

# Acquisitions since last *Endpapers*

## BOOKS FROM MOSHER'S LIBRARY

Creech, Thomas, trans. *The Idylliums of Theocritus with Rapin's Discourse upon Pastorals*. To which is Prefix'd The Life of Theocritus by Basil Kennet. Second Edition. London: Printed for E. Curll..., 1713.

Davenport, Cyril. *The Book—Its History and Development*. London: Archibald Constable & Co. Ltd., 1907.

Gerish, W. B. (William Blyth) and Frank E. Smedley. *The "Wicked Lady Ferrers"--A Legend of Markygate Cell in Flamstead*. An attempt to solve the mystery of "The Lady Highwayman." Bishop's Stortford (England): Bishop's Stortford, 1911. Booklet No. 8 in the Hertfordshire Folk Lore Series. According to the October 1948 Parke-Bernet Galleries auction catalogue of Mosher's library (lot 220), seventeen of these pamphlets were losted ranging from 1908-1915.

Hill, Sylvia Margaret. *Rameau's Nephew: A Translation from Diderot's Autographic Text*. London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1897. Includes some text markings by Mosher.

Lowell, Amy *Six French Poets: Studies in Contemporary Literature*. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1915 Essays on Emile Verhaeren, Albert Samain, Remy de Gourmont, Henri de Tegnier, Frances Jammes and Paul Fort. Mosher had a total of six books written or compiled by Amy Lowell in his home library.

Webb, A. Pelham. *Sonnets*. London: A. C. Fifield, 1912. This copy with Mosher's bookplate and a brief July 24, 1913 letter beginning "With the Author's compliments..." to Mosher and author's autograph notation on the front of the dust jacket.

Whistler, James Abbott McNeill. *The Baronet and the Butterfly*. New York: R. H. Russell, 1899.

Woolson, Abba Gould. *With Garlands Green*. Cambridge, MA: Privately Printed (The University Press), 1915, Inscribed: "For Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Mosher from Abba Gold Woolson, The Sherwood [family hotel], Portland, April 3, 1916."

## LETTERS TO / FROM THOMAS BIRD MOSHER

Frost, Robert. (1874-1963; American poet). Unrecorded ALS of 1 page from Frost to Thomas Bird Mosher dated April 2, 1915 in which Frost mentions his poem "Reluctance" published by Mosher and referencing an interview with Mosher in *The Review of Reviews* for April 1915. Frost thanks Mosher for being a good friend and for seeing him from "the beginning" and adds that he owes a lot to Mosher's encouragement. This remarkable letter, now in the Bishop Collection of TBM, has been fully brought to the attention to the editors of the newly published volume *The Letters of Robert Frost* (Vol. I, 1886-1920) who will publish it in an upcoming volume of Frost's letters. My thanks go out to Bauman Rare Books, in particular David Bauman and "Patrick" of their Philadelphia location for working with me in securing this magnificent letter now on display in the private library housing the Mosher Collection.

Lindsay, Vachel (1879-1931; American poet). Very scarce ALS of 2 pages on Vachael Lindsay's personal letterhead of Springfield, Illinois, dated April 25, 1914 in which Lindsay recalls his meeting Mosher at the Boston City Club five years ago, and requests Mosher accept his payment for "as many or few as you can spare of the Bibelot that contained the translation of The Vigil of Venus, the old Latin anonymous poem..." pointing out a couplet of particular personal importance to himself. Lindsay mentions that he has "been haunted by the memory of that couplet and that in sending his payment as an order, he is "acting like an honorable gentleman and sending for it outright, downright straightforward and directly." He boldly signed his name "*(Nicholas) Vachel Lindsay*." The American poet, Vachel Lindsay, is considered the father of modern *singing poetry* in which the verses are meant to be sung or chanted rather than just read.

Mosher, Thomas Bird. ALS, 2 pp., March 10, 1898 signed by Mosher discussing his own publication of Pater's *Essays from the Guardian* (1897) and indicating that he has "a complete set of the Hobby Horse, including the rare specimen number issued in 1864" (also in the Bishop Collection). This letter was folded in a copy of the second Mosher edition of the *Essays from the Guardian*. (1898).

## MOSHER BOOKS IN FINE BINDINGS

### **In an Asper Binding**

(Rubaiyat) See the essay "*The Rubáiyát* in a Hans Asper Binding" in this issue of *Endpapers*.

