



December 1965

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Recommended Citation

Colby Library Quarterly, series 7, no.4, December 1965, p.170-191

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A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ROBERT P. TRISTRAM COFFIN: PART I

By RICHARD CARY

FOR the bibliographer of a slim quarterly, the extraordinary profusion and variety of Coffin's publications pose problems not only of classification but also of sheer physical space. It is planned, therefore, to present a definitive checklist in three installments. The first, below, registers the books he wrote, books he contributed to, and anthologies in which his writings are represented, as well as biographical sketches and critical views of his work. Two other sections, to be published in subsequent issues of *CLQ*, will docket individual appearances of his poems, essays, and short stories in periodicals and newspapers.

No reviews of Coffin's books are listed, since it is felt that this would merely duplicate the data in *Book Review Digest*. Neither are his own book reviews evoked. These constitute a negligible phase of his activity and may be consulted in such sources as the *American Oxonian*, *New York Herald Tribune Books*, *Saturday Review of Literature*, *Yale Review*, and particularly in *Yankee*, where he conducted a book review department from June 1937 to October 1939.

Accounts of his life and literary productions in encyclopedias and biographical dictionaries are not cited here if they are perfunctory or contain only facts and opinions frequently repeated.

The roster of anthologies is necessarily inchoate, since Coffin's scope of acceptance encompassed so many areas of interest (birds, the family, New England, patriots, optimists, freedom, dogs, children, religion, war, fathers, holidays, cats, and college life). The standard indices record a pitifully small percentage of these inclusions; the others were garnered by poring through numerous volumes in the stacks of several libraries. This search will continue and the findings incorporated in a future addendum. I would appreciate information on any anthology not recorded here.

In the following categories the principle of arrangement is chronological.

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BOOKS BY RPTC

CHRISTCHURCH. New York: Thomas Seltzer, 1924. 54p.
20cm. Also, New York: Albert & Charles Boni, 1924.

24 poems; collected from *Poet Lore*, *Book of Princeton Verse* 1919.

Dedication: To my mother Alice and to my other mother Mary and
to my daughter Mary-Alice, who wears their names and who, I hope,
will wear their New England virtues.

BOOK OF CROWNS AND COTTAGES. New Haven: Yale Uni-
versity Press; London: Humphrey Milford, Oxford Uni-
versity Press, 1925. 186p. 24½cm. Illustrations by
the author.

21 essays; collected from *American Oxonian*, *Forum*, *Lewiston Journal*
Magazine, *North American Review*.

Dedication: To *Ruth*, who was the dew and sun
On all the villages and downs,
Who loved me as I learned and loved
Her, the Cottages, and the Crowns.

DEW AND BRONZE. New York: Albert & Charles Boni, 1927.
51p. 19½cm.

29 poems; collected from *Century*, *Freeman*, *Forum*, *Harper's*, *Ladies'*
Home Journal, *Leslie's Weekly*, *Measure*, *Nation*, *New York Herald*
Tribune Literary Supplement, *North American Review*, *Outlook* (Lon-
don), *Survey*, *Weekly Review*, *Youth's Companion*.

Dedication: To Mary C. Ham, lover of poetry, artist in living, and
my friend.

GOLDEN FALCON. New York: Macmillan Co., 1929. 70p.
21cm.

41 poems; collected from *Archive*, *Bookman*, *Contemporary Verse*, *In-*
dependent, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Nation*, *New York Herald Tribune*
Books, *Saturday Review of Literature*, *Scribner's*, *Voices*.

Dedication: To my sister, Alice, who is silver and jet and wind on
the sea.

AN ATTIC ROOM. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday, Doran &
Co., 1929. 304p. 21½cm. Illustrations by the author.

17 essays; collected from *Forum*, *North American Review*, *Virginia*
Quarterly Review, *Yale Review*.

Dedication: To Henry Goddard Leach, a scholar who is also a thinker,
an editor who is also a lover of human nature, master in the art of
life and a good friend, the author dedicates these essays on life as he
found it jovial and beautiful.

