

# *The Report of the Council*

*October 15, 1975*

**T**HIS occasion marks the closing of my fifteenth year of service at our Society and it is hardly surprising that in preparing this report I thought about some of the things which have occurred in that span of time.

In 1960, Clarence Brigham had just brought to a close a brilliant fifty-one-year career at AAS. Clifford Shipton was well embarked upon his directorship which lasted for seven more fruitful years. Avis Clarke and Mary Brown represented the standard of highly intelligent and helpful staff service to which Miss Brown and a much enlarged group of colleagues still hold. Despite the losses of so many friends from the membership of this Society, there now are more members than ever before in our history and those of us elected as late as 1960 represent the old guard. This year in particular has been a sad year with fourteen deaths, among whom were some of our closest friends.

The library building has been changed and monies have been collected to pay for those structural alterations and for new services. So much is different, yet our tasks remain fundamentally the same. It appears to this observer that despite the present low state of the national economy with attendant discouragements and very real problems, we have much for which to be thankful. We have made significant progress in our ability to make our collections useful to more people by adding capable and energetic people to our staff. Staff members have advanced new ideas for the increase of our scholarly services and for contributions to the community at large, in

addition to the pursuit of their curatorial duties. The accomplishment of these enlargements in our affairs is attributable to the very generous and substantially increased financial support given by members and friends of the Society. During the past six years contributions to support the annual work of AAS have doubled, while gifts for special needs or for capital increase amount to \$3,000,000 at the very least. It is not possible to thank adequately the people who have made possible such changes in our condition.

Even so, the Society has not yet attained (and perhaps never will) a sufficiency which enables the Council to provide the kind of staffing necessary to make the most of the riches of the library. The Council is extremely concerned by the continuing deficit in the Society's financial accounts. The conflict between our desire to fulfill increasing expectations for service and the fact of decreasing monetary flexibility is severe. Unless this dichotomy can be brought into balance the choices are either to reduce services through staff attrition or to find larger financial resources. These antagonistic pressures come at a time that members of the Society's staff have taken to assess activities in which they engage. Consensus has been reached on the absolute necessity of maintaining normal library services to inquirers, the responsible carrying out of curatorial duties of organizing and conserving the collections, increasing the staff's ability to perform these functions, and finally making the Society's library more useful to more people. In lean times, the point of such thoughts is driven home and the Council can only commend our staff members for their constancy while asking the members of the Society to remain loyal in the support of the staff.

The pressure for service on the Society's staff, under the leadership of Frederick E. Bauer, has risen significantly. For example, in July 405 readers were logged in, the largest monthly 'head count' ever. During the year, 1,106 individuals made recourse to the Society's collections on 3,405 occasions.

We receive a half dozen mail requests each day for research assistance, each of which requires about an hour to prepare an adequate response. The graphic arts collections have been used extensively for illustrative materials, photographs having been delivered to 140 publishers or individuals. The energies of staff members of both the newspaper and manuscript departments were taxed to respond to requests for assistance in person or by mail. For example, use of manuscript resources has increased by more than sixty percent during the past two years. In addition to readers, we received nearly 3,000 visitors during the year. Also, we entertained for purposes of instruction or meeting a group of specialists in children's literature from Simmons College and a history class from Worcester State College, while the historians and political scientists of the Worcester Consortium for Higher Education and members of the Seminar on American Political History, 1750-1850, continue to meet regularly at the Society.

Three scholars holding visiting fellowships on the Fred Harris Daniels Fund have already completed their tenure. Professor Robert D. Arner of the University of Cincinnati, at work on comic literature in colonial America; Professor Michael G. Hall of the University of Texas, who is editing the diaries of Increase Mather; and Professor James L. McElroy of the State University of New York, Plattsburg, whose research centered on the temperance movement early in the nineteenth century, have all been in residence for periods of time up to two months. Professor Howard P. Chudacoff of Brown University completed a year's work on demographic patterns in the City of Worcester, 1850-1880, under the AAS-Clark grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. In all there were forty scholars who made constant use of the library throughout the year or for periods of more than one week.

It is with pleasure that the Council announces the award of a grant of \$33,600 from the National Endowment for the Humanities under its Centers for Advanced Study program to

be used for visiting fellowships, a grant which enables us to significantly expand our fellowship program.

In addition to serving readers, the continuing work of organizing collections proceeds as rapidly as time and strength permit. For example, with Dorothy Gleason's resignation after several years of excellent work in the Department of Newspapers and Serials, serials have become the charge of Audrey Zook. She has rapidly learned the idiosyncrasies of dealing with early and current periodicals, but the focusing of her attention on serials has caused a delay in Mrs. Zook's former task of preparing and filing new cards in the newspaper catalogue. Frank Herron, part-time assistant in the Newspaper Department until his resignation in August, worked with the several large gifts—large in size and number—as well as on the normal chores of the department.

The department staff spent a great amount of time searching for desiderata amongst several major and many smaller gifts. Since such additions to the collections usually involve cataloguing, if possible, new titles, as well as providing necessary folders for preservation of the papers, the staff had much less time for continuing the task of recataloguing the existing collection. However, little by little new cards have been typed and have been added to the newspaper catalogue. Groups of papers in particularly poor condition are being sorted, catalogued, and placed in new folders. California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania collections have received the most attention.

Major gifts such as 700 issues of newspapers from Bell and Howell Corporation, a virtually complete run of the *Home Journal* (1846–1899) from its successor, *Town and Country Magazine*, 750 newspapers and twenty periodical titles from Mr. Roger P. Welles, over 4,000 issues of twelve titles from Franklin and Marshall College, 47 issues of twenty-seven titles from Newberry Library, and 78 issues from the Massachusetts State Library were augmented by valuable smaller

gifts from the Connecticut Historical Society, Gettysburg College, John Carroll University, the New York State Historical Association, Northborough Historical Society, University of Maine, University of Rochester, Virginia Historical Society, Worcester Historical Society, Saint Olaf College, and several individuals.

Purchases in newspapers and periodicals included eighty-six pre-1820 Connecticut issues, thirty-six periodicals of various types, important volumes of the *New York Farmer and Mechanic*, periodicals in the field of spiritualism, over twenty-seven volumes of the *Commercial Advertiser* of New York, and eight volumes of titles of another interesting group of periodicals, plus some individual titles.

During the summer the Society cooperated with Boston Public Library, Worcester Public Library, and Readex Microprint Corporation in the filming of the *National Aegis*, the *Aegis and Transcript*, and the *Aegis and Gazette* (1821-1893) as part of a project to place on microfilm various nineteenth-century Massachusetts titles. The Newspaper Department also worked with Professor Francis G. Walett and other departments in the development of the facsimile units for Allyn and Bacon and in providing illustrations for the newspaper series on the press and the American Revolution. When groups toured the library, selected newspapers were placed on exhibit, sometimes being described by the curator of the department, Joyce Ann Tracy. The curator also discussed some of the early children's periodicals included in the Society's holdings for Simmons College students. In April, the staff of the department prepared a major exhibit on Isaiah Thomas to coincide with Richard C. Steele's bicentennial lecture commemorating Thomas's move to Worcester in April 1775.

