

Report of the Librarian

1966-1967

Once again, the Librarian can report that acquisitions have been very satisfactory. 3,849 titles were added to the collections, of which 436 were dated prior to 1821, and another 1,679 of which were published between 1821 and 1876. 428 titles were the gift of generous donors; to whom all praises go. In the game of locating previously unrecorded or varying titles or editions and, more importantly, in adding them to the number already present in the library, we were fortunate in obtaining ninety-two apparently unique copies of books printed before 1821. This represents twenty-one *per cent* of the total, a somewhat smaller proportion than that of the past few years, although the general quality of acquisitions was excellent. You will note an increased emphasis upon materials printed after 1821 in this report, and I suspect that this will be increasingly so as the years pass by, a condition produced by the mounting difficulty in obtaining pre-1821 books, as well as the inevitable shift of attention to a later chronological period. While still discussing general matters, I would like to thank the dealers who offered us materials for purchase, for without their assistance, our collections would be very much the poorer.

An important event for the Society as well as for a good many other institutions and collectors, was the second session of the great auction sale of Thomas Winthrop Streeter's collection of Americana. We were fortunate to bid in twenty-four lots, some of which will be reported upon later in this account. As an event it was also notable, with collectors and dealers in attendance from all parts of the

country and from Europe. Mr. Streeter left a very generous bequest to the Society which the Council has designated for the purchase of books sold in his sale. I have high hopes that we will be equally successful in the five succeeding sessions. Tom Streeter, who delighted in such bookish affairs, would have enjoyed the sales fully and the participants were surely aware of his spirit.

MISCELLANEOUS

To get down to particulars about the year's harvest, and to proceed by categories, I will begin with a miscellaneous lot of books which are worthy of mention because of their rarity or bibliographical importance.

What appears to be the first, and hitherto unrecorded, printing in Chestnut Hill, Pennsylvania, came our way this past year. It is an edition of the apocryphal Book of Nicodemus done by Nicholas Hasselbach, who worked in that Philadelphia suburb from 1763 to 1765. He was lost at sea in 1769, or 1770, while returning to Europe. The title of the book is: *Evangelischer Bericht von dem Leben Jesu Christi, . . . Tubjngen Gedruckt im Jahr 1748. Und nun auf Tchesnot hüll 1763.* 94p., 8vo.

Philip Doddridge (1702-1751) was a prolific and popular writer whose religious works were published and republished innumerable times in England and in this country. A newly located edition of his work must be unusual indeed to merit notice. I believe that we have such a find in a six-volume set of his *Family Expositor*. It is a copy of the sixth edition of 1773. The *British Museum General Catalogue of Printed Books* lists the fifth edition of 1760, and the seventh edition of 1792, both published in London, but makes no mention of the sixth. The point of all this is that our set was published in Charleston, South Carolina. The title pages are cancels and bear the imprint: *Charleston: Printed and Sold by*

Robert Wells. 1773. I am quite sure that the imprint is erroneous, as the set has a distinctly English look about the printing and the binding. Furthermore, there would be no need to cancel the title pages if Wells himself had printed the set. The work was advertised in the *South Carolina American General Gazette* of December 24, 1773, but according to Richard Morgan, the bibliographer of South Carolina imprints, no copy had been previously located.

I suspect that most bibliographers realize that eighteenth-century printers, in order to save time and effort, sometimes printed two distinct broadsides simultaneously. To find an extant example of this practice, however, is rare indeed. We have added two broadsides of the revolutionary period which have not been separated and which are also textually important. They are recorded in Worthington C. Ford's *Broadsides, Ballads &c. Printed in Massachusetts, 1639-1800*, under entry numbers 1997 and 1998. Both broadsides were issued by the Massachusetts House of Representatives and promulgate actions of September 17, 1776. The first is a request to the towns in the Commonwealth to permit the House and the Council to frame a constitution and form of government. The second deals with the length of service, set at not more than two months, required from local militia units on active duty in the revolutionary struggle.

Two unrecorded nineteenth-century Portland, Maine, fire society publications were acquired. The earlier is: *Rules, for the Government and Regulation of the Union Fire Society: Instituted at Portland, January 26, 1803. Printed at Jenks' Gazette-Office, No. 7, Fish-Street, Portland. MDCCCIII. 14p.* The watchword of this stalwart group was "Never Flinch." The other publication is similar: *Rules and Regulations, to be observed by the Company appointed to the Care of engine no. 3, named the Cataract. Portland: Printed by John M'Kown, at the New Printing-Office. 1806. 7p.*

Among the forty-odd additional examples of unrecorded or unlocated books of general interest were several Vermont imprints, for example: *Proceedings of the Northern Association of Universalists, one thousand eight hundred and seventeen; with a General Epistle* [by Samuel G. Loveland]. Windsor: Printed by Jesse Cochran. 8p. Another, a typographic *tour de force* was printed by John Holbrook in Brattleborough in 1819. The book is a folio of 28 pages containing complicated charts showing the relationship of grammatical rules to one another. Its title is: *Grammar Simplified; or an Ocular Analysis of the English Language*. [By Jeremiah Greenleaf.] A second edition was published in New York in 1820, but this is the first known copy of the earlier edition.

