

**A BIBLIOGRAPHY  
OF HENRY DAVID  
THOREAU**

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A Bibliography of Henry David Thoreau by Francis H. Allen

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## PREFACE

THE general plan of this book is based on the bibliographies which have preceded it in the series, but certain departures have been made, in accordance with what appeared to be the particular demands of the matter to be presented. The division-headings are, however, self-explanatory, so that it seems unnecessary to say anything further here as to the contents and arrangement, and we may proceed at once to the acknowledgments which, in common with all other bibliographers, the compiler of this book owes to the many persons who have helped him in his labors.

To his predecessors in the field of Thoreau bibliography, first of all, the compiler owes a great debt, especially to Dr. Samuel Arthur Jones, whose admirable "Bibliography of Henry David Thoreau," published by the Rowfant Club of Cleveland in 1894, virtually complete as far as it goes in all the most important particulars, the present writer at the beginning of his work made a sort of base of operations for his own campaign. Further assistance of the same kind was also obtained from the bibliography by Mr. John P. Anderson of the British Museum, appended to Mr. Salt's *Life of Thoreau*.

The books and periodicals examined were mainly found in the great public and semi-pub-



lic libraries of Boston, New York, and Cambridge. A large part of the work was done at the Boston Public Library and the Boston Athenæum, frequent visits were made to the Harvard University Library and the Massachusetts State Library, and many hours were spent in the Public Library at Concord, Massachusetts, and in the Lenox and Astor Libraries and the Columbia University Library in New York, to all of which institutions the compiler is grateful, not only for the usual privileges of readers, but in many cases for special kindnesses and attentions. In particular he desires to thank Mr. William C. Lane of the Harvard Library and Miss Kelley of Concord for favors extended to him. To three private collections also the compiler is under heavy obligations. Mr. Stephen H. Wakeman of New York, whose collection of first editions of Thoreau is a particularly interesting and valuable one, and who is now the fortunate possessor of Thoreau's original manuscript journals, has been very kind and helpful. To Mrs. J. Chester Chamberlain of New York the compiler is grateful for the privilege of examining the Thoreau material contained in the collection of the late Mr. Chamberlain. Mr. Herbert W. Hosmer of Concord, Massachusetts, the present owner of the Thoreau collection made by his late brother, Mr. Alfred W. Hosmer, has very hospitably permitted the compiler to spend many hours with his collection, which is especially rich in biographical and critical matter concerning Thoreau, — a department which is ignored by

most collectors. Grateful thanks must also be extended to the Misses Hosmer of Concord for many kindnesses, and to Mr. Edwin B. Hill of Lakeland, Michigan, Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson, Mr. Charles E. Goodspeed, and the Rev. George Willis Cooke for assistance in various ways. Mr. Luther S. Livingston, besides permitting the use of the Thoreau matter printed in his "American Book-Prices Current," has been kind enough to supply the record of this year's sales in advance of the publication of his 1908 volume, and in other ways has been helpful.

The compiler is especially grateful to three gentlemen who have had the kindness to read his proofs and make valuable suggestions, — Dr. Samuel A. Jones, the author of the earlier bibliography before mentioned, whose hearty coöperation has been a source of great satisfaction to the compiler and whose friendly letters have been a spur to his spirits; Mr. Patrick Kevin Foley of Boston, known to all American book-collectors, whose keen but genial criticism has been especially helpful; and Mr. F. B. Sanborn, who has not spared of his intimate and extensive knowledge of Thoreau and his works in assisting the compiler to make this book as complete and accurate as possible. Finally, the compiler owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. George B. Ives, not only for special assistance in various ways, but most of all for the many valuable suggestions obtained from a study of his excellent Bibliography of Oliver Wendell Holmes, which has been at once the ad-

miration and the despair of at least one of his successors in this bibliographical series. Thoreau's magazine contributions and other fugitive pieces were so few, however, and Mr. Sanborn and others have been so diligent in searching them out, that it was not to be expected that any such interesting discoveries could be made in that department of Thoreau bibliography as were possible in the case of Holmes. The compiler, therefore, has nothing new to offer the reader here, but he has been at some pains to bring together all the published information in regard to Thoreau's writings which the works themselves offer and which his biographers, and especially Mr. Sanborn, have given us. To these biographers, it is needless to say, this book owes much of whatever interest it may have.

The relation of Thoreau's more formal works to his Journal is somewhat peculiar, and perhaps demands a word of explanation in this Preface. The Journal, begun in 1837 and continued until within a few months of his death, was not merely a chronicle of his daily doings: it was the record of his daily thoughts also, and it contained the first drafts of all his writings. The natural course followed by each literary product was in the order of journal entry, lecture, magazine article, and book publication. Not every individual piece of writing went through all the stages, but the beginning was always in the Journal. Of course the Journal was not all used in this way: much of it