

**THE SALMON
RIVERS OF IRELAND.
VOLUME I**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649697618

The Salmon Rivers of Ireland. Volume I by Augustus Grimble

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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AUGUSTUS GRIMBLE

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This edition is limited to 250 copies.

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OF
IRELAND

VOLUME I

THE SALMON RIVERS
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IRELAND

BY
AUGUSTUS GRIMBLE

AUTHOR OF

"DEER-STALKING," "SHOOTING AND SALMON FISHING," "HIGHLAND SPORT,"
"THE DEER FORESTS OF SCOTLAND," "LEAVES FROM A GAME BOOK,"
"THE SALMON RIVERS OF SCOTLAND."

VOLUME I

LONDON
KEGAN PAUL, TRENCH, TRÜBNER & CO., LTD.
PATERNOSTER HOUSE, CHARING CROSS ROAD

1903

PREFACE

My readers must not take up these books in the hope of whiling away spare time in the perusal of racy stories of Irish wit and repartee, for there is not a "Begorra y'er anner" in the whole of them. I have perforce stuck strictly to business, for to have related even one half the quaint, funny speeches and amusing stories that have been told me must either have doubled the size of these books or entirely swamped the avowedly fishy intention with which they have been written. Also I have had qualms of telling stories which, though new to me, have perhaps already been often and better told by others before me.

Neither have I recommended hotels. Most of them were clean, comfortable, and very moderate in their charges; but their comfort so largely depends

—indeed, I think entirely depends—on the landlords, that if changes occur in the management the quarters that were delightful in spring may be horrid in summer.

Neither have I recommended ghillies or tackle-makers by name. Of the former an angler can but employ one at a time, and if there are several attached to a fishery, all making their living at it, an angler who gives the name of the ghillie who attended him during his visit and departing lauds him to the skies in print, will only make all the anglers who follow desirous of getting that particular genius, while if they cannot secure him they will think the one that is available must be inferior, although, likely enough, the others are just as good, and perhaps better.

I could not avoid bringing in the names of such well-known tackle-makers as Kelly, of Dublin; the Rogans, of Ballyshannon; Messrs. Haynes, of Cork; Jem Hearn, of Ballina, and Tim McCarthy, of Waterville, who are *all* so well

known that they require no recommendation from me or anyone else.

The success that attended the publication of my four volumes of *The Salmon Rivers of Scotland* (now out of print) has led me to attempt to deal in two volumes with *The Salmon Rivers of Ireland*. Had I realised, before making a start, the pardonable apathy on the subject that exists amongst a large number of the Irish river owners, I should probably have given up in despair, but once having begun to "fish the pool," so to speak, I did not like to halt, so, making up my mind to see it through, I had the pleasure later on of receiving encouragement from many anglers, together with much valuable information interspersed with numerous friendly hints from such well-known river owners and fishery authorities as Mr. G. T. Shaen-Carter, Colonel the Right Hon. E. Cooper, P.C., Mr. R. W. Hall Dare, the late Earl of Donoughmore, Mr. R. M. Douglas, Mr. R. R. FitzHerbert, Mr. Moreton Frewen, Mr. T. G. P. Hallett, Mr. Ured A. Knox, the Earl of Mayo, Mr. R. R. Lyon

Moore, the Messrs. Petrie, Dr. Traill, and Mr. H. Welch Thornton.

Therefore, although on the whole it has been more difficult to get reliable information in Ireland than it was in Scotland, I yet venture to hope that my kind supporters the angling public will not be disappointed with the result of my labours.

AUGUSTUS GRIMBLE.