

The Report of the Council

October 19, 1977

THE SOCIETY'S one hundred and sixty-fifth year has been a significant one. First of all, we survived the nation's bicentennial year and topped it off with a belated public observance of our own. Secondly, we began to make some variations in the administrative structure of the Society's staff that may prove to have far-reaching consequences in later years. Thirdly, we took first steps toward implementing an educational program. Finally, the interest and generosity of our members, friends, and institutional supporters to the Society was unsurpassed.

Probably the most far-reaching development that occurred during the Society's 1976-77 year was the establishment of two nascent divisions of the Society's work, which join that of the library. There can be no doubt in anyone's mind that the primary activity of the Society has been and always will be the support of its research library. The library is the focus of our work and within the boundaries of its geography and chronology we determine the nature of our other functions. In 1977, in order to bring our great resources to bear upon the common aims of cultural enrichment with our fellow citizens, we took a first step toward developing an integrated program of research and publication, as well as starting an educational effort, both of which will complement the strengths of the library. The director has appointed John B. Hench to be the Society's Alden Porter Johnson Research and Publication Officer and William L. Joyce to be the Society's Education Officer. These two officers, together with our Associate Librar-

ian, Frederick E. Bauer, Jr., have been charged with the development of a unified program that will increase the resources available at the AAS library, will deepen the quality of the use of these research materials, and will, we trust, broaden the impact of historical knowledge upon a diversity of audiences. We expect that a program of library development, conservation, and organization, a program of commissioned research, fellowships, and publication, and a program of undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral education, as well as various forms of informal educational activities will take some time and great effort to develop and attain. We ask for your advice and support in the task, for we are convinced that if AAS is to take on its just responsibilities within the nation's cultural fabric it must advance beyond its present place.

The Council is of the opinion that a turning point in the Society's life has been reached. Following the improvement of the Society's physical plant, which was coincident with the enlargement of its professional staff, we struggled to bring the Society's finances into balance with the effects of those changes and with the continuing stresses of inflation. Through the hard work of committee chairmen such as Richard C. Steele, with the assistance of several major national and local foundations, and because of the generosity of our members and friends, we believe that we have reached a relative equilibrium between income and expenditures. Should we be able to hold this position and to improve upon it, we shall be in a position to take the steps necessary to implement the plans suggested above for an enlarged role for AAS as a research institution.

To report upon our finances: Careful management of the budget by all members of the staff resulted in expenditures falling somewhat below authorization, while income from invested funds, annual giving, and special grants showed marked increases over the previous year.

The record of annual giving is of particular importance and

is a source of great pleasure. Gifts rose from \$38,719 in 1975-76 to \$62,114 in 1976-77. Gifts were received from more than half of the members of the Society, the total of which, \$28,247, represented forty-six percent of the entire sum received. Just over \$10,000 were given by friends of the Society and contributions from corporations amounted to \$12,890. These latter gifts form a new and welcome source of support to AAS. Contributions from foundations and readers and memorial gifts make up the remainder of the sum.

In addition to gifts for the normal functioning of AAS, a number of individuals and foundations gave funds for specified purposes. Those gifts amounted to \$15,791 and were for such diversities as hospitality, books, fellowships, and landscaping.

In the area of capital giving, the increase of the four endowments which are of particular concern to us at the moment—that is, the Manuscript, Newspaper, Graphic Arts, and Publication funds—amounted to \$145,678, which sum includes gifts and pledges. The increase in other capital funds amounts to \$22,800.

Within the area of the Society's financial support, a major development and stimulus was the receipt of a challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. AAS was one of 125 institutions nationally that were awarded such grants in the first competition. The challenge grants are designed to accomplish two objectives: to provide public support for the institution's operating expenses and to encourage private giving to the institution. Thus, the grant of \$285,000 to AAS provides direct support of our ongoing work, but requires us to raise \$855,000 between October 1, 1976, and September 30, 1979, in order to match the federal appropriation. I am pleased to report that by the end of the first full year, AAS had not only qualified for payment of the first award of \$140,000 by raising \$420,000 in 'new money' but we had raised an additional \$22,970 toward the next installment.

To sum up, gifts received for all purposes amounted to \$647,350 in actual cash. This is a truly remarkable expression of support from many people and we are grateful to all who give to carry on the work of the Society. Also, such a response is a splendid monument to the efforts of our Development Officer, Mary V. C. Callahan, and of her assistant, Jeanne H. Lenahan. They rallied the troops who succeeded in topping all previous records of giving.

While on the subject of diligent and efficient work, we must not fail to acknowledge the aid of the Director's secretary, Eleanor S. Adams, and that of Vivian B. Schotte, the Society's keeper of accounts. They perform a prodigious amount of work most capably and with enthusiasm.

Activities in the publications department during the year past were related more to finding ways to enable Editor John B. Hench to do existing jobs better or more efficiently than beginning substantially different projects. An exception to this pattern was the undertaking 'in-house' of the index to the *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society, 1812-1961*, which had been compiled by the late Clifford K. Ship-ton. The project began in January with the training of Beverly Gallagher in the mysteries of an IBM Memory Typewriter and with experimenting with a system and a format. The use of the automatic typewriter permits her to prove the index with only the corrections to be retyped. With the text stored in the typewriter's memory unit and when the necessary changes have been made, the machine automatically types the text, letter perfect, onto reproduction paper. We expect that Mrs. Gallagher will have finished typing the 50,000 cards that comprise the index by late fall or early winter, and we hope to have printed volumes fairly early in 1978.

Otherwise, most effort was expended on trying to help us do work better or to improve control over the department's functions. The major undertaking in this vein involved the Early American Imprints project. A grant from The Andrew

W. Mellon Foundation and increased financial commitment from Readex Microprint Corporation have enabled us to hire additional staff to do the routine work of the project with the goal of completing it within five years. Early in the year, Margaret A. Donoghue, who has been with the Society since 1967, was selected to oversee this work. Joan Pingeton was engaged as her assistant. The work has progressed well and the staff have virtually eliminated a large backlog of proof-reading of film and have reduced a long list of missing or incomplete items. Because of the concentration on filling gaps, less progress has been made in going forward this year than in the past. Nevertheless, filming in the year 1816 is now nearly through the letter *U*. The project plans to cover American imprints through the year 1819. Mr. Hench retains supervisory responsibility for the project.

