MOUNTIFORT LONGFIELD: IRELAND'S FIRST PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

by

Laurence S. Moss

". . . Moss has detailed Longfield's theory of income distribution, which is based on a 'market period' supply-demand analysis and a rudimentary marginal productivity theory. Furthermore, it is now clear that Longfield developed a non-Ricardian (perhaps anti-Ricardian?) distribution theory, which is fairly optimistic in outlook. Capitalism works, in Longfield's scheme to the benefit of ail classes" (Frank Spreng, Journal of Economic Literature (June 1978).

"This is altogether a most interesting and scholarly book" (Erskine McKinley, History of Political Economy 1977)

"On balance, I would now accept one of Moss's more guarded assertions: 'Longfield's <u>Lectures on Political Economy</u> does contain something approximating a complete non-Ricardian theory of income distribution and not simply a series of modifications of the Ricardian analysis'" Mark Blaug, Economica (1977).

"There is much in this book which will be found of profound interest to historiansof economics. In particular there are most fruitful discussions of Longfield's pioneer contributions to the theory of international trade and money, his academic status, the general ideological climate and the consequences flowing therefrom for his work, the relationship between analysis and policy, and (most impressive) the reception of his theory. Students of nineteenth century economic thought are fortunate to have an addition to the literature of this calibre." Samual Hollander, Canadian Journal of Economics (May 1978).

"Certainly with the publication of Professor Moss' book there is no longer any excuse for Longfield to be a neglected British economist." (Karen Vaughn, Atlantic Economic Journal 1977).

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