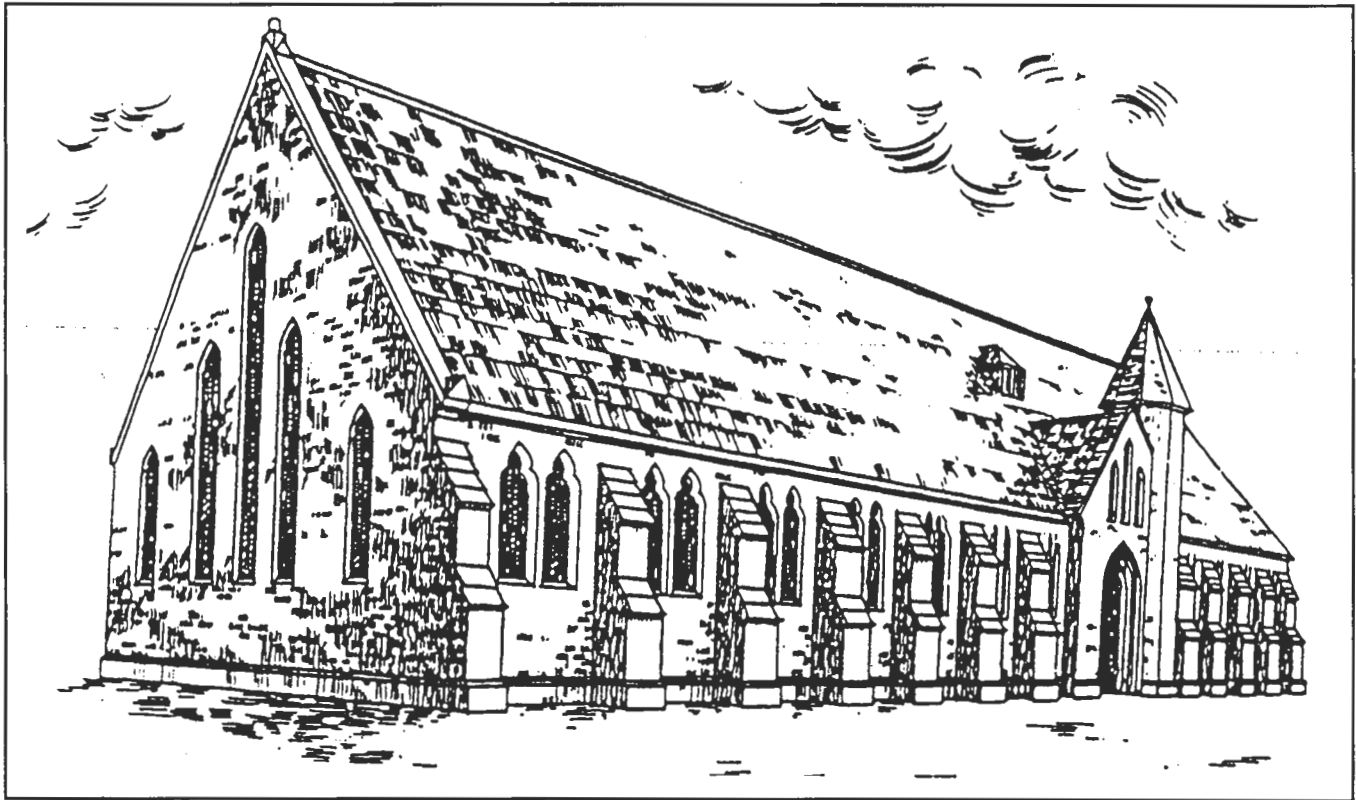


# THE TALBOT LIBRARY

Fr. Robert Canavan



The Talbot Library

In 1847 the Jesuits employed Joseph Aloysius Hansom (1803-1882), the inventor of the patent safety cab, the 'Hansom cab', to design a combined chapel and school for their new mission on a green field site overlooking the river Ribble near the Ashton area of Preston. He also designed for them their new Church of St. Walburge nearby — its spire, at 305 feet, is reputed to be the second tallest in the country and now serves as a pointer to the location of the Library — and with its opening the original building became a full-time school.