The other major undertaking was to review the business aspects of the *Proceedings* and to make the procedures relating to the journal more efficient and productive. Toward this end, we inventoried our stock of *Proceedings* and offprints, identified out-of-print numbers for reprinting under our agreement with Kraus Reprint Company, weeded out the exchange list, reversed the longstanding policy of denying sales through wholesale agents, and mailed a solicitation for subscriptions to a large number of libraries. Also, we are beginning the process of computerizing our mailing lists.

It is still too early to tell how successful our promotional campaign will be. Given the nature of the libraries' ordering procedures and the jobbers' routines, it may be a year or so before we reap the full benefits of these new moves. Now that we have established better inventory control and will shortly improve our list-keeping, we hope to deal with these matters more efficiently than we have in the past. Exerting control over the business aspects of the *Proceedings* is one of the responsibilities of the very capable department assistant, Julia A. Barnard, who joined the staff in February.

Most of the other work in the department during the past year was in relatively familiar territory. One book was published—the exhibition catalogue *Wellsprings of a Nation: America before 1801*. Considerable progress was made over the summer toward completing *The Press and the American Revolution*. Several articles have gone to the printer, Bernard Bailyn has completed his editing of the others, and we are awaiting return by the authors of the manuscripts still requiring changes. Mr. Hench's goal is to have all articles at the printer by Christmas.

Late last year, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded a five-year planning grant to AAS to begin to implement some of the recommendations made by an ad hoc committee to establish an Education Office, which would plan and schedule lectures, classes, symposia, and other suitable events. Therefore, Mr. McCorison appointed William L. Joyce, the Society's Curator of Manuscripts, as half-time Education Officer, effective May 1, 1977.

An Education Committee was appointed by President Wiggins consisting of William H. Bond, who serves as chairman, W. Douglas Bell, David Hackett Fischer, David Tatham, John William Ward, and Wilcomb Washburn. The committee will advise and assist McCorison and Joyce in the formulation and development of Society educational activities.

Shortly after his appointment, Mr. Joyce visited Historic Deerfield, the Newberry Library, the Winterthur Museum, the Eleutherian Mills Historical Library, the Smithsonian Institution, the Folger Shakespeare Library, George Washington University, and Old Sturbridge Village to learn about their educational programs. Among the more important lessons Joyce learned were: 1) It is difficult to make educational programs financially self-sustaining; 2) they require careful planning and preparation to cover unforeseeable contingencies as well as to allow time for maximum cooperation; 3) such programs must be carefully focused with respect to

theme, embracing either a specific chronological or topical focus; 4) the interests and needs of library staff and academics are not easily integrated into such programs and it is important to develop close ties with local educational institutions to ease such tensions; 5) the membership of the advisory committee should be rotated so that a wide range of inter-institutional contacts may be cultivated; 6) the most obvious guideline, and that which is sometimes imperiled by pursuit of project funding, is that institutional program priorities always must be kept in mind so that the traditions, strengths, and mission of the institution are always the foremost considerations in program planning.

As the ad hoc committee report suggested and as Mr. Joyce's travels to other institutions subsequently confirmed, an important element in any new program is development of cooperative ties with local institutions of higher education. Thus, the AAS staff held informal conversations with area academics who were familiar with the Society's policies and activities. To gain advice and maximum cooperation, the director wrote to the presidents of each local four-year institution of higher education, explaining the Society's program and asking that a faculty member be named to an AAS advisory education committee, if the institution were interested in participating.

Response to this inquiry was enthusiastic, resulting in the creation of a local Advisory Education Committee consisting of Richard Oehling, Dean of the Faculty of Assumption College; Ronald P. Formisano, Department of History, Clark University; John Reilly, Department of English, College of the Holy Cross; Richard Roche, Humanities Department, Worcester Polytechnic Institute; and Robert McGraw, Department of History, Worcester State College. A series of three lectures has been arranged to take place in 1977-78 to introduce area students to the Society's research collections and to something of the range of their scholarly application.

In addition to an American studies honors seminar scheduled for the fall term of 1978, other activities may be scheduled to enlarge the seminar's impact on the local academic community. For example, the seminar leader might offer a monthly colloquium for area faculty members to encourage exchanges among people with kindred interests.

Following what had been the library's busiest year of service to readers and correspondence, 1976-77 was a welcome respite which, with nearly a six percent decrease in business, allowed the staff some opportunity to attend to internal matters. Even so, the number of daily readers who registered during July 1977 was the largest we have experienced for any month in our history. Four hundred twenty-six scholars entered the library during the twenty days in which we were open, an average of twenty-one each day. They came from Vail, Colorado, Wakayama, Japan, Worcester, New Orleans, and Norfolk, England, to work on topics as diverse as descendants of Hessian soldiers, nineteenth-century playing cards, the life of Ralph Earl, and partisan warfare in South Carolina during the Revolution. Total readership amounted to 3,236 (an average of thirteen readers per day). Even with that comparatively steady traffic, one cannot suggest that the Society's reading room resembles Grand Central Station.

The daily affairs of the library are presided over by our Associate Librarian, Frederick E. Bauer, Jr. He deals with readers, staff members, and building with skill, good humor, and evenness of temperament, which resolves all but the most obstinate crises.

The work of the Readers' Services Department was supervised by Mary Elizabeth Brown. As she has been for the past forty years, Miss Brown was the epitome of helpfulness. The Council congratulates her and thanks her for her outstanding service to several generations of scholars. Miss Brown and her staff, which is augmented by the very valuable services of three regularly scheduled volunteers, were warmly thanked

for speed of service and the pleasant conditions that they provide to readers by several grateful researchers. The Council is pleased that this good spirit is so apparent and we commend the members of the department for good and faithful service.

