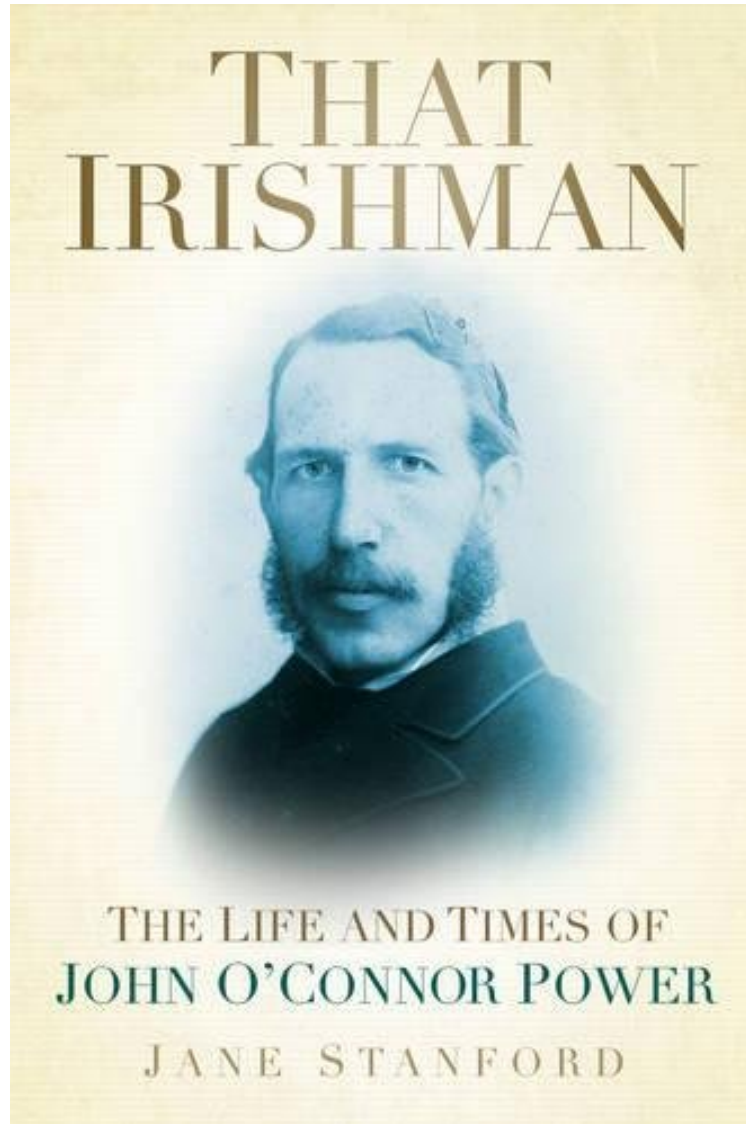


[Pdf free] That Irishman: The Life and Times of John O'Connor Power

## That Irishman: The Life and Times of John O'Connor Power

*Jane Stanford*

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**Jane Stanford : That Irishman: The Life and Times of John O'Connor Power** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised That Irishman: The Life and Times of John O'Connor Power:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. That Century: What might have been in Irish HistoryBy John EdwardThis book, That Irishman: The Life and Times of John O'Connor Power, ticks all the boxes for an excellent biography.It provides a life story, creates a sense of presence for the reader, introduces contemporary characters and, in the research process, makes an interesting and intriguing detective story.The author, Jane Stanford, has written this

book with a passion. The subject, John O'Connor Power, comes alive and through her takes the reader on a journey through the 19th and early 20th century. The reader senses the powerful and, sometimes, tragic forces of the social and political movements at play during this period. Nowhere is this more interesting than in the nationalist and imperial clashes over the Irish Question. We are introduced to known and not so well known characters from history. The diligent and resourceful research into the lost story of John O'Connor Power would make a book in itself. The events leading up to the finding of John O'Connor Power's grave makes for fascinating reading. This book is full of delicious bubbles of information; "I must follow that up" was a frequent thought as I journeyed through the book. For example we are introduced to Ye Old Cheshire Cheese, one of the oldest pubs in London and a haunt of writers, newspapermen and barristers. I felt I could nip in, have a glass or two and eavesdrop. That Irishman, the Life and Times of John O'Connor Power is about John O'Connor Power, his extended family and his impressive impact on the stage of national politics in Ireland, Britain and abroad. From a humble rural beginning in Mayo he became one of the leading architects and orators on the Irish path to nationhood. We are with him through all the turbulent, tumultuous and happy events of his life. From a young witness, with his brothers, to the disease, hardship and despair of the mid 19th century famine this orphan rises to the challenges to stake his claim in history. From the early pages we see the character seeds that gave him the grit to sustain him through life. By his second decade he has survived the loss of his parents, smallpox and the workhouse. By his seventh decade he has become a major force on the political stage, a journalist, a writer, a barrister and one of the best orators of his day. He comes across as a giant above many of his peers - he was his own man 'he was not a follower of any man'. He had a deep social conscience and a life long commitment to prison reform. It is amazing that his story was not told till now. I will be surprised if this rich crop of information does not spawn a sequel. Great book; go read, learn and enjoy. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. That Irishman: The Life and Times of John O'Connor Power By Anthony Layng This is a delightful book. It is a historically accurate, insightful and a captivating account of the public and political life of a true Irish hero. It does full justice to an undeservedly uncelebrated major figure in the land reform of Ireland movement. It shows the divergent voices within the Land League. It is an invaluable work of scholarship. It is a "must read" for any historian or other student of Irish history for the period after 1860 to 1918. My great grand father, James Daly, is accurately represented in this book. Based on this limited aspect and, more importantly from my knowledge, based on my particular interest in land reform law of the time, I am satisfied that, in addition to being superbly written, this is a balanced, objective and reliable historical account. It is a joy to read. What a life, what passion and what principle.

The story of John O'Connor Power is the story of Ireland's struggle for nationhood itself. Born into poverty in Ballinasloe in 1846, O'Connor Power spent much of his childhood in the workhouse. From here he rose rapidly through the ranks of the Fenian Movement to become a leading member of the Supreme Council of the Irish Republican Brotherhood. In 1874 he was elected Member for Mayo to the British House of Commons where he was widely acknowledged to be one of the outstanding orators of his day. His speeches, both in Parliament and to the U.S. House of Representatives, secured crucial concessions and support for the Irish cause. O'Connor Power campaigned tirelessly for the rights of tenant farmers, and pioneered the policy of obstructionism to this end. Following his address to a tenants rights meeting in Mayo, a protest was launched which would quickly become the powerful political force that was the Land League. He was, in short, one of a distinguished company, that indomitable Irishry of Charles Stewart Parnell, Michael Davitt and Isaac Butt, who made the dream of an independent Ireland a reality.

About the Author Jane Stanford was born in England and moved back to Ireland in her late teens. She has lived in Washington DC, New York, Brussels, Madrid, and Geneva. She now lives Dublin.