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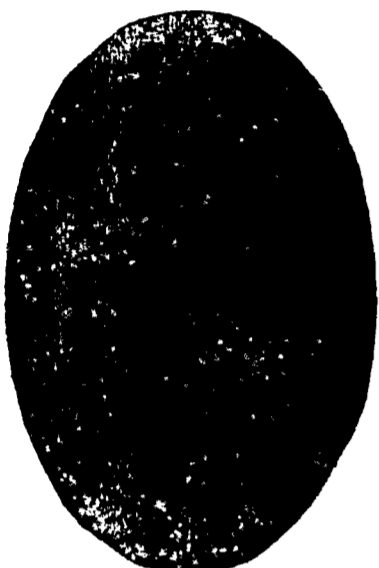
CATHOLIC WRITERS

OF IRELAND AND ENGLAND.

Short Sketches of Some of the Leading Novelists.

As there is always more or less interest felt in the personal appearance of public people, we take great pleasure in presenting to our readers the portraits and brief biographical sketches of a number of well-known Catholic writers of Ireland and England. It the foremost ranks is Mrs. Katherine Tynan Hinkson, poet, essayist, and novelist.

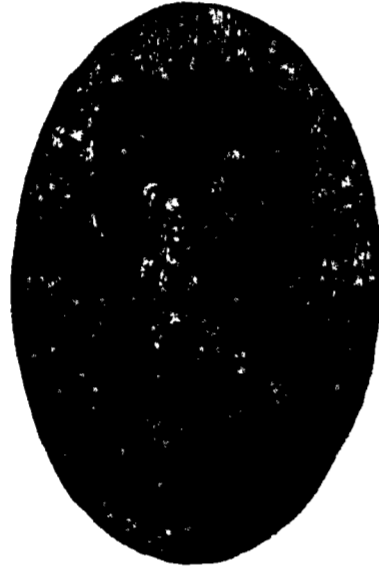
Katherine Tynan was born in Dublin, and educated at the Dominican Convent of St. Catherine of Sienna, in Drogheda. She began to write verse when very young, and her first poem appeared in the Graphic. Her first book, "Louise de la Valliere



lished first in the Irish Monthly, and afterwards in book form, and is in its third edition. "A Fair Emigrant," first appeared in the American magazine, the "Catholic World." "Marcella Grace," is a reprint from the Irish Monthly. "The Squire's Granddaughter," appeared first in an English periodical, the Household Magazine, and "The Mystery of Hall-in-the-Wood," a story for boys and girls, in Young England. For children and young people she has written "Four Little Mischiefs," "Hetty Gray," "Giannetta," and "Banshee Castle," "The Little Flower Seekers," "Puck and Blossom," "Five Little Farmers," "The Walking Trees and Other Tales," "The Story of Jesus Simply Told for the Young," "Holy Childhood," a very original and beautiful prayer book, "Spiritual Counsels for the Young," and "The First Christmas." Miss Mulholland also collected some years ago her early poems under the title of "Vagrant Verses," and these were very favorably received by the critics and the public.

CLARA MULHOLLAND.

Miss Clara Mulholland the younger sister of Lady Gilbert, was born in Belfast, but left that town at a very



and Other Poems," was published in 1885 and quickly ran into several additions. This was followed by "Shamrock," in 1887, and "Ballads and Lyrics," in 1892. Her first prose work was "Life of Mother M. Xaveria Fallon," which also appeared in 1892. Since then she has published "A Cluster of Nuts," being sketches of Irish life; "Cuckoo Songs," "The Way of a Maid," "The Land of Mist and Mountain," "Miracle Plays," "An Isle in the Water," and "Oh What a Plague is Love."

Miss Tynan was married in 1893 to Mr. H. A. Hinkson, who is also engaged in literary work, and since her marriage she has made her home in the neighborhood of London. She is a constant contributor of stories, articles and reviews to the literary magazines of England, and an occasional writer for the "Pilot," and the "Ave Maria" in this country.

ROSA MULHOLLAND.

Lady Gilbert, better known as Rosa Mulholland, was born in Belfast, Ireland, and is the second daughter of late Joseph Stevenson Mulholland, M. D., of Belfast, and Maria, his wife, Mr. William Mulholland, Queen's Counsel, London, Bench of Lincoln's Inn, is her brother, and her eldest sister is Lady Russell of Killowen, wife of the Lord Chief

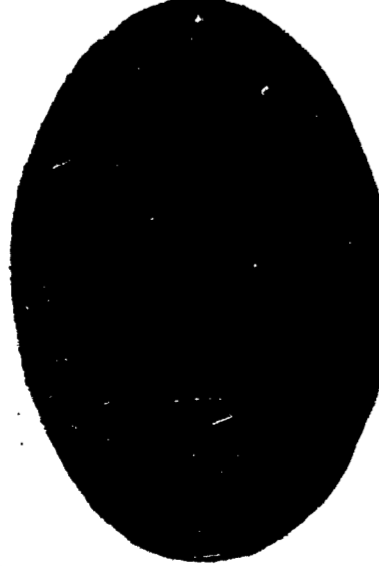


early age. She was educated in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England, at a convent of the Sisters of Providence of the Institute of Charity, and afterwards at a convent of the Dames de Marie, Colons, Belgium. Her first story, for young children, was published by Marcus Ward & Co., of Belfast.