An important and basic activity of AAS is the work of accessioning and cataloguing books. The number of titles acquired this year, which amounted to 3,958 items, of which 865 were gifts, represents only a fraction of the number of titles that have to be searched quickly and carefully by the acquisitions staff headed by Carolyn Allen.

A number of gifts proved to be particularly important and helpful in enlarging our collections of research materials. The Librarian of the Commonwealth sent to us several cartons of miscellaneous nineteenth-century reports of agencies from states other than Massachusetts. The contents enabled us to fill in missing items in our runs of these reports or added new material such as the 1845 and 1846 catalogues of the Geauga County Teachers' Institute of Chardon, Ohio.

Kaye G. Frank of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, gave the Society an important group of fifty-two pamphlets that are concerned with the debates and machinations revolving around the dispute over the location of the Ohio-Michigan boundary. Each state (or territory) desired that the border be redrawn to include within its area the mouth of the Maumee River at Toledo. Ohio was the successful petitioner and to compensate Michigan for the loss of southern lands, the territory was awarded the Upper Peninsula. One of the less common items in Mr. Frank's very useful gift is a copy of Ohio Gov. Robert Lucas's *Special Message . . . Relative to the Northern Boundary of Ohio*, published in Columbus in 1835. Mr. Frank's gift also included the *Journal* of the convention and the text of the constitution of the nascent State of Michigan which the convention adopted on May 11, 1835. Both were printed by Sheldon M'Knight of Detroit.

While referring to publications relating to Michigan, we may mention the purchase of two scarce and early Detroit imprints, issued for the better ordering of children's lives—namely, *L'Ame Penitente*, edited by Barthélemi Baudrand, which was printed by James M. Miller in 1809, and *Petit Catechisme Historique* by Claude Fleury, which was issued in 1812 by Theophile Mettez.

Reverting to acknowledgment of other gifts: John Swingle of Laguna Beach, California, presented a copy of Thomas Colley's *Discourse, Publicly Delivered, on the Third Day Morning, the Eighth Day of the Fifth Month 1787, at a Public Meeting of the People Called Quakers, Held in Market-Street Philadelphia*, which was printed and sold by Enoch Story of Philadelphia. Mills B. Lane IV gave us the portfolio of beautiful facsimile plates that accompanies his folio edition of Mark Catesby's *Natural History of Carolina*. This outstanding publication brings Catesby's important and costly book, first published from 1731 to 1743, within the reach of many collections in a superior format, superbly printed. Mr. Lane's earlier gift of the volume of text and now the portfolio are welcome indeed. The trustees of the Brooks Memorial Library of Brattleboro, Vermont, gave AAS a number of interesting nineteenth-century books in excellent condition, among which is John Doyle's New York, 1833 edition of *Cottage Economy* by William Cobbett, as well as a substantial collection of miscellaneous newspapers to which we will refer later. Friends, members, and staff members of AAS give us copies of their books. It is a pleasure to record here that the Ph.D. dissertation of William L. Joyce, our Curator of Manuscripts and Education Officer, *Editors and Ethnicity: A History of the Irish-American Press, 1848-1883*, published by Arno Press in 1976, was presented by the author to AAS. As we noted above, a substantial part of this year's acquisitions, as has been true for each year of AAS history, has come through the gifts from many generous people and in-

stitutions. We thank each donor for his help in enriching the holdings of the library.

Purchases during the past twelve months were high in quality and, as always, were diverse in nature. Substantial numbers of unrecorded printed materials were added. It is interesting to note that more often than before the previously unknown imprints tend to be broadsides and that the prices asked (and sometimes paid) are such as to make our predecessors turn in their graves, while the present incumbent is often sorely perplexed by the upward rise of the rare 'book' market. However, some broadsheets come at relatively low cost, such as these: the proceedings and address of the Republican electors of the fifth ward of the City of New York, dated November 15, 1803; a circular from the New York state comptroller, Archibald McIntyre, dated July 23, 1819; another 1819 New York broadside carrying a resolution of the Ontario County Medical Society to the legislature, which was printed in Canandaigua on November 22; and finally for these purposes, a comparison of the politics of Whigs and Democrats written in French in 1840 and addressed *Aux Citoyens Naturalisés du Comté d'Oswego*.

Another group of unrecorded material deals with a religious controversy between William Latta MacCalla and James Blythe. At stake were matters that only God can settle. A pamphlet published in Lexington, Kentucky, in 1814 by MacCalla seems to have started the imbroglio. It is MacCalla's *Remarks on Dr. James Fisbback's Philosophy of the Human Mind*. With this acquisition came three broadsides, all unrecorded: *To A Member* [James Blythe] *of the Synod of Kentucky*, dated February 14, 1815; *To the Lovers of Truth and Justice*, issued in April 1815 at Paris, Kentucky, by MacCalla in answer to an attack by Blythe; and a blast by Blythe against a pamphlet already at AAS (*Case of MacCalla against Blythe*) in an untitled broadside probably published in Lexington in 1815. Presumably, these ephemeral publications will be of

great interest to the investigators of minor doctrinal battles on the American frontier.

Theologians are not alone in contesting in print the fine (or gross) points of the law. Politicians do likewise—and sometimes in verse, a literary form not often used by their religious counterparts. For example, during the bitter arguments between the Federalists and Republicans during the late 1790s political invective reached a perfection seldom achieved since. Two unrecorded examples were purchased at great price. An anti-French poem was published in 1797 at Philadelphia by James Carey, a poet-printer. This one was addressed to his bitter rival, the English emigré pamphleteer William Cobbett, himself a master of verbal assassination. Carey's poem was known by a second edition but this, the FIRST edition, seems to be unique. It is entitled *Anticipation! Peter Porcupine's Descent into Hell*, by Henry Hedgehog. Thomas Green Fessenden, a frequent composer of political calumny, wrote *Simon Spunkey's Pepper Pot: or, an Ode for the New Year*. This diatribe against the wretched Jacobins was first published in the Walpole, New Hampshire, *Farmer's Weekly Museum* of January 2, 1798. This pamphlet edition was issued in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, in the same year by Rosseter & Willard.

