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IRISH GRAVES ON THE CONTINENT OF EUROPE.

By Eugene Davis.

Under the green sward of many a battlefield, down deep in the vaults of European Catholic cathedrals and churches, under the tessellated floors of the corridors of the ecclesiastic seminaries, monasteries and nunneries lie the ashes of Irish exiles:—Irish Archbishops and prelates of renown in dogmatic and moral theology, professors in the various universities of the continent, warriors famous in history, and now remarkable for the sacrifice of their lives spent in the service of Heaven.

In the Franciscan monastery of San Isidore, situated on the Pincian Hill, Rome, there is, so to speak, a multitude of Irish graves under the high altar and the vault of the church attached to this institution. Under the vault lie the remains of the Rev. Luke Wadding, the founder of San Isidore. He was the most brilliant of scholars and linguists in the era of the seventeenth century. He was born in 1588 in the city of Waterford. His father, Walter Wadding, was a prosperous merchant in that city, and his mother, Anastasia Lombard—maiden name—was a niece of the illustrious Peter Lombard, Archbishop of Armagh, and Primate of

the Catholic church in Ireland. Luke left his native land early in life, and in his fifteenth year became a pupil of the Irish seminary of Lisbon. He shortly afterwards entered the Franciscan convent at Matozinhos, near Oporto, Portugal, and having been duly ordained, proceeded to Coimbra, where Dr. Doyle, the celebrated "J.K.L.," studied. Here Father Wadding preached eloquent sermons in Portuguese, and otherwise distinguished himself as an excellent Greek, Spanish and Hebrew scholar. He reached Rome subsequently. Here in the Franciscan convent of St. Peter in Montorio, he spent twenty years of his life in consulting the Vatican archives, the libraries of Perugia, Assisi and Naples, while he was writing a volume entitled, "The Annals of the Franciscan Order." In the midst of his studies he was not forgetful of the land of his birth, or of her claims on his loyalty and devotion. He solicited and procured supplies of money, arms and the services of expert Irish officers from France and Flanders, whom he dispatched to Ireland during the period of the confederate rebellion. For this assistance he received the thanks of