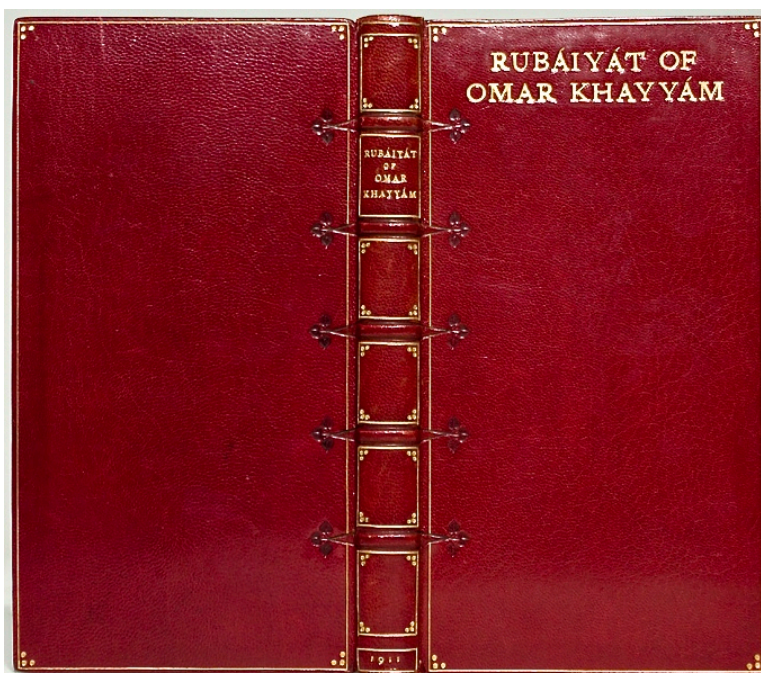
### **Inscribed by Edward Bayntun-Coward of Bayntun-Riviere**

FitzGerald, Edward. *Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám* rendered into English Verse by Edward FitzGerald. Portland, ME: Mosher, 1911. The description of this binding from George Bayntun's antiquarian book selection appeared as:

OMAR KHAYYAM.

**Rubaiyat.** Rendered into English Verse by Edward Fitzgerald. 8vo. [182 x 97 x 16 mm]. xxxiii, [i], 115, [3] pp. Bound c.1950 for Truslove & Hanson (signed in gilt on the rear turn-in) in polished red goatskin, the covers tooled in gilt with a fillet border with three dots in each corner and the title lettered at the head of the front cover. The spine divided into six panels, with bands flanked by blind fillets terminating with three blind leaves on the covers, each panel with a gilt compartment, lettered in the second and dated at the foot, the others with three dots in each corner, the edges of the boards and turn-ins tooled with gilt fillets, plain endleaves, top edge gilt, the others uncut. Portland, Maine: Thomas B. Mosher, 1911.

"This Tenth Edition on Van Gelder paper consists of 925 copies". Handsomely printed (by Smith & Sale of Portland) and attractively bound (probably by George Bayntun of Bath).



This binding now also bears the inscription of Edward Bayntun-Coward, the son of Hylton Bayntun-Coward (d. 2000) and great-grandson of the original founder of the prestigious bindery and bookseller George Bayntun (1873-1940). The recent inscription reads: "*To Phil Bishop, | a little something to add | to his Mosher Collection at | Acorn Cottage | from | Edward Bayntun-Coward | at George Bayntun in Bath | 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015*". I'm honored to receive such, and welcome it as an addition to the collection.

### Martin Secker's Copy

Swinburne, Algernon Charles. *Laus Veneris—Poems and Ballads*. Portland, ME: Mosher, 1899. Van Gelder copy bound in supple and clean quarter white vellum with gilt-lettering and rules; grey paper covered boards. Bears the "Bridgefoot, Iver" bookplate of famous British publisher, Martin Secker.

Swinburne, Algernon Charles. *Under the Microscope*. Portland, ME: Mosher, 1899. Bound in an unsigned three-quarter dark blue morocco over marbled boards with matching endpapers. Spine richly gilt-decorated with raised bands, t.e.g. Inscribed "*To Vinai on her leap-year Birthday. February 1928*".

### MOSHER PUBLICATIONS

#### Author's Presentation

Bolles, Edwin C. *Collectors and Collecting—An Essay* (Privately Printed by the Mosher Press, 1898). This copy with the calling card of Mr. Edwin Cortlandt Bolles / Tufts College / Massachusetts on which is written "*Compliments of*".

#### Quaint Inscription

Henley, William Ernest. *In Hospital*. Portland, ME: Mosher, 1908. With bookplate of Ruth L. Herman and the charming inscription: "'*In Hospital this finds me,*' / *said the pupil to her teacher,* / *Said the pupil to her teach-* / *er, just a-choffing into verse.* / *'But inhospitable never! / Tho' it's somewhat late to / reach 'yer, / As a little birthday token,' said the patient to his / nurse!'*" I'm not quite sure what all this is meant to mean, but it seemed an entertaining bit of doggerel, so it entered the collection.