RELIGION

Of the materials added to the collections which have a religious significance, clearly the two most important were works of Cotton Mather. The earlier is: *Cares About the Nurseries. Two brief Discourses. The One, offering Methods and Motives for Parents . . . The Other, offering Some Instructions for Children, How they may Do Well, when they come to Years of Doing for themselves. Boston, N.E. Printed by T. Green, for Benjamin Eliot. 1702. 88p., 12mo.* Bound in at the end is *Sound Words, to be held fast, in Faith and Love: Or, The Christian Religion Epitomized and Inculcated, In Three Essayes.* 28p., caption title. This anonymous work is Thomas J. Holmes' bibliography of Cotton Mather under number 44. He located three other copies, at the Boston Public Library, Massachusetts Historical Society, and at Yale. The Antiquarian Society's copy is a very acceptable one, complete and in its original binding, although somewhat worm-eaten.

The other Mather title is *Sincere Piety Described, And the Trial of Sincerity Assisted.* This little book was issued anony-

mously without a title page. The colophon states: *Boston: Printed by S. Kneeland, for J. Edwards, at the Sign of the Light-House in King-Street. 1719. 24p., 12mo.* Holmes included this in his bibliography at number 358, recording a very incomplete copy in this library and a second example at the New York Public Library, lacking the first leaf. Although our new copy is complete in binding, its condition is not of the best.

Also in this category, we added an unrecorded broadside issued by the Presbyterian Synod of New York and Philadelphia. The text, which is signed by William Kirkpatrick, Clerk to the Synod, consists of a series of eight instructions to the congregations under the Synod's jurisdiction. The folio broadside begins, *At a Meeting of the Synod, of New York, & Philadelphia, in Philadelphia, on the 20th of May, 1767, . . .*

Of greater significance to the history of American religion is: *Declaration and Address of the Christian Association of Washington. Washington, (Pa.) Printed by Brown & Sample, at the Office of "The Reporter." 1809. 56p., 8vo.* This is the document which launched the Christian denomination, a group which has considerable strength in the mid-South and old South West, and was signed by Thomas Campbell, Secretary of the Association and the founding father of the denomination.

A vitriolic attack by Mary Marshall Dyer upon the Shakers concludes the listing in this group of acquisitions. The four-page quarto leaflet is addressed *To the Public. New-Lebanon, New York, March 25, 1826*, and contains a number of sworn statements concerning indecent behaviour on the part of Mother Ann Lee and her followers about the year 1781. It should be added that Mary Dyer was apostate member of the Shakers and her opinions might be considered biased by some. In any case, the leaflet is extremely scarce and may well be unique.

LITERATURE

The year's accumulation of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century literary works amounted to the impressive total of 268 titles. Of these, ten were published prior to 1821, and forty were novels recorded in Lyle Wright's bibliographies of American fiction. Another forty-three were dime novels. Six poetical carriers' addresses and four first American editions of Jules Verne were purchased. Twenty-three of the total in this category were received as gifts.

I suppose that I was most pleased with the acquisition of a copy of *Poems on Several Occasions. By Mr. [Mather] Byles. . . Boston: Printed and Sold by S. Kneeland and T. Green in Queenstreet, 1744. 112, [3]p., 8vo.* This is an important and scarce book in the history of American literature by an important Boston figure and a book which I was amazed to discover we lacked. However, by waiting this long we were able to get as desirable a copy as can be imagined, for not only is this in the original wrappers, it is also a family copy and is inscribed, "Mather Byles. The Gift of his Father." Our copy was carried to Canada during the American revolution by the loyalist Byles family and descended through succeeding generations until it was acquired by the Society last October.

Many of you know that the Society owns a copy of a rare first edition of *The Contrast* written by Royall Tyler and published in Philadelphia in 1790. This play is famous as one of the very earliest American written and American produced comedies and, for its day, enjoyed considerable success. We were extremely fortunate in acquiring a unique copy of a play-bill advertising McGrath's, 1791, production of the drama. The broadside reads in part: *Theatre, Frederick-Town. On Thursday Evening, March the 10th, will be presented, The Celebrated Comedy of— The Contrast. (Written by a Citizen of the United States) Per-*

T H E A T R E,

Frederick-Town.

By Mr. M'GRATH'S COMPANY OF COMEDIANS.

Mr. FITZ-GERALD and Miss KITELY'S NIGHT.

On THURSDAY EVENING, March the 10th, will be presented,

The Celebrated COMEDY of--

THE CONTRAST.