We are pleased that Sigma Delta Chi, an association of professional journalists, this past year honored the Society and its founder, Isaiah Thomas, by awarding a plaque to the

Society which commemorates the significant place held by Dr. Thomas in the history of American journalism.

The American Revolution Bicentennial has created strong demands on the Graphic Arts Department. Although it is comforting to know that our collections are in such demand, it will be a relief to Georgia Bumgardner when 1976 is at an end. During the past year the Society has participated in exhibitions at the National Portrait Gallery, the Grolier Club, the Museum of Fine Arts, and the Worcester Art Museum. The sixth annual American print conference was held in Boston in May and inspired a group of exhibitions at the Museum of Fine Arts, the Boston Athenæum, the Massachusetts Historical Society, and the Boston Public Library. AAS contributed prints to all of them. In addition, exhibitions have been mounted at AAS. They included Recent Acquisitions for the 1974 annual meeting; an exhibition of toys, Christmas cards, and other seasonal publications for December; a selection of prints used in *Pictures to Serve the People: American Lithography 1830-1855*; a group of views of Worcester to accompany Howard Chudacoff's lecture in March; an exhibition on Isaiah Thomas organized by Joyce Tracy for Mr. Steele's lecture; an exhibition on the clipper ship trade arranged by Audrey Zook (who also prepares the attractive exhibition signs); and lithographs of Rembrandt Peale and Fitz Hugh Lane, which were exhibited at the Boston Athenæum in May.

The premiere of the movie *Pictures to Serve the People: American Lithography 1830-1855* was held in January at the Worcester Art Museum. Since then, it has been shown locally at the Worcester Public Library, the Exchange Club, the Rotary Club, as well as at the Addison Art Gallery, the New-York Historical Society, and the Museum of Fine Arts during the print conference in May. There it received an enthusiastic response from print curators, collectors, and art historians. It has also been viewed by the staff at the National Gallery of Art in Washington and the Massachusetts Council

on the Arts and Humanities. The Society has tried to refrain from distributing the movie, for it is available locally at the Worcester Public Library, for rental by the Museum of Modern Art, and for purchase from a commercial distributor (ACI Media, Inc., of New York).

In the fall of 1974, the Society was awarded a matching grant of \$950 from the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities for the restoration of portraits of John Moore, John Leverett, John Wheelwright, John Endicott, and Frederick W. Thomas. The grant also enabled the Society to restore the frame of the John Moore portrait. We are grateful to Morton C. Bradley, Jr., of Arlington for his painstaking work on our portraits.

Work continues on cataloguing lithographs and political cartoons as well as replacing worn-out folders containing maps and folio engravings. Several hundred broadsides and prints have been repaired in the conservation workshop in the building. Prior to the exhibition 'Paul Revere's Boston 1735-1818,' the drawing of the Green Dragon Tavern by Col. John Johnston was restored at the Museum of Fine Arts with funds graciously provided by the Lodge of St. Andrew through the assistance of Augustus P. Loring. Paul Revere's 'A View of the Year 1765' was repaired at the same time.

Mrs. Bumgardner has been appointed to the Advisory Committee of the New England section of the Archives of American Art.

During the past year, the Manuscripts Department made significant progress toward its goals of cataloguing, conserving, and making available for research its resources. In these uncertain times the steady increase in the use of manuscript materials provides important evidence about the significance of these resources for research. The quality of the services provided for readers of AAS manuscripts must not be allowed to deteriorate at the expiration of the grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The first part or 'bicentennial phase' of the manuscript cataloguing project, that part featuring item cataloguing, has been completed and special emphasis is now being devoted to collection descriptions. In the past year the letterbook of Philip Schuyler was catalogued, while catalogue cards were also typed for eleven additional collections including the Isaiah Thomas Papers, the Allen Family Collection, the John Davis Papers, and the United States Revolution Collection.

The new emphasis on the preparation of collection descriptions can be seen in the fact that 202 such descriptions were prepared this past year compared to 83 for the preceding year. Among those collections processed in the preceding year were the John Bradstreet Papers, the George Watson Cole Papers, the William Cobbett Account Book, the Henry Farr DePuy Papers, the Samuel N. Dickinson Letters, the Foster Family Papers, the Robert Fotherby Journal of 1613, the Ethan Allen Greenwood Papers, and the War of 1812 Collection. Moreover, through both the item cataloguing and collection description procedures, approximately 18,000 cards were added to the new card catalogue which now bulks to approximately fifty drawers.

In addition to the physical arrangement of collections, which is normally a part of the description process, a detailed inventory of manuscripts filed under 'Worcester' and 'Worcester County' was also prepared as a preliminary step to the more rational and functional arrangements of these extensive sources on Worcester history.

Perhaps it should be said that the 'quiet crisis' afflicting the Manuscript Department, as well as other departments of this Society, is that of conservation needs. Several activities have been initiated to reduce the urgency of this problem, although the effort necessary to restore the collections to good condition is massive. Among the work to be done or already begun is the systematic fumigation of every manuscript item in the Kresge Manuscript Room (which, it should be noted, has an



excellent climate control system), the replacement of manuscript boxes, and the use of acid-free folders for storage of unbound materials. An indication of the priority given the department's conservation needs is the recent assignment of clerk-typist Paula Jakubiak to the conservation workshop for one and one-half days per week to help work down the backlog of manuscript materials which are closed for research until repairs can be made. Eighteen separate projects were completed in the last year in the conservation workshop.

The department is involved in a number of projects involving institutions and cooperative editorial projects such as the Letters of Members of the Continental Congress sponsored by the Library of Congress. Moreover, the College of the Holy Cross made successful application to the National Endowment for the Humanities to develop a course teaching humanistic editorial methods and based upon the Society's letterbook of Philip Schuyler. In yet another project, the Society's revised report to the new edition of *American Literary Manuscripts* reflected a threefold increase.

Curator William Joyce attended a number of meetings in the past year including Regional Library Planning Conferences in Durham in September 1974, and in Amherst in April 1975, and was appointed to the State Advisory Council on Libraries. He attended meetings of the Society of American Archivists in Toronto in September and organized the program and chaired the workshop on finding aids sponsored by the New England Archivists in Amherst in November. Mr. Joyce taught a seven-week course cosponsored by NEA and Clark University on the 'care and feeding' of archives and manuscripts.

The assistant manuscript curator, Nancy Burkett, has also been active in the New England Archivists, prepared an article for the Society's *News-Letter* on the recently discovered Philip Schuyler letterbook, and has been commissioned by the Worcester Bicentennial Commission to write a booklet

on Abigail Kelley Foster, a Worcester feminist and abolitionist. Ms. Burkett catalogued the Society's fine collection of Abby Kelley's correspondence.

