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Additions to the Robinson Collection

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During the centennial of Edwin Arlington Robinson's birth, 1969, all four issues of the Colby Library Quarterly were totally devoted to essays on his life and literary works. Each issue also contained an installment of what was then a complete inventory of the Colby College Library collection of (a) books, proof sheets, and periodicals inscribed by Robinson, (b) presentation copies of books and periodicals to Robinson, (c) manuscripts and letters written by Robinson, (d) manuscripts and letters sent to Robinson, (e) manuscripts and letters about Robinson. This collection, housed in a room dedicated in the poet's name, is by far the most exhaustive in any single repository.

Such has been the growth of this personalized aspect of the collection, largely due to the benefactions of old and newly acquired friends, that it has already become expedient to publish addenda to most of the categories established in the earlier lists. Opportunity is also taken to augment entries not fully described at that time.

ROBINSON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS: ADDENDA

1. BOOKS BY E. A. R.

8. “To / Margaret Perry / from E. A. Robinson / September 25, 1934” on front endleaf.

7. “E. A. Robinson” on title page. “To Mr. Janes / With best wishes from S.E. Pope. / April, 1921” on front endleaf in Pope's hand.
8. “To / Mrs MacDowell / From E. A. Robinson / 1921” on title page.

*Captain Craig.* Houghton, Mifflin & Company: Boston, 1902.
5. On page 64, line 8, the word “when” is crossed out, “where” inserted.


1 The roster published in 1969, and this addition, comprise only association materials. They do not include hundreds of other items which have no unique markings; specifically, books in the poet's library and a wealth of secondary sources (books, periodicals, newspapers) pertinent to his personal and literary career.
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2. Limited to 200 copies, of which this is No. 67. “E. A. Robinson” on flyleaf, vol. 1.
[The following typographical errors were variously emended by Robinson in this edition:
Page 92, last line of “Reuben Bright”: “to” is crossed out.
Page 375, line 21: “law” is inserted.
Page 460, line 6 of “The Mill”: “had” is inserted.
Page 474, line 3, third stanza of “Tact”: “That” is crossed out, “The” is inserted.
Page 529, line 7, third stanza of “The Old King’s New Jester”: the second “how” is crossed out.
In the Colby copies Robinson made these changes in his hand:
Copy 1: Correction p. 474.
2: Corrections pp. 92, 375, 460.
3: Corrections pp. 92, 375, 460, 474, 529.
4: No corrections.
5: No corrections.
6: Corrections pp. 92, 375, 460, 474.
7: Corrections pp. 92, 375, 460.
8: Corrections pp. 92, 375, 460.]
2. Large paper edition, limited to 300 sets, of which this is No. 109. “E. A. Robinson” on half-title page of each volume.
2. “Lilla Cabot Perry / from E. A. Robinson” on front endleaf of each volume. (Our Set No. 1 is not inscribed.)
2. Page 27, line 16: “them” is crossed out, “than” is inserted.
3. Page 27, line 16: correction as above; page 111, line 11: the transposition “complaint” is changed to “compliant.”
7. “For / Nina Maud Richardson / E. A. Robinson / 1930” on front endleaf, with her bookplate.
6. “With the Compliments of the Author” printed slip laid in. “Barbara Robinson” on front endleaf in her hand.
10 “To / Miss Richardson / from E. A. Robinson / September 25, 1931” on front endleaf, with her bookplate.

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5. “With the Compliments of the Author” printed slip laid in.
   “Barbara Robinson” on front endleaf in her hand.
   [The copy previously listed as No. 9—unbound, to Edwin Carty Ranck—has been recataloged as a separate element.]
11. “To / Miss Richardson / from E. A. Robinson / September 30, 1932” on front endleaf, with her bookplate.
4. “For / Mrs MacDowell / with the best wishes of / E. A. Robinson / Peterborough / 21 September 1915” on front endleaf.
   On page 3, line 7, “Scammon’s” is crossed out, “Brewster’s” is inserted.
3. Limited to 750 copies, of which this is No. 576, with Harold T. Pulsifer’s bookplate.
5. “With the Compliments of the Author” printed card laid in.
   Ruth Robinson Nivison’s copy.
8. “E. A. Robinson” on title page; also “To my dear Child from her / loving parent / M. MacD. / Sept 20, 1928” in Marian MacDowell’s hand.

