THE RECOGNITION
OF
EMILY
DICKINSON

SELECTED CRITICISM SINCE 1890

EDITED BY
Caesar R. Blake
AND
Carlton F. Wells

Ann Arbor / The University of Michigan Press
CONTENTS

I. 1890–1900

THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON, An Open Portfolio (The Christian Union, Sept. 25, 1890) 3

THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON, Preface to Poems by Emily Dickinson (1890) 10

ARLO BATES, Miss Dickinson's Poems (Boston Courier, Nov. 23, 1890) 12

WILLIAM DEAN HOWELLS, The Strange Poems of Emily Dickinson (Harper’s Monthly, Jan., 1891) 18


MAURICE THOMPSON, Miss Dickinson’s Poems (America, Jan. 8, 1891) 28

ANONYMOUS, Form and Substance (Scribner’s Magazine, March, 1891) 34

ANDREW LANG, Some American Poets (Illustrated London News, March 7, 1891) 36

ANONYMOUS, A Poet (Saturday Review, Sept. 5, 1891) 38

MABEL LOOMIS TOTT, Preface to Poems: Second Series (1891) 42

ANONYMOUS, Second Series of the Poems by Emily Dickinson (Chicago Tribune, Dec. 12, 1891) 45

ANONYMOUS, Recent Poetry: Emily Dickinson (Critic, Dec. 19, 1891) 50

FRANCIS H. STODDARD, Technique in Emily Dickinson's Poems (Critic, Jan. 23, 1892) 51

THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH, In Re Emily Dickinson (Atlantic Monthly, Jan. 1892) 54

MARY AUGUSTA JORDAN, Emily Dickinson’s Letters (Nation, Dec. 13, 1894) 57
Contents

BLISS CARMAN, A Note on Emily Dickinson (Boston Evening Transcript, Nov. 21, 1896) 61

II. 1901–1930

ELLA GILBERT IVES, Emily Dickinson: Her Poetry, Prose and Personality (Boston Evening Transcript, Oct. 5, 1907) 71

MARThA HALE SHACKFORD, The Poetry of Emily Dickinson (Atlantic Monthly, Jan. 1913) 79

ELIZABETH SHEPLEY SERGEANT, An Early Imagist (New Republic, Aug. 14, 1915) 88

NORMAN FoeRSTER, Emily Dickinson (Cambridge History of American Literature, 1921) 94

ROBERT HILLYER, Emily Dickinson (The Freeman, Oct. 18, 1922) 98

MARTIN ARMSTRONG, The Poetry of Emily Dickinson (Spectator, Jan. 6, 1923) 105

CONRAD AIKEN, Emily Dickinson (Introduction to Selected Poems of Emily Dickinson, London, 1924) 110

PERCY LUBBOCK, Determined Little Anchoress (Nation and Athenaeum, Oct. 18, 1924) 118

HAROLD MONRO, Emily Dickinson—Overrated (The Criterion, Jan. 1925) 121

SUSAN MILES, The Irregularities of Emily Dickinson (London Mercury, Dec. 1925) 123

HART CRANE, To Emily Dickinson (Collected Poems of Hart Crane, New York, 1933) 130

THEODORE SPENCER, Concentration and Intensity (New England Quarterly, July 1929) 131

EDMUND BLUNDEN, An Unguessed Poetry (Nation and Athenaeum, Mar. 22, 1930) 134

GEORGE F. WHICHER, A Centennial Appraisal (Emily Dickinson: A Bibliography, 1930) 137

III. 1931—to the Present

Contents

ALLEN TATE, New England Culture and Emily Dickinson (Symposium, April, 1932) 153

GRANVILLE HICKS, Emily Dickinson and the Gilded Age (The Great Tradition, 1933) 167

HERBERT READ, The Range of Emily Dickinson (Spectator, Dec. 29, 1933) 173

GAY WILSON ALLEN, Emily Dickinson's Versification (American Prosody, 1935) 176

YVOR WINTERS, Emily Dickinson and the Limits of Judgment (Maule's Curse, 1938) 187

RICHARD P. BLACKMUR, Emily Dickinson: Notes on Prejudice and Fact (Southern Review, Autumn, 1937) 201

F. O. MATTHIESSEN, The Private Poet: Emily Dickinson (Kenyon Review, Autumn, 1945) 224

GEORGE F. WHICHER, Emily Dickinson among the Victorians (Lecture at Johns Hopkins University, 1947) 235

STANLEY T. WILLIAMS, Experiments in Poetry: Emily Dickinson (Literary History of the United States, 1948) 251

THOMAS H. JOHNSON, Emily Dickinson: The Prisms of a Poet (Saturday Review of Literature, June 3, 1950) 261

MARK VAN DOREN, A Commentary on "I Had Not Minded Walls" (Introduction to Poetry, 1951) 264

AUSTIN WARREN, Emily Dickinson (Sewanee Review, Autumn, 1957) 268

CHARLES R. ANDERSON, Center (Emily Dickinson's Poetry: Stairway of Surprise, 1960) 287

ARCHIBALD MACLEISH, The Private World (Archibald MacLeish, Louise Bogan, Richard Wilbur, Emily Dickinson: Three Views, Amherst, 1960) 301