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Remarks On The Life and Writings Of Dr. Jonathan Swift, Dean of St. Patrick's, Dublin

Orrery, John Boyle of

London, 1752

His manner of travelling.

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cles and relations, was married to a man in trade, whose fortune, character, and situation, were esteemed, by all her friends, suitable for her in every respect. But, the marriage was entirely disagreeable to her brother. It seemed to interrupt those ambitious views, which he had long since formed: He grew outrageous at the thoughts of being brother-in-law to a tradesman. He utterly refused all reconciliation with his sister, nor would he even listen to the entreaties of his mother, who came over to *Ireland*, under the strongest hopes of pacifying his anger, having, in every other instance found him a dutiful, and an obedient son: but his pride was not to be conquered, and Mrs. SWIFT finding her son inflexible, hastened back to *Leicester*, where she continued till her death.

During his mother's life time, he scarce ever failed to pay her an annual visit. But his manner of travelling was as singular as any other of his actions. He often went in a waggon, but more frequently walked from *Holyhead* to *Leicester*, *London*, or any other part of *England*. He generally chose to dine with waggoners, hostlers, and persons of that rank; and he used to lye at night in houses where he found written over the door *Lodgings for a penny*. He delighted in scenes of low life. The vulgar dialect was not only a fund of humour for him, but I verily believe was acceptable to his nature; otherwise I know not how to account for the many filthy ideas, and indecent expressions (I mean indecent in point of cleanliness and delicacy) that will be found throughout his works.

I need not tell you, that a strict residence at *Laracor*, was not in the least suitable to his disposition. He was perpetually making excursions not only to *Dublin*, and other parts of *Ireland*, but into *England*, especially to *London*. So rambling a disposition, occasioned to him a considerable loss. The rich deanery of *Derry* became vacant at this time, and was intended for him by Lord BERKLEY, if Dr. KING, then Bishop of *Derry*, and afterwards Archbishop of *Dublin*, had not interposed: entreating with great earnestness, that the deanery might be given to some grave and elderly Divine, rather than to so young a man; "because (added the Bishop) the situation of *Derry* is in the midst of presbyterians, and I should be glad of a clergyman, who could be of assistance to me. I have no objection to Mr. SWIFT. I know him to be a sprightly ingenious young man; but instead of residing, I dare say, he will be eternally flying backwards and forwards to *London*, and therefore I entreat, that he may be provided for in some other place."

SWIFT was accordingly set aside on account of youth, but, as if his stars had destined to him a parallel revenge, he lived to see the Bishop of *Derry* afterwards set aside on account of age. That Prelate had been Archbishop of *Dublin* many years, and had been long celebrated for his wit and learning, when Dr. LINDSEY, the Primate of *Ireland*, died. Upon his death, Archbishop KING immediately made claim to the Primacy, as a preferment to which he had a right from his