

**THE LIFE OF SAINT PATRICK;  
APOSTLE OF IRELAND; WITH A  
PRELIMINARY ENQUIRY INTO THE  
AUTHORITY OF THE TRADITIONAL  
HISTORY OF THE SAINT**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649635313

The Life of Saint Patrick; Apostle of Ireland; With a Preliminary Enquiry into the Authority of the Traditional History of the Saint by William Bullen Morris

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**WILLIAM BULLEN MORRIS**

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BY

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PRIEST OF THE ORATORY

*Qui s'étendra que dans une entreprise toute Apostolique. . . Dieu  
ait conduit, comme les Prophètes et les Apôtres, un Saint qui parvint  
leur avoir été plus semblable qu'aux Saints qui sont venus après eux.  
. . . En son mot, on y voit beaucoup le caractère de S. Paul.*

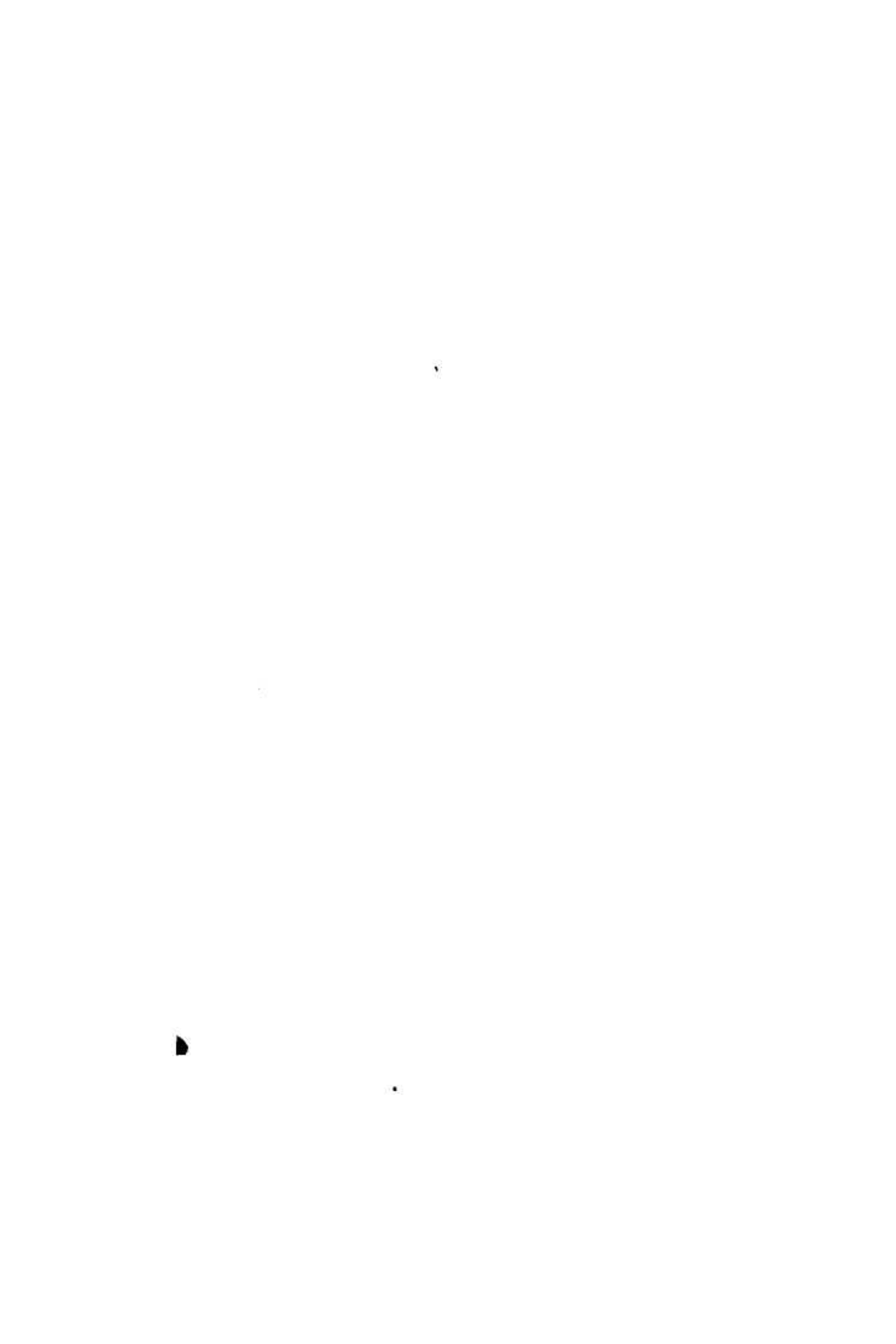
TILLEMONT, t. xvi. (*Art. S. Patrice*).



LONDON: BURNS & OATES  
DUBLIN: M. H. GILL & SON  
1878

210 . 0 . 120.

