

THE NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

Charles Wharton Stork

STORK, Charles Wharton, author and scholar, was born in Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 12, 1881, son of Theophilus Baker and Hannah (Wharton) Stork, grandson of Theophilus and Emma (Baker) Stork, and great-grandson of Charles Augustus Gottlieb Storch, who came to this country from Germany in 1798 and settled in North Carolina. His father was a lawyer and author. Charles Wharton Stork completed his preliminary education at the Germantown Friends School, Philadelphia, and was graduated A.B. in 1902 at Haverford College, A.M. in 1903 at Harvard University, and Ph.D. in 1905 at the University of Pennsylvania. In the last-named year he engaged also in research work at universities in England, and in 1907-08 he was a postgraduate student at the University of Munich, Germany. Meanwhile, in 1903 he joined the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania as an assistant in English, advancing to instructor in 1906 and to assistant professor in 1914. In 1916 he resigned to engage in original literary work, an activity in which he continued until the close of his life. Additionally, from 1935 to 1952 he taught courses in creative writing and British and American literature at Harcum Junior College, Bryn Mawr, Pa. Stork's literary works included poetry, plays, novels, essays, articles, book reviews, libretti, and translations. Among his books of verse were "Day Dreams of Greece" (1908), "The Queen of Orplede" (1910), "Sea and Bay: A Poem of New England" (1916), "On Board Old Ironsides" (1948), "Hearts and Voices" (1949), and "NAVPAC" (1952). His plays included "Falstaff on Broadway," a one-act fantasy produced in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1917, "The Flower Seller," a full-length play which won second place in a national competition sponsored by the Plays and Players of Philadelphia, who premiered it in 1926; "Ninon," a historical drama set in the France of Louis XIV and produced in Hackensack, N.J. in 1929; "The Quaker Mother," a comedy performed off-Broadway in 1936; and

"Alcibiades," published in 1967. A novel, "Sunset Harbor," was published in 1933, and "A Vision of Misjudgment," a satirical dialogue about modern poets, was published in 1958. Stork was the editor of "Plays of William Rowley" (1910) and "In the Sky Garden" (1922), the latter a book of poems by Stephen Moylan Bird. Stork was noted for his translations of German and Scandinavian poetry and prose, his translations including "Selected Poems of Gustaf Fröding" (from the Swedish, 1916), "Anthology of Swedish Lyrics" (1917), Von Hofmannsthal's "Lyrics" (from the German, 1918), "Sweden's Laureate: Poems of Verner von Heidenstam" (1919), "The Charles Men" (historical stories by von Heidenstam, 1920), "Modern Swedish Masterpieces" (short stories, 1923), "The Motherless" (novel by Bengt Berg, from the Swedish, 1924), "The Swedes and Their Chieftains" (a history by von Heidenstam, 1925), "Sweden's Best Stories" (1928), "The Dragon and the Foreign Devils" (a book on China by Johan Gunnar Andersson, from the Swedish, 1928), "Martin Birck's Youth" (novel by Hjalmar Söderberg, from the Swedish, 1930), "I Sit Alone" (novel by Waldemar Ager, from the Norwegian, 1931), "Short Stories of Hjalmar Söderberg" (1935), "Tales of Ensign Stål" (poems by Johan Ludwig Runeberg, from the Swedish, 1938), "Arcadia Borealis" (poems of Erik Axel Karlfeldt, from the Swedish, 1938), "Anthology of Norwegian Lyrics" (1942), and "A Second Book of Danish Verse" (1947). Furthermore, Stork contributed translations of a play and numerous lyrics to the series entitled "The German Classics" (1914). He was editor of the periodical Contemporary Verse during 1917-26 and of its annual publication, "Contemporary Verse Anthology," during 1920-23 and edited the international magazine Archer from 1927 to 1929. He contributed articles on Swedish literature to Collier's Encyclopedia in the 1940's and to the Columbia Dictionary of Modern European Literature during 1945-47 and verse, translations, and articles to such magazines as Century, Harper's, The Nation, The New Republic, and Yale Review, and to periodicals in England and Sweden. On board the SS "Athenia" when it was torpedoed in 1939, Stork described the experience in one of the longest poems ever published in The Saturday Evening Post, "Sketches by an 'Athenian'" (Nov. 4, 1939). In 1920 and again in 1923 he visited Sweden, writing and lecturing on American poetry. In 1921 he was decorated by King Gustaf V of Sweden with the Order of Gustaf Vasa, first class, for his service in making Swedish literary works available to English-speaking people. In 1971 the Athenaeum of Philadelphia, on whose board of directors and book committee he served for nearly fifty years, accepted the responsibility of cataloging his entire works, published and unpublished, and for their housing in a room dedicated to his memory. Stork was a member of the Poetry Society of America (pres. 1926-27), Modern Language Association of America, Society of Friends of Roerich Museum (pres. 1929), Phi Beta Kappa, the Harvard and P.E.N. clubs of New York City, and the Century, University, Germantown Cricket, and Franklin Inn clubs of Philadelphia. His last religious affiliation was with Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia. In politics he was a Republican. In his leisure time he enjoyed reading, walking, bridge, tennis, travel, playing the piano, and attending plays, concerts, and operas. In earlier years he played cricket on college teams and enjoyed rowing and fishing. He was married in Salzburg, Austria, Aug. 5, 1908, to Elisabeth, daughter of Franz von Pausinger, a painter who did commissions for the Austrian royal family, and had four children: Rosalie, who married Curt Regen; Francis Wharton, who married Marguerite de L. Newbold; George Frederick, who married Mary-Ernestine Weber; and Carl Alexander, who married Patricia Ford. Charles Wharton Stork died in Philadelphia, Pa., May 22, 1971.