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A BOOK OF SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY PROSE. Selected and edited . . . with Alexander M. Witherspoon. New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., 1929. 793p. 24cm.

Anthology textbook.

Dedication: To the students in the honors courses in English in Wells and Yale colleges.

LAUD: STORM CENTER OF STUART ENGLAND. New York: Brentano's, 1930. 331p. 21cm. Also, New York: Coward-McCann, 1930.

Biography.

Dedication: To the president and trustees of Wells College, who made this book possible.

THE DUKES OF BUCKINGHAM, Playboys of the Stuart World. New York: Brentano's, 1931. 358p. 22½cm. Also, New York: Coward-McCann, 1931.

Biography.

Dedication: To Miller Callahan, who has the sparkle of the two Dukes without the flaws.

PORTRAIT OF AN AMERICAN. New York: Macmillan Co., 1931. 182p. 20½cm.

Biography of his father.

Dedication: To the memory of my father, one of the comely, cosmic men, whose life furnished the inspiration for this book.

THE YOKE OF THUNDER. New York: Macmillan Co., 1932. 89p. 20½cm.

66 poems; collected from *Bermondsey Book* (London), *Bookman*, *Bowdoin Quill*, *Bozart and Contemporary Verse*, *Commonweal*, *English Review* (London), *Grub Street Book of Verse for 1929*, *Harper's*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *London Mercury*, *Nation*, *New Adelphi* (London), *New Republic*, *New York Herald Tribune Books*, *North American Review*, *Poetry*, *Saturday Review* (London), *Saturday Review of Literature*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Voices*, *Yale Review*.

Dedication: To the memory of my sister Arline, whose beauty and promise were like high heads of thunder.

BALLADS OF SQUARE-TOED AMERICANS. New York: Macmillan Co., 1933. 110p. 20½cm.

29 poems; collected from *Commonweal*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *New York Herald Tribune*, *Saturday Review of Literature*.

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Dedication: To George Anderson, my friend and one of the square-toed American breed.

LOST PARADISE, A Boyhood on a Maine Coast Farm. New York: Macmillan Co., 1934. 284p. 20½cm.

Autobiography.

Dedication: To my mother, for the rods of johnnycake and the blue morning-glories.

STRANGE HOLINESS. New York: Macmillan Co., 1935. 101p. 22cm.

61 poems; collected from *American Girl*, *American Poetry Journal*, *Bowdoin Quill*, *Bozart and Contemporary Verse*, *Carillon*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Commonweal*, *Forum and Century*, *Harper's*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Nation*, *New York American*, *New York Herald Tribune Books*, *New York Times*, *New Yorker*, *North American Review*, *Poetry*, *Saturday Review of Literature*, *Scribner's*, *Silhouettes*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Voices*, *World Tomorrow*, *Yale Review*.

Dedication: To Annie, my sister, who went to the country church with me and saw the strange holiness.

RED SKY IN THE MORNING. New York: Macmillan Co., 1935. 288p. 20½cm. Also, as *SAILOR TAKE WARNING*. London: Sidgwick & Jackson, 1936.

Novel.

Dedication: To Robert Archer Young, son of Maine by choice, good neighbor, and good friend.

JOHN DAWN. New York: Macmillan Co., 1936. 307p. 20cm. Novel.

Dedication: To Frank Coffin, my brother all his life, And Andrew Pennell, my brother for a dozen years — because they both have boats in their blood and a lot of John Dawn.

SALTWATER FARM. New York: Macmillan Co., 1937. 114p. 22cm. Woodcuts by J. J. Lankes.

57 poems; collected from *American Girl*, *American Mercury*, *American Poetry Journal*, *Bowdoin Quill*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Commonweal*, *Delineator*, *Fantasy*, *Forum*, *Harper's*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Modern Literature*, *Nation*, *New York American*, *North American Review*, *St. Nicholas*, *Saturday Review of Literature*, *Scribner's*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *World Tomorrow*, *Yale Review*, *Yankee*.

