

Charlotte M. Yonge

1823 – 1901

A Bicentenary Celebration



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FROM THE EDITORS

In deciding on the content of this booklet we have had three main aims in mind. The first is to profile Charlotte Mary Yonge (hereafter 'CMY') as a prolific and influential, but often overlooked and underestimated, female writer of the 19th century. To this end it contains some memorable quotations from CMY; summaries of a selection of her works; and an evaluation of her contribution to a particular genre of English literature, namely publications infused with a strong moral and religious message. Her interests were wide ranging and included local history, folklore, dialect and natural history. The booklet ends with an assessment of her legacy.

The second aim is to serve as the basis for visiting and engaging with locations in Otterbourne and Hursley particularly associated with CMY, many of which still exist. It is hoped that readers will feel able to identify with her world by means of brief accounts of the two villages as CMY would have known them, with references to some of the residents, buildings and 'villagescapes'; together with maps and photographs from the 19th and early 20th centuries and similar scenes today. These have been labelled as 'CMY trails'. There are no set routes, so you can decide where to go and in which order in the time available. Moreover, you may feel moved to revisit Otterbourne and Hursley on some future date and literally follow in the footsteps of CMY.

A final aim is to stimulate interest in CMY, to the extent that readers might be encouraged to find out more about her, by reading some of her works and/or accessing source material relating to her life and sensibilities. Consequently there is a substantial amount of referencing, as well as the inclusion of some bibliographies. Many of CMY's works, and much source material, are held in Hampshire Archives and Local Studies (hereafter 'HALS') which is located in Winchester. As you will discover, there is also plenty of material on-line, including her letters and many of her books.

Above all we hope that you will find the booklet both interesting and informative and a fitting tribute to CMY at the time of the bicentenary of her birth. Although we believe that CMY deserves to be commemorated in this way, she was by no means above criticism and you will find some indication of this in what follows. That said, we do want to provide you with a very positive view of her life and works.

If you have any comments or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with one or other of us. Although we have taken the lead in preparing this booklet, we have received a great deal of help from the many people listed in the contents and in the acknowledgements on the back cover — help that has been much appreciated throughout.



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1. SETTING THE SCENE

To start at the end: when CMY died in March 1901, her reputation was such that she was accorded an obituary in *The Times*. Apart from biographical information and comments about her life and character, it provided an assessment of her skills as a writer. Some extracts are reproduced below to illustrate this point:

MISS CHARLOTTE M. YONGE

Not only to the gentle inmates of country rectories, but to many people who lay claim to a wider literary appreciation than is sometimes found there, will the news of Miss Charlotte Yonge's death come with the sense of a personal loss ...

She had an inventive mind and a ready pen, a bare list of the books written or edited by her would probably occupy nearly a column of *The Times*. She wrote chiefly for young people, especially young girls, and her books are the result, not only of a strong ethical purpose, but also of her firm devotion to the High Church view of church doctrine and practice. No doubt this caused her to be ignored by many hasty literary critics, who regarded her as beneath consideration, under the mistaken idea that her books were merely "goody-goody" tracts in the guise of fiction, or at best sentimental tales of young girls. Against this view must be set the fact that her books were and still are read, not only by young girls but by older people whose literary judgment is not to be despised ...

The truth is that her power of telling a story and her power for delineating character were great enough to throw certain obvious defects into the shade.

The Times, 26 March 1901

CMY was first and foremost a novelist. Many of her books were historical novels, but in her own day she was better known for family dramas in contemporary settings, such as *The Daisy Chain* and *The Pillars of the House*. Many of them, especially *The Heir of Redclyffe*, became huge best-sellers.

In addition to her novels, CMY wrote many works of non-fiction, often focused on historical subjects, presenting them in a form accessible to younger readers. She also addressed a vast range of other genres: history, biography, natural history, and Sunday school books. She wrote a play (*The Apple of Discord*) and compiled a poetry anthology (*Aunt Charlotte's Evenings at Home with the Poets*). Her *History of Christian Names* remained the standard work on the topic for decades. She was editor, for over 40 years, of what has been termed 'the first teenage magazine': this was *The Monthly Packet*, aimed at 'younger members of the English Church'; among its distinguished contributors was Lewis Carroll, whose 'Alice' books she much admired.



Of her non-fiction books, a small number relate to aspects of the local history of the area with which she so closely identified: the parishes of Otterbourne and Hursley. The most interesting of these from our point of view is *John Keble's Parishes - A History of Hursley and Otterbourne*. One of her last books (it was published in 1898, three years before her death), it traces the history of the two villages from earliest times to CMY's own day. She provides brief descriptions of the animals, birds and plants to be found in the area, examples of the local dialect, and even some slightly hair-raising folk remedies: sufferers from ague (the old term for fever), for example, should wear gunpowder in bags round the wrists and set them on fire.

It should also be remembered that CMY was well known in her day not only for her writing but also her generosity and broad range of interests, including the promotion of educational opportunities for children and young people, especially girls. You can discover more about this aspect of her life in the final section, 'CMY's legacy' (page 29).

The next section provides a timeline, highlighting some of the principal dates in CMY's life and those of her family and the community in which she lived.

2. KEY DATES IN THE LIFE OF CMY

Major events in **bold**; family events in *italics*; and other events in ordinary type.

Year	Date	Event
1818		<i>Grandmother (Mary Bargas) buys Otterbourne House</i>
1822	25 Oct	Parents (William Crawley Yonge and Frances Mary Bargas) marry in Otterbourne old church
1823	11 Aug	CMY born in Otterbourne House
	7 Sept	CMY baptised in Otterbourne old church
1826		First school built at Otterbourne
1830	31 Jan	<i>CMY's brother Julian Bargas Yonge born</i>
		CMY begins Sunday School teaching
1834		The Revd. William Bigg Wither becomes curate of Otterbourne
		Robert Speckott Barter becomes Warden of Winchester College
		<i>Yonge family visit Oxford for Encaenia</i>
	2 Nov	<i>Cousin James Yonge dies at Otterbourne</i>
1835		CMY begins Latin with her father
	Nov	Moberlys arrive in Winchester (George, Headmaster of the College)
1836		The Revd. John Keble becomes vicar of Hursley and Otterbourne
		CMY's last childhood visit to Puslinch
1837	16 May	First stone of new church in Otterbourne, St Matthew's, laid
1838		CMY confirmed
1839	30 July	Otterbourne new church consecrated
		<i>Le Château de Melville (CMY's first book) privately printed</i>
		New boys' and girls' schools built in Otterbourne
1840		CMY godmother to cousin Charlotte Cordelia Pode
1843	4 Mar	CMY's grandmother Mary Bargas died
1844		<i>Abbeychurch published</i>
1851		CMY begins to edit <i>The Monthly Packet</i>
1852		CMY godmother to Margaret Moberly
1853		<i>The Heir of Redclyffe published</i>
1854	26 Feb	CMY's father William Crawley Yonge dies
	June	Visit of Bishop Selwyn to Winchester
1857		CMY visits Ireland for cousin Jane Colborne's wedding
1858	9 Sept	<i>Julian Bargas Yonge marries Frances Walter</i>
1859		The Gosling Society established
	1 July	<i>Nephew William Coulthard born</i>
	1 Oct	<i>Nephew William Coulthard dies</i>
1860	24 Oct	<i>Niece Helen Emma born</i>
1861	23 Nov	<i>Nephew Francis Arthur born</i>
1862	Mar	CMY moves to Elderfield
	26 Aug	<i>Cousin Duke Yonge marries Charlotte Cordelia Pode</i>

1863		Macmillan becomes CMY's principal publisher
	3 June	<i>Niece Louisa Alethea born</i>
1864		<i>Niece Margaret Anne Cordelia born</i>
1865	14 Dec	<i>Niece Margaret dies of whooping cough</i>
1866		The Revd. John and Mrs Keble die Moberlys leave Winchester
1867	26 Mar	<i>Nephew Maurice Edward born</i>
1868	28 Sep	CMY's mother Frances Mary Yonge dies, after a period of mental decline
1869	Aug	CMY's trip to France <i>Death of cousin Anne Yonge</i> George Moberly becomes Bishop of Salisbury
1871		<i>Nephew George Alan David born</i> The Revd. William Bigg Wither leaves Otterbourne The Revd. Walter and Mrs Elgie (later spelt 'Elgee') come to Otterbourne
1872		Gertrude Walter becomes a permanent resident of Elderfield Julian Yonge in financial difficulties
1873	5 Sep	<i>Niece Joanna Angela born</i>
1875		Death of William Gibbs of Tyntesfield Otterbourne becomes a separate parish
1878		Death of CMY's friend Marianne Dyson
1881		Death of the Revd. Walter Elgie The Revd. Walter Brock becomes vicar of Otterbourne
1883		<i>Nephew Francis Arthur moves to USA</i>
1884	7 Aug	<i>Niece Louisa Alethea marries Rev. Henry Albany Bowles</i>
1890	31 Jan	<i>Great-niece Cicely Gertrude Bowles born in Burnley</i>
1891	30 May	<i>Great-nephew Reginald Julian Albany Bowles born in Burnley</i> Christabel Coleridge becomes joint editor of <i>The Monthly Packet</i>
		Julian sells Otterbourne House & moves to London
	17 Oct	<i>Julian dies</i>
1892		<i>Revd. Henry Albany Bowles (niece's husband) becomes vicar of Otterbourne</i>
1893		Presentation for CMY's 70th birthday
1894		<i>Great-niece Margaret Ernestine Bowles born in Otterbourne (bp.16 Aug.)</i> Oct <i>Niece Joanna marries Captain Charles Francis Cromie</i>
1895	31 July	<i>Great-nephew Maurice Francis Cromie born in London</i>
1896	2 July	<i>Great-niece Marjorie Joan Georgina Bowles born in Otterbourne</i> 29 Oct <i>Great-nephew Henry Julian Cromie born in Morocco</i>
1899	9 Apr	<i>Nephew Maurice marries Maude Woods</i> 18 July Scholarship at Winchester High School inaugurated in CMY's honour 22 Oct <i>Nephew George Yonge killed in South Africa</i> <i>The Monthly Packet closes</i>
1900	22 Nov	<i>Great-niece Phyllis Alan Bowles born in Otterbourne</i>
1901	24 Mar	Death of CMY
	29 Mar	CMY buried in St Matthew's churchyard

3. CMY IN HER OWN WORDS FROM LETTERS AND MEMOIRS



Her father, William Crawley Yonge (1795-1854)

'He was grave, and external observers feared him, and thought him stern, but, oh, how tender he could be, how deeply and keenly he felt!' (Coleridge, 1903, p. 51)

Her mother, Fanny Bargus (1795-1858)

'She was always nervous, timid, and easily frightened ... Her tears were near the surface, and so were her smiles. She was full of playfulness and mirth ...' (Coleridge, 1903, p. 54)

Her parents' marriage (1822)

'... it was a five years' attachment before consent was obtained. Mrs Bargus would not hear of her daughter marrying into a marching regiment, and Mr Duke Yonge was equally averse to his son relinquishing his profession.' (Coleridge, 1903, p. 31) 'At last in 1822 consent was given to the marriage, and William Yonge retired on half-pay to make his home at Otterbourne with Mrs Bargus [his mother-in-law].



