

**THE WORKS OF JOHN
M. SYNGE, IN FOUR
VOLUMES, VOL. III**

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The works of John M. Synge, in four volumes, Vol. III by J. M. Synge

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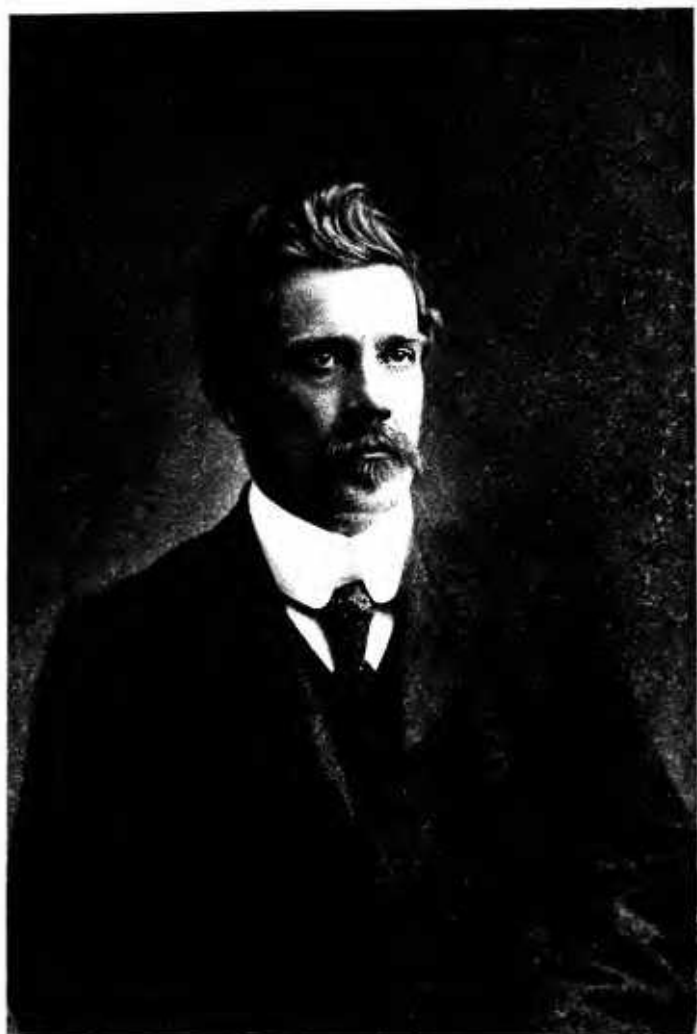
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Thomas A. photograph by the artist.

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VOLUME THREE

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THE ARAN ISLANDS

INTRODUCTION

THE geography of the Aran Islands is very simple, yet it may need a word to itself. There are three islands: Aranmor, the north island, about nine miles long; Inishmaan, the middle island, about three miles and a half across, and nearly round in form; and the south Island, Inishere—in Irish, east island—like the middle island but slightly smaller. They lie about thirty miles from Galway, up the centre of the bay, but they are not far from the cliffs of County Clare, on the south, or the corner of Connemara on the north.

Kilronan, the principal village on Aranmor, has been so much changed by the fishing industry, developed there by the Congested Districts Board, that it has now very little to distinguish it from any fishing village on the west coast of Ireland. The other islands are more primitive, but even on them many