

The Report of the Council

October 20, 1976

As we look forward to another year, our Society's one hundred and sixty-fifth, the Council notes with continuing pleasure the evidences of generosity and goodwill of members, staff, and friends. These evidences are made manifest through the good reports of the work of the Society; through gifts of money, books, manuscripts, objects; through loyal attendance at meetings; through willingness to work on committees, to write learned papers, or to give lectures; or to labor in the book stacks. To all of you who enable and encourage the continued life of this learned society, we give thanks.

In the matter of financial support, 174 members and 230 friends gave \$38,720 for the ongoing work of the Society. The sum of \$106,107 was given to increase the capital funds of the Society. More than half of the pieces added to the Society's collections were given by many individuals and not a few institutions. Without such kindnesses, now or innumerable instances before, this institution would not exist. To all—our profound gratitude.

The year just concluded has been a transitional one for AAS. We have come to the determination that the staff of the Society no longer can absorb more responsibilities without additional compensation or more help. Thus, any new activity in which we engage shall be placed on a basis of self-sufficiency, and, in addition, shall have sufficient financial undergirding to pay for its share of library services, space, and administrative costs. Thus, we have begun to work for

specific, limited goals in order to accomplish specific tasks. As we look toward fulfilling old tasks as well as to meeting new challenges, our financial strategies shall be altered to meet differing circumstances.

During the past few years, the Council has been exceedingly concerned by the persistent financial deficits which have resulted from the costs of inflation and expanded responsibilities. Despite these pressures, the Society's budget during the past several years remained at an almost constant level; but so did the worrisome deficit. Alterations in the Society's financial situation should result in a balanced budget for the current year, particularly if we members respond thoughtfully and responsibly to the President's annual appeal for gifts. It should be so, for we have accepted membership in AAS and we are the individuals most concerned with its work and its ability to do it.

During the bicentennial year, 1975-76, as in past years, the work of the Society's library proceeded at an increasing tempo under the capable direction of Frederick E. Bauer, Jr., the Associate Librarian, with attendant satisfaction that AAS is serving more scholars, as well as more lay people, in significant ways. The busiest months ever recorded were reached this summer. During July of 1976 there were logged in twenty-one business days 420 readers, an average of 20 each day. The staff serving under department head Mary E. Brown was able to cope with the pressure of increased numbers of readers largely through its diligence and with the assistance of volunteers, students, and staff members from other departments. In serving the needs of patrons, the department retrieved, delivered, reshelved, and recorded an average of 800 books each month as well as uncounted numbers of newspapers and folders of manuscripts. The peak number of 1,447 books paged was reached in August.

Reference activity continues to place inordinate demands of time upon the staff. Libraries throughout the United States

and Canada make interlibrary loan requests at an average of thirty-five each month. Of this number about sixteen percent can be and are answered by providing photocopy. The remaining inquiries are redirected to other sources or denied as a matter of general policy, but each requires a response which absorbs staff time.

Requests for information, for genealogical data, for illustrations, or for loans continue at an average rate of 105 each month. The peak of this activity was reached in March when 164 mail reference requests were received and acted upon. Of this number more than one-fourth were questions relating to newspapers while nearly a quarter involved graphic arts.

The Curator of Newspapers and Serials, Joyce Ann Tracy, noted an overall increase in the use of newspapers by twenty percent compared with the previous fiscal year. Contributing to the variety of demands placed upon this department was the processing of several large gifts of newspapers from Yale University and the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society, as well as a number of smaller donations from the Boston Athenæum, the Massachusetts State Library, the University of Maine, Dartmouth College, Fitchburg Historical Society, Worcester Public Library, and the Gale Free Library of Holden. An important research collection was received on loan from Mr. and Mrs. Cushing Daniel. It enabled the department to record previously unlisted titles and to fill existing gaps in the newspaper collection. Another, continuing responsibility of Miss Tracy and her assistant, Audrey T. Zook, is the organization and rationalization of the constantly enlarging collection of government publications. This depository function requires extensive record-keeping and handling which is subject to annual inspection. While providing the services expected by readers and inquirers, Miss Tracy contributed to special Society exhibits and provided a fine article on AAS newspaper holdings for the first issue of the *Newspaper and Gazette Reporter*, published by the Library of Congress.