John B. Hench and his assistant, Margaret A. Donoghue, oversee the work of issuing Society publications. The spring-time transition from Davis Press to The Stinehour Press for printing the Society's *Proceedings* went smoothly. The new plan of submitting final copy to the printer, with the elimination of reading galley proof, has proven to be workable and for the editor has involved less time than the former method of reading typescript, galley proof, and page proof. The editor and his colleagues have given a good deal of thought to the content and scope of the *Proceedings*, questions which were discussed by the Publications Committee and by members of the Council. The questions are still open. However, it is certain that Society members from the scholarly community should have an opportunity to play a larger role in the publication of the journal.

The distributing services of The University Press of Virginia have proven to be very useful to the publications program of the Society. The Press has actively catalogued and advertised our books and offprints, with excellent results in placing them in the hands of scholars and libraries. We intend to do more and different things in the way of reprints from the *Proceedings*, such as issuing together articles on the same subject. Our trial horse is the publication of the articles on the Declaration of Independence by Howard Mumford Jones and by Howard Henry Peckham. Because of the backlog of articles awaiting space in the *Proceedings*, the editor is considering a plan to issue related articles in pamphlet form, without the mediation of earlier publication. Thus, the articles prepared by demographers Vinovskis, Chudacoff, and Muise will be published as a separate pamphlet.

In the matter of books, *A Dictionary of Colonial American Printers' Ornaments and Illustrations*, by Elizabeth Carroll

Reilly, is now printed. Irving Lowens's *Bibliography of Songsters Printed in America before 1821* is in proof. The Director's edition of Isaiah Thomas's *History of Printing in America*, which first appeared in the Imprint Society series, is being reprinted by Crown Publishers with the joint imprint of AAS. Essays for our bicentennial publication, *The Press and the American Revolution*, are beginning to arrive and have been forwarded to the editors, Bernard Bailyn and James Russell Wiggins.

Regarding our other bicentennial activities, the *American Bicentennial Historical Facsimile Packet* was published in May by the firm of Allyn and Bacon of Boston. Apparently it has been well accepted, for a second printing was ordered. The packet was prepared by Professor Francis G. Walett. So, too, is the series of sixty-four illustrated newspaper articles delineating the course of the era of the American Revolution, 1763-1783, nearly half of which have now been published. The series was made possible through funding, advice, and distribution by the American Newspaper Publishers' Association Foundation. Nearly 200 newspapers throughout the nation have subscribed to the series, which will conclude in July 1976. Publication in book form is being actively considered.

Work by the Society's editor continues on the Readex Microprint Corporation edition of American Imprints. Filming has now reached the letter 'H' in 1815, although recently much time has been expended in trying to clean up lacunae left from other years. Worth noting and possibly of significance for the completion of this scholarly tool is the fact that research libraries no longer can continue to provide without compensation the searching and paging services which we have for so long taken for granted.

Mr. Hench and Mrs. Donoghue have served well in coordinating the Society's fellowship program, in locating housing for visitors, and by acting as hosts for many functions which involve our academic colleagues.

Twenty-nine staff members, seven and one-half of whom are involved with projects funded by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, deal with our library services and collections. The latter include the staff in the Manuscript Department, the grant for which expires in September 1976; Helen P. Cripe's project of indexing manuscripts sold at auction or through book trade catalogues; and a project staffed by Dorothy D. Siles to catalogue American pamphlets printed in the decade of 1821-1830. In addition to our employees, we are fortunate to have the services of four volunteers who work at such things as indexing the censuses of Worcester County (Miss Julie Orr), arranging the AAS collection of nineteenth-century children's books (Mrs. Nolan C. Moore and Mrs. Stanley W. Norwood), and assisting Mary Brown at the readers' services desk (Miss Eleanor M. O'Donnell).

The Society's efforts at bibliographic cataloguing and in conservation, which it must be understood are of fine quality and are manned by excellent staff members—Richard L. Anders, Dorothy D. Siles, and Dorothy M. Beaudette; Kenneth R. Desautels, conservator—are insufficient for the work at hand. A backlog of nineteenth-century books is developing, major portions of the collections need to be thoroughly re-catalogued, and the NEH-funded project for cataloguing the uncatalogued pamphlet collection is only the bare beginning.

In the area of conservation we are able to accomplish only the obvious work. Mr. Desautels completes an average of ten projects per week at an approximate cost of \$45 each. Fortunately, sometime past we instituted practices which prevent contaminated or damaged new materials from going onto our shelves without attention, but vast quantities of materials which have been long at AAS need care ranging from first aid to major surgery.

The building and grounds continue to receive the careful ministrations of our maintenance staff, Donald K. Strader and

Ralph E. Greiner. They have taken on more work in the way of performing services formerly purchased, such as window washing, snow plowing, and equipment maintenance. This will result in substantial savings, just as has been the case with Mr. Strader's careful husbanding of our use of energy.

The office staff is supervised by Eleanor S. Adams, who doubles in brass as the Director's secretary and general assistant. Her careful and intelligent help is invaluable. So, too, is Vivian Schotte's control over the Society's accounts, which during the past few years have grown very much in complexity.

The present unpleasantness in the economic sphere has had its effect upon the Society's finances. The capital funds have taken a severe beating although not to the same extent as the stock market averages. Income from investments has held up reasonably well because of the presence in the portfolio of high quality and amply fruitful bonds. Thus the greatest impact upon our fortunes has been the very noticeable decline in gifts and bequests to capital. This past year those amounted to but \$106,990. The effort to obtain permanent funding for the activities of the Manuscript and Publication Departments particularly (as well as additional endowment for the Graphic Arts and Newspaper Departments) is terribly important to the financial health of AAS. A few years ago one of our sister institutions received a substantial bequest, the sole purpose of which was to pay the oil bill, hire the janitor, and to keep the lights lit. Our Council is looking for an AAS benefactor with similar foresight.

In the area of annual giving and funds for special purposes and projects, the record of generosity during the past year is truly remarkable. Gifts for current expenses of the Society and library reached a new high total of \$31,760. That amount includes gifts of nearly \$23,000 from 180 members, as well as \$8,000 from over 200 friends of the Society. These figures represent a major contribution to the work of AAS and the

Council is grateful to each contributor. Mr. Knowlton and Mrs. Lenahan of our Development Office are to be commended for their effectiveness in this effort.

Gifts and grants for particular projects such as publication of books, purchases of books, research projects, conservation of paintings, etc. came to the surprisingly large amount of \$71,330. This, too, is a remarkable achievement which allows the Society to accomplish many things outside of our normal ability to get things done.

The research collections of the Society have been enriched by gifts from a number of people and institutions, while purchases on the book funds also have provided fine acquisitions. The total of new titles obtained during the year was 3,819, of which 1,055 were gifts. We purchased substantial and significant collections of materials on spiritualism, nineteenth-century foreign fiction published in America, nineteenth-century periodicals and newspapers, as well as selections from the collections of early primers, Indian captivities, and general Americana which belonged to the late Edna H. Greenwood of Timestone Farm in Marlborough. Fine gifts of useful and valuable books were received from Mrs. Burton N. Gates, Michael Papantonio, and other donors, while a number of individuals and institutions sent us numerous newspapers. Carolyn A. Allen, Carol R. Alexander, and Mary L. McCorison diligently searched and accessioned these materials.

