

AG.W.

Friday 12th July. Belfast. (having crossed from Glasgow)

"The Glorious Twelfth"

9 a.m. We arrived at No 1 Station and saw a great many lodges arriving for the procession. We left in 5th carriage at 10.35 a.m. and arrived at Cloughfin at 12.30 a.m. 200 lodges marched about 50,000 strong & in all the sympathisers were about 200,000 whose one motto was "No Home Rule". The police kept R.C. strongholds secure Rain was intense but did not damp the enthusiasm. After lunch the speakers were (listed 7 names) Procession left to come to Belfast & abrcast. (2 hrs less 5 mins) These 200,000 were the reps of 1,500,000 of the loyal minority of Ireland.

We arrived in Belfast about 6pm. 200 bands playing "Boysie Water" & "Orange Lily". Bands going till 11 a.m. Saturday. The meeting was full of enthusiasm. Defending their position and defying the Home Rule Bill.

"But if the false traitors should carry the day and Home Rule by juggling & trickery be seen stand fast loyal arrangements. Ours not the sway of tyrants like these by oppression begun.

For Ulster will fight
And Ulster is right

And Scotland will see that justice is done"
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against Green. The fighting lasted half an hr,
the green flag being riddled and destroyed and
hauled down at the finish. This is only a
sacrament of what will happen should Home
Rule be carried. There was a great deal of
drumming done. We arrived home at 6.45. ~~pm.~~

Extract from Encyclopaedia Britannica Vol 12 P 560

The influence of the French revolution was soon felt in Ireland and both Catholics and radicals bestirred themselves in the early 1790s. The British Govt. faced with - major European war was anxious to encourage Catholic loyalty and it forced the reluctant Irish administration to pass a comprehensive Relief Act (1793) which granted Catholics the franchise, admission to the University of Dublin & to most civil offices. They were still debarred from parliament, from the highest posts in the public service and from the judicial bench. The government attempted to conciliate and influence Catholic opinion in 1795 by founding the seminary of Maynooth to provide, partly at the expense of the state, facilities for the education of the Catholic clergy.

Vol 16 p 1029.

Orangemen - in 1795 after a violent conflict between Prots. & RCs in County Armagh, known as the battle of the Diamond, a Protestant Orange Society named for William of Orange was formed "to maintain the laws and peace of the country and the Prot. constitution". The Orange society spread its branches, called lodges, & by 1797 it had about 200,000 members. It was joined by many of the gentry and it counteracted the influence of the United Irishmen particularly in Ulster. In 19th fell into obscurity & disrepute but when Gladstone declared in favour of Irish Home Rule in 1885 the Orange order provided a core of resistance. Influx of new members especially in Ulster. Ethical obligations high.

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Movement is active in Glasgow, Liverpool

Toronto (Ont)

Battle of the Boyne celebrated each year
[1690] Jacobite army scattered but not destroyed.