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"PROMISING HOPE": ESSAYS ON THE SUPPRESSION AND RESTORATION OF THE ENGLISH PROVINCE OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS



ESSAYS BY
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IN HONOUR OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY

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PREFACE

For nearly forty years Geoffrey Holt, S.J., has researched the history of the then English province in the eighteenth century. His articles have appeared in numerous journals; his biographical guides to post-1650 English Jesuits and to the students of the English College of St Omers are indispensable; his books are windows into a relatively unknown period of English Catholic history. To commemorate the 200th anniversary of the re-establishment of the English Province, a steering committee decided to construct a volume around some of his articles. We selected articles that had originally appeared in Archivum Hitoricum Societatis Iesu on different aspects of the province during the Suppression and Restoration of the Society of Jesus, and on the Roman life of one English Jesuit, John Thorpe. To these we added one unpublished paper, an article on the Paccanarists by the late Hubert Chadwick, S.J., previously published in the same journal, and new articles by Maurice Whitehead on the effect of the migration from Liège to Stonyhurst on the curriculum of the college, and Thomas J. Morrissey, S.J., on the troubled presence of Irish Jesuits within the restored province. The previously published articles have been slightly altered: Latin and French citations have been translated into English; references to Father Holt's subsequent works and to the Diccionario Histórico de la Compañía de Jesús (eds. Charles E. O'Neill, S.J., and Joaquín M. Dominguez, S.J., 4 vols. [Madrid/Rome, 2001]) have been added; references to documents in the Archivum Britannicum Societatis Iesu (ABSI) and the Stonyhurst College Archives have been altered to reflect changes in foliation, location, etc.; finally some points of grammar, spelling etc. have been modified for consistency. The editor has surveyed the events leading up to the Suppression of the Society as an introduction to the more detailed studies of the province, and an afterword on the general Restoration and lingering difficulties for the province. To complete the volume we decided to include a selection of relevant documents from the Archives of the British Province and, for the first time, English translations of the papal briefs. Fortunately Stonyhurst College was able to provide ample material for appropriate illustrations.

Many have contributed to this volume. Professor Whitehead and Father Morrissey were willing to write articles at relatively short notice. John Edwards, S.J., Clarence Gallagher, S.J., Bernard Hall, S.J., Joseph S. Munitiz, S.J., Michael O'Halloran, S.J., John P. Murphy, S.J. (Chicago Province), Bernard Walker, S.J., and the late Joseph K. Drane, S.J. (Maryland Province) translated Latin and French documents into English. Alan Harrison, S.J. and James Hodkinson, S.J. helped with the editing and proofreading. Anthony Meredith, S.J., and Joseph A. Munitiz, S.J., advised on and corrected translations. In Rome, Dr Anita Mancia and Stephen Fernando provided needed and frequent aid in Rome; Mihaela Repina helped with the illustrations in London. At Stonyhurst, Jan Graffius, curator of the collections, and David Knight, archivist, introduced me to the college's historical treasures, and provided the required reproductions.