Very strong and devoted must have been the love, for the sacrifice was great of his much-loved profession and his regiment, nay, even in living in Hampshire instead of Devonshire ...'

(Coleridge, 1903, p. 34)

The birth of Julian, her brother (1830)

'On the 31st of January 1830 came the greatest event of my life: my only brother was born. ... I wished him to be called Alexander Xenophon ...'

(Coleridge, 1903, p. 73-4)

The Revd John Keble arrives as Vicar of Hursley and Otterbourne (1836)

'And thus came in the chief spiritual influence of my life!' (Coleridge, 1903, p. 116)



Preparation by John Keble for confirmation (1838)

'[Mr Keble's] two warnings, when he gave me my ticket were: the one against much talk and discussion of Church matters, especially doctrines: the other against the danger of [loving] these things for the sake merely of their beauty and poetry.' (Coleridge, 1903, p. 132)

Consecration of St Matthew's Otterbourne (1839)

'Almost everyone who has ever joined in our beautiful Consecration Service can imagine the feelings of some of the party from the Vicarage - ... [Elizabeth's] choking overwhelming joy ... "This Consecration day will be a glorious time to look back to ..." [said Elizabeth].' (Yonge, 2015, ch.5)

Publication of the best-selling *The Heir of Redclyffe* (1853)

'I should like you to know the comfort and peace I had in the little study at H[ursley] V[icarage] yesterday. It is too precious to have him [Keble] to bring all one's fears of vainglory, etc., to, and ... when he said a successful book might be the trial of one's life - it was so exactly what was nice, ... that way of at once soothing and guarding ...'

(Coleridge, 1903, p. 192)





Death of William Yonge, CMY's father (1854)

'The unmarried woman seldom escapes a widowhood of the spirit.

There is sure

to be some one, parent, brother, sister, friend, more comfortable to her than the day, with whom her life is so entwined that the void is never entirely healed or filled, and this is above all when the separation is untimely, and the desolation is where lifelong hopes and dependence have been gathered up.'

(Yonge, 1901, p. 464)

Drains (1861) (see Section 5 'Charlotte Yonge as a novelist', p. 12).

'The matter with Winchester is overbuilding – the Itchen supplied all drainage while the place was of moderate size, but it is now too big for that, and the dear Warden, Dr Moberly and the Cathedral people have for years been trying hard to get a general town drainage – which because it came from that quarter,



the Radicals refuse, and actually make the opposition to it a cry at the town council elections.'

(Yonge, 1861, p. 2)

Girls' education (1868)

'I have decided objections to bringing large masses of girls together, and think that home education [by mothers or governesses] under the inspection or encouragement of sensible fathers, or voluntarily continued by the girls themselves is far more valuable

both intellectually and morally than any external education...'

(Yonge, 1868)

On ageing and veneration (1872)

'My dear Elizabeth [Wordsworth], I feel such a strong inclination to call you so and to think I have known you all your life that I do not think I shall balk myself at the risk of appearing to you both a gushing and impertinent old lady. NB – I have first read a letter from a contemporary – a year younger talking of her three great nieces also of gout and rheumatism. Isn't that enough to make one feel venerable? But somehow I did feel to get on with you in a wonderful way. I think the deep spirit of veneration made one feel you [sic] like the dear ones I grew up with.'

(Yonge, 1872)

Julian Yonge's bankruptcy (1875)

'Julian was obliged to declare himself a bankrupt. ... I do not think he loses in people's respect but it is a terrible business, and it is lucky that I have something to help him through with, which will save the things in the house from seizure. Certainly we never dreamt of anything like this coming to any of us, and it seems like a bad dream, so that one wonders to find things going on at all.'

(Yonge, 1875)

On preparing material for publication (1881)

'My dear Edith, I suppose you want the cutting down process to be done in time for October, as you speak of three numbers. If it is for September tell me how soon it is wanted. The MS did not come with your letter, and if not posted, might return



by Mrs Collins [the post-mistress] on Saturday, unless you would cut down the first chapter yourself, which would be a great kindness as I have my hands full, having a little book on "how to teach the New Testament" to finish for the National Society, and the Christian Names to correct for a new edition.'

(Yonge, 1881)

Presentation to CMY of £1800 to fund the Charlotte Yonge Scholarship (1899)

'But nothing could have been better managed or more gratifying than the whole, and I can only thank you [Miss Mowbray, Headmistress] and your staff and your white band of maidens for one of the prettiest and pleasantest recollections of a lifetime.'

(Yonge, 1899)

Girls' education (1900)

'What might, by His will, in the government and politics of the country, be put into their [women's] hands, no one could tell; but it was right to be prepared for it, by extending their intellectual ability and knowledge of the past, as well as of the laws of physical nature – all, in short, that modern education aimed at opening young minds to pursue with growing faculties.'

(Yonge, 1900, p. 149)

Her last known letter (March 1901)

'Dear Madam,

I have desired a few of my village books to be sent to you – I cannot do more as I have a good deal on my hands here, and all the books suitable for giving away are absorbed by needs at hand, yours truly C M Yonge'

(Yonge, 1901)

CMY died on March 24th 1901.

'... it is wonderful really how much [her] life contained, and how rich its content was. ... Truly may she be thought rich in daughters, aye and in sons, who for so many years has borne such a part in the training for God of the characters of English men and women.'

(Moberly, 1901)



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*Available in the Hampshire Local Studies Library in Hampshire Record Office

4. SOME OF CMY'S PRINCIPAL WORKS

CMY is best known for her novels, but also wrote for her own magazine, *The Monthly Packet*, and published non-fiction including history and educational textbooks. She was exceptionally prolific; her 62 works currently available on Project Gutenberg total seven million words. This section gives a sense of the variety of her work and of her writing style and preoccupations as a writer, covering some of her major novels and her publications in other genres. Many of her books are available online at www.cmyf.org.uk.

The Langley Stories (various dates)

CMY first wrote these village stories as magazine pieces, and they were published as *Langley School* (1850), *Lads and Lasses of Langley* (1881), *Langley Little Ones* (1882) and *Langley Adventures* (1883). They are based on her experience of working families in Otterbourne. 'The First Class' tells us about the village girls' school, with 'a pleasant room ... [and] a projecting window at the end with a wide seat in



it, where the upper girls used to sit when they were about any work requiring good light'. CMY describes the problems that poverty or their fathers' drinking cause children. In 'A Patchwork Fever' CMY recounts how Frances, the thirteen-year-old daughter of the coachman at Langley Hall, is left to look after the family for a week whilst her mother is away. Frances neglects the house and children because she is making a patchwork tablecloth for her mother, so her sister falls ill and her brother gets into trouble. The vicar explains to her that she must concentrate on duty before pleasure. In 'Quack, Quack', the children take pennies to school each week for their teacher to save for them, and when nine-year-old Davy's

grandmother has her ducks stolen he gives her his savings to pay her rent. The stories are worth reading for the details of village life.

The Heir of Redclyffe (1853) (see also section 5)

This novel tells the story of the virtuous Romantic hero, Sir Guy Morville of Redclyffe, and his cousin and heir, Philip Morville, a smug paragon of goodness. When Guy secretly pays off the gambling debts of his ne'er-do-well uncle, Philip spreads the rumour that Guy is a reckless gambler. As a result, Guy's proposed marriage to his guardian's daughter Amy is called off and he is disowned by his guardian. Guy bears the situation with Christian fortitude until his uncle clears his character, enabling him to marry Amy after all. Guy and Amy then encounter Philip when they are on honeymoon in Northern Italy. Philip falls ill and Guy nurses him, catching Philip's fever and dying to save his life. Amy forgives Philip, who is bitterly remorseful, and her support and encouragement enable him to return to a useful and active life.

Heartsease, or A Brother's Wife (1854)

This is the story of Violet, married on her sixteenth birthday, and the effect her humility and self-sacrifice have on others. 'Every one else has acted, more or less, idiotically. She has gone about softening, healing, guarding, stirring up the saving part of each one's disposition'. Other themes include child-rearing, with an emphasis on playing in the dirt, and managing landed property so as not to encourage Chartism. Hampshire readers will be interested in the portrayal of the Isle of Wight as a tourist destination and place of relaxation.

The Daisy Chain, or Aspirations (1856)

CMY describes this as 'a Family Chronicle - a domestic record of home events, large and small'. It traces the lives of the eleven children in the May family. Their father is a doctor and so they are a middle-class family, with worries about money and respectability. CMY says that her intention is that 'the young should take one hint, to think whether their hopes and upward-breathings are truly upwards, and founded in lowliness' - are we motivated by the thought of success and fame, or by doing good for its own sake? Some of the children are enthusiastic about the idea of starting a school and church in a

desolate moorland area, and the novel describes the work they put into this, how they raise funds, and are disappointed by things going wrong or ingratitude. Alongside this there are illnesses and deaths, problems with town gossip and misinterpretations of behaviour, love affairs, school work, making things for bazaars, jokes and practical jokes, and lots of



conversation. One of the main characters, Ethel May, has to give up her dreams of scholarship and to accept her role as the spinster daughter, important whilst the other children are small, but likely to be alone later in life; religion helps her with this. Moreover, CMY's characters make mistakes that sometimes lead to terrible consequences; in this book a baby dies because her mother is not thinking enough about her responsibilities.

The Trial; or, More Links of the Daisy Chain (1864) is a sequel to *The Daisy Chain*; much more dramatic, with the conviction for murder of an innocent seventeen-year-old, but with similar themes of renunciation and forgiveness. The evils of poor sanitation and public health problems, and the importance of missionary work, are also themes as in much of CMY's work.



Mme Swetchine

Biographies of Good Women (1862 and 1865)

These biographies were first published as magazine articles, and edited by CMY into two book collections. A personal copy of the second volume was given as a marriage present by a clergyman. CMY's contributions include articles on Sophie Swetchine

(a 19th century Russian mystic who was famous for her salon in Paris), Meta Klopstock (an 18th German writer) and Sarah Trimmer (the 18th century writer, philanthropist and educationalist). The aim was to present women whose 'faith shone through all their words and deeds'. CMY wrote of the project 'that to look into real life minutely is the best school for one's own mind or for fiction', and wished that she could have included more women from 'humbler life', but there was not enough information about them (letter, 1860).

History of Christian Names (1863, revised 1884)

This was the first serious study of English Christian names. CMY lists about 10,700 names from European countries, from Aaron and Aasta to Zwetlana and Zygmunt. Names are categorised by origin: from mythology, animals, flowers, deities, appearance and virtues. Her love of knowledge and theorising is shown in the tables of name variants by country. In the introduction, she explains that the task was started for amusement and hopes that it will bring readers cheer.

