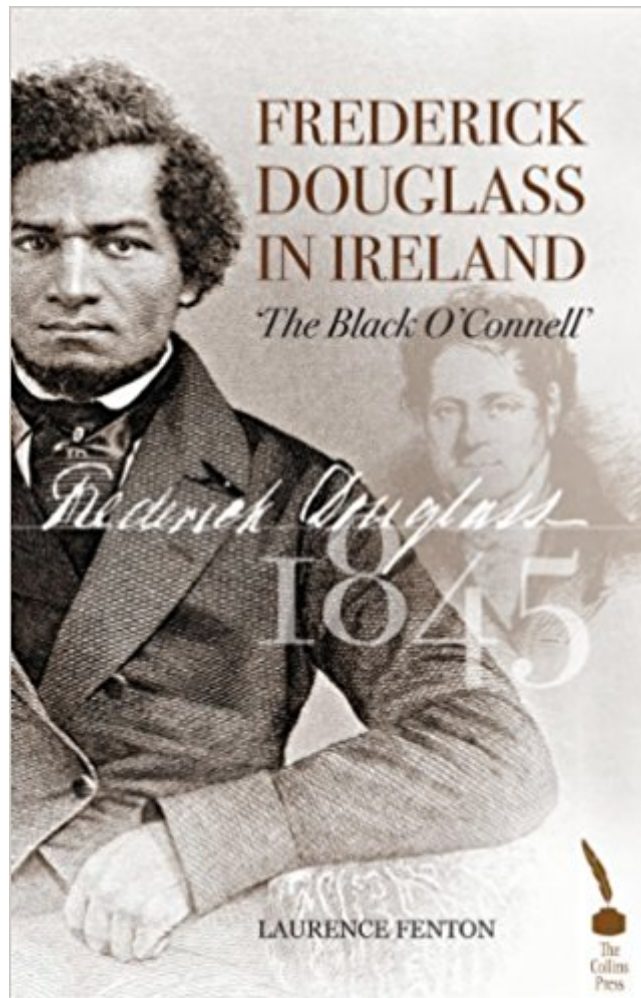




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Frederick Douglass In Ireland: The Black O'Connell'



Synopsis

“When we strove to blot out the stain of slavery and advance the rights of man,” President Obama declared in Dublin in 2011, “we found common cause with your struggle against oppression. Frederick Douglass, an escaped slave and our great abolitionist, forged an unlikely friendship right here in Dublin with your great liberator, Daniel O’Connell.” Frederick Douglass arrived in Ireland in the summer of 1845, the start of a two-year lecture tour of Britain and Ireland to champion freedom from slavery. He had been advised to leave America after the publication of his incendiary attack on slavery, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave*. Douglass spent four transformative months in Ireland, filling halls with eloquent denunciations of slavery and causing controversy with graphic descriptions of slaves being tortured. He also shared a stage with Daniel O’Connell and took the pledge from the “apostle of temperance” Fr Mathew. Douglass delighted in the openness with which he was received, but was shocked at the poverty he encountered. This compelling account of the celebrated escaped slave’s tour of Ireland combines a unique insight into the formative years of one of the great figures of nineteenth-century America with a vivid portrait of a country on the brink of famine.

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Customer Reviews

Great read and continuation of "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave". After visiting Dublin and Meath a couple of years ago out of sheer curiosity of the culture and origin of my last name, I being a man of color as well had such similar experiences as Mr Douglass had over a century ago. Each page resonated dearly with me as I recalled fondly how welcoming and kind the Irish people were and seemed oblivious to the fact that our skin tones differed from one another. The history in this book is incredible and just helps paint the picture of the iconic Douglass that much more with the various shades of emerald found on the great Isle. Ever wondered why a Quaker is called a Quaker? Did you know how and why the Great Potato famine struck in Ireland? Did you know Mr Douglass was touring the country during the potato famine? Incredible history within this minded work, looking forward to rereading.

Very enjoyable. Lots of good quotes from primary materials. Very interesting subject. More research should be done on how the international abolitionism movement shaped Frederick Douglass into the venerated statesman that he became.

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