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## Deep In The Heart Of China

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tensity, enables her to stand comparison with some of the greatest actresses of the world. It is only giving Mrs. [Minnie Maddern] Fiske her due to say that there is no English-speaking actress who can approach the conception of Tess which she gave." If Mrs. Campbell ever chanced to read this review, the words must have been bitter to her taste; and it is surely one of life's little ironies, which Hardy knew so well how to portray, that Mrs. Campbell's gift "in dear remembrance" is now lodged in the same room with Mrs. Fiske's poster showing her in the role that Mrs. Campbell so coveted. The Kelmscott Press gift-book is certainly a most desirable association item, and we hope that all members of the Boston Colby Club will take pleasure in the thought that the book is now where it ought to be.



### DEEP IN THE HEART OF CHINA

OUR pages last October were so crowded that we were unable to find room to comment on a statement which appeared in *Time* (page 29) in the issue for September 3, 1945:

At Chikiang . . . in Central China, . . . the Japanese Deputy Chief of Staff in China, Major General Takeo Imai, . . . stepped stiffly into a Chinese Army jeep . . . Two days later the Japanese Commander-in-Chief in China . . . agreed to surrender.

Few persons who read the words of this report on events in China can have seen any connection between it and the library of Colby College. But at least one person recognized in the Japanese major general the man who, some years ago, shortly after his student days in an American university, found in Japan and sent back to America the Colby copy of the Japanese translation of Hardy's *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*. This translation was afterwards suppressed

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by the Japanese government for reasons unknown on Mayflower Hill — unknown at least to the Hardy enthusiast who originated the inquiry that led Major General Imai to hunt up the book now in our Treasure Room.



### *JUDE* from OBSCURITY, via NOTORIETY, to FAME

**A**MONG the complications which surrounded Hardy in December 1895 and which made it difficult for him to make up his mind about the dramatization of *Tess* was the fact that his novel *Jude the Obscure* was just then experiencing a terrible tongue-lashing on both sides of the ocean. On December 8 the New York *World* printed a review written by Jeannette L. Gilder in which she announced: "I am shocked, appalled by this story. *Jude the Obscure* . . . is almost the worst book I have ever read. . . . Aside from its immorality, there is its coarseness which is beyond belief. . . . When I finished the story I opened the window and let in the fresh air." Professor Harry Thurston Peck branded it "one of the most objectionable books he had ever read." In England, the Reverend W. W. How, Bishop of Wakefield, threw the book into the fire, and Smith's Circulating Library in London withdrew *Jude* from its lists. On Christmas Eve, instead of sitting down before a pleasant holiday fire, Hardy went to his desk and addressed a letter to his American publishers: "I write . . . respecting *Jude*. I am much surprised, and I may say distressed, by the nature of the attack on it in the New York *World* . . . . It is so much against my wish to offend the tastes of the American public . . . that, if it should be in your own judgment advisable, please withdraw the novel."

But "the tastes of the American public" are curious and unpredictable. Miss Gilder promptly got over being "shocked, appalled." She sailed for England and did her best to gain an interview with Hardy. Her readers forgot