Late Nineteenth-Century Ireland's Political and Religious Controversies in the Fiction of May Laffan Hartley

Helena Kelleher Kahn

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INDEX

A

Aberdeen Free Press 176, 177
Aberdeen Journal 51, 177
Academy 135
Act of Union (1800) 13, 199
Alexandria College 26–27, 46, 57, 62
Allingham, Helen (née Paterson) 56
Allingham, William, 56
Laurence Bloomfield in Ireland 118
American Civil War 223
Andersen, Hans Christian
“The Little Match Girl” 171
Arnold, Thomas 52
Athenaeum 51, 55, 203, 205
Austen, Jane 82

B

Balzac, Honoré 79, 86, 110
Pere Goriot 83
Barry, Father Gerald 5
Bayard, Emile 50
Bentley, George 45, 46, 49, 50
Bentley, Richard 72, 111, 171
Black, William 51
Blackrock College (French College) 19, 22, 23
Bloomfield Institution 67, 68
Bridge, Patton Smith 192
Brophy, Ann 190, 191
Broughton, Rhoda 45, 52, 54
Butt, Isaac 4, 89, 99, 101, 106, 164, 165, 166

C

The Cabinet of Irish Literature 48, 49, 95, 137
Carleton, William 95
The Black Prophet 154
Fardrougha the Miser, 145
Campbell, Sir George 165
Carlyle, Thomas 31, 225
Carroll, Lewis 51
Casey, John Sarsefield 191, 192
Catholic Emancipation (1829) 30, 32, 95, 122, 129, 199
Catholic University 98, 99, 105, 130–31, 221, 224
Cecilia Street Medical School 221
Celtic Revival 44, 94
Charter Schools 34
Church Act of 1869 78, 98
Collins, Wilkie 213
No Name 213
Conroy, Father Paul 5
Cork Examiner 192
Corkran, Father Jim 47
Corlett, Barbara 44
Cormack, William and Daniel 189, 190, 191
Cullen, Cardinal 166
Cullen, Paul 62

D

Davitt, Michael 64, 104, 185
Davoren, Dicky 37
Davoren, Nellie 20, 43, 69
Devlin, Anne 147
Dickens, Charles 27, 172
Bleak House 173, 213
Little Dorrit 83
Little Nell 170
Oliver Twist 213
Paul Dombey 170
Dilke, Sir Charles 52
Dillon, John 104
Disestablishment of the Church of Ireland 32, 103, 122, 148, 201
“the dispensation” 59
Disraeli, Benjamin 6, 88
    Coningsby 83
Dissenters 163, 175, 201, 219
Dominican convent school at Sion Hill 24
Dr. Faustus (Goethe) 73
Dublin University Magazine 45, 52
Dublin Women’s Suffrage Society 44
Duncan, Sara Jeanette 50

E
Easter Rising 1916 68
Edgeworth, Maria 78, 198
    The Absentee 118, 208, 213
    Castle Rackrent 126
    Ennui 216
Eliot, George, 52
    Middlemarch 52

F
“Fair Rent” 216
Famine 44
Fardorougha the Miser 49
Fenian rising of 1867 4
Fenians 5, 96, 103, 105, 148, 202, 203, 206, 207, 210, 222
Ferrard, Helena 46, 181
Figgis, Hodges 170
Fitzgibbon, Ellen Sarah (Laffan) 13, 18, 20 36
Fitzgibbon (I), Gerald 15, 16, 18, 31, 32–33, 34, 35, 38, 41, 98, 124, 203
    Ireland in 1868 31, 98
Fitzgibbon (II), Gerald 15, 16, 190
Fitzgibbon, Michael 19, 22
Fixity of Tenure 101, 216
Flaubert, Gustave 86
Foster, R. G. 34
Francillon, R. E. 52–53

Frazer’s Magazine 25, 28, 48
Freeman’s Journal 56
Froude, J. A. 31, 52

G
Geary, Laurence M. 191
General Election of 1875 5
Gallaher, Fannie 57–58
    “Katty the Flash: A Mould of Dublin Mud” 58
Gallowglass 29
Gladstone’s Church Act 201
Gladstone’s Land Act 186
Gladstone, William 55, 74, 99, 107, 122–23, 163, 201
Gregory, Lady (Isabelle Augusta) 227
Grove, George 50, 54, 185, 186, 197

