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ADDITIONS TO THE ROBINSON COLLECTION

By RICHARD CARY

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.¹

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

I. BOOKS BY E. A. R.

Amaranth. Macmillan Company: New York, 1934.

7. "To / Barbara Robinson / from E. A. Robinson / 1934" on front endleaf.
8. "To / Margaret Perry / from E. A. Robinson / September 25, 1934" on front endleaf.

Avon's Harvest. Macmillan Company: New York, 1921.

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.

Cavender's House. Macmillan Company: New York, 1929.

7. "To / Barbara Robinson / from E. A. Robinson / April 27, 1929" on front endleaf.

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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- Collected Poems*, 2v. Brick Row Book Shop, Inc.: New York, 1921.
2. Limited to 200 copies, of which this is No. 67. "E. A. Robinson" on flyleaf, vol. 1.
- Collected Poems*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1921.
8. "To / Barbara Robinson / from E. A. R. / 1921" on title page. [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.]
- Collected Poems*, 5v. Dunster House: Cambridge, Mass., 1927.
2. Large paper edition, limited to 300 sets, of which this is No. 109. "E. A. Robinson" on half-title page of each volume.
- Collected Poems*, 5v. Macmillan Company: New York, 1927. Leather bound.
2. "Lilla Cabot Perry / from E. A. Robinson" on front endleaf of each volume. (Our Set No. 1 is not inscribed.)
- Dionysus in Doubt*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1925.
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."
- The Glory of the Nightingales*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1930.
6. "To / Barbara Robinson / from E. A. R. / 1930" on front endleaf.
7. "For / Nina Maud Richardson / E. A. Robinson / 1930" on front endleaf, with her bookplate.
8. "To / Lilla Cabot Perry / with the best wishes of / E. A. Robinson / 1930" on front endleaf.
- Lancelot*. Thomas Seltzer: New York, 1920. Special Edition of 450 copies for the Lyric Society. "With the Compliments of the Author" printed slip laid in. Barbara Robinson's copy.
- The Man Against the Sky*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1916.
6. "With the Compliments of the Author" printed slip laid in. "Barbara Robinson" on front endleaf in her hand.
- Matthias at the Door*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1931.
9. "To / Barbara Robinson / from E. A. R. / 1931" on front endleaf.
10 "To / Miss Richardson / from E. A. Robinson / September 25, 1931" on front endleaf, with her bookplate.

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- Merlin*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1917.
 3. Page 39, line 2, "ly" inserted after "Sure".
 5. "With the Compliments of the Author" printed slip laid in.
 "Barbara Robinson" on front endleaf in her hand.
- Nicodemus*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1932.
 [The copy previously listed as No. 9—unbound, to Edwin Carty Ranck—has been recataloged as a separate element.]
 9. "To / Lilla Cabot Perry / from E. A. Robinson / 1932" on front endleaf.
 10. "To / Barbara Robinson / from E. A. Robinson / 1932" on front endleaf.
 11. "To / Miss Richardson / from E. A. Robinson / September 30, 1932" on front endleaf, with her bookplate.
- Poems by Edwin Arlington Robinson*. Selected, with a Preface, by Bliss Perry. Macmillan Company: New York, 1931. "To / Lilla Cabot Perry / from E. A. Robinson / April 13, 1931" on front endleaf.
- The Porcupine*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1915.
 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.
- Roman Bartholow*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1923.
 3. Limited to 750 copies, of which this is No. 676, with Harold T. Pulsifer's bookplate.
- Roman Bartholow*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1923.
 5. "With the Compliments of the Author" printed card laid in. Ruth Robinson Nivison's copy.
- Sonnets 1889-1927*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1928.
 6. "To / Barbara Robinson / from E. A. R. / November, 1928" on front endleaf.
- Talifer*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1933.
 8. "To / Barbara Robinson / from E. A. Robinson / 1933" on front endleaf.
 9. "To / Herbert Gorman / from E. A. Robinson / 1933" on front endleaf.
 10. "To / Margaret Perry / from E. A. Robinson, 1933" on front endleaf.
- Tristram*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1927.
 7. "For / Barbara Robinson / from E. A. R. / May 26, 1927" on front endleaf.
 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.

- Amaranth*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1934.
 Set 3: Proof of complete poem on 37 galleys. Verbal change on p. 14.
- Captain Craig*. Houghton, Mifflin & Company: Boston, 1902.
 Verbal changes also on pp. 38, 84.