(Written by a CITIZEN of the UNITED STATES)

Performed with Universal Applause at the Theatres, Philadelphia, New-York, Baltimore, Alexandria, & George-Town.

"EXULT each Patriot heart! this night is shown
A Piece, which we may, fairly, call our own."

The Original PROLOGUE to be spoken by Mr. M'GRATH.

Colonel Manly, Van-Rough, Jeffery, Dimple, And Jonathan, Maria, & Lavinia, Jenny And Charlotte,	(with the comic song of "Yankee Doodle")	Mr. M'GRATH. Mr. BALENTINE. Mr. SMITH. by an ABSENT. Mr. FITZ-GERALD. Miss KITELY. Mrs. PARSONS. Mrs. M'GRATH.
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Between the Play and Farce, "Belles have at ye All," by Mrs. M'Grath.

To which will be added, a Farce, (written by 'the Author of the Poor Soldier')
Called—The

AGREEABLE SURPRISE.

Mr. Felix Friskety,
Eugene,
Compton,
Clissum,
John,
And Lingo,
Mr. Chubbins,
Lover,
And Conolly.

Mr. SMITH.
Mr. FITZ-GERALD.
Mr. BALENTINE.
Mr. FITZ-GERALD.
by an ABSENT.
Mr. M'GRATH.
Mrs. PARSONS.
Miss KITELY.
Mrs. M'GRATH.

The whole to conclude with A MORAL DEFENCE OF THE STAGE, by Mr. FITZ-GERALD:

Mr. Fitz-Gerald, & Miss Kately, at the same time that they solicit the Patronage of the Ladies and Gentlemen of Frederick-Town, and its Vicinage, on this *Entrepreiz* Night, most respectfully assure them, that the Entertainments shall be as faithfully performed *On the Stage*, as tamperingly held out *In the Bill*.

☞ The Curtain to rise precisely at the appointed time, (Twenty Minutes past SIX o'Clock.)

*15 Tickets of Admission, at Half a Dollar each, to be had at Mrs. Kimbell's Tavern, and of Mr. Fitz-Ger.; all, and Miss Kately, at the THEATRE.

Mr. and Mrs. M'GRATH return their best acknowledgements to their Friends, and the Public, who Honoured their *proposed* Benefit with their presence—respectfully announce, that in consequence of the *Weather*, and *other circumstances* militating against their Interest, they have thrown up the Receipts of that Night's Exhibition among the Company, on the hope of being advantaged by a *real* Benefit at a future evening, for which occasion, a well selected Play and Farce will be prepared, and *duly* Notified.
(*Floreat Republica!*)

FREDERICK-TOWN:

Printed by JOHN WYNNE, at the Printing-Office in Patrick-Street.

FITZGERALD.

FITZGERALD.

FITZGERALD.

formed with Universal Applause at the Theatres, Philadelphia, New-York, Baltimore, Alexandria, & George-Town. . . . Frederick-Town [Md.]: Printed by John Winter, at the Printing-Office in Patrick-Street. Not only does this broadside relate to a great event in the history of American literature, it also has the distinction of belonging to a most rare class of printed materials, eighteenth-century American play-bills. It is a great acquisition.

John Davis was an Englishman who was resident in Philadelphia for twenty years at the beginning of the nineteenth-century. There he operated a book shop and wrote a number of books, the best known of which, although now the scarcest, was instrumental in popularizing the story of Captain John Smith and Pocahontas. We now have a copy of it in original boards with the engraved frontispiece. Its title is: *Captain Smith and Princess Pocahontas, an Indian Tale. Philadelphia: Printed by Thomas L. Plowman, for the author, at his book store, No. 86, Arch-Street, opposite the Presbyterian Church. 1805.* viii, 176p., 16mo.

John Davis's novel was not included in Lyle Wright's bibliography because Davis was an Englishman who did not settle permanently in this country. Nevertheless, Mr. Wright did list 111 editions of novels published prior to 1821 which were written by Americans. Of that number, the Society until last year owned ninety-two, a figure which I doubt any other library can match. Now we have ninety-three. The addition is: *Margaretta; or, the Intricacies of the Heart. A Novel. Philadelphia: Published by Samuel F. Bradford, No. 4, South Third Street, 1807.* iv, 419p., 12 mo. The scene of this anonymous work is set in Philadelphia and Baltimore at about the time of its publication. Mr. Wright located two other copies of the book.

The first edition of another American novel was unknown to Mr. Wright until his recent visit here, although he listed

the 1819, Philadelphia, edition which we also have. This book is an allegory in the manner of *Pilgrim's Progress*, entitled: *The Spiritual Voyage, Performed in the Ship Convert, under the Command of Capt. Godly-Fear, from the Port of Repentance-Unto-Life, to the Haven of Felicity on the Continent of Glory. An Allegory. By Edmund Botsford, A.M. Pastor of the Baptist Church in George-Town. Charlestown, S.C. Printed for the author by J. Hoff, No. 117, Broad-Street. 1814. 26p. 12mo.* Shaw & Shoemaker 30970 lists it in one known copy at the University of South Carolina.

