Dictionary of the Irish language, based mainly on Old and Middle Irish materials

Materials

by E. G. Quin
Dictionary of the Irish Language
Work on the ‘Dictionary of the Irish Language’ began in 1852. The foremost Irish scholars of the time, John O'Donovan and Eugene O'Curry, envisioned a dictionary that would be based on a thorough excerpting of old Irish manuscripts. The meanings of words were to be supported by citations. Etymology was not attempted apart from derivation within Irish itself and the giving of sources of loan words. These pioneering directions were adhered to throughout the compilation of the dictionary over more than a century. From 1852 work progressed and in 1913 that the first instalment of the Royal Irish Academy’s ‘Dictionary of the Irish Language’ was published. By 1976 all 24 parts of the dictionary were completed, running to over 2,500 pages. This compact edition brings together the extensive material, photographically reduced in a handsome single volume.

About the authors

E. G. Quin

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Dictionary of the Irish Language: Based Mainly on Old and Middle Irish Materials (also called “the DIL”), published by the Royal Irish Academy, is the definitive dictionary of the origins of the Irish language, specifically the Old Irish and Middle Irish stages; the modern language is not included. The original idea for a comprehensive dictionary of early Irish was conceived in 1852 by the two preeminent Irish linguists of the time, John O'Donovan and Eugene O'Curry; however, it was more than sixty