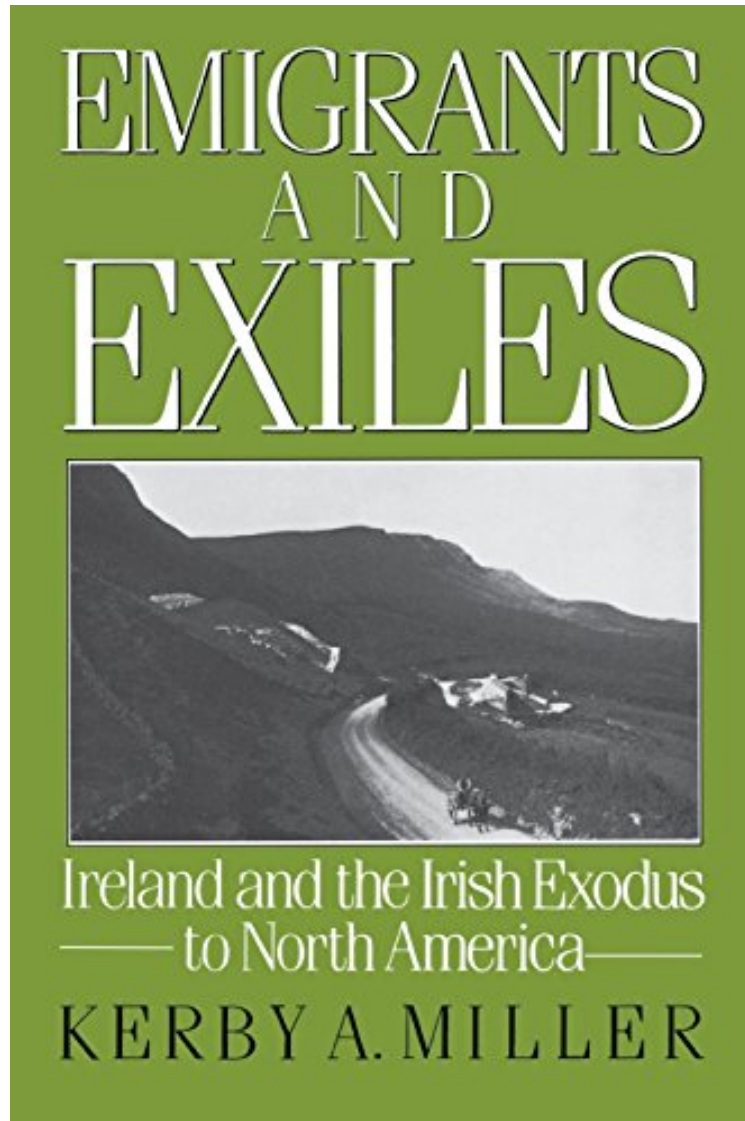


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## Emigrants and Exiles: Ireland and the Irish Exodus to North America (Oxford Paperbacks)

*Kerby A. Miller*

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Eclectic Reader This excellent history is a must-have for American family genealogists with Irish roots - it is one thing to know the names of your ancestors, but another to truly comprehend their experience as immigrants and the social and economic issues they encountered when they arrived in America. If you are a writer who is interested in accurately reflecting the Irish American experience pre and post-immigration, this is an excellent resource. Even though the book was published in 1985, the thoroughly researched material remains relevant and accurate. The book is a scholarly work written by a serious scholar, but if you have interest in or need for the material, you find the content engaging and useful. Note: I did not read the material chronologically as I am interested in specific time periods and social issues, but the book's chronological order and index make it easy to locate the content one is seeking.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good but tough to read  
By LFL8812 This book is going to take me months, if not years, to read! I don't know who the author was writing for but not the the average reader, that's for sure. I have to have a dictionary by me even then don't understand what he is trying to say because of some of his sentence structure. I have 3 yrs of college, went to nursing school, was an RN nearly 30 years so I can't read that far below normal but, geeze, this is a chore. However, there is really good information in it I know, if I can ever plow through it, I will be glad I did. I just wish it weren't written so lofty for some kind of scholars so it would be more pleasurable to read.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Emigrants and Exiles: Ireland and the Irish Exodus to North America  
By Nancy J. Dickison This is a very in-depth research of the topic as stated in the title. If you are interested in Irish history this book is quite informative and interesting. However, it is not lite reading because of the author's detailed efforts to convey to the reader the many reasons why Ireland and the Irish people came to be such a distinctive population. These are reasons that cannot easily be summed up in a few short pages, but I do think the author could have done a better job in summarizing his information. Refreshingly, the author only lets his personal biases creep into the book occasionally. Most disappointing is that my paperback copy of this book was marred by an imperfect printing and many of the words on the left side of opposing pages were hardly readable. It became quite frustrating to have to guess at some of them. To anyone who is doing research, this is a good read.

Rich in human detail, penetrating in analysis, this book is social history on an epic scale. The first "transatlantic" history of the Irish, *Emigrants and Exiles* offers the fullest account yet of the diverse waves of Irish emigration to North America. Drawing on enormous original research, Miller focuses on the thought and behavior of the "ordinary" Irish emigrants, as revealed in their personal letters, diaries, journals, and memoirs as well as in their songs, poems and folklore. Miller shows that the exile mentality was deeply rooted in Irish history, culture and personality, and it profoundly affected both the traumatic course of modern Irish history and the Irish experience in America.

"In *Emigrants and Exiles*, the Irish and Irish-Americans have found a work equal to their history--alive with fact, vivid in detail, exposing and assessing the virtues and vices of being Irish."--Terrence Fitzmorris, Tulane University  
"A well-written and extensively researched study.... This ambitious work definitely promises to become a basic title for Irish studies."--Ethnic Forum  
"Without question *Emigrants and Exiles* will become a classic in emigration studies and because exile/emigration is so crucial to understanding Ireland it will be a significant text for any study of Irish history."--Journal of American Studies  
"This is a book that should be read by anyone with even a passing interest in eighteenth-century Ireland or America."--Eoin Magennis, *Eighteenth-Century Ireland*  
From the Back Cover  
The most important book on Irish emigration to appear in a generation...destined to be the monument by which all others are measured.... It has the sinew of scholarship, the strength of extended argument and the intimacy of a correspondence with long lost relatives.  
About the Author  
Kerby A. Miller is Associate Professor of History at the University of Missouri, Columbia.