



Continental Church Furniture in England

A Traffic in Piety

Charles Tracy

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- First book on the history of the virtually unknown phenomenon of the importation of Continental church furniture into England since the early 19th century

This is the first book on the history of the virtually unknown phenomenon of the importation of Continental church furniture into England since the early 19th century, fuelled by the Romantic mediaevalising enthusiasm of Pugin and the Catholic Revival, as well as the eccentric whims of the Anglican Squiresons. It is well illustrated throughout, with over 100 pieces, from pulpits to choir stalls, discussed in detail. There is also an invaluable gazeteer of the main English churches containing fragments of this material.

Charles Tracy completed his Ph.D. thesis at the Courtauld Institute on English Gothic choir-stalls. Since then he has extensively researched the largely ignored subject of English medieval church furniture and woodwork. He is the author of the two volume study, *English Gothic Choir-Stalls, 1200-1540*, and the *Catalogue of English Medieval Furniture and Woodwork* for the V & A Museum. In addition he has published many articles in learned journals on related topics, from the *Watching Chamber* at St. Alban's Cathedral to the early 14th century painted screen at Kingston Lacy, Dorset. His interest in Continental church furniture of all periods goes back over ten years and he has made a particular study of the material in Belgium and France.