The Andrew W. Mellon Curator of Graphic Arts, Georgia B. Bumgardner, in addition to handling readers' requests for graphic arts materials and arranging for photographic illustrations, has been occupied with the supervision of loans of materials for bicentennial exhibitions to a substantial number of institutions. Equally important in the work of the Graphic Arts Department has been the planning and supervision of a series of changing exhibits at AAS including 'The World of Henry Knox,' 'Valentines,' 'The Irish Experience in America,' 'Early Prints of New England,' 'The Centennial of 1876,' and 'The Jewish Presence in America in 1825.'

Mrs. Bumgardner was deeply involved in the meetings of the Print Council of America and the seventh annual conference on American prints, sponsored jointly by the American Antiquarian Society and the Worcester Art Museum. She has delivered several scholarly papers at professional meetings.

During this bicentennial year, activity for William L. Joyce, Curator of Manuscripts, has increased as it has in previous years. Manuscript collections are more fully inventoried and cataloguing is more effective. Thus, readers proliferate. The statistical increase in terms of research use of the collections was fifty percent over the previous year. A significant portion of this enlarged readership can be attributed to the use of manuscripts by the Fred Harris Daniels Fellows.

Access to the manuscript collections has been made more efficient for researchers by the presence of extensive collection descriptions, of which 315 were completed during the year. Among the collections thus processed were the papers of Esther Forbes, the Benjamin Franklin (1650-1727) notebooks, the Samuel and Caroline Gilman papers, the papers of John Bartholomew Gough, the Samuel Smith Kilburn sketchbooks, the Joseph Lancaster papers, the Lincoln family papers, the McCarty and Davis papers, the Massachusetts collection, the letters of Sophia May, the records of the New

York Association for the Instruction of Coloured Male Adults, the Newcomb family papers, the Ebenezer Parkman family papers, and the Samuel Stearns papers. Because of careful and systematic investigation, Mr. Joyce's report to the Massachusetts Historic Documents Inventory revised over ninety percent of the entries reported in the 1961 edition of Hamer's *Guide* while adding nearly one hundred new collection descriptions to the AAS section.

Of significant importance to the professional management of the manuscript collections has been the supplemental activity of the curator as a member of the State Library Services & Construction Act Advisory Council, a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship Division panel, and the Society of American Archivists. Mr. Joyce taught a course entitled 'Archives and Manuscripts: Their Care and Feeding,' co-sponsored by the New England Archivists and Clark University. Equally vital to the professional health of the department has been the temporary appointment of assistant curator Nancy Burkett to a project, 'Women's History Sources Survey,' which is designed to locate manuscript sources for the history of women and which is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The continuing excellence and importance of the work of the Manuscripts Department was recognized by a third two-year grant from NEH for the project 'A Catalogue of Manuscripts held by the American Antiquarian Society.'

High on the priority list of tasks for improving the accessibility of the book collections is the cataloguing process. Of necessity, the cataloguing of unique materials with full descriptive detail requires painstaking research and infinite patience. Cataloguing department members Richard L. Anders, Dorothy D. Siles, and Dorothy M. Beaudette processed most of the incoming acquisitions and catalogued a significant portion of our miscellaneous pamphlets which were published between the years 1821 and 1830. This latter project was

supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and enabled us to continue to use the oclc computer terminal for cataloguing searches, for production of catalogue cards, and for making machine readable records in the MARC II format.

Of equally high priority has been the continued work of the conservation technician, Kenneth R. Desautels, who has systematically scheduled the preservation and restoration work recommended by each curator. During the year, more than 200 broadsides were cleaned, deacidified, and mended as were sixty maps, prints, and architectural drawings from the Graphic Arts Department. Twenty-three major conservation projects for the manuscript department were also carried out, including an early diary of Increase Mather, the architectural sketchbook of Alexander Parris, the John May diary, portions of the diary of Ebenezer Parkman, and a letter of Ethan Allen. Although some 260 projects were completed in the restoration workshop each month, the backlog of work cannot be eliminated because of the inexorable processes of deterioration inherent in paper. May Heaven forbid that the facts of the permanence and durability of paper may yet prove false the AAS motto, *Nec Poterit Ferrum, Nec Edax Abolere Vetustas!*

Donald K. Strader, superintendent of maintenance, has continued to monitor carefully the performance of the heating equipment in order to provide satisfactory indoor atmospheric conditions at a minimum expenditure of energy. The marked reduction in oil and electric consumption of past years has now leveled off because all substantial adjustments have been accomplished. In 1975-76, oil consumption remained at 15,500 gallons and electrical consumption at 330,000 kilowatt hours to heat and light our 57,225 square feet of space.