This school served many generations of Prestonians but in the 1980s the movement of population, allied to vacancies in better school buildings, caused its closure. By then the Jesuits had also left the parish, and the Diocese of Lancaster had taken over responsibility for the school and church. Hansom's church had by now become a Grade 2\* listed building. The Bishop of Lancaster, the Right Reverend John Brewer, had to decide on the church's possible future usage, and it was largely on his initiative that it became the home of the Talbot Library. Talbot had been a generous supporter of the original Jesuit mission, and as his name with the date, '1849', appears on the facade of the church, the Library retained his name.

By 1992 St. Walburge's had been re-furbished, shelving installed, and suitable heating and lighting had been arranged. On 14 May in that year the Library was blessed by Bishop Brewer and officially opened by the Rt. Hon. Sir Simon Towneley, then Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, when he unveiled a commemorative plaque.

A  
S K E T C H  
OF THE  
H I S T O R Y  
OF  
TWO ACTS OF THE IRISH PARLIAMENT, OF  
THE 2d AND 8th OF QUEEN ANNE, TO  
PREVENT THE FURTHER GROWTH OF POPEERY:  
I N A  
L E T T E R  
T O A  
M E M B E R  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF COMMONS IN IRELAND.  
TO WHICH ARE ADDED,  
THE CIVIL AND MILITARY  
ARTICLES OF LIMERICK.  
*— Hinc ille Lachryme!*

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L O N D O N:  
PRINTED, FOR J. MURRAY No. 31. FLEET-STREET.  
M DCC LXXVIII.

A TREATISE  
OF THREE  
CONVERSIONS  
OF ENGLAND

from Paganisme to Christian  
Religion. 199

THE FIRST vnder the Apostles, in the first age after  
Christ: THE SECOND vnder Pope Eleutherius and  
K. Lucius, in the second age. THE THIRD, vnder Pope  
Gregory the Great, and K. Ethelbert in the sixth age,  
with diuers other matters thereunto apperteyning.

D I V I D E D

Into three partes, as appeareth in the next page.

The former two whereof are handled in  
this booke, and dedicated to the  
Catholikes of England.

With a new addition to the said Catholikes, vpon the newis  
of the late *D.* death and succession of his MAIESTIE of  
Scotland, to the crowne of England.

By N. D. author of the VVard-vvord.

DEVT. 4. & 32.

Inquire of auncient tymes before youv; remember th'old  
dayes of your forefathers; consider of euery age, as they haue  
passed: aske your father and he vvill tell youv: demaund  
of your ancestors, and they vvill declare vnto youv.

Imprinted vwith licence, anno. 1603.

THE ENGLISH  
MARTYROLOGE

CONTEYNING  
A SVMMARY OF THE LIVES  
of the glorious and renowned Saintes  
of the three Kingdomes,  
ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND  
IRELAND.

COLLECTED AND DISTRIBUTED  
into Moneths, after the forme of a Calendar,  
according to euery Saintes festiuitie.

VV H E R E V N T O

Is annexed in the end a Catalogue of those, who haue suffered  
death in England for defence of the Catholicke Cause, since King  
Henry the 8. his breach with the Sea Apostolicke, vnto this day.

