

## THEODORE POWYS – MANUSCRIPTS [BISSELL GIFT]

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### [Bissell Gift]

Note: Both Mr Bissell and Mr Feather had a special regard for T.F. Powys and competed in a gentlemanly way to buy up his work, particularly his manuscript stories. Hence this very large and important collection.

Note: Boxed as Manuscripts. Clammed under title of published collections (see below) or as unpublished short stories, plays, poetry, miscellaneous etc., or incomplete. Foolscap manuscripts clammed separately.

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*After Death* (original title -‘The Oaken Beam’) short story, 4pp & 14pp inserts, unpublished.

*Ask Mother* short story, one exercise book, unpublished. (filed with *Sister Maud*) Also earlier version of *Ask Mother* with Bissell’s transcription.

*Better Gift, The* (published as *Goat Green* or *The Better Gift*) Limited Edition, published by G.C. Press, about 11,800 words.

*Black Adder, The* short story, 5pp & ½ p insert, unpublished. (filed in foolscap clam).

*Bondage of Fear, The: A Pastoral* unpublished - about 28,000 words.  
(Filed in MISC)

*Bottle’s Path* short story, 11pp, published in *Bottle’s Path*.

*Bull, The* short story, 4 pp, unpublished. ( Filed with *A Little Mistake*, *Goodman Honnibon*, and one with not title.) The four are in T.F.P.’s hand, but he has added Llewelyn’s name to his own.

*Cat and the Rooks, The* short story, 6pp, rough draft of story published in *Captain Patch*.  
Transcription by Bissell.

*Charlotte Bennett* short story, 11pp, published in *Captain Patch*. Transcription by Bissell.

*Cheriton* essay, 9 pp, unpublished. Collection also has typescript.

*Christ* essay, 4 pp, unpublished.

*Christmas Gift, A* (Variant titles *Mrs Balliboy Gives a Present* and *A Christmas Present*), short story, 14pp, in Xmas anthology and *The White Paternoster*.

*Charley* short story, in one exercise book with *Two Girls*, unpublished.

*Circe Truggin* short story, 11pp & 1p insert, published in *Bottle’s Path*.

*Cousin Charlotte* 12pp & 1p insert, published in *The Pleasure Ground*.

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*Daughter of Abishalom, The* Short story in one exercise book with *The Dogs Do Bark & The Silent Woman*, unpublished.

*Dear Time's Waste* short story, in one exercise book with *Squire Duffy*.

*Dear John Stittle* short story, published in *Mock's Curse*. (filed in foolscap clam.) Transcription by Bissell.

*Dewpond, The* Published as a Limited Edition & in *Bottle's Path*.

*Dogs Do Bark, The* short story, in one exercise book filed with *The Daughter of Abshalom* and *The Silent Woman*, unpublished.

*Dora Pine* 12pp & 10pp inserts, published in *Mock's Curse*.

*Farthing* ('Timothy Moley') short story, 13pp, unpublished.

*Father Adam. A Play in 4 Acts.* Fair copy in 2 exercise books; a second version in another exercise book (incomplete).

### *Fables*

\*\*Note: The earlier versions bought by Bissell were written on thin paper which seemed to be a writing pad as the top of the pages were lightly glued together. The numbers indicate order in which stories were written by T.F. in this pad. Placed in clams in this order, not the order as published.

\*\*\*Note: Bissell does not refer to 'The Hill and the Book' as one of the *Fables* in his book.

Following table indicates what Bissell has. See also Feather Gift.

Title	Fair Copy	Early State	Typesc.
The Clout and the Pan (4)	yes	yes	yes
Mr Pim and the Holy Crumb (1)	no	yes	yes
The Withered Leaf and the Green (11)	yes	yes	yes
The Seaweed and the Cuckoo-Clock (9)	yes	yes	yes
The Ass and the Rabbit (2)	yes	yes	yes
John Pardy and the Waves	yes	no	yes
The Dog and the Lantern (12)	yes	yes	yes
The Stone and Mr Thomas	yes	no	yes
The Hat and the Post (6)	yes	yes	yes
The Bucket and the Rope (10)	yes	yes	yes
John Told and the Worm (7)	yes	yes	yes

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Darkness and Nathaniel	yes	no	no
The Corpse and the Flea	yes	no	no
The Spittoon and the Slate	no	no	no
The Blind Hen and the Earthworm (13)	yes	yes	no
Mr Tapper and the Tree (8)	yes	yes	no
The Coat and the Crow (3)	no	yes	no
The Hassock and the Psalter	no	no	no
The Candle and the Slow-Worm (5)	yes	yes	no

*Flight to Heaven, The* short story, 13pp, & 2pp inserts & notes for ‘A Lucky Fortune’ on back 2pp, unpublished.

*Flock of Nymphs, A* short story, 15pp, unpublished.

