

The Young Step-Mother

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The Young Step-Mother Or A Chronicle of Mistakes

M. Charlotte Yonge

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Charlotte Mary Yonge (1823-1901), was an English novelist, known for her huge output. She was devoted to the Church of England, and much influenced by John Keble, a near neighbour and one of the leaders of the Oxford Movement. Her novels reflected the values and concerns of Anglo-Catholicism. She began writing in 1848, and published during her long life about 100 works, chiefly novels. Her first commercial success, *The Heir of Redclyffe* (1854), provided the funding to enable the schooner *Southern Cross* to be put into service on behalf of George Selwyn. Similar charitable works were done with the profits from later novels. She was also editor, for nearly forty years, of a magazine for young ladies, the *Monthly Packet*. Among the best known of her works are *Heartsease; or, The Brother's Wife* (1854), *The Daisy Chain; or, Aspirations* (1856), *A History of Christian Names* (1863, revised 1884), *A Book of Golden Deeds* (1864), *The Dove in the Eagle's Nest* (1866), *Life of John Coleridge Patteson: Missionary Bishop of the Melanesian Islands* (1873) and *Hannah More* (1888).