

them historical associations, or associations such as will haunt us if we hear April in Ireland thus described by Miss Hopper :

She hath a woven garland all of the sighing sedge,
And all her flowers are snowdrops grown on the winter's edge ;
The golden loom of Tir-nan-Og move all the winter through,
Her gown of mist and raindrops shot with a cloudy blue.

Those exquisite Irish idylls of Miss Jane Barlow, bringing out the pathetic beauty, the patient courage and devotion of the Irish peasantry, the fascinating though tragic story of Grania, by Miss Lawless, not to speak of her "Hurrish" and "Maelcho," and the delightful sketches of Irish character in Mrs. Tynan Hinckson's "Cluster of Nuts," are all books which should be in the hands of every Irishman and Irishwoman, though I would fain see them also in the hands of every other English-speaking man and woman. They can only make us love Ireland better and make us wish to work for her welfare in some way or another.

I must not, however, be tempted to quote more from our modern Irish writers, but merely tell you of one result of the present Irish Literary revival which may be of use to you personally.

Reading circles have been formed with a view of promoting and directing the reading of those who wish to study Irish history and Irish literature consecutively. Lists of books have been made out for certain periods and a little magazine published for the help of the readers. Those at the head undertake that no over-controversial books shall be introduced, and that the politics of none need be offended. It might be of interest to your Society to enquire into the course of reading recommended, or you at