

and the 30th September, 1789, respectively, shall be and are hereby cancelled and made void and of no effect.

XIII. That nothing in this Our Warrant shall be deemed to abolish or derogate from the jurisdiction, authority and rights of Our Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England, or of Our Kings of Arms, save in so far as the same may be effected by the cancelling of the aforesaid Warrants of the 3rd December, 1783, the 24th February, 1785, and the 30th September, 1789.

Given at Our Court at *Saint James's*, the eighth day of *February*, one thousand nine hundred and ten, in the tenth year of our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command.

H. J. GLADSTONE.

Warrant superscribed.

TO THE LORD PRESIDENT OF OUR PRIVY COUNCIL, OUR EARL MARSHAL AND HEREDITARY MARSHAL OF ENGLAND, OUR PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT, OUR KINGS OF ARMS AND ALL OTHERS WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

On the 6th April, 1910, the Right Honourable Winston Spencer Churchill, Secretary of State for the Home Department, appointed Mr. W. P. Byrne,* C.B., Assistant Under Secretary of State for the Home Department, to be Registrar of the Baronetage, and Mr. R. F. Reynard, I.S.O., of the Home Office, to be Assistant Registrar, and gave directions for the preparation of the Roll in compliance with the terms of the Royal Warrant.

The investigations of the doubtful claims to Baronetcies have necessarily been spread over a long period, and, although a few cases are still outstanding, the Secretary of State has decided that the Roll shall be submitted to the King, in the accompanying form. It is impossible to postpone the publication of the Roll until every claimant has completed the inquiries which may produce evidence in support of his claim. The issue of successive annual editions will enable corrections to be made from time to time, and will allow of the Roll being eventually brought up to the highest standard of accuracy and completeness of which the subject matter permits.

The Committee of 1905 did not contemplate that strict proof of his right to the title should be exacted from every person claiming to be a Baronet. This would be an undoubted hardship in many cases, and owing to lapse of time, destruction of records and defects in registration, many genuine Baronets would fail to survive the ordeal. The Home Secretary concurs in this view and, in his directions to the Registrar, has adopted the recommendations of the Committee, that "the formation of the initial Roll should be a matter in which a wide discretion should be allowed, so that all who can fairly be said to have a good title shall be enrolled, and only cases shall be rejected or put on trial, which are clearly bad or open to serious question, or where there are rival claimants." On this principle, names have been admitted to the

Roll where there has been *bona fide* and unchallenged use of the title for several generations, though doubts may be entertained respecting the descent or even the creation of the dignity. It must be remembered that, as the Committee point out, inclusion in the Roll does not give or purport to give an indefeasible title to the person enrolled, it has not the authority of a legal decision, and each entry can and will be cancelled at any time on the production of evidence, or on an adjudication by a competent legal tribunal, against the validity of the claim.

The large majority of cases of doubtful claims have been dealt with sufficiently by the procedure indicated in Paragraph III. of the Royal Warrant, that is to say, by consultation between the Registrar and the Kings of Arms, Garter, Lyon and Ulster. The experience and knowledge and the invaluable records of these officers have been placed freely at the service of the Registrar and have generally enabled a decision to be arrived at without difficulty.

When the first proofs of the Roll were prepared in November, 1910, copies were sent to Garter, Lyon and Ulster, Kings of Arms, for their observations, and were returned by these officers after examination, with suggested amendments referring to certain cases, all of which have since been separately considered and decided. Ulster prepared a special written List of Irish Baronets which was checked with the Roll.

In a number of cases in which the Secretary of State has found difficulty in advising the Crown on the claim, the Attorney-General of England, the Lord Advocate of Scotland, or the Attorney-General of Ireland, have been called into consultation: but, in very few instances, has it been necessary to have recourse to the final appeal to the Privy Council provided in paragraph IV. of the Warrant.

On the 5th day of March, 1910, His Majesty was pleased by Order in Council to appoint the following to be a Committee of the Privy Council for the purposes of the Royal Warrant:—

- The Lord President.
- The Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England.
- The Earl Beauchamp.
- The Earl of Granard.
- The Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery.
- The Lord Chamberlain.
- The Viscount St. Aldwyn.
- The Lord Balfour of Burleigh.
- The Lord Ashbourne.
- The Lord Rathmore.
- The Lord Dunedin.
- The Lord Gorell.
- The Secretary of State for the Home Department.
- The Right Hon. Sir Frank C. Lascelles.
- The Right Hon. C. B. Stuart-Wortley.
- The Right Hon. Sir John H. Kennaway.
- The Right Hon. Sir Herbert E. Maxwell.
- The Right Hon. Sir Robert Romer, and
- The Right Hon. Sir James Stirling.

Rules to be observed by Petitioners praying to be placed or retained on the Roll of Baronets were drawn up by the Privy Council and, between 16th of December, 1911, and the present date, formal hearings of four disputed cases have been held.

1. On the 19th July, 1912, the advice of the Committee of Council that the name of Robert Fraser Turing ought to be entered on the Roll

* Now Sir William Byrne, K.C.V.O., C.B.