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**Literary Department.**

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**DOUGLAS HYDE.**

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Douglas Hyde, LL.D., M.R.I.A., was born in County Sligo, in 1860, and is a descendant of the Castle Hyde family, of County Cork. After a brilliant career in Trinity College, Dublin, he settled down to Gaelic study. He has published selections of folk tales and of poetry, has written much original poetry, and has composed dramas in the Irish tongue which are today popular throughout Ireland. In 1889 he produced his monumental literary history of Ireland, which may be reckoned as the first attempt to write a comprehensive and connected history of Gaelic literature.

Dr. Hyde is today the best known, the most influential, the greatest man in Ireland, universally admired and beloved. Mr. W. B. Yeats has said of him that this era will be known as the era of Douglas Hyde, as the middle of the last century in Ireland is known as the age of Thomas Davis. Twelve years ago he realized that the dying out of the Irish language was appalling. Yet the Irish had the most glorious race heritage of any people in Western Europe. He resolved to devote himself to the great work of de-Anglicising Ireland and to the creation and relaxation of his ideal of Ireland, creative, self-respecting, distinctive. His inspiration has been love of Ireland. In his are combined all the qualities of a great national leader—wonderful energy, devotion to the highest ideals, a burning enthusiasm, and the best genius of his race. He