

HOW THE WOMEN OF CANADA AID IN THE LITERARY WORK THROUGHOUT THE DOMINION

Some of the Finest Women Writers of the World Are Found in This Fair Canada—Some of the Writers and their Photographs, Including That of Anne of Green Gables, the Authoress Prince Edward Island is so Justly Proud of Besides Many Whose Names Are Familiar in Every Household.

By Marjory MacMurchy
(Copyright by Publishers Press Ltd.)
It used to be said, and is said still, that Nova Scotia and New Brunswick head the other Canadian provinces in the making of poets. One province does not seem to be favored more than another in the work of Canadian women writers. Miss L. M. Montgomery of Prince Edward Island, who as Mrs. Ewan Macdonald, the wife of a Presbyterian minister, is changing her home this autumn to Leaskdale in Ontario, is the best representative we have of a Canadian

with long visits to London and journeys to Canada every few years. Mrs. Cotes visited Canada this year after finishing an English political novel which is to appear serially in "The Queen." The best known of Mrs. Cotes' novels are: "An American Girl in London," "Those Delightful Americans," "A Daughter of Today," "The Crown's Nest," "The Pool in the Desert," "The Path of a Star," "The Imperialist," "Set in Authority," which appeared serially in "The London Times," and "The Buried Offering," an able novel dealing with East Indian affairs. Mrs. Cotes is a thorough workwoman. Her style is excellent. Her influence on the women writers of Canada who have begun to write since Mrs. Cotes made her name as a novelist is all in the direction of perfecting what the writer at first may be prone to consider her best. Miss Lily Dougall was born in Montreal and belongs to the well-known Dougall family who have made

The Witness a household journal throughout the Dominion. Miss Dougall's first success as a novelist was "Beggars All." From 1891, the year in which "Beggars All" was published, Miss Dougall lived in England until 1896 when she returned to Canada. In 1903 she was compelled to return to England on account of her health. Miss Dougall spent the present summer with her relatives in Canada and will this autumn change her residence in England from Exmouth to Oxford. Her best known novels are: "What Necessity Knows," "The Madonna of a Day," "The Mormon Prophet," "The Earthly Purgatory," "The Spanish Dowry," and "The Paths of the Righteous," "The Paths of the Righteous," which deals with the position of the Non-Conformists in England, contains a striking and beautiful portrait of an elderly Canadian who as the possessor of great wealth goes to England to discover the character of the relative whom he means to make his heir. This novel is Miss Dougall's finest work so far and indicates that we have still much to expect from its author.

Miss Agnes Maule Macfar, a native of Kingston, Ontario, has influenced the study of Canadian history. Miss Laut once said that Miss Macfar had given her an early impulse towards the study of history. Miss Macfar has written both in prose and verse. Her "Lays of the True North" and "The Story of Old Kingston" are amongst her best known work. Miss Macfar's father, the Rev. John Macfar, D. D., was second Principal of Queen's University, Kingston. Miss Macfar has had several notable friendships with people who have influenced Canadian character. Principal Grant of Queen's University, "The Rev. D. J. Macdonnell of St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, and Professor Romanes of Oxford, have been among those who have received sympathy and counsel from Miss Macfar. Canadians apparently have a gift

for the writing of verse, and in this gift Canadian women share equally with men. Miss Isabella Valancy Crawford was born in Ireland. She came to Canada with her people while she was still a child. For powerful imagination and genius of utterance, Miss Crawford's poetry has scarcely been equalled in Canadian literature since her death. Her work was almost unrecognized during her lifetime and she died as she had lived in poverty and obscurity. There is a grocery-store on the south-east corner of King and John Streets, Toronto, where in a single room upstairs Miss Crawford lived with her mother. Here she died. She had published a small volume of poetry in 1884. About twenty years after her death, her Collected Poems were edited and published by Mr. J. W. Garvin. Among Canadian women writers who have published several volumes of verse are Miss Wetherald,

Miss Coleman, Mrs. Blewett, Mrs. Harrison, Miss Pauline Johnson, and Mrs. Elizabeth Roberts Macdonald. All but the last named of these verse writers belong to Ontario. Miss Wetherald lives near Fenwick, Ontario. Her father was a highly respected schoolmaster, principal of the Rockwood Academy. "Wetherald's" verse includes: "The House of Trees," "Tangled in Stars," "The Radiant Road" and "The Last Robin."

Miss Helena Coleman who lives in Toronto and whose brother is the Canadian geologist, Professor Arthur Coleman, has published one volume of poetry, "Songs and Sonnets," a publication which brought her immediate acknowledgement as a gifted writer. Mrs. Jean Blewett is a writer of verse which joins common sense and feeling in such a happy fashion as to have made her one of the most popular of Canadian poets. She also is a resident of Toronto and is a frequent contributor to such publications as the Toronto Globe. Her books of verse are "The Cornflower" and "Heart Songs." Miss Harrison published a good many years ago "Fleur de Rose and Fleur de Lys," a volume of artistic verse in which The Habitant made what is possibly his first appearance in Canadian poetry. Mrs. Harrison is the author as well of a husband and organist and choir master, "The Forest of Bonaventure," a French-Canadian romance. Mrs. Harrison is interested in music. Her father, St. Simon's Church, Toronto. Miss Pauline Johnson is an Indian poetess. Her "White Wampum" and "The Song My Paddle Sings" are likely to remain the most successful expression which the world possesses of the Indian's love of nature. Miss Johnson, who is a Mohawk and was born near Brantford, is now living in Vancouver. Canadians will regret to hear that this woman of genius is in extremely poor health. Reference has been made to Mrs. Elizabeth Roberts Macdonald's work. Her home is in Fredericton, New Brunswick. She shares the poetical gift of the Roberts family. Her earliest published work in poetry appeared along with

verse written by two of her brothers. Since then she has published a book of her own work, "Dream Verses and Other Poems."

