. Death of Dermot O'Brien, ruler of Thomond.

A. D. 1369. Mahon Moenmoy O'Brien, lord of Thomond, died. He was succeeded by Bryan O'Brien, "the oldest chief of his race."

A. D. 1369. The O'Briens assist in defeating an English force in Munster. A MacNamara, who had been appointed warden of Limerick by The O'Brien, was soon after slain by the English.

A. D. 1383. Murrough O'Brien, tanist of Thomond, defeated an English force under Mortimer, about this time, at Athlone.

A. D. 1414. Conor O'Brien, The O'Brien, of Thomond, resigns the leadership to his nephew.

A. D. 1459. Tadhg O'Brien erected the castle of Comhad, in Burren.

A. D. 1460. Torlogh O'Brien died. His wife was Catherine, daughter of Ulick Fitz-Walter Burke.

A. D. 1466. Tadg O'Brien, ruler of Thomond, died. His death is believed to have been due to a plague which that year visited Leinster and Meath. It was this Tadg who is stated to have erected the castle of Kilnaboy on the shore of Lough Inchiquin.

A. D. 1483. Torlogh O'Brien was consecrated bishop of Killaloe. He was head of the diocese forty-two years.

A. D. 1502. Died, Donogh O'Brien, son of Brian, son of Conor. He was described as "the most prosperous and affluent" man of his clan.

A. D. 1504. Murrough O'Brien, of Ara, a commander in the forces of his kinsman, Torlogh O'Brien, of Thomond, was killed in battle.

A. D. 1506. Torlogh O'Brien erected a bridge of fourteen arches over the Shannon.

A. D. 1508. Donal O'Brien, lord of Ara, in Tipperary, died.

A. D. 1510. Murtogh O'Brien, bishop of Kilfenora, died. The same year, Torlogh O'Brien, lord of Thomond, defeated the English of the Pale, and their allies, at a locality in Tipperary.

A. D. 1523. Died Bryan O'Brien, son of Tadg, "the supporter of several religious establishments in Thomond, and the patron of learned men."

A. D. 1528. The Lady Fionala, or Penelope, O'Brien died. She was the wife of the lord Hugh Roe O'Donnell, and is specially mentioned by the Four Masters.

A. D. 1536. Conor O'Brien, son of Torlogh, son of Tadg, lord of Thomond, was besieged in his castle of Carrigunnell by James, Viscount Thurles.

A. D. 1539. Death of Conor O'Brien, son of Torlogh, son of Tadhg, and lord of Thomond for eleven years.

A. D. 1551. Murrough O'Brien, first Earl of Thomond, and Baron of Inchiquin, died. His wife was a daughter of Thomas Fitzgerald, Knight of the Valley.

A. D. 1557. Death of Dermod O'Brien, Baron of Inchiquin.

A. D. 1560. Tadhg O'Brien taken prisoner by the English lord justice and confined for two years in Dublin castle.

A. D. 1564. Donal O'Brien, Earl of Thomond, who had been deprived of his title in 1558, was granted a district in the barony of Burren, Clare.

A. D. 1568. The Lady Margaret, sister of Tadhg O'Brien, son of Donogh, son of Conor, died. She was the wife of the Earl of Clanricarde.

A. D. 1573. Died Murrough O'Brien, third Baron Inchiquin. His wife was a daughter of Christopher Nugent, ninth Lord Devlin.

A. D. 1577. Murrough O'Brien, an Irish lord, was beheaded by Sir William Drury for refusing to swear fealty to the English queen and pay tributes imposed.

A. D. 1583. Died, The Lady Honoria O'Brien, daughter of Donal, son of Conor, the wife of Conor O'Connor Kerry, "and she was interred in the church of Iniscathy on the Shannon."

A. D. 1585. Sir Torlogh O'Brien attended the parliament convened in Dublin by Sir John Perrott. Many Irish lords participated in this gathering.

A. D. 1586. Donal O'Brien was executed in Galway by the English authorities, one of the charges against him having been that of "traitorous conspiracy."

A. D. 1586. Mahon O'Brien is shot while defending his castle against Bingham, the English governor of Connaught.

A. D. 1591. Died, the Lady Anne, daughter of Donal O'Brien and wife of the lord Torlogh Roe MacMahon.

A. D. 1591. The Lady Margaret, daughter of Donal O'Brien, died. She was the wife of Torlogh MacMahon, an Irish lord.

A. D. 1597. Died, Murrogh O'Brien, fourth Baron Inchiquin. His wife was a daughter of Sir Thomas Cusack, Kt.

A. D. 1601. Donogh O'Brien, fourth Earl of Thomond, "who was high in favour with Elizabeth," fought for the English against the Irish and Spaniards at Kinsale. He displayed a valor worthy of a better cause.

A. D. 1613. Died, Murtogh O'Brien. He possessed the castles of Monroe, Pallas, Cahirconor, and Castletown, and conformed to the Established Church. Queen Elizabeth appointed him to the see of Killaloe.