Earlier political differences in Pennsylvania resulted in a tragic confrontation between whites and Indians. Several Christian Indians were killed by a crowd of border ruffians, called the Paxton Men or Paxton Boys. This crowd was in a state of near rebellion against Philadelphia politicians because of restrictive land and financial policies and because of the lack of military protection out on the frontier. So, the Paxton Men took their revenge on scapegoats, a less threatening group than their governors. Thomas Barton wrote a pamphlet entitled *The Conduct of the Paxton-Men, Impartially Represented*. It was printed by Andrew Steuart of Philadelphia in 1764 and was sold by John Creag, a storekeeper in

Lancaster. The AAS copy of this very uncommon pamphlet was owned by Barton's son, William, who inscribed it with the statement that the anonymous publication was, in fact, written by his father.

A number of other bibliographically important acquisitions came our way. One of the most interesting is a copy of John Ledyard's *Journal of Captain Cook's Last Voyage to the Pacific Ocean* (Hartford, 1783). This copy is bound in a sturdy calf, as is our other copy. What makes this copy especially useful is the presence of printed wrappers. Evans (17998) reported that the book was issued in two parts, the first in June 1783 and the second a month later, as advertised in the *Hartford Connecticut Courant*. Our copy has the front wrapper of Part 1, so denominated, and the rear wrapper of both parts, each of which holds a long list of books and articles offered for sale by the printer, Nathaniel Patten. In our opinion, this copy is an unusual and important bibliographical document.

This past year we obtained a substantial number of documents relating to the American book trades. Without doubt the most important is an unrecorded seven-page pamphlet addressed *To the Booksellers of the United States*. It was issued in New York on June 7, 1802, and is signed by Mathew Carey, John Conrad, John West, Ebenezer T. Andrews, Isaac Collins, and James Sword. These men, all major figures in the printing and bookselling world of their day, reported on the outcome of a fair—an event designed to get printers and publishers together in order to facilitate the exchange or sale of books to each other—held at New York June 1–7 and issuing a call for the next book fair to be held in Philadelphia on the first Tuesday of October. The 1802 book fair has long been celebrated as a major event in American bookselling history. This pamphlet is previously unknown.

Other unusual acquisitions include prospectuses for Mower & Greenleaf's *Independent Gazetteer*, Worcester, November 27, 1799; Isaiah Thomas, Jr.'s edition of Berry's *Spelling*

Book, dated December 1, 1818; Lea and Blanchard's 1845 edition of Charles Wilkes's report of the United States Exploring Expedition; an 1851 Cincinnati edition of *The Female Volunteer*, a scarce novel at AAS (II Wright 895); and Robert M. DeWitt's advertising sheet, issued in New York in 1870, of 'Novels, Hand Books, Histories, Song Books, Music &c.'

Yet another scarce book is *The Art of Book-Binding, Its Rise and Progress; Including a Descriptive Account of the New York Book-Bindery*, issued by Edward Walker & Sons, bookbinders, of New York in 1850. The sixty-four-page book gives an excellent account of bookbinding practices at mid-century, not unlike Jacob Abbott's 1855 description of the Harper establishment.

Michael Papantonio again in 1976 gave to the Society a selection of books from his superb collection of American bindings. A particularly handsome example appears on Robert Stevenson Coffin's volume of poetry *The Oriental Harp. Poems of the Boston Bard* (Providence, 1826).

The final acquisition on the book trades that we shall mention is a group of manuscript letters of several printers, including Isaiah Thomas, Hugh Gaine, John Mycall, Peter Edes, Thomas Greenleaf, and Hezekiah Niles. They are representative of the only category of manuscripts that the Society purchases—those relating to the book trades.

Several rare items relating to other crafts and trades were acquired. For example, a pamphlet published in Philadelphia in 1846 by James Maull describes and illustrates his method of sailmaking. It is entitled *A Plain Statement of Facts, Relative to the Invention . . . for a New Plan of Cutting and Making Sails of All Kinds*. A considerable rarity, *The Cabinet Maker's Assistant* (2d ed., Baltimore, 1848) by John Hall, came our way. It contains lithographic illustrations of furniture, chiefly in the French Empire mode. Another acquisition pertaining to transportation history is *Observations upon Plank Roads* by

George Geddes and published in 1850 at Syracuse by L. W. Hale and in New York by A. S. Barnes. However, the major acquisition in this area is clearly a previously unknown pamphlet by Hezekiah Reynolds published in New Haven in 1812. Its title is *Directions for House and Ship Painting; Shewing in a Plain and Concise Manner, the Best Method of Preparing, Mixing and Laying the Various Colours Now in Use, Designed for the Use of Learners*. We believe this to be the earliest American printed work on exterior paints. Reynolds gives recipes for various colors and instructions for applying them. It is an important document.

We shall bring this portion of our report to a close by citing a few acquisitions in the field of literature, for both children and adults. Despite stiff competition which has developed markedly in the last few years, we were fortunate in obtaining several fine books for our juvenile collections. Among them are a few early and unrecorded items. *Christmas and New-Year's Tales* is an attractive book not noted by d'Alté Welch which was published in Philadelphia in 1795. *Guess Again: or, Easy Enigmas & Puzzles for Little Folks* (Philadelphia, 1808) was listed as 479 by Welch but without locations. Its publisher and engraver was William Charles whose books are always charming. A few years ago we reported the acquisition of attractive folio school sheets made up of engraved designs to be colored by children. The center portion of the sheet was left blank in order that the child might draw or write his own picture or legend therein. They are not at all common. We acquired four this year, all published by Solomon King about 1825.