At first she catered almost exclusively for youthful readers, but her publishers and the National Press Agency induced her to write a considerable number of longer stories of a more ambitious character. "The Adventures of Little Snowdrop," and most of her tales had delighted their set of magazine readers before reappearing as separate volumes. "Naughty Miss Bunny," "Little Merry Face and His Crown of Content," and the "Little Bog-trotters," are some of the best stories for juvenile, while their seniors have given a warm welcome to her "Kathleen Mavourneen," "A Striking Contrast," "Lady Stratmore's Stratagem," "John Lawson's Ward" and "Two Against One," "The Miser of King's Court," "Percy's Revenge," and "Linda's Misfortunes."

DOROTHY BOULGER.

Dorothy Boulger, who is extensively known under her pseudonym of "Theo Gift," is descended from a long race of Catholic ancestors. In 1854, her father, the late Thomas Havers, Esq., became manager of the Falkland Island, in which remote and desolate colony she and her brothers and sisters passed seven years of their childhood.



Justice of England. In 1891 Rosa Mulholland married Mr., now Sir, John T. Gilbert, author of the well-known "History of Dublin," and other standard works relating to Ireland, based on researches among unpublished books.

Miss Mulholland began her literary career at a very early age, when her contributions to "All The Year Round," received warm encouragement from the late Charles Dickens, at whose suggestion her novels "Hester's History," and the "Wicked Woods of Toberevil" were written for his periodical, then edited by himself. Two shorter stories, "The Late Miss Hollingford," and "Fidalgoman," were especially approved of by Dickens, and republished. A number of other short stories have been republished under the titles of "Marigold and Other Stories," and "The Haunted Organist of Hurly Burly and Other Stories." "The Wild Birds of Killeevy" was pub-

In 1861 the family left the Falkland Islands for Monte Video, the capital of Uruguay, where they remained until the death of Mr. Havers in 1876, which brought his children back to England. It was then that his second daughter began her literary work in earnest. Theo Gift's first published stories appeared in the Galaxy, New York, and she became almost a regular contributor to that magazine. Very soon, however, after her arrival in England she

managed to obtain a name and a footing for herself in the English magazines. Her first three-volume novel, "True to Her Trust," was published anonymously, but was quickly followed by "Pretty Miss Bellow," which ran, first of all, as a serial in Cassell's Magazine, and was the book which made her name. It was followed by "More Than a Woman's Love," a serial story, which appeared in "The Lamp," under the editorship of the Rev. William Lockhart, and "Maid Ellice." These were succeeded by "Visited on the Children," "A Matter of Fact Girl," "Lill Lorimer," "A Garden of Girls," "Victims," and "Dishonored," among three volume novels, and an "Innocent Maiden," and "Not for the Night Time," one volume each, and "The Little Colonists," and "Cape Town Dickey," books for children; besides enormous number of short stories, sketches, essays and poems.

In 1879 "Theo Gift" married Professor Boulger, the well known botanist and geologist, and author of many scientific works. Her marriage was followed shortly afterwards by a very severe illness, which laid the seeds for her almost continuous ill-health, and compelled her to cease writing altogether for a time and to take entire rest from all literary labors. Since then, indeed, she has only published three books, "An Island Princess," "Wrecked at the Outset," and "Fairy Tales from the Far East," besides contributing occasional short stories to various magazines and journals of the day.

FRANCES BLUNDELL.

Mrs. Frances Blundell (M. E. Francis) is the second daughter of the late Michael James Sweetman, of Lambert Park, Queens County, Ireland. Her mother was the only daughter and heiress of Michael Powell, of Fitzwilliam Square, Dublin, and Richview, county Dublin. Miss Sweetman was born at Killiney Park, County Dublin, brought up at Lambert Park, and married in 1819, Francis Nicholas Blundell, who died in 1884.



