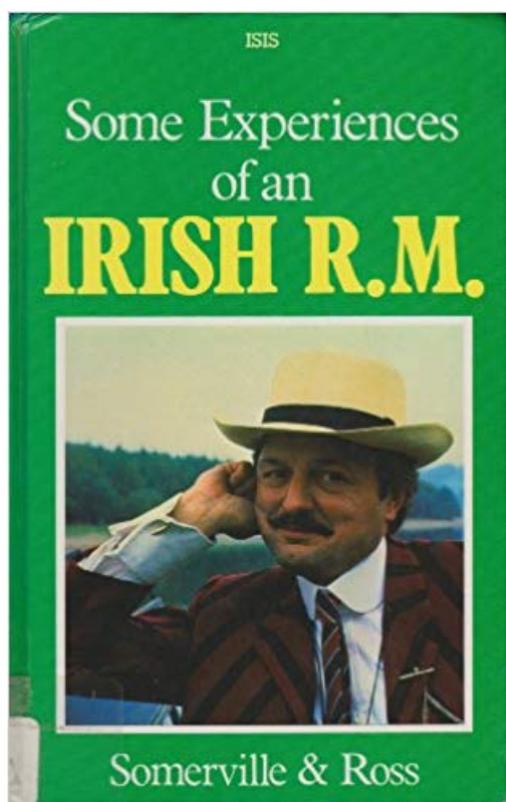


Some Experiences of an Irish R.M. (ISIS Large Print) *by* Martin Ross



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Reviews of the **Some Experiences of an Irish R.M. (ISIS Large Print)** *by* Martin Ross

Orll

These delightful stories of an Anglo-Irish magistrate take place near the end of the 19th century in the southwest of Ireland. The stories start when Major Sinclair Yeates decides to resign from the British Army and accept an appointment as a magistrate in a small town in the west of Ireland and the culture shock and adventures he experiences do make for some very funny reading in these twelve short stories.

The Irish characters that run through nearly all the episodes are a bit broadly drawn for comic effect but the writing doesn't cross the line into mockery. They are almost as broad as some of Dickens's characters and they make you smile, but never wince. Since the authors, Somerville and Ross, lived in the Irish countryside at the time it's easy to think the characters are based on real people they met with every day.

The central characters are Major Yeates himself; Flurry Knox, a local squire whose main aim in life is horse dealing (and all that it implies) and fox hunting; Mrs. Cadogan, the ever dramatic cook; Philippa Yeates, the Major's unflappable wife; Mrs. Knox, Flurry's crusty, no-nonsense mother. There are a dozen other characters that poke their heads in from time to time and add to the confusion and comedy of each story.

A very enjoyable BBC television series based on these stories was created back in the 1980s and is available on DVD *The Irish R.M., The Complete Collection*.

Fohuginn

These stories contain so many stereotypes that the PC culture may shudder. The author does seem to have a genuine affection for all of the classes of Irish society even as she's gently mocking them. The characters are easy to like and the stories stop just short of being ridiculous. With humor, Ms Somerville is able to tell stories of a society riddled with inequity that might otherwise become Dickensian. I thoroughly enjoyed this book.

Charyoll

The Anglo-Irish authors concoct scene after scene in which the native wit of the sons of Ireland's soil leaves the well-educated Major Yeates forever at the starting post. Their writing style, timing and turns of phrase are deliciously addictive. I have been entranced by the devious individuality of the Irish mind on visits to both south and north of the Emerald Isle, but set them down how I may, Somerville and Ross have me as beaten as Major Yeates, the unfailingly out-manuevered Resident Magistrate. This hilarious book is better than a month of nights in a real Irish bar.

Qag

The two books in the Irish RM series (*Experiences of an Irish RM* and *Further Experiences of an Irish RM*) are wonderful. The characters are so well drawn that when I finally viewed the BBC TV series I recognized each and every one of them. The authors are excellent at providing a humorous, cleverly sarcastic view of the Irish dealing with a nice, not too bright, Englishman. By far, my favorite character is "Flurry"...you have to either read the books or see the BBC film to meet him! If you enjoy the Angela Thirkell books or perhaps Barbara Pym, I think you will love the Irish RM and his adventures!

Dddasuk

A hilarious outing by two women co-authors! Wonderful use of English! Wonderful eye for detail! Wonderful ability to see the humor in otherwise humdrum experiences!

Major Sinclair Yeates establishes residency in western Ireland as a regional magistrate. Through a series of short stories, the book follows Major Yeates' misadventures as he tries to make a place among his local neighbors and to make his home ready to accommodate his bride to be, Phillipa. Phillipa's arrival only adds to the hilarity.

Granijurus

Although I found several of the stories funny and clever, there were too many parts of the book that just seemed very tedious for me to give it more than 3 stars. I felt the author got caught up "over-explaining" things that really hindered the flow of the book.

Qucid

Very funny "fish out of water" book. Words and situations peculiar to the setting that I don't fully get pop up from time to time, as will happen when the reader and author are separated by so much geography and time, but the main character often fails to get them as well, so they usually get explained. I read the book because I enjoyed the TV series and was not disappointed.

I've wanted to read this book ever since I first watched the BBC series, "The Irish RM", which is based on it. I was thrilled that so little of the book had been changed for the TV series. I found the writing style easy to read, and the stories as amusing as they had appeared in the series. Loved the book.

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