

be a Galwegian. At his suggestion when he next visited the capital of Connaught, Dr. Hyde made some enquiries in the vicinity of Raftery's labors. Here he found that somebody in the neighborhood had a manuscript copy of his poems, but further quest of this only elicited the information that it had been taken to America; a like failure resulted with respect to his search for another volume in the same district. Lady Gregory, however, was more fortunate in her efforts, of which we have the fruit in her admirable appreciation of Raftery in her book ("Poets and Dreamers"). She found a manuscript which had been in the possession of an old stonecutter. "This book," observes Dr. Hyde, "was written very well in Irish characters by some nameless person, apparently about fifty years ago. She got a loan of the book and lent it to me, and I copied out of it seventeen songs. . . . After that I went to look for the book I had seen in the Academy more than ten years before. I first went to the index of the MSS. in the Academy, but there was not even the name of Raftery in the index of the Irish books there, nor was the first line of any of his poems to be found amongst the index of first lines. I spent the two days from morning till night going through the books before I found it. There are more than twenty poems by Raftery in this MS., which is well written, in Irish characters, in an old man's handwriting, a doctor's, perhaps, for I found this line written on one of the leaves :

"Tollere nodosam nescit medicina podagram,"

and there is a picture of Raftery's head drawn in a rough and ready way, with pen and ink, upon another page, and a couple of words in English underneath, giving the date of his death."

The rest of the collection was obtained from various sources : eight poems from Owen O'Neachtain of Galway; five others from Father Clement O'Looney, Loughrea, who had written them down many years before from the lips of an old man. As to the rest the compiler obtained a poem here and a poem there from manuscript or from the mouth of some person with a retentive memory. Thus he wrote down from the dictation of Thomas Hynes, Kiltartan (a relative, by the way, of the comely subject of it) the song of "Mary Hynes"; also the most of "Raftery and the Death," was gathered in this way from the same man. "County Mayo" reached the col-