

Montague Press Collection

PVMA Library

The collection consists of more than 150 examples printed by Carl Purington Rollins (1880-1960) in Montague, Massachusetts, between 1903 and 1918. The collection was donated to PVMA by Caroline Rollins, daughter of Carl P. Rollins, through the intercession of Joseph Peter Spang III.

Scope and Content Note:

Begun by Carl P. Rollins in 1903 in Montague, the New Claivaux Press was part of a utopian community called New Clairvaux begun by Edward Pressey. Rollins had attended Harvard (1897-1900) and later worked as a printer in Boston, and became involved with the Society of Arts and Crafts. At the recommendation of printer Carl Heintzeman, Rollins arrived in Montague in June 1903 to become the printer at the New Claivaux Press. Originally established in the so-called Village Shop, Rollins later moved the press to the Dyke Mill after an absence prompted by a vision problem. There he and other craftspeople, such as candle makers, initially worked. Eventually only the Montague Press operated at the Mill. In 1918 Rollins left Montague, taking his type and press with him, to become a printer at Yale University. Two years later Rollins was appointed printer to the university, a position he held until 1953.

Other than one letter (Sept. 1914) from Rollins to George Sheldon of Deerfield written on Montague Press stationary, the collection consists entirely of printing examples. The collection is organized topically.

Container List:

Box 1

- Folder 1: Arts & Crafts
- Folder 2: Book plates, business cards, announcements, etc.
- Folder 3: Christmas, New Year
- Folder 4: Printing for organizations and clubs
- Folder 5: Poems, pamphlets, etc.
- Folder 6: Relating to Rollins or the Press
- Folder 7: Signs
- Folder 8: Miscellaneous clippings, photocopies, photos, etc.