A. D. 1662. Donal O'Brien, created Viscount Clare by King Charles II. His wife was a daughter of Gerald, sixteenth Earl of Desmond.

A. D. 1674. Death of Murrogh O'Brien, sixth Baron of Inchiquin. His wife was a daughter of Sir William St. Leger.

A. D. 1686. Donogh O'Brien is created a baronet. His first wife was Lucia, daughter of Sir George Hamilton.

A. D. 1690. Henry Horatio O'Brien, Lord O'Brien and Baron of Ibrackan, died. His wife was Henrietta, daughter of Henry Somerset, Duke of Beaufort.

A. D. 1707. Henry O'Brien, eighth Marquis of Thomond, married Elizabeth, daughter of Charles, Duke of Somerset. O'Brien died, 1741.

After the fall of Limerick, 1691, Irish troops to the number of 19,000 enlisted in the service of France, while thousands of their countrymen entered the Spanish service. Others went to both countries before and after that period. The military annals of both countries contain the names of many O'Briens who reached high rank in the armies of those countries. Among those attaining prominence in France were the following:

André O'Brien, Knight of St. Louis; a captain in 1762 of the regiment of Rothe.

Bernard O'Brien, lieutenant, 1745, of DeGalmoy's Horse.

Brian O'Brien, aid major of the regiment of Clare; died in Brittany, 1758.

Captain O'Brien, an officer of grenadiers in 1780 in the regiment of Navarre.

Charles O'Brien, fifth Lord Clare; commanded a regiment of Foot, in Ireland, 1689-'90; went to France and became colonel of the regiment of Clare, which regiment had been so named in honor of his family. He attained the rank of major-general in the French service. At Blenheim he commanded the three Irish regiments of Clare, Lee and Dorrington. He died of wounds received in battle.

Lieutenant-General O'Brien, sixth Lord Clare. At the head of the Irish brigade in the French service he charged the English at Fontenoy, broke their formation, and after a desperate hand-to-hand conflict, administered a severe defeat and drove them from the field. The Irish brigade that day comprised the regiments of O'Brien (Clare's), Dillon, Lally, Buckley, Rothe, and Berwick. General O'Brien married the Marchioness de Chiffreville, in Normandy. His daughter wedded the Duke de Choiseuil-Praslin.

Charles O'Brien, colonel in 1696 of the regiment of Clare; "*Maréchal des Camps et Armées en 1704.*"

Corneille O'Brien, a captain in 1746 of the regiment of Clare.

Daniel O'Brien, fourth Viscount Clare; colonel proprietor of the Irish French regiment of Clare, 1690; Knight of St. Louis and of St. Lazarus; died of wounds received in battle, 1693.

Daniel O'Brien, a captain in 1717 of the regiment of O'Brien.

Dermod O'Brien, of the regiment of Clare; Knight of St. Louis; son of Brian, of Leitrim, Ireland.

Florence Dermod O'Brien, born in 1743; captain in the regiment of Clare; commandant of St. Germain de Calberte in the Sevennes; married a daughter of the Marquis of Covarruvias de Leyva.

Jacques Daniel O'Brien, Count of Lismore; Knight of St. Louis; regiment of Clare.

Jean O'Brien, ensign in the regiment of Hamilton; "*admis aux Invalides en 1678.*" A Jean O'Brien is mentioned as "*ancien officier en service de France tres âgé en 1712.*"

Jean O'Brien, cadet, 1753; lieutenant-colonel, 1792-'94, of a regiment of chasseurs; Knight of St. Louis; one of the most accomplished officers in the French service.

Jean O'Brien, Knight of St. Louis; lieutenant-colonel, 1792-'94.

Jean Solomon Edouard O'Brien, lieutenant, 1815; captain, 1820; lieutenant-colonel, Eleventh regiment of the Line, 1837. An officer bearing the same name, and being probably the same individual, became colonel of the Twelfth Hussars.

John O'Brien, captain, 1745, in a Paris regiment.

Louis Marie Patrice O'Brien, lieutenant, 1787, in the regiment of Walsh.

Mathieu O'Brien, a major in 1715, of the regiment of O'Brien.

Murrough O'Brien, colonel proprietor in 1705 of the regiment of Clare; major-general, 1719; died in 1720; an officer of splendid ability.

Pierre O'Brien, a captain in 1753 of the regiment of Rothe.

Thadée O'Brien, Knight of St. Louis; a major in 1778 of the regiment of Walsh; served with our French allies in the American Revolution.

Timothée O'Brien, Knight of St. Louis; "ancien major en 1789."

An O'Brien, Lord Clare, in the French service, is thus referred to in a poem, describing operations against the English:

* * *

The brave old lord died near the fight,
But for each drop he lost that night
A Saxon cavalier shall bite

The dust before Lord Clare's Dragoons;
For never when our spurs were set
And never when our sabres met,
Could we the Saxon soldiers get
To stand the shock of Clare's Dragoons.

