

ANOTHER WORD ABOUT THE WIDENER LIBRARY, a subject of unfailing interest to book-lovers and book-collectors, comes to our attention in "The Harvard Crimson," from the pen of an unnamed librarian of prominence. Apropos of the approaching dedication of the new Harvard library building he writes: "In the centre of the new building will be two rooms in which his [Widener's] own collection of rare books will be kept. Widener began to buy books while in college, and very soon became interested in the first editions of the English writers whom he read. He was especially fond of Stevenson, and the collection of Stevenson's works became Widener's especial hobby. He had secured nearly every one of the Stevenson rarities, and a few others which his mother has since purchased for the collection make this by far the most complete in existence. His first editions of Dickens, Thackeray, Tennyson, and other nineteenth-century authors were nearly as complete, and a large number of his volumes had autograph inscriptions of the writers. . . He had a good many of the famous books of English literature written in the earlier centuries. Caxton's 'Royal Book,' the four Shakespeare folios, Ben Jonson's works, Beaumont and Fletcher, Florio's Montaigne, and Defoe's 'Robinson Crusoe' are a few of the more famous of these volumes which will be placed on exhibition next fall." The loss sustained by young Mr. Widener's growing collection in the sinking of the "Titanic," which at the same time cut short the life of the collector himself, is a disaster still fresh in memory.

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