The landscape of the Society suffered the loss of two more elm trees to the Dutch Elm disease. The trees had been treated for several years with the Benlate solution, but with

no success. With these trees removed, only one of the original elms remains. But, a notable improvement to the Society grounds was the addition of a flagpole on the northeast lawn, the gift of Mr. Robert W. Stoddard. For the first time since the building was erected in 1909-10, the flag of our union can be flown over this national library of American history.

An unusual maintenance problem was encountered at the very end of the year when a staff member reported the sighting of a lone yellow jacket in a lower area of the stacks. As the fall advanced, more hornet sightings were reported until the lower stack was a veritable 'hive of activity.' The maintenance department gingerly located the source of the invasion at a loose-fitting, poorly caulked window casing. Remedial action was taken by extermination and repair.

Conducting the affairs of our library in its various departments is a competent and dedicated cadre of professional department heads. During the year, there was no change in the core of our staff to interrupt the continuity of operating policies and procedures. Assisting the department heads are fulltime, professional or non-professional assistants, students, interns, and volunteers. The total number of workers in any given month has varied from a low of thirty-seven to a peak of forty-three, a difference which is directly related to the availability of students and volunteers. Staff changes have occurred during the year. The readers' services department lost the assistance of Alan N. Degutis to matriculation at Columbia University School of Library Service. He is the latest of more than a dozen young people who since 1970 have left AAS to begin professional training. The manuscripts department staff has undergone changes with the extended leave of absence of the assistant curator, Nancy H. Burkett, and the resignation of departmental assistant Paula S. Jakubiak. The maintenance department staff suffered a loss by the retirement of Ralph E. Greiner.

Volunteers play an important role in filling in the gaps in the staff roster. Useful aid to the Society has been freely given by Carroll M. Abbott, Michael Belton, Olley Hoagland, Marie E. Lamoureux, Kathleen A. Major, Ellen D. Mark, Rebecca Moore, Elizabeth Norwood, Eleanor O'Donnell, Helen Julia Orr, and Kathleen A. Sanford, who served as interns or as volunteers. The work of the Society is enriched by the performance of these capable and generous people who make it possible for the library to continue to render high levels of service. We are most grateful for their contributions to the Society.

A report of the operations of the library for the year 1975-76 would be incomplete without mention of two minor but interesting bicentennial events. In July, a dirty wooden box which had been shifted around in our cellars for one hundred years was opened. Within it was found electrotyped plates of pages 1-3 of the edition of July 17, 1776, of *The Massachusetts Spy*. This issue, which contained one of the first New England printings of the Declaration of Independence, was reprinted by the A. C. Campbell Company in Printers Hall at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition. Also, F. E. Bauer opened the container which had been placed in the cornerstone of the second, 1852, Antiquarian Hall on Court Hill. The contents were: a certificate of the AAS building committee dated June 7, 1852; a copy of the *Proceedings* of AAS for 1851-52; a guide booklet entitled *Worcester in 1850*; *The Worcester Almanac, Directory and Business Advertiser*, 1852; *Worcester Daily Transcript*, June 12, 1852; *Worcester Daily Spy*, June 17, 1852; *Worcester National Ægis*, June 9, 1852; *Worcester Palladium*, June 2, 1852; and *The Massachusetts Spy*, June 9, 1852. The opening of these mementoes and the loyal and consistent work of the library staff seemed to be appropriate ways for our library to commemorate the bicentennial year.

Turning our attention to library acquisitions, we added 2,776 titles of which 1,323 were given to AAS. In analyzing

our performance, we found that 308 titles were published prior to 1831, 1,320 were dated between 1831 and 1876, while 1,148 were issued after the year 1876. The average price paid was \$53 per title for the earliest group, \$24 for those dated 1831-76 and \$14.15 for the more recent books.

