

**HEATH-STUBBS, JOHN, 1918-2006.**  
**John Heath-Stubbs collection, circa 1962-1967**

Emory University  
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**Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Heath-Stubbs, John, 1918-2006.  
**Title:** John Heath-Stubbs collection, circa 1962-1967  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 643  
**Extent:** .5 linear ft. (1 box)  
**Abstract:** Collection of materials relating to English author John Heath-Stubbs including manuscripts and typescripts of poems, translations, critical essays, and one unfinished play.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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**Administrative Information**

**Restrictions on Access**

Unrestricted access.

**Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

**Source**

Purchase, 1985.

**Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], John Heath-Stubbs collection, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

**Processing**

Processed by Literary Collections Assistants.

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## Collection Description

### Biographical Note

John Francis Alexander Heath-Stubbs was born July 9, 1918 in London, the son of Francis and Edith Marr Heath-Stubbs. He grew up in Bournemouth, England, and was educated at Worcester College for the Blind and Queen's College, Oxford. There, he studied "Anglo-Saxon, Latin, ornithology and crime" ("Epitaph"). His first poems were published in *Eight Oxford Poet* in 1941. Heath-Stubb's first independent work, *Wounded Thammuz*, appeared in 1942. From 1945-1946, John Heath-Stubbs was the English Master at Hall School in Hamstead. During this time, he produced his first translation of Leopardi ( *Poems from Gincomo Leopardi*, 1946).

From 1960 to 1961, Heath-Stubbs was a guest lecturer at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He taught at the College of St. Mark and St. John in Chelsea, London, from 1962-1972. Heath-Stubbs received the Queen's gold medal for poetry in 1977. Since then he has served as a tutor at Oxford.

John Heath-Stubbs' work encompasses poetry, drama, translation, and literary criticism. Among his books of poetry are *The Swarming of the Bees* (1950), *The Blue-fly in his Head* (1962), *Homage to George Barker*, (1973), *The Watchman's Flute* (1978), *Beauty and the Beast* (1979), and *Poems of Science* (1984). He has written critical essays on Dryden, Pope, and Yeats and published translations of The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam and the poems of Leopardi (with Iris Origo). A selection of his plays is printed in *Helen in Egypt* (1958). Some of his poems are in *The Oxford Book of 20th C. English Verse*.

### Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of the papers of John Heath-Stubbs from 1962-1967. The papers include manuscripts and typescripts of poems, translations, critical essays, and one unfinished play. Folders 1-6 contain original drafts of poems, some fragmentary, from *The Blue-fly in His Head*. Folder 7 contains notes for an article on Coleridge, published in *The Concise Encyclopedia of English and American Poets and Poetry* (1963). Folders 8-13 contain typescripts for Heath-Stubbs' edition of Poems by Alexander Pope. These include notes, commentary, and an introduction, as well as some of the poems included in the work. Folders 14-15 contain two examples of Heath-Stubbs' translations; the first from Dante's *Inferno*, and the second from the 1966 edition of works by Gincomo Leopardi, done in conjunction with Iris Origo. The last two folders contain two republished works, a poem dedicated to his secretary, John Gawsworth, and the unfinished play, *Aurelia*.

### Arrangement Note

Arranged by record type.

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## Container List

### Manuscript originals of poems from *The Blue-Fly in his Head*, London, 1962.

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	"In every sense of the word," manuscript
1	2	"Bert and the seven deadly sins," manuscript
1	3	"Domestic devils," manuscript, typescript fragment
1	4	"Use of personal pronouns," corrected proofs
1	5	"News from Egypt," typescript fragment
1	6	"History of the flood," manuscript fragment
1	7	Preliminary notes for article on Samuel Taylor Coleridge in <i>The Concise Encyclopedia of English and American Poets and Poetry</i> , London, 1963. [PR 19.56]

### Typescript for *Selected Poems of Alexander Pope*. London, 1964.

1	8	Title page, proof: Table of Contents, typescript
1	9	Corrected typescript, introduction, 3 versions
1	10	Corrected typescript, commentary and notes
1	11	Corrected typescript, commentary and notes, (early draft?)
1	12	Corrected typescript, additions and revisions
1	13	Typescript: poems, incomplete

### Other works

1	14	Typescripts, translation of Dante's <i>Inferno</i> , Cantos VI-III, selections
1	15	Typescripts, translations of poem, "The Young Brutus" from Gincomo Leopardi, <i>Selected Prose and Poetry</i> , London, 1966
1	16	Manuscript: Poem: "Upon the Occasion of the Abdication of Juan, third king of Redonda" dedicated to John Gawsworth, 1967 November 11
1	17	Typescript, unfinished, unpublished play, <i>Aurelia</i> , n.d.
1	18	Christmas cards featuring original poetry, circa 1980

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