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- Cavender's House*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1929. Proof of front matter and pp. 1-103 on 27 galleys. "Printer's copy for Collected Poems / 1929 / E. A. Robinson" on half-title page.
- The Children of the Night*. Richard Badger & Company: Boston, 1897. Verbal change also on p. 90.
- Selections from the Letters of Thomas Sergeant Perry*, edited, with an introduction, by Edwin Arlington Robinson. Macmillan Company: New York, 1929. Proof of p. [41]. "I hope you will like this better / E A R / Do you want running titles at top?" in top margin.

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.
- Bible, Holy*. The Oxford Self-Pronouncing Bible. Oxford: Oxford University Press, [1902]. "To / Emma L. Robinson / from E. A. R. / Christmas, 1933" on front flyleaf.
- Cestre, Charles. *An Introduction to Edwin Arlington Robinson*. New York: Macmillan Company, 1930. "To / Lilla Cabot Perry, / who doesn't have to open it, / from E. A. Robinson / September 2, 1930" on front endleaf.
- Hunt, Violet. *The Wife of Rossetti*. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. 1932. "To / Miss Perry / from E. A. Robinson / 1932" 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.
- Quiller-Couch, Arthur. *Shakespeare's Workmanship*. New York: Macmillan Company, 1931. "To / Mrs. Perry / from E. A. Robinson / December, 1931" on front flyleaf.

VI. BOOKS BY OTHERS: INSCRIBED BY OTHERS

- Bridges, Robert, editor. *Poems of Gerard Manley Hopkins*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1931. "E. A. Robinson / from / Nathalie Colby. / Oct 1932" on front endleaf.
- Brown, Rollo Walter, *Lonely Americans*. New York: Coward-McCann, Inc., 1929. "To Edwin Arlington Robinson / With best wishes from across / the table and across the hall / Rollo Walter Brown / The Colony / August 29, 1929" on half title page.
- Hamilton, W. H. *John Masefield: A Critical Study*. London: George Allen & Unwin Ltd., 1922. "For E. A. Robinson / from Hervey Allen / Sept 1922" on front endleaf. Also, "Given to Lilla Cabot

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- Perry / by E. A. Robinson / Sept 1922" added below the inscription in her hand.
- Mendel, Vera & Francis Meynell, editors. *The Week-End Book*. London: Nonesuch Press, 1925. "For E. A. Robinson / from / James R. Wells" on half title page. Also, "Given to Lilla Cabot Perry / by" added above the inscription in her hand.
- Sergeant, Elizabeth Shepley. *Short As Any Dream*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1929. "E. A. Robinson / with best New / England regards. / Elizabeth Shepley Sergeant" on half title page.

VII. PERIODICALS: INSCRIBED BY OTHERS

- Henderson, L. J. "Edwin Arlington Robinson (1869-1935)," *Proceedings of the Academy of Arts and Sciences*, LXX (March 1936), 569-572, reprint. "Compliments of / Laura E Richards" at head of title.

ROBINSON MANUSCRIPTS AND LETTERS: ADDENDA

I. MANUSCRIPTS BY E. A. R.

- Selections from the Letters of Thomas Sergeant Perry*. Typescript, 16 pp., the Joseph C. Grew section, with corrections in E. A. R.'s hand. A Wreath for Edwin Markham. Holograph, poem, 1 p., signed, 1933.

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

- Burton, Richard. Typescript, article, "Robinson As I Saw Him," 2 pp., signed.
- Cowley, Malcolm. Typescript, speech, "Robinson: The Poet in Retrospect," 18 pp., 1969, signed.
- MacLeish, Archibald. Holograph, article, "On Rereading Robinson," 5 pp.
- Myers, Edward A. Typescript, article, "Edwin Arlington Robinson's 2nd Century," 7 pp., 1969.

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.
- Isaacs, Lewis M. (5), 1912-1932.
- 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).
Basler, Roy P. (1) to Richard Cary, 1960.
Conkling, Grace Hazard (1) to Cyril Clemens, 1938.
Gibson, Wilfrid (1) to Gerald DeWitt Sanders, 1935.
Hagedorn, Hermann (1) to Lilla Cabot Perry, 1916.
Hall, Harold E. (1) to Robert E. L. Strider, 1969.
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. Coniston, 1936.
Schmitt, Howard G. (2) to Emma L. Robinson, 1937-1938.
Swanton, Harry A. (2) to George C. Wing, Jr., 1930-1940.
Wilson, Edmund (1) to Richard Cary, 1968.



Edwin Arlington Robinson

Manuscript

MAYA

Through an ascending complacency of sight,
Leaving the flesh and the complacent mind
To quiver in their sufficiency behind,
The Soul of Man went up to a far height;
And where these others would have had no sight—
No sense of awe than terror for the blind,
Soul met the Will, and was again assigned
To the supreme illusion which is right.

"And what goes on up there," the mind 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 least revealed when most admired,
You may still be the bellows and the spark."

E. A. R.

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