

# Colby



Colby Quarterly

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Volume 2  
Issue 13 *February*

Article 6

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February 1950

## Typophile Chap Book No. 20

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### Recommended Citation

Colby Library Quarterly, series 2, no.13, February 1950, p.222-223

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## 222 Colby Library Quarterly

## TYPOPHILE CHAP BOOK No. 20

AMONG the books that have recently come to the Library, there is one little gem that ought to, and (we think) will, appeal to every lover of books, every Colby Library Associate, and every student of American history—a book that is so tastefully gotten up as to delight both hand and eye. We refer to *Typographic Heritage*, a collection of essays by Dr. Lawrence C. Wroth of the John Carter Brown Library in Providence, Rhode Island. This little book of 162 pages is a 1949 publication by The Typophiles, an organization of printers, bookbinders, typefounders, and lovers of fine printing; the book was designed by Mr. Fred Anthoensen of Portland and bound by his associate, Mr. John Marchi. A small residue of copies is for sale by The Anthoensen Press, whose address is Portland 6, Maine.

Dr. Wroth, the author of the five essays that make up the contents of this book, is remembered at Colby—at least by those who were here a decade ago—for the learned address he gave to the Colby Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. In the present volume, *Typographic Heritage*, he displays the same extensive and authoritative erudition, handled with the same ease and naturalness, free of all pedantry and ostentation, that characterized the Phi Beta Kappa address. In this twentieth Chap Book in the Typophiles' series, Dr. Wroth provides an instructive study of Benjamin Franklin as a printer; a careful account of one Abel Buell of Killingworth, Connecticut, who is said to have been the first person to cast printers' type in America; and a particularly graceful account of "British Influence upon American Printing" which invites an extended comment that cannot be indulged in here.

Space is lacking to give any detailed review of *Typographic Heritage*, but it can be confidently stated that no reader of its pages will go away unrewarded, and no owner of the book will easily part with it. It is, in fact, a worthy

## Colby Library Quarterly 223

modern member of that class of older books that Dr. Wroth himself writes (on page 28) so movingly about: "splendid copies . . . which, though silent, yet make themselves heard by those who go to them in love and humility."



### OTHER ACCESSIONS

FROM Dr. Herman T. Radin of New York we have received a copy of W. B. Yeats's *Michael Robartes* (1920), which is No. 30 in the series of books published by the Cuala Press.

From Mrs. Carol Butler we have received a four-volume set of Poe's *Works* (New York, 1853) and a copy of the first edition of Holmes's *Poet at the Breakfast-Table* (Boston, 1872).

To the Portland Public Library we are indebted for a copy of the first edition of John Hay's *Jim Bludso* (1871).

From Kenneth Roberts (D.Litt., Colby, 1935) we have received copies of two European translations of his historical novel, *The Lively Lady*—translations into Finnish and Czech. The manuscript of this novel is now on exhibition in the Treasure Room of the Library, where it has attracted the notice of many visitors.

To Professor Alfred K. Chapman we are indebted for a fresh copy of the first edition of Mark Twain's *Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* (New York, 1889), with its highly diverting illustrations—220 of them—by Dan Beard.

From Dr. Edward F. Stevens, '89, we have received, as a further contribution to the Book Arts Collection, a beautiful copy of Browning's *Poems*.

Among the many fine volumes now in the Book Arts Collection, founded by (and so generously contributed to by) Dr. Stevens, there are representatives of the work of many famous Presses—the Kelmscott Press of William Morris, for example. There has, however, until recently been a serious gap, for we have had no representative of the famous and distinguished work turned out by the