*Frock and the Butterfly, The* short story, 7pp & 1p notes, unpublished. Transcription by Bissell (in D.D. 1961)

*Ghoul, The* short story, 6pp, unpublished.

*Go Gather Straw* short story, 9pp & 1p insert, unpublished. Transcription by Bissell Second transcription in D. D. 1961.

*God* 60pp, published in *The Two Thieves* and later in *The Sixpenny Strumpet*.

*Godfather, The* short story, 9pp & 2pp inserts, unpublished. Transcription by Bissell, Second transcription by B. (in D.D. 1961)

*Gong, The* short story, 11pp, published in *Captain Patch* and *God’s Eye A-Twinkle*.

*Gong, The* short story, 12pp, (filed in foolscap clam). Note: two manuscripts of *The Gong*.

*Goodman Hunibon* short story, 6pp, see also *A Little Mistake, [no title] and The Bull*. All 4 by Llewelyn Powys and T.F. Powys.

*Great Monster, A* short story, 12pp & 2pp inserts, with transcription by Bissell, unpublished. Second transcription by B. As above.

*Green Bushes* (original title - ‘My Ladies Favour’) short story, 11pp, unpublished.

*Hill and the Book, The* short story, published in *The Bookman*, Aug, 1933, no 503, pp 231-233.

*Hindcliff Tales* ‘Jane’ short story, 55pp, in black exercise book, with alterations by Llewelyn Powys.

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*Hindcliff Tales* ‘Theodore’ short story, 51pp, in black exercise book.

*His Best Coat* short story, 12pp & 11pp inserts, published in *Captain Patch*.

*Innocent Birds* novel, 424pp, complete manuscript.

Note: Chapters 1 - 5 are damaged and need restorative conservation.

*Ivy Green, The* short story, 10pp & 4pp inserts, transcription by Bissell, on back page in T.F.’s hand ‘not copied & no use’, unpublished. Second transcription by B. as above.

*Jeremy Bird* short story, 10pp, unpublished.

*Jeremy Tickle* short story, 12pp & 13pp inserts, unpublished.

*Joseph Before Pharaoh* short story, 3pp, unpublished.

*Kindness in a Corner* novel, (original title, ‘Virgin Honey’), 196pp, complete, published.

*Kindness in the Country* (original title ‘Miss Tappit’), short story, 10pp & 2pp inserts, published in *Courier*, June, 1948.

*King Duck* short story, 9pp, published in *Captain Patch*.

*King Pim* (titled *Tadnol* in manuscript) short story, 14pp, in exercise book, published in *The House with the Echo*.

*Kingdom of Heaven, The* (earlier titles ‘Full Many a Gem’ & ‘As a Little Child’) short story, 12pp, published in *Mock’s Curse*.

Note: Collection also has typescript.

*Left Leg, The* story, 174 pp, complete, published in *The Left Leg*,

*Lie Thee Down Oddity* short story, 10pp & 7pp inserts, published in *Captain Patch*. Transcription by Bissell in green B.P. diary.

*Little Mistake, A* short story, 7pp, (filed with *Goodman Hunibon, [no title]* and *The Bull*. All four in T.F.P.’s hand but he has added Llewelyn’s name to his own, unpublished.

*Little Palace, The* short story, 4pp, unpublished. Second manuscript, 3pp. Both filed under unpublished SS. clam 2.

*Lord Wandy* short story, 13pp & 6pp inserts, unpublished.

*Lucky Fortune, A* short story, 12pp & 4pp inserts, unpublished. See “The Flight to Heaven” for T.F. notes for this.

*Make Thyself Many* short story, 15pp, published as a Limited Edition.

*Mary Aston* short story, 10pp, unpublished.

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*Miss West* short story, 1) in one exercise book with *Old Women*, *Mrs Cern*, etc. 2) in same sleeve another copy of *Miss West*. (Filed in unpublished short stories under 'O'.)

*Mocks Curse* short story, 6pp, published in *Mock's Curse*.

*Moon Daisies* short story, 10pp, unpublished.

*Mother of the World, The* short story, 11pp, published in *Mock's Curse*.

*A Mother,* short story, 4pp, unpublished.

*Mr Billing's Ark* short story, 5pp, unpublished, (filed in foolscap clam).

**\*\**Mr Tasker's Gods*** novel, in 12 exercise books, boxed.

Note: See later exercise book containing early version of the first 7 chapters. Originally titled *The Moods of God*.

**\*\**Mr Tasker's Gods*** novel, 72pp, with early version of the first 7 chapters, 73 pages as published. First title: 'The Moods of God' - taken from 'The Soliloquy of a Hermit' - pages 2-9.

Note: clammed with above.

**\*\**Mr Weston's Good Wine*** novel.

1) early manuscript on 255 separate pp.