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Dedication: To Margaret, my poet daughter, who is equal parts Maine balsam, apple blossoms, and sparkle of the sea.

KENNEBEC: CRADLE OF AMERICANS. New York, Toronto: Farrar & Rinehart, 1937. 292p. 21cm. Illustrated by Maitland De Gogorza. Also, Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1937.

In *The Rivers of America* series.

Dedication: To Richard, my son, who has the pilgrim basket, the Merrymeeting farm, and who will grow up, I know, into a Merrymeeting kind of man.

NEW POETRY OF NEW ENGLAND: FROST AND ROBINSON. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press; London: Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, 1938. 148p. 22cm. Also, New York: Russell & Russell, 1964.

The Turnbull Memorial Lectures, Johns Hopkins University.

Dedication: To Bayard and Margaret Turnbull, who made these lectures a lovely milestone in my life.

MAINE BALLADS. New York: Macmillan Co., 1938. 106p. 22cm.

42 poems; collected from *American Girl*, *Bozart*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *New York Times*, *New Yorker*, *St. Nicholas*, *Today's Literature*, *World Tomorrow*, *Yankee*, *Yankee Poetry Chapbook*.

Dedication: To Ronald Bridges, an authority on Maine human nature, who is all Maine wool and a yard wide, and who is responsible for some of the ballads in this book.

COLLECTED POEMS. New York: Macmillan Co., 1939. 354p. 22cm.

254 poems; collected from *American Girl*, *American Mercury*, *American Poetry Journal*, *Bermondsey Book*, *Bookman*, *Bowdoin Quill*, *Bozart*, *Bozart and Contemporary Verse*, *Carillon*, *Century*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Commonweal*, *Contemporary Verse*, *Coronet*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Delineator*, *English Review*, *Fantasy*, *Forum*, *Freeman*, *Harper's*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Leslie's Weekly*, *London Mercury*, *Modern Literature*, *Nation*, *New Adelphi*, *New Republic*, *New York American*, *New York Herald Tribune Books*, *New York Times*, *New Yorker*, *North American Review*, *Outlook* (London), *Poetry*, *St. Nicholas*, *Saturday Review*, *Saturday Review of Literature*, *Scribner's*, *Silhouettes*, *Spirit*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Voices*, *Yale Review*, *Yankee*, *Youth's Companion*.

Dedication: To Dorothy Hall Graham, a friend of mine and Maine who is one of the best listeners a poet could have; And Eleanor Beck-

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man Martin, a student and friend of mine who has heard me read my poems oftener than any other person and who always delights me with her listening.

CAPTAIN ABBY AND CAPTAIN JOHN. An Around-the-World Biography. New York: Macmillan Co., 1939. 375p. 21cm.

Biography.

Dedication: To Brooks Leavitt, a later son of Maine who has built as shining a life in the great world as Captain John Pennell built, who is one of the best readers of my books and one of my best friends.

THOMAS-THOMAS-ANCIL-THOMAS. New York: Macmillan Co., 1941. 342p. 21cm.

Novel.

Dedication: To my son Robert and my sons in him.

CHRISTMAS IN MAINE. New York: Doubleday, Doran & Co., 1941. 24p. 18½cm. Also, Brunswick, Maine: F. W. Chandler & Son, 1948.

1 essay; from *American Girl* under the title "Christmas on Paradise."

THERE WILL BE BREAD AND LOVE. New York: Macmillan Co., 1942. 98p. 22cm.

69 poems; collected from *American Girl*, *American Mercury*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Bowdoin Quill*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Commonweal*, *Coronet*, *Extension*, *Forum*, *Free World*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Harper's*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Lyric*, *National Parent-Teacher*, *New York Times*, *New Yorker*, *Old Farmer's Almanac*, *St. Nicholas*, *Saturday Review of Literature*, *Tuftsionian*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*.

Dedication: To Loyd Haberly, who grew up on an American farm as I did, went to the same kind of country school, to the same war, to the same college, Trinity, Oxford, who thinks of many of my poems before I can think of them, who puts his poems into books which are poems themselves, and who is as good a friend as I shall have.