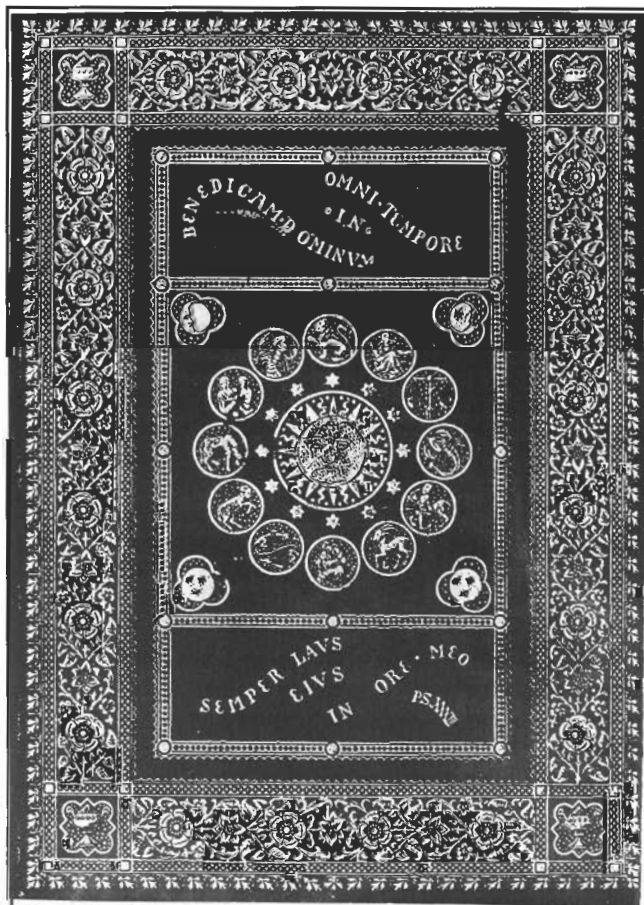
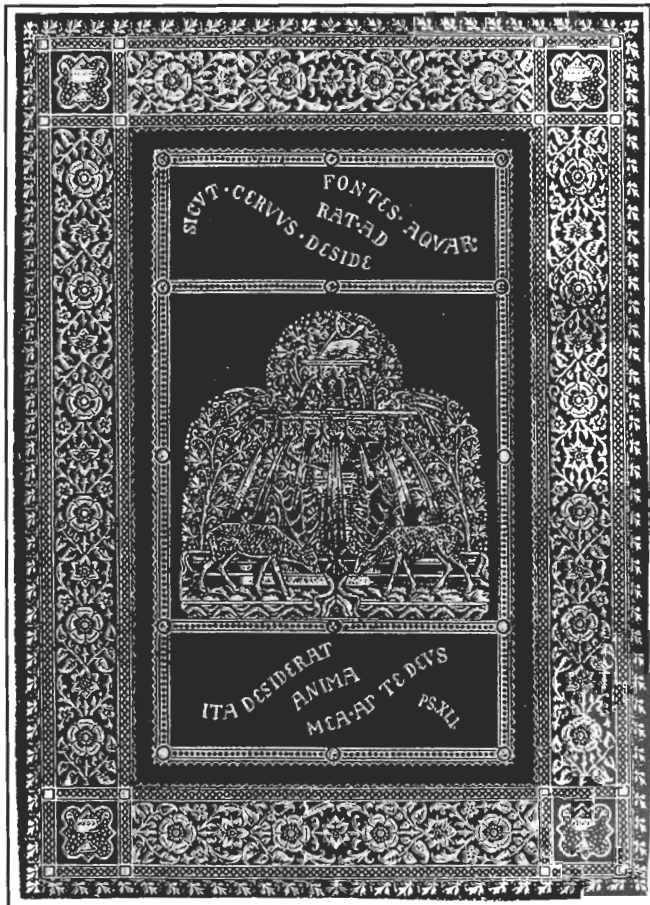
By a Catholicke Priest.



Eccles. 44.

Nonne eorum viuet in generationem & generationem.  
Their memory shall liue from generation to generation.

Permissu Superiorum. Anno 1608.



## IMPRIMATUR

*Hic liber vere Christianus; qui, si Primam species pietatem, Summam Eloquentiam, Rationum pondus, nihil in eo deest quominus possit nos Omnes, quales tam accurate describit, vere Christianos efficere. Puriori aeo sane dignissimus est, nisi quod tam potens sit, qui vel nostrum Saeculum transformaret in melius. Benedicat Deus Operi & Authori.*

THO. TOMKYNs.

R. Rmo. in Christo Patri ac  
Domino Dno. GILBERTO  
Divina Providentia Archi-  
episcopo Cantuariensi à Sa-  
cris Domesticiis.

# THE CAUSES OF THE Decay of Christian Piety.

OR AN  
IMPARTIAL SURVEY  
Of the Ruines of  
CHRISTIAN RELIGION,  
Undermin'd by Unchristian Practice.

