Garland in His Own Time: A Biographical Chronicle of His Life, Drawn from Recollections, Interviews, and Memoirs by Family, Friends, and Associates

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the line has to be drawn somewhere. *Representation and Inequality* represents the best in political history.


Reviewer Marcia Noe is professor of English at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and editor of *MidAmerica*. She is also senior editor of *The Dictionary of Midwestern Literature*.

Hamlin Garland, a Pulitzer Prize–winning author who grew up on farms in Mitchell County, Iowa, was known in the early twentieth century as the dean of American literature. Keith Newlin notes in his introduction that despite having written eight volumes of autobiography, Garland excluded much about his life; moreover, he lacked the critical distance to use appropriate principles of selection and emphasis. This volume remedies those problems by offering a variety of documents—letters, newspaper columns, and excerpts from books and speeches written by his family, friends, colleagues, and notable acquaintances such as Sinclair Lewis, Theodore Roosevelt, and William Allen White—that present a kaleidoscope of perspectives on Garland. From them we learn that Garland was often a too-earnest and humorless advocate for his many causes and an unsociable man who was disliked by some of his neighbors. On the other hand, many of these documents also offer evidence of Garland’s generosity and helpfulness to younger writers.

Keith Newlin, the foremost Garland scholar working today, has done a masterful job of selecting and editing these documents, each of which is introduced by a headnote that contextualizes the document, the writer, and his or her relationship to Garland and is followed by endnotes that provide further explanation and context. The book usefully complements Newlin’s earlier biography of Garland and provides the fullest picture to date of one of the major nineteenth-century chroniclers of midwestern rural life. This book is an essential purchase for Garland scholars as well as for scholars of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century American literature and history.

*Voodoo Priests, Noble Savages, and Ozark Gypsies: The Life of Mary Alicia Owen*, by Greg Olson. Missouri Biography Series. Columbia: University