



The Irish American Tradition

Tá an-áthas orm fáilte a chur roimh an saothar sainiúil seo ar thraidisiún na nGael-Mheiriceánach, is traidisiún fada agus uasal é nach miste a mholadh go hard.

I am delighted to have this opportunity to welcome the launch of *The Irish American Tradition* published by Heritage Publishing. It is a very substantial contribution to acknowledging the invaluable and incalculable contribution the Irish and Irish Americans have made to the formation of this great country.

The Irish American Tradition is a history that straddles many decades and traces the trials and tribulations and ultimate victories of the Irish men and women who emigrated here in search of better life opportunities. It records the very substantial success so many of the emigrants and their descendants enjoyed as a result of having been given and taken advantage of those opportunities.

It is also important to record that Irish Americans never forgot the land of their origins. Throughout Ireland's history, Irish America has supported Ireland's cause and given invaluable assistance to the formation of the modern Ireland. This was never more evident than in the support that Irish America and the US Administration have given to the cause of securing enduring peace on the island of Ireland.

Of course, not all Irish Americans were successful and we can only know the story of a relatively small number in any detail. Therefore, in saluting those featured in this volume, we should remember all those whose contribution, while unrecorded by history, was no less important.

Anne Anderson
Ambassador of Ireland

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