

# Contents

Acknowledgments	VII
Abbreviations	VIII
List of Illustrations	IX
Introduction	1
<b>1 Juan Eusebio Nieremberg</b>	<b>9</b>
Introduction	9
The Jesuit	12
Faithful Son of Saint Ignatius	17
Christian Discernment	21
The Ignatian <i>Exercises</i> : Seeking and Finding the Divine Will	23
Discernment in Early Modern Spain	28
Nieremberg and the <i>Exercises</i>	31
Jesuit Ministry of the Word	39
Erudite Eclecticism	43
Conclusion	49
<b>2 Catechetical Innovations</b>	<b>51</b>
Introduction	51
Catechetical Context: Crying Tears of Blood	53
Nieremberg and Trent	55
The Voice of Doctrine	59
The Catechetical Examples: Entertaining Digressions	63
Narrative Appeal: The Open Roads of Spain	66
Contemplating the Example: To Bring to Memory	73
Assimilating the Example: The Story of One's Life	77
The Wider Application of the <i>Exemplo</i>	81
Conclusion	84
<b>3 Contemplating the Book of Nature</b>	<b>86</b>
Introduction	86
Nieremberg's Natural Philosophy	88
The Miscellanies: Part Knowledge, Part Wonder	92
Knowledge of the Natural World: <i>Ad perfectam cognitionem</i>	106
Reading the Book of Nature: Harmony and Deformity	110
Contemplating the Book of Nature: The Consideration	117
Applying the Lessons of Nature: <i>Deus me fecit</i>	122
Conclusion	125

<b>4 The Spiritual Exercise of Reading</b>	<b>126</b>
Introduction	126
The <i>Eusebio</i>	131
Proper Knowledge	136
<i>Contemptus mundi</i>	140
Didactic Iconography: <i>Ser</i> and <i>Parecer</i>	145
A Spiritual Itinerary	150
Meditative Reading	157
Conclusion	162
<b>5 Public Maladies and Prudent Reform</b>	<b>163</b>
Introduction	163
Words of Counsel	163
The Pain of National Decline	169
The Cause	175
The Remedy	178
Prudent Reform	186
Conclusion	195
<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>Appendices</b>	
<b>1 Bibliography of Works by Juan Eusebio Nieremberg</b>	<b>203</b>
<b>2 Excerpts of Cited Decrees from the Council of Trent</b>	<b>207</b>
<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>Index</b>	<b>227</b>