

by the living earnestness of the Gospel they preached, to kindle new faith and Christian life throughout the Synod of Ulster.⁴ The Rev. James Rentoul lived almost to see a yet larger and nobler union — when (after the Synod of Ulster separated itself from Socinianism under the influence of Dr. Henry Cooke) the Secession Synod of Ireland and the Church of Scotland Synod of Ulster united together (1841) to form the large and powerful "Presbyterian Church of Ireland." Three sons of the Rev. James Rentoul took part in bringing about that union.

James Rentoul, aforesaid, landing in Ulster in 1791, married in 1793 Anne, daughter of the Rev. Robert Reid (himself a Scotchman) of Manorcunningham⁵ — whose mother Margaret Cunningham was a lineal descendant of Hugh Cunningham, chaplain in the 17th Century to the "*Glencairn Regiment*," and cousin to its leader James Cunningham, Seventh Earl of Glencairn. The Glencairn Regiment was one of the five Scottish Regiments employed in extinguishing the rebellion of 1641 in Ulster. The Rev. Hugh Cunningham, with other cadets of the Cunningham (or Conynghame) family afterwards settled in Ulster at Manorcunningham, by the fertile shores of Lough Swilly.

The place, with its manor-house was thenceforward called by their name. The Rev. Hugh Cunningham thus became, in common with the chaplains of the other four regiments, a founder of Presbyterian-Protestantism in Ireland.

⁴When I was a lad I happened to meet the late Rev. George Gillilan—"the poet preacher of Dundee"—who was a great friend of the Rev. James Rentoul; and like him had been brought up in the Secession (now United Presbyterian) Church of Scotland. "Rentoul Rintowl!" exclaimed the kindly-faced orator, "Did a grandfather of yours, James Rintoul, go from Perth to Ulster?" On my replying in the affirmative, Gillilan continued: "My lad, when I was a boy I heard him preaching under a big tent at open air service in Comrie. Ah, if ever you become a preacher and can only preach a tenth as well, *you'll do!*"

⁵See Reid's *History of Presbyterian Church of Ireland*, Ed. by Dr. Killen. Also Rev. Samuel Alexander's *History of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland* (New York, Carter & Bros., 1860).