* * *

Another Clare is here to lead,
The worthy son of such a breed;
The French expect some famous deed
When Clare leads on his bold Dragoons.
Our colonel comes from Brian's race,
His wounds are in his breast and face,
The gap of danger is still his place,
The foremost of his bold Dragoons.

* * *

Among other officers of Irish blood in the French service were: Justin MacCarthy (Lord Mountcashel), colonel proprietor, 1691, regiment de Mountcashel; Owen MacCarthy, lieutenant-colonel, 1715, regiment de Athlone; Arthur Dillon, colonel proprietor, 1690, regiment de Dillon; Gordon O'Neill, colonel proprietor, 1692, regiment de Charlemont; Dominic Sarsfield (Lord Kilmallock), colonel proprietor, 1693, Kilmallock's Dragoons; Jeremiah Mahoney, lieutenant-colonel, 1694, regiment de Limerick; John O'Donohoe, lieutenant, 1677, Garde du Corps; Patrick Nugent, lieutenant-colonel, 1706, regiment de Berwick; Daniel O'Madden, lieutenant-colonel, 1703, regiment de Fitzgerald; Jacques Francois Edward Sarsfield (Earl of Lucan), colonel, 1715, and Knight of the Golden Fleece; Arthur Lally, Knight Grand Cross of St. Louis, lieutenant-general, 1746; Maurice MacMahon, Knight of Malta, captain, 1761, Fitz James' Horse; Count Patrick Darcy, Knight of St. Louis and of St. Lazarus, colonel, major-general, died 1779. In our own day, MacMahon, of Irish blood, became President of France.

The Irish brigade, which defeated the English and their Dutch auxiliaries, at the battle of Fontenoy (1745), was commanded by Lord Clare, an O'Brien, who is mentioned in the following extract:

* * *

How fierce the look these exiles wear, who're wont to be so gay,
The treasured wrongs of fifty years are in their hearts to-day;
The Treaty broken ere the ink wherewith 'twas writ could dry,
Their plundered homes, their ruined shrines, their women's parting cry,
Their priesthood hunted down like wolves, their country overthrown,
Each looks as if revenge for all were staked on him alone.
On Fontenoy, on Fontenoy, nor ever yet elsewhere,
Rushed on to death a nobler band than these proud exiles were.

* * *

O'Brien's voice is hoarse with joy, as, halting he commands,
 "Fix bay'nets! Charge!" Like mountain storm rush on these fiery
 bands.

* * *

Like lions leaping at a fold when mad with hunger's pang,
 Right up against the English line the Irish exiles sprang.
 Bright was their steel; 'tis bloody now, their guns are filled with gore.
 Through shattered ranks and severed files and trampled flags they
 tore;
 The English strove with desperate strength, paused, rallied, stag-
 gered, fled—
 The green hillside is matted close with dying and with dead.
 Across the plain and far away passed on that hideous wrack,
 While cavalier and fantassin dash in upon their track.
 On Fontenoy, on Fontenoy, like eagles in the sun,
 With bloody plumes the Irish stand—the field is fought and won!

Among the officers of Irish birth or descent in the service of Spain are recalled:

Don Juan O'Brien, super-colonel, 1732-'43, regiment de Ultonia.

Don Cornelio O'Brien, lieutenant, Dragones de Edinburgo.

Don Terencio O'Brien, lieutenant, regimento de Limerick.

Don Enriquez O'Brien, lieutenant, regimento de Irlanda.

Don Moritz O'Brien, cadet, 1759, regimento de Ultonia.

Don Morgano O'Brien, captain, 1760, regimento de Ultonia.

Don Theodoro O'Brien, colonel, 1663, served in the Spanish Netherlands.

Other soldiers of Irish birth or descent who have served in the Spanish army include: Don Ugo O'Donnell, brigadier-general, 1688, became a major-general, died

1703. Don Florencio Macarthy, cornet, 1705, dragones de Dublin; Don Felix Macarthy, captain, 1718, regimiento de Limerick; Don Justinio Macarthy, sub-lieutenant, 1718, regimiento de Hibernia; Don Carlos Macarthy, lieutenant, 1724, regimiento de Hibernia; Don Carlos MacMahon, captain, 1718, regimiento de Ultonia; Don Juan O'Sullivan, captain, 1724; Don Dionisio O'Sullivan, captain, 1724; Don Demetrio Mahony, lieutenant-colonel, 1735; Don Hugo O'Connor, regimiento de Hibernia; captain of grenadiers, 1777; Don Cornelio MacMahon, captain, 1771, regimiento de Hibernia; Don Miguel O'Reilly, captain of grenadiers, 1777; Don Josef O'Donnell, lieutenant-colonel, 1777; Don Hugo O'Connor, captain of grenadiers, 1777; Don Pedro O'Daly, commander and colonel, 1803, regimiento de Irlanda; Don Miguel O'Meagher, regimiento de Hibernia, lieutenant-colonel of grenadiers, 1803; Don Jose O'Donnell, knight grand cross of the Order of St. Ferdinand, captain-general of Castile, died, 1836; Don Tomas O'Ryan-y-Vasquez, captain-general of Granada, knight of the Order of St. Hermonogilda; Don Jaime O'Daly-y-Perez, brigadier-general, knight of St. Hermonogilda.