A great American novel which we did not own was purchased at the Streeter sale in April. It is a fine copy, although rebacked, of Augustus Baldwin Longstreet's *Georgia Scenes* published at Augusta in 1835. It is satisfying to have it in our collections, especially with such a distinguished provenance.

Among several books given to the Society by Mrs. Charles Farnsworth of Bristol, Rhode Island, is a now rare book which was published at the time that Charles Dickens was issuing such Christmas books as his *The Christmas Carol* and *The Chimes*. Our example is by Professor Joseph Holt Ingraham and is entitled, *Santa Claus. Or, The Merry King of Christmas*. It was published by H. L. Williams in Boston in 1844. The book has a wood engraved frontispiece, though not of Saint Nick but of the Professor himself, lounging in a chair and robed in a smoking jacket.

A most unusual item came our way not long ago. It appears to be the second poem of Alexander Pushkin, translated into the English language, its only predecessor being *The Talisman*, translated by George Barrows and published at St. Petersburg in 1835. Our book also has the distinction of being one of the earliest appearances of any Russian belle-lettre in America. I refer to a translation of *The Bakchesarian Fountain. And other poems, by various authors, translated from the original Russian by William D.*

Lewis. Philadelphia: C. Sherman, Printer. 1849. 72p., 12mo. The translator was an interesting person, a successful Philadelphia businessman with banking and railroad interests, who as a young man had worked for ten years as a factor in St. Petersburg. While there he quickly learned the language and became attached to the literati in the capital city.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

In the area of children's literature, we have been equally fortunate. We acquired thirty-four titles published during our "early period." Sixteen of them are variants or are otherwise unrecorded. Titles issued between 1821 and 1876 numbered 372, of which eighty-eight were gifts of Miss Elisabeth Ball and Mrs. Chester T. Hallenbeck.

The most significant piece in this category obtained this year was a second copy of *A Little Book for Little Children* by Thomas White. The book, published in Boston in 1702, varies from our earlier copy in the imprint and is hitherto unrecorded. It reads: *Reprinted, by T. Green for Benjamin Eliot, at his Shop, under the West-End of the Exchange.* In addition, this volume has the inscription: "Mather Byles Jun^r Given him by his Father. Jun. 9. 1740." It came from the same source as the other Byles association book referred to above.

Among several rare primers gathered in was one unrecorded in Heartman's list: *The New-England Primer, Improved, . . . Middletown [Conn.]: Printed by Moses H. Woodward, M,DCC,XCI. 39 lvs., 16mo., lacks final leaf.*

Clarence Brigham enumerated the American editions of Robinson Crusoe in a checklist published in 1958. At number 18 he listed a Philadelphia, 1791, edition which was then unlocated. It now appears we have this edition, although the title page of our copy is wanting. The caption title on page [3] reads, "The Life and Adventures of Robin-

son Crusoe" and at the last page, [158], is found an advertisement of W. Woodhouse at the Bible, No. 6, South Front-street, Philadelphia. Evans listed this edition under number 23320, probably from a newspaper advertisement. Our copy of Woodhouse's 1792 edition of Campe's *New Robinson Crusoe* lists this earlier volume in an advertisement.

Judging from the number of printings extant, one of the most popular children's books of long ago was *The Death and Burial of Cock Robin*. Two unrecorded editions came to light recently. Both were printed by John Babcock in New Haven at the press named for his son, Sidney. Their dates are 1806 and 1813.

Philadelphia publishers issued a large number of handsome children's books, illustrated with copperplate engravings. One of the scarce ones is *The Fishes Grand Gala* written by Mary Cockle, an Englishwoman. It was issued in two parts by Benjamin C. Busby in 1809. The Newark Public Library has both parts, while the Free Library of Philadelphia has an imperfect copy of part one. The Boston Public Library has part two. To complete this short census, we now add the AAS copy of part two. It is in fine condition and was given to us by Marion V. Brewington.

To conclude this section, I should like to mention an atypical miniature children's book; that is, one smaller than usual and measuring but $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{8}$ inches; *The Book of Pictures, and The Story of Betty Goodhue; and of Frederick and Thomas*. Hartford: Sold by Cooke & Hale. (Copy right secured.) [n.d., 1816-1819]. 16p.

ALMANACS

We received fifty almanacs this year, nine of them dating prior to 1821, and one of those being unlisted in Drake's checklist. This was *The Federal Almanac, For the Year*

1790; . . . By *Jacobus van Ceulen*. *Wilmington* [Del.]: Printed by *Frederick Craig and Co.* 18 lvs., 12mo.