The Clever Woman of the Family (1865)

This novel contrasts several women, among them Rachel, who prides herself on being unlike conventional women, is thought of as clever and wants to do good, and Ermine, an invalid who cannot walk. Rachel is frustrated, exclaiming 'I am five and twenty, and I will no longer be withheld from some path of usefulness!'. She sets up what she thinks is a small industrial school where children are taught to make woodcuts, but the children are beaten and abused, one dying of diphtheria. Rachel is humiliated, realises that she has acted out of conceit and has nearly lost her faith; she is saved by Alick, who teaches her better ways to be useful. Ermine is rewarded for her self-control and suffering with marriage and recognition that her way of influencing people for good makes her the real 'Clever Woman of the Family'. This is a difficult book for many modern readers because of CMY's view that women's aspirations can lead to evil if they are not supported by superior men and based on faith. The painful and dramatic plot events are softened by the book's charms of conversation, walks, swimming, cats, dogs, caterpillars and horses.

The Dove in the Eagle's Nest (1866)

This is a fantasy of 15th-century Germany (CMY's inspiration came to her in a dream). Gently-reared Christina, aged sixteen, is taken to a den of robber

barons in the mountains, to look after the sickly daughter of the baron. She teaches the daughter about Christianity, and the son of the family falls in love with her and marries her, without her full consent. Her older son becomes loyal to Kaiser Maximilian and vows not to follow his family's violent traditions. There is an epilogue, forty-three years later, in which Christina, her son and grandchildren are happy and peaceful. By this point Lutheranism is spreading, but they see it as a welcome return to a less corrupt form of Catholicism. Some modern readers may find CMY's historical novels less readable than her realistic contemporary books.



The Pillars of the House, or, Under Wode, Under Rode (1873)

Like *The Daisy Chain*, this is the story of one of CMY's large families, the thirteen children of the Underwood family. They are poor but genteel, and know as the book starts that their father is dying, partly because he has worked so hard as a curate. He tells Felix, the eldest son at sixteen and the hero of the book, that they will only have £180 a year once he is dead. Although Felix wants to become a clergyman, he accepts a job with the local bookseller and printer to support the family. His sisters Wilmet and Geraldine run the household and look after the younger children. The details of poverty are constant themes; handed-down clothes and economical stews 'chiefly composed of scraps, pot-liquor, rice, and vegetables'; and the amounts of money quoted range from sixpence for seven eggs to £200 a year to attend Harrow School. Each child has spiritual or practical problems to face as they grow up. Disabled Geraldine struggles with nervous crying, and eventually decides to have her lame foot amputated so that she can be more help at home. Clement is priggish and superior and then feels remorseful. Felix regrets having 'slipped down at least two degrees in the social scale'. Alda and Edgar are too worldly; Alda marries for money and is unhappy, and Edgar ends up forging a cheque and running away. Angela is self-willed, 'alternating between the fast and the devotional'. After years of poverty and self-sacrifice, Felix inherits a family estate, Vale Leston, and starts to restore the local church and build chapels and

schools. He dies following an accident for which Angela is responsible, sending her into a religious crisis. Despite the sometimes bleak plotlines – 24 deaths in 18 years – there are scenes of happy family life and banter.

In the sequel, *The Long Vacation (1895)*, fourteen years later, the family continue working for the church and society. Class distinctions have altered so that Lance, who has Felix's old job as bookseller and newspaper publisher, does not feel as socially isolated as Felix did. Opportunities for women have changed too, and girls consider going to university. The Underwoods can never have had things too easy, though; there are sensational events, illnesses and deaths. The book ends with Vale Leston's development into a spiritual centre, with a staff of curates, 'a resting-place for overworked people, whether clergy, governesses, or poor, or mission-folk at home'.

Modern Broods, or Developments Unlooked For (1900)

This, one of the last of CMY's works, starts as the story of Magdalen, who is responsible for her younger half-sisters. It quickly becomes a final tale of the Mays of Stoneborough, the Underwoods of Vale Leston and the Mohuns of Beechcroft, who are now connected to a confusing degree. The adult Underwoods go back to their childhood home and the printing office, remembering Felix. CMY brings Angela's story to a conclusion, in a sensational way as always with this particular character. This is interspersed with scenes of bicycle practice, feeding cockroaches to hedgehogs and admiring kittens. CMY looks ahead to women's suffrage, writing 'What might, by His will, in the government and politics of the country, be put into their hands, no one could tell; but it was right to be prepared for it ... [via] modern education' (see Section 3). One of her young women becomes an international scientific lecturer on subjects such as electricity, and Magdalen ends up running a young women's technical college. CMY's views on the roles of women have widened over the course of her writing career.



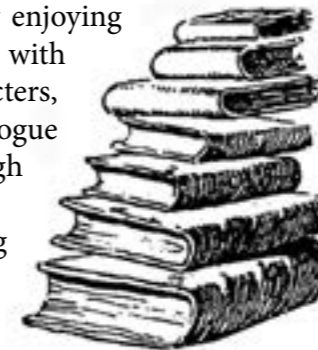
5. AN ASSESSMENT OF CMY AS A NOVELIST



Social problems, romantic heroes, family life – CMY tackled all these themes, also dear to other Victorian novelists. A bestseller in her time, she was read by all classes of society and appealed to all walks of life, from servants to soldiers, from priests to princesses. But as a

profoundly Christian and didactic author, in the 20th century she fell out of favour with all but a dedicated few, when her perceived 'preachy' tone overshadowed her real talent for vivid characterisation and lively dialogue.

So is the 20th-century judgment still relevant? The 21st century's answer is a resounding No! Not only because her writing career was coterminous with Victoria's reign, and reflects the changing attitudes of Victorian people, so that she can now be enjoyed as a reflection of the Victorian age. More than that, many are now enjoying her novels as good reads, with lifelike and likeable characters, believable, unstilted dialogue and moments of high drama.



When considering CMY as a novelist, it is helpful to look at her sources of inspiration and her motives for writing. As a solitary child, she began her storytelling habit early, at the age of about 5. She wrote: 'My great world was ... out of doors with an imaginary family of ten boys and eleven girls who lived in an arbour' (Coleridge, 1903, p. 59). These imaginary children were the precursors of the brothers and sisters who feature in her family sagas. She was also a keen observer, and drew many of her conversations and incidents from real life. Her biographer tells us of 'her habit when a girl of writing down the conversations which passed during the day with her friends and cousins' (Coleridge, 1903, p. 151), hence the unstilted dialogue mentioned earlier.

Studying CMY's motivation, as well as her inspiration, is also useful when approaching her work. The Yonges lived on inherited wealth, so

initially there were no concerns about money. Basically, she wrote because she 'could not help it' (Battiscombe & Laski, 1965, p. 185). As she told a friend in later life, when asked what she would have done if her family had forbidden publication, she answered, 'I must have written; but I should not have published – at least not for many years' (Battiscombe, 1943, p. 62). However, after 1876, when her brother Julian was declared a bankrupt, much of her literary earnings went to support his family.

But there was a powerful didactic impulse as well. She wrote, 'The yearning to dwell on and portray the excellent, heroic, lovable or pathetic, has always been a strong personal motive and delight. Also to protest against existing abuses' (Yonge, 1892). So how successful was she in portraying the excellent, heroic, lovable or pathetic? CMY's good characters are seldom unbelievably perfect. They have to struggle and suffer to overcome their faults, or they mature and gain the strength to change their surroundings, enabling the reader to identify with them on their journey.

And what were the abuses she wrote to correct? Well many of them were very down to earth – literally. For example, a subject dear to her heart was the need for proper drainage in Winchester. CMY used Winchester's problems in her three novels where drains are the hinge of the plot – *The Trial* (1864), *The Young Stepmother* (1861) and *The Three Brides* (1876). In these novels, she makes the point that the better-off ignore the squalid conditions of the lower classes at their peril. To take just one example, the Wards in *The Trial* are infected with scarlet fever by the slum-dwelling patients of their surgeon father.



Having looked at CMY's inspiration and motivation, what were her techniques? She introduces human drama into many of her books for adults and children alike. After all, many of her novels, as was common in the 19th century, were serialised, and she had to introduce exciting moments of suspense to get her readers to buy the next issue. But this was not her only reason for introducing them; she also used drama to develop character. *The Daisy Chain* (1856) is perhaps the best-known of CMY's several family sagas, and offers an example of this. In this book the initial crisis is provided by the mother's death and eldest daughter's paralysing injury in a carriage accident, creating a situation fraught with interest for the reader: how will the eleven children and their father cope without Mrs May, and how will their characters and relationships develop in response to this challenge?

CMY also showed clichéd characters and plots in a new light. She deliberately upset Victorian, and even older, tropes: the brooding Romantic hero; the gentle, good, but put-upon young girl; the problem-solving legacy; the downtrodden and incompetent governess; and the unsympathetic stepmother. And, plot-wise, she broke convention by eschewing purely happy endings.

To start by considering the brooding Romantic hero: in *The Heir of Redclyffe* (1853), the first of her novels to achieve high sales, CMY introduces a truly respect-worthy Romantic hero in the person of the hot-tempered but lovable Guy, who, far from brooding resentfully on injustice, forgives his unjust accuser. This is Philip, whom Guy nurses through a dangerous illness; he catches it and dies. His widow, Amy, then goes on to upset another trope by being good and gentle, but active and effective in her restoration of the remorseful Philip to useful life.

Next to be upset was the trope of the reluctant or under-appreciated governess, such as Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*, or Jane Austen's *Jane Fairfax*. By deep contrast CMY's governesses are enthusiastic and, in later books, well-qualified women who win the affection and respect of their pupils and employers alike. As for legacies, Kate Umfraville, the 10-year-old heroine of *Countess Kate* (1862), inherits a title and a fortune, but as you would by now expect from CMY, this is more of a trial than a blessing. She has to leave her beloved uncle's family and live with her aunts, one stern, one weak, to be fitted for her new position. Eventually she goes to live with a kind uncle and aunt, but not after she has learnt some hard lessons.

The Young Stepmother's eponymous heroine, Albinia Kendal, aged 23, is ready to love, help and support her three stepchildren, Gilbert, Lucy and Sophy, aged 13, 12 and 11, and doesn't expect too much from them. But despite Albinia's care and kindness, the young people have difficulties and sadnesses in their lives as they grow up. Gilbert joins the army to fight in the Crimean War and dies of wounds received at Balaclava. Lucy is unhappily



married to a man of whom her parents disapprove, and Sophy is disappointed in love.

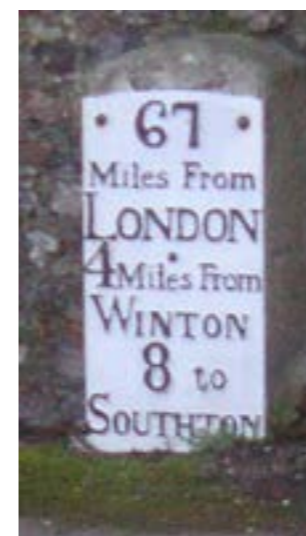
Why isn't the ending happier? After all, Albinia did her best. But life isn't like that. This is more than a romantic novel. The moral of the story is 'While we are indeed honestly and faithfully doing our best, ... our lapses through infirmity will be compensated', and Albinia finds compensation in the way that Sophy's struggles to cope with her disappointment have matured and softened her. So, in conclusion, CMY may be assessed as a born writer, a surprisingly unconventional novelist, a good read and – perhaps above all – a window on the Victorian age.

