

TYPES OF CELTIC LIFE AND ART

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Types of Celtic life and art by F. R. Montgomery Hitchcock

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F. R. MONTGOMERY HITCHCOCK

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BY

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THIS LITTLE VOLUME IS
DEDICATED TO ALL IRISHMEN
AT HOME AND ABROAD.



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CELTIC TYPES OF LIFE AND ART.

PREFACE.

THIS is not in any sense a learned treatise, but merely a simple account of some of the types of life and art that have been found from time to time in Ireland. The writer would, therefore, make three requests of his readers. First, that they would bear in mind that subjects of controversy in religion and politics have been designedly avoided, and that only matters of common interest to all creeds and classes have been discussed in these pages; secondly, that they will pardon the many omissions, which must, of necessity, appear in a work of this nature, which professes only to give certain specimens, and not an exhaustive, dry-as-dust history of all the types that have existed from the most ancient times in this land; and, thirdly, that any of colossal learning, into whose hands this book may fall, will remember the difficulties of the task the writer set before him, and sympathise with an attempt, no matter how crude, to give a picture of the life and surroundings of the historic, but ancient inhabitants of the Green Isle. As

references to the various authorities would only serve to overload a popular work like the present; they have been omitted, except in the most important cases; but no pains have been spared to secure as much accuracy as was possible under conditions where fancy always embroidered, if it did not contribute the facts. In conclusion, the writer hopes that this publication of studies and observations of Irish life will induce others to study and observe for themselves Celtic types, wherever they may be found.