Several important or interesting publications were added to the Society's collections dealing with life on the frontier or with American expansion. It is no wonder that the people of Boston were greatly involved with the reduction of the Fortress Louisbourg which was built by the French on Cape Breton Island as the major work in eastern Canada, protecting the entrance to the Bay of St. Lawrence. As all good New Englanders know, it was invested by an invading force of New England men under the command of Sir William Pepperrell

on June 17, 1745. It was, in fact, a major British victory in the Seven Years' War then in full fury all across the Atlantic, the Mediterranean, and at any other place where the French and the English came across one another. The item at hand is a hitherto undescribed broadside printed in July 1745 by Thomas Fleet at the Heart and Crown in Cornhill, Boston. The sheet is entitled *A PLAN of the City and Harbour of Louisbourg, &c.* and is decorated by a handsome map cut in wood on type metal by James Turner. A description of the points of interest follows, to which is appended an eyewitness comment, dated July 4, 1745, upon the seemingly impregnable strength of the fort. The map also appeared in the July 8, 1745, issue of *The Boston Evening-Post*.

Nearly three-quarters of a century earlier, New Englanders were experiencing difficulties with their native neighbors. One result was the abduction on February 10, 1675/76, of Mary White Rowlandson, wife of the Reverend Joseph Rowlandson of Lancaster, Massachusetts, who was not ransomed until three months later. In 1682 she published an account of her ordeal—an account which passed through nearly thirty known editions before the year 1801. We obtained one of the unrecorded examples from the collections of the late Edna Greenwood, viz.: *A Narrative of the Captivity, Sufferings and Removes of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson* (Boston: Z. Fowle, at the Printing Office in Back-street, 1770). Because Isaiah Thomas was associated with Fowle at the Back Street office for a time in 1770, it is possible that this pamphlet was issued before our founder purchased Fowle's equipment and struck out on his own account. Also from the late Mrs. Greenwood's collections came another edition of the Rowlandson *Narrative* which was published by John and Thomas Fleet in 1800.

Two other frontier narratives were acquired—all originally in the Greenwood collection. Arthur Bradman's *Narrative of the Extraordinary Sufferings of Mr. Robert Forbes, his Wife and Five Children* was first published at Portland, Maine, in

1791. Their ordeal occurred in the early spring of 1784 on the upper reaches of the Kennebec River where the Forbes family was abandoned during an overland journey from Canada into the settled parts of Maine. The new acquisition, which joins our copies of the first and other editions, was published by John Trumbull in Norwich, Connecticut, in 1793. The other pamphlet to be mentioned here is the very uncommon first edition of the Massy Harbison *Narrative* which was published in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, by S. Engles in 1825. In the spring of 1792 Mrs. Harbison was captured by Indians and passed through a harrowing experience during which two of her sons were murdered before her eyes. Included in her text is an account of various Indian troubles up and down the length of the Allegheny River during the years 1790-94. The interest of our copy is enhanced by the presence of an 1875 letter from John Winter, then eighty-one years old, who had acted as the recorder of Mrs. Harbison's narrative in the 'winter of 1823-4, in a log cabin in Deer township.'

Twenty years later the same war which had absorbed the energies of people on the frontier since the seventeenth century broke out again. The War of 1812 was not a farce. People lost their houses and fortunes and their lives. In the basin of the Great Lakes and on the Niagara frontier where the stakes were the highest neither the regular army nor the militia were able to hold their own against the British and Canadians. George McClure, a brigadier general in the New York State militia was particularly bitter over the incompetence of the secretary of war, John Armstrong, as well as of Generals Wilkinson and Hampton. He expressed his pent-up rage in a pamphlet printed in Bath, New York, in 1817, under the title *Causes of the Destruction of the American Towns on the Niagara Frontier, and Failure of the Campaign of the Fall of 1813*. However, what he failed to explain adequately was his own burning of the town of Newark, Upper Canada, in retaliation for which the British burned Buffalo and Black Rock, New York.



Finally, on a different frontier and with a different purpose, Charles Harrington wrote *Summering in Colorado*, a book which was published in Denver by Richards & Co., in 1874. His book is illustrated with photographic prints while the text paints pictures in words, all of which are designed to bring the tourist to the west. This book was one of many extremely interesting and valuable gifts made to the Society by Mrs. Burton N. Gates.

Concerning the frontiers of the mind, we have attempted to make some interesting and significant acquisitions which demonstrate the kind of intellectual upheaval which transpired during the nineteenth century. In general, our accessions range philosophically from the euphoria of spiritualism to the grim realities of materialism. The largest numbers tend to lie with the romantic attempt to soften the rigors of traditional religion and most of these volumes formerly were at the Essex Institute. With the John Thomas Lee Fund we purchased a collection of spiritualistic publications which amounted to 155 books and eleven periodicals. We were under the impression that our own nineteenth-century collection was reasonably strong so it came as some surprise to discover that we lacked so many. Also, it was startling to discover how prolific and popular was Andrew Jackson Davis, for his publications make up the most numerous single lot in the collection. Perhaps more interesting were the pamphlets published by less well known spiritualists such as one Medium, 'D,' who recorded *Multum in Parvo. Rap. No. 1. or the Approaching Destiny of Nations; their governments, institutions, and faiths*. Published in Dayton, Ohio (spiritually within the sphere of Cincinnati), in 1857.

Millennial publications, also, were part of the collection. In 1843, the year of the second coming, there was great anticipation followed by deep disappointment as the period between March 1843 and March 1844 passed without the expected event. One of the fugitive publications which was issued prior

to the advent day was collected by us, *Dissertations on the True Inheritance of the Saints, and the twelve hundred and sixty days of Daniel and John; or the Advent Near*. The pamphlet contains the calculations based on the Books of Daniel and Revelations used by the founder of the Millerites, William Miller, to predict the time of salvation. It was printed for the use of his followers in Columbus, Ohio, by E. Glover in 1843.

More to the taste of us moderns are the publications of the realists, those who find this world alone sufficient to their spiritual and physical needs. Among the better-known American exponents of realism were Frances Wright Darusmont and Robert Dale Owen. Fanny Wright's periodical, *Manual of American Principles*, is very uncommon. We have a complete run of seven numbers, now the only file so listed in the *Union List of Serials*. Her *Manual* was published from January in the Common Era 1837 until July of the same year when it expired.

Dr. Charles Knowlton is famous for his book, *The Fruits of Philosophy* (Boston, 1832), commonly called the first 'scientific' book dealing with birth control which was published in this country. We do not have it, although AAS has his *History of the Recent Excitement in Ashfield, [Mass.]*, 1834, his earlier *Elements of Modern Materialism* (Adams, 1829), and the pamphlet printing of the *Two Remarkable Lectures* which he delivered upon being released from jail for having published *The Fruits of Philosophy*. One new acquisition is a copy of his *Speech . . . in Support of Materialism, Against the Argument of Origen Bachelor*. Knowlton's pamphlet was printed in Philadelphia for The Society of Free Enquirers in 1838.