Among the troops of our French allies in the American Revolution were represented the Regiment of Dillon and the Regiment of Walsh. Among the officers of the latter were Maj. Thadée O'Brien and Capt. Jean O'Brien, both of whom have already been mentioned. For interesting rosters of these two Irish-French regiments see a recently published work on *Les Combattants Français de la Guerre Américaine, 1778-1783* (Paris, 1903).

The Revolutionary rolls of Massachusetts, New York and other states contain the names of many O'Briens who

served in the patriot forces during the struggle for independence. So that while the O'Briens of Machias were dealing sturdy blows for the cause of liberty, as so well portrayed by Rev. Mr. Sherman, other representatives of this great old Irish clan were elsewhere gallantly serving the same cause.

From among hundreds of O'Briens, in this country, who merit special mention for their valor, talents, integrity and success, we compile the following brief list:

O'Brien, A. D., bank cashier, Graceville, Minn.

O'Brien, Albert H., a lawyer in Philadelphia; veteran of the Civil war; after the war became a lieutenant in the U. S. Marine Corps, resigning in 1875; a descendant of the O'Briens of Machias, Me.

O'Brien, Alonzo Lee, graduate of West Point; was commissioned second lieutenant, Second U. S. Cavalry, 1879; first lieutenant, 1886.

O'Brien, Andrew, a Pennsylvania soldier of the Revolution; member of the Commander-in-Chief's Guard, which was organized by Washington in 1776. This guard consisted of picked men, was at first composed of Virginians and comprised a major's command, 180 men. In 1778, it was increased by the addition of 100 men from various states. O'Brien died in Philadelphia, April 16, 1824, aged 71 years.

O'Brien, Hon. C. D., a prominent lawyer of St. Paul, Minn.; prosecuting attorney of Ramsey county, Minn., from 1874 to 1878; assistant U. S. district attorney from 1870 to 1873; mayor of St. Paul from 1883 to 1885.

O'Brien, Christeo, a lieutenant in the One Hundred and Twentieth regiment of infantry, Greene county, N. Y., 1819; he was subsequently a captain in the regiment.

O'Brien, Christopher, served during the Civil war on the U. S. S. *Niagara*; subsequently became a member of the Boston city government, and of the Kearsarge Naval Veteran Association, Boston.

O'Brien, Christopher F., now secretary to the mayor of Providence, R. I.

O'Brien, Daniel, a soldier of the Revolution; served in the Second Pennsylvania regiment, Continental Line.

O'Brien, Daniel, a member of Capt. Isaac Corsa's company, New York provincial troops, 1755. In 1760, Daniel O'Bryan, doubtless the same, was a member of Capt. Nathaniel Hubbell's company. There were 32 natives of Ireland in the latter command.

O'Brien, Hon. Denis, judge of the New York Court of Appeals. In 1884-'88 he was attorney-general of New York.

O'Brien, Dennis, a Pennsylvania soldier of the Revolution; served in Colonel Hazen's regiment—"Congress' Own."

O'Brien, Dennis, a merchant of Reading, Pa.; descendant of the O'Briens of Machias, Me.; deceased.

O'Brien, Dennis A., prominent resident of Chelsea, Mass.; several years a member of the city government; is a vice-president of the Frost hospital, vice-president of the Chelsea Real Estate Association and vice-president of the County Savings bank.

O'Brien, Dennis J., of the Twenty-eighth regiment, Massachusetts volunteers. He was mustered Dec. 13, 1861; transferred, Sept. 1, 1863, to the Veteran Reserve Corps.

O'Brien, Hon. Dennis W., judge of the Orphans' Court, Philadelphia county, Pa.; a descendant of the O'Briens of Machias, Me.; died in 1878.

O'Brien, Dillon, a native of Ireland; born, 1817; died at St. Paul, Minn., 1882. In 1857, he was appointed government school teacher to the Chippewa Indians at La Pointe, Wis. He removed to Minnesota in 1863; became an immigration commissioner for the latter state, and did much to induce the coming of Irish settlers to Minnesota; lecturer and author.

O'Brien, Douglas F., mate, United States navy, 1861; acting ensign, 1863; honorably discharged, July, 1865.

O'Brien, Edward, alderman of the city of Pawtucket, R. I., for three years; recently master mechanic at the Dunnell Print Works, Pawtucket, R. I.; now in charge of the W. W. Dunnell Finishing Works, Apponaug, R. I.

O'Brien, Edward C. W. (M. D.), Buffalo, N. Y.; graduate of the University of Buffalo; many years surgeon of the Seventy-fourth regiment, N. Y.; is surgeon of the Buffalo fire department.

