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An Unrecorded Hardy Item

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Max Gate
Dorchester

Feb. 24, 1907.

Dear Mr. Bartelott [*sic*],

Two women came here from Fordington to ask help of some sort— one named Cluett—the other Ellory. I had them informed that they must bring a recommendation from you, otherwise you see I should [have] half the parish here begging. Please tell me if they should be helped, how much in want they are? and if not worthless and unaidable? I thank you for garden room for my chair.

Yours sincerely,

EMMA L. HARDY.

Max Gate
Dorchester

Tuesday.

Dear Mr. Grosvenor Bartlott [*sic*],

Herewith I send you 5/— for the sick poor of Fordington.

I shall keep a list of undesirables for frequent reference when applications for help come. It will be a good matter effected when compulsory insurance is legalised.

I hope to see your little daughter again. Here is a bird for her!

Yours sincerely,

E. L. HARDY.

In July, 1912, Mr. Bartelot's daughter Romana had been one of a group of children whom Mrs. Hardy had taken on an outing to Osmington (see page 134 of the COLBY LIBRARY QUARTERLY for August 1956), and the reference to seeing her again would suggest that the undated "Tuesday" of this letter was one in August 1912 or shortly thereafter.



AN UNRECORDED HARDY ITEM

THROUGH the Charles E. Feinberg Foundation the Library has received as the gift of Mrs. Julian Krolik of Detroit, Michigan, a copy of Georges Bazile's French translation of Thomas Hardy's "An Imaginative Woman." It

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appeared in two installments in the *Revue Politique et Littéraire* (the "Revue Bleue") in Paris, October 19 and 26, 1912. This gift of Mrs. Krolik adds to the Hardy Collection at Colby a previously unrecorded item, for until this gift was received we had always supposed that Bazile's translation first appeared in 1918, as the second issue of *Les Cahiers d'Aujourd'hui*. This *Cahier* is the only Bazile entry in our centennial bibliography of Hardiana, *The First Hundred Years of Thomas Hardy* (Colby College Library, 1942, page 42), and we are grateful to the Feinberg Foundation for pushing back our knowledge of "Une Femme Imaginative" by six years, as well as for this copy of the text. Hardy's story first appeared in the *Pall Mall Magazine*, London, April 1894. Its first book appearance was in *Wessex Tales*—not the Macmillan edition, London 1888, but the 1896 London edition issued by the firm of James R. Osgood, McIlvaine & Co. In 1912 Hardy transferred this story from *Wessex Tales* to *Life's Little Ironies*, and it was perhaps this transfer, or this appearance as a "Little Irony," that directed Georges Bazile's attention to the story and led to its appearance in the "Revue Bleue."



A VICTORIAN CONTROVERSY

William Sharp's Letters on "Motherhood"

By JOHN J. IORIO

IN 1882 William Sharp, the Victorian poet and critic who was to astound the literary world at the end of his career by the disclosure that he had also been "Fiona Macleod," poet of the Celtic movement, published his first book of poems, *The Human Inheritance*. One of the poems, "Motherhood," provoked immediate controversy, revealing at once some of the tensions and problems of the Vic-