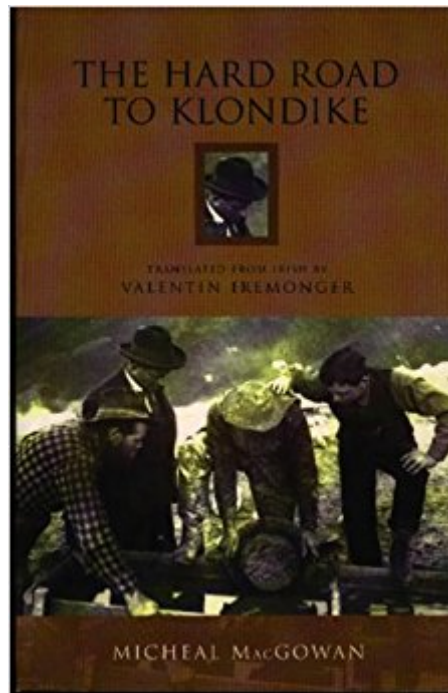




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The Hard Road To Klondike



Synopsis

Born in 1865 in Donegal, the eldest of twelve children in a poverty-stricken family, Michael MacGowan left home as a young man to work in Scotland, but soon headed for America and, he hoped, some kind of success. He worked his way across the country as a hobo, working in steel mills and mines in Tennessee and Montana, before embarking on his greatest adventure-the gold rush, in the primitive, harsh, and icy wastes of the Yukon. His saga is filled with vivid recountings of his adventures and experiences-canoeing the Yukon, panning for gold, sheltering with Indians, the long dark winters near the Arctic Circle-and his loyal ""sourdough"" companions. He returned home in 1901 and using the money from the gold he found, bought some land and a house, married, and never wandered again, dying in 1948. MacGowan's highly readable true story of the frontier is one of determination, courage, and spirit.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Sean O hEochaidh took down this story from Mici MacGabhann when collecting for the Irish Folklore Commission in the 1940's. It was later edited for publication in Irish by Proinnsias O Conluain and published in 1958. This translation by Valentin Iremonger was first published in 1962 and has been unavailable for many years.

As an American of Irish descent, I really enjoyed this memoir. My great-grandfather (from Galway)

experienced much of what MacGowan did, except that his journey stopped in the coal mines of eastern PA. It is a simple, but elegantly told tale in which MacGowan gives you an appreciation for what our ancestors experienced. I highly recommend it.

This book is an English language translation of "Rotha Má fÁr an tSaoil" an Irish language book about the life of a young man from Donegal Ireland who came to America to earn his fortune. I found the book a fascinating story of the hard work and adventures of a young immigrant in the late 19th century. He worked in the steel mills in Bethlehem Pa, the copper mines in Montana and panned for gold in the Yukon before returning to Ireland to marry and raise a family.

An excellent book about Ireland's working situations in second half of XIX Century and what happened to Irish home leavers within Ireland, in Scotland and USA.

This book taught me much about one man's determination to get more out of life than was possible in Ireland during that time. The human spirit prevails and this book is inspirational for those who believe there is more to life if one is willing to risk adventure and seek out possibilities over the far horizons.

an interesting tale of the Irish immigration viewed by one individual, and a bit of experience regarding the mining in the Klondike Gold Rush. This book does not present the romantic adventure aspect of Gold Rush times so common in other 'historical' sources.

Great story of an interesting character with an amazing story. Super read and well worth purchasing for anyone with an interest in Irish life and culture.

Great book!

I could read this story over and over again it leaves you with great respect for those that have gone before us

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