O'Brien, Edward C., member of the New York Chamber of Commerce; brigadier-general on the staff of Gov. Levi P. Morton of New York; U. S. Commissioner of Navigation, 1889-'93.

O'Brien, Edward F., a lieutenant of the Twenty-eighth regiment, Massachusetts volunteers, in the Civil war. Previous to becoming a lieutenant, he had been sergeant-major of the regiment.

O'Brien, Edward M., president of the American Shipping Co., Chicago, Ill.

O'Brien, Fitz James, a brilliant poet and author; the friend of John Brougham, James W. Wallack, and other notable men; joined the Seventh New York regiment during the Civil war; became an officer on the staff of Gen. F. W. Lander; was wounded Feb. 26, 1862, and died of his injuries.

O'Brien, Frank P., prominent resident of Birmingham, Ala.; a founder of the Birmingham *Daily Age*; president and manager of the Birmingham *Age-Herald*; a director of the Southern Press Association.

O'Brien, George Morgan, major of the Seventh Iowa cavalry, 1863; became, successively, lieutenant-colonel, colonel, and brigadier-general of volunteers; was mustered out, May 17, 1866.

O'Brien, H. T., a captain, during the Civil war, in the One Hundred and Fifty-fifth regiment, New York volunteers (which formed part of Corcoran's Irish Legion).

O'Brien, Harry, cashier Bank of Palmer, Palmer, Kan.

O'Brien, Dr. Henry J., physician and surgeon; member of the faculty of Hamline University and of the University of Minnesota; brother of ex-Mayor C. D. O'Brien of St. Paul, Minn.

O'Brien, Henry V., a professor in De La Salle Institute, Chicago, Ill.

O'Brien, Hon. Hugh, mayor of Boston, Mass., for four terms; previous to being elected mayor he had filled other official positions of trust and honor.

O'Brien, James, of the Fourth New York Regiment of the Line, in the Revolution. The regiment was commanded by Col. James Holmes, and, at another period, by Col. Henry B. Livingston.

O'Brien, James, of the Twenty-seventh Maryland regiment during the War of 1812; served at North Point and Fort McHenry.

O'Brien, James, lieutenant-colonel of the Forty-eighth regiment, Massachusetts volunteers, in the Civil war. He was killed while advancing with a storming party at the siege of Port Hudson.

O'Brien, James, recently fire marshal of Galesburg, Ill.

O'Brien, James W., lawyer; was a member of the city council of Charlestown, Mass. (now included in Boston); was also a member of the Public Library trustees there; nominated in 1883, by Gov. Benjamin F. Butler, to be judge of the Charlestown district court.

O'Brien, Jeremiah, of the Twenty-fourth regiment, Massachusetts volunteers, in the Civil war; was killed at Drury's Bluff, Va. He was of Brookline, Mass.

O'Brien, John, soldier of the Revolution; served in the Sixth Pennsylvania regiment, of the Continental Line.

O'Brien, John, an Irish schoolmaster in Warren, Me. He began teaching there at about the close of the Revolution, and so continued for many years. He was "a native of Craig, near Cork" and was "an elegant penman and a good accountant." He married a daughter of Colonel Starrett.

O'Brien, John, a Connecticut soldier of the Revolution; served in the seventh company of the Sixth regiment (Colonel Parson's), 1775.

O'Brien, John, served during the Revolution in the Second regiment, Orange county, N. Y., militia, commanded by Col. A. H. Hay.

O'Brien, John, a Massachusetts Continental soldier of the Revolution; placed on the pension roll, 1819.

O'Brien, John, of the Ninth regiment, Massachusetts volunteers, in the Civil war; was killed at Gaines' Mills, Va.

O'Brien, John, president of the John O'Brien Lumber Co., Chicago, Ill.

O'Brien, John, cashier of the Citizens' National bank, Darlington, Wis.

O'Brien, John, president of the John O'Brien Boiler Works Co., St. Louis, Mo.; capital paid in, \$250,000.

O'Brien, Rev. John, professor of ecclesiastical history and sacred theology at Mount St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Md.; died, 1879.

O'Brien, John B., many years sheriff of Suffolk county (which includes Boston), Mass.; during the Civil war he served in the Twenty-fourth regiment, Massachusetts volunteers; was wounded at Deep Run, Va.

O'Brien, John D., prominent lawyer of St. Paul, Minn.; member of the law firm Stevens, O'Brien, Cole & Albrecht.

O'Brien, John F., a member in 1901 of the Assembly of the state of New York.

O'Brien, John J., a captain during the Civil war in the First New York cavalry; served as lieutenant in the Thirtieth U. S. Infantry; was transferred to the Fourth U. S. Infantry, in which he became a captain.

O'Brien, John M., a Rhode Island Continental soldier of the Revolution; he served in Captain Dexter's company of the "late Col. Greene's regiment."

O'Brien, Hon. John M., a police magistrate of Philadelphia, Pa.

