

Madame Karłowicz

These are my recollections of the aspects of Madame's life & character most noticeably brought out in this Roper's book —

Her early life & her own vivacious & talented disposition opened to her a world full of interest, pleasure & rare — artistic attainment — (she painted, acted, wrote little plays) — & the society of either fashionable people or artists, in Ireland, England or abroad —

One of the last people from childhood. Her family "good landlords." Her affliction for the Sligo people; her nurse. Love of riding, hunting. A celebrated "beauty" of the county sister. Always a rebel. Went, without leave to political meetings. She & her sister, Eva, the poet, devotedly attached.

Marriage very happy, although Poland claimed her husband & Ireland her, so that they were not — a great deal together —

Life in Dublin. Friendship with James Connolly.
Sympathy for the poor.

Lock-out of 1913. Madame ran a soup-
kitchen in Liberty Hall. Thence forward
devoted herself to the cause of the Irish
people.

Joined Citizen Army. Second in Command,
under Mallin, in 1916.

English convict prisons. Diligent interest
in the convict women.

First woman h.p. under English law.

Character. Her inspiration was never
hate or anger, but compassion. She had
a fiery way of talking about the enemies
of Ireland, but would have risked her
life for a wounded enemy at any time.

Extraordinary buoyancy. Her letters
from prison full of interest & intense
appreciation of little pleasures — a
letter or visit received, etc. At all times,
keen appreciation of interesting encounters,

if friends, of a fine price of writing ^{for}
Never any hint of weariness, staleness,
or regret. Generous admiration of the
efforts of her colleagues, even if they failed.
Dear & judgements, quickly formed &
my compromisingly expressed.
A stimulating personality.

A mystical side. In 1916, she saw
the men at prayer & believed that she
saw the Madonna kneeling among them -
her conversion followed.

She died poor, having given all she
possessed to the poor people of Dublin
the cause - died in the public ward
of a Dublin hospital - Crowds
kneeling outside, praying for her. She
died very happy. She thought that
her sister, Eve, who had died a
year before, was with her, waiting
for her. She was not delirious -
Madame was perfectly conscious
when she said this.

The Popen, life-long friend of Eva
Joe-Borth, is probably, of all living
people, the one best qualified to
edit Madame's letters & write about
the more intimate & personal aspects
of her character, since it was in
company with Eva & her that Madame
was happiest & most freely talked
from her heart.

She