

CONFEDERATE BANNERS

About one hundred years ago a religious processional banner of the Kilkenny Confederation period was found in the Black Abbey, Kilkenny, where it had been been concealed. Some short time afterwards the Dominican community at Kilkenny presented this banner to the community at the Dominican House of Studies, Tallaght, Co. Dublin.

On the occasion of the conferring of the Freedom of the City of Kilkenny on the late Nuncio, Most Rev. Dr. Paschal Robinson, the banner was loaned by the Dominican Fathers at Tallaght and was on exhibition in the Town Hall and in the Monster House window. The coming back of the banner to Kilkenny on such an occasion caused considerable interest and it was viewed by thousands. This banner was loaned quite recently to Cavan on the occasion of the Owen Roe O'Neill celebrations there and was very much featured in the Press.

A second religious banner of the Confederate period was found at Rothe House, Kilkenny about the year 1849. The tenant when removing some of the wainscotting discovered the banner. It was on view for years afterwards at the Kilkenny Archæological Society Museum at Kilkenny. It is now in the Archæological Society's Museum in Dublin.

Both the above-mentioned banners are supposed to have been borne in the magnificent procession that was organised to give public welcome to that great friend of Ireland, the Most Rev. John Baptist Rinuccini, Nuncio, when he came to Kilkenny in the year 1645.

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