However, not included in the above statistical account is the most significant acquisition of the past year, or, perhaps, of the recent past. We took the opportunity to obtain a collection of more than eighty, printed documents, many of which were unrecorded, of the first four congresses of the United States, 1791-98. In general, the documents represent working papers—drafts of bills, texts of treaties, reports, or proposed constitutional amendments—which were printed for the use of the representatives or senators as they considered legislation.

This group joins an outstanding collection of governmental documents already at AAS. In 1814 by act of Congress, the Society was made one of the first (if not the first other than the Library of Congress) depository libraries. We have been such ever since and continue to receive what is now a highly selective list of federal documents. Of the earliest documents, AAS held something in the order of 200 or more items which cannot be found at the Library of Congress. Thus, the acquisition of these new documents is of considerable importance to us and to the history of federal legislation.

Among the more important documents in the lot is the printed draft of 'the Bill of Rights,' the first eleven amendments to the Constitution, which was sent to each of the states for ratification (the eleventh article failed of passage), being one of three known survivors of a printing of 135 copies; an unrecorded preliminary printing of a treaty between the United States and the Dey of Algiers of September 5, 1795; a series of four bills, 1791-96, on establishing the federal post office and post roads; another series of four bills, 1792-96, on establishing the militia. Mixed in amongst such treasures

is a previously unknown November 1777 printing of a draft of Article Four of the Articles of Confederation and copies of proposed legislation on regulating the Indian trade in the Northwest Territory and on the dispersal of Ohio lands. We have materially depleted our acquisition funds to buy the collection. We shall gladly accept gifts to purchase any one of the documents in the collection, should anyone volunteer.

Among personal contributions of research materials, a very significant acquisition is a collection of rare American newspapers from Mr. and Mrs. Cushing Daniel. The four volumes of mixed titles primarily are dated in the Madison era and include such rarities as *The Georgetown Courier*, May–November 1812; *The Georgetown Senator*, January–April 1814; and other exceedingly scarce titles which significantly improve our newspaper holdings. Mrs. Frederick Lewis Weis gave to us our choice of the extensive library of New England local history and genealogy belonging to her late husband (AAS 1938–66). The truckload of books proved to be helpful indeed in supplying not only new titles to our collections but also providing us with replacement copies of worn-out histories and genealogical works. Mary Gage Rice has given the Society many interesting books from her families' libraries. Also, she presented to AAS a beautiful sterling silver tea service made for her father, T. Hovey Gage (AAS 1914–38), by the Boston craftsman Karl Leinonen. In fact, this year has been unusual in that AAS received gifts of several objects. Kenneth D. Roberts gave us a rare standing clock made and signed in 1773 by Samuel Stowel of Worcester. The young horologist, who died in 1774, was the brother of a better-known clockmaker, Abel Stowel. Mr. Roberts believes that our example was Samuel's apprentice piece.

Over the past several years, Daniel Farber has made a fine art of the photography of sculpture found on early New England gravestones. As the capstone of a large number of gifts to AAS in this genre, Mr. Farber presented 2,200 of his

photographic prints, 8 by 10 or 5 by 7 inches in size. In addition, he had copied onto modern negative film all of Harriette Merrifield Forbes's pioneering glass negatives of gravestone photographs. They number about 1,300 images. These exceedingly generous gifts now form, perhaps, the major research collection on the subject.

George C. Downey presented to the Society a corner chair which by tradition had been held in the Harwood family since 1688. Mr. Downey gave us the chair in memory of his mother, Eleanor Usher Downey.

Michael Papantonio continues his benefactions of American bindings. Sinclair Hamilton gave us a beautiful copy of the rare first American edition of John Milton's *Paradise Lost* and *Paradise Regain'd* (Philadelphia: Robert Bell, 1777) two volumes. The set belonged to H. Bacon Collamore and later was a part of Leonard B. Schlosser's fine Milton collection. To all our other, but unnamed, benefactors we are grateful indeed.

