BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Edwin Eliott Willoughby was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on November 5, 1899, the eldest of the three children of printer Frank Faul Willoughby and his wife Annie (Smith) Willoughby. In 1918, during World War I, Willoughby served as a private in the U.S. Army. After his return, he graduated with a B.A. from Dickinson College in 1922 and received his M.A. and Ph. D. from the University of Chicago in 1924 and 1932 respectively. While at Chicago, he was employed as a senior assistant and then reference librarian at the Newberry Library of Chicago. From 1929-1931 he was a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation fellow in London, England and studied in Europe again in the summer of 1934 on a grant from the American Council of Learned Societies. After his return from England, Willoughby became a professor and acting head of the Library Science Department at the College of William and Mary from 1932 to 1935. From 1935 until his retirement in 1958, he was Chief Bibliographer at the Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington D.C. Willoughby’s work on the history of the King James Bible as well as on Shakespeare’s printers gained him international renown and special recognition for his research. Dickinson College conferred upon him an honorary Litt. D. degree in 1940. He was a fellow of the Royal Society on Literature of Great Britain, held membership in the Bibliographical societies of London and American, American Library Association, Shakespeare Association of Great Britain, Phi Beta Kappa, American Legion, and the Grolier Club of New York. He wrote more than 300 articles and reviews and was the author of five books, as well as multiple unpublished works. Edwin E. Willoughby died in Ancora, New Jersey, on October 2, 1959, where his sister Frances L. Willoughby had been caring for him while he battled the neurological disorder that led to his death.
COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Willoughby collection is divided into three series and housed in four document boxes. It is comprised mostly of drafts of literary works, contained in the Literary Productions series, as well as correspondence, mostly relating to his librarian work, and miscellaneous other materials. The materials date from 1928 to 1965, with the majority of materials dating from the 1940s and 1950s. Frances Willoughby donated this material after her brother’s death in 1959.

The Literary Productions series contains drafts and printed editions of Willoughby’s written works. This series is divided into five subseries based on type of publication: books, articles, graduate writings, speech, and unpublished. The first subseries contains materials related to his published books, including typed and handwritten manuscripts and notes, arranged alphabetically by title. It includes a draft of The Uses of Bibliography, one of his most important works, as well as drafts of the four lectures from which the book was compiled. Many of the typed drafts also contain handwritten notes and edits. Also of interest in the Literary Productions series are a printed copy of part of Willoughby’s dissertation and the drafts of “A Wonder Book From the Days of Shakespeare,” which underwent several attempts to be published both during and after Willoughby’s life. The articles and graduate writings are arranged chronologically. The unpublished works are arranged by title.

The Correspondence series is comprised of correspondence to and from Willoughby relating to his work at the Folger Shakespeare Library, publishing, and personal matters. The materials are grouped by subject matter and arranged chronologically within each folder.

The Miscellaneous series contains items such as an application for funding to study the original manuscript of the King James Bible, a certificate of membership in the Alumni Association of Dickinson College, handwritten notebooks on Henry V and Elizabethan literature, and a program from a Phi Beta Kappa anniversary.

A brief bibliography of Willoughby’s publications related to the materials in this collection is also included.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

Box 1 – MC 2011.5

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS

Books

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Edition</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td><em>King James Bible: Making of a Best-seller</em> (typescript)</td>
<td>1944</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td><em>King James Bible: Making of a Best-seller</em> (typescript)</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td><em>A Printer of Shakespeare: The Times and Books of William Jaggard</em>. Vol. I (handwritten draft)</td>
<td>c1930</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td><em>A Printer of Shakespeare: The Times and Books of William Jaggard</em>. Vol. II (handwritten draft)</td>
<td>c1930</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Notes on William Jaggard (handwritten notebook)</td>
<td>undated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LITERARY PRODUCTIONS (cont.)