Getting on to literary works designed for the parents of the above, the earliest of note is a 1795 poem by Michael Forrest, entitled *The Times; a Patriotic Poem*. It was printed by William W. Woodward of Philadelphia. Wegelin, Stoddard, and Evans did not know of its existence. Neither did they record another poetical pamphlet, *Epitaphs, Odes, etc. Consisting of*

Epitaphs, on Thomas Paine and on Henry Moore by Timothy Sullivan. This was printed by William Hamilton of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, who was active there as a printer from 1799 to 1802 and who died in 1820.

Although our additions to the James Fenimore Cooper collection in recent years have fallen off in numbers and in interest, we do strike a happy note from time to time. This year's best is a gift from Michael Papantonio of the first American edition of *The Water-Witch, or The Skimmer of the Seas* (Philadelphia, 1821) in a polished calf binding in beautiful condition.

The Canadian author of *Wacousta* and *The War of 1812* was a military person whose career was not entirely successful. However, Maj. John Richardson holds an honored place as a pioneer Canadian novelist. His books are uniformly scarce. We were pleased to obtain a copy of his even less common *Personal Memoirs*, published in Montreal in 1838. The book contains an extensive apology for his actions as an English army officer during the Napoleonic Wars.

American editions of foreign literature have become an important element in our acquisitions during the past several years. Examples of Russian literature are particularly hard to find, for surprisingly little was published in our country until late in the nineteenth century. Thus, we were pleased to find a copy of *The Tartar Chief; or, a Russian Colonel's Head for Dowry* by Aleksandr Aleksandrovitch Bestuzhev, which was published by William H. Colyer of New York in 1846. A brief search of our holdings and the National Union Catalogue produced the following list of other pre-1877 American editions of Russian literature. Additions to it or to our holdings will be welcome.

Bowring, Sir John

Specimens of the Russian Poets. Boston: Cummings and Hilliard, 1822. Includes poems by Derzhavin, Karamzin, Zhukovskii and others. MWA

Pushkin, Aleksandr Sergeevich (1779–1837)

The Captain's Daughter. New York: C. Müller, 1846.

The Bakebesarian Fountain, and Other Poems. Trans. by William K. Lewis. Philadelphia, 1849. MWA

Turgenev, Ivan Sergeevich (1818–1883)

Fathers and Sons; a Novel. Trans. by Eugene Schuyler. New York: Leypoldt & Holt, 1867. Leisure Hour Series. MWA

———. New York: H. Holt & Co., 1872. Leisure Hour Series. *Smoke; a Russian Novel*. Trans. from the author's French version by William F. West. New York: Holt & Williams, 1872. Leisure Hour Series #2.

———. New York: H. Holt & Co., 1873. Leisure Hour Series.

MWA

Liza; or, 'A Nest of Nobles.' Trans. by W. R. S. Ralston. New York: H. Holt & Co., 1873. Leisure Hour Series #9.

On the Eve; a Tale. Trans. by C. E. Turner. New York: Holt & Williams, 1873. Leisure Hour Series #12.

———. New York: H. Holt & Co., 1875. Leisure Hour Series.

Ivan Turgenieff's Spring Floods: Trans. from the Russian by Mrs. Sophie Michell Butts. *A Lear of the Steppe*: Trans. from the French by William Hand Browne. New York: H. Holt & Co., 1874. Leisure Hour Series #33. MWA

Dimitri Roudine. New York: Holt, n.d. (Not in NUC, but listed as part of the Leisure Hour Series.)

Lermontov, Mikhail Iur'evich (1814–1841)

The Circassian Boy. Trans. through the German from the Russian by S. S. Conant. Boston: J. R. Osgood, 1875.

After midcentury a major publisher of foreign literature was Henry Holt who, with various partners in the earlier years, established the Leisure Hour Series through which a large number of interesting English and European novels reached an American audience. Holt's edition of Thomas Hardy's *Far from the Madding Crowd*, for example, was first published in the Leisure Hour Series in 1874. A welcome addition to this genre at AAS is Hardy's novel *Under the Greenwood Tree* published by Holt & Williams in 1873.

So, we bring to a close this recital of a few of the books added to AAS collections. We are grateful to the many book-

sellers who steered books our way and who extended many courtesies to us.

The cataloguing staff of Richard Anders, Carol Alexander, and Dorothy Beaudette, assisted by the OCLC computer system, continued the detailed descriptive cataloguing of American imprints through 1830. Progress in this crucial activity is slow and costly. Because the process is detailed and complex, until additional staff positions are added in this department printed materials of the period 1831-76 will continue to be shelved without cataloguing.

During the course of the year conservation technician Kenneth Desautels treated 2,716 pieces that were in varying stages of deterioration. Unfortunately, the quantity of material that demands conservation service exceeds the available staff time; thus the routine oiling of leather bindings and regular rebinding of reference books have been temporarily suspended. Mr. Bauer believes that our monthly conservation problems present a challenge that cannot be indefinitely postponed. Therefore, he is drawing up a plan of action and estimated costs which will enable the Society to meet, at least partially, this critical threat to its collections.

No new breakthroughs in energy conservation were discovered by Superintendent of Maintenance Donald K. Strader. Despite the severity of winter and extremes of summer, the quantity of electrical and petroleum energy consumed remains stable compared with the last year or two. However, since 1973 Mr. Strader has reduced annual electrical energy consumption by 150,000 kwh, or forty percent. A significant external improvement was made by the replacement of the front walk, a project made possible through the generous concern of the Stoddard Charitable Trust and was engineered by the R. L. Whipple Company of Worcester. Looking toward the future, the concerns of the Maintenance Department center on energy efficiency, fire protection, and security. Each of these is a highly technical subject that will need profes-

sional study before any specific plans can be formulated. Information is now being gathered to provide a base for further professional studies. Mr. Strader is ably seconded by his assistant, Paul Garson, who joined us following the lamented retirement of Ralph E. Greiner.