2) an extra 85 pp of additional passages to be inserted at intervals in the manuscript. 3) writing pad containing inserts for an earlier version, and chapters and pages not used.

4) explanatory letter from Francis Powys (who sold Bissell these manuscripts) dated 24/3/66.

*Mrs Cern* short story, in exercise book with *Old Women* and *Miss West*, unpublished. (Filed in unpublished short stories under 'O'.)

*Mrs Hockey's Cross* short story, 10pp, published in *The White Paternoster*.

*Mrs Hoddy's Gift* (original title 'The Patchwork Quilt') short story, 4pp, 6 more pp (earlier manuscript?), spelt Huddy and Hudy in manuscript, published in *Mock's Curse* as 'Widow Huddy's Gift.'

*Music, The* (original title 'The Concert') short story, 10pp, transcription by Bissell, unpublished. Second transcription by B. (In D.D. 1961)

*My Tale is Done* short story, 3pp, unpublished.

*New Broom, The* short story, 13pp, unpublished.

[no title] short story, 8pp, unpublished, (Filed with *A Little Mistake*, *Goodman Hunibon*, and *The Bull*.)

*Novelist's Own Cottages* essay, 2 manuscript versions, 1)6pp, 2) 6pp (rougher version), published in *The Countryman*, Oct 1934.

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*Old Women*, short story published in one exercise book with *Miss West*, *Mrs Cern*, unpublished. This exercise book also contains a story called *Hate* which has been crossed out, and 'Mr Thomas', a version of Soliloquies from Mr Thomas to the end.

(Filed under unpublished short stories under 'O')

*Old Men* short story, 27pp, published in *The White Paternoster*.

*On Friendship*

*On God* 2 essays in 1 exercise book.

*On A Future Life* essay, unpublished, written about 1905.

*Only the Devil* short story, 6pp, published in *Captain Patch* and *God's Eye A-Twinkle* (Filed in foolscap clam.)

*Outing, The* short story, 11pp, notes on back p11 for 'Dear John Skittle', transcription by Bissell, unpublished. Second transcription by B. (In D.D. 1961)

*Peace Offering, The* short story, 8pp, unpublished.

*People's Choice, The* short story, 10pp & 1p insert, unpublished.

*Piece of Ground, A* (original title 'And Without Price') Short story, 14pp, published in *Mock's Curse*.

*Poems*, 2 ( 1 titled 'Crabb's Tower' ) unpublished.

*Poems* ('The Soul,' 'Life,' 'Death,' and 'The Body') Inscribed on first page: Violet Powys - Theodore Powys. In drawing book. On back cover: Mrs Stracey, The Dale, Upperton Road, Eastbourne, Sussex, unpublished.

*Poems* Jan, 1905 ('Mammon,' 'Deformity,' 'Blasphemy,' 'The Supernatural,' 'The Earth,' 'The Bible' and 'Labour') In exercise book. On back cover: Mrs Stracey, The Dale, Upperton Road, Eastborne. With a short letter dated Jan 26, 1906, unpublished.

*Poor Neighbour, A* short story, 14pp, unpublished.

*Pot and Mrs Cupper, The* short story, 10pp, unpublished.

*Pretty Babe, A* short story, 11pp, published in *The White Paternoster*.

*Pride of Mrs Cluch, The* short story, 23pp with inserts fitted in, unpublished.

*Queer Fish, A* short story, 10pp, unpublished.

*Race, The* short story, 11pp, published in *West Country Magazine*.

*Scapegoat, The* short story, 11pp, published in *Mock's Curse* . (Filed in foolscap clam.)

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*Sell What Thou Hast* (published as *Jesus Walk*) short story, 11pp, published in *Captain Patch*.

*Silent Woman, The* short story, in one exercise book with *The Daughter of Abishalom and The Dogs do Bark*.

*Sin-Eater, The* play by T.F. Powys and Stephen Tomlin, in Tomlin's hand, with letter from Francis Powys, dated August 12, 1963 authenticating it, unpublished.

*Sister Maud* short story, in 1 notebook with *Ask Mother*, unpublished. (Filed under *Ask Mother*).

[*Soliloquy*]

'He that Acknowledgeth the Son, hath the Father also' (about 15,000 words) \*\*This is the first half of *The Soliloquy of a Hermit* 'fair copy', 76pp, not as published.

'Mr Thomas & Conclusion'. (3 green exercise books) \*\*This is the second half of the *Soliloquy*. 'Fair copy' \*\*Second half in 2 exercise books titled *Confessions*, not as published.

Note: middle version from Mr Thomas to the end, in ms book with *Old Woman, Miss West & Mrs Cern* and a story *Hate* which is crossed out, unpublished. (Filed under 'O')

*Squire Duffy* in one exercise book with *Dear Time's Waste*, published in *The House With the Echo*.