#### Rare Third Edition

Hay, John. *In Praise of Omar: An Address before the Omar Khayyám Club*. Portland, ME: Mosher, 1898. One of 100 numbered copies printed on Japan vellum. Stated "third edition" in original glassine dust jacket. This very rare third edition was printed only on Japan vellum (no Van Gelder copies) and had, until now, remained elusive for inclusion in the Mosher Collection.

#### Inscribed by Julia Marlowe

Swinburne. *Atalanta in Calydon*. Portland, ME: Mosher, 1897 (Old World Series) with a gift inscription by the American Shakespearean actress, Julia Marlow: "*To my dear Herbert Satterlee with Christmas greetings. Julia Marlowe 1899*". Herbert Satterlee, American lawyer, writer and businessman, served as U.S. Assistant Secretary of the Navy (1908-09 under Theodore Roosevelt) and married none other than Louise Pierpont Morgan, the daughter of J. P. Morgan.

#### Inscribed by Yeats

Yeats, William Butler. *The Land of Heart's Desire*. Portland, ME: Mosher, 1906. This rebound copy is the sixth edition of this title from Mosher's Lyric Garland Series. This copy **inscribed and signed/dated by Yeats** using the first line from the last page of the play: "*The wind blows out of the gates of the day. / W B Yeats / March 1914*". For more information on this book, see "Yeats's inscribed *Land of Heart's Desire*" essay in this *Endpapers*.

### EPHEMERA

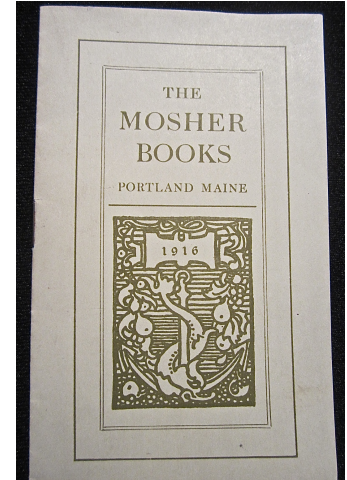
Listed here are three pieces I have never seen in my twenty-seven years of Mosher Press research, visiting and researching public collections across the country, and in closely examining several private collections. I suppose the search for ephemera is ultimately endless, but it's still gratifying to find some items that I never even knew existed. The fun is in finding something new, is it not? Anyway, here are the three finds of the latter part of 2014/early 2015:

Portrait, printed on animal vellum, of Dante Gabriel Rossetti from the portrait by George Frederick Watts. This portrait appeared in Mosher's publication of Rossetti's *Poems* in 1902 with a hand-written note on the verso "*From the Library of T. B. Mosher from Oliver Sheean.*" Sheean was a one time

employee of the post-1923 Mosher Press, compiler of a manuscript ledger of Mosher's home library (in Bishop Collection of TBM), assembler of a Mosher Press collection which went to the University of Arizona-Tempe, and the person which "donated" to Harvard (I've been told that they were not his to donate) the Mosher files containing letters from authors and contacts.

An ephemeral advertisement of a single-folded sheet creating a 6 3/4" x 4 3/16" announcement for persons seeking private printings under the imprint of The Mosher Press, printed sometime after 1912.

Lastly, a perfectly charming "Fall List" for 1916 with an unusual anchor & dolphin publisher's mark which appeared first in 1911 Mosher catalogue and at the end of his publication of *Ten Spiritual Designs* (1913) by Edward Calvert. The diminutive booklet measures 4 7/8" x 3 1/16" consists of a printed wrapper and 6 printed leaves making 12 pages. The wrapper is also printed inside the back cover, opposite which (p. 12) is an illustration accompanying the "Especially Desirable for Holiday Gifts" description of the book cover. The paper of this booklet is the same light-green tinted paper of the outer wrapper of the 1916 Mosher Books catalogue (Bishop 260) and of that used entirely throughout the 1917 Mosher Books catalogue (Bishop 261). Until recently I have never seen this Fall List and managed to acquire it for the collection.



#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Copy of the Benton Hatch bibliography on the Mosher Books, this copy being from the library of Joseph W. P. Frost. The copy bears added comments and notes from Jack Hanrahan. Joe Frost had sent it to me for reference when I was researching and compiling *Thomas Bird Mosher—Pirate Prince of Publishers*. The volume still contains my thank you letter when I returned it to Frost. Funny how things sort of make their way back to the Mosher Collection.

Philip R. Bishop  
2 February 2015