Robert Dale Owen also gets into this story. He concerned himself with all kinds of social problems, not the least important of which is poverty and ignorance. Attempting to do something about both, Owen published *The Moral Physiology; a Treatise on Popular Questions, or Means devised to check pregnancy*. He published this book of practical advice and political

philosophy in New York in 1836, a copy of which we obtained on the John Thomas Lee Fund.

Another figure of this period whose goal was to alter the way men and women thought about their world was Gilbert Vale, a coadjutor of Fanny Wright and Owen. He regularly published their works at his office at 94 Roosevelt Street in New York City from which he issued *The Beacon*, a liberal periodical. Vale wrote a life of Thomas Paine, one of his heroes, which passed through many editions. Our present acquisition is a copy of *The Mystical Craft, the Most Crafty of All Crafts, and Delusive of All Delusions*. He published it in 1844 at 12½ cents a copy. We paid something more for it on the Henry F. DePuy Fund. Vale's thesis in this Liberal Tract, which is in fact a lengthy poetical effusion, is that Christianity is a snare to the unwary and a delusion to the gullible. If God were upset by this blasphemous diatribe He did not show it, for Vale survived until 1866 when he died at the age of seventy-eight, presumably in bed.

In literary works, the acquisitions of 1974-75 were quite satisfactory. Earlier we reported the gift by the Stoddard Charitable Trust of a Library Company of Philadelphia duplicate set of H. H. Brackenridge's *Modern Chivalry*, a most important American novel of the eighteenth century. The number of additions to the collection of editions and printings of works by James Fenimore Cooper has fallen off dramatically in recent months. However, we did obtain the first English edition of his *Precaution*, published by Henry Colburn of London. The three-volume set was published in 1821, a year following its American appearance, and is relatively scarce. At present, the Society's collection of works by Fenimore Cooper numbers nearly 1,100 different editions or printings dated before 1870. It includes translations, also, and one of the last books acquired from the late Richard Wormser was a copy of a French version of *The Spy, L'Espion*, in the second edition. It was published by Charles Gosselin in Paris in 1824.

In an effort to match the tastes of nineteenth-century Americans for domestic and foreign fiction, we have been actively seeking out American editions of the latter. Examples of this genre purchased this year included Shelley's *Queen Mab* (New York: William Baldwin & Co., 1821); *Travelling Letters. Written on the Road* by Charles Dickens (New York: Wiley & Putnam, 1846) in two parts, each in printed wrappers; *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Brontë (New York: Harper & Brother, 1848) in two parts in tan printed wrappers, as well as the Boston edition published in the same year by Coolidge & Wiley; and Thomas Hardy's *Far from the Mad-ding Crowd* (New York: Henry Holt, 1874) in the yellow printed cloth of Holt's 'Leisure Hour Series.'

Among other types of literary works in which we have an interest were books directed to readers who adhere to the Roman Catholic faith. During the 1860s and 1870s D. & J. Sadlier of London, New York, and Montreal was a leading publisher for such a market. J. C. Garrigues & Co. of Philadelphia was another, as was E. Dunigan & Brother of New York. Readers of this report may recall the absorbing account of Roman Catholic fiction written and published in America which Professor Willard Thorp published in our 1968 *Proceedings*. Last year we obtained several examples, the most important being Orestes A. Brownson's 'edition' of *Lizzie Maitland* by Mrs. DeWitt C. Clark. This novel for adolescent females was published by Dunigan of New York in 1857. Brownson apologizes for the book by writing in his introduction that he does not pretend that this novel is 'the greatest and most attractive story of the kind ever written,' and later he objects in general to novels and particularly to 'Catholic Novels.' Yet, he concludes his remarks by expressing the hope that *Lizzie Maitland* would find 'its own place in our popular Catholic literature, which needs all the contributions that are made to it.' Another of the same sort is *Barbara St. John* by Parthene Ballard Chamberlain which ap-

peared under the Garrigues imprint in Philadelphia in 1869. In this case the reader is spared an editorial apology. The last title to be mentioned in this category is the Reverend W. H. Anderdon's *Catholic Crusoe* which narrates the adventures of Owen Evans, a shipwrecked surgeon's mate who was converted to Catholicism during his enforced sojourn upon a Caribbean island. This volume was published for boys by the Sadliers in New York about 1870.

On the other side of the coin, additions to our collection of popular fiction written by other American authors were quite satisfactory. They included such scarce titles as Henry A. Clarke's *War Scout of Eighteen Hundred Twelve* (Chicago: W. W. Danenhower, 1850) I Wright 548; and *Emma Morton; or, the Triumph of Principle* by Charles Howard (Alton, Ill.: The Telegraph Book & Job Office, 1854) not recorded in Wright but located at the Library of Congress. Both were in the Dicke collection of Illinois historical materials. Examples of other novels newly acquired are *The Iron Cross* by Sylvanus Cobb (New York: Samuel French, 185?) II Wright 568; Justin Jones's *Tom, Dick & Harry* (Boston: Star Spangled Banner Office, 1849) I Wright 1503; *The Beautiful Unknown; or, Massey Finke* by Joseph Holt Ingraham (Boston: 'Yankee' Office, 1844) I Wright 1260a; and *Rosalthe: or, The Pioneers of Kentucky* by Dr. John Hovey Robinson (Boston: F. Gleason, 1853) II Wright 2081.

In the realm of more serious literature, we were able to improve our holdings of William Gilmore Simms through the purchase of two scarce books—*The Book of My Lady* (Philadelphia: Key & Biddle, 1833) and *The City of the Silent* (Charleston, S.C.: Walker & James, 1850).

John Pendleton Kennedy, 1795–1870, in his own time probably was best known as a politician. Now he is remembered as the author of *Horseshoe Robinson* and of *Swallow Barn*. Recently we have attempted to locate copies of his printed speeches with some modest success. A particularly

notable example is a pristine copy in wrappers of his *Defence of the Whigs* (New-York: Harper & Brothers, 1844), a copy of which he presented to Leverett Saltonstall.

Even though the prices of early American books for children have long since passed beyond the limits where a child might venture, we continue to make modest additions to the Society's premier holdings. Among unrecorded items were: *Hoch-Deutsches Lutherisches A B C und Namen Büchlein* (Germantown: Christoph Saur, 1772); *Harriot: or the Vicar's Tale* ([Bennington, Vt.] Collier & Stockwell, 1802), a welcome gift of Mr. Bradley Peck; *The Pious Parent's Gift* by William Mason (Catskill, N.Y.: Nathan Elliot for H. & I. Steele, ca. 1810), a book with illustrations printed on separate leaves of thin paper; and *The Sister's Gift* (Newburyport: W. & J. Gilman, 1813), a little book for little children which predates the earliest edition recorded in Welch by two years.