THE SUBSTANCE THAT IS POETRY. New York: Macmillan Co., 1942. 167p. 21cm.

The Patten Lectures, Indiana University.

Dedication: To Joelle C. Hiebert, one of the finest friends my poems have made me.

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BOOK OF UNCLES. New York: Macmillan Co., 1942. 151p. 21cm.

16 essays.

Dedication: To Edgar Curtis Taylor, doctor of humane letters and doctor of human nature, fine friend and fine fellow in Bowdoin, in Trinity, Oxford, and the Taylor School, who helped create these uncles by listening so creatively to them when they were still oral.

PRIMER FOR AMERICA. New York: Macmillan Co., 1943. 166p. 22cm. Decorations by the author.

135 poems; collected from *Extension*, *Free World*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Ladies' Home Journal*.

Dedication: To Mary-Alice, daughter of the first-water, born in England but American to the tips of her fingers and toes, who will be an artist and fine citizen in the coming United States of the World.

MAINSTAYS OF MAINE. New York: Macmillan Co., 1944. 185p. 21cm. Egged on by Ruth P. Coffin.

19 essays; collected from *American Cookery*, *Gourmet*, *National Parent-Teacher*, *Think*.

Dedication: To Edward Larocque Tinker, master of the art of Creole cookery and of most of the other cookery in the world, connoisseur of the American character, believer in the American way of life, who kindled the fire under me to do these essays.

POEMS FOR A SON WITH WINGS. New York: Macmillan Co., 1945. 123p. 21cm.

103 poems; collected from *American Cookery*, *American Girl*, *American Mercury*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Commonweal*, *Free World*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *National Parent-Teacher*, *New York Herald Tribune*, *New York Times*, *New Yorker*, *Pageant*, *Poetry Chap-Book*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *Saturday Review of Literature*, *Science Illustrated*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Winged Word*.

Dedication: To my winged son, Robert Junior.

PEOPLE BEHAVE LIKE BALLADS. New York: Macmillan Co., 1946. 100p. 22cm.

56 poems; collected from *American Girl*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Gourmet*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Murphy's Tavern Quarterly*, *National Parent-Teacher*, *New York Herald Tribune*, *New York Times*, *Poetry Chap-Book*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *Southwest Review*, *Yankee*.

Dedication: To Philip O. Coffin, a superlative cousin who knew Mr. Burns and other ballads here before they got into the book.

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SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY PROSE AND POETRY. Selected and edited . . . with Alexander M. Witherspoon. New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., 1946. 807+310p. 23½cm.

Anthology textbook. A revision and expansion of *Book of Seventeenth-Century Prose* (see above).

YANKEE COAST. New York: Macmillan Co., 1947. 333p. 23cm. Illustrated by the author. Abetted by Peggy Coffin.

25 essays; collected from *Gourmet*, and the introduction to Alfred C. Shelton's *Down to the Sea in Maine*.

Dedication: To my three coast brothers, John, Ben, Frank, who have lived the poems I have only written.

COLLECTED POEMS. New and enlarged edition. New York: Macmillan Co., 1948. 446p. 22cm.

327 poems; collected from [in addition to the 1939 Edition] *Atlantic Monthly*, *Free World*, *Georgia Review*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Gourmet*, *National Parent-Teacher*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *Tuftsian*.

Dedication: [To the 1939 Edition is added] . . . And to the memory of Ruth, my wife.

THE THIRD HUNGER, AND THE POEM ALOUD. Denton, Texas: Texas State College for Women, 1949. 122p. 24cm.

The Samuel Harris Lectures, Bangor Theological Seminary; the Speech Club Lecture, Texas State College for Women.

Dedication: To my friend Louis H. Hubbard and to his institution, the Texas State College for Women, to be preserved and transmitted by him and his college to the larger public that may some day take an interest in them.

COAST CALENDAR. Indianapolis, New York: Bobbs-Merrill Co., 1949. [95]p. 33cm. Decorations by the author. Also, Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 1949.

12 essays; collected from *Gourmet*.

