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Notes and Memoranda

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American imprints given on pages 273-288 of *Hardy in America* (1946). The Book League of America is there recorded (page 274) as having published Hardy twice—in 1928 and in 1930. We have thus learned that the 1937 *Native* constitutes a third Hardy entry on the Book League list.

Perhaps, then, this is a good time to echo Colonel Winterich's warning to those two pirates. "Their situation is hopeless." Will all readers of these pages keep a sharp lookout, and direct either or both of the rascals to the door of the Colby College Library? Here are their identification marks: (1) Seaside Library, Pocket Edition, No. 1975: New York, George Munro's Sons, 1892. (2) "Illustrated Series" of 50-cent Novels: New York, Lovell, Coryell Co., 1896. Reward offered for any information leading to their arrest!



NOTES AND MEMORANDA

COLBY Library Associates who are not residents of Waterville missed four good meetings held at the college during the second semester of the academic year just ended. In February Professor Cecil A. Rollins spoke on George Bernard Shaw, giving an able review of the fifty-year dramatic career of the famous author. In March, Mr. Philo C. Calhoun, of Bridgeport, Connecticut, spoke to a delighted and eager audience on "Book-Collecting in the Lower Brackets." In April Dr. Margaret Buchner addressed the Associates on Voltaire, two hundred years after the publication of *La Sagesse humaine*. And in May, Professor Wilbert Snow, of Wesleyan University, spoke on Modern American Poetry, and read a number of his own compositions.

For Dr. Buchner's address on Voltaire, a book exhibition was arranged, which included the sumptuous copy of Voltaire's *La Henriade* presented to the Colby College Library

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by Mr. Philip Hofer of Harvard University. This edition of Voltaire's historical poem was printed by Pierre Didot in 1790 "by order of the [French] King." Bound in red morocco, with colored end-papers, this copy, one of an edition limited to 250 copies, was printed with newly-cast type made by Firmin Didot, brother of the printer. Near it was exhibited a book of very different appearance—a copy of Voltaire's *History of Charles the Twelfth, King of Sweden*, published by Silas Andrus of Hartford, Connecticut, in 1828. This American imprint was given to the library by Arthur G. Robinson, '06. And beside it lay a Voltaire that once belonged to the poet Edwin Arlington Robinson. When Robinson entered Harvard in September 1891, the official "adviser" to whom he was assigned was F. C. de Sumichrast, Professor of French. Robinson elected a course in French, and a year later elected a second, in which (so says his biographer) the work consisted of reading "just one lively novel after another." In the second half of that course Robinson acquired this copy of Voltaire's *Romans et Contes en Vers*. Apart from his name written on the title-page, Robinson left no notes or marginalia to indicate his reading of the book. He apparently read *Zadig* (1748),—at least the pages of this "histoire orientale" are opened; but the leaves of *Candide* and other stories, as well as the leaves of the poems, remain unopened to this day.



AMONG volumes recently presented to the Colby library, two of the most distinguished are the *Poems* and the *Letters* of Robert Burns, as reproduced in facsimile from the Glenriddell Manuscripts. Never published, these facsimiles were privately printed in 1914 by John Gribbel of Philadelphia; and the two volumes have been presented to our library by his son, Mr. John Bancker Gribbel, of Media, Pennsylvania.

From Mrs. Webster Chester we have received a copy of the first edition of Morse's *System of Geography* (1844) and a

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copy of the second edition of the anonymous *History of the War of 1812-1815*.

From Mrs. Sophie K. Underwood, of New York City, we have received a fine copy of Mary Wollstonecraft's famous *Vindication of the Rights of Women*, the first edition, London 1792.

From Mr. Harold T. Pulsifer, an issue of *Prairie Schooner* has brought us a welcome article on Thomas Hardy.

From Mrs. Frank J. Sprague, of New York City, we have received a copy of the Walt Whitman Catalogue printed by the Library of Congress on the 120th anniversary of the birth of Walt Whitman. This catalogue was printed in connection with the exhibition of Mrs. Sprague's splendid Whitman Collection in the Library of Congress.

Dr. Herman T. Radin, of New York City, has sent us a photostat of an extremely interesting letter by Henry James, and has made two contributions to our shelf of Christmas printings: (1) "A Christmas Salute" by Christopher Morley, one of 300 copies printed at the Walpole Printing Office, Mt. Vernon, New York, in December 1935; (2) "A Battle in Washington Square" by Valenti Angelo, with decorations in two colors by the author,—one of 200 copies printed for the Golden Cross Press in 1942.

Presented in the name of Dr. Edward F. Stevens, four framed and glazed portraits have been received from Mr. James A. Anderson, of South Orange, New Jersey. The portraits are of Theodore L. De Vinne, Fred Goudy, William Morris, and the artist E. H. New, photographed with Dr. Stevens at Kelmscott Manor, Morris's old home in England.

From Mr. Raymond Spinney, '21, we have received a copy of *The Story of Nefrekepta* by Gilbert Murray, with illustrations in color by Florence Kingsford (Mrs. Sydney Cockerell). This copy was given by the author, Gilbert Murray, to Thomas Hardy and it bears Hardy's book-label. It is a very welcome addition to our shelf of books which were once upon a time in Hardy's library.

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THE publication, last February, of our census of extant copies of Robinson's *The Torrent and The Night Before* has resulted in a few additional copies being brought to our attention. The previously published check-list located fifty-six extant copies. We now add the following:

No. 57. Inscribed "R. Sturgis / with compliments of E. A. Robinson / 16 December, 1896." This copy is now in the library of Mr. Edward Naumburg, Jr., of New York.

No. 58. Autographed "E. A. Robinson, 4 December, 1896," but without further inscription. This copy is now owned by Mr. Louis V. Ledoux of New York City.

No. 59. Inscribed "A. H. Jordan / From E. A. Robinson. / 6 December, 1896." The line missing at the top of page 7 has been added in Robinson's hand in this copy. It was later owned by Mr. W. Van R. Whitall, later by Will T. H. Howe of Cincinnati, and finally acquired by Dr. Berg, who presented it to the New York Public Library. There it is in the Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection.

Copy No. 13, listed in our February census as the R. W. Gilder copy, is now in the possession of a Mr. Podel.

Copy No. 48, listed in February as owned by Mr. Daniel G. Tenney, Jr., but without further information about it, is now known to be inscribed "J. S. Barstow / from E. A. Robinson / 8 December 1896." In this copy the line missing at the top of page 7 is written in Robinson's hand.

If any of our readers have knowledge of other copies of *The Torrent*, they are urged to write to the editor.

SIX years ago the Class of 1941 endowed a Book Prize, to be awarded annually (under the direction of the Library Associates) to the Senior who has assembled the best collection of books during his four years in college. In the 1947 contest, the student-libraries proved of such high and distinguished quality that the committee of judges voted to award the prize to three Seniors tied for first place. These young book-collectors are Mr. Stanley Levine, Miss Jeanne Smith, and Mr. David C. Weber, Library Associates all.