Books (cont.)
Folder 01)  *The Unfortunate Dr. Dodd* (typescript) – Dec. 11, 1952
Folder 02)  *The Uses of Bibliography* (typescript) – 1955
Folder 03)  *The Uses of Bibliography* Lecture I: “The Meaning of Bibliography” (typescript) – 1953
Folder 04)  *The Uses of Bibliography* Lecture II: “The Bibliographer and the Makers of the Book” (typescript) – 1953
Folder 05)  *The Uses of Bibliography* Lecture III: “And Things are Not What They Seem” (typescript) – 1953
Folder 06)  *The Uses of Bibliography* Lecture IV: “Bibliography and the Transmission of the Text” (typescript) – 1953

Articles
Folder 07)  “Leaves from the Four Folios of Shakespeare,” introduction for *Original Leaves from the Four Folios of Shakespeare* (typescript) – 1935
Folder 08)  “The Reading of Shakespeare in Colonial America” (reprint) – 1936
Folder 09)  “The Reading of Shakespeare in Colonial America” (handwritten draft) – 1936
Folder 10)  “A Deadly Edition of Shakespeare” (typescript) – 1954

Graduate School Writings
Folder 12)  “An Interruption in the Printing of the First Folio” (reprint) – 1928
Folder 13)  “The School of the Wartons” (typescript) – c1930
Folder 15)  “William Lisle Bowles, Romanticist” (typescript) – c1930

Speech
Folder 16)  “The Invention of Printing,” delivered at the opening of the Greenlee Collection at the Dickinson College Library (typescript) – Apr. 12, 1946

Unpublished
Folder 17)  Cryptology book, Ch. I (typescript draft) – c1945
Folder 18)  Cryptology book, Ch. II (2 typescript drafts) – c1945
Folder 19)  Cryptology book, Ch. VIII (typescript draft) – c1945

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS (cont.)

Unpublished (cont.)
Folder 01)  Cryptology book, Ch. X (4 typescript drafts) – c1945
Folder 02)  Cryptology book, Ch. XI (typescript draft) – c1945
Folder 03)  Cryptology book, Ch. XII (typescript draft) – c1945
Box 3 – MC 2011.5 (cont.)

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS (cont.)
Unpublished (cont.)
  Folder 04) Cryptology book, miscellaneous pages (typescript) – c1945
  Folder 05) Cryptology book, related materials – c1945
  Folder 06) “Books for Rural High School Libraries” (typescript) – undated
  Folder 08) “Books for Rural…” Vol. II (handwritten draft) – undated
  Folder 09) “Books for Rural…” Vol. III (handwritten draft) – undated
  Folder 10) “Books for Rural…” Vol. IV (handwritten draft) – undated
  Folder 12) “Found! The Long-lost Original Version of the King James Bible” (typescript) – undated
  Folder 13) “Getting Acquainted with Shakespeare” (typescript) – undated

Box 4 – MC 2011.5

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS (cont.)
Unpublished (cont.)
  Folder 01) “Life of Sir John Cheke” handwritten MS draft in pencil – 1957
  Folder 02) “A Wonder Book From the Days of Shakespeare” (typescript) – 1949
  Folder 03) “A Wonder Book From the Days of Shakespeare” (typescript) – 1965
  Folder 04) “The World of William Shakespeare” (typescript) – undated

CORRESPONDENCE
  Folger Shakespeare Library
    Folder 05) Bible dating questions – Apr. 1954
    Folder 06) Other reference questions – 1954-1957
    Folder 07) Internal matters – 1949-1956
  Personal
    Folder 08) From Jacob M. Goodyear to Mr. Clayton G. Wagne – Sep. 27, 1945
                From Mrs. Ford P. Agcy – Apr. 7, 1954
                To Mrs. Ford P. Agcy – Apr. 9, 1954
                To Charles Coleman Seller – Dec. 23, 1956
  Publication
    Folder 09) Cryptology book – 1944
    Folder 10) Other writings – 1935-1965

MISCELLANEOUS
  Folder 11) Application, Fellowship to study MS of King James Bible – c1950
  Folder 12) Book orders, invoices – 1943-1949
MISCELLANEOUS (cont.)
Folder 14) Original Leaves from the Four Folios of Shakespeare, prospectus – 1935
Folder 15) Notes on Elizabethan Literature (handwritten notebook) – undated
Folder 16) Notes on Henry V (handwritten notebook) – undated
Folder 17) Print of picture of Trevaunance Valley St. Agnes – undated
Folder 18) Program, Phi Beta Kappa 172nd Anniversary – Dec. 6, 1948
Folder 19) Reference Work course notebook (handwritten) – c1925

COLLECTION BIBLIOGRAPHY


This collection register was prepared by Dan Plekhov, October 2011.
This collection register was edited by Lily Key, August 2013.