Dedication: To Ledlie and Priscilla, who follow the calendar through on a Maine farm, and who have followed my books and me through many golden Maine years; And to all the little Berrys, my goddaughter Diana, David, Bruce.

Grateful acknowledgment . . . to Arthur L. Guptill, another down-Maine man, who helped to design this book about the state.

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ONE-HORSE FARM, Down-East Georgics. New York: Macmillan Co., 1949. 109p. 22cm. Illustrations by the author.

37 poems; collected from *Atlantic Monthly*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Farm Journal*, '47, *Good Housekeeping*, *Gourmet*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *New York Herald Tribune*, *New York Times*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Yankee*.

Dedication: To Normena, who is to me mayflowers, fir-balsam, and the sea; who keeps a farm that is too small for even a horse, the smallest of all but wide enough for poems, honey-bees, and friends, and on my own green island, loveliest to the wide world's ends.

MAINE DOINGS. Indianapolis, New York: Bobbs-Merrill Co., 1950. 266p. 23cm. Decorations by the author.

21 essays; collected from *American Mercury*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Gourmet*, *Reader's Digest*.

Dedication: To Juniper, my sparkling State-of-Maine God-daughter, And all the other sparkling Berkeleys, Jim, Nell, Mercy.

APPLES BY OCEAN. New York: Macmillan Co., 1950. 128p. 22cm.

115 poems; collected from *American Mercury*, *American-Scandinavian Review*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Farm Journal*, *Forum*, *Georgia Review*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Harper's*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Maine Coast Fisherman*, *National Parent-Teacher*, *New York Herald Tribune*, *New York Times*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *Saturday Review of Literature*, *Southwest Review*, *Tomorrow*, *Yankee*.

Dedication: To the Grahams, David and Elinor, fellow writers, good neighbors, and good friends who knew many of these poems in the act.

ON THE GREEN CARPET. Indianapolis, New York: Bobbs-Merrill Co., 1951. 277p. 23cm. Also, Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 1951.

The George Elliston Lectures, University of Cincinnati.

Dedication: To Miriam Small, true-blue colleague and friend in Wells, in Maine, in literature and life.

LIFE IN AMERICA: NEW ENGLAND. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Fideler Co., 1951. 128p. 28cm. Picture maps by Janet Croninger.

History and geography of the region, with numerous photographic illustrations, for younger readers.

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HELLAS REVISITED. Athens, Greece: Icaros Publishing Co., 1954. 43p. 22cm.

32 poems.

Dedication: To George and Clara St. John, two of the best friends my poems have, at whose sea-haunted home on the Maine coast my daughter Peggy, my Choate son Richard, and I have spent some of the happiest hours of our lives.

SELECTED POEMS. New York: Macmillan Co., 1955. 112p. 22cm.

105 poems.

Dedication: To Eleanor Beckman Martin, lovely friend of my poems and me.

COLLECTED POEMS. New and enlarged edition. New York: Macmillan Co., 1957. 446p. 21cm.

BROCHURES AND PAMPHLETS

Golden Falcon. [n.p.]: Privately printed, 1927. With a note by the author and a facsimile of the manuscript copy of the poem from the library of John S. Mayfield. (1 poem; 3p. From *Saturday Review of Literature*.)

In Memoriam, Easter, 1933; Thomas S. Jones, Junior. Portland, Maine: Mosher Press, [1933]. (1 poem; 1p. From *Carillon*.)

"Maine, A State of Grace," *Maine Bulletin*, XL (December 1937), 10p. (Commencement address delivered at the University of Maine, June 14, 1937.)

Epithalamion for a Western World. Brunswick, Maine: Privately printed, 1944. (1 poem; 3 p.)

Maine Holidays. Augusta, Maine: Bates Manufacturing Co., [1948], 10p. (Volume II of the series *Do You Know Maine*.)

Sir Isaac Coffin, Bart. (1759-1839): Admiral and Prophet. New York: Newcomen Society in North America, 1951; pp. 7-30. (A biography.)

