**Ann Martin**

**5 September 2012**

**Sime, J(essie) G(eorgina) (1868-1958)**

Georgina Sime was born in Scotland and raised in London, England, where she attended Queen’s College. After her father’s death, she moved to Edinburgh with her mother and, following her mother’s death in 1907, emigrated to Montreal, Canada, which became her home. She died in England in her ninetieth year.

Through her parents, Sime had met writers such as W.B. Yeats and Thomas Hardy. In Montreal, she became active in literary organizations, lecturing and writing well into the 1950s. Her 1917 collection of wartime sketches, *Canada Chaps*, had been preceded by *The Mistress of All Work* (1916), a housekeeping guide that reflected her position as an unmarried woman in the modern city. She worked for the gynaecologist Walter William Chapman, and their relationship influenced her short-story cycle, *Sister Woman* (1919), which depicts the economic and sexual realities of twenty-eight different women. It remains her best-known text, and has been identified as an example of both New Woman fiction and modernism. Her novel *Our Little Life* appeared in 1921, after which Sime turned to literary criticism and autobiography before co-authoring two late novels with Frank Nicholson.

**Suggestions for further reading**

Campbell, S. (ed.) (2004) *Sister Woman by J.G. Sime: A Critical Edition*, Ottawa: Tecumseh.