

IRELAND'S FAIRY LORE

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Ireland's fairy lore by Michael P. Mahon

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MICHAEL P. MAHON

**IRELAND'S
FAIRY LORE**



Michael P. Mahon

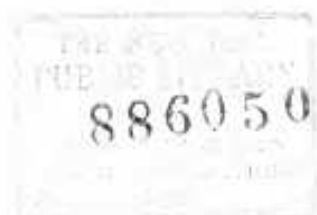
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BY
REV. MICHAEL P. MAHON



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MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED
TO
ONE OF IRELAND'S MOST FEARLESS AND
POWERFUL ADVOCATES
HIS EMINENCE
William Cardinal D'Connell
ARCHBISHOP OF BOSTON

PREFACE

THE following chapters appeared in the *Pilot* during 1910 and 1911, as a series of papers on "Ancient Irish Paganism" over the pen-name Gadelicus. The works principally consulted in the preparation of them were the "Social History of Ireland" and the "Irish Names of Places" by Dr. P. W. Joyce; the "Irish Mythological Cycle" by De Jubainville; volumes four and five of the long-since defunct Ossianic Society; the "Literary History of Ireland" by Dr. Douglas Hyde; Keating's "History of Ireland"; and a great number of Gaelic texts published by the Gaelic League and the Irish Texts Society, both of Dublin. Excursions have also been made into British and American Literature, as well as into Greek and Roman. The reader will discover that some of the topics are not treated in a very serious vein. The temptation to treat them in a light vein proved irresistible. While these papers were going through the *Pilot*, they were a source of much pleasure to many readers,

and we feel that they will continue to please, and, also, to enlighten. They give a fair idea of the general character of the remnants of the ancient Gaelic Literature that survive. When the writer commenced them he did not quite foresee that they would grow into a regular exposition of the Ancient Irish Mythological System.

THE AUTHOR

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