The Poems That Write the Poet. Haverford, Penn.: [n.p.], 1953. (Class of 1898 Lecture at Haverford College.)

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CONTRIBUTIONS TO BOOKS

- "Social Life and Activities at the University," in Laurence A. Crosby & Frank Aydelotte (editors), *Oxford of Today* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1923), 151-187.
- "Prefatory Note," in Robert P. Tristram Coffin & others (editors), *The Second Book of Wells Verse* (Auburn, New York: Jacobs Press, 1932), [i-v].
- "James M. Nack," "Robert Treat Paine," in *Dictionary of American Biography* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1934), XIII, 377-378; XIV, 157-158.
- Introduction to Robert Thayer Sterling, *Lighthouses of the Maine Coast* (Brattleboro, Vermont: Stephen Daye Press, 1935), 11-18.
- Introduction to W. W. Christman, *The Untillable Hills* (North Montpelier, Vermont: Driftwood Press, 1937), XV-XXIII.
- Preface to *Fifteen Girls on a Hobby-Horse* by the Scribblers Club of Portland (Portland, Maine: Bradford Press, 1937), vii-xi.
- "Three Citizens of Brunswick," in *Brunswick Bicentenary Celebration* [n.p.], July 2-4, 1939), 9-13. Poem.
- "Kennebec River, Settlements about the," "Kennebec Trading Post," "Little Red Schoolhouse," "Pemaquid," "Pemaquid Pavements," "Penobscot," "Popham Colony," "Sagadahoc," in *Dictionary of American History* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1940), III, 203-204, 285; IV, 239-240, 249, 308-309; V, 4.
- Preface to *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard* by Thomas Gray, with thirty woodcuts by J. J. Lankes (New York: Harper & Bros., 1940), vii-xvii.
- "The Diamond Coast," in Alfred C. Shelton, *Down to the Sea in Maine* (New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1942), 15-30.
- "A Singing Believer," in *David Russell, A Singing Poet*, critical notes and reviews by Robert P. Tristram Coffin & others (Dallas: Kaleidograph Press, 1946), 5-8.
- "The Matter of Poetry," "Ballads for Beginners," "The Regional - Biographical - Historical Book," in Herschel Brickell (editor), *Writers on Writing* by the Staff of the University of New Hampshire Writers Conference (Gar-

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- den City, N. Y.: Doubleday & Co., 1949), 94-109, 118-131, 144-154.
- "Poetry," in *Collier's Encyclopedia* (New York: P. F. Collier & Son Corp., 1950), XVI, 139-140.
- "The Small Places," in Russell Gerould (editor), *Dexter, Maine: Our Town for 150 Years* (Dexter, Maine: Eastern Gazette, July 4, 1951), 1. Poem.
- Introduction to Alice E. Vail, *The Big Thicket* (San Antonio, Texas: Naylor Co., 1952).
- "The Revolutions in Modern Poetry," in William J. Griffin (editor), *Literature in the Modern World* (Nashville, Tenn.: George Peabody College for Teachers, 1954), 31-36.

IN ANTHOLOGIES

Poems

- "The Bubble-Blower," "The Serpent of the Sea," in Alfred Noyes (editor), *A Book of Princeton Verse, 1916* (Princeton, N. J.: Princeton University Press, 1916), 36-48.
- "Lies," "Puer Redemptor," "Good Friday Song," "Mater Dolorosa," "The Ship of Stars," "Terrae Illuminatae," "In Praise of Pastry," "St. Ives Hall," "Till the White Cock Crows," "Cuckoo," "Tittyvillus," "Apparatus Criticus," "Lullaby," in Henry Van Dyke (editor), *A Book of Princeton Verse, II* (Princeton, N. J.: Princeton University Press, 1919), 48-66.
- "The Ship O' Bed," in Louis Untermeyer (editor), *This Singing World* (New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., 1923), 357-359.
- "The Ship O' Bed," in L. A. G. Strong (editor), *The Best Poems of 1923* (Boston: Small, Maynard & Co., 1924), 57-59.
- "Saint Brandan of the West," in William Stanley Braithwaite (editor), *Anthology of Magazine Verse for 1925* (Boston: B. J. Brimmer Co., 1925), 77-79.
- "Iffley," in William Stanley Braithwaite (editor), *Anthology of Magazine Verse for 1926* (Boston: B. J. Brimmer Co., 1926), 91-92.
- "Lindbergh," in Charles Vale (editor), *The Spirit of St. Louis* (New York: George H. Doran Co., 1927), 49-50.