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6. OTTERBOURNE IN THE 19TH CENTURY

In trade directories of the Victorian era Otterbourne was invariably described as a 'pleasant village', situated 67 miles from London, 4 miles south from



Winchester and 8 north-west from Southampton. Supposedly it got its name from 'its small rivulet, or bourn ... [that was] formerly the resort of otters' (see, for example, *Kelly's Directory* 1878, pp.359-60). With a population of 583 in 1831, by the time of the 1901 census this had increased to 1025. During the same period the number of houses

more than doubled from 100 to 214. Thus, it was a moderately sized and growing parish with an increasing variety of services from which CMY could take advantage.

With respect to what today would be called 'connectivity', in 1867 there was a post office manned by George Collins, with letters arriving from Winchester at 8.00 a.m. and dispatched at 6.30 p.m. (*Post Office Directory*, p.575). From entries in successive editions of *Kelly's Directory* it is possible to chart improvements in the service. Thus, in 1885, 'Letters arrive from Winchester at 6.00 a.m.; dispatched at 7.55 p.m. & on Sundays at 7.55 a.m.' (*Kelly's Directory* 1885, p.733); and in 1896 and likewise 1898, 'Letters arrive from Winchester at 6.10 a.m. and 1.00 p.m.; dispatched at 1.05 & 7.55 p.m.' (*Kelly's Directory* 1896, p.225). By 1896, Mrs Emma Collins, sub-postmistress, had taken over responsibility for the Post Office from her late husband. It is assumed that CMY made frequent use of the Post Office as she corresponded on a regular basis with her publisher and wide circle of friends. Many of her surviving letters are available on-line at <https://c21ch.newcastle.edu.au/yonge/>.

In 1867 there was also a carrier, James Feltham, who passed 'through from Winchester to Southampton, every day, Thursday and Sunday excepted' (*Post Office Directory*, p.575). By 1898 there were three carriers: George Allen who passed through from Winchester to Southampton

on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and to Winchester on Wednesdays and Saturdays; James Pierce from Chandlers Ford; and Frederick Hawkins to Winchester every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (*Kelly's Directory* 1898, p.240).



Other services included those available from a grocer's shop, a draper, a smithy, a shoemaker, a wood dealer and a carpenter. Many of the directories are available in HALS and afford wonderful insights into CMY's world.



The directories also list the principal inhabitants of Otterbourne, many of whom would have been acquaintances of CMY. Indeed, there are references to some of them in her letters. such as Miss Marion (or Catherine) Finlaison of Wingham, who ran a small boarding school in the village for girls. CMY described her as 'a very good and excellent person, and very anxious to make the girls good' (<https://c21ch.newcastle.edu.au/yonge/2639/to-christabel-rose-coleridge-95>). It is also likely that CMY would have enjoyed good relations with those who resided in the village for long periods, such as Mr and Mrs Rowland Jones-Bateman who lived for many years

at The Grange. Indeed, in *John Keble's Parishes*, CMY makes direct reference to them:

The whole tract [namely part of Otterbourne Park] remained untouched till a pleasant residence called the Grange was taken out of it to the south, at a ground rent, by Rowland Jones Bateman, Esq., whose beneficent kindness and excellent religious influence told on all the neighbourhood, and especially on the hamlet of Allbrook, till his death in 1897 (p.153).

CMY also enjoyed close relations with the incumbents of St Matthew's Church. Until 1876 the benefice was united with Hursley, the vicars being the Revd John Keble from 1836-1866, followed by the Revd James Young, 1867-1906, with the Revd William Bigg Wither his long serving curate. The first vicar of Otterbourne alone was the Revd Walter Francis Elgie, 1876-81. His successors during CMY's



life were the Revd Henry Walter Brock, 1881-92 and the Revd Henry Albany Bowles, 1892-1909. In 1884 Bowles had married CMY's niece Louisa Alethea Yonge, the daughter of Julian and Francis.

As might be expected, her passion for education led CMY to have an excellent rapport with schoolmistresses and masters. One of Otterbourne's longest serving school-mistresses, from the 1870s to the 1890s was Mrs Matilda Valentine Bishop. One of schoolmasters, Alfred Rolfe, also served for a similar period. In a letter from 1878 she refers to the schools:

Our pupil teachers have had a paper sent in from Salisbury training college for religious examination, saying 2nd class – Alice Misselbrook 8, Harriet Godwin 18, but whether this means no from the top or number of marks we in our inexperience do not know. The mistress has been nursing her

sick husband at Portsmouth for a fortnight, and they have kept school by themselves with good success – the children have all been wonderfully good. I believe the poor man is dying, but he is in Haslar Hospital and Mrs Bishop has come back to be sent for any time. The new master promises well. (<https://c21ch.newcastle.edu.au/yonge/2639/to-christabel-rose-coleridge-95>).

As recorded in 1885, the school could accommodate 90 pupils, and had an average attendance of 60. The girls' and infants' school log books are held at HALS (Ref: 60M81/LB3), together with a plan of the school (Ref: 20M65/68). There is also a considerable amount of information about the schools in the parish magazines covering the years 1874 to 1892 (HALS Ref: 113A05).

Mention must also be made of Charles and Anne Ray. Charles was CMY's gardener and the couple lived at Rose Cottage, owned by CMY (see p.20). In 1891, the couple had their four daughters – Annie aged 8, Susan, 6, Bessie 5 and Eva 2 – living with them. It can be assumed that CMY took a particular interest in their upbringing and wellbeing. Later, Charles became parish clerk, 'collector of rates and taxes' and 'assistant overseer of the poor' (1911 census return).

Finally, Otterbourne was the site of waterworks built by Southampton Borough Council in the 1880s. CMY ends her book *Old Times at Otterbourne* by referring to them: 'The water works for the supply of Southampton are our last novelty, by which such of us benefit, as either themselves or their landlords pay a small contribution. They have given us some red buildings at one end and on the Hill a queer little round tower containing the staircase leading to the underground reservoir, a wonderful construction of circles of brick pillars and arches, as those remember who visited it before the water was let in' (p.42).



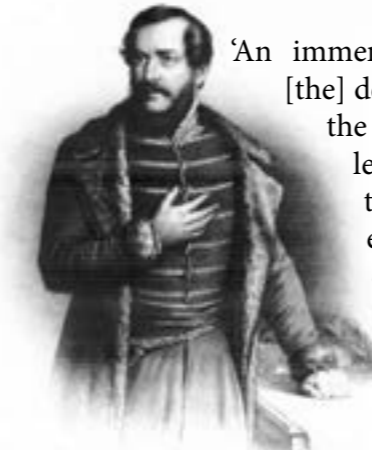
GLIMPSES OF 19TH CENTURY OTTERBOURNE LIFE AS REVEALED IN LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

'The villages of Twyford and Otterbourne were visited on Tuesday evening, by one of the heaviest storms of wind and rain that have been known for years.' (*Hampshire Telegraph*, 25 June 1827)
CMY aged 3



'The new church at Otterbourne, recently finished, will be consecrated on Tuesday next. This edifice has been two years erecting. It is a neat structure built with grey bricks, and stone turrets, porches and windows. It presents a pleasing object to the traveller by train from Winchester to Southampton.' (*Hampshire Telegraph*, 29 July 1839)
CMY aged 15

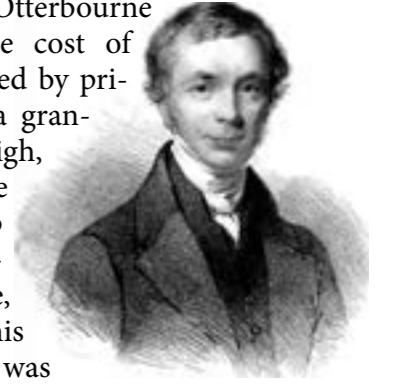
'On Tuesday 14th inst., a poor and industrious woman, named May, who lives in Otterbourne a village near Winchester was summoned before Mr G.W. Crawley Yonge a magistrate living in that village, and fined 5s and ordered to pay 7s 6d costs, for selling a half-penny worth of lollipops on the previous Sunday to a little girl of Otterbourne. The story having become known in the village and neighbourhood, a subscription was quickly raised to enable the poor woman to pay the magisterial demand, otherwise she must have sold her donkey or cow, the only means she has of obtaining her living.' (*Hampshire Telegraph*, 27 May 1844)
CMY aged 20



'An immense crowd cheered ... [the] departure ... [of Kossuth, the Hungarian nationalist leader] from Southampton, and at several villages on the route [to Winchester] the inhabitants mustered in force to give them welcome. At Otterbourne quite a demonstration took

place ...' (*Lloyds Weekly London Newspaper*, 2 November 1851)
CMY aged 28

'THE LATE REV JOHN KEBLE – The first public monument to the author of *The Christian Year* has just been completed at Otterbourne ... The memorial, the cost of which has been defrayed by private subscriptions, is a granite cross, nine feet high, standing upon three steps, the central step of which has the inscription, "John Keble, 30 years Rector of this Parish." The memorial was erected by Messrs Euston and Stone of Exeter.' (*Oxford Journal*, 17 November 1866)
CMY aged 43



'The parish schools of ... [Otterbourne] were the gift of Miss Yonge, the eminent authoress, and are a very convenient group of buildings, designed by Mr T. Stopher of Winchester, and harmonising well with the wooded scenery around them. There has been a very useful addition this week to the schools, in the shape of a turret clock, striking the hours on a bell of 2¾ cwt. This time measurer strikes the hours only and is from the shop of Mr G.P. Jacob ... [of Winchester] – itself a guarantee of excellence. It is the gift of Mrs Pink, a lady who once lived at Otterbourne.' (*Hampshire Advertiser*, 12 December 1874)
CMY aged 51

'A concert took place at Otterbourne Girls' School on Tuesday evening, and was repeated on the following evening, as the room was not large enough to accommodate more than 100. It was full on each occasion and many were refused admission for want of room. Many ladies from the neighbouring parishes were present. The singing was good and gave great satisfaction to all, there having been several *encores*, and great praise is due to the Rev.W.F. Elgie for the energy he displayed in the arrangements. The concert finished each evening with three cheers for the ladies.' (*Hampshire Advertiser*, 19 February 1876)
CMY aged 52

'A CAPITAL ENTERTAINMENT' was given in ... [Otterbourne's] large schoolroom on Tuesday evening, by Mr A.O. Capper, of the Garrick Club Southampton. For two hours a large audience was kept thoroughly amused, the interest never flagging, although Mr Capper had all the labour on his own shoulders. The entertainment was an amusing medley of conjuring tricks (all performed without a hitch), numerous songs and recitations ... "Billy's Rose" (a touching little ballad), the speech of Sergeant Buz-fuz from Pickwick (given in costume) and among the songs, "Little Mr Binks" and "The Silver Wedding Party" ... [were] pieces that called forth most hearty applause.'

(*Hampshire Advertiser*, 27 November 1880)

CMY aged 57

'Mr W.W. Beach [the local MP] presented petitions to the House of Commons, on Wednesday, from Otterbourne and Andover, in favour of extending the parliamentary franchise to women.'



