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Another Letter of Sarah Orne Jewett

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Will you add to your kindness by returning the enclosed as promptly as you did the copy?

A[lwa]ys y[ou]rs Tom Wise

The Preface, in our printed copy, is dated "December, 1893." There is no indication how many copies were printed: "a few," according to a note on page v. The Colby copy bears the bookplate of Donald Malcolm Campbell, Jr., but the presence of the note to Forman invites one to surmise that this book was once in the library of H. Buxton Forman and may be the very copy to which Miss Ratchford refers.



ANOTHER LETTER OF SARAH ORNE JEWETT

Later No. 46 to the Jewett Collection at Colby. A small portion of the paper has been torn from the head of the letter, removing the record of the place from which it was written; but from the statement in the third paragraph that "Mrs. Fields . . . is here" we may infer that the letter was written from South Berwick, and that Mrs. Fields was visiting Miss Jewett there, instead of being at her home in Boston. We conjecturally supply five words at the end of Miss Jewett's first paragraph where the paper is torn.

Mr. Frost has not only given us the autograph but has also supplied information about the recipient of the letter and about various matters that are mentioned in it. It was written to Fred Holland Day (1864-1933) of Norwood, Massachusetts, and Five Islands, Maine. He was a wealthy and eccentric bachelor who in 1893 founded the publishing firm of Copeland and Day. Shortly after Fred Day's

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death the *Publishers' Weekly* remarked: "No firm in the country has preserved a higher standard of integrity in craftsmanship and in commercial standing, as well as in the character of literature issued." Day's business partner was Herbert Copeland, but the "Mr. Copeland" mentioned in the last paragraph of Miss Jewett's letter was Charles Townsend Copeland (1860-1952), whose article on Robert Louis Stevenson appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly* in April, 1895. Miss Jewett's letter was written three months later:

July 2nd [1895]

Dear Mr. Day

I see that there is a new volume of Mr. Francis Thompson's poems. Will you be so kind as to send me two copies?—I should like to have one of the posters for Miss [Alice] Brown's Meadowgrass if you have one to spare and I [don't ask for it too la]te.

I wish that I had asked you the other day if you had any other books beside the *Atalanta* from the Kelmscott Press. When you are sending the little package with Miss Brown's stories etc will you please put in anything else that you think that I might like to have, and I can return them at once if they are not to be kept.

Mrs. Fields (who is here) was delighted, as I was, with the memorial to Stevenson by L.I.G. and A.B. [i.e., Louise Imogen Guiney and Alice Brown]. I wish that Mr. Copeland's beautiful *Atlantic* essay had as fine a setting!

Believe me

Yours very truly S. O. JEWETT

The new volume of *Poems* by Francis Thompson was published by Copeland & Day in 1895. Miss Brown's book, *Meadow-grass: Tales of New England Life*, was also published by the same firm in 1895. Swinburne's *Atalanta in Calydon* had been published by the Kelmscott Press in 1894. Miss Jewett's statement that she was "delighted... with the memorial to Stevenson by L.I.G. and A.B." will be read with more than ordinary interest by our readers who recall our own Stevenson Memorial Number in January, 1945, when we reprinted Louise Imogen Guiney's

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sonnet on Stevenson, and (on pages 147-148) a selection entitled "Stevenson's Undaunted Faith" from Alice Brown's "study" of R.L.S. Colby has one of the 250 copies of this book.

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RECENT ACQUISITIONS

By F. ELIZABETH LIBBEY

Mr. John W. S. H. . Mr. John W. S. Hammond, twenty-two Merrymount Press items have been presented to the library. The Colby Library Associates have aided in the purchase of seventeen additional selections from the work of this famous Press. These gifts added to the Merrymount books already in the Colby Library make a total of approximately eighty titles. They portray some of the most interesting periodwork of Daniel Berkeley Updike, the moving spirit of the Merrymount Press of Boston from its beginning in 1893 until Mr. Updike's death in 1941. He was a master of typography and made one of the distinctive features of Merrymount printing the selection and use of types which, like their owner, have personality. The Merrymount books now at Colby show Updike's versatility in a wide variety of ways: title pages in a naïvely crowded mixture of type faces and sizes, elaborate chapter headings and tail pieces, introductory matter in old-fashioned italic, and texts in readable Caslon, Janson, and other types.

THE JULIA CARPENTER COLLECTION.—A collection of more than two hundred Illustrated Children's Books has been presented by Miss Julia S. Carpenter. These books, marked with a special bookplate, range all the way from well-known nursery titles to well-written and much-loved classics suited to the upper grades. Included are the