Among the more interesting later almanacs was a group of Southern issues, the earliest being: *Number 1. Langdon & Baker's Almanac for the Year 1823. Carefully calculated for the latitude and meridian of Natchez, Printed and Sold at the Mississippian Office, Also: Sold by Snodgrass & Whitney.* The almanac by William Collom, of Philadelphia, [Miss.]

A rare Mid-Western almanac is: *No. 3 Prairie Farmer Almanac 1848 Published by R. Spaulding, Bookseller and Stationer, Main Street, Dubuque, Iowa.* Although the almanac was sold by Rufus Spaulding, at the Dubuque Book Store, the almanac was printed in Chicago at *The Prairie Farmer*, a monthly periodical, established by John S. Wright in 1841.

In the gift of Mrs. Charles Farnsworth were two 1856, New York almanacs; *Wyman's Comic Almanac for the Times* and *Fisher's Comic Almanac*. Both are rare.

ARTS, SCIENCES, PRACTICAL ARTS

In the area of arts and sciences, we obtained several interesting books. In the arts the Society added to its collections the first book of music printed in Canada. This is *Le Graduel Romain a l'usage du Diocèse de Quebec. A Quebec: Chez John Neilson, Imprimeur-Librarie; No. 3, Rue La Montagne, 1800.* [6], 431, ccxlv p., 12mo. The music is set in types, the notes having a square or diamond shape.

An unrecorded songster is *The Buck's Pocket Companion; a collection of Choice Songs. . . . Wilmington: Printed and sold by Bonsal & Niles—Also sold at their Book-store, No. 192, Market-street, Baltimore. 1804.* 108p., 12mo. This copy never saw the inside of a pocket.

Still dealing with music, and worthy of inclusion here, is a rare book by Philip Trajetta, whose volume of Italian

verse, printed in Charleston, S.C., in 1803, we purchased a year ago. The title of this work is: *An Introduction to the Art and Science of Music, written for the American Conservatorio of Philadelphia. By Phil. Trajetta. Philadelphia: Printed by I. Ashmead & Co. 1829.* vi, [7]-68p. The book contains 16 engraved plates of music demonstrating Trajetta's principles.

In the field of art and architecture, we added a drawing book of 1820, unrecorded by Dreppard, as well as fourteen volumes which are listed in Henry-Russell Hitchcock's listing of American architectural works. *A Series of Progressive Lessons, intended to elucidate The Art of Flower Painting in Water Colours. Philadelphia: Published by Thomas Desilver, No. 253, Market Street. Lydia R. Bailey, Printer, 1820.* 32p., 4to. 12 aquatint plates. This book probably is of English origin but is, nevertheless (or, perhaps, because of it), a most interesting example of its type.

A few years ago we obtained the second edition of a work of which, up to that time, we were quite unaware. Now we have the first edition as well, and, as it is on a subject of considerable interest to me, I cannot forbear from mentioning it. It is William A. Emerson's *Practical Instruction in the Art of Wood Engraving*, published by the author and printed in his home town of East Douglas, Massachusetts, by Charles J. Batcheller in 1876. At the conclusion of the 52 page book are six pages of advertisements of engraver's tools.

There is little doubt that the most important architectural volume obtained during the year, despite the fact that we added another edition of Asher Benjamin, is *The Modern Builders' Guide: By Minard Lafever, Architect. Illustrated by eighty-seven copperplate engravings. New York: William D. Smith. Printed by C. C. & E. Childs, Jr. 1841.* The designs in the volume are in the Greek mode and Lafever's work in not

only a reflection of the then-current interest in Greek revival architecture but a disseminator of it as well.

While we are still considering architecture, I would call to your attention an 1849 proposal for a co-operative apartment building. The eight page pamphlet is entitled: *Constitution of the Philadelphia Unitary Building Association, with a lithographic outline of the proposed ediface*. Our copy has an illustration of a block-long building designed in the epitome of mid-Victorian fashion. Perhaps our Philadelphia friends can enlighten us as to whether such a building was ever erected.

The natural sciences were represented by a few outstanding acquisitions. *Flora Carolinænsis; or, A Historical, Medical, and Economical Display of the Vegetable Kingdom* was compiled by John Linnaeus Edward Whitridge Shecut and is, as the title states, a catalogue of the flora of South Carolina. Volume one only, of a proposed two, was published at Charleston by the author. The 579 page book was printed there by John Hoff in 1806.

Another pioneer botanic publication was purchased this year also. It is *A Catalogue of Plants, found in the Vicinity of Milwaukee, Wisconsin Territory* (Milwaukee: W. T. Printed at the Advertiser Office, 1838.) 15p., 16mo. This miniature volume was compiled by Increase Allen Lapham, Wisconsin's first scientist, and is a companion to his *Catalogue of Plants and Shells found in the Vicinity of Milwaukee*, published in 1836 and one of the earliest of all Wisconsin imprints.