(*Hampshire Advertiser*, 3 April 1886)

CMY aged 62

'AMATEUR THEATRICALS - On Friday evening the 11th and Saturday afternoon the 12th insts, amateur theatrical performances will be given in the Girls' Schoolroom in aid of local charity. The pieces to be played are *Orange Blossoms* and *Rough Diamond*. (*Hampshire Chronicle*, 5 April 1890)

CMY aged 66

'The [parish] meeting was held in the schoolroom. About 50 electors were present, among them being Miss Yonge, the Rev. H.A. Bowles, Mr Jones-Bateman, Mr Grant (Chairman of the Parish Council), &c. Mr Grant took the chair and opened the proceedings punctually at 7.30, but told the meeting that as he was a candidate for election [to the Parish Council] it would be necessary for them to elect another chairman. Mr Nairn proposed that the Rev. H.A. Bowles (Vicar of Otterbourne) should be chairman and there being no other proposition he was declared elected.'

(*Hampshire Chronicle*, 14 March 1896)

CMY aged 72

'OTTERBOURNE SCHOOLS: PRIZE DISTRIBUTION ... After referring in eulogistic terms to Miss Charlotte Yonge and her interest to educational and other matters in the parish, the Rev. Bowles asked her to present the prizes to the successful scholars. Miss Yonge then ascended the platform and distributed the awards to the following children, all of whom had made over 90 per cent attendances ...' (*Eastleigh Weekly News*, 6 May 1898)

CMY aged 74

'PRIZEGIVING. - The annual gathering of parents and subscribers took place at the Schoolroom on the



Thursday evening of last week when the room was filled. The vicar presided, and among those present were Miss Yonge, Mrs Bowles, Messrs Phillips (the Chairman of the Parish Council) ... Miss Yonge read a very interesting paper on the history and progress of education in the parish during the last 60 years. Mr Phillips, who represents Nonconformist parents on the Board of Management, bore testimony to the strictly impartial way in which the interests of all, whether Churchman or Dissenter, were dealt with by the Board. They often heard of Nonconformist disabilities. He was pleased to say that in Otterbourne they were unknown ...'

(*Hampshire Chronicle*, 26 May 1900)

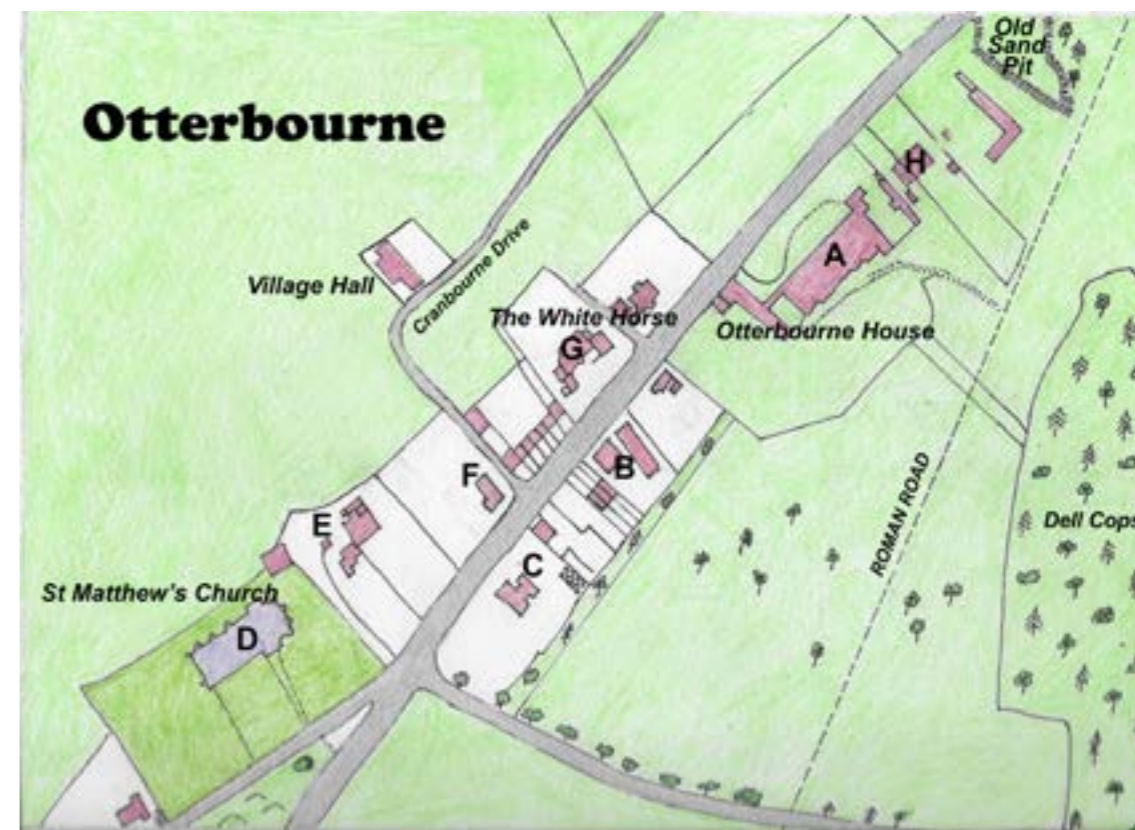
CMY aged 76



7. MAPS & IMAGES OF OTTERBOURNE SHOWING LOCATIONS FOR THE CMY TRAIL



Extract from a 25 inch to the mile Ordnance Survey Map 1897 Hampshire and the Isle of Wight XLIX.16 (copy available in the HRO)



The sketch map is not to scale, but serves as a guide to the trail locations.

A. Otterbourne House



Front view 2022 (source: Otterbourne Archive)

Otterbourne House was CMY's birthplace and home until 1862. As recorded on the Hampshire Gardens Trust website: 'At the time of the Napoleonic wars, French prisoners built and realigned the village road through Otterbourne and one of the cottages along it was enlarged and improved to become Otterbourne House.' It was '3-storey in the centre with the rest 2-storey and stucco on brick with a slate roof. A coach house lies at the front of the site' (<http://research.hgt.org.uk/item/otterbourne-house/>). Following the death of CMY's father in 1854, the family continued to live there. At the time of the 1861 census this consisted of her brother, Julian; sister-in-law, Frances; niece, Helen; mother, Frances; CMY and six servants.

The following year, with Julian's growing family (he and Francis would eventually have six surviving children), CMY and her mother decided to move out of Otterbourne House and into a house of their own. They chose Elderfield House, opposite the church and the schools, and connected with Otterbourne House by a private path running behind the cottagers' gardens (see section C).



Rear view 1870 (source: © Hampshire Cultural Trust)

B. The Reading Room



Probable re-opening of the Reading Room following its enlargement in the 1920s (source: Otterbourne Archive)

This property has had a varied history. Having previously been the original school and later the Girls' and Infants School, the building became the Reading Room in the 1870s. Interestingly, in a letter to Margaret Anne Macmillan dated 26 April 1880, CMY observed that 'even the men at our village Reading Room care much less for papers than for books' (<https://c21ch.newcastle.edu.au/yonge/2705>).



The Reading Room premises in 2022, now a private residence (source: Otterbourne Archive)

C. Elderfield



Elderfield House: side view with CMY in the garden (source: Otterbourne Archive)

Now a grade II listed building, Elderfield House dates from the early 18th century. During the 19th and 20th centuries it was extended and altered. When CMY lived here from 1862 until her death in 1901 it was 'colourwashed brick, old plain tile roof and lead roof. 2 storey and attic, 3 bay early C18 house with wing added to rear at right to form garden front and wing added to side of that wing to form U-shaped house.' (<https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101178897-elderfield-otterbourne>)



Rear view of Elderfield House in 2022

D. St Matthew's Church



St Matthew's Church prior to the removal of the spire in the 1970s (source: Otterbourne Archive)

This is the new church built in 1837/9 to replace the original one in Kiln Lane which had become too small for the growing village and was too near the new railway line linking Winchester and Southampton. A plan of the church c.1839, as CMY would have first known it, is in HALS (Ref: 27M66/PW4). CMY spent many hours attending services and meetings here. She is buried in the churchyard.



St Matthew's Church in 2022

E. The National Schools



The original school buildings, replaced in the 1970s (source: Otterbourne Archive)

The Boys' School was built in 1839 and the new Girls' and Infants' School in 1872: the old building became the Reading Room (see Section B). This photograph shows the Girls' and Infants' School on the right and the Master's house on the left. (The Boys' School was on a different site.) The buildings above were opposite Elderfield House. CMY used to enjoy watching from her front window the children as they left the school when their lessons were over. Following the demolition of the original school buildings in the 1960s, houses were built on the site.



National Schools site in 2022 (source: Otterbourne Archive)

F. Rose Cottage



Rose Cottage in the 19th century (on the left)
(source: Otterbourne Archive)

As indicated on p.14, Rose Cottage was owned by CMY and was the home of Charles Ray, gardener and friend of CMY, his wife, Anne, and their four children. Look out for the blue plaque on the cottage which provides details.



Rose Cottage in 2022 (source: Otterbourne Archive)

The thatched cottages alongside Rose Cottage in the top photograph were demolished in the 1960s to make way for a Village Hall. This was later replaced by a modern Hall (below) located off the new road, Cranbourne Drive, the sign for which can just be seen in the photograph above.



Otterbourne Village Hall
(source: Otterbourne Parish Council)

G. The White Horse Public House



The White Horse Inn in the 19th century
(source: Otterbourne Archive)

It is possible that CMY never frequented The White Horse. However, it would have been a familiar landmark when walking from Otterbourne House to the School or Church. It was built in the 18th century, extended in the 19th and altered in the 20th. Today it is a Grade II listed building (<https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101095757-the-white-horse-public-house-otterbourne#>).



The White Horse in 2022 (source: Otterbourne Archive)

H. Post Office / Meadow Cottage



Post Office in the 19th century
(source: Otterbourne Archive)

For many years, this was the home of the Collins family. As postmaster and postmistress, Mr and Mrs Collins assisted CMY in her communications with the wider world (see pages 6 and 13). It was conveniently situated close by Otterbourne House. This is a Grade II listed building described as a ‘Small house. Mid C18. Colourwashed brick, old plain tile roof’ (<https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101095754-meadow-cottage-otterbourne#>).



The Post Office building in 2022 (source: Otterbourne Archive)

8. HURSLEY IN THE 19TH CENTURY

Like Otterbourne, in trade directories Hursley was described as a ‘pleasant village.’ In the words of CMY, ‘the village is situated on the turnpike-road leading from Winchester to Romsey, and nearly at an equal distance from each of those places’ (*John Keble’s Parishes*, p.6). Hursley’s population in 1831 was 1418 and in 1891 it was little changed at 1398. Due to boundary changes, by 1901 it had fallen to 801. The number of houses was 259 in 1831, 291 in 1891 and 192 in 1901.