We should note here the death of our longtime friend, Benjamin Tighe. Over the past sixty-three years, Ben sent our way thousands of books, prints, broadsides, and other treasures, particularly children's books. The greatest treasure was his loyalty and friendship, both of which remained firm to the end. Among the last of the things which we obtained from him was a duodecimo volume published in 1821 by Jazer Meanwell of the town of Sobriety. It consists of a series of conversations on the subject of temperance which were edited by Julia Ann Prudent under the title of *Seven Nights* [in a barroom?].

We tried not to ignore publications on the other arts. For example, Henry Aston Barker painted a panoramic view, 3,024 feet long, of the Battle of Paris (March 30, 1814), at which the French were defeated, the allies entered Paris, and Napoleon abdicated his emperorship. We have a *Description of the Panoramic View of the City and Battle of Paris*, which contains a verbal description as well as an illustration. The pamphlet was printed in Boston, probably in 1818, by Russell

**Henrich Millers, des Buchdruckers in Philadelphia,  
nöthige Vorstellung  
an die Deutschen in Pennsylvanien, xc.**

Geehrte und werthe Landeleute!

Am 21sten letztern Septembers, da die bittern Feinde von America gegen diese Stadt andrungen, ward ich genöthiget alle das Meinige pibiglich zu verlassen und mit dem Rücken anzusehen, um nur meinen Leib und Leben, vermittelst der Flucht, ihrer Wuth zu entziehen.

Neun Monat und eben so viel Tage hatte ich als ein ins Elend Vertriebener, in Kummer und Noth zugebracht, da ich den 4ten July in diese Stadt zurück kam, aber zu meinem großen Berzeleid fand daß mir meine wohl eingerichtete Buchdruckerey geraubt war, welche ich mit saurer Mühe und Schweiß, manche Jahre her, mit großen Kosten zusammen gebracht und aufgerichtet hatte, um selbige hinfort so lange mit der Herr das Leben fristen würde, unparteyisch, dem Aufbau des Reichs Gottes und der Tugend und Beförderung der Wohlfahrt dieses Landes, bey einem nöthigen Auskommen, zu widmen.

Weil nun seith meiner Anfunft, wo ich sowol in der Stadt als auf dem Lande gesehen werde, meine ehemaligen geneigten Kundeute und Freunde mich ohn Unterlaß fragen: Ob ich nicht bald wieder anfangen zu drucken? so hab' ich es für nöthig gehalten ihnen einige Nachrichten von dieser zum Nachtheil der Deutschen und meinem Verderben überlegten und beschlossenen Rauberey, vermittelst einer Fremden Presse, nach der Wahrheit, kürzlich mitzutheilen, wie folat:

Christoph Saur, der jüngere, von Germantau, welcher mit dem General Howe in die Stadt gezogen und sein Deutscher Drucker war, (nachdem er die Feinde einmahl zu Germantau angeführt hatte, und dafelbst von den Unstigen gefangen, aber für Mr. Losh, den Pulvermacher, ausgeredet worden war) kam am 21sten letztern Januars zu der Frau Lehmannin, die ich, mit zweyen von ihren Kindern, in meinem Hause, auf ihr Begehren, hinterlassen hatte, und sagte zu ihr: General Howe habe ihm ein Geschenk von meiner Druckerey gemacht, damit zu thun was ihm beliebt; er verlange sie aber nicht, sondern wolle nur die Schlüssel dazu nehmen, und sie bewahren, damit ich nach meiner Zurückkunft sie wieder in Besitz nehmen möge. Einige Zeit hernach kam er und verlangte etwas daraus zu borgen oder zu kaufen, welches die Frau Lehmannin ihm abschlug. Er ist aber nachher nach seinem eigenen Gefallen gekommen, hat die Druckerey aufgemacht und darin gethan was er wollte.

Während der Zeit dieses Vorgangs hatte der Junge Saur einen Gehülfen in dem Geheimniß seiner Bosheit bekommen, mit Namen James Robertson, der einer von Howes Englischen Druckern war. Dieser kam den 4ten Juny, ehe die Feinde die Stadt verlassen hatten, und fragte die Frau Lehmannin ob sie ihm nicht meine Druckerey verkaufen wolle? Sie antwortete: Nein. Worauf er den Schlüssel zu derselben foderte. Es wurde ihm geantwortet: Saur habe selbigen. Robertson ging hin und holte den Schlüssel von Saur's Frau, in Hn. John Morris' seinen Hause, wo Saur wohnte, kam und sagte, Er habe Befehl vom Hauptquartier Henrich Millers Buchdruckerey zugeworhen, denn die Americaner hätten ihm seine zu Albanien genommen, brachte auch zu gleicher Zeit eine Anzahl Leute, des Königs Wägen und Kärche mit, lud Schriften, die beste Presse, Satzstätten, Negale, in Summa alles auf, und eilte so schnell als möglich damit nach dem Schiffe zu. Von der zweyten zurückgelassenen Presse haben die Räuber Christoph Saur der Jüngere und Companie, ein Theil genommen, und sie samt dem wenigsten von Schriften so sie übrig gelassen, unbrauchbar gemacht.

Ein Paar Tage vor dem Raube, ward eine fremde Weibsperson an die Frau Lehmannin abgeschickt, um heimlich von ihr zu forschen, ob Hr. Doctor Franklin nicht ein groß Antheil an meiner Druckerey habe? welche Frage auch an sie von Sir William Erskine im Hauptquartier geschah? Sie beantwortete sich beständig beydemaal mit Nein, und versicherte, nach der Wahrheit, daß die Druckerey gänzlich und bloß mein Eigentum sey. Die Einbildung, daß Herr Doctor Franklin ein groß Antheil an meiner Druckerey haben müßte, ist vermuthlich daher entstanden, weil Saur wußte, daß ich für Hr. Franklin gedruckt, und daß dieser hochgeachteten großen und rechtschaffenen Mannes Achtung und Bewunderung erhalten hatte.

Solcherhalt ist ein nützlicher Bürger dieser Stadt, ein ehelicher Mann und wohlbekannter und bedachtlicher Mann von America von dessen Freyheit, der Mittel beraubt worden, sich und die Seinigen zu wehren, und zwar durch einen vorbedachten und überlegten Anschlag zweyer Bösewichter, deren Absicht und Endzweck, sich bey den Deutschen in diesem Lande die Gelegenheit abzusuchen, publike Sachen zu verhehlen, damit sie kein in der Unwissenheit hingehen, und viele von ihnen, aus Mangel bessern Unterrichts und daraus resultirenden Einsicht, die Dummköpfe einer Partey bleiben möchten, welche seith dem Anfang dieses Streits nur schon zu viel Unglück in diesem Staat gestiftet hat.

Das Einkommen des Staats wird durch diesen Raub vermindert; denn wenn ein Mann seinen ehelichen Beruf nicht treiben kan, so ist er auch nicht im Stande viel zu den Bedürfnissen eines Staats beyzutragen, xc. xc.

