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Some Recent Gifts

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tion are discussed in an able article by Carroll A. Wilson, in the current issue of the Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America. The appearance of this article will remind the friends of Mr. Wilson at Colby as well as his friends elsewhere of the great loss the book-loving world has suffered by his death on June 27 of this year. Born in Benton Falls, Maine, Carroll Wilson attended school in Waterville almost in sight of the Colby College campus. In 1940 he became an honorary graduate of this college, and Colby College Monograph No. 9 was dedicated to him, in recognition of his generous gifts to the college library. Only once was he persuaded to address the Colby Library Associates, but he was often present in spirit and often sent volumes from his own library for exhibition on just such occasions as the present Longfellow celebration. If he had lived to take part in observing the centenary of Evangeline, we could have had no more interested participant and no more loyal and generous friend of the Colby Library. His death at the age of sixty-one has removed from the list of members of the Library Associates one whom we shall find it hard to replace.

SOME RECENT GIFTS

THAT portion of our Hardy Collection which is made up of books that were once in the library of Thomas Hardy continues to grow. The latest arrival bearing the famous novelist’s book-label is a copy of the first English edition of A New England Nun and Other Stories by Mary E. Wilkins (London, 1891). The book is signed “Thomas Hardy” on the title-page, but those who are familiar with his and with his wife’s handwriting have found it easy to recognize that the signature was written by Mrs. Emma Lavinia Hardy and not by the novelist himself. The book was published by James R. Osgood, McIlvaine & Company—the same publishing house that issued Hardy’s Tess
later in the same year. We are indebted for our possession of Hardy's copy of *A New England Nun* to the kindness of Mr. H. Bacon Collamore.

From the library of the late Professor Henry A. Lappin, of D'Youville College, Buffalo, we have acquired nearly a score of volumes with Hardy's book-label. Most interesting is the copy of Eutropius which Hardy used as a thirteen-year-old boy while studying Latin in the Dorchester academy of Isaac G. Last. Ten years later, as a young architect in London, Hardy drew a design for a country mansion and entered it in a contest conducted by the Architectural Association. His design won the prize, and with the prize-money "he promptly bought several volumes of Bohn's Classical Series—English versions of the Greek dramatists" (*Hardy of Wessex* by Carl J. Weber, page 22). A dozen and more of these Bohn volumes are now in the Hardy Collection in the Colby Library.

From Professor Bradford Booth, of the University of California at Los Angeles, we have received an autograph letter which Hardy wrote in response to an inquiry about his famous epic-drama. In *The Dynasts*, Part Second, Act III, Scene III, the dying Sir John Moore says:

> If I must die
> Without a word with Stanhope, ask him, Hope,
> To—name me to his sister. You may know
> Of what there was between us?

To Hardy's Scottish inquirer he replied:

[Envelope postmarked Dorchester]  
6 Feb: 1911

Revd. John Oliver  
The Manse  
Maryhill, Glasgow.

Dear Sir:

I am sorry to say that I cannot remember the particulars on which the passage you refer to in *The Dynasts* was based—further than that it related to some love-affair between Sir John Moore and Stanhope's sister. You will probably be able to ascertain the facts from the Life of Moore.

Yours truly

T. H.
From Dr. Gilmore Warner we have received a copy of Goldsmith's *Deserted Village*, with thirty-three illustrations by Hammatt Billings.

From Miss C. Sylvia Annable, of Kennebunkport, we have received an extremely useful first-edition copy of Margaret Deland's *The Old Garden*, in which Mrs. Deland has written, under the various poems, the names of the magazines in which the verses were first published. In the back of the book there are three or four pages of verses written in Mrs. Deland's hand. This volume is a welcome addition to our Rare Book treasures, not only because of its contents but also because of its cover, which is reputed to mark the first use of a figured cloth in the history of American bookbinding. We are indebted to Miss Annable also for another copy of *The Old Garden*, beautifully illustrated by Walter Crane.

From Dr. Herman T. Radin, a loyal Colby Library Associate in New York City, we have received a copy of the first edition of Robert Bridges' *Achilles in Scyros*, an autographed (presentation?) copy of Bridges' *Collected Essays and Papers* (Oxford, 1928), and a copy of Wyndham Lewis's Boswellian study, *The Hooded Hawk*.

One of the most poignant lyrics in Housman's *Shropshire Lad* is the one that begins "Into my heart an air that kills." It has been set to music by Dr. Walter Peirce, of Santa Barbara, California. A copy of this composition, in the autograph of the composer, has been added to our Housman collection.

Our Jacob Abbott books have begun to overflow the nook in the Library where this Collection has been housed. From Mrs. Olive H. Maynard, we have received a copy of *Hubert*, the fourth volume of Abbott's *Juno Stories* (New York, 1870). From Mr. David Libbey, of Washington State College Library, we have received a first-edition copy of *Florence's Return* (New York, 1864) and a copy of an early Boston edition of *Marco Paul's Travels in the City of New York*. 