Written by the Author of  
THE WHOLE DUTY OF MAN.

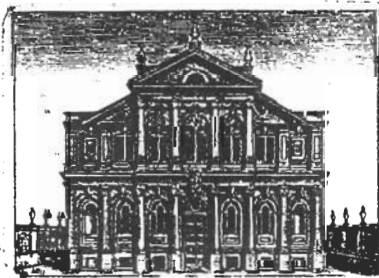


LONDON,

Printed by R. Norton for Robert Pawlett, at the Sign  
of the Bible in Chancery-Lane, near Fleetstreet, 1671.

J. R.  
*Archaeologiae Graecae:*  
OR, THE  
ANTIQUITIES  
OF  
GREECE.

By JOHN POTTER, M. A. and Fellow  
of Lincoln College, OXON.



OXFORD,

Printed at the THEATER, for ABEL SWALL,  
at the Unicorn, in St. Paul's Church-yard,  
LONDON. MDCXCVII.

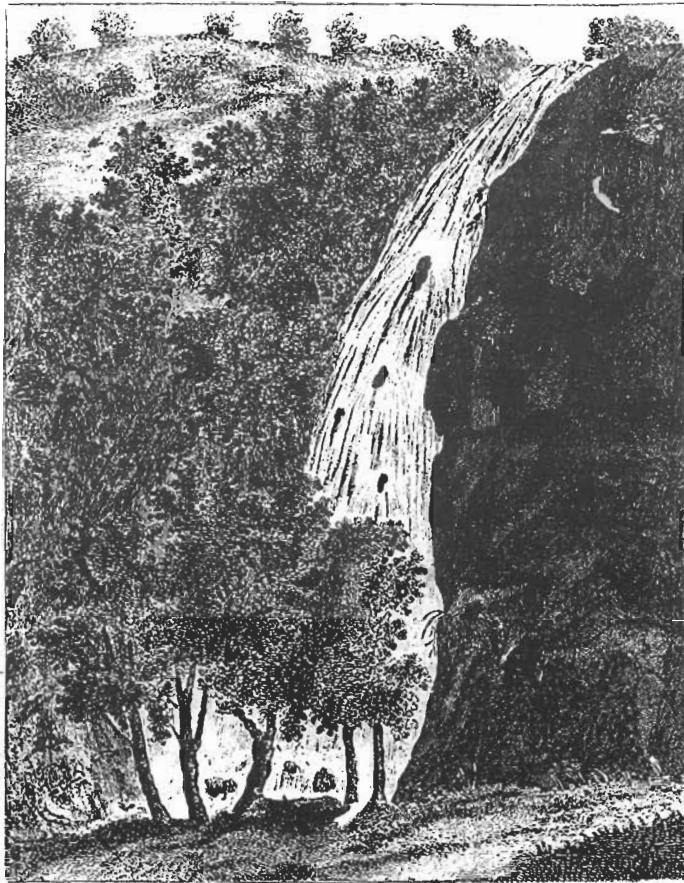
Bishop Brewer, on his visitation of parishes in his Diocese, which covers the area north of the river Ribble to Carlisle, became aware that many presbyteries contained small collections of books, some of longstanding, which deserved to be saved and made more generally available to the public at large. Notable among these were the collections at Fernyhalgh Chapel, Preston, and St. Peter's, Lytham.

### Fernyhalgh Collection

The Fernyhalgh Collection was an accumulation of books left there by pastors over many years. Early books dating from the sixteenth century are mainly of a liturgical or theological nature, including *Postilla sive exposito epistolarum et evangeliorum* (Lyons, Stephanius, 1500), *A Treatise of three Conversions of England* by Robert Persons, published (probably at St. Omer) in 1603, and *Promptuarium morale* by Thomas Stapleton (Antwerp, Plantin, 1591). The following centuries are represented by books of spirituality, history, and Latin and French grammar, and include copies of *The English Martyrologe* (1608), *The Causes of the Decay of Christian Piety* (London, 1671), and *Archaeologiae Graecae* by John Potter (Oxford, 1697). This collection has been kept together as a unit in the Library and each book has its own date on the spine.

