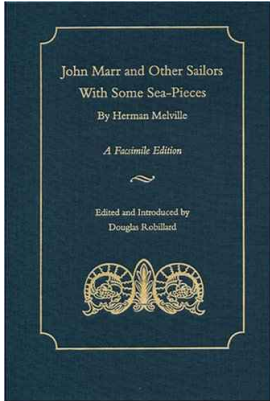


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4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Poet at Work: Herman Melville's JOHN MARR AND OTHER SAILORS By Robert A. Sandberg Douglas Robillard's facsimile edition of JOHN MARR AND OTHER SAILORS, WITH SOME SEA-PIECES does much more than simply reproduce the text of the poems and prose-and-verse pieces that comprise the third published of Melville's four volumes of published poetry. Besides the facsimile pages themselves and the excellent introduction in which Robillard discusses the place of poems and poetry in Melville's life, Robillard's edition includes three additional sections containing reproductions of printer's copy manuscript leaves, galley proofs, and page proofs. Robillard's description, analysis and discussion of Melville's corrections and revisions made at each stage of the printing process allow us to look over the working poet's shoulder. Melville was a serious poet and Robillard's discussion of Melville's choice of a printer--Theodore Low De Vinne, owner of the De Vinne Press--further establishes just how serious a poet Melville was as he worked incessantly in his final years on not only the JOHN MARR volume of poems published in 1888, but on the poems that were to be collected and published three years later as TIMOLEON, in 1891, the last year of his life. Robillard's facsimile edition of JOHN MARR AND OTHER SAILORS is an essential work for anyone wanting to appreciate and understand as deeply and as completely as possible not only the poetry of Herman Melville, but the man, the poet, as well.

A facsimile edition of Melville's rare volume including the author's proofreading corrections. Late in his life, Herman Melville published a volume of poetry called John Marr and Other Sailors. He produced the collection at his expense, and therefore only about 25 copies were printed. Existing copies can be found in libraries, but scholars have, for the most part, not seen them. John Marr and Other

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