# THE IRISH LINEN TRADE HAND-BOOK AND DIRECTORY

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

### ISBN 9780649616312

The Irish Linen Trade Hand-Book and Directory by F. W. Smith

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

# F. W. SMITH

# THE IRISH LINEN TRADE HAND-BOOK AND DIRECTORY



# THE IRISH

# LINEN TRADE HAND-BOOK

AND

# DIRECTORY.

BY F. W. SMITH,



BELFAST:
W. H. GREER, No. 43, Donegall Place.
1876.

# Econ 7725.16

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY
DEXTER FUND
Sic 5, (925

ENTERED AT STATIONERS NALL.

BELFAST:
PRINTED AT "THE NORTHERN WHIG" OFFICE.

THE PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL

· op

# The Belfast Chamber of Commerce

THIS LITTLE WORK

ON

THE IRISH LINEN TRADE

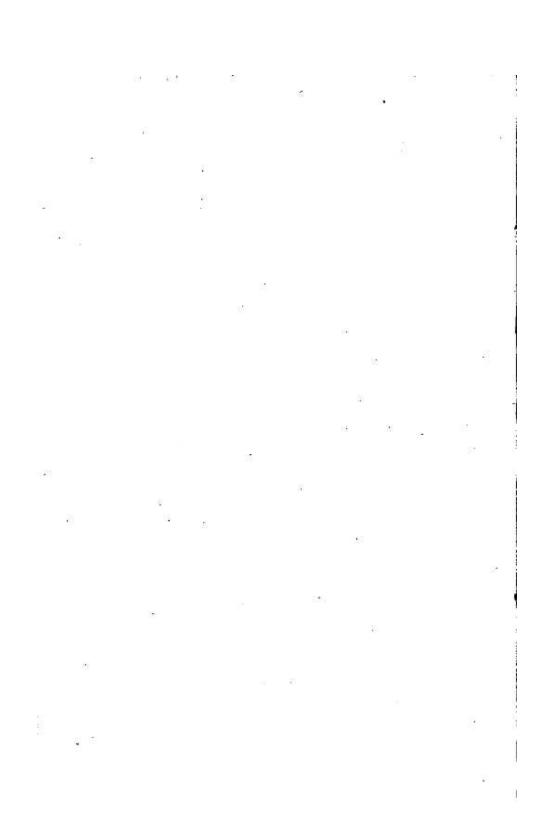
18

(BY PERMISSION)

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

BY

THE AUTHOR



# PREFACE.

This little work, which does not pretend to do more than give an outline of the origin and progress of the Linen Manufacture, particularly in connection with the Irish branch, it is hoped may prove useful, and repay the labour of perusal.

I am aware that other and abler pens have already dealt with the subject; but there are some matters referred to in this work which have not been previously touched upon, and, as furnishing a historic epitome of our staple industry, carried down to the present date, this will be found a handy book for reference.

In the preparation of the work—which occupied a considerable time—I was indebted to several friends for the use of books of reference, and for information on many points; and, for his kindness in this respect, my acknowledgments are especially due to the author of "Ireland and her Staple Manufactures."

To a considerable number of our local Manufacturers and Merchants I feel indebted for the encouragement I received from the time I commenced the work, and I trust the result of my labours may not fall very far short of their expectations.

In a future edition I shall have a better opportunity of rendering the Directory a more complete guide to the trade than it was possible to make it in the present one. I feel much obliged to several correspondents in various places for furnishing information to enable me to compile this section.

I have omitted referring to the Legislative control of Factories, and also to some other matters which would have possessed interest, but these I hope to deal with on a future occasion.

This work has been published at my own risk, and, it is but right to add, that for the matter itself I am also solely responsible.

F. W. S.

æ	8			
	×	¥	380 37 · o	
S.	÷	<b>5</b>	T.	
	en e	W	<b>选</b>	\$5
		5 3		
		:3		
	# <u>*</u>	**		**

# CONTENTS.

## CHAPTER I.

# Manufacture of Linen in Ancient Times.

Manufactures in Patriarchal times—References thereto in the Old Testament—Growth of Flax in Egypt—Spinning and Weaving in that country—Researches of travellers in ancient and modern times—Catacomba at Thebes—Mummy cloth—Process of linen manufacture described by Pliny—Commerce of Egypt with surrounding nations—The Phomician cities, and their respective trades, &c.—Enterprise of these people—Decline of the inauthature in ancient Egypt—Description of the operations carried on, and of the cloth made, &c.—

# CHAPTER II.

Historical Sketch of Flax Spinning and Linen Manufacturing in Ireland, from the earliest period.

Traditional accounts on this subject—Colonization of Country—Phomicians and other carly estitors—Ancient laws—Mission of St. Patrick—Manners and Customs—Beferences to spinning and weaving in Brehonlaws—Dyeing of cloths—Lectures by Professor O'Curry on Drew and Ornaments of ancient Irish—Embroidery in clien times, &c.,

### CHAPTER III.

Position of the Trade from the Fifth to the Seventeenth Century.

Textile Manufactures in England at Roman Conquest—Same on the Continent

-Long period of obscurity respecting Irish manufactures—Conquest of
Iroland in 1172—Bartiest record of exportation of Irish manufactures—Woollen
trade in France and Belgium—Manufactures of Cambric cloth—Woollen Manufactures in Iroland—Unimproved condition of Iroland for several centuries—
Changes effected in reign of James I.—Dress of various classes at this time,
&c.—Lord Strafford's administration—Biforts made to improve growth of
Flax—Spinning of yarn, and manufacture of linen cloth—Prejudios against
changes—Compact between Parliaments of England and Iroland respecting
linen and woollen manufactures—Peditions to William III. by English House
of Commons—The King's reply—Taxes imposed on woollen manufactures, and
consequent destruction of the trade—Revocation of Edito of Kantes—The
Huguenot settlement in Iroland—Colony at Lisburn—Cremmelin's report on
the linen trade—Encouragement of the trade by English Parliament—Appoint—
ment of Board of Trustees—Kames of Ulster representatives,

21