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The Letters of Edwin Arlington Robinson: A Digital  
Edition

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12-21-1895

## To Joseph S. Ford - December 21, 1895

Edwin Arlington Robinson

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TO JOSEPH S. FORD

Dear Ford,

My letter went off to  
Latham Sunday night, so I  
suppose he got both of them

-2-

about the same time—as  
we arranged it I[t] prob-  
ably tickled him more or less  
to read them—particularly  
mine, for my handwriting, I  
am told, is sure to be good  
for two shirts at any Chinese  
laundry. I say this for your  
benefit for some day you may  
be hard up and in need of  
fresh linen

I got my fiddle to day  
and shall soon be making  
strange noises. I cant  
hold the thing very well yet

-3-

and this morning I burned  
the end of my left third  
finger, so it will be a  
little awkward at first  
But I'll be a maestro  
so [=or] something of that kind in  
two or three weeks, and when  
you come to see me again  
I'll entertain you with a  
kind of music you never  
heard before.—I sup-  
pose you are by this time  
well into Jack<sup>1</sup> and I am  
confident that you will like  
it. The first chapters

-4-

are a little slow and not

altogether pleasing. But that  
is only for a few pages.  
Give my regards to Hubbell  
when you see him  
Very truly yours  
E.A. Robinson

Gardiner Maine  
21 December, 1895.

UVA Written on a printed rejection slip from *The Chap-Book*:

“The Editor of the CHAP-BOOK pre-  
sents his compliments, and regrets that he is  
unable to use the manuscript [*L’Imperieuse Bonte*] which you kindly  
offered.”

#### NOTES

1. Novel by Alphonse Daudet, 1876. See EAR’s letters to Harry de Forest Smith for March 4, 1894 and April 28, 1895.