

brought about a brief reassessment of their influence on 1890's book illustration and book design. Engen has made a substantial contribution toward continuing and strengthening that reassessment.

The book divides into a biographical and a critical section. However, much critical appraisal is incorporated into the biographical part, which deals in a detailed fashion with Housman's early career and the sequence of his literary and artistic production. A sympathetic picture of the relationship between the brother and sister, who lived together until Clemence's death in 1955 -- as well as of the more problematic relationship between the two brothers -- lends the book warmth and human feeling.

The critical section is in part an expanded version of what has gone before, and in part a kind of appendix. Three contemporaneous articles about Housman are reprinted, each of which played a part in establishing him as a career illustrator and helped to lay the foundation for a continuing interest in his work.

The principal influences on Housman were, in the beginning, Blake and the Pre-Raphaelites. Rossetti and Morris were his early heroes. His second important book design -- initiated by himself -- was the 1893 Macmillan edition of Goblin Market, which received much critical attention and was greatly admired, by Sir Frederick Leighton, among others. Housman also held the illustrations of Burne-Jones, Arthur Hughes and Sandys in special esteem. Later he was influenced by Charles Ricketts and to some extent by Beardsley. Both of these men became his friends and were admirers of his work. Nevertheless, his own style developed along original lines, and never sank to the level of copying his models.

Unfortunately the book is carelessly produced as far as the printed text is concerned, and somewhat too hurriedly written as to style. But it is full of well-reproduced (given the extreme complexity of line and shading involved) designs.

Barbara Golffing

Rowland Elzea (ed.): The Samuel and Mary R. Bancroft Collections of the Delaware Art Museum. Wilmington, Del., 1984. 215 pp. \$12.00.

Rowland Elzea's fastidiously worked catalog of the Samuel Bancroft Collection and its adjuncts -- The Janson Collection of Jewelry and Metalwork; the Samuel Bancroft Jr. Library -- which first appeared in