

ARCHIVES
HUNTER COLLEGE
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HUNTER COLLEGE

WE ARE OF DIFFERENT OPINIONS
AT DIFFERENT HOURS BUT WE
ALWAYS MAY BE SAID TO BE AT
HEART ON THE SIDE OF TRUTH

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

The quotation, suggested by President George N. Shuster of Hunter, is taken from Conduct of Life. The wall was carved under Bruce Rogers' supervision in 1941. The architects were Shreve, Lamb and Harmon.

Essay called "Worship"
(1st PAGE)



412 South Franklin Street
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
January 23, 1946

Librarian
Hunter College of the
City of New York
Park Avenue and 68th Street
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

During a visit to New York City last week, I noticed a very large inscription, quoted, I believe, from Emerson, on that wall of the building which faces on 68th Street, if my memory serves me correctly.

I should like very much to read the text from which this quotation was taken. Would you please do me the kindness of sending me the title of the work from which this carved inscription is quoted, and, if possible, locate (roughly, if necessary) the quotation in some published volume?

Permit me to thank you very sincerely for your generous cooperation.

Yours very truly,
Hartley Cohen

"We are of different opinions at different hours, but we always may be said to be at heart on the side of truth."
- From Conduct of life: Chapter on worship, 1st P, last sentence

1/25/46

Mr. Hartley Cohen
412 South Franklin Street
Wilkes Barre, Pa.

Dear Mr. Cohen:

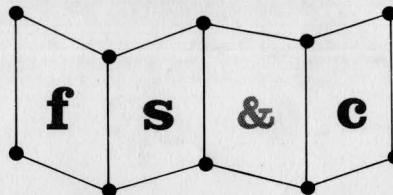
I have your note of inquiry about the source of the inscription which you saw on the wall of Hunter College.

It is as you surmised from Emerson, the Conduct of Life, the chapter on Worship, the last sentence of the first paragraph.

Very sincerely yours,

Librarian

r:d



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June 12, 1961

Mrs. Antoinette T. Jehle
President's Office
Hunter College
Park Avenue & 65th Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Jehle:

I am returning herewith the photographs which you
so kindly lent me.

I also enclose a color proof of the jacket of Dr.
Shuster's book, which we are publishing in the late Fall.
We think the facade of Hunter College makes an excellent
design for the jacket.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Giroux
Editor-in-Chief

RG/mkm
enc.

HUNTER COLLEGE

OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

695 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

Office of the President

July 10, 1957

Dear Miss Plumt

— this is for
"your" Archives.

Sincerely yours,

Antoinette P. Finkle

Miss Margaret G. Plumt
Hunter College Library

BRUCE ROGERS, book designer, type designer, printer, water-color artist, sailor, scholar, wood-carver, and maker of ship-models, continued to produce to the last. Even while he was sick abed page proofs arrived for his *Walden*, and also for a miniature book he had planned and that he intended to publish under his October House imprint. The first of the October House Classics, William Caxton's *Lyf of St. George*, was issued just five weeks before he died. The double-spread reproduction is a photograph of B. R. at his drafting-board in the library of October House at New Fairfield, Connecticut, where so many of us remember him working over these last books.

The back-page photograph shows the quotation from Emerson he designed for the south wall of Hunter College, 68th Street between Park and Lexington Avenues, in New York. The quotation, suggested by President George N. Shuster of Hunter, is taken from *Conduct of Life*. The wall was carved under Bruce Rogers' supervision in 1941. The architects were Shreve, Lamb and Harmon.

Rogers was probably the character of whom it was first said that "he had a whim of iron"; and nothing better exemplified his attention to detail and zeal for perfection than the Hunter College lettering. In rain and shine, snow and sleet, day after day until completion, B. R. climbed the scaffold at Hunter College to check and double-check the letters; he did everything except actually chisel them. And his character, his true gentleness, was such that the stone-masons, individualists themselves, submitted cheerfully to his supervision.

When the time came to submit the bill to the New York City Board of Education, a bewildered B. R. came to see us. "Is an invoice the same as a bill?" "Yes, B. R., it is." "Well, they want me to make out sixty-four copies of an invoice. How can I do that?" "That's all right; just fill out one form and we'll have all the others typed for you." "Will you really do that?" "Certainly." Rogers proceeded to fill out the complicated form, with impatient groans and grunts, and finally an outraged ejaculation. He had come to that portion of all City, State and Federal contracts and invoices where the vendor must swear and affirm that "no portion of this service or goods is the product of child labor." "Silly fools," he exclaimed, "D— silly fools! Don't they know that a child couldn't carve those letters?"

This brochure prepared for the friends of
PHILIP AND FANNY DUSCHNES

December, 1957

A REMEMBRANCE OF
BRUCE ROGERS

A GENTLE MAN FROM INDIANA



“CALL ME LAST”

LINNWOOD (LAFAYETTE) INDIANA · MAY 14, 1870

NEW FAIRFIELD · CONNECTICUT · MAY 18, 1957



A black and white photograph of a building's exterior wall. The wall is light-colored and features a large, multi-line inscription in a serif font. Above the inscription, there is a row of windows with dark, horizontal slats. In the bottom left corner, a small, dark, leafy plant is visible. The overall composition is a low-angle shot looking up at the building.

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