

Paris, and Mons. Rosseeuw St. Hilaire, the distinguished Professor of the *Sorbonne*, Member of the *Institut* and Historian of Spain.

Both these gentlemen, on the public platform of the Alliance, "*claimed Mr. Rentoul as a true Frenchman in family and in name and race, kin to the true Huguenot blood.*"

- (5). The only fact I have ever met which served, in any way, to shake my confidence in the purely French extraction of the name is the following: in 1879, when travelling in Germany, on the route from Hanover to Amsterdam through Westphalen, not far away from the place where Hermann of Detmold, A. D. 9, crushed the legions of Varus, I came upon the prettily situated village and district of *Rinteln* — towards the Rhine. Afterwards, on my arrival in Melbourne, I found the Rabbi of the Chief Synagogue there, a German Jew from Rhineland, bearing the name *Rintel*. Hence I have at times fancied that the name "Rintoul" or "Rentoul" may originally have been of the Rhineland or Westphalen region, the family taking its name from the district and thence removing westward into France proper.² One thing however is certain that the name occurs in France, and was borne by some of the Huguenots.

Let me summarize in a few sentences the conclusions to which an investigation of the facts seems to lead:

- (a'). The name is not Gaelic or British in its origin. The Gaelic inscription "*Raibart Ruintoul*" on a "Skean dhu" in the possession of Col. Robert Rintoul of London is of modern date — before the rebellion of '45 — it is merely in keeping with a fashion, prevalent amongst Scotch gentlemen of that age, of affecting Highland costume and of inscribing Gaelic lettering upon their weapons.
- (β'). The name is not in any sense a clan or tribal name, and

² Is it impossible that the first syllable of "Rinteln," "Rintoul," "Rentoul" may be radically connected with the name of the great river itself — "Rhin," "Rhein?"