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- "The Barnacles," in *Grub Street Book of Verse* (New York: Henry Harrison, 1929).
- "Golden Falcon," in Edwin O. Grover (editor), *The Animal Lover's Knapsack* (New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1929), 199.
- "Night-Hawk," "The Ram," "Humming-Bird," in William Stanley Braithwaite (editor), *Anthology of Magazine Verse for 1929* (New York: George Sully & Co., 1929), 60-62.
- "Voice of the Woods," in Benjamin Musser (editor), *The First Japm Anthology* (Atlanta: Bozart Press, 1929), 12.
- "An Aeroplane Against a Daylit Moon," in Thomas Moulton (editor), *The Best Poems of 1929* (New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., n.d.), 115-116.
- "The Starfish," in Thomas Moulton (editor), *The Best Poems of 1930* (New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., 1930), 43.
- "Humming Bird," "Night-Hawk," "Golden Falcon," in Clinton Scollard & Jessie B. Rittenhouse (editors), *The Bird-Lovers' Anthology* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1930), 117-118, 200-201, 247.
- "The Ram," in Alfred Kreymborg (editor), *Lyric America* (New York: Coward-McCann, Inc., 1930), 548-549. Also, in later editions retitled *An Anthology of American Poetry* (New York: Tudor Publishing Co.).
- "Sunflowers," in Thomas Moulton (editor), *The Best Poems of 1931* (New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., 1931), 5-6.
- "Crystal Moment," in Thomas Moulton (editor), *The Best Poems of 1932* (New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., n.d.), 76-77.
- "Crystal Moment," in William Rose Benét (editor), *Fifty Poets* (New York: Duffield & Green, 1933), 105-107. Also, an account of how the poem was written.
- "First Flight," in Thomas Moulton (editor), *The Best Poems of 1933* (New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., n.d.), 114-117.
- "Potato Diggers," "Eyes Are Lit Up," in Thomas Moulton (editor), *The Best Poems of 1934* (New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., n.d.), 22, 115.
- "Golden Falcon," in *Designed For Reading* by the editors of *Saturday Review of Literature* (New York: Macmillan Co., 1934), 392.

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- "Strange Holiness," in Roger S. Loomis & Donald L. Clark (editors), *Modern English Readings* (New York: Farrar & Rinehart, 1934), variant pagination in successive editions of this volume.
- "The Cup of Day," in *The New Yorker Book of Verse* (New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., 1935), 160.
- "Night of Fear," "Advice to a Young Farmer," "The Cupola," in *Maine and Vermont Poets* (New York: Henry Harrison, 1935), 34-36.
- "Jethro's Pet," "The Desert of Maine," in Dudley Chadwick Gordon, V. R. King, & W. W. Lyman (editors), *Today's Literature* (New York: American Book Co., 1935), 337-340.
- "Now All Within My Household Sleep," in Thomas Moulton (editor), *The Best Poems of 1935* (New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., n.d.), 98.
- "Taking the Turn" in Alan F. Pater (editor), *Anthology of Magazine Verse for 1935* (New York: Poetry Digest Association, 1936), 24.
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Coffin on Poetry: "For poetry is forever the thin, sinewy tendon that defies time and runs out from all small things to articulate eternity. Poetry is the brevity that is the breath of life, the art of doing without most of the acts and words we live by, in order to gain the life more abundant. . . . Poetry is subtraction, as a sketch in ink or color is. Poetry postulates leaving the mass out, for the sake of the life of the mass. . . . [Poetry] represents reality, it does not present it." ["The Matter of Poetry"]