A Poet of Philadelphia

Some Facts Concerning the Author of "Sea and Bay"—Charles Wharton Stork

CHARLES WHARTON STORK was born February 12, 1881, at Germantown, Philadelphia. His father is a lawyer, who has written several books on philosophical subjects. The son went to the Germantown Friends' School and Haverford College, where he wrote for the college paper, and was graduated in 1902 with honors in English and Greek. From there he went to Harvard, where he took his A.M. degree in 1903. At Harvard he wrote for "The Harvard Advocate" and "The Monthly." Since the fall of 1903, he has been associated with the English Department of the University of Pennsylvania, taking his Ph.D. in 1905, with a dissertation on the old dramatist, William Rowley. He spent two years abroad, 1905-6 and 1907-8, in research and study in England and Germany, traveling also in Italy, Egypt and Greece. While traveling he met many well-known English and German writers and took an especial interest in Greek architecture and sculpture, Italian painting and German music. In 1908 he married Elisabeth von Pausinger, daughter of the late Franz von Pausinger of Salzburg, a famous Austrian landscape painter. In the fall of 1914 he was made assistant Professor in English at the University of Pennsylvania, which position he now holds.

Since 1903 Mr. Stork has contributed verse to "The Century Magazine," "Lippincott's," "Smart Set," "Poet-Lore," Chicago "Poetry" and other periodicals, and prose to "Lippincott's," "The Nation" and "The New Republic." In 1908 he published *Day Dreams of Greece*, in 1910 *The Queen of Orplède*, both with Elkin Mathews, London, and J. B. Lippincott, Philadelphia. In 1910, he edited two plays of William Rowley, with an article on Rowley's dramatic work. He has contributed scholarly articles to proceedings of the Modern Language Society of America and to *Haverford Essays*, a volume dedicated to Professor E. B. Gummere, of Haverford College. In 1913, he read the Phi Beta Kappa poem, "The Quarter Deck," at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1914 he won the medal of the Browning Society with a poem entitled, "Flying Fish: an Ode." He contributed translations in verse of a play and fifty-five lyrics from Goethe, Heine and others to *German Classics*, in twenty volumes, edited by Professor Kuno Francke, of Harvard. In 1915 he took up the study of Swedish and contributed translations of the poet, Gustav Fröding, to "The Scandinavian Review." He expects shortly to publish a volume of Fröding's poems. He has translated

songs sung by David Bispham and Horatio Connell, and has had original songs published with the music of C. Lynn Seiler.

Mr. Stork has spent his summers from childhood on Narragansett Bay, where in 1910 he first formulated the idea of his longest and most important poem, *Sea and Bay*. On this poem he worked for three years. It tells in the first part the life-story of Alden Carr. The central idea is that man's life is divided into three parts, which are symbolized in the title, *Sea and Bay*. The boy's life is sheltered in the bay,