Changes in the full-time staff include the appointment of the following: Jo-Anne Beales, who assumed responsibility as departmental assistant in the Manuscripts Department; Carol Alexander, appointed cataloguer of nineteenth-century pamphlets; and Marie Lamoureux, named a full-time assistant to Miss Brown in Readers' Services. The total full-time paid staff number averages thirty persons, although fluctuations from about thirty-four to forty-three occur because of the comings and goings of volunteers, students, and part-time workers.

Ably assisting the staff has been a loyal group of part-time workers and volunteers. Of particular note has been the painstaking effort of volunteer Elizabeth Norwood to compile an accurate working list of the large and important but uncatalogued collection of children's books, 1821-76.

During the year Mr. Bauer supervised the continuing restoration of the Isaiah Thomas common press. After extended planning, work on the press was undertaken in June 1977 by Elizabeth Harris, AAS member and Associate Curator of Graphics at the Smithsonian Institution, and by Clinton Sisson, Rare Book Librarian, Alderman Library of the University of Virginia. After restoration, the press will be reassembled in Antiquarian Hall as a monument to the history of printing in America and as an appropriate symbol of the continuing mission of the Society. As in the past, the Worcester Telegram and Gazette, Inc., has provided funds for this work.

Last fall when asked about the coming year's work of the Graphic Arts Department, Georgia B. Bumgardner responded with the hope that she would be able to cope with the Society's bicentennial exhibition. Indeed, during the past

year the principal activity of the curator was the supervision of the Society's exhibition, 'Wellsprings of a Nation: America before 1801,' which opened on April 9, 1977, at the Worcester Art Museum. Although the services of a historian, Rodger D. Parker, were engaged for the writing of the catalogue, the selection of materials, and the editing of the introductory essay and the catalogue entries, and the preparation of items for the exhibition fell largely to Mrs. Bumgardner, William L. Joyce, John B. Hench, and Marcus A. McCorison. The exhibition and catalogue, which received funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities, and the Worcester Bicentennial Commission, were well received by the Worcester community.

The small exhibitions that were displayed at AAS during the past year covered a wide range of topics and reflected the interests of various staff members and the diverse nature of the Society's collections. In September 1976, Joyce Ann Tracy arranged 'Canada and the United States—The Uneasy Border,' which focused on the history of the border between Maine and Canada. For the annual meeting an exhibition of recent acquisitions was mounted, followed by 'Stones and Stonecutters: Photographs by Daniel Farber.' Mr. Farber is donating to the Society a beautiful and growing collection of his gravestone photographs, a selection of which was made by Audrey T. Zook, curatorial assistant in the Graphic Arts Department. William L. Joyce presented a public lecture in February and arranged an exhibit to accompany it entitled 'Freedom of the Press and the American Revolutionary Crisis.' Carol R. Alexander organized 'Fantastic Literature in America before 1876,' which included examples of Utopian romances, extraordinary voyages, pseudoscientific discoveries, and hoaxes. During June and the first half of July visitors to the library were greeted by 'Musical Notes on America 1826-1856,' a selection of pictorial lithographed

covers made by Audrey Zook from the sheet music collection. The final exhibition of the year was 'The Bicentennial in Perspective: Publications Honoring the Nation's Two Hundredth Anniversary.' Mrs. Bumgardner selected from the large number of publications issued during the past two or three years those that illuminated the participation of the Society, its staff, and members in bicentennial projects and publications across the nation. Among the publications were those by AAS members Marvin Sadik, Mason I. Lowance, Francis G. Walett, Richard C. Steele, Robert A. East, Louis B. Wright, Jack P. Greene, Michael G. Kammen, John Shy, and Pauline Maier.

Participation in outside exhibitions has almost ceased with the end of the bicentennial celebrations. During the past year AAS lent materials for exhibition at the Greenville, S.C., County Museum, Old Sturbridge Village, the Historical Society of Delaware, Dartmouth College, the Worcester Historical Society, the Bennington Museum, and the Essex Institute, where our oil painting of William Bentley, a number of his manuscripts, drawings, and sculptures are prominently displayed.

The acquisitions for the department are, as always, diverse, reflecting the variety of materials labeled as 'graphic arts.' Among the most significant donations to the music collection was a large collection (nearly 300 pieces) of sheet music from David Tatham including 30 with lithographic covers by John H. Bufford. Several new pieces printed before 1826 were purchased this year as well. Donald Reid again donated a fine group of sound recordings of American music which have been taped at Worcester State College for use by listeners.

The broadside collection grew by approximately 175 pieces. One of the most interesting additions was the proposal issued by Mower and Greenleaf in Worcester to publish the *Independent Gazetteer*. This previously unrecorded

broadside was printed in 1799. Another exciting acquisition was the prospectus for *Scenes in Indian Life* with illustrations by Felix O. C. Darley. And among the advertisements for products ranging from clothes washers to saddles was one for a printer in Springfield, Massachusetts, F. C. Andreu.

Two particularly interesting maps were added to the collection. One, the gift of Roger E. Stoddard, is a ribbon map of the Mississippi River compiled by Myron Coloney and Sidney B. Fairchild and published at St. Louis in 1866. The other is a map of Pittsburgh published there in 1830. The engraver of the map, N. B. Molyneaux, is an obscure figure, and this map is his earliest recorded work.

The print collections were enriched by several additions, including a temperance cartoon by David Claypoole Johnston, 'The Licence System Illustrated' (1840), a lithograph of the 'Whig Mass Meeting on Boston Common' (1844), and William Strickland's engraved view of the Delaware Water Gap and Columbia Glassworks (ca. 1815).

