

## MS46 Burdett Correspondence

### About the collection:

This small collection consists of sixteen letters written by novelist Forrest Reid (1875-1947) to biographer and critic Osbert Burdett (1885-1936). Burdett was a contemporary of Reid's at Cambridge. The topics are very much literary, rather than personal.

In Private Road Reid writes that Burdett was while at Cambridge "working on an extremely bad novel, which I read, finding only one good sentence in it. (I conscientiously pointed this out this sentence to the author.)" Despite Reid's comment Burdett's literary and critical output was substantial.

The other side of this correspondence is contained in the Reid Collection also held at Special Collections (see: [MS44/1/23](#)).

This collection was purchased by Queen's University Belfast in 2006.

Diarmuid Kennedy, 2009



## MS46 Outline

[MS46/1](#) Letter of 23/02/1907

[MS46/2](#) Letter of 27/10/1907

[MS46/3](#) Letter of 04/01/1927

[MS46/4](#) Letter of 28/08/1927

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[MS46/6](#) Letter of 27/05/1929

[MS46/7](#) Letter of 21/06/1929

[MS46/8](#) Letter of 28/06/1929

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[MS46/11](#) Letter of 03/1930

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[MS46/15](#) Letter of 10/10/1931

[MS46/16](#) Letter of 05/1931[?]

Queen's University  
Belfast

**MS46/1 Letter of 23/02/1907**

23/02/1907. Union Society, Cambridge. ALS ,1p.

Letter contains Reid's reaction to Burdett's comments on the Garden God

**MS46/2 Letter of 27/10/1907**

27/10/1907. Union Society, Cambridge. ALS ,1p.

Works mentioned:

Reid, Forrest Kingdom of Twilight (1904)

Machen, Arthur The Hill of Dreams (1907)

**MS46/3 Letter of 04/01/1927**

04/01/1927. 13 Ormiston Crescent, Belfast. ALS, 1p.

Works mentioned:

Burdett, Osbert William Blake (1926)

Reid, Forrest Apostate (1926)

**MS46/4 Letter of 28/08/1927**

28/08/1927. Brunswick Square. ALS and envelope, 1p.

**MS46/5 Letter of 06/10/1927**

06/10/1927. 13 Ormiston Crescent, Belfast. ALS and envelope, 1p.

Works mentioned:

Warren, Edward Perry Alcmaeon, Hypermestra, Caeneus (1919)

Reid suggests and discusses title for Burdett's forthcoming book (The Very End, and Other Stories, 1929?)

**MS46/6 Letter of 27/05/1929**

27/05/1929. 13 Ormiston Crescent, Belfast. ALS, 1p.

Works mentioned:

Reid, Forrest Walter de la Mare: a critical study (1929)

Reid mentions a "long story" on which he is working entitled Great Uncle Stephen.

**MS46/7 Letter of 21/06/1929**

21/06/1929. 13 Ormiston Crescent, Belfast. ALS, 1p.

Works mentioned:

Burdett, Osbert The Very End, and Other Stories (1929)

Villiers De L'Isle-Adam, Jean Marie Mathias Philippe Auguste, comte de. Contes Cruels (1883?)

**MS46/8 Letter of 28/06/1929**

28/06/1929. 13 Ormiston Crescent, Belfast. ALS, 1p.

Works mentioned:

Aspasia (story in Burdett, Osbert The Very End, and Other Stories (1929))

**MS46/9**                      **Letter of 19/08/1929**

19/08/1929. 13 Ormiston Crescent, Belfast. ALS, 2pp.

Works mentioned:

Raile, Arthur Lyon, pseudo. [Edward Perry Warren] A Defence of Uranian Love (1928)

Warren, Edward Perry Wild Rose (1910)

**MS46/10**                      **Letter of 30/09/1929**

30/09/1929. 13 Ormiston Crescent, Belfast. ALS, 1p.

Works mentioned:

Warren, Edward Perry Wild Rose (1910)

**MS46/11**                      **Letter of 03/1930**

03/1930. Saville Club, London. ALS, 1p.

**MS46/12**                      **Letter of 13/06/1930**

13/06/1930. 13 Ormiston Crescent, Belfast. ALS, 1p.

Works mentioned:

Reid, Forrest Introduction to Persuasion

**MS46/13**                      **Letter of 07/05/1931**

07/05/1931. 13 Ormiston Crescent, Belfast. ALS, 1p.

**MS46/14**                      **Letter of 30/09/1931**

30/09/1931. 13 Ormiston Crescent, Belfast. ALS, 1p.

Works mentioned:

Reid, Forrest Uncle Stephen

**MS46/15**                      **Letter of 10/10/1931**

10/10/1931. 13 Ormiston Crescent, Belfast. ALS, 1p.

Works mentioned:

Reid, Forrest Uncle Stephen

[Gilbert Short story in Saturday Review?]

**MS46/16**                      **Letter of 05/1931[?]**

05/1931[?] 13 Ormiston Crescent, Belfast. ALS, 1p.

## Appendix 1

### Index of Names

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth-Death</u>	<u>Reference</u>	
Buchanan, George	1904-1989	<a href="#">MS46/11</a>	p. 4
Burdett, Osbert	1885-1936	<a href="#">MS46/1-16</a>	p. 3-4
Bryson, J.N. (Jack)	1896-1976	<a href="#">MS46/10-12</a>	p. 4
De la Mare, Richard (Dick)	1901-1986	<a href="#">MS 46/15</a>	p. 4
Gilbert, Stephen	1912–2010	<a href="#">MS 46/15</a>	p. 4
Gooden, Stephen	1892-1955	<a href="#">MS 46/12</a>	p. 4
Hart, J.N.	1881[?]-1963	<a href="#">MS 46/7</a> <a href="#">MS 46/13</a>	p. 3 p.4
Monkhouse, A.N.	1858-1936	<a href="#">MS 46/6</a>	p. 3
Reid, Forrest	1875-1947	<a href="#">MS 46/1-16</a>	p. 3-4

## Appendix 2

### Index of Place Names

<u>Place Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Description</u>	
<b>Belfast</b>	<a href="#">MS46/3</a>	Letter from 13 Ormiston Crescent, Belfast	p. 3
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	<a href="#">MS46/12-16</a>	Letters from 13 Ormiston Crescent, Belfast	p. 4
<b>Cambridge</b>	<a href="#">MS46/1-2</a>	Letters from Union Society, Cambridge	p. 3
<b>London</b>	<a href="#">MS46/4</a>	Letter from Brunswick Square, London	p. 3
	<a href="#">MS46/11</a>	Letter from Saville Club, London	p. 4