Charles Wharton Stork

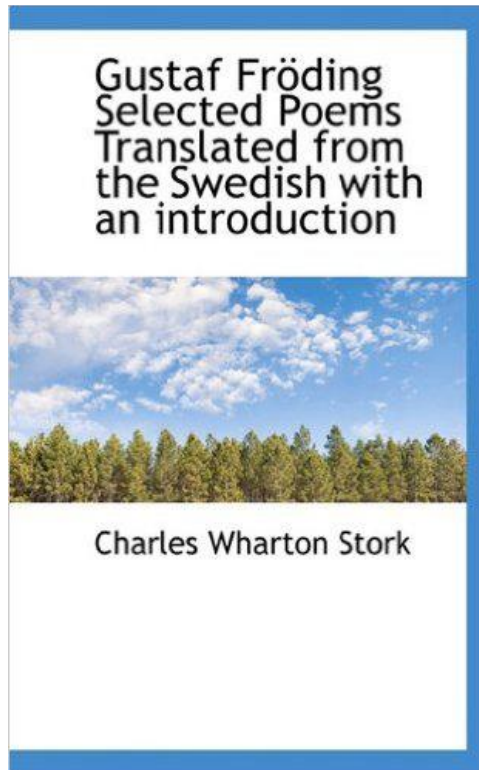
the adventurous life of the young man is spent in the sea, the older man returns to live by the bay but with the memory of his sea life still a part of his nature. The background of the story is thus a part of the writer's experience on Narragansett Bay and during his travels in Europe. The volume is dedicated to Paul Dougherty, the distinguished American marine painter, winner of the Carnegie Medal and Member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

PAGES 01 - 02

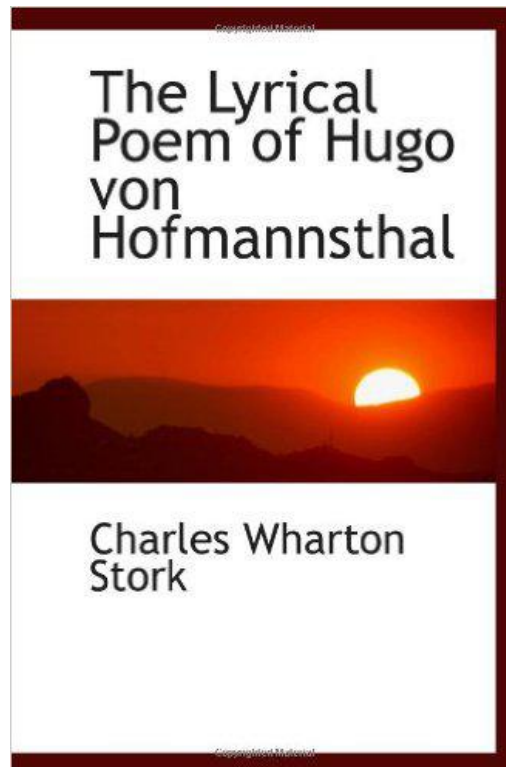
The National Cyclopaedia Of American Biography, Volume 56, (James T. White & Company: Clifton, New Jersey, 1975) pp. 141-142.

PAGE 03

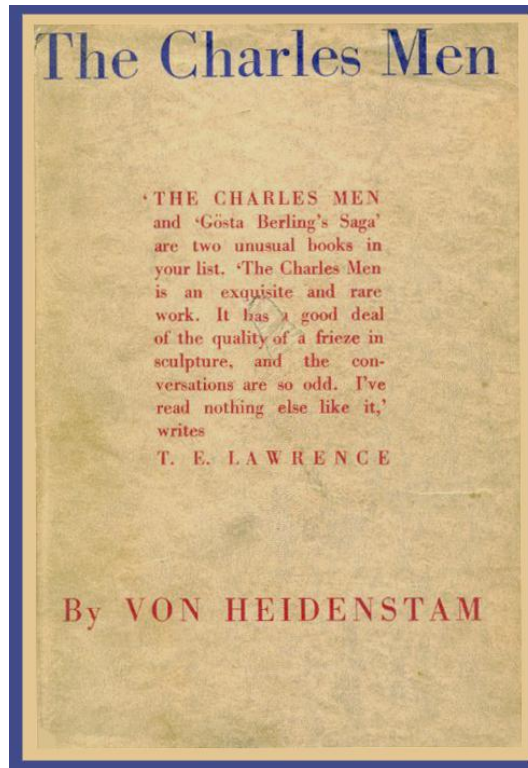
The Book News Monthly, (John Wanamaker: Philadelphia, May 1916)