One of the most highly prized acquisitions of the past year bridges two collections—prints and early American imprints. *Lucas' Progressive Drawing Book*, published by Fielding Lucas, Jr., in Baltimore in 1827, was regarded by Carl Drepperd as the 'keystone of any collection of American drawing books because it is so wholly and completely American.' The most important plates are in Part II which contains seventeen aquatints of American scenery by John Hill (1770–1850) after drawings by John H. B. Latrobe (1803–91). A second beautifully illustrated volume is the first part of *Harvey's Connected Series of Forty Views of American Scenery* (New York, 1841). This tall, slender folio contains five aquatints, printed in color with additional handcoloring, by William Bennett. The first is an elaborate allegorical title page which is followed by plates representing spring, summer, fall, and winter. Two of these are landscapes of Ohio scenery and one is of a forest in Upper Canada. The text was

edited by Washington Irving, a neighbor of George Harvey. Irving may have been indebted to Harvey who helped design Irving's home, 'Sunnyside.'

Systematic conservation of the nineteenth-century broadside collection continues. The broadsides through 1838 have been examined and repaired when necessary. One hundred sixty broadsides were treated during the past year and some of that total were recent acquisitions which are routinely repaired regardless of date of publication. In addition, about thirty-five prints, maps, and pieces of sheet music were treated. In preparation for 'Wellsprings of a Nation,' about twenty eighteenth-century broadsides were carefully cleaned, deacidified, and mended; fifteen books and pamphlets were repaired or disbound. In addition, the binding of Benjamin Franklin's printing of Cicero's *Cato Major* (1744) was restored by Carolyn Horton in New York.

One of the major collections of the library is that of broadsides. Although it is arranged chronologically, the collection is not catalogued and access to the collection is severely limited. To remedy this problem and to bring the collection under bibliographical control, the Society has applied to NEH for a grant to begin work on this project.

Mrs. Bumgardner's professional activities for the past year included a lecture at the Twelfth Annual Forum at Pennsbury Manor in Pennsylvania and election to the Colonial Society of Massachusetts. She attended meetings of the Print Council of America in Washington, the conference on American prints held at the Old Dartmouth Historical Society in New Bedford, and the American Institute for Conservation in Boston. She and Mason Lowance collaborated on *Massachusetts Broad­sides of the American Revolution*, which was published this past winter by the University of Massachusetts Press.

The year past, 1976-77, was the penultimate year of support by the National Endowment for the Humanities for the

Society's manuscript catalogue project to arrange and describe our manuscripts as well as to provide for their conservation. These activities have brought the Society's manuscript holdings under progressively better control, thus enhancing their use by readers who did not know of their existence or import. These developments have exposed the Society's unpublished collections to increased scholarly use.

Manuscripts Department staff under the leadership of William L. Joyce have prepared descriptions of all but approximately 220 collections. These remaining collections should be processed by July 1978, thus allowing several months in which to tie up some loose ends before the project is concluded at the end of September.

During the past year, 321 collections were arranged and described. Additional work was done on 20 collections previously catalogued, either to reflect the addition of new materials or of new information about them. Among those collections now organized for the first time are the account book, 1737-60, of the Boston importer and upholsterer Samuel Grant; the papers of a remarkable family active in music publication, the Funk family of Harrisonburg, Virginia, 1833-54; a series of interleaved diaries of reluctant Loyalist Jonathan Sayward of York, Maine; and a group of extraordinary letters from Anne Mansfield Sullivan, the teacher of Helen Keller, to her Boston mentor, Michael Anagnos, until a disagreement ruptured their relationship in 1902.

It is irresponsible to promote the use of materials whose physical condition cannot withstand handling. Therefore, conservation is a high priority in any program promoting research use, and the most important element in any serious conservation program is that of prevention. The Kresge Manuscript Room, in which are housed most of the Society's manuscripts, is completely climate-controlled to provide a stable environment. Moreover, loose manuscripts are stored in acid-free folders in drop-front file boxes. Bound materials

are filed, where possible, in Hollinger boxes. Nearly every manuscript in the collection has been systematically fumigated. These preventive measures, however, have been adopted only in recent years. They may stabilize deterioration but cannot undo past deterioration. In relation to the backlog of collections requiring treatment, our ability to provide conservation services is not unlike shovelling against the tide. While the situation is discouraging, it is not hopeless. Priorities have been established so that the most valuable material in the worst condition is conserved for future use. In this fashion, selected items from a dozen of the Society's most noteworthy collections were restored for research use. Other valuable manuscripts posing special conservation problems were sent to the New England Document Conservation Center for repair. These included the 1765 notebook of Solomon Drowne (1753-1834), the Revolutionary War diary of Henry Blake, the account book (1796-1800) of bookseller William Cobbett (known also as 'Peter Porcupine'), and two notebooks of the elder Benjamin Franklin, uncle of the patriot and statesman of the same name. The conservation of these materials was jointly funded by NEH monies and a matching grant from the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities.

The Manuscripts Department reported a year ago that a 'small boom of research use' had been recorded and that the number of reader-days had increased by more than fifty per cent. This year, 378 reader-days were recorded, a substantial decrease from last year's level of 504. The lesser numbers can be explained by the heavy use last year of the Society's manuscripts by AAS fellows, none of this year's fellows pursuing projects that were focused principally on the use of manuscripts. There seemed to be less use not only by fellows but by researchers from the New England region generally. There was, however, correspondingly greater use of the Society's holdings by scholars traveling long distances. For

example, Gerald Baldasty of the University of Washington, Seattle, looked at many different collections while investigating his topic of the links between journalists and Massachusetts politics in the 1820s and 1830s. Similarly, Kathryn Kish Sklar of the University of California, Los Angeles, made extensive use of many of the Society's manuscript collections in pursuing her study of female education in Massachusetts from 1750 to 1850. As in the past, the Manuscript Department served academics in various collegiate institutions, some graduate and a few undergraduate students, independent researchers, several cooperative editorial projects, and our colleagues in various historical agencies in this region.

