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Epilogue

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Editor’s Epilogue

No Love, No Joy: The biography of this illustrious son of Colby, after leaving Maine, is brief but brilliant. Following graduation with the class of 1826, Lovejoy backed and filled for approximately a year before trekking westward to St. Louis. There he established a school and began to dabble in journalism. Shortly, he was editing and publishing The Observer, a predominantly religious newspaper strongly opposed to the un-American institution of slavery. Forced by threats of violence to remove himself and his disconcerting editorials, he set up his press on the other side of the Mississippi River, in Alton, Illinois. Here he was no less anathema. His machines were destroyed several times by mobs, and on the night of November 7, 1837—two days before his 35th birthday—he was killed defending his right to use them in his crusade for equality and freedom of expression.

This champion of human dignity, who inspired John Quincy Adams and a host of international luminaries to utterances of high praise, had only recently written: “I cannot surrender my principles, though the whole world should vote them down—I can make no compromise between truth and error, even though my life be the alternative.”

Who’s Who: Frank H. Dugan, a graduate of Illinois with M.A. from Northwestern University, teaches American history and government at Edinburg (Texas) High School. A similar stint at Alton, Illinois, sparked his interest in Lovejoy, around whom he has centered his thesis, several periodical articles, and a biography in progress.

Ray Cecil Carter, Colby 1911, was Director of English for the public schools of Albany and lecturer at Russell Sage College before retirement. He had written The Eternal Teacher and edited a five-volume textbook.

G. Thomas Tanselle, a member of the English department at the University of Wisconsin, is compiling a definitive bibliography of works by and about Maine-born Millay.

Marston LaFrance, an assistant professor of Liberal Studies at Clarkson College, holds degrees from Harpur College and Cornell University. Wary of its effect upon his image as a serious scholar, he only reluctantly admits authorship of a widely reprinted and translated whodunit.