



Marsh's Library

Date

1898

Primary Maker

Walter Frederick Osborne

Medium

Oil on board

Dimensions

35.6 × 26 cm

Description

Marsh's library which adjoins St. Patrick's Cathedral is the oldest public library in Ireland and was opened by Archbishop Narcissus March in 1701, in building designed by Sir William Robinson. The library holds regular

exhibitions to display its treasures from a stock of over 25,000 volumes, many of which date from the 15th century. Books which belonged to Archbishop Laud and to Isaac Casaubon are included in the collection. Dean Swift's copy of Clarendon's "History of the Great rebellion" with Swift's pencilled notes may also be seen. The interior design of the library is preserved in its original layout and contains cages in to which readers were locked when consulting the rare books