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To Harry de Forest Smith - June 4, 1893

Edwin Arlington Robinson

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TO HARRY DE FOREST SMITH

Harvard University,
Cambridge, Mass.
June 4 – ’93

My dear Smith,

You have probably, for something like the twentieth time, come to the conclusion that I am a rather uncertain correspondent, and I have no good excuse to make this time, either. I could not write last Sunday, but I might have Monday or Tuesday. I did not however, and then thought I might as well let it go until to-day. It is a pretty tough job writing now on account of the heat, but I will put it through as I know you will rather look for a letter on Tuesday. I like letter writing on general principles, but sometimes the performance is hard. You know that of course and will not lay up any hard feelings against me for my negligence.

The chief thing I have to say to you to day is concerning your coming to Cambridge. The Yale-Harvard Game comes off the 22’d. Can’t you arrange it to come up somewhere of on the 20th and come go back with me. We could have a great time here together for a few days at a small expense. The "pop" concerts are in full blast with music and beer galore. Or anything else

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a WA has "to-day".
you like—light opera or a good
cigar on the common. I would not
urge to [=you] so much were I not sure
that you would be glad you came.
Just get started once, and you will
see that I am right for once
in my life.

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To-day is hot and rather muggy
but the Lord thought to add a good
breeze. Were it not for that, the day
would be unbearable. It is doubly
unwelcome as I have an examination
(final) in German to-morrow forenoon
and I find it positively impossible to
prepare for it to-day. All I can
do is lie around and cuss. It is too
hot to smoke. Cigarettes would go, [but]
I have become so disgusted with
them that I can hardly tolerate
them. The more of them I smoke,
the less I like them. For which

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I am duly thankful.

About half an hour ago I drifted
into Butler's room (next to mine)
and he was counting over dining-hall
checks. He had a bunch of twenty
5's, good for a nickel at the Hall,
and I proposed matching coppers for
them. By a curious run of luck I
won them all in less than fifteen
minutes. All of which was very
wrong, but pardonable on account of

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the temperature of the day. Such
mild viciousnesss must be overlooked
by the powers that run the mercury
up to 98º when a man wants to
read German. And besides, I have
the checks, which will come in handy at the Hall to-night.

I have not read much of anything lately except work bearing upon Fine Arts. I forget much of it—especially Greek History. I wish I could remember things of some account, but it seems to be im-

possible. \[b\]Well, I have written four or five pages without saying much of anything—except the invitation, which I hope you will consider seriously) and will stop right here.

Will send another wad of papers to-morrow.

Sincerely

Robinson.\[c\]

HCL US, 99-100.

\[b\] WA omits this space.

\[c\] WA omits the underline.