One of the great American scientific publications was presented this past year to the Society by the Francis A. Countway Library. It is the first separate printing of Henry Jacob Bigelow's article, *Insensibility during Surgical Operations produced by Inhalation*. (Boston, 1846). This pamphlet is an offprint from *The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, Wednesday, November 18, 1846.

Among publications on popular science we obtained Dr. M. Parker's *Arcana of Arts and Sciences, or, Farmers' & Mechanics' Manual*, a collection of recipes for staining wood, mixing colors, making varnishes and enamels, etc. The book was printed in Washington, Pennsylvania, in 1824, by J. Grayson.

Two unusual pieces on early American engineering were added to our collections. The earlier is a very early railroad broadside dated, *New-York Jan. 15, 1813*. It begins: *Mechanics. < Copy. > Specification of a new, safe, easy and expeditious means of travelling, and transporting of Merchandise, over land, on prepared Roads, or over ice, in carriages constructed for pleasure or burden, & to be put in motion by those who ride therein, or by the expansive force of steam, or any other permanently elastic fluid, . . .* We can find no record of another copy of the broadside which was issued to advertise a demonstration of the marvel at The Stadium in New York City. The American Philosophical Society has yet another broadside relating to this same invention illustrated with a cut of the vehicle which, in addition to providing locomotion, was also said to offer immediate gratification to persons afflicted with Palsy, Gout, or Rheumatism. The carriage was demonstrated in Harmony Court, Philadelphia, in September, 1813, and John Vaughan, Secretary of the Philosophical Society, was respectfully invited to see it on the twentieth of that month.

John Swingle of Berkeley, California, presented us with a copy of a very scarce pamphlet entitled: *A Brief Statement of Facts, shewing the importance of a Bridge over the River Susquehanna, at Connowingo Creek, . . . Baltimore: Printed by J. Wane & Co. No. 22, N. Gay-Street. 1816.* 12p. An engraved map shows the route of a new turnpike from Baltimore to Philadelphia, passing through Chads Ford on the Brandywine. Thus, it becomes obvious to whom the bridge

was indeed important—the proprietors of the new turnpike.

For mariners, we offer for their delight a copy of *The United States Telegraph Vocabulary, being an appendix to Elford's Marine Telegraph Signal Book. . . . To which is added The Boston Harbor Signal Book. By John R. Parker. Boston: From the Steam Power Press Office. W. L. Lewis, Printer. 1832.* This copy has a printed slip pasted to the head of the title page which changed the title to read, "American Signal Book, or . . ." The volume contains lithographs of semaphore signals and a list of ships calling at Boston, with a three page supplement for 1833.

The most important acquisition concerned with history of American printing was the account book of Solomon Sala, a printer of Buffaloe Creek, [West] Virginia, September, 1823; Wellsburgh, [West] Virginia, April, 1826; and Canton, Ohio, November, 1828–July 18, 1831. It includes a list of subscribers to his newspaper, *The Canton Repository, or Vaterlandsfreund*, but more importantly, the earlier portion lists the accounts with Alexander Campbell for the printing of *The Christian Baptist*.

In July, 1831, Sala sold his business to Peter Kaufmann, who continued to use the account book until March 26, 1838. Kaufmann was employed by Sala at least as early as March 15, 1828, and later entertained some impulses toward epistemological inquiry, as we recently purchased a book written by the sometime printer entitled, *The Temple of Truth, or the Science of Ever-Progressive Knowledge*, published in Cincinnati and Canton in 1858.

WOMEN

Of the forty books relating to women's activities and occupations, among the most interesting were three pamphlets composed by Frances Wright. This fascinating free thinker was at her sarcastic best in an 1829 Fourth of July

oration in which she lambastes her audience for their sins of commission and omission in the moral and political life of the nation. She cites faults in education, election practices, and protection of youth as especially noteworthy. Ah, that times would but change!

Mission presses have long been an interest of this library and when we can combine that interest with another, cookery books, so much the better. One of the acquisitions least useful to most of our readers is: *Foreign Cookery in Chinese, with a Preface and Index in English. Shanghai: Presbyterian Mission Press. 1866.* Although all of the recipes are printed in Chinese characters, who can deny that the book is rare and worthy of preservation?

Another interesting title is: *How to Ruin Your Health with a Sewing Machine.* (Baltimore: Trumbull Brothers, 1874). This pamphlet, written by a physician, concerns itself with the posture of women operating treadle sewing machines in clothing factories. The doctor suggests the posture which will afford the least harm to the operator, and the pamphlet is vividly illustrated with a lithographic, cut-away view of the female's internal organs in both correct and incorrect attitudes.

