Announcements and Comments

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Announcements and Comments

CQ IS PLANNING two special issues in 1991. The March issue will focus on Irish Women Writers. The December issue will be devoted to Contemporary Irish Drama. The guest editor is Anthony Roche, and the deadline is June 1. Manuscripts are welcome and should be sent to Douglas Archibald in Waterville. We are tentatively planning issues in 1992 on the London Stage and Irish Poetry After Yeats.

The cover illustrations are two miniatures: Sarah Orne Jewett, date unknown, on the front and Mary E. Wilkins Freeman, about 1900, on the back.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

KAREN OAKES has written and spoken recently on Dickinson, Frost, Whitman, and the contemporary poet Ai, as well as on New England regionalists. She teaches Women’s Studies at Brandeis. Her “Reflections” were first given at the Colby Women’s Studies Colloquium in April 1990.

HELEN WESTRA is an Associate Professor of English at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan. She has published a book and several essays on Jonathan Edwards as well as poems in various journals. She has also taught in the Republic of China.

PATRICIA KEEFE DURSO is a graduate student at George Washington University, where she has also been a lecturer and University Fellow.

TERRY HELLER is Howard Hall Professor of English, Coe College, Iowa, and has been a Fulbright lecturer at the University of Turin, Italy. He has published The Delights of Terror (1987) and The Turn of the Screw: Bewildered Vision (1989) and is at work on studies of Jewett’s short fiction.

JOSEPH CHURCH is an Assistant Professor of English at SUNY, Binghamton, and has published articles on Dreiser, Twain, Crane, and Jewett. He is working on a study of unconscious processes in the representation of race and gender in late-nineteenth-century American fiction.

TESTIMONIAL FOR RICHARD CARY

THE COLBY community was saddened by the death of Professor Richard Cary on 28 June 1990. Coming to the College in 1952, Professor Cary conveyed his own lasting enthusiasm for American literature to generations of students. Without slighting the acknowledged masters of the American Renaissance, Hawthorne and Melville, Dickinson and Whitman, he quietly and from the start...
of his teaching career enlarged the canon to include such less well-known writers as Mary Wilkins Freeman, Willa Cather, and, of course, Sarah Orne Jewett. Combining his love for American authors with a careful attention to critical detail, he embodied Chaucer’s Clerk, for “gladly wolde he lerne and gladly teche.” A scholar as well as a teacher, Richard Cary found through the rich resources of Miller Library’s special collections a growing commitment to Maine authors. In 1959 he succeeded Professor Carl J. Weber as Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts, Director of the Colby College Press, and Editor of the Colby Library Quarterly, to which over many years he contributed an article to nearly every issue on an impressive range of subjects. Drawing on the Edwin Arlington Robinson Collection he published Edwin Arlington Robinson’s Letters to Edith Brower in 1968, Appreciation of Edwin Arlington Robinson: 28 Interpretive Essays in 1969, and Early Reception of Edwin Arlington Robinson: The First Twenty Years in 1974. His scholarly contribution is perhaps best represented by his work on Sarah Orne Jewett: Sarah Orne Jewett Letters with an introduction and notes in 1956; a revised edition in 1967; an edition of Deephaven and Other Stories by Sarah Orne Jewett in 1966; The Uncollected Short Stories of Sarah Orne Jewett in 1971; Sarah Orne Jewett, a critical biography, in 1962; and Appreciation of Sarah Orne Jewett: 29 Interpretive Essays in 1973. The notes and bibliographies of this issue of the Quarterly themselves attest Professor Cary’s contribution to the emergence of Jewett as a significant American writer. Quite recently Richard Cary modestly observed to friends that he had arrived at a new approach to Sarah Orne Jewett, but unfortunately this work remains unfinished. He was an active and prolific scholar until the end of his life, but perhaps his greatest legacy to Colby remains the memory that hundreds of students share of an inspiring teacher to whom American literature mattered.