O'Brien, John Maurice, son of Capt. John O'Brien; born in Newburyport, Mass.; graduated from Bowdoin College, 1806; became a lawyer.

O'Brien, John P. J., a graduate of West Point; joined the artillery arm of the service; served in the Florida war; commanded a battery at Buena Vista in the war with Mexico; was brevetted major, in 1847, for gallant and meritorious conduct at the battle of Buena Vista.

O'Brien, John P., a director of the Mechanics and Traders bank, New York city.

O'Brien, John S., mate, United States navy, 1863; honorably discharged, December, 1867.

O'Brien, John S., of Boston, a lieutenant of Co. G, Forty-eighth regiment, Massachusetts volunteers, in the Civil war.

O'Brien, J. P., long prominent in railway circles; formerly superintendent of the Iowa Central road; later superintendent of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Co., with headquarters at Portland, Ore.

O'Brien, Hon. J. W., recently mayor of Grand Haven, Mich.

O'Brien, Kennedy, an early resident of Augusta, Ga.; merchant; a deposition made by him in 1741, is mentioned.

O'Brien, Lawrence, member of a Pennsylvania company of flying artillery in the War of 1812. The company was commanded by Capt. Richard Bache and formed part of the "Advance Light Brigade" commanded by Gen. Thomas Cadwalader.

O'Brien, Lawrence, a soldier of the First regiment, New York volunteers, in the War with Mexico. He died in the service, passing away at Puebla, Mexico.

O'Brien, Lawrence, a captain in the Ninth Connecticut infantry in the Civil war, the command being popularly known as "the Irish regiment" of that state. Capt. O'Brien was, at one period during the war, provost marshal and military judge of the parish of St. James, La.

O'Brien, Lucius, assistant surgeon, U. S. A., 1832; second lieutenant, Third U. S. Infantry, 1837; transferred to Eighth U. S. Infantry, 1838; first lieutenant, 1839.

O'Brien, Lucy Todd, married, in 1698, John Baylor of Gloucester county, Virginia. John, their son, was a mem-

ber of the Virginia House of Burgesses, 1740 to 1760. Another member of the family was an aid to Washington at the battle of Trenton.

O'Brien, Lyster M., a captain in the Twenty-seventh Michigan volunteers during the Civil war; was brevetted major of volunteers, 1865, for "gallant and meritorious conduct before Petersburg, Va."; after the war he was attached, respectively, to the Sixteenth, Seventeenth, and Twenty-fifth regiments, U. S. infantry.

O'Brien, Martin, a captain in the Ninth regiment, Massachusetts volunteers, in the Civil war. He was of Salem, Mass.

O'Brien, Martin E., served during the Civil war in the First Arkansas cavalry; became in 1863 a captain in the Second Arkansas cavalry; was later commissioned captain in the Second U. S. cavalry.

O'Brien, Martin H., born in 1850, Clinton county, N. Y.; prominent lawyer of Plattsburg, N. Y.

O'Brien, Maurice J., now superintendent of public schools, Pawtucket, R. I.

O'Brien, Hon. Michael, recently mayor of the city of Alpena, Mich.

O'Brien, Michael, a captain in the Second N. Y. Heavy Artillery in the Civil War; was killed June 6, 1864.

O'Brien, Michael, ordnance department, U. S. A.; artificer and armorer; became a lieutenant in the Fourth U. S. artillery.

O'Brien, Rev. Michael C., of Bangor, Me.; recently deceased; distinguished authority on the language and history of the Abnaki and other Indians.

O'Brien, Miles Morgan, merchant, a member of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, of Philadelphia, Pa. (founded

1771), and of the Hibernian Society, of Philadelphia (founded 1790); U. S. consul at Algiers; personal friend of Gen. Stephen Moylan of the Revolution. O'Brien died in France, 1804.

O'Brien, Hon. Morgan J., a justice of the New York Supreme court; is at present sitting in the Appellate division; trustee of the New York public library.

O'Brien, M. J., vice-president, director and general manager of the Southern Express company; long prominent in railroad circles; director in roads belonging to the H. B. Plant interest.

O'Brien, Miss Myra Lincoln, a descendant of the O'Briens of Machias, Me.; she "christened" the U. S. torpedo boat *O'Brien* launched at Elizabethport, N. J., in 1900.

O'Brien, Rev. Nichols, a Boston clergyman; served during the Civil war as chaplain of the Twenty-eighth regiment, Massachusetts volunteers.

O'Brien, Patrick, of the Fifty-first Maryland regiment in the War of 1812.

O'Brien, Patrick, of the Twenty-eighth regiment, Massachusetts volunteers, in the Civil war; died July 5, 1862, at James Island, S. C.

O'Brien, Patrick D., a captain of police, Chicago, Ill.

O'Brien, P. J., clerk of Common Pleas court, No. 3, Philadelphia, Pa.

O'Brien, Richard, a naval officer in the Revolution; consul-general of the United States to the Barbary Powers; assisted Commodore Edward Preble in negotiations with Tripoli. In 1804 O'Brien returned to the United States and settled near Carlisle, Pa.; was elected to the Pennsylvania legislature.