Within the parish a marked distinction can be drawn between two buildings which clearly symbolised opposite ends of the social scale: at one extreme was Hursley Park/House and, at the other, the Workhouse. It would not be too much of an exaggeration to suggest that CMY took a considerable interest in both. As recorded, ‘Hursley Park, with its large and elegant mansion, is the seat of Sir William Heathcote, Bart. D.C.L., M.P.: the park is richly wooded and well stocked with deer, and surrounded by plantations and scenery of considerable beauty for many miles.’ (*Kelly’s Directory*, 1867, p.551). CMY’s friendship with

members of the Heathcote family is well documented as are her frequent visits to Hursley House. Indeed, in *John Keble’s Parishes* she comments: ‘What a centre of hospitality, cheerfulness, and kindness



Hursley Park was in those days can hardly be described, though remembered by many as a sort of golden age of Hursley’ (p.124). Of particular note is the fact that Sir William was instrumental in bringing the Revd John Keble (Sir William’s tutor when he was at Oxford) to Hursley in 1835 where he remained as vicar until his death in 1866.

The potential for further research includes numerous letters from CMY to members of the Heathcote family (HALS Ref: 63M84/234/49 to 65), which provide the basis for exploring her relationship with family members, and Sir William Heathcote’s will (HALS Ref: 76A02/A11), dated 1881, which might provide clues as to the inspiration for the complex family relationships in CMY’s fiction (e.g. *The Young Stepmother*). A feature of Hursley Park life which appealed to CMY and to which she contributed was *The Hursley Magazine* (Georgina Battscombe’s biography p.79). Copies can be seen at HALS (class mark 942.27).



CMY praised the close relationship between Keble and Sir William, seeing ‘the Church and the secular power working together in an almost ideal way’ (*John Keble’s Parishes*, p. 125). Keble’s parish work was encouraged and supported with attention being given to the establishment of parish schools and the provision of treats for local children and old people. At county level he played a part in the rebuilding and improvement of the Hospital in Winchester; the erection of a well-ordered lunatic asylum at Farnham;

and in the sphere of law and order an interest in 'a renewed jail on the then approved principles and the inauguration of a county police [force]' (*John Keble's Parishes*, p.126).

Moreover, unlike Otterbourne, Hursley was the head of a [Poor Law] Union – the smallest in Hampshire. Originally consisting of just five parishes, these were in alphabetical order, Compton, Farley Chamberlayne, Hursley, North Baddesley, and Otterbourne. According to CMY 'the parishes of Hursley and Otterbourne were in such good order under the management of Sir William Heathcote and Mr Yonge, that under the new Poor Law they were permitted to form a small Union' (*John Keble's Parishes*, p. 104). From 1894, the newly formed parishes of Ampfield and Chandler's Ford were added. Being 'head of the union' meant that Hursley was the location of the institution most associated with the Poor Law, namely the Workhouse. This had been built in 1828. In 1878 it was stated that it had 'room for 100 paupers, but ... seldom had more than 50 inmates, and in 1871 it only had 29' (*Kelly's Directory 1878*, p.296). A directory of 1885 indicated that it could 'hold 90 inmates' (*Kelly's Directory 1885*, p.703). Situated in the centre of the village, this was a building with which CMY would have been very familiar. It is also probable that she would have known many of the officers of the Union, with her brother being Vice-Chairman of the Board of Guardians for a number of years. These included James Chapman, the medical officer during the 1880s, and George and Maria Readhead, for many years the master and matron of the Workhouse.

With respect to education, Hursley had a National School, like Otterbourne. In early directories, it was stated that this had formerly been a small farmstead belonging to Sir William Heathcote, 'who converted it into a school in 1853' (*Kelly's Directory*, 1878, p.295). Later directories, however, indicate that the Boys' School, which could accommodate 100 pupils, had been built in 1832 and the Girls' School in 1833, for 60 girls. The latter was enlarged in 1894 to provide accommodation for 100 girls (*Kelly's Directory*, 1896, p.191).

There was a considerable turnover of Boys' School masters: John Frederick Jennings (1885), Frederick John Hughes (1889), and William C. Orchard (1896). By contrast there was a degree of stability with respect to the Girls' School mistress, who for many years was Miss Lucy Lampet. The Hursley National School Admissions registers, 1862-1908 have survived (HALS Ref: 140M71).

GLIMPSES OF 19TH CENTURY HURSLEY LIFE AS REVEALED IN LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

'ASSAULT AND ROBBERY – Some villains broke into the turnpike-house between ... Winchester and Hursley, on Saturday night last, the gate-keeper being from home, and pinioning and gagging the gate-keeper's wife, commenced a narrow search for portable goods and chattels, and made away with three pounds in money.' (*Hampshire Telegraph*, 8 January 1827)



CMY aged 3

'Sir Wm. Heathcote, Bart. M.P. whose extensive charitable donations are frequently acknowledged with gratitude by the poor, has caused several hundred pairs of blankets, and also the usual annual supply of wheat and other articles, to be distributed to the most necessitous families of Hursley and the neighbourhood.' (*Hampshire Telegraph*, 18 January 1830)

CMY aged 6

'The members of the Hursley Hunt gave a dinner on Wednesday last at the King's Head, Hursley, to R.D. Cockburn, Esq., the much respected master. The attendance was very numerous and conviviality kept up till a late hour.' (*Hampshire Telegraph*, 14 March 1846)

CMY aged 22

'On Monday the return match at Cricket between the Winchester and Hursley Clubs was played on Twyford Down, when the rustics again proved themselves more than the city, whom they beat in good style, with seven wickets to go down.' (*Hampshire Telegraph*, 8 July 1854)

CMY aged 30

'At Red House, Hursley, lately occupied by Mr Fowlie, bailiff to Sir W. Heathcote, Bart., there is a yew hedge cut to fancy shapes and figures. This operation was performed last week, and the cuttings were left on the grass of the field where about thirty heifers were feeding, and the next morning some boys picking mushrooms found eight of them lying dead at different places ... the cause of death ... [being] the eating of the yew cuttings from the hedge.' (*The Examiner*, 1 October 1859)

CMY aged 36

'POLICE INTELLIGENCE ... Tuesday – Present Captain Nevill, – John Webb of Hursley, was charged by C. Gale, relieving officer of Hursley, with having deserted his wife and children, whereby the parish of Hursley had been put to the expense of eight guineas. He was sentenced to six weeks imprisonment with hard labour.' (*Hampshire Telegraph*, 12 January 1861)

CMY aged 37

'We are glad to find that the poor of Hursley were not forgotten on Tuesday last. Sir William Heathcote, of Hursley Park, having had two fat oxen killed and provided other food for distribution among the poor on his estate.' (*Hampshire Telegraph*, 14 March 1863)

CMY aged 39

'A pleasing acknowledgment of long service and attachment to duty has just been made to an old and esteemed servant by the children of Sir William Heathcote, Bart. Ruth Savage has completed fifty years of service in the family, and the event has been marked by the gift of an elegant silver tea service, a handsome timepiece, and an illuminated and framed memorial of the occasion signed by every one of the children.' (*Hampshire Telegraph*, 3 March 1877)

CMY aged 53

'YEOMANRY CAVALRY – The B and D Troops had a joint preliminary drill at Hursley Park on Tuesday, when there was a good muster, under the command of Major Powell, the other officers present being Captains Waterhouse and Brown, and regimental Sergeant-Major Dear was also there as hale and active as ever. After drill, at which over 50 were present, lunch was served at the "Kings Head".' (*Hampshire Telegraph*, 15 May 1880)

CMY aged 56

'ENTERTAINMENT – A very successful entertainment was given at the Boys' Schoolroom on the 27th ult. by the members of the Reading Room and a

few friends, under the direction of Mr Hughes. The instrumental music ... was much appreciated, as also were the part-songs ... The solo vocalists were Mr Hughes, who sang "The Powder Monkey" and "Tom Bowling" ... Readings were given by the Rev J.G. Young, the Rev. E.K.R. Reynolds and Col. C.G. Heathcote. The humour of the latter reading was undeniably the hit of the evening.' (*Hampshire Chronicle*, 6 December 1890)

CMY aged 67

'PARISH MEETING – The statutory Parish Meeting was held in the Girls' School on Thursday evening, but the attendance was small. J.W. Baxendale Esq., presided. The accounts of Bexley's and Wyndham's charities for the past year having been approved ... it was carried "That this meeting hopes the Parish Council will appoint the Vicar and churchwardens for the time being trustees of Wyndham's charity for the ensuing year".' (*Hampshire Chronicle*, 30 March 1895)

CMY aged 71

'CHANDLERSFORD v. HURSLEY – The Fordians journeyed to Hursley to play the return match on Saturday last. The weather was of an adverse character, and quite unfit for football, the ground being in a slippery state ... so a good combination game was not expected. The visitors had ... [previously] beaten their opponents by 9 goals to nil, so this time Hursley, to prevent another defeat, put a stronger team into the field. In the first half, however, Chandlersford managed to put on three goals through the agency of White and Chappell. After the interval the visitors pressed and Chappell put on No. 4, and soon after Meads No.5 ... [and] the visitors left the field victors by five goals to love.' (*Eastleigh Weekly News*, 1 February 1896)

CMY aged 72

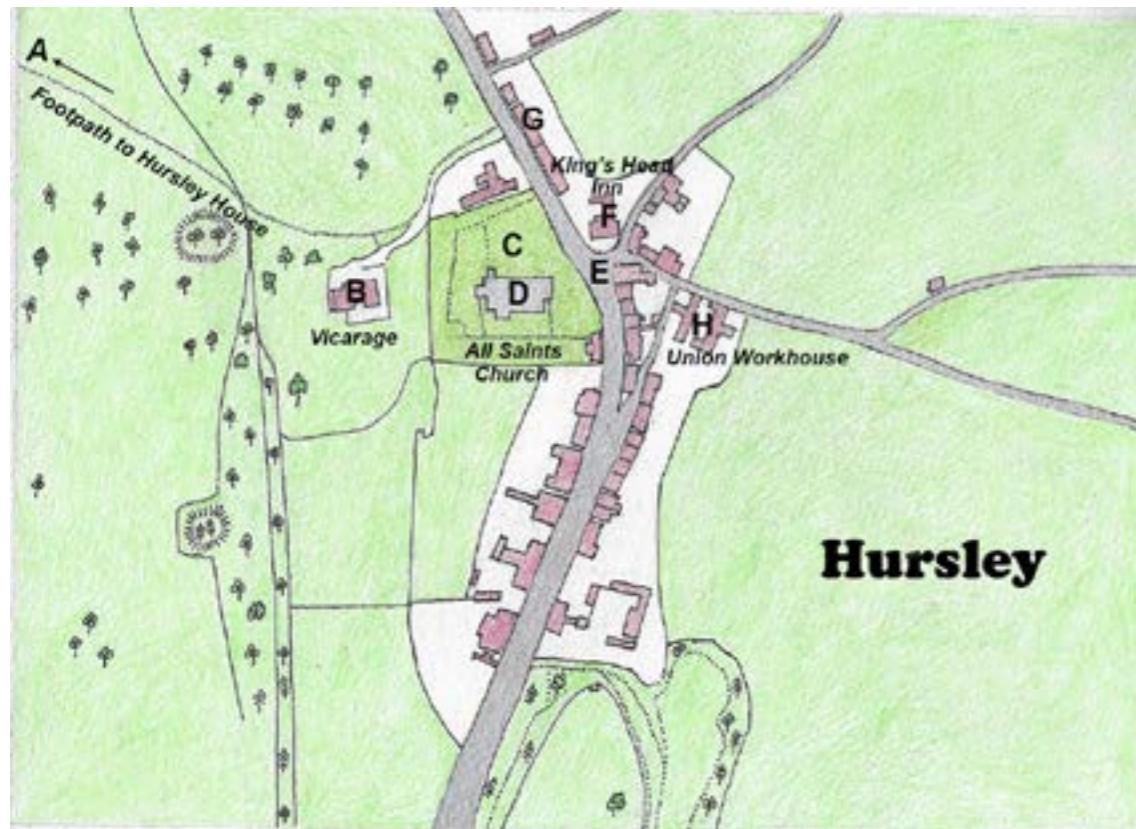
'TREAT AT THE UNION – Thanks to the instrumentality of Mr J.E. Grant, Vice-chairman of the Board of Guardians, the inmates of the Union were enabled to celebrate the relief of Mafeking by partaking of a substantial meat tea, supplemented with various delicacies. At the conclusion of the repast hearty cheers were given for the Queen, our soldiers at the front, Mr Grant, the Master and Matron, and the subscribers to the treat. Later on ale, mineral waters, and tobacco were served, and all spent a most happy evening.' (*Hampshire Chronicle*, 26 May 1900)

CMY aged 76

9. MAPS & IMAGES OF HURSLEY SHOWING LOCATIONS FOR THE CMY TRAIL



Extract from a 25 inch to the mile Ordnance Survey Map 1896 Hampshire and the Isle of Wight XLIX.16 (copy available in the HRO)



The sketch map is not to scale, but serves as a guide to the trail locations.