### St. Peter's, Lytham

The collection at St. Peter's belonged mainly to a Canon Taylor who purchased the books of his days — the end of the nineteenth century. Unfortunately little is known of Canon Taylor and he merits further research. Side by side with



A  
**T O U R**  
 IN  
**I R E L A N D:**  
 WITH  
 GENERAL OBSERVATIONS  
 ON THE  
 PRESENT STATE OF THAT KINGDOM  
 MADE IN  
 THE YEARS 1776, 1777, and 1778.  
 AND  
 BROUGHT DOWN TO THE END OF 1779.

By **ARTHUR YOUNG, ESQ. F.R.S.**  
 Honorary Member of the Societies of Dublin, York, &c. &c. &c.;  
 Member of the Economical Society of London; the Philosophical  
 Academy of Agriculture, at Manchester; and the  
 Physical Society at Edinburgh.

D U B L I N :

PRINTED BY GEORGE BOSTON,  
 For Messrs. WHITESIDE, BEAVER, HORTON,  
 WILLIAMS, BURNET, WILSON, DENNIN,  
 WOGAN, VALLANCE, WHITE, BENTLEY,  
 BYRN, AND BURTON.  
 M.D.C.C.LXXIX.



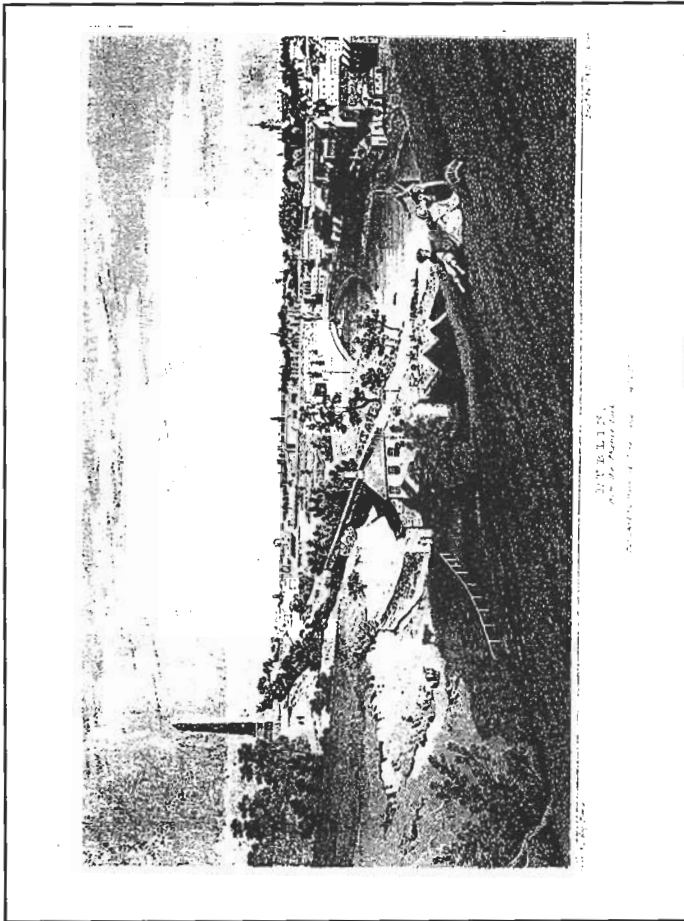
THE REV. ARTHUR O'LEARY.

*Engraved by W. Bond from the source  
 printed after a drawing by G. Murphy*

THE  
**L I F E**  
 OF  
 THE REVEREND  
**ARTHUR O'LEARY,**  
 &c. &c. &c.  
 INCLUDING  
 HISTORICAL ANECDOTES, MEMOIRS,  
 AND MANY HITHERTO UNPUBLISHED DOCUMENTS,  
 ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE CONDITION OF  
**THE IRISH CATHOLICS,**  
 DURING THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.  
 BY THE REV. THOMAS R. ENGLAND.