*Story of John, The*. A Dialogue, 1906, in exercise book.

*Story of Mark, The* see large black exercise book containing lecturing notes.

*Stubborn Tree, A* (copy) short story, 9pp, published in Limited Edition.

*Sweet Suffolk Owl* short story, 10pp & 5pp insert, published in *Mercury*, Autumn, 1948.

*Tadnol* story, in three exercise books, published in Ltd. Ed. *Two Stories: Come and Dine and Tadnol*.

*Tadnol* [see under *King Pim*]

*Theodore Examined by his Family* (?) Very rough draft of questions put to Theodore and his answers. Partial transcription by Bissell, unpublished. (Filed under unpublished misc.)

*Tragic Poem, The* short story, 7½ pp, unpublished.

*Tree of God, The* short story, 11pp & 11pp inserts, published in *Rosie Plum*.

*Two Girls* short story, in notebook with *Charley* dated June 1913, unpublished, collection also has typescript.

*Unholy Wish, An* short story, 13pp & partial p, transcription by Bissell, unpublished. Second transcription by B. (In D.D.1961)

*Unknown Man, The I*, (also titled *Holywell*), 12pp & 2 pp insert, transcription by Bissell, unpublished. Second transcription by B. (In D.D.1961)

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*Unknown Man, The* (same name, different story), unpublished. Transcription by Bissell.

*Wanter, The* short story, 11pp, published in *Captain Patch*.

*When Thou Wast Naked* long story, 56pp, in thick exercise book, published in Limited Edition and in *Bottle's Path*.

*White Weathercock, The* short story, 6pp, published in *The House with the Echo*.

*Who Pays?* (Original title 'Black Chiffon') short story, in one exercise book, unpublished.

*Widow, The* short story, 10pp & 4pp inserts, published in *Mock's Curse*.

*Wine Fed Tree, The* short story, 12pp & 3pp inserts, published in *Rosie Plum*.

*Wireless Set, The* short story, 10pp, unpublished.

*Wood, The. A Play in One Act* (Originally called 'The Hawks Nest') play, one exercise book, unpublished.

*Wood, The and Father Adam* early version of play. Both in same exercise book.

*Wrong Name, The* short story, 5pp, published in *Rosie Plum*.

[Untitled] short article mentioning *The Only Penitent*

Diary, 1912 contains ms drafts of letters and dialogues.

7 short manuscripts 'A Bottle of Lavender (different from published version), 'Drunk', 5 untitled, unpublished.

Large notebook containing notes on various subjects when lecturing at Eastbourne. On opposite page contains a story without title dated Feb 20, 1906 and *The Story of Mark*.

Notebook - dated Autumn 1902. Containing lecture notes and untitled manuscript.

Exercise Book containing various notes, including notes on *Mr Tasker's Gods* and *Mockery Gap, The Market Bell*. Loosely inserted is a 14pp untitled story about Mrs Turnbull and also 4pp about the Rev John.

### INCOMPLETE MANUSCRIPTS

*Bunyan* essay, 2pp, incomplete, unpublished. Transcription by Bissell (in Desk Diary, 1956)

*Into the Fire* short story, 2pp, incomplete, unpublished.



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*Key of the Field, The* 2 different versions, both incomplete, version two has first p missing, p2& 3 damaged, published in *Bottle's Path* and *Furnival Book of Short Stories*, 1932.

*Mr Handy's Wife* short story, published in *The White Paternoster*.

*Mr Pompey* short story, 7pp, numbered from 3-9, incomplete, unpublished.

*Mock's Curse* short story, 13pp, pp1 & 2 missing, notes on p5 with title 'An Unholy Wish', incomplete.

*My Money* short story, 7pp, Bissell says incomplete, published in *Captain Patch*.

*Story about Mr Bottle*

*Story about Jacob Moss & John Flower* Short story, 15pp, p 1 missing, unpublished.

*Vessels of a Potter* (unfinished play)

\*\*\*\*Further miscellaneous - in foolscap clam, unsorted.

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### Fragments of Manuscripts

Mockery Gap

Innocent Birds

Black Bryony ?

Mark Only

A Nice Box of Sweets (pub. in *The White Paternoster* as A Box of Sweets) with another fragment

Three Leaves

Gold is the God (pub. as Gold in *The White Paternoster*)

The Noah's Ark

Two Chairs

The Alarum Clock

Yellowskin (collected in *Rosie Plum*)

A Christmas Song to the Rulers of the Earth (poem by Stephen Tomlin)

Child's Copy Book

Letter to TFP

Report on Hester Dominey

Misc. Financial

Misc. Lists

Poem The Catholics by Dora Williams

Misc. Unidentified Fragments

Photocopies of misc. T.F.P. diaries, poems, letters (19pp.) sent by John Boulton to E.E. Bissell, with covering letter of 24 June, 1972.