Besides these writers, many Canadian women write charming verses which appear frequently in the best Canadian magazines and in the foremost magazines of the United States. Among these should be mentioned: Miss Marjorie Pickthall, who has a rare imaginative gift, Miss Warnock, whose work as book reviewer of The Mail-Empire, Toronto, is signed "Katherine Hale," Mrs. Sheard, one of whose poems was published in a recent issue of Scribner's Magazine, and Mrs. MacKay of Vancouver who writes successfully in prose as well as in verse. Other writers might be named. But this list should serve to give an idea of how many Canadian women are visited frequently, if not constantly, by the magic vision of the poet.

Mrs. Trail and Mrs. Moodie should be named with the earliest women writers of Canada. Their connection with the famous Strickland family removed effectually any impression of the amateur from their writings. Several women have accomplished good work in the writing of Canadian history. Miss Agnes Laut has written several historical novels and a number which have appeared serially in Scribner's Magazine and other publications. Miss Jean McIlwraith, author of "The Curious Career of Roder-



MARJORY MACMURCHY.

woman writer whose native province by itself furnishes her with ample material for her charming stories. Miss Marshall Saunders has travelled much both in the Old world and the New, but she is as individual a citizen of Halifax and as characteristically a Nova Scotian as any Canadian loyalist. "Marian Keith," Mrs. MacGregor of Orillia, is as unmistakably an Ontario as Miss Montgomery is native to Prince Edward Island and Miss Saunders to Nova Scotia. Mrs. Elizabeth Roberts Macdonald, sister to Charles G. D. Roberts, is a true New Brunswicker and her verses reflect Fredericton and the province round about as faithfully as a looking-glass. Mrs. McLung was born in Ontario, but she was taken as a child to the West, and her stories are completely, triumphantly Western. Mrs. Murphy, author of "Janey Canuck in the West," also a native of Ontario, would never have written in exactly the same vein as she does if she had not lived in Edmonton, Alberta. Mrs. Isabella Ecclestone MacKay, who was born in Woodstock, Ontario, is now a resident of Vancouver. Miss Agnes Deans Cameron is a native of Victoria, British Columbia, where she taught



VALANCE PATRIARCHIS.



ISABEL ECCLESTONE MACKAY.



MRS. McLUNG.



ELIZABETH ROBERTS MACDONALD.

ick Campbell" wrote the volume on Haldimand in The Makers of Canada series. Miss Laut who was born in Sterling, Ontario, and Miss McIlwraith, who is a native of Hamilton, Ontario, are now living in the United States. Miss Emily P. Weaver, who has written a child's history of Canada and several stories for young

(Continued on Page 8.)

JACK O' LANTERN BOOGIEMAN

AS SUNG BY ELIZABETH M. MURRAY NOW PLAYING MADAME SHERRY IN FRAZEE, LEDERER & WOODS' PRODUCTION

"Madame Sherry"

New Amsterdam Theatre, New York

Words and Music by SIDNEY S. TOLER

Andante.

1. Bye bye ba-by hunt-in' Daddy's gone a hunt-in' Close your lit-tle eyes in sleep.....
2. When the stars am peep-in' All the world am sleep-in' Then the Jack O' Lan-tern Man.....

Boo-gie-man won't get yer, Mamma's here to watch yer Sing-in' ba, ba, black sheep.....
'Round the house comes stealin', For the ba-by feel-in' He will eat you if he can.....

Lullaby.

Go to sleep my lit-tle drow-ty babe Close your ti-ny eyes, don't be a-fraid The
lit-tle birds in tree-tops all have gone to rest, Safe-ly 'neath the shel-ter of their
moth-er's breast, Hush-a-a-bye my ba-by, slum-ber-deep,
An-gels hov-er near you while you sleep, The Jack O' Lan-tern man will catch you
if he can, The Jack O' Lan-tern, Jack O' Lan-tern Boo-gie-man.

Copyright assigned in MCMIX to JOS. M. DALY, 218 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.
Copyright, MCMV, by SIDNEY S. TOLER International Copyright Secured
Go to your nearest music dealer and ask for a copy of "CHICKEN REEL" that big vocal and instrumental "hit"
This is the Number that the Bands and Orchestras throughout the Country are Playing
Used by permission, MURRAY MUSIC Co., New York No. 270.



MISS MONTGOMERY.

school for many years and where the style of "The New North" must have been formed; its author is now writing and lecturing in England, with headquarters in London. Such a list as this should convince anyone that Canadian women writers are not to be reckoned last among the forces which are building Canadian nationality.

The two best known Canadian women novelists are Mrs. Ewerard Cotes and Miss Lily Dougall. Mrs. Cotes was born in Brantford, Ontario. She won her first recognition as a writer for "The Toronto Globe, using the pen name, "Garth Grafton"; she went round the world when the journey was something of a novelty for a woman, and wrote a series of articles on her experiences for "The Queen." These articles appeared later in book form as "A Social Departure." The form as "A Social Departure" was written in a delicate clear style in which "A Social Departure" was made into one of the most widely known and the best liked of all Mrs. Cotes' writings. Shortly after its publication, its author, Miss Sara Jeannette Duncan, married Mr. Ewerard Cotes of the Indian Civil Service. Since then she has spent most of her time in India,