*Ipsa virtus pervincit, ne in illo genere hominum infortunata sit. Tacit. lib. x.  
 Non pigebit vel incedit ac rudi voce mentem prioris servitutis ac testimo-  
 nium presentium temporum committit. Tacit. Agricol. c. iii.*

L O N D O N :  
 PRINTED FOR  
 LONGMAN, HURST, REES, ORME, AND BROWN,  
 PATERNOSTER-ROW,  
 AND KEATING, BROWN, AND CO.  
 BUCKLE-STREET, GROSVENOR-SQUARE.  
 1822.



DUBLIN  
As it appears now

THE  
**Beauties**  
OF  
**I R E L A N D :**

Original Delineations,  
TOPOGRAPHICAL, HISTORICAL, AND BIOGRAPHICAL,  
OF EACH COUNTY.

BY J. N. BREWER, ESQ.

Author of an Introductory Volume to the Beauties of England and Wales, and of the  
Historical and Topographical Surveys of Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, and the  
County of Middlesex, forming Parts of the same Work.

ILLUSTRATED  
WITH ENGRAVINGS, BY J. & H. S. STORER,  
AFTER ORIGINAL DRAWINGS, CHIEFLY BY MR. PETTIE, OF DUBLIN.

— Through the land the waving prairie sees  
A track of brightest green, and in the midst  
Appears a mouldering wall, with ivy-covered  
Or Gothic turret, pile of antique days—  
See, mountains, lovely vale, and smoking steeps  
Conspire, in ecstasies pastoral !

TWO  
IN VOLUMES.  
VOL. I.

London :

PRINTED FOR SHERWOOD, JONES, & CO.  
PATERNOSTER ROW :

SOLE ALSO BY H. MILLER, J. CUMMINGS, M. KEENE, G. P. ARNOLD, M. S. WATSON, G. M. LIND, R. HODGKINS, G. LA GRANGE, HUGHES AND MALCOLM, WESTLEY AND WYBELL, AND THE OTHER BOOKSELLERS IN DUBLIN; ALSO BY THE BOOKSELLERS IN WATERFORD, LONDON, LIMERICK, CORK, GALWAY, NEWRY, AND BELFAST.

1825.

theology and scripture was a collection of Victorian novels and bound copies of such periodicals as *The Tablet*, *Antidote*, *The Irish Ecclesiastical Record*, *The Orthodox Journal*, *The Lamp*, *The Catholic Magazine* and *Dolman's Magazine*.

Many other parish churches and presbyteries throughout Lancashire and Cumbria contributed volumes which fitted into collections already begun in the Library, and collections continue to come in from closed convents, re-furbished presbyteries or the death of priests. Inevitably there was a great deal of duplication — but every collection yielded one or two treasures, which made the travelling (by the librarian) worthwhile. The problem of duplicates has been solved by finding outlets in Bosnia, Poland, Romania, Lithuania, Nigeria and Indonesia, and by contributing to parish libraries. The lesson of this initiative is that a great deal of valuable book and other material still lies undiscovered in attics and presbytery and convent libraries. When found and inserted into existing collections, or perhaps forming new collections, much of this material fills gaps and takes on a new value as well as opening new lines of research.

### Shrewsbury Diocesan Collection

By far the largest collection to come to the Talbot Library is the Shrewsbury Diocesan Collection, which is on permanent loan. It was originally housed in the Council House, the home of the Roman Catholic Bishops of Shrewsbury, and had been collected mainly by Bishop Ambrose Moriarty (Bishop 1934-49), who was born in Stockport. The movement of the Diocesan Centre to Birkenhead in 1982 left the collection without a permanent home, and Bishop Joseph Gray agreed to give it on permanent loan to the Talbot Library so that it could be available to the public. It is an invaluable collection, particu-

larly strong in nineteenth century material, and includes such items as the *Tracts of the Times* series, the works of Bernard and Wilfrid Ward, Chadwick's *The Victorian Church*, *Religion in Victorian Britain* by Moore, and a good collection relating to the Oxford Movement. Bishop Moriarty had an eye for good bindings and there are many fine bindings in the collection, including Gibbon's *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* (1887), a *Horae Diurnal* (Pustet, Ratisbon, 1898), *Pontificale Romanum*, 3 volumes (Dessian, 1873), and Burchard's *Diarium*, also in 3 volumes (Paris, 1883).

