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Some Other Recent Acquisitions

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the Commonwealth. At that time no Episcopalian divine would have been able to get his writings printed at the University of Cambridge. It was therefore very natural that some friends of the oppressed Church should establish in the neighbourhood of the University a press to which such a man as Jeremy Taylor might have recourse. But I should be much surprised to find that, after the Restoration, a press at Royston had been licensed; and I observe that all the works, which, as you inform me, bear the date of Royston, were printed before the passing of the Licensing Act.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant

T B Macaulay

The original autograph of this letter has recently come to light in a copy of Macaulay's History once owned by Henry William Vincent (and later owned by Leo Terry), but it is impossible to say whether Vincent was the “Sir” whom Macaulay addressed.

In any case, the five volumes of the History (London: Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans, 1849, 1855, 1861) in their original blind-stamped plum-brown cloth, each volume enclosed in a half-leather light-brown protective case, were recently purchased by Mr. and Mrs. H. Ridgely Bullock, Jr., of New York City, and by them presented to the Colby College Library—their purchase being made just one hundred years, almost to the day, after Macaulay had written his letter about Royston.

SOME OTHER RECENT ACQUISITIONS

The Colby Library Associates have given the Library a copy of the seventh edition of Timothy Dwight's Theology, Explained and Defended (New York, G. & C. & H. Carvill, 1836), and in this case we are happier to have the seventh edition than we might have been with the first, for this copy is Ex Libris Elijah Parish Lovejoy (Colby 1826). Timothy Dwight (1752-1817) was one of the popular American theologians of Lovejoy's day.
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To Mrs. Hazel G. Littlefield Smith, of Palos Verdes Estates, California, we are indebted for the original manuscript of “In the Mojave” by Lord Dunsany. This story was written in 1953, while Dunsany was visiting in this country; it was published in Harper’s Bazaar in the fall of the same year. Mrs. Smith has also given the Library two quill pens used by Lord Dunsany—one a goose quill, the other a swan’s quill from a swan shot by Dunsany near his castle in County Meath, Ireland.

From Mr. Arthur G. Robinson, Colby, ’06, a number of interesting books have come to the Library. Two sets of Sir Walter Scott’s Waverley Novels—one in 25 volumes, beautifully bound, and another in 48 volumes of a smaller format—head the list of numerous individual titles of Scott’s, including the Journals, Quentin Durward, Miscellanies, Marmion, and The Doom of Devorgoil. American authors are represented by Howells, Hawthorne, Lowell, and Longfellow, many with first editions. Other material, too numerous to mention in the limited space here available, ranges from interesting and valuable numbers of the International Studio to an account of Moses Greenleaf, Maine’s first map-maker. Many times previously Mr. Robinson, a loyal supporter of his college’s library, has enriched our collections, and this most recent of his contributions is a particularly generous one.

From Mr. Frederic E. Camp, of Miami Beach, Florida, we have received a beautifully designed book published under the sponsorship of the Friends of the Princeton Library. Designed by P. J. Conkwright, this is a 1955 publication of Elias Boudinot’s Journey to Boston in 1809.

At an auction of literary manuscripts, held in Chicago on November 13, 1955, the manuscript of Edwin Arlington Robinson’s poem “Maya” was sold to Mr. Louis H. Silver of Chicago, and was by him presented to the Colby College Library. The auction was held for the purpose of raising funds for the support of Poetry Magazine, founded nearly half a century ago by Harriet Monroe. Mr. Silver’s gener-
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ous action has thus benefited both the Library and the magazine. (The November auction served to send at least one reader back to Harriet Monroe’s autobiography, *A Poet’s Life* [New York, Macmillan, 1938], and in it he came upon her vivid account of her trip abroad in the summer of 1897. She sailed for Havre on May 15 and later wrote that “two London evenings stand out most vividly in my memory.” One was a Sunday evening supper given by Wilfrid and Alice Meynell at their apartment. The other was “a reception given in mid-July by one hundred women to one hundred men. Elizabeth Robins, Ibsen actress and distinguished novelist, got me an invitation.” At this reception, Miss Monroe continues,

I met a number of literary celebrities—... most memorable of all, Thomas Hardy. Hardy, then about fifty-six, looked and talked like a business-man rather than a poet—a round face, dark hair, average height and figure, and an indifferent manner until I spoke of having seen one of Mrs. Fiske’s first performances of *Tess of the d’Urbervilles* before I left New York. [See the November 1955 issue of this QUARTERLY, page 84.] It was the first eyewitness report he had heard,* and he asked many detailed questions about her interpretation of his heroine. I told him it had only one inadequacy—the actress was too small and frail-looking for a type physically luxuriant such as I had always conceived Tess to be. He said, “Yes, that is a pity,” but he was consoled by my praise of the beauty and power of the final scenes when the gifted actress made one forget physical limitations as she rose to the tragic simplicity and dignity of her role.

Harriet Monroe also wrote about her correspondence with Edwin Arlington Robinson.)

Lack of space compels us to be, for the moment, quite curt about another magnificent gift. From Mr. James A. Healy, of New York City, the Library has just received a collection of the books and letters of JOHN MILLINGTON SYNGE (1871-1909). This Irish dramatist and poet, who joined with William Butler Yeats and Lady Gregory in

* Hardy apparently did not tell Miss Monroe that he had already “heard” of Mrs. Fiske’s *Tess* four months previously, when his New York friend, Rebekah Owen, wrote him a detailed account of the opening night’s performance on March 2, 1897. Hardy acknowledged Miss Owen’s letter on March 16. See Weber’s *Hardy and the Lady from Madison Square* (Colby College Press, 1952), pages 118-120.—Editor.
1904 in founding the Abbey Theatre in Dublin, is perhaps best known for his Riders to the Sea (1905) and The Playboy of the Western World (1907). The Healy Collection will now equip the Colby College Library with Synge material which can stand proudly alongside the splendid Yeats and "A.E." collections which have previously come to us from Mr. Healy.

NAPOLEONIC ECHOES

Just fifty years ago, Thomas Hardy published Part Two of his epic drama The Dynasts. Part One had appeared in 1904, and Part Three was to appear in 1908. In 1927 (the year before Hardy's death) Macmillan & Co. of London issued a de luxe edition of The Dynasts—525 copies printed on Large Paper, autographed (in Volume I) by Thomas Hardy—with a frontispiece portrait of the author by Francis Dodd.

One set of these three volumes was acquired by one of Hardy's most enthusiastic American admirers, A. Edward Newton of Philadelphia, and into each volume he pasted his well-known Johnsonian Temple Bar bookplate. After Newton's death, his library was sold at auction in New York City, and on the afternoon of Thursday, May 15, 1941, the librarian of Colby College (accompanied by his curator of rare books) was on hand to see some of the Newton books go under the hammer. (Two of them were knocked down to Colby.) The Dynasts of 1927 made up Lot No. 260, which was not sold to the Colby Library. The books have, however, at last found their way to our shelves, thanks to the interest and generosity of Mr. and Mrs. H. Ridgely Bullock, Jr., of New York City. They recently purchased the Newton books and have added them to the Hardy Collection at Colby.

With the books came an autograph letter of Hardy's, written on paper with a mourning border to the Reverend