Mein Verlust ist gleichsam unerseßlich, weil keine Buchdrucker-schriften in beträchtlicher Menge in diesem Welttheile zu haben sind.

Da nun noch ein großer Theil von des Jungen Saur's Druckerey hinterlassen und entdeckt worden ist, so wird der Weisheit und Gerechtigkeit der sämtlichen hochachtbaren Regenten dieses Staats unterthanigst anheim gestellt, ob nicht einige Entschädigung verdiene,

der Oben besonders, und des Deutschen Publici überhaupt, treuergebenster Freund und Diener,  
Philadelphia, den 21sten July, 1778.  
Henrich Miller.

N. B. Inzwischen können die Deutschen in diesem Staat versichert seyn, daß ich mich bemühen werde, so bald nur möglich eine Presse zu bekommen, um wenigstens wöchentlich eine Zeitung von einem halben Bogen herauszugeben.

Es sind noch einige Calender für dieses Jahr bey Henrich Miller zu haben, und er hofft auch einem auf nächstes Jahr heraus zu geben.

& Gardner and was designed to be used as an advertisement and souvenir of the experience. This came as a gift of Mrs. Rachel Dearing.

But small increase was made to our collections of music. One of the scarcer items was a copy of the second edition of Nehemiah Shumway's *American Harmony*, Philadelphia, published by John McCulloch in 1801. The first edition of 1793 is also at AAS. Wragg's *Improved Flute Preceptor* is an uncommon book designed for those who desire to learn 'the whole Art of playing the German Flute.' Our edition was taken from the eighteenth London edition, but is the first American. It, too, is scarce, only the New York Public Library being recorded as owning it. The book of sixty-four pages was published in Philadelphia by Bacon & Company about the year 1818. Incidentally, this copy bears the impression of a handsome woodcut stamp of 'Franklin Music Warehouse No. 6 Milk St. Boston.'

An interesting relic of American theater history is to be found in *The Act of Incorporation and By-Laws of the Tremont Theatre* (Boston, 1827). The movers and shakers of the corporation included such well-known Bostonians as Thomas Handasyd Perkins, Augustus Peabody, and Willard Badger. Shares in the corporation were sold at \$100 each. Tremont Theatre was the second important theatre in Boston and all of the notable thespians of the American stage played there. However, because of its small size it was an economically unsound enterprise and the building was sold to the Baptists in 1843.

Getting on to more serious pastimes, John Swingle of Alta California Bookstore gave AAS a very well worn copy of *The Book of Fate, a New and Complete System of Fortune Telling*. The text for this volume was 'carefully rendered into English, and arranged from the manuscripts of an Adept' after which it was printed for the translator and published in New York in 1817. The frontispiece shows cats, learned philos-



ophers, and a reader of tea leaves attempting to divine the future for an unfortunate petitioner who stands nearby in the shadows. This 210-page, duodecimo volume is not listed in the Shaw and Shoemaker compilation nor in bibliographies of magic or 'dream' books.

Patrick Timony, Esq., described for the pugilistically inclined the training methods of James ('Yankee') Sullivan and Thomas Hyer, who, when this pamphlet was published, had just engaged in a \$10,000 boxing match on February 7, 1849. The fighters were New York toughs but the match was held on Maryland's Eastern Shore where authorities were somewhat less rigid in their view of the law. Even so, before the fight the police of Baltimore nearly captured our heroes in early morning raids upon their respective rooming houses. On the return trip to New York, 'Hyer, in passing through Philadelphia . . . was so intoxicated with the acclamations bestowed upon him for his victory, that he suffered himself to remain overnight. The result was, that he was arrested on the following morning, and . . . was delivered upon the requisition of the Governor of Maryland, to receive the penalties of riot.' All of this is recorded in a thirty-page pamphlet entitled *The American Fistiana* which was published in New York by H. Johnson at 108 Nassau Street in 1849. It was purchased with a gift from Mr. Karl Kabelac.

If fistfighting as practiced by 'Yankee' Sullivan and Tom Hyer was brutal, then one might say that the fighting of gamecocks is nasty. A Mr. Ed James of 88-90 Centre Street in New York ran a sporting goods store in the New York Clipper Building from whence he distributed boxing gloves, purchasing bags, Indian clubs called Kehoe's Clubs, books of rules for dog fighting, etc. The book at hand, purchased on the Samuel A. Green Fund, is *The Game Cock: Being a practical Treatise* [on everything anyone wanted to know about cocking]. Ed James, whose portrait in wood adorns the volume, published his book in 1873.

A few oddments were added in the biblio-typographical realm. The Society is indeed fortunate to be the recipient from Michael Papanonio of gifts of books finely bound by American bookbinders. Among those given in 1974 was a volume in a stunning calf binding which is attributed to Christopher Hoffman of the Philadelphia area. The binder was an elder in the local Schwenkfelder church and executed a number of bindings for his church. The example at hand is a copy of *Neue Eingerichtetes Gesang-Buch*, published in 1762 by Christopher Saur. The binding is described and illustrated in *Early American Bookbindings* (New York, 1972) as item number 9.

When Isaiah Thomas was a youngster he cut in wood some absolutely wretched illustrations for an edition of *The New Book of Knowledge* which his master, Zechariah Fowle, printed in 1762. In 1770 the great Fowle used the woodcuts in an unrecorded edition of *A Wonderful Dream*, imputed to Dr. Isaac Watts, which has been added to AAS holdings.

Of inordinate interest during this time of bicentennial celebration is the second known copy of a broadside issued by the Philadelphia German printer Henrich Miller, on July 22, 1778. In it, Miller recounts how, in order to escape imprisonment by British troops, he was forced to leave the city, thus exposing his unprotected printing office to the depredations of the unscrupulous. The latter appeared in the persons of Christopher Saur and James Robertson, Loyalist printers under the protection of the army. (It should be noted that Robertson had left Albany in haste, lest the rebelling Americans do him harm.) In any case, Miller was without a press or types when he reentered Philadelphia in June. In order to establish his business once again he made his appeal to all good patriots and particularly to the Germans of Pennsylvania to rally 'round and to provide the wherewithal to do so. His broadside (*see plate facing page 348*) is addressed as: *Henrich Millers, des Buchdruckers in Philadelphia, nothige Vorstellung*

*an die Deutschen in Pennsylvanien, &c.* Miller sent an English version of his tale of woe to John Dunlap at the *Philadelphia Packet*, who published it in his newspaper on July 25, 1778.

Writing books have not come our way recently, so an offer from Goodspeed's of an early nineteenth-century example was welcomed. It is a reprint of Joseph Callender's *Round Text Copies*, first published by Isaiah Thomas in 1787. The title was reengraved at about 1810 to reflect the change of business arrangements and it carries the statement 'Published by Isaiah Thomas, Junr. Printer, & Bookseller, Boston, Massachusetts.' This edition, like the first, should be made up of sixteen engraved leaves, but it lacks the final leaf. It does not seem to be recorded by Ray Nash or by other bibliographers.