Principal accessions to the Society's manuscript holdings consisted almost entirely of additions to existing collections or documents supplementing the Society's unique resources on the history of the book trades. A group of ten letters, including letters by Isaiah Thomas and Hugh Gainé, was added to the Book Trades Collection. Several record volumes were donated to the Society by the Worcester Association for Mutual Aid in Detecting Thieves. An interesting 1850 letter of James Fenimore Cooper was acquired. Two letters of Theodosia Burr Alston were given by the National Society, Daughters of the Revolution of 1776, to be added to the Aaron Burr Correspondence. Nearly 389 items, including much late eighteenth-century and early nineteenth-century correspondence, was donated to the Society by Dwight Foster and were added to the Foster Family Papers, while other documents were acquired for the Harriette Merrifield Forbes Papers from Mr. and Mrs. Linwood M. Erskine, Jr.

As in previous years, there continued to be a fair degree of turnover among the Manuscripts Department staff. Assistant Curator Nancy H. Burkett returned in November after taking a four-month leave to serve as a field worker with the NEH-funded Women's History Sources Survey. Late in February, Kathleen A. Sanford resigned her position as department

clerk-typist in order to devote her time to impending motherhood. Mark W. Savolis, a recent graduate of the College of the Holy Cross, started working as a department assistant in July, while Ellen D. Mark resigned her position as department assistant in August in order to assume responsibilities as manuscripts librarian at the Essex Institute in Salem. Curator Joyce was elected president of the New England Archivists at the organization's annual meeting held last April in Worcester. Also, he served on the program committee for the 1977 annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists held in October in Salt Lake City and agreed recently to become chairman of that Society's ad hoc committee on the certification of archives. For the third consecutive year, he offered his course, 'Archives and Manuscripts: Their Care and Feeding,' through Clark University. Mr. Joyce resigned his membership on the Massachusetts LSCA Advisory Council on Libraries in order to devote more time to his new duties as the Society's Education Officer.

Joyce Ann Tracy and her assistant, Audrey T. Zook, continued their tasks of advising readers, delivering requested materials to their hands, and conducting a heavy volume of correspondence with inquirers at a distance. So did the never-ending tasks of accounting for incoming periodicals, government documents, and the major task of sorting incoming acquisitions of newspapers. Part-time student helpers, Aaron Bornstein of Clark and Francis McKenon of Worcester State, have speeded the recataloguing of newspapers and the processing of gifts. Dennis Leary of Emerson College worked full-time in the summer, during which time he devoted one full day each week to making a supply of folders for the coming year.

The department continues to receive gifts in response to form letters sent by the Society in 1973-75, which announced the willingness of the Society to receive pre-1877 newspapers and periodicals. Gifts included a collection of more than 2,000

1876 newspapers from the Chicago Historical Society, which had been formed by George P. Rowell for exhibition at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition of 1876. The portion at Chicago was a part of the entire collection, another segment of which had been at AAS for many years. Thus, in 1976 the two elements were at last reunited. AAS plans to film the entire file which should prove to be a valuable bibliographical and research tool. Over 100 issues and eleven runs of titles from eleven states were received from the Brattleboro Public Library, including 21 issues of the uncommon *Buffalo Gazette* for 1812, and 1814-15, thirty volumes of Waltham, Massachusetts, and Bath, Maine, newspapers from Graphic Microfilm of New England, twenty volumes of Albany newspapers from Columbia University, eight volumes of the *Telegraph* from the Hamilton, Ohio, Public Library, 45 issues of New Jersey newspapers and several periodicals from the University of Delaware, and smaller lots from the Jones Library of Amherst, the Jacksonville, Florida, Public Library, the Rochester Museum, the Camfield Memorial Library of Arlington, Vermont, and the Schlesinger Library at Radcliffe. Among the gifts from individuals were runs of two very important eighteenth-century newspapers from Washington, Pennsylvania, the *Western Telegraph*, 1795-97, and the *Herald of Liberty*, 1798-99. This important and generous gift from Mrs. Peter Snow now gives AAS the most complete holdings of these titles in any library.

Among our purchases were a run of the Haynesville, Alabama, *Examiner* for 1868-72, not listed in bibliographies as being held elsewhere, two rare campaign newspapers, the anti-Jackson *Weekly Marylander* and the pro-Harrison *Spirit of '76* from Indianapolis, 130 issues from the Midwest published in the 1840s and 70 issues from Vermont. The most interesting purchase was that of a periodical printed in Cincinnati in 1835, *Chronicle of the North American Savages*, 1835. This short-lived series was published by Isaac Galland

of Chillicothe, Ohio. He is better known as the author of *The Iowa Immigrant*, which reflected his interests in land development in Iowa in the 1830s and 1840s. The periodical, which is complete in five issues, is extremely uncommon and is a useful account of midwestern Indian languages, religions, and customs.

Miss Tracy attended a New England Library Information Network meeting on the new Ohio College Library Center serials subsystem and the annual conferences of the Massachusetts Library Association and the New England Archivists. In programing for the future computerization of our serial records, Miss Tracy and Mrs. Zook have undertaken the task of preparing lists and records in order to enter International Standard Serial Numbers of periodicals received by AAS into the CONSER system, a computerized national union list of serials at the Ohio College Library Center, soon to be taken under the wing of the Library of Congress.

It is not without some degree of awe that we learn from library colleagues that the American Antiquarian Society is considered to be the national collection of pre-1877 American printed materials. It is well to be pleased to learn our collections are so regarded, but it is more a matter that implies serious responsibilities. The collections must grow; they must be cared for; they must be made available for scholarly use. The Council is pleased to report that in all of these areas, our colleagues among our truly splendid staff are taking steps to see that these things occur.

So, the Council observes that Society activities now are at a somewhat different level than they were in April of 1851 when our president, Honest John Davis (governor, congressman, and senator), wrote:

The even tenor of our way, and the quiet manner in which our business is done, furnish little to attract public attention; and while our advances in growth from one stated meeting to another are almost as imperceptible as the motion of the hands upon

the dial of a clock, or the progress of the turning shadow, yet, if we enquire what our condition was in the outset, and compare it with the present state of things, the evidence will establish the encouraging fact that we have made progress, and that our labors have neither been vain nor fruitless.

To each of you who make our institutional life worthwhile, we offer our profound gratitude.

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