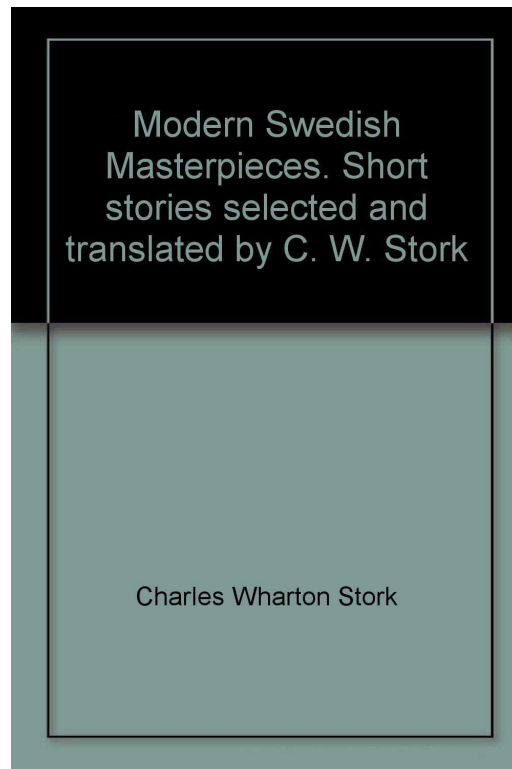
1916



1918



1920



1923

SECOND CONTEMPORARY VERSE ANTHOLOGY

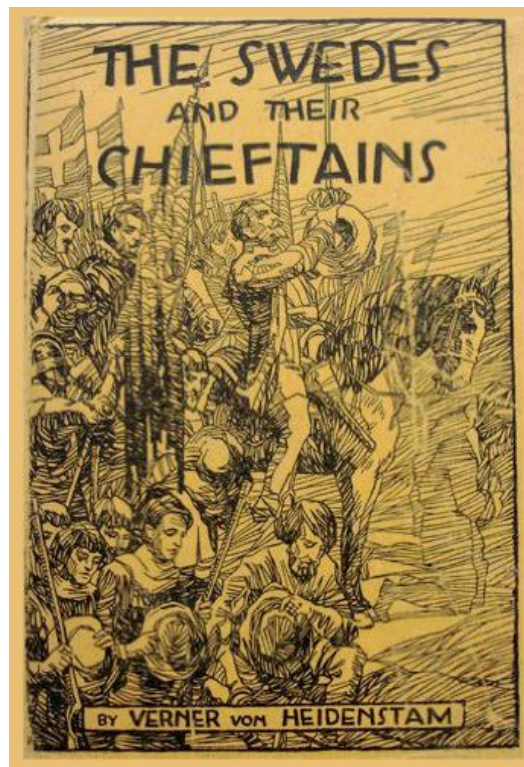
SELECTED FROM THE MAGAZINE
"CONTEMPORARY VERSE"
1920-1923

BY THE EDITOR
CHARLES WHARTON STORK

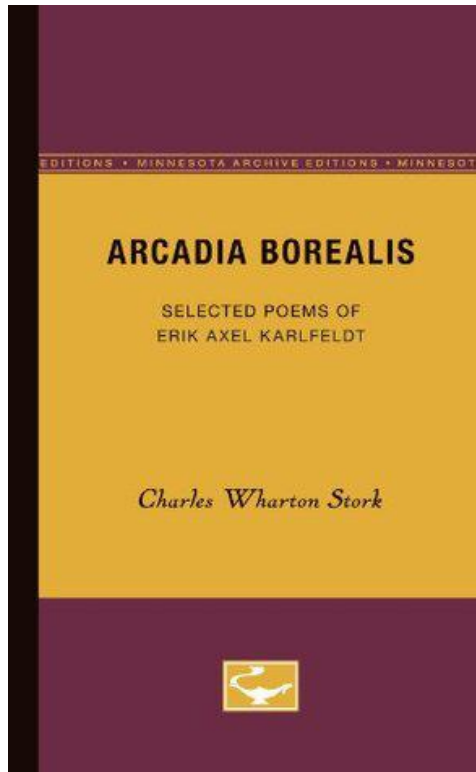
THE first anthology of the principal poems up to the time contributed to CONTEMPORARY VERSE, the well-known magazine of poetry, proved to be so successful that it has been thought advisable to present another anthology, chosen from the columns of the same magazine during the past three years, which will be found by the reader to have reached a higher standard than the previous volume.

Here are poems which express the adventure, the tragedy, the romance, the satire, the humor, the imagination and the human nature of American life. It is not merely an assembly of verse, but the spiritual record of an entire people.

1923



1925



1938



The Tales Of Ensign Stål 1938