A. Hursley House / Park



Hursley Park in the 19th century (source: John Keble's Parishes)

As indicated above, CMY was a frequent visitor to Hursley Park in the 19th century when it was owned by the Heathcote family. Substantially enlarged and embellished in the Edwardian era by Sir George Cooper, during the First World War the upper part of the house was used as a hospital for officers, reverting to its former use once the War was over. During the Second World War and until 1958 it served as the Headquarters of Vickers Supermarine. It was subsequently decided that it would be uneconomic to restore the House as a private residence and IBM moved in as a temporary measure, purchasing the freehold in 1961. Since then it has served as IBM's design laboratory.



Hursley House in the 21st century (source: WikiCommons)

B. The Vicarage



19th-century view (source: Agnes Prior photo album no. 96)

During the incumbency of the Revd John Keble, CMY commented that 'the vicarage was perhaps the true centre of the light which the Park reflected' (*John Keble's Parishes*, p.135). As Stan Rawdon explains, it was not initially intended that this building, built in the 1820s, should serve as the Vicarage. 'It only became the official Vicarage when transferred to the Church in 1842, reverting to a private residence in 1984' (*Hursley 2000: A Collection of Memories*, p.82).



A different view of the Old Vicarage (2023)

C. All Saints Church (exterior)



Parish church in the 19th century (source: Frewen Moor)

Hursley Parish Church, dedicated to All Saints, was rebuilt on the original site at a cost of £6,030 during the 1840s. The prime mover in the redesign and rebuilding was the Revd John Keble. As explained by Stan Rawdon, 'the Church in Hursley had strong Puritan connections' and in Keble's mind the existing design was not conducive to his style of worship (*Hursley 2000: A Collection of Memories*, p.78). The Church was reopened on 24th October 1848. It was described in a trade directory as a 'handsome stone building, in the Decorated

style: it ... has a tower at the west end containing five bells and clock' (*Kelly's Directory* 1867, p.551). There was also a spire which was declared unsafe in 1960 and removed. It is not known how frequently CMY attended services at All Saints, but it is almost certain that she would have been a regular visitor, especially during Keble's incumbency.



Parish church in 2023

D. All Saints Church (interior)



The 19th-century interior (source: Frewen Moor)

Since its redesign, internally the Church has consisted of a nave, a north and south aisle, and a chancel. On the steps leading into the chancel are tiles spelling out verses from the Bible. The reredos was installed in the church in 1921 and moved to the south aisle in 1924 from the East window, revealing wall tiles designed by Pugin. The altar rails were donated by the architect and the carved canopy to the font was donated by Dr Pusey, another leading figure in the Oxford Movement.



The interior of the church today

The stained glass windows are among the most notable features of All Saints. Designed to Keble's plan, the scheme was prepared by architect William Butterfield and the work carried out by William Wailes. In *John Keble's Parishes* CMY transcribes Keble's sister Elisabeth's explanation of the designs. This begins: 'The Hursley windows are meant to be a course of Instruction in Sacred History from Adam to the last day ... The north-west window has Adam and Noah ... [and] the windows along the north aisle each represent two persons from the Old Testament ... [The] east window: The Crucifixion, The Blessed Virgin and St. John on each side, The Agony, Bearing the Cross, and the Scourging' (pp.119-20).



CMY comments: 'The plan of the whole was Mr. Keble's own; and though the colours are deeper, and what is now called more crude, than suits the taste of the present day, they must be looked upon with reverence as the outcome of his meditations and his great delight.'

E. Street Scene



Hursley Village looking south (source: Frewen Moor)

It can only be speculated as to how often CMY would have stood on the spot from which the photograph above was taken. However, it is very likely that she would have been familiar with the view. On the right is Lychgate Cottage. Dating from 1848 and built on land given by Sir William Heathcote, this was originally the home of the verger.



Looking south in 2023



Lychgate Cottage © Peter Fahey (Creative Commons licence)

F. The King's Head Inn



The King's Head Inn in the 19th century (source: Frewen Moor)

Situated in the centre of the village, The King's Head public house would have been a familiar sight to CMY. However, as with The White Horse in Otterbourne, it is difficult to know whether she would ever have made use of its services. According to Stan Rawdon, it was built in 1810 and was 'probably so named because of the historical link of the village with Richard Cromwell, Lord Protector of England 1658-9' (*Hursley 2000: A Collection of Memories*, p.49) and eldest son of Oliver Cromwell. In 1649 Richard married the heiress of Hursley, Dorothy Maijor, and lived at Hursley Park until the Restoration, when he fled to the Continent. He is buried in All Saints Church.



The King's Head in 2023

G. Cottages with distinctive chimneys



Hursley Village from the north 1870
(source: © 2023 Hampshire Cultural Trust)

Features of Hursley's built environment which are immediately evident to most visitors are the cottages with very tall barley-twist chimneys: an architectural fashion from the Tudor period that was revived in the second half of the 19th century. They are extremely ornate and create an extremely attractive ambience. Almost certainly they would have appealed to CMY as much as they do to the modern visitor.



Looking north in 2023

H. The Workhouse



Collins Lane c. 1905 with a glimpse of the Workhouse in the upper right-hand corner (source: contemporary postcard)

Unfortunately a 'full frontal' 19th-century photograph of Hursley Workhouse has not been found. As explained on Peter Higginbottom's Workhouses website (<https://www.workhouses.org.uk/Hursley/>) 'it comprised two long parallel rows of cottages running north-south'. The eastern row was L-shaped and had a short frontage on to Collins Lane, the home of the master and matron. Two small east-west blocks ran across the central area at the central and southern ends, creating yards for different classes of inmate. Much of this can still be seen at the site today. One assumes that CMY would have been sympathetic to the plight of the inmates but there does not appear to be any specific record of her visiting the Workhouse. In one of her letters she makes what can be regarded as a somewhat disparaging remark about some who had recourse to the Workhouse. She writes: 'And certainly the tone before marriage is greatly improving though of course not among such as would find their way to the workhouse' (<https://c21ch.newcastle.edu.au/yonge/2749/to-an-unknown-woman-56>).



The same view from Collins Lane in 2023



A 2023 view of the principal Workhouse building, adapted for residential use

10. CMY's LEGACY

CMY's legacy can be considered in several different ways: later generations' opinion of her, her influence on later generations and the mark she made on Otterbourne.

CMY died in 1901, at the beginning of a new century which was to reject her as old-fashioned. In A.S. Byatt's *Possession* (1990) her works are used as a symbol for the out of date and forgotten, left in a locked cupboard (Clucas & Wallace, 2020). However, during World War II she enjoyed something of a renaissance. Georgina Battiscombe's biography, *Charlotte Mary Yonge, the Story of an Uneventful Life*,* was published in 1943,

and in the same year Graham Greene's *The Ministry of Fear* was published. Greene used quotations from CMY's children's book, *The Little Duke**, as epigraphs for his chapter headings, and suggests that the book, which his principal character enjoyed as a child, represents a bygone ideal of chivalry. Similarly, Somerset Maugham 'gave CMY a substantial mention in a wartime broadcast, *Reading under the Bombing*. Maugham attributed the current popularity of the novels to their atmosphere of peaceful domestic Victorian life ...' (Courtney, 2021). So CMY still belonged firmly in the past.

More recently, however, as well as viewing CMY's works as a window on the Victorian age (Courtney, et al., 2022), some have come to study her as a literary craftswoman in her own right (Walker Gore, 2014). She left a legacy in the form of a substantial body of work which still gives pleasure today.

If CMY was rejected after her death as out of date, how can she be said to have influenced future generations? The answer is that, as she grew older and developed a network of younger women friends, she came to support causes that were still relevant in the 20th century and are so today. One of these was women's education, and she was invited by her friend Anna Bramston (1847-1931), to join a committee whose purpose was to 'establish in Winchester a superior day school for girls' (*Hampshire Chronicle*,

12th October 1883, cited in Bain, 1984*). The school, now St Swithun's, opened as Winchester High School for Girls in 1884 and Miss Yonge continued to serve on its founding Committee (later Council) until at least 1886.

Amélie Leroy (1851-1934), Anna Bramston's friend and companion, was also a friend of CMY's, and a member of the Winchester High School for Girls' Council until 1931. It was she who in 1899 organised the collection of money to fund the Charlotte Yonge Scholarship, which was to contribute to the university fees of one High School pupil every alternate year. So, far from being a relic of the past, CMY left a legacy of support for women's education both at school and university.

The first Charlotte Yonge scholar was Amy Audrey Locke (1881-1916), whom Anna Bramston and Amélie Leroy knew as a child. Having won the scholarship she went up to Somerville College, Oxford in 1900 to study history. After passing her final examinations, she then moved to London where she wrote a number of works of historical scholarship, in particular sections of the *Victoria County History of Hampshire** including that on Otterbourne, where her parents lived.

Her most popular book was her anthology *In Praise of Winchester**, which included 'poetry and prose from authors of Anglo-Saxon times up to the first decade of the 20th century ...' (Dawson, 2014, p. 57). Sad to say, Amy died in 1916. But, thanks to CMY, she had been able to make valuable contributions to the history of Hampshire and Winchester's literary heritage.

But CMY's most important legacy is that which is most difficult to define. She touched many lives, particularly of young women and girls, through her writing – her many books and the periodical she edited, *The Monthly Packet*, through friendship, through voluntary activity such as her involvement in the Girls' Friendly Society, and through teaching in the Otterbourne Sunday School and in the village



Charlotte M. Yonge
by Georgina Battiscombe
with an introduction by C.M. Delafeld



Amy Audrey Locke

school. The evidence shows that her friends and contacts loved and revered her, though they didn't always share her ideas or even (sometimes) her religious faith. Nevertheless, in the 20th century they set an example of an upright, hard-working life of service to others, such as CMY had promulgated in the 19th century.

