

**THE RISE AND FALL OF THE IRISH
FRANCISCAN MONASTERIES,
AND MEMOIRS OF THE IRISH
HIERARCHY IN THE SEVENTEENTH
CENTURY, PP. 1-251**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649693955

The Rise and Fall of the Irish Franciscan Monasteries, and Memoirs of the Irish Hierarchy in the Seventeenth Century, pp. 1-251 by C. P. Meehan

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

C. P. MEEHAN

**THE RISE AND FALL OF THE IRISH
FRANCISCAN MONASTERIES,
AND MEMOIRS OF THE IRISH
HIERARCHY IN THE SEVENTEENTH
CENTURY, PP. 1-251**

THE RISE AND FALL
OF
THE IRISH
FRANCISCAN MONASTERIES,
AND MEMOIRS OF
THE IRISH HIERARCHY
IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

BY THE REV. C. P. MEEHAN, M.R.I.A.

THIRD EDITION.

DUBLIN:
JAMES DUFFY, 15, WELLINGTON-QUAY
LONDON: 23, PATERNOSTER-BOW.
1870.

DUBLIN
Printed by J. H. O'Keefe & Son,
6 AND 7, GT. BRUNSWICK-ST.

TO

SIR J. BERNARD BURKE, C.B., LL.D.,

Ulster King-of-Arms,

THIS LITTLE VOLUME

IS

AFFECTIONATELY AND RESPECTFULLY

Dedicated,

AS A TRIBUTE TO HIS PRIVATE VIRTUES,

AND IN

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF HIS INVALUABLE HISTORICAL AND

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCHES,

BY HIS OBLIGED AND GRATEFUL FRIEND,

C. P. MEEHAN.

Vertical line of text on the right side of the page.

Small text fragment in the middle of the page.

Small text fragment at the bottom left of the page.



PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

IT has been observed by some profound philosopher that the author who commits his name to a title-page without trembling, must have formed a pretty fair estimate of his own capacity. The truth of the reflection is sufficiently obvious and suggestive. Although cogently premonished by it—yet, after full consideration, I persuaded myself that the materials I had gathered together, would, if judiciously handled, make an interesting volume, to which a name might be affixed without much fear or anxiety. Whatever undue influence a prevalent frailty of the literary *genus* may have had on my own appreciation of the performance, assuredly nothing was further from my anticipation than the success which has attended this volume. The contrary result happens to have been my predominant calculation. I was apprehensive that the book would find readers only among the elect class that delights in antiquarian lore, and the biographies of men over whose graves the shadows of two or three centuries have rested. My misgivings were doomed to be speedily dispelled by

the sale of three thousand copies within a month since *their* first publication.

To sweeten this unexpected event, I have also had the satisfaction of learning from some of the most distinguished men in the land, as well as from many a son of toil, that I have contributed to their entertainment and information in departments of our history, where others have admittedly failed. The worthy publisher may indeed rejoice at the result; but his complacency cannot equal what I experience in finding that I do not come within the category of that author of whom a famous critic said, "he has written a book to prove that he should never try his hand at another;" and, above all, that my work has not been doomed to that most melancholy of isolations—a perpetual incumbency on the shelves of a book-shop.

C. P. M.

S. S. Michael and John's, Dublin,
March 5th, 1862.

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

THE papers in this volume first appeared in the *Hibernian Magazine*, and had the good fortune to be highly praised by the press, and many friends, clerical and lay, who urged that they should be presented to the public in a more durable form.

The opening part of the series can, as an original work, hardly be called mine; for I have done little more than give a free version of Father Mooney's Latin Manuscript History of the Irish Franciscan houses—a copy of which I procured from the Burgundian Library, Brussels—and enrich his details by gleaning from various quarters whatever could heighten the value of the good Father's performance. I have also cast it into a dramatic shape as the surest means of imparting to it a lively and engaging character.

I did not aim at producing a history of all the Franciscan houses which formerly existed in Ireland; but the reader will find an account of the most celebrated among them as they were before the Suppression, and as Father Mooney saw them either in their incipient decline, or in their desolation. The ruins of many of those establishments still remain. Whosoever visits them, with this book in his hand, will have for his guide the genial old friar, who, more than two centuries ago, described them so accurately and pathetically, and certainly in such way as none of his successors could pretend to do.

Archdall and others of his class furnish dry uncircumstantial dates; but Father Mooney peoples his periods, enables us to assist at the very founding of those venerable houses; nay, familiarises us with the inmates, their pursuits, and usages, and interweaves with his narrative many curious incidents, which, but for him, must have been lost for ever.

The study of his manuscript often solaced me in care and gloom—for both will be, vigorous brain and disillusioned heart, notwithstanding; and I would hope that the perusal of this version may convince the reader that, be his ills or sense of wrongs ever so great, perhaps better men have known greater, and borne them with that indomitable patience which empowers us to possess our souls.