

To add to all these qualities, Sexton was, in addition, an author—though of what merit we cannot now say, for his manuscripts are all lost. At the command of Henry he wrote a book “for the reformation of these parts,” and among his papers was a list of all the castles, lands, rivers, creeks, etc., on each side of the Shannon to the sea. In it he states that the merchants of Limerick lived at Scatterry, and had castles and store-houses there. He also mentions that there was still an image of Saint Senan held in veneration on the island, and a great old church wherein woman never went since the time of St. Senan. Another of his manuscripts, containing a list of Mayors of Limerick has been used by Ferrar and Lenihan, the Limerick historians.

There is no record of the death or burial of this once active Mayor of Limerick.

SIR MICHAEL SEYMOUR.

Sir Michael Seymour, Admiral, was the third son of the Rear-Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, already noted in this series, by his wife, Jane Hawker. He was born on 5th December, 1802, and entered the British Navy on board the Hannibal, with his father, at the age of eleven. However, the Hannibal was paid off in the following year, and as his father retired for a few years' rest, Seymour was sent to the Naval College at Portsmouth.

After two years here he returned to the Navy, and having served with the Mediterranean Fleet, he was promoted Lieutenant in 1822 and saw service under Sir Samuel Brooke at Algiers. Two years later he got his first command, the Brig, Chameleon, in the English Channel, and the following year he was posted to South America.

When his father was given command of the latter station in 1832, Seymour joined him as Captain of the Challenger, which was wrecked by an abnormal current on the return journey to England. Seymour was courtmartialled, but instead of being punished he was completely exonerated and highly praised for his gallant conduct after the wreck. For a time after this he served as Flag-Captain to Sir John Ommaney and Sir Francis Austen, and in 1849 he was commissioned to visit France and report on all the dockyards, arsenals, etc., there.

It was in 1854 he was appointed Rear-Admiral and Second in Command of the Baltic Fleet, and shortly afterwards lost the sight of one eye when a sea-mine, which he was examining, exploded in his face.

In 1856 he took command of the Chinese Station and was highly successful both in his negotiations and his naval actions against the rebelling Chinese. In the words of his authorities, this can be attributed to his calm foresight and careful attention to the minutest details. Shortly after his return to England he was rewarded with a G.C.B., and was promoted Admiral.

In 1829 he married Dorothea, the daughter of Sir William Knighton, and had two daughters. He entered Parliament for Devonport in 1859 and resigned his seat again in 1863, preferring the hazardous life on the ocean to the dirty sea of politics he found himself involved in. From then until his death he was commander-in-chief at Portsmouth, Britain's most important naval port.

He retired from active service in 1870 and died on 23rd February, 1870. His portrait has been painted by A. de Salome and from it an engraving was made by F. Holl the elder.

MICHAEL HOBART SEYMOUR.

Michael Hobart Seymour, controversialist, was the sixth son of the Reverend John Crossley Seymour, Vicar of Caherelly, by his wife Catherine Wight, daughter of the Reverend Edward Wight, Rector of Meelick, both parishes being close to Limerick City. He was born on 29th September, 1880. Aaron Crossley Seymour, the hymn-writer, was his brother, and the British Admiral, Sir Michael Seymour, was his first cousin. He claimed to be in direct descent from Jane Seymour's brother.

Seymour was educated at Trinity College, where he graduated B.A. in 1823 and M.A. in 1832, afterwards proceeding to Oxford to continue his studies. In the meantime he had been ordained and acted as Minister in the Church of Ireland for several years as well as being secretary to the Irish Protestant Association. However, he was so bigoted an anti-Catholic that he became extremely unpopular in Ireland and had to flee to England. Here he acted for ten years as Secretary to the Reformation Society, and was an extremely popular preacher and public lecturer—mainly on Anti-Catholic questions.

In 1844 he set out with his wife on an unbeliever's pilgrimage to Rome, and then began the first of his written attacks on the doctrines and practices of the Catholic Church. These appeared in two volumes in 1848 and 1849 under the titles "A Pilgrimage to Rome," and "Mornings Among the Jesuits at Rome." Seymour's rhetorical style made his books very popular among the bigots and they ran into many editions. However, the saner Protestant critics belittled his flamboyant phraseology and accused him of dishonesty in argument and inaccuracy in his facts. Seymour was undeterred and followed up his doubtful