Coffin to the Young Poet: "Call your home beauties by name. Begin as a local poet if you hope to become a universal one. Stay at home if you want the world as your range. This is one very practical way of achieving that fundamental design which is immediacy. Let no *genus*, no class, no philosophy get be-

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tween you and the light. The philosopher deals in trees, but the poet deals in maples and hackmatacks. An oak is a better tree than a mere tree, and better proves treehood. Set your bird's song down as a chickadee's or the cardinal's. Put the daisy and the bird-on-the-wing in your meadow, not bare flowers. Avoid the over-arching and overwhelming abstracts. Stay close to cases, to home." ["The Matter of Poetry"]

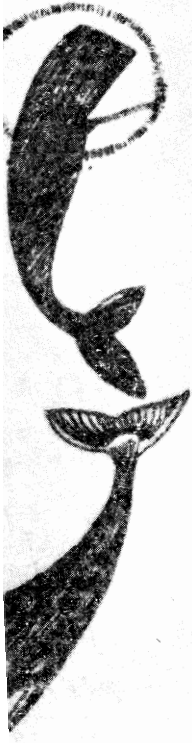
Coffin on the Maine Coast: "And there under the boom at their bow a shore was coming up out of the sea. It was all marble and dazzling pearl. It was quilted with snow, but it was fringed with trees cut out of green and gold lace, all powdered with the splinters of diamonds. Trees conical and even, every dazzling shade of green. Wall on wall of green trees till they faded into azure and gray and mauve. Green turned to azure, and the azure to silver again. Trees cut out of lace. Taller trees of a feathery green which turned to molten silver where the wind ran through their everlasting leaves, then to golden needles sunnier than the sun itself when the wind dropped. Tall trees like plumes, too lovely to be seen outside of sleep, etched on a lighter haze of forests beyond forests. High cliffs were lifting their shimmering heads as they drew in toward land. Where the snow left off, the rocks themselves shone white with granite. At their foot, in the tides' way, dead salt grass spread like a golden frieze. Gulls were flying like pieces blown off from the snow. Light and dark, dark and light. The sky was like a transparent enamel too bright to look at long. And every last thing there, rock and sedge and tree and hill, seemed to throw out a nimbus and bathed itself from its own brightness in a glory like that of the pebbles at the bottom of a clear stream of water." [*John Dawn*]

Coffin on Maine's Imperishable Heritage:

When folks have moved away, the borers enter
And bore their dusty way into the center
Of Maine's heart, and through a thousand pores
The unused sunlight seeps back home outdoors.
["Maine Woodpile"]

The Whales Sang

Women for American
March 1942



The serpents of Anarchic night
Filled the sky with hissing light;
The bull sperm clove apart the sea,
"I, too, have fire pent in me!"

The northern lights came up like ghosts,
They lit the long night with their hosts;
The right-whale clapped his flukes in pride,
I am ten thons and lamps inside!"

"We are fire!" sang the whales,
They shattered oceans with their tails,
"We are lamps, we bid the hours
Then the lamps in us will flower.

"There will come birds, wider across
Their wings than is the albatross,
And gods will drop from them with darts
And strike us to our thundering hearts.

"We will glee, but they will cling
And take a sleigh ride, shout and sing.
We will sound to the stormless black,
But their thin lines will draw us back.

"They will hold us by a collar,
God will shrink up small and smaller,
Crossed by the edge deep sea, but they
Will draw us back big and white and clay.

"The Friends of God who wear their hats
Before Him will try out our fates,
They will dip the seeds of lights
From our skulls for New World nights.

"Gods of Nantucket, muscled stout,
Will dip the good lamps in us out,
A lamp to light a girl's Spring and
A lamp to light an old man's dying.

"Lamp for Tom Coffin in courting speeches,
Lamp for President Adams's speeches,
Lights for Bostonians gutting the cod,
Lights for the white-pine house of God."

"I am the lamp of the American people!"
The sperm whale stood up high as a stepler,
Dipped his flukes and dived to dine.