O'Brien, Robert Lincoln, a graduate of Harvard; Washington representative of the Boston *Transcript*; secretary to Grover Cleveland, 1892-'95.

O'Brien, Thomas, a soldier of the Revolution; served in Col. John Crane's regiment of artillery; was a resident of Boston, Mass.

O'Brien, Thomas, served on the U. S. frigate *Essex*, under Capt. Edward Preble, in the year 1800.

O'Brien, Thomas, a lieutenant, during the Civil war, in the Eighty-eighth regiment, New York volunteers, which regiment formed part of Meagher's Irish brigade; wounded at Fredericksburg.

O'Brien, Thomas, Pawtucket, R. I.; alderman of the city of Pawtucket in 1895, 1896, 1897 and 1898; member of the General Assembly of Rhode Island in 1899-1900 and 1902.

O'Brien, Thomas D., prominent lawyer, St. Paul, Minn.; has been prosecuting attorney of Ramsey county, Minn.; and captain of the First battery of artillery, Minnesota National Guard. He resides in St. Paul.

O'Brien, Thomas J., Morristown, N. J.; recently deceased. He was a successful lawyer; member of the New Jersey legislature. He had also served as an assistant U. S. district attorney.

O'Brien, Thomas J., prominent lawyer, Grand Rapids, Mich.; general counsel of the Grand Rapids & Indiana railway.

O'Brien, Rev. William, a Roman Catholic priest; born in Ireland, 1740; studied in Bologna, Italy; was appointed pastor of St. Peter's church, New York city, 1787.

O'Brien, William, a Rhode Island soldier of the Revolution. In 1781 he was a member of Capt. Curtis Cole's company, in Col. Nathan Miller's regiment.

O'Brien, William, prominent business man of New York city about 1830. He was an insurance adjuster, his specialty being ships and cargoes "damaged or lost. His judgment and integrity were such that "his adjustments were never disputed by port wardens, insurers, or insurance companies."

O'Brien, William, a lieutenant in the Eighteenth U. S. infantry, 1861.

O'Brien, William, prominent in New York city many years ago. He and his brother John constituted the firm W. & J. O'Brien, founders of a financial house in Wall street.

O'Brien, William H., cashier of the Citizens' National bank, Lawrenceburg, Ind.

O'Brien, William J., a captain in the Twenty-fourth regiment, Massachusetts volunteers, in the Civil war. He was of Cambridge, Mass.; mustered out Jan. 20, 1866.

O'Brien, Hon. William J., born in Baltimore, Md., 1836; prominent lawyer; a member from Maryland of the Forty-third congress; was reelected to the Forty-fourth congress and served therein.

O'Brien, William MacMahon, a lieutenant in the Eighty-eighth regiment, New York volunteers (of Meagher's Irish brigade), during the Civil war.

O'Brien, William P., acting ensign, United States navy, 1862; resigned, June, 1863.

O'Brien, William S., capitalist; one of the four principal owners of the "Big Bonanza" mine. He died in 1878, leaving a fortune estimated at \$15,000,000 or \$20,000,000.

While the general spelling of the name is O'Brien, we also, now and then, meet O'Brian, O'Brine, O'Brion,

O'Bryan, etc., all different forms of the same name. In the following additional list these varied forms are shown:

O'Brian, Andrew, a soldier in the First New York regiment of the line in the Revolution, commanded by Col. G. Van Shaick. Joseph McCracken was a major in the regiment, and among the other officers were Capt. David Lyon, Lieut. Peter Magee, and Lieut. Michael Ryan.

O'Brian, Charles, of Boston, Mass.; soldier of the Revolution; served in Col. Thomas Marshall's regiment; enlisted, January 27, 1777, for three years.

O'Brian, Constant (Constantine), a lieutenant in Capt. Abraham Deforest's company, New York provincial troops, 1760. Twenty-five members of the company, at that period, were born in Ireland.

O'Brian, Daniel, soldier of the Revolution; served in the First Pennsylvania regiment of the Continental line.

O'Brian, Dennis, a soldier of the Revolution; served in the Maryland line.

O'Brian, James, a soldier of Captain Christopher Yates' company, Albany county, N. Y., 1761. There were over forty natives of Ireland in the company.

O'Brian, James, a soldier of the fifth company in Col. Nathaniel Gist's Virginia regiment, 1777.

O'Brian, John, a Continental soldier of the Revolution; is credited to Salem, Mass.; enlisted February, 1781, for three years.

O'Brian, John, soldier of the Revolution; served in Capt. Benjamin Hicks' company of Col. G. Van Schaick's New York regiment. O'Brian is mentioned in the Massachusetts records.

O'Brian, John, born in Great Barrington, Mass., 1784;

graduated from Williams College, 1804; became a lawyer and practised in New York state; died, 1856.

