

- 15 *Emanuel. Leabhar ina bhfuil modh iarrata 7 fhaghala fhoirbhtheachda na beathadh riaghaltha ar attugadh drong airighthe Sgáthan an Chrábhaidh drong oile Desiderius. Ar na churanosa a nGaoidhilg lé brathair airidhe dórd S. fPronsias F. C. Ar na chur a ccló maille ré hughdardhás, 1616 a Lobhain.*

Best, 248
Bradshaw 5605
Shaaber C343
ARCR 151
Sweeney 1311
ESTC S125534

[8], 344 p.; 8vo in 4s

IRISH TYPE: Louvain A.

Undated imprimatur on the last page: ‘Libelus iste cui Titulus *Speculum vitae: vel Desiderius* testimonio eorum qui Hibernicum idioma noverunt, pius est ac prelo dignus. Guillelmus Fabricius, Apostolicus & Archiduc(um) librorum censor’.

The word ‘Emanuel’ serves as an invocation or prayer. Another example on a Louvain book is the obscure phrase ‘Emanuel Telaph’ on the titlepage of *Scathan shacramuinte* (1618). The use of *Emanuel* as an invocation can be found in Irish manuscripts as far back as the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. So, for example, at the top of LU pp. 65a, 73a (hand M, as noted by Best & Bergin, 167, 185), and LL, written as *Em*’, pp. 55a, 57a, 59, 61a, 65a, 67a, 70a, &c. (Best & O’Brien, 264, 270, 276, 279, 292, 300, &c.). Bodl. MS Laud Misc. 460 (s. xii/xiii) has the words *Emanuel a Maelbrigte* or *Emanuel a Mael* in the upper margin of many pages (F. J. Byrne, *1000 Years of Irish Script* (Oxford, 1979), 15). Thomas Astle’s *Origin and Progress of Writing* (1784), 123, quoted ‘a fragment of a work, intituled, *Emanuel*, which, from the forms of the letters, and from the nature of the vellum, may be as old as the ninth or tenth century’. In describing the same fragment, O’Conor, *Bibliotheca Stowensis* (1818), i. 205 (no. 65), mentions its bearing ‘at the top margin of each page the word *Emanuel*’, and adds, ‘It was customary with the Irish scribes to use that word at the heads of chapters and pages, implying that in the Holy Name of *Emanuel* they began that work, chapter, or page’. This feature did not merit inclusion in the modern description of the same fragment, RIA MS Stowe D. i. 1 (cat. 1237), frag. 1, two leaves from a copy of *Cath catharda*, written in the 15th century. The word can be seen at the top of each page (Irish Script on Screen).

The longest work produced by the Louvain press. The initials F. C. identify the author as Florence Conry OFM, *al. Flaithrí Ó Maoil Chonaire* (d. 1629), who, through his contacts at the Spanish court, was able to persuade King Felipe III to provide the means to establish the Irish College at Louvain. The work itself is an Irish version made from a Spanish treatise, [?Miguel de Comalada], *Tratado llamado el Deseoso, y por otro nombre, Espejo de religiosos*, first printed in Catalan as *Spill de la vida religiosa* (Barcelona, 1515), translated into Castilian (Sevilla, 1533; Toledo, 1536; Salamanca, 1580), and into other languages. The Irish version does not have anything corresponding to Parts IV–VI of the Castilian work, and also shortens Parts I–III, while adding new material, including a long passage designed to encourage Irish Catholics to remain true to their faith in the face of persecution. In particular ll. 3411–5050 in T. F. O’Rahilly’s edition (p. xvi) are Ó Maoil Chonaire’s original work. In introducing this edition O’Rahilly underscores its linguistic importance for Early Modern

Irish prose, ‘it was not only written by a trained master of the language, but was in all probability seen through the press by himself. We are thus seldom left in doubt as to what the author actually wrote’. The author aims for simplicity in style in order to be accessible to all readers, but he is conservative in grammar and syntax, adhering to a high Early Modern Irish register.

Luke Wadding, *Scriptores ordinis Minorum*, 110a, refers to his ‘*Speculum vitae Christianae nuncupatum Desiderium erudiendis Catholicis Hibernicis perquam opportunum, Hibernice edidit Lovanii in Collegio Minorum, anno 1626*’, a misprision of the date 1616 as printed. Like Conry, Wadding was a speaker of Spanish and may have been acquainted with the original.

Modern edition by T. F. O’Rahilly, *Desiderius, otherwise called Sgáthán an chrábhaidh*, Medieval and Modern Irish Series 12 (Dublin, 1941), with review by R. A. Breatnach, *Éigse* 4 (1943–4), 72–6, and collation against the first edition by A. Faulkner in *Éigse* 4 (1943–4), 228–9. Facsimile reprint of the Louvain printing by Scholar Press (Ilkley, 1973). S. Ua Súilleabháin, ‘*Sgáthán an chrábhaidh: foinnsí an aistriúcháin*’, *Éigse* 24 (1990), 26–36, argues that Ó Maoil Chonaire drew on three versions of the text in preparing his own: a Castilian Spanish edition of six parts; a tripartite translation of the text in a language other than Castilian (perhaps a lost French version from the *Thesaurus Devotionis*); and an Italian translation of the Catalan text (perhaps the translation published in Venice in 1561).