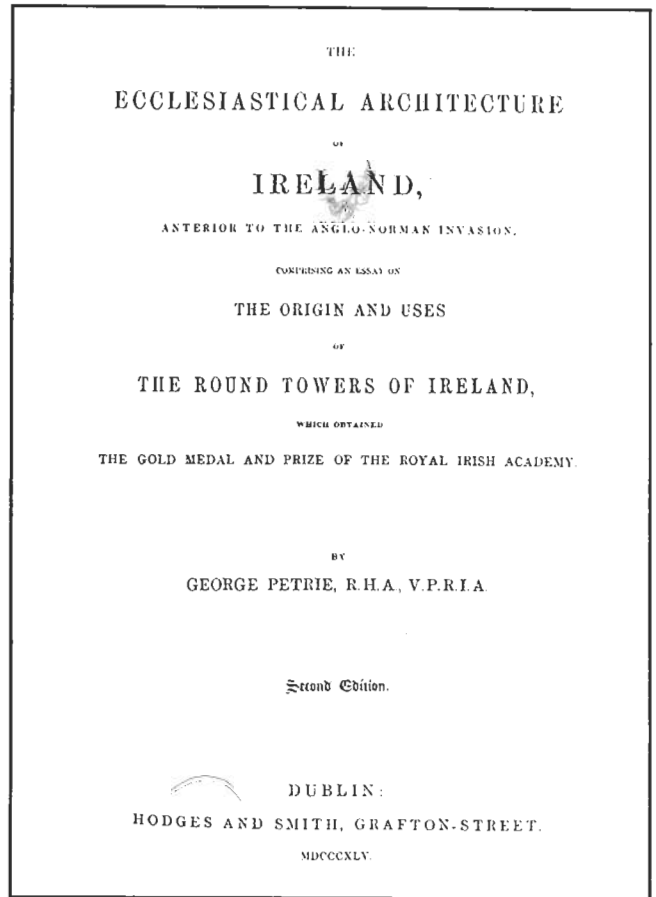
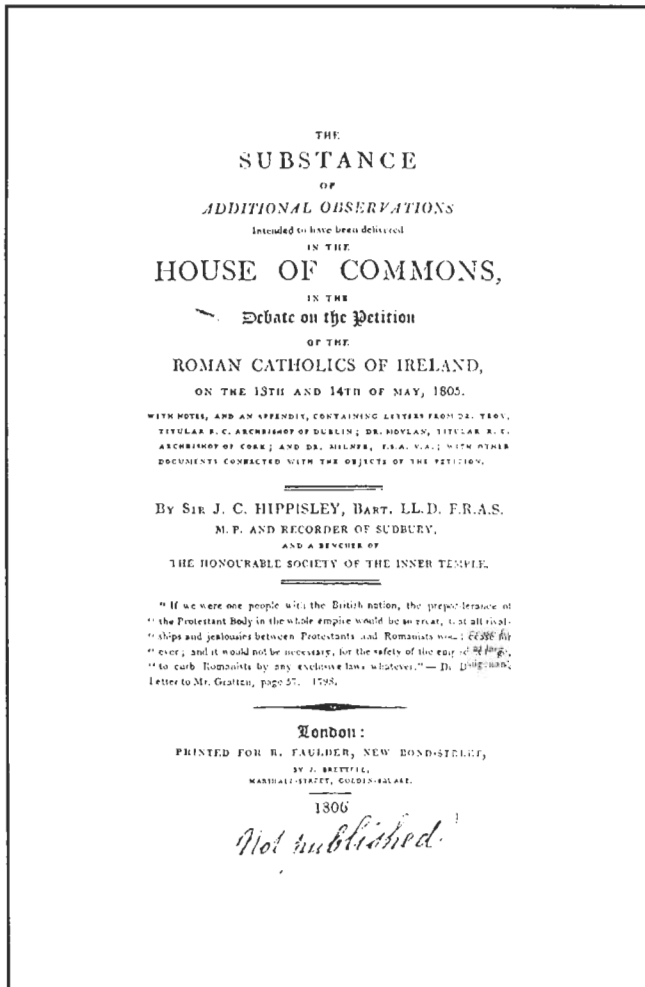
Two collections which have been acquired since 1992 deserve special mention. Frank Laughlin of Crosby was a founder member of the Chesterton Society and produced, for many years, a quarterly news-sheet for Chesterton fans. He had put together a wonderful collection relating to G.K. Chesterton (1874-1936), who became a Roman Catholic in 1922, and also of Hilare Belloc (1870-1953), the author of *Essays of a Catholic layman in England* (1931), whose novels were illustrated by his friend Chesterton. On Laughlin's death his family generously donated his collection to the Library, together with collections relating to Maurice Baring (1874-1945), who was also a convert to Roman Catholicism, and to R.A. Knox (1888-1957) whose father was Bishop of Manchester (1903-1921). Knox was received into the Roman Catholic Church in 1917 and was later ordained.