O'Brian, Lodowick, served in the Third regiment, Albany county, N. Y. militia during the Revolution. Philip C. Schuyler was colonel of the regiment.

O'Brian, Martin, soldier of the Revolution; served in the First Pennsylvania regiment of the Continental line. He is mentioned in a "Return of men enlisted for eighteen months, . . . who marched in Colonel Craig's detachment."

O'Brian, Patrick, an American marine during the Revolution; served aboard the *Alfred*, being later transferred to the *Columbus*. He is mentioned in the Rhode Island records.

O'Brian, Richard, he and Timothy Sullivan were members of the guard to "His Excellency," presumably the governor, at treaty proceedings with the Indians, Falmouth, Me., 1754.

O'Brian, Thomas, a lieutenant in the Eighth Connecticut regiment of the line, 1777.

O'Brine, Hugh, soldier of the Revolution; member of Capt. Lemuel Nay's company, of Col. McIntosh's regiment; joined March 23, 1778; roll sworn to at Roxbury, Mass. He is mentioned as serving "at Roxbury lines."

O'Brine, James, served in Col. David Henley's regiment in the Revolution; is mentioned in the Massachusetts records.

O'Brion, John, a New Hampshire soldier of the Revolution; member of Capt. Ebenezer Frye's company in Col. Joseph Cilley's regiment, 1777. Patrick Cogan was quartermaster of the regiment.

O'Bryan, Francis, a soldier of the Revolution. He

served in the Eleventh Pennsylvania regiment of the Continental line.

O'Bryan, George, a Connecticut soldier of the Revolution; served in Col. Webb's regiment. In the same regiment were Capt. John Riley, Thomas Doyle, Patrick McDonald, Timothy Higgins, and others bearing Irish names.

O'Bryan, Henry, a soldier of Captain Barnaby Byrn's company, First New York regiment, 1761. Patrick Welsh was a lieutenant in the company, and forty-four of the men of the company are officially recorded as natives of Ireland.

O'Bryan, John, a New Jersey soldier of the Revolution; served in the line.

O'Bryan, John, a New York soldier in the campaign of 1761; served in the company of Capt. Anthony Waters. This company was raised in Richmond and Kings counties, N. Y.

O'Bryan, Joseph, a New York soldier. His name appears in a roll dated Fort Ontario, Aug. 10, 1762.

O'Bryan, Matthew, of Dedham, Mass.; soldier of the Revolution; served in Capt. Benjamin Frothingham's company of Col. John Crane's regiment of artillery; is credited with twenty-one months and five days as bombardier, and twelve months as matross.

O'Bryan, Nicholas, a New York soldier; served in Capt. Barnaby Byrn's company in the campaign of 1761.

O'Bryan, Patrick, a New Jersey soldier of the Revolution; served in a line regiment.

O'Bryan, Philip, a Pennsylvania soldier of the Revolution; served in the Sixth regiment of that state in the Continental line.

O'Bryan, Sylvester, soldier of the Revolution; served in Capt. Thomas Herbert's company of Col. S. J. Altee's "Musketry Battalion."

O'Bryan, Thomas, soldier of the Revolution; served in the First New York regiment of the line.

O'Bryan, Timothy, soldier of the Revolution; mentioned in the Massachusetts records; served in Col. Rufus Putnam's regiment.

O'Bryan, William, a New York soldier, 1764; was enlisted by Lieut. Jos. Fitzpatrick for Capt. John Grant's company.

O'Bryan, William, soldier of the Revolution; served in the Second Pennsylvania regiment of the Continental line, of which regiment Walter Stewart, an Irishman, was colonel.

Obrian (O'Brian), John, a New Hampshire soldier of the Revolution; enlisted in 1777, and was of Londonderry, N. H.; served under Captain Livermore.

Obrian (O'Brian), Thomas, served during the Revolution in Col. C. D. Wynkoop's New York regiment. Among the officers of the regiment were Capt. Henry O'Mara, Lieut. John Welch and Ensign John Dunn.

Obrian (O'Brian), Thomas, of New York; served during the Revolution in the Sixth Massachusetts regiment of the Continental line; a native of Dublin, Ireland.

Obrian (O'Brian), Patrick, soldier of the Revolution; is mentioned as of the Sixth regiment, Dutchess county, N. Y., militia.

Obrien (O'Brien), Morgan, served during the Revolution in Col. Albert Pawling's New York levies. The quartermaster of the regiment was Edward Connor.

Obryan (O'Bryan), James, served in a New York com-

pany of "provencels," 1764. Barnaby Byrne was captain of the company, and Thomas McCarthy was a lieutenant. Fifteen of the command were born in Ireland.

Many thousands of O'Briens are to-day found in the United States. They are very numerous in New York, Boston, Chicago and other great centres. The Boston city directory, for instance, contains over fourteen closely printed columns of O'Briens, aggregating about one thousand names. This indicates a host of O'Briens in that city alone. There, as elsewhere, they form a very important factor in the social, business and educational life of the community.

T. H. M.

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