*TO THE  
MEMBERS OF THE CONFRATERNITY OF ST. PATRICK  
ESTABLISHED  
AT THE LONDON ORATORY,  
WHO,  
WITH THE CHILDREN OF THE SAINT  
IN MANY LANDS,  
ARE  
THE ENDURING WITNESSES  
OF  
THE FAITH  
WHICH SEETH HIM WHO IS INVISIBLE.*



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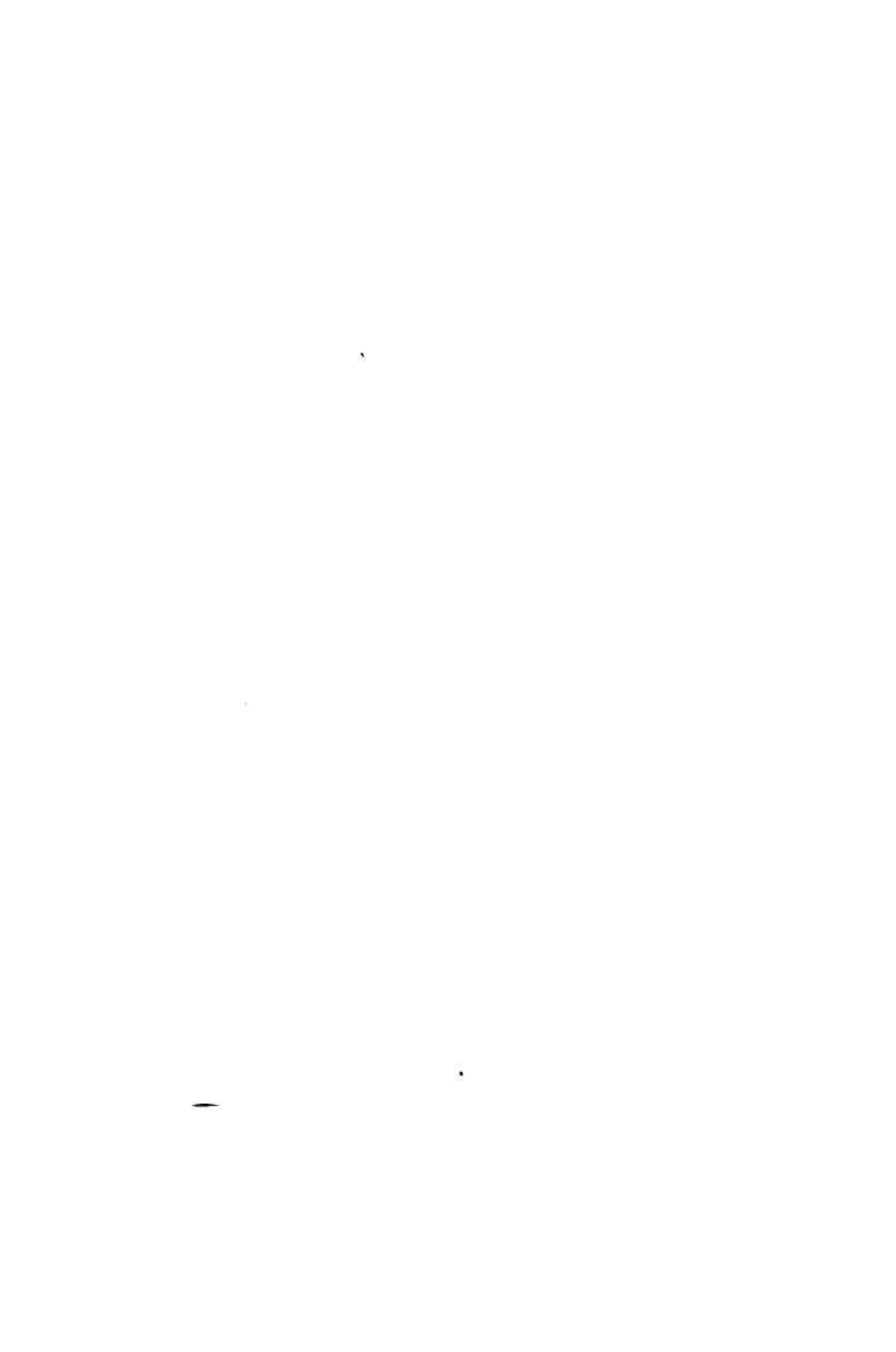
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ON THE AUTHORITY  
OF THE  
TRADITIONAL HISTORY OF ST. PATRICK.

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THE original idea of this short sketch of St. Patrick's life was purely devotional; but it has been thought worth while at starting to give some account of the sources from which his history is derived, and of the evidence in support of its authenticity; for it is well known that the Saint's life has been exposed to such continued assault and ridicule, that even amongst Catholics the idea is prevalent that little evidence of a character to satisfy historical critics can be brought forward in its defence; whereas, it is only necessary to lay before our readers the real state of the case to convince them that St. Patrick's history is supported by the very strongest cotemporary evidence.

The hostility of Protestant writers to the traditional St. Patrick is plainly to be attributed to the necessities of their position: the Founder of

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