Three such women are Charlotte Anne Moberly, always known as Annie (1846-1937), Mary Anderson Morshead (1845-1928) and Mrs Humphry Ward (Mary Ward *née* Arnold) (1851-1920).

Annie Moberly was the daughter of CMY's family friends, George and Mary Ann Moberly, the headmaster of Winchester College and his wife, and very much part of the Oxford Movement: John Keble's wife Charlotte was Annie's godmother. Invited in 1885 to be the Principal of St Hugh's Hall (later College), Oxford, a college for women who could not afford the fees of the existing colleges, Somerville and Lady Margaret Hall, Annie Moberly served until her retirement in 1915. Her memoir, *Dulce Domum*, is available in the Hampshire Local Studies Library.

Mary Anderson Morshead, a member of CMY's



Annie Moberly

essay society, The Goslings (1859-1877), went out to South Africa to do missionary and social work, and after her return to England was a matron at an industrial school for girls. (Industrial Schools were intended to provide a

home and education for destitute children and those at risk of committing crime.) CMY had mixed feelings about Mrs Humphry Ward (Mary Augusta Ward), the novelist and campaigner, and another Gosling. Ward wrote a notorious novel, *Robert Elsmere*, about a clergyman who renounces his Anglican faith, and moreover gave CMY's *The Christians and the Moors in Spain* a harsh review, criticising her scholarship. Then in 1908, after CMY's death, she became president of the Women's National Anti-Suffrage League. This was not the only cause that Ward campaigned for – she worked for the provision of education for disadvantaged women and disabled children, and by her death in 1920 she had successfully

lobbied Parliament to make provision for disabled children in the 1918 Education Bill.

But perhaps most important of all was the legacy CMY left to Otterbourne's village schoolchildren whom she taught for so many years.

In the last years of her life she was still going into the school. In 1899, for example, she showed them 'a porcupine's quill and also a picture of a porcupine', and in 1900 'she brought in some shells and the next month a model of a gondola' (Woodcock, 1987, p. 6*). Some of the children found work in CMY's household as servants, with whom she used to read, both her own novels, and church history and Shakespeare (Yonge, 1900). Her teaching enriched their lives. Otterbourne can indeed be proud of its best-known daughter.



Mary Augusta Ward

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* Available at HALS

IMAGE SOURCES

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Page 1: *Nuttie's Father* (1889 edition)

Page 2: Front board of *Aunt Charlotte's Evenings at Home with the Poets* (1880)

Page 5: Her parents' marriage: *Heartsease* (1885 edition) Birth of Julian: *Heartsease* (ibid)

Revd. John Keble arrives: *The Three Brides* (1900 edition)

Heir of Redclyffe: title page from 1906 edition

Page 6: Death of William Yonge: *The Pillars of the House* (1880 edition)

Drains: Winchester's Garnier Road sewage pumping station: foundation stone laid 1878: photograph © Edward Fennell

On preparing material for publication: *The Clever Woman of the Family* (1902 edition)

Page 7: Charlotte M. Yonge's gravestone, St Matthew's Churchyard, Otterbourne

Magnum Bonum (1889 edition)

Page 8: The Langley Stories: *Scenes and Characters* (1889 edition)

Page 9: *The Daisy Chain* (1889 edition)

Portrait of Mme Swetchine (Sophia Petrovna Svechina, 1782-1857) 1816. Artist: François Kinson (1771-1839) (public domain).

Page 10: *The Dove in the Eagle's Nest* (1890 edition)

Frontispiece from *We Girls* (Mary Anna Paull, London, Partridge 1890).

Page 11: Sketches from 19th-century annuals

The Daisy Chain (ibid)

Page 12: *The Young Step-Mother* (1899 edition)

Page 13: Otterbourne milestone

Photograph of 19th-century carrier's cart: used with permission of South Holland Heritage Smithy: from Prang's Aids for Object Teaching (USA 1876) (Creative Commons Licence).

Page 14: Postcard of St Matthew's Church, Otterbourne, c. 1880.

Otterbourne waterworks tower

Page 15: *The Three Brides* (ibid)

Lajos Kossuth (1802-94), Hungarian politician (Wikimedia Commons).

Revd. John Keble (1792-1866), from a drawing in *A Gallery of Famous English and American Poets*, H. Coppee, Philadelphia 1870 (Public domain.)

Page 16: The Right Honorable William Wither Bramston Beach (1826-1901), MP for North Hampshire from 1857 and for Andover after the Redistribution of Seats Act (1885); Father of the House from 1899 till his death. Artist: Jean Marius Rogier (1851 – 1928) (Wikipedia Commons).

'The Sunday School': drawing from Harper's Magazine, Vol.III no. 134, 11th June 1887.

Signed portrait of Charlotte M. Yonge c. 1893. Source: The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Division of Art, Prints and Photographs: Print Collection, The New York Public Library. "C M Yonge [signature]" The New York Public Library Digital Collections. 1890-09 (public domain).

Page 21: 'At the piano': drawing from Harper's Magazine, Vol.III no. 152 15th October 1887.

Front cover of 'Hursley Magazine', no.2, 1848.

Page 22: 'Burglar' from Anon, *The Wild Boys of London* (London 1866): © <https://london-overlooked.com/wright/>

Page 26: Stained glass from All Saints Church photographed by the Rector, Revd. William Prescott, and used with his permission..

Page 29: Dustwrapper of Georgina Battiscombe's *Charlotte M. Yonge: The Story of an Uneventful Life* (1943).

Portrait of Amy Audrey Locke c. 1915: Artist: Amy Julia Drucker (1873-1951). Reproduction used by kind permission of Dr Tony Hill, Sarsen Press, Winchester.

Page 30: Portrait of Annie Moberly: Artist: Samuel Llewellyn (1858-1941), used with permission of St Hugh's College, University of Oxford.

Mrs Humphry Ward: Photographer: H. Walter Barnett (1862-1934) (Wikipedia Commons).

CHARLOTTE MARY YONGE DAY AT OTTERBOURNE AND HURSLEY SATURDAY 24 JUNE 2023

- 09.30 – 10.00 Arrive at Otterbourne Village Hall for coffee/tea. Distribution of booklets.
- 10.00 – 11.00 Concert with The Madding Crowd, an ensemble which researches and performs the church and secular music of the English village bands and choirs in the period 1660-1861: the life of the old church and village through the eyes and ears of CMY.
- 11.00 – 11.25 Presentation by Bill Fergie (Chair of the Historic Buildings Section of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society) on the historic buildings of Otterbourne that CMY would have known.
- 11.30 – 12.00 Presentation with Alys Blakeway, Celia Lowthion (Otterbourne's Archivist and specialist in antiques) and Roger Ottewill on artifacts associated with CMY.
- 12.00 – 14.00 CMY Otterbourne trail, lunch and travel to Hursley Park/House.
- 14.00 – 14.25 An introduction to Hursley Park/House in the 19th century (when CMY was a frequent visitor) by David Key (Volunteer Historian).
- 14.25 – 14.50 Presentation by Albert Gallon (Independent Historian) on CMY and the Heathcote family who owned Hursley Park/House in the 19th century.
- 14.50 – 15.15 Opportunity to view Hursley Park/House.
- 15.15 – 16.30 Afternoon tea at Hursley Village Hall, CMY Hursley trail and departure.



Image © Charlotte M. Yonge Fellowship: <https://charlottemyongefellowship.org.uk>

WHY NOT JOIN US?

The CMY Fellowship is all about people who enjoy Charlotte M. Yonge's works. We range from those of us who revel in her extraordinary storytelling and love to talk about her works, to those who see her as an important figure in Victorian writing. The two extremes are not mutually exclusive!

The Fellowship meets in Spring and Autumn, in hybrid form when possible, and also five times a year on Zoom to discuss one of our favourite (or not so favourite) books. The subscription also includes the CMYF Review (which comes out twice a year) and the longer Journal (once every two years).



For further information please visit our website: <https://charlottemyongefellowship.org.uk/membership/>

Acknowledgements

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Sources of illustrations

The source of many illustrations is indicated, either in the captions or on page 31. Where photographs are not specifically credited, they have been taken by one of the editors.

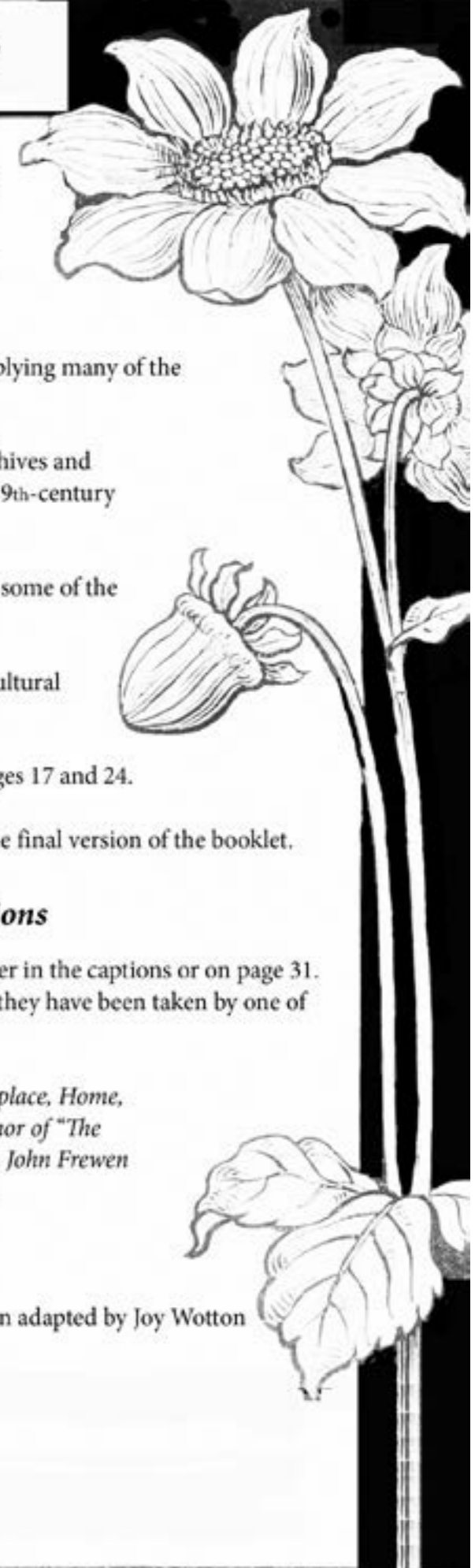
The full reference for 'Frewen Moor' is *The Birth-place, Home, Churches and other places connected with the Author of "The Christian Year" with memoir and notes by the Rev. John Frewen Moor*. Winchester: William Savage, Parker, 1867.

Front cover image: Wikimedia Commons

Contents and Acknowledgement pages illustration adapted by Joy Wotton from a design in *The Monthly Packet*.

Abbreviations

CMY = Charlotte Mary Yonge
HALS = Hampshire Archives and Local Studies





Plaque reads:

Charlotte Mary Yonge (1823–1901)

Local author and teacher who gave Eastleigh its name

Created by Vivien Mallock (2015)

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