Still another unrecorded publication is *An Address delivered before the General Society of Mechanics of New-Haven, at their quarterly meeting, July 7th, 1813*. Because Oliver Steele, the orator, was a New Haven printer he printed it himself. Steele comments upon the general estate of mechanics in the nation and concludes that by associating together they can improve their lot. In this rather diffuse address he briefly surveys the manufactories of New Haven and pays tribute to a recently deceased president of the New Haven mechanics, Gen. James Merriman. In all, it is a production to be treasured!

On the trade of bookselling, we take note of an October 1869 *Catalog der Deutschen Leib-Bibliothek von E. Steiger, 22 & 24 Frankfort Street, New York*. Ernst Steiger was a well-known publisher and bookseller who established a prosperous business in supplying German-language books to the large German-reading population in New York City and across the nation. In 1873 he made a collection of German-language newspapers then being published in the United States which he exhibited at the Vienna International Exposition. His collection is now at the Austrian National Library. The forty-five-page catalogue lists many titles, all in Ger-

man, but not necessarily by German authors. We noted translations of works by N. P. Willis, J. Fenimore Cooper, Mrs. A. H. Dorsey, Hawthorne, and other literary luminaries.

Type specimen books are another typographical variety that is hard to come by. A substantial west coast collection was recently sold amidst avid, if not bitter, competition between collectors. I regret to report that AAS did not fare well. However, we picked up a few examples this year. One came from the Cincinnati Type Foundry and was inscribed by the first owner, John H. Hoagland, a printer of Cincinnati, in October 1848. *Supplementary Specimens* was distributed by Horace Wells as an addendum to the 1844 specimen book of the firm.

A later type specimen, coming nearly at the end of our collecting period, is *Specimens of Plain and Fancy Printing Types, Borders, Corners, Rules, &c.* of the Dominion Type-Founding Co. of Montreal. The substantial book was published in 1874 from their office at 13-17 Chenneville Street. Laid into this copy are supplements dated January, February, and July 1875.

Another gift should be mentioned before passing on to other categories. Parker Allen, chairman of the board of The Meriden Gravure Company, gave to the Society a set of the publications of the Columbiad Club. The club's members form a small group of congenial Connecticut printers who have been gathering together at monthly meetings since 1935. It is the custom of the club at most meetings to issue a keepsake, which often combines useful typographical history with pleasing design. Such a one is number 30, a brief resumé of the career of Dr. Appollos Kinsley, sometime of Hartford, who invented a cylindrical printing press in the 1790s; or number 44, a quarto pamphlet of twelve pages by Thompson Harlow, entitled *Early Hartford Printers*. This was issued in November 1940 in an edition of forty-four copies, of which Mr. Allen's copy is the second. His gift includes the first fifty-three numbers, issued through the year 1955.

Technological knowledge of one sort or another is held in common by printers, canal builders, or seamen. Thomas Haselden's *Seaman's Daily Assistant* is not a commonly found book, although it was republished regularly in London from 1757 until 1790. The book is made up of mathematical tables, instructions, and the like to assist a ship's navigator to find his way. It was compiled by a 'late teacher in mathematics in the Royal Navy.' Also, it has the distinction of being reprinted for the use of rebellious Americans by Joseph Crukshank of Philadelphia in 1777. Our copy of the American edition, acquired on the John Thomas Lee Fund, is not in prime condition. It has been water soaked. May we assume that it went down, clutched in the cold hand of the captain, with its ship?

For those sailors who eventually make port, we have a small volume which will be of service to them, also here through the agency of Mr. Lee's bequest. It is a good copy of the *New Bedford and Fairhaven Signal Book. 1850*. It was compiled by Abraham Taber of New Bedford and was printed by Benjamin Linsey of the same town. It was owned, early on we take it, by Giles F. Allen of Dartmouth, who annotated the lists of New Bedford ships with appropriate remarks, such as 'Lost.' Also, the flags have been painted in water-colors, in order to match their originals.

While concerning ourselves with things which float, we will bring up something on the landlocked variety. Henry Quin, a practical millwright of Hunterdon County, New Jersey, published a pamphlet in Philadelphia in 1824 in which he succinctly advanced an idea to propel boats against a current of water. He proposed to do this by means of a steam-motivated ratchet wheel which worked its way along the teeth of a rail laid at the bottom of a canal or river. In addition to steam, the ratchet could be driven by the force of the current driving against a pair of paddlewheels.

Should the owner of such a boat meet with disaster in the

form of fire, we are prepared to demonstrate, through illustrations, a variety of steam fire engines, built by the Amoskeag Manufacturing Company of Manchester, New Hampshire, as advertised in their 1867 catalogue. The catalogue is in excellent condition with cuts of a dozen or so models of fire pumpers drawn by prancing horses and belching smoke.

We retain a strong interest in improving our holdings of periodical literature. In this category there seems to be little doubt that the most important addition to our holdings came by gift from the Worcester Historical Society. It is a full run of twenty years of *The Practical Christian*, 1840–1860, edited and published by Adin Ballou in Mendon and Hopedale, Massachusetts. This was the organ of Ballou's important utopian community at Hopedale. We had a fairly decent run before the arrival of this gift, but the true importance lies in the fact that this set belonged to the editor and occasional pages bear his annotations.

Our file of De Bow's *Commercial Review of the South and West* is incomplete, lacking the first two volumes, as well as other later ones. We were able to pick up those early volumes for the year 1846. My readers know that *DeBow's Review*, which was published in New Orleans for thirty-five years, was a journal influential in the entire southern region of the nation. Thus, it is important that we complete our file. We will be glad to entertain offers for any issues or volumes through the year 1876.

At a local level, periodicals provided a means for literarily inclined persons to publish poetry, essays, and other miscellanea. *The Village Museum* is a fine example of such. It was 'conducted by an association of young men' in York, Pennsylvania, for several months during the years 1819–21. Still another locally produced literary magazine is *The Album; or a panacea for ennui. Devoted to the cause of virtue and refinement*. This high-minded production was issued in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, on the third Tuesday of every month, at the office

of the *Fitchburg Gazette*. One can visualize a crowd of lethargic Fitchburg citizens gathered on the steps of the printing office waiting to be brought to life by the arrival of *The Album*, fresh from the presses. Its publishing history during its long life of seven issues is complicated. J. E. Whitcomb & Co. issued the first number. J. Page took over with number two and stayed with *The Album* through number four, although with that issue he needed help from a Mr. Dole. Then, with number five, July 1831, J. E. Whitcomb again assumed control until he ran it into the ground with the last, in September 1831. We welcome sufferers from the dread ennui to come to AAS for the cure!

Your reporter hopes that this brief survey of the Society's activities as well as additions to its library will encourage inquirers into our past to make haste to our reading room. We shall welcome them.

To all who make these things possible, the Council is profoundly grateful.

Marcus A. McCorison

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