II. PROOF SHEETS OF BOOKS BY E. A. R.

Verbal changes also on pp. 38, 84.
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Verbal change also on p. 90.

IV. BOOKS BY OTHERS: INSCRIBED BY E. A. R.

Beebe, Lucius. Aspects of the Poetry of Edwin Arlington Robinson. Cambridge, Mass.: Privately printed, 1928. "Dear Mrs. Perry, / This work of gilded / youth is not always right, but / much of it is surprisingly good. / You may like to have it with / your other things. / E. A. R. / June 2, 1929" on front endleaf.


Perry, Lilla Cabot. The Heart of the Weed. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1887. "Copy marked by E. A. Robinson / to show me what few poems I should / print in my 'Selected Works' which he / proposed I should print but which / I shall never do! / L. C. Perry" on front endleaf in her hand. E. A. R. marked each poem for inclusion or elimination, and wrote suggestions for revisions and deletions.


VI. BOOKS BY OTHERS: INSCRIBED BY OTHERS


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Perry / by E. A. Robinson / Sept 1922" added below the inscription in her hand.


VII. PERIODICALS: INSCRIBED BY OTHERS


ROBINSON MANUSCRIPTS AND LETTERS: ADDENDA

I. MANUSCRIPTS BY E. A. R.


II. MANUSCRIPTS ABOUT OR TO E. A. R.


III. LETTERS BY E. A. R.

Blodgett, Glen Walton (1), 1919.

Bonawit, Dorothy (3), 1929-1932.

Brown, Sharon Osborne (1), 1932.

Holt, Elliot (1), 1927.


Leland, Robert DeCamp (1), 1931.

Levine, Isaac (1), 1911.

Perry family (1), n.d.
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Perry, Lilla Cabot (1), 1929.
Perry, Margaret (2), 1934.
Sanders, Gerald DeWitt (1), 1930.
Wells, James Raye (1), 1929.

IV. LETTERS TO E. A. R.

Knight, Inez C. (1), 1938.
Latham, Harold Strong (1), 1927.
Maynard, Samuel (1), n.d. [1902]

V. LETTERS ABOUT E. A. R.

Barstow, James S. (3) to George C. Wing, Jr., 1939-1940. Copies of replies (3).
Conkling, Grace Hazard (1) to Cyril Clemens, 1938.
Gibson, Wilfrid (1) to Gerald DeWitt Sanders, 1935.
Hagedorn, Hermann (1) to Lilla Cabot Perry, 1916.
Hughes, Rupert (1) to Cyril Clemens, 1937.
Ledoux, Louis V. (1) to Cyril Clemens, 1936.
Martin, Edward S. (1) to Cyril Clemens, 1938.
National League of American Pen Women (2) to Harold T. Pulsifer, 1939. Copy of reply (1).
Nivison, Ruth (1) to Franklin W. Johnson, 1938.
Pulsifer, Harold T. (2) to Franklin W. Johnson, 1936.
Richards, Laura E. (1) to C. Conston, 1936.
Swanton, Harry A. (2) to George C. Wing, Jr., 1930-1940.
Wilson, Edmund (1) to Richard Cary, 1968.

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Edwin Arlington Robinson

Manuscript

MAYA

Through an ascending anniversary of nights,
Leaving the first and the complaint mounds
To rise in their wretched behind,
The soul is gone west up to a far height;
And with those other words have had no right
To sense of this soul's lesson for the blood
Soul met the Will, and was again assigned
To the upthrown illusion which is right.

"And what goes on of there?" the soul inquired.
"That - I know not - already to be true?"
"More than enough, but not enough for you."
Said the descending soul: "Here in the dark,
Where you are lost - reserved when most admired,
You may still be the bel lows and the spark."

E.A.R.

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