ECONOMICS, GOVERNMENT, MILITARY AFFAIRS

Here again, a large number of significant materials were added to the collections this year. For example: *A Bill for Establishing The Constitution of The State of South-Carolina. Charles-Town: Printed by Peter Timothy. M,DCC,LXXVII. 23p., 8vo.* This, the founding document of the Palmetto State, is known by two other copies.

One of one hundred copies, the following was owned and inscribed by Roger Sherman of Connecticut, signer of the Declaration of Independence: *Proceedings of a General Court Martial, Held at Brunswick, in the State of New-Jersey,*

by order of His Excellency General Washington, Commander in Chief of the Army of the United States of America, For the Trial of Major General Lee. July 4th, 1778. Major General Lord Stirling, President. Philadelphia: Printed by John Dunlap, in Market-Street. MDCCLXXVIII. 62p., folio. We obtained it at the Streeter sale in April.

Also purchased at the Streeter sale were two proclamations of the President of the United States promulgating treaties with Indian nations. The earlier dealt with a treaty with the Creek Nation, signed on August 7, 1790. Evans records it under number 22989. The other, dated August 26, 1790, has to do with treaties signed in 1785 and 1786 with the Cherokee, Choctaw, and Chickasaw Indians as well as the text of an act regulating Indian trade. This broadside is hitherto unrecorded.

Among a lot of thirty-odd pieces relating to insurance was an unrecorded *Act to Incorporate The Lancaster and Susquehanna Insurance Co. Lancaster: Printed by William Hamilton. 1808. 13p.*

A curious document was in the Streeter sale and proved to be irresistible. It is: *Report of The Committee Appointed to frame the plan of provisional Government for the Republic of the Floridas. . . . Fernandina December 9th. of 1817, first of the Independence of Floridas. 7p., 8vo.* This, the third Florida imprint, was the result of Andrew Jackson's attempt to annex East and West Florida. The government was located on Amelia Island, off present day Jacksonville. One other copy is known to be at the University of Florida.

A landmark book among American radical literature is Thomas Skidmore's *The Rights of Man to Property! Being a Proposition to Make it Equal Among the Adults of the Present Generation: and to provide for its equal transmission to every individual of each succeeding generation, on arriving at the age of maturity.* The book was printed for the author by

Alexander Ming, Jr., in New York in 1829. We now have a fine copy of it. Along similar lines, we obtained three pamphlets on Charles Fourier's communal experiments, one of which, incidentally, was located in my own college town of Ripon, Wisconsin. Pamphlets by Albert Brisbane and Parke Godwin were sympathetic to the movement, but one, entitled: *Boa Constrictor, or Fourier Association Self-Exposed* by Donald C. McLaren and published in Rochester, N.Y., in 1844 is a bitter attack upon the scheme. Our copy belonged to James G. Bennett, the founder of the *New York Herald*.

In the same year in New Orleans, P. A. Champomier initiated an annual *Statement of the Sugar Crop made in Louisiana*. We now have a run of twelve numbers, from 1844 through 1862, lacking only 1847 and 1848.

Finally, I would call to your attention a pamphlet which includes a letter of Abraham Lincoln and which seems to have escaped the notice of his bibliographer: *The Nation's Success and Gratitude. The substance of a discourse delivered in Danville, Ky., on the 26th of November, 1863, the day of national thanksgiving and prayer*. [By Robert J. Breckenridge.] Philadelphia: Henry B. Ashmead, 1864. 22p. Pages 20-22 contain a letter from Lincoln, dated April 4, 1864, to A. G. Hodges of Frankfort on "The Negroes and the War." Sabin lists the pamphlet under number 7681 but makes no mention of the Lincoln letter. Monahan does not list it at all. The letter is printed in the Rutgers edition of the works of Lincoln but without notice of its earlier appearance in print.

BIOGRAPHY, TRAVEL, LOCAL HISTORY

The acquisition of the earliest date within this category is a copy of the first general history of Canada in English. William Smith was Clerk of the Parliament of the Province

of Lower Canada, and author and publisher of *History of Canada; From its First Discovery to the Peace of 1763*. The two volume work was printed in Quebec by John Neilson in 1815. Our copy of this desirable set is in original boards.

Next, is another Florida book, also acquired at the Streeter sale. It is *A View of West Florida, embracing its Geography, Topography, &c.*, by John Lee Williams. The book was published in Philadelphia in 1827, by H. S. Tanner and the author.

Continuing with books on the south, we find a compilation by James F. Smith, entitled: *The Cherokee Land Lottery, containing a numerical list of the names of the fortunate drawers in said lottery, with An Engraved Map of Each District*. The book was published in New York by Harper & Brothers in 1838. The lottery took place after the shameful removal of the Indian tribes to Oklahoma in 1836.

A scarce biography of a Revolutionary soldier was obtained this year: *A Memoir of Abijah Hutchinson, a soldier of the Revolution. By his grandson, K. M. Hutchinson. Rochester: William Alling, Printer, 1843. 22p., 12mo.* It is one of over one hundred biographies added to the collection the past twelve months.