An English translation, *Desiderius. A most godly, religious, and delectable dialogue*, made from the sixteenth-century Latin translation by Van der Meer (Louvain, 1554), was printed secretly in England in 1604 and at Saint-Omer in 1625.

ARCR 889, 890
ESTC S117459
ESTC S91699

Another work translated from Spanish into Irish, dated 1593, is a catechism, thought to be the work of the same Flaithrí Ó Maoil Chonaire, which was sent to Ireland in 1598. This text has been edited from a seventeenth-century copy, RIA MS 23 L 19 (cat. 1006), by B. Ó Cuív, ‘Flaithrí Ó Maolchonaire’s Catechism of Christian Doctrine’, *Celtica* 1 (1949–50), 161–206; this is a translation of Jerónimo de Ripalda’s Catechism (1591), according to Ó Cuív, ‘Some versions of the sixth petition of the Pater Noster’, *Studia Celtica* 14/15 (1979–80), 212–22 (at 212 n. 7). The version was available in Louvain, since it appears to have influenced the version of the Pater Noster in the Irish catechism of Bonaventura Ó hEódhasa (1611, 1614), as discussed by C. Ó Háinle, ‘An Phaidir: Ó Maolchonaire agus Ó hEódhasa’, *Celtica* 24 (2003), 239–51 (at 246–7).

The edition entered by Dix & Ó Casaide as *Scathan an Crabhuigh* with the date 1626 on the evidence of O’Reilly, *Irish Writers*, p. clxxxii, is a ghostly double, its date coming from Wadding.

Dix OC² 11

- NLI LO 328
- TCD Press A.1.30
- Dublin City Library 242G [*Treasures of the Irish Language*]
- Maynooth [not found] (T. Wall, ‘Rare books in Maynooth College Library’, *IER* 5th ser. 52 (1938), 46–59, p. 56)
- UCD–OFM XP 52 (‘Bibliothecae sancti Anthonii de Padua’, Louvain; first sixty pages heavily glossed)
- NUIG 248 Spi
- BL C.69.d.8; G.4332 (imperfect); G.4771
- Bodl. Crynes 350 (‘Ex libris fratris Matthaei Duffy ord. min.’; Edward Lhwyd,

1692, price 2/6 [EEBO]; Mar. 539

- CUL Hib.8.61.5; Hib.8.61.6
- Maclean Collection, now at Mountstuart House
- Harvard Houghton STC 6778 ('acheté à Louvain 3 fevrier 1834')
- Chicago Newberry Bonaparte 7146
- San Marino (CA), Huntington Library, 646955 (formerly Dublin, Milltown Park)
- Paris, BNF D-33560
- Brussels, Bibliothèque Royale, VB 2.048 1 A (3 copies, 'Castrensis'; 'Franciscus Power'; and the Discalced Carmelites, Brussels)

Copies in the hands of individuals:

1776 Ó Gormáin 4, 'Desiderius or Sgathan an chrabhaidh a small 8vo in print'.

1826 or earlier, 'Desiderius', among books that belonged to Peadar Ó Conaill, listed by Eugene O'Curry, Maynooth, MS C 99, pp. 67–8.

2006 Macclesfield sales, pt 8, Sotheby's, 25 October 2006, lot 2615; 2018 Sotheby 9 July, lot 411.

Manuscript copies derived from printed edition, mainly in the nineteenth century:

- ◆ BL MS Add. 37630 (Flower, ii. 566–8), 18th cent. (imperfect).
- ◆ NUIG MS Hyde 10, written by Patrick Duff, ?1783; includes imprint of the edition and a note to the effect that the work 'is called by some Desiderius and by others Sgathan an chrabha'.
- ◆ RIA MS 23 A 29 (cat. 386), pp. 78–94, excerpt written by Seadhan Ó Moihill, Ballynoe (Co. Cork), 1804. 1844 Hodges & Smith 158.
- ◆ Maynooth, MS M 93, written by Seán Ó Muláin, Cork, 1809.
- ◆ RIA MS Stowe F. i. 3 (cat. 264), written for James Roche by Mícheál and Peadar Ó Longáin, 1820.
- ◆ RIA MS Stowe F. iii. 3 (cat. 283) + F. iii. 4 (cat. 728) + F. ii. 4 (cat. 284), written for James Roche by Mícheál and Peadar Ó Longáin, 1820.
- ◆ Maynooth, MS M 28, written for Bishop John Murphy by Pól Ó Longáin with Mícheál Óg Ó Longáin, 1817.
- ◆ Waterford, St John's College (now at Maynooth), MS CE 6 (*Clár*, i. 6–9), pt 1, written by Tomás Ó hÍceadh, 1840, pp. 112–(238).
- ◆ NLI MS G 91, excerpts, written for Thomas Phillipps by Seosamh Ó Longáin, 1846.

Further manuscript copies are attested:

1848 O'Daly 35, '*Sgathan an Chradhbhaigh*', 'Mirror of Devotion', by Father Florence Conry, an Observantin Franciscan, who died in Madrid, AD 1629. In an old hand, but slightly imperfect'; untraced.

— ['Spanish Homer, *in Irish*. 1616'.]

Dix OC 12
Dix OC² 9

Entered by Dix & Ó Casaide on the evidence of 1830 O'Reilly 490. It was perhaps some misapprehension by the auctioneer of a copy of *Desiderius*, albeit O'Reilly makes no mention of his owning a copy of the edition (*Irish Writers*, p. clxxxii).