The other collection to mention is that of Leslie Brooks, of Fleet, Hampshire, who died last year. He was an architect with a lifelong interest in ancestry and in the great houses and churches of Britain. He lectured widely and amassed a large collection of booklets and notes, as well as his book material, on the English Catholic heritage. He was the founder of English Catholic Ancestry, now known as The English Catholic History Society. Leslie donated his whole collection

to the Talbot Library.

Side by side with the building up of collections the Library has been developed along historical lines, attempting to document the social, religious and working life of the people of the north. While the theological, scriptural, philosophical and liturgical collections are organised to help students, there is an underlying policy of retaining all books which document the history of particular disciplines. While the emphasis is obviously on Catholic studies, the other churches as well as Judaism and eastern religions are represented. Local studies with an emphasis on the history of parishes and churches also have an important place in the policy of the Director.

Special mention must be given to a Library of Irish Studies, a library within a Library. This was brought from Ireland by the Director and covers History and Topography, Literature, Religion and Music. It is possibly the best collection of Irish studies available in the North and contains a number of scarce and rare items. These range from *A Sketch of the history of two Acts of the Irish Parliament* (London, 1778), Arthur Young's *A Tour in Ireland* (Dublin, 1780), *The Life of the Reverend Arthur O'Leary* by Thomas R. England (London, 1822), *The Beauties of Ireland* by J.N. Brewer (1825), and *The Ecclesiastical Architecture of Ireland* by George Petrie, second edition (Dublin, 1865), to *The Land war in Ireland* by Wilfrid Scawen Blunt (1922). Of particular interest is a copy of *The Substance of additional observations ... of the Roman Catholics of Ireland* by Sir J.C. Hippisley (London, 1806), which though printed was never officially published.



The main collections now available to the public are: Philosophy, Scripture, Theology, Hagiography, Patrology, Spirituality, Social Teaching, Catechetics, Liturgy, Law, Papacy and Councils, History (Ecclesiastical and Secular), Local Studies, Biography, Music, France, United States, Russia, Spain, Italy, Latin and Greek, Homiletics and Women's Studies.

The Talbot Library is a service offered by the Diocese of Lancaster to University students, researchers and those of the general public interested in their roots. There is a concern in the Church for the preservation of our heritage. Indeed, one of the Roman Catholic Commissions is devoted to that task and has already issued a number of guideline documents. There is a growing awareness of the dangers of a rootless society. We hope that the Talbot Library and other such initiatives will make some contribution to an appreciation of the value and richness of our roots.

The budget available is very small and consequently funds do not allow the Library to pay a full-time professional, so staff organisation of the holdings is slow. The Library is fortunate in having a number of unpaid volunteers and is most grateful for the generosity of many people who have given books and money. Nevertheless progress is being made on computerisation and the staff available are glad to help. Already some collections have been catalogued and a back-up card system is being developed for those who spurn computers.

The Library's address is: The Talbot Library, St. Walburge's, Weston Street, Preston, Lancs, PR2 2QE, telephone 01772-760186. The Library is normally open 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Monday to Friday. Please address postal enquiries to the Librarian, Fr. Robert Canavan. Photocopying facilities are available.