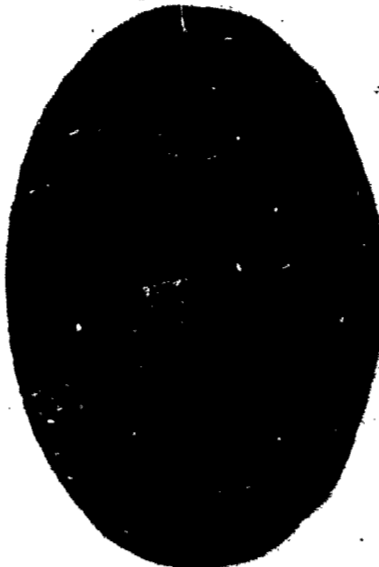
After her marriage she lived entirely at Crosby, Lancashire, the scene of the "North Country Village," which is, perhaps her best known book.

One of her sisters is Mrs. Egerton Castle, wife of the well-known litterateur. Another is Miss Elinor Sweetman, whose "Palms" and fugitive pieces have been singled out by the press for favorable notice. Miss Sweetman's first printed tale was written when she was fourteen, and secured the distinction of being published through the interest of Rev. Matthew Russell, S. J., editor of the "Irish Monthly," in which journal a more mature effort appeared in November, 1897. Her first long story, "Molly's Fortunes," appeared in the "Irish Monthly," and has since been followed by many others, chiefly sketches of Irish village life. "Whither" her first three-volume novel, was published in 1892, followed after an interval of six months by "In a North Country Village." In the spring of 1894 the "Story of Dan," appeared. This is a romance of Irish life, and both scenes and characters are well known to the author in her childhood. That same year "A daughter of the Soil," had the honor of being selected as the first serial which was to appear in the weekly edition of "The Times," and was afterwards published in book form. Since then she has published "Frieze and Fustian," a collection of sketches of peasant life in Ireland and Lancashire, and various short stories, most of which are shortly to be re-issued in volume form under the title of "Among the Untrodden Ways."

MRS. TEELING.

Mrs. Bartle Teeling (nee Theodora Louisa Lane Clarke) was born in Guernsey, but passed her childhood in Woodstock, Oxford, where her father was Rector. On his death his widow returned with their only child

to Guernsey, and became there a centre of literary and scientific interest and mental activity as student and writer of natural history, etc., and author of several scientific manuals.



Mrs. Lane Clarke was a strong Protestant, but her daughter, the subject of this sketch, after years of anxious thought and deep but solitary research, for she had not a single Catholic acquaintance, was received into the Church. Shortly after her conversion, while she was still under twenty-one, she made her first essay in literature, at the request of Father Lockhart, in "The Lamp" of which he was editor.

Her marriage, which was solemnized by Father Lockhart, was the first marriage which took place in the historic church of St. Ekdreda since the "Reformation."

Since the death of her mother, whom she had the happiness of bringing into the church, Mrs. Teeling has published some fifty articles and biographical sketches in "The Month," "Temple Bar," "The Catholic World," "The Gentlemen's Magazine," and other publications.

Although she has seven young children and all the cares of a household, scarcely a month passes that she has not an article in at least one of the many magazines to which she contributes.

MRS. MAUDE.

Mrs. William Maude (nee Sophie Dora Spicer) was brought up in one of the loveliest of English deer-parks, her parents going to live there when she was ten years old, and there she wrote her first stories in nursery and schoolroom days, but these never appeared in print.



Her first publication was a little story written in aid of the Sick Children's Hospital, in great Ormond street. It was brought out by the S. P. O. K., and called "Cyril's Hobby-Horse." The proceeds went to the Children's Hospital.

About the same time (when twelve years old) she ventured to send a story to "Aunt Judy's" Magazine, which was declined, but "Aunt Judy's" letter was religiously treasured; a kind, sympathetic letter, beautifully worded as only Mrs. Gatty knew how to write. "Two Little Hearts" was her next publication.

Miss Spicer was never sent to school, but shared her younger sisters' masters in their Belgrave Square schoolroom. After a few years she was received into the Catholic church, and lived some time abroad. She gave up writing for awhile, but soon began again, and through Monsignor Nugent, then editor of "The Fireside," her stories appeared from time to time, in both the "Catholic Times," and "Catholic Fireside." The Catholic Truth Society has reprinted one of these, "The Runaway Marriage," and is now bringing out a little volume of her short stories. In 1890 she became Mrs. William Maude. Her husband belongs to the old Yorkshire family of Maude. Mrs. Maude's book, "The Child Countess" appeared in 1893, and she has another almost ready which will, perhaps lead to greater thought and realization of that spirit world so close to us and to which we are all hastening, the

puratory where each suffering soul awaits its deliverance from pain.

FRANCES MAITLAND.

