February 1957

The John Millington Synge Collection at Colby College

Robert E. Dysinger

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.colby.edu/cq

Recommended Citation
Colby Library Quarterly, series 4, no.9, February 1957, p.166-172

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ Colby. It has been accepted for inclusion in Colby Quarterly by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Colby. For more information, please contact mfkelly@colby.edu.
Edward M. Stephens wrote is not without its irony. "There at the gate of the cemetery a group of those who had known John as a writer and as a Director of the National Theater Society joined the procession that followed the coffin up the main avenue to the chapel. As the words of commitment were said I noticed there the people John had known divided, as they had always been in his life time, into separate groups. His relations were together in black carrying bowler hats and, a little apart, the people among whom he had worked. I knew few of them even by appearance, but I can remember seeing Sara Allgood and watching Padraic Colum's hair blowing in the wind."

THE JOHN MILLINGTON SYNGE COLLECTION AT COLBY COLLEGE

A Check List Compiled by Robert E. Dysinger

This check list of Synge material is divided into three parts. The first and last are arranged alphabetically, the brief second part chronologically. Parentheses following the entries give, in each case, information concerning publication, inscriptions, or other matter.

I. Single works of Synge.

II. Autograph letters.

III. Biographical and critical material.

I. SINGLE WORKS OF SYNGE

Colby Library Quarterly


The Aran Islands; with drawings by Jack B. Yeats. Dublin, Maunsel; London, E. Mathews, 1907. (One of 150 large-paper copies signed by author and artist. Quinn 9970.)

The Aran Islands; with drawings by Jack B. Yeats. Dublin, Maunsel, 1911. ("First library edition." Annabel Jackson’s copy. Quinn 10002.)


Deirdre of the Sorrows; a Play. Churchtown, Cuala Press, 1910. (First edition. Printed in red and black. Transcription of a letter from Elizabeth C. Yeats to Paul Lemperly, also some information about the purchase of this copy laid in. Not in Quinn.) Also another copy of above.


Deirdre of the Sorrows. Dublin, Maunsel, 1912. (2d. edition of "pocket edition." Dr. Oliver St. John Gogarty’s copy. Quinn 9992.)

Four plays. Dublin, Maunsel, 1911. ("First library edition." Annabel Jackson’s copy. Quinn 10002.)


In the Shadow of the Glen. London, E. Mathews; Boston, John W. Luce, 1911. (First American trade edition. Quinn 9995.)

In Wicklow, West Kerry and Connemara; with drawings by Jack B. Yeats. Dublin, Maunsel, 1911. ("First library edition." Annabel Jackson’s copy. Quinn 10002.)
Colby Library Quarterly


The Playboy of the Western World; a comedy in three acts. Dublin, Maunsel, 1907. (First edition. Crosby Gaige’s copy. Not in Quinn.)

The Playboy of the Western World; a comedy in three acts. Boston, John W. Luce, 1911. (Drama critic Gustav Kobbe’s copy. His notes on when he bought the copy, and on the uproar in the audience at the New York opening night performance are signed and tipped in. Another draft of his notes and a clipping from the New York Herald of his report of the opening night performance laid in. First American edition. Quinn 9996.) Another copy of above.


Riders to the Sea. Boston, John W. Luce, 1911. (First American edition. Quinn 9998.)


The Tinker’s Wedding: a comedy in two acts. Dublin, Maun-
The Tinker's Wedding; a comedy in two acts. Boston, John W. Luce, 1911. (First American edition. Quinn 10001.)


The Well of the Saints; a play in three acts. London, A. H. Bullen; Dublin, the Abbey Theater, 1905. (First edition. Wrapper addressed to John Quinn by Synge and a bookplate of John Quinn's laid in. Quinn 9967.) Another copy of above with slight binding variant—"Hely's Ltd. —Dublin—Printers" absent from bottom edge of outside back cover.


The Well of the Saints; a drama in three acts. New York, John Quinn, 1905. (One of 50 copies printed. Elizabeth C. Yeats' copy, presented to her and signed by John Quinn. Quinn 9968.)

The Well of the Saints; a comedy in three acts. Boston, John W. Luce, 1911. (First American trade edition. Not in Quinn.)

With Petrarch; Twelve sonnets; prose translations by John Millington Synge; reprinted with the preface to Poems and Translations. Larchmont, Peter Pauper Press, 1928. (One of 100 copies set and printed by hand on Italian hand-made paper. The first book issued by the Peter Pauper Press. Not in Quinn.) Another copy of above with Robert Cluett, 3d's bookplate.

Works. Dublin, Maunsel, 1910. (First "collected" edition. Vol. 1, Plays; vol. 2, Plays, Poems, & Translations; vol. 3, The Aran Islands; vol. 4, In Wicklow, West Kerry, etc. Quinn 9988.)
170  Colby Library Quarterly

II. AUTOGRAPH LETTERS


A.L.S. to Prof. Francis Grierson thanking him for his kindness to the actors on their trip to Scotland and saying that he has been at work on The Playboy of the Western World. Mentions that The Aran Islands is about to come out. January 7, 1907. Kingstown, Co. Dublin. 2 p.

III. BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL MATERIAL


Colby Library Quarterly  171

Clipping from Irish Times of April 23, 1955 of a letter by Denis Donoghue to the editor complaining about, and correcting, a misprint in the Irish Writing article of March, 1955, laid in. Not in Quinn.)


Lady Gregory. "Synge." The English Review, March, 1913, pp. 556-566. (Describes her acquaintance with Synge and his work. Pages are removed from the periodical and bound together. Not in Quinn.)

P. P. Howe. J. M. Synge; a critical study. London, M. Secker, 1912. (First edition. Thomas B. Mosher's copy. This is dramatic criticism seeking to make clear the beauty and value of the plays and their place in English drama. Quinn 10007.) Another copy of above.


172    Colby Library Quarterly


Another copy of above.


Published by Digital Commons @ Colby, 1957