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F. Elizabeth Libbey

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LIBRARY OF JUDGE JOHN EDWARDS GODFREY

By F. ELIZABETH LIBBEY

*Associate Librarian*

FROM the library of the late Judge John Edwards Godfrey of Bangor, Maine, approximately thirteen hundred and fifty volumes have been presented to the Colby College Library through the kindness and generosity of his two granddaughters, Mrs. Candace Loud Sawyer of Oneida, New York, and Mrs. Laura Loud Orcutt of Mahwah, New Jersey. A great-granddaughter, Miss Candace Orcutt, graduated from Colby in June 1957.

Judge Godfrey was born in Hampden, Maine, in 1809 and died in Bangor, Maine, in 1884. He was considered a lawyer of ability, a man of broad and advanced views, and possessed a well-cultivated mind. He was judge of the Probate Court of Penobscot County for twenty-four years, was prominent in the city councils and took a deep and active interest in the schools. An early abolitionist, he was editor of the *Free Soil Gazette*. He possessed a large and well-selected library which he collected throughout his lifetime. He contributed to the collections of the Maine Historical Society. He was orator at the Bangor Centennial of 1869, was president of the Bangor Historical Society and the Penobscot Musical Association.

The Godfrey library contains many items of Americana and a goodly number of journals, among which are *Chambers' Miscellany*, *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine* (American edition), *The Museum of Foreign Literature, Science and Art*, and *St. Nicholas*. The collection contains works of many standard authors, both English and American, and individual Maine town histories (some of which have long been out of print). In fine condition is a copy of *A Diary of Peter Edes, the Oldest Printer in the United States*, printed by Samuel S. Smith, Bangor, 1837.

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Two other Maine items of historical significance and value are (1) the anonymous first appearance of Longfellow's *Outre-Mer: a Pilgrimage beyond the Sea*, Boston, Hilliard, Gray and Company, 1833, and (2) Joseph Whipple's *A Geographical View of the District of Maine, with Particular Reference to its Internal Resources, Including the History of Acadia, Penobscot River and Bay, with Statistical Tables, Showing the Comparative Progress of the Population of Maine with each State in the Union—a List of the Towns, their Incorporation, Census, Polls, Valuation, Counties, and Distances from Boston*, Bangor: Printed by Peter Edes, 1816.

The Godfrey library is rich in the inclusion of many standard histories of France, England, Germany, and other countries. Biographies of many historical and literary figures abound, along with a sprinkling of titles in the fields of art, religion, and philosophy.

The gift not only enriches the holdings of the Colby Library but will make available many added copies for general circulation.



### A GIFT FROM MARK TWAIN'S NEPHEW

THANKS to the generous thought and kindly interest of Mr. Cyril Clemens, the Library has received a copy of Thomas Hardy's *Wessex Poems* in an edition previously lacking in our Hardy Collection. Mr. Clemens' gift is the London (Macmillan) edition of 1903, "with thirty illustrations by the Author," bound in blue cloth.

According to Richard L. Purdy's *Thomas Hardy: A Bibliographical Study* (1954), "*Wessex Poems* was published . . . in . . . December 1898. . . . *Subsequent Editions* (see also COLLECTED EDITIONS): *Wessex Poems* . . . was published in America by Harper & Brothers at the end of January 1899, though copyrighted 1898. When the volume was included in Macmillan's definitive *Wessex Edition* in 1912, it was