The Home of the Badgers, or a Sketch of the Early History of Wisconsin, . . . By Oculus [Josiah Bushnell Grinnell]. . . . Milwaukee: Published by Wilshire & Co. 1845. 36p., 12mo. Printed wrappers. This book is a rare and desirable early history of Wisconsin which we purchased in anticipation of the Streeter sale, hoping to obtain it at a lower price.

The following represents an interesting idea of service to travelers and emigrants and one wonders how widespread such agencies were in the mid-nineteenth century. The leaflet is labelled, *United and Organic Emigration*. The proposals are signed by Calvin Pepper of Albany, New York, and the date, 1855, appears on a subscription certificate. Mr. Pepper

announces his intention to assist emigrants in organizing parties to Kansas, Nebraska, California, Oregon, Australia, etc., etc. He will provide information as to routes, supplies, and other necessary data at offices which he plans to establish in the major cities of the nation. On a certain day of each week, persons interested in journeying to a particular place are requested to meet at one of his offices, there to meet with other people who wish to go to the same place. Thus, through his agency, Pepper will furnish not only expertise but also travelling companions, all at a modest profit.

Our accumulation of nineteenth-century directories grew by only eight copies last year. However, among them were the first, 1822, directory of Washington, D. C., the Quebec, 1844 edition, and a directory of Doniphan County, Kansas, for 1868.

NEWSPAPERS

Clearly, the most important acquisition in this category, and one of the most important of all additions for the year, is a file of a year and a half of the Williamsburg *Virginia Gazette* published by John Dixon and William Hunter from June 1, 1776, to December 26, 1777. Only issues for July 20, 1776, and February 28, 1777, are missing, while many of the issues in this file are unique. A collector could hardly hope for a more significant period of coverage for a newspaper which is both superlatively rare and historically vital.

Among the twenty-eight other periodicals obtained were two prospecti. The more interesting one is a copy of Joseph Dennie's announcement of *The Portfolio*, his very important literary weekly which he published in Philadelphia between 1801 and 1805. The other adds information about the history of the Northampton, Massachusetts, *Democrat*, a Jeffersonian republican newspaper. The proprietors of the newspaper were unknown to Brigham, but now all is made clear by

their signatures to a *Circular* of January 17, 1811, proposing to re-establish the republican press in Northampton. The signers were Thomas Shepard, Jerre Stebbins, Ambrose Ames, John White, and Benjamin Smith.

Finally, we obtained at the Streeter sale a unique copy of the rarely found St. Stephens, Alabama, *Halcyon*, extra issue of June 2, 1818.

In the affairs of the library other than acquisitions, I am not so sanguine. We are understaffed. For example, there is no manuscript curator. A great collection of papers and documents is lying fallow because of the inability of the Society to engage the services of a trained person to provide guidance and assistance to users. The situation in the periodical department needs attention. We still do not have an adequate catalogue of that collection which is an extraordinary one. One of the Society's great contributions to American scholarship has been the bibliographical tools which have been built to give access to our printed materials dating before 1821. These catalogues should be extended to include materials printed before 1877, thus taking a major step to bring light to the dim recesses of nineteenth-century bibliography. Such a program will require an enlarged cataloguing staff.

We need a bibliographer to survey our collections in order to put our acquisitions on an objective, rather than subjective, basis. Our present staff members, I can describe only by the well-worn term in delineating librarians—"dedicated." Certainly, we cannot say they are well paid! Our senior staff members are earning less than raw beginners now receive elsewhere for starting salaries. That is inequitable, and we should not countenance it.

As President Barrett has already reported, Clifford Shipton was determined to start a program which would provide adequate monies for the improvement of the

Society's activities. A careful administrator, he cherished each dollar in the available budget to maintain the effectiveness of the library, which is, after all, the only reason for the existence of this organization. There is absolutely no doubt that we require an increased annual income to prevent the Society from stagnating. Improved salaries, an enlarged staff, and more funds for books are necessities, not luxuries. In addition, within a very few years we will be faced with a building problem, not only for enlarged stack space but also for better reading and work areas.

To conclude this report, I would like to indicate my satisfaction and gratitude to the several people who have sent expressions of good will upon the inauguration of this administration. I undertake these duties quite aware that my predecessors have set a course for the Society which to follow adequately will absorb all of my talents and energies. I gladly pledge them. I am especially grateful to Clifford Kenyon Shipton, with whom I have spent the past seven years, for pointing the way. He was unfailingly kind to me and was (usually) considerate of my shortcomings. Those years were a joy, and the day that Ted left was one of real regret for me. But, I look eagerly to the future in which, I know, the American Antiquarian Society will continue to fulfill its ancient purposes and will increase its effectiveness to the glory of God and for the good of mankind.

MARCUS A. MCCORISON

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