



UNIVERSITÄTS-
BIBLIOTHEK
PADERBORN

Universitätsbibliothek Paderborn

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

Orrery, John Boyle of

London, 1752

Mr. Bush supersedes him in the office of secretary.

[urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-49109](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-49109)

AND WRITINGS OF DR. SWIFT. 19

be dated that bitterness towards kings, and courtiers, which is to be found so universally dispersed throughout his works.

After a long and fruitless attendance at *Whitehall*, SWIFT reluctantly gave up all thoughts of a settlement in *England*. He had dedicated Sir WILLIAM TEMPLE's works to the King. The dedication was neglected, nor did his Majesty take the least notice of him after Sir WILLIAM TEMPLE's death. What then was to be done? honour, or to use a properer word, pride hindered him from staying long in a state of servility and contempt. He complied therefore with an invitation from the Earl of BERKLEY (appointed one of the Lords Justices in *Ireland*) to attend him as his chaplain and private secretary. Lord BERKLEY landed near *Waterford*, and Mr. SWIFT acted as secretary during the whole journey to *Dublin*. But another of Lord BERKLEY's attendants, whose name was BUSH, had, by this time, insinuated himself into the Earl's favour, and had *whispered* to his Lordship, that the post of secretary was not proper for a clergyman, to whom only church preferments could be suitable or advantageous. Lord BERKLEY listened perhaps too attentively to these insinuations, and making some slight apology to Mr. SWIFT, divested him of that office, and bestowed it upon Mr. BUSH. Here again was another disappointment, and a fresh object of indignation. The treatment was thought injurious, and SWIFT expressed his sensibility of it in a short, but satirical copy of verses entitled *The Discovery*.

However, during the government of the Earls of BERKLEY and GALWAY, who were jointly Lords Justices of *Ireland*, two livings, *Laracor* and *Rathbeggan*, were bestowed upon Mr. SWIFT. The first of these rectories was worth about two hundred, and the latter about sixty pounds a year, and they were the only church preferments that he enjoyed 'till he was appointed Dean of *St. Patrick's*, in the year seventeen hundred and thirteen.

As soon as he had taken possession of his two livings, he went to reside at *Laracor*, and gave public notice to his parishioners, that he would read prayers on every Wednesday and Friday. Upon the subsequent Wednesday the bell was rung, and the Rector attended in his desk, when after having sat some time, and finding the congregation to consist only of himself, and his clerk ROGER, he began with great composure and gravity, but with a turn peculiar to himself, "Dearly beloved ROGER, the scripture moveth you and me "in sundry places." And then proceeded regularly through the whole service. I mention this trifling circumstance only to shew you, that he could not resist a vein of humour whenever he had an opportunity of exerting it.

As I have given you a particular example of his humour, let me give you a particular instance of his pride: especially as it comes in properly enough in point of time.

Whilst SWIFT was chaplain to Lord BERKLEY, his only sister, by the consent and approbation of her uncles