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9-13-1890

## To Arthur R. Gledhill - September 13, 1890

Edwin Arlington Robinson

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TO ARTHUR R. GLEDHILL

Gardiner Sept 13 - 1890 -

Dear Art:--

When I left you at the train I expected to meet you again Sunday at the islands, but Clorito, Lachesis, & Co.<sup>1</sup> evidently intended that no such thing should take place. You told Gus and I that you would meet us at Mouse and the night before (Saturday) we made our arrangements (which amounted to the purchase of a few cigars and a plug of tobacco) to take in the excursion. When Mouse came into view divers individuals could be discerned making their way across the path toward the old wharf, and these we took to be you and your friends. But the boat made straight for Capitol and the forms were lost. I stopped there and left Gus on board bound for Squirrel;<sup>2</sup> but when she came back for the return trip he was not aboard. I had come to the conclusion that he must have fallen in with you when one of the hands yelled at me and said that he had told him to tell me that he had taken the excursion steamer for Portland (!) and would come back on the 2 o'clock train. So you see, under the circumstances, that it was hardly possible to make connections.

Write as soon as you get a chance, but don't do the

-2-

thing up in Hebrew as my knowledge of the language is decidedly uncertain. I suppose you will be having Butler for breakfast and Paley or Whately for dinner every day for the next year or two,<sup>3</sup> but don't quote them to me—I don't fancy them.

Better keep away from Spinoza or he will have you before you know it: Pantheism is too attractive for you to tamper with.

Hope I shall see you again before a great while--Yours

EA Robinson--

P.S. This from a college magazine (I forget which one):--

1<sup>st</sup> Fresh. "What's the hurry?"

2<sup>d</sup> do. "Going to the opera."

1<sup>st</sup>-- "Matinee?"

2<sup>d</sup>-- "No—Horatii Flacci Opera."<sup>4</sup>

Stick to your bush and write soon

E.A.R.

HCL

NOTES

1. That is, the Fates—Clotho, Lachesis, and Atropos.
2. Mouse, Capitol and Squirrel—popular resort islands off the coast of Maine. The Robinsons frequently vacationed summers on Capitol Island.
3. This letter was addressed to Spencer, Mass. But was forwarded to Canton, N.Y., where Gledhill was pursuing ministerial studies. Joseph Butler, William Paley, and Richard Whately were all English theologians and philosophers.
4. Works ("Opera") of Horatius Flaccus (i.e. Horace), Roman poet. (SL)