Frances Mary Maitland is one of a large family, and was brought up in a Scotch manse. While her father was proud of the old Presbyterian stock of which he came, her mother's people were Episcopalians and on one side Jacobites. The happiest hours of Miss Maitland's existence were spent with the grandmother whose great-grandfather had laid down his life on Tower-Hill for the "Old Pretender," and whose uncle, with his own lips, has told her, many a time, of his visit to Prince Charles at Rome.

Mrs. Maitland was delicate, and when her daughters grew up it was their grandmother who took the girls about, and enjoyed the fun as heartily as they did.

Then came the death of Miss Maitland's father, and a wandering life began—a small house in Kensington for part of the year, winters in France and Switzerland, and summers with the grandmother in the old Scotch town that sheltered Mary Stuart. With the wanderings and wider view



Dr. Thomas Sheridan of Galles, the friend of Swift, and grandfather of Richard Brinsley Sheridan, the author of "The School for Scandal."

R. B. Sheridan Knowles received his education at the college of the Rosminian Fathers, at the cliff in Leicestershire, and on the completion of his college course entered the civil service. His contribu-



tions to literature consist mainly of essays, sketches and reviews, which have appeared in various journals and periodicals. His most recent, and also his most important work, is the novel "Glencooche," a story of Irish life, which, having run serially for a year in "The Month," was re-published in three volumes.

LADY ANABEL KERR.

Lady Anabel Kerr, daughter of the sixth Earl Cowper, was born in 1848. She was received into the Catholic church in 1872, and the following year was married to Admiral Lord Walter Kerr. She is the author of a number of books, among them "Untraced Convictions," being the reasons for her conversion, "Before Our Last Queen," and



the world came a glimpse of the world-embracing faith—Christ's church. A good deal of reading, many questionings, an interview with an Oratorian Father, and, finally, reception into the church. This was followed by attempts at writing a sketch, "Devorquillan of Galloway," and her "Abbey of Dulce Cor," and a kindly letter from the saintly Father Dignam, S. J., then editor of the "English Messenger." There came encouragement from Father Matthew Russell, and a longer story in "The Month," then in Father Clarke's hands; afterwards stories for Mr. Wilfrid Meynell in "Merry England," in the "Catholic Magazine," "The Fireside," and one tale for the "American Messenger."

LOUISE DOBREE.

Louise Emily Dobree, a native of Tours, France, is of Irish descent on her mother's side, while her father's family, which is a Guernsey one, was originally French, as the name shows. She was received into the Catholic church in 1887.

Miss Dobree's first story was published when she was nineteen. This was followed by fugitive articles and short stories in magazines, as well as books for young people. She is an



occasional contributor to twenty magazines. Miss Dobree has lived a great deal in the Channel Islands, France and Ireland, besides having paid visits, long and short, to Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium, Germany, etc. The scenes of her stories are constantly laid on the continent of Europe. She lives now, as she has done for the past nine years, at Christwick, near London.

PAULINE MAITLAND.

Pauline Maitland was born at Florence, Italy, and was educated at the convent of the Holy Trinity, near Florence. She has written several tales, and has been a member of the Catholic Truth Society, and of the "Catholic Times," and "Catholic Fireside." Her first story, "The Runaway Marriage," was published in "The Month," and is now being re-published in three volumes.

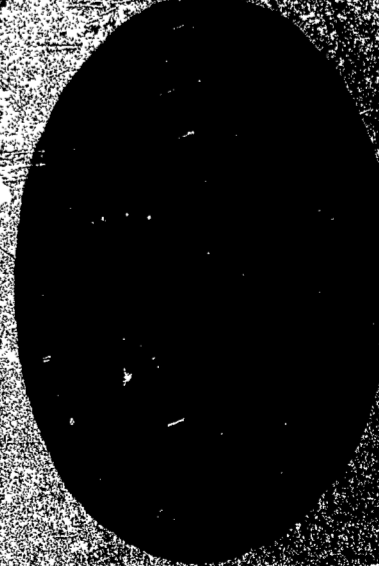
R. B. SHERIDAN KNOWLES.

R. B. Sheridan Knowles is the eldest and only surviving son of the late Richard Brinsley Knowles, a barrister, the author of "The Maiden Hunt," and a well-known London Journalist. He is the grandson of James Knowles, author of "Virginia," "The Huntress," "The Love Chase," etc., and great-grandson of James Knowles, the lexicographer whose mother, Esther Knowles nee Sheridan, was the daughter of

Testament story for Miss Dobree, "A Mixed Marriage," and "Life of Joan of Arc," and "The Blessed Sebastian Valerius." She is at present the editor of "The Catholic Magazine" and the editor of the Catholic Truth Society, and a member of the committee of the Society.

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These are the names of the Catholic writers mentioned in this article. Their works and contributions to the Catholic press are highly valued and appreciated.