H
Hartley, John (son) 11, 68
Hartley, May Laffan
May Laffan 18–19, 20, 21, 60

Works
“Baubie Clarke” 50, 51, 177
Christy Carew See chap. 5; 4, 5, 8, 21, 32, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 46, 47, 48, 49, 55, 69, 92, 181, 197, 228
“Convent Boarding-schools for Young Ladies” 25
“Flitters, Tatters and the Counsellor” See chap. 6; 2, 44, 49, 50, 51, 56, 227
“The Game Hen” 50, 51, 177
Hogan MP See chap. 3; 4, 5, 7, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 29, 32, 37, 39, 40, 44, 45, 47, 51, 53, 55, 69, 112, 129, 131, 134, 135, 136, 154, 166, 168, 197, 230
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lover, Samuel</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynam, Capt. Thomas</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynch, Hanna</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MacHale, John (“The Lion of the West”)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackay, William</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macmillan Archive</td>
<td>12, 69, 104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macmillan and Co.</td>
<td>3, 46, 50, 51, 52, 54, 57, 170, 195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macmillan, Frederick</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macmillan, George</td>
<td>8, 28, 49, 50, 51, 53, 54, 55, 56, 185, 186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macmillan’s Magazine</td>
<td>50, 53, 185, 197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malot, Hector</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Sans Famille”</td>
<td>50, 172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malthus, Thomas</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Manchester Martyrs”</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mangan, James Clarence</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martineau, Harriet</td>
<td>95, 183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meehan, Fr. Charles P.</td>
<td>147, 181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mick M’Quaid MP</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Keary’s Castle Daly</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moore, George</td>
<td>1, 39, 71, 79, 89, 90, 91, 92, 104, 105, 110, 135, 180, 205, 230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Drama in Muslin</td>
<td>24, 27, 72, 79, 82, 88, 89, 94, 101, 109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moore, Thomas</td>
<td>51, 152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain Rock</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Irish Gentleman in Search of a Religion</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Melodies</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morgan, Lady (Sidney Owenson)</td>
<td>44, 198, 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’Donnel: An Irish Tale</td>
<td>199, 213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Wild Irish Girl</td>
<td>111, 134, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 205, 225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morier, Catherine Laffan</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morley, John</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning and Evening Mail</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris, William O’Connor</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mulholland, Rosa (Lady Gilbert)</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giannetta: A Girl’s Story of Herself</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murphy, James H.</td>
<td>43, 49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murphy, Nancy</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nation</td>
<td>147, 181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Photographic Archive</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National School system</td>
<td>97, 128, 130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Sun</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’Brien, William</td>
<td>55, 71, 104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When We Were Boys</td>
<td>213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’Connell, Daniel</td>
<td>16, 199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’Connor, Father John</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’Connor, T. P.</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’Donnell, Frank Hugh</td>
<td>162, 165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’Donoghue, M.P.</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owenson, Sidney</td>
<td>See Lady Morgan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papal Infallibility</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papal Rights</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parnell, Anna</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parnell, Charles Stewart</td>
<td>106, 107, 165, 185, 186, 231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pattison, Mark and Emilia</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoenix Party</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plunkett, Horace</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Law</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power, John O’Connor</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q
Queen’s Colleges 33, 98, 221
Queen’s Institute in Dublin 44

R
Reade, Charles A. 49
Recess Committee of 1895 (Recess Committee Notes) 9, 36, 44, 52, 63, 64, 67–68, 104, 131, 147, 221–22, 231
Reid, Sir George 56
Richardson, Samuel
  Clarissa 167
Rising of 1798 5, 14, 199, 200
Robins, Joseph 171
Rousseau, Jean-Jacques 200
Royal University 228
Ruskin, John 50, 174, 175, 182
Russell, Lady 52
Russell, Sir John 52

S
Sadlier, John 83–84, 189
Saltasche, Cosmo 181
Saturday Review, 111
Scotsman 172, 177
Scott, Walter 44, 77
Secret Ballot 101
Shaftsbury, Lord 173
Sharpe, Becky 48, 150
Shaw, G. B. 2,
Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (SPCC) 49, 64, 65, 176
Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge (SPCK) 56–57
Somerville, Edith, and Violet Martin (“Martin Ross”) 1
  The Big House at Inver 126, 214
  The Real Charlotte 157
Spectator 72, 105, 109, 169
Spencer, Edmund
  The Fairie Queen 198
St. Catherine’s, Sion Hill 11, 23, 37
Stoker, Bram 31
  Dracula 31
Stowe, Harriet Beecher
  Evangeline St. Clair 170
Swift, Jonathan
  A Tale of a Tub 198

T
Temple Bar 58
Tenant Right 33, 100, 104, 105, 107
Tennant (Lady Stanley), Dorothy “Dolly Tennant” 56
Thackeray, W. M. 31, 48
  Barry Lyndon 217
  Vanity Fair 48
Thurston, Katherine Ceci 111
  The Gambler 111
Tipperary Joint Stock Bank 84, 189
Trinity College 33, 80, 98, 148, 205, 221
Trollope, Anthony 6, 27, 73, 106, 109, 110, 175
  Doctor Thorne 213
  Phineas Finn 105
  The Macdermot of Ballycloran 111
  The Way We Live Now 72, 82, 84, 88, 106, 109, 110
Twain, Mark 27
Tynan, Katherine 49

U
Ulster Custom 100, 216
“Union of Hearts” 202
United Ireland 55
Walsh, William J. 62
Warder and Weekly Mail 177
Wellesley Index of Victorian Publications 58
Whiteboys 196, 207
Wilde, Lady (Jane Francesca)184
Wolff, Robert Lee  3, 96
Wood, Mrs. Henry 45

Yeats, W. B. 44, 227, 228
Yelverton case, 143, 144, 148
Young, Arthur 53, 97
Travels in Ireland and France 53
Young Irelanders 96, 103
Young Ireland movement of 1842–1848 5

Zola, Émile 79, 86, 177
In her novels and short stories, MAY LAFFAN HARTLEY (1849–1916) depicts the religious and political controversies of late nineteenth-century Ireland. Helena Kelleher Kahn reintroduces us to Laffan's vivid, witty fiction, rich in political and social commentary. Laffan did not offer clear-cut approval to one side or the other of the social and religious divide but weighed both and often found them wanting. She adds a missing dimension to the Irish world of Wilde, Shaw, and Joyce.

“For pure fidelity and truth to nature, nothing could be better than the minor characters in *Ismay's Children.*”
—Oscar Wilde

“Flitters, Tatters, and the Counsellor”
*List of the Best Irish Books*
—W. B. Yeats