Although purchased acquisitions were fewer in number this year than in the past, nevertheless we obtained some extremely interesting research materials. For example, in the realm of the history of printing and of books we obtained an unrecorded catalogue of English, Irish, and American law books offered for sale by Backus & Whiting, booksellers of Albany, New York. The sixty-page pamphlet was issued in 1808. A year earlier The Anthology Reading Room and Library of Boston opened its doors and issued an eight-page leaflet to the subscribers to inform them of the fact. This institution was to become the Boston Athenæum. While the pamphlet must exist in that great Boston library, it seems to have escaped the notice of bibliographers.

Of a number of publications concerned with education, one should be mentioned. Mary T. P. Mann and her sister, Elizabeth P. Peabody, were pioneers in the effort to establish kindergartens and to improve elementary school education in

this country. Their joint publication *Moral Culture of Infancy, and Kindergarten Guide, with Music for Plays* (Boston, 1863) was an important tool in their attempt to provide effective instruction to small children. Books for youngsters are still eagerly sought here. Our juvenilia continue to grow in quality and through the diligence of Mesdames Norwood, Moore, and Hoagland our large collection dated 1821-76 has been cleaned, placed into protective covers, and reshelved. We are happy to note the gift of a number of our more interesting acquisitions in this genre. For example, Elisabeth Ball gave the Society a previously unrecorded pamphlet printed by Isaiah Thomas in 1789 containing *The Advice and Counsel of Deacon Samuel Goodhue, late of Hollis, to his Children, Grandchildren, and Great Grandchildren*. Interestingly, the text of the advice was reprinted in an 1833 Goodhue family genealogy, although the concluding poem was omitted in that version. Also the gift of Miss Ball is *The American Mother; or, The Seymour Family*, published by Davis and Force of Washington, D.C., in 1823. This book consists of two stories, the second of which (Part II), relates the events of a drive into the country near Washington and the visit by the Seymours to a store managed by a Negro family.

Mary E. Brown presented to the Society two books in memory of Benjamin Tighe. One of them was *A New Collection of Riddles* (Windsor, Vermont: Jesse Cochran, 1814). Another of our staff members, Carolyn A. Allen, gave the Society a children's book, Peter Parley's [Samuel G. Goodrich] *Tales . . . About Europe* (Boston, 1828). This very uncommon book joins our rare copy of *The Tales of Peter Parley, About America*, 1827.

Several *New England Primers* were added to our holdings. They came from Edna Greenwood's collection at Time Stone Farm in Marlborough, Massachusetts. Editions from Boston of 1750 (Heartman 9) and 1774 (unrecorded); Philadelphia, 1787 (Heartman's own copy of 103); New York, 1793 (un-

recorded); Bennington, 1802 (unrecorded); and Pittsburgh, 1812 (unrecorded) made up this lot.

Turning to more mundane matters, the crash of 1837 produced substantial hardships among working people who were thrown out of work without notice and without the cushion of unemployment relief. Thus, when faced with the sight of destitute, suffering families, one New York City writer published *The Friend. An Essay to do Good: or, Relief from the Pressure* (New York, 1837). The anonymous writer addressed his remarks to 'the wise, the prudent, and the liberal among the wealthy class' of the city. He appealed to them to come voluntarily to the aid of their stricken fellow citizens before the latter became desperate and took matters into their own hands.

Among materials on technology and transportation, an unrecorded pamphlet issued in Norfolk, Virginia, came to hand as a gift of Stephen Weissman. The pamphlet bears the text of *An Act to Establish a Draw-Bridge over the Eastern Branch of Elizabeth River* and was printed by A. C. Jordan & Co. in 1803. As northern American cities burgeoned during the years following the Civil War, solutions to problems of mass transportation were needed. In New York City, Richard Price Morgan proposed an elevated railroad to run above the avenues. His proposal differed from that of his fellow engineers in that the design of the structure was not purely utilitarian. Rather, the iron work was to be shaped in a gothic arch. The rare pamphlet which he issued in 1869 to promote his scheme is illustrated by a fine lithographic plate showing the cars, drawn by a steam engine, of course, upon a superstructure which appears to owe a great deal to the Crystal Palace.

We have mentioned above the gift or loan of several excellent files of newspapers or periodicals. We have purchased some as well. From two persons in the state of Washington we obtained two interesting titles. The earlier is a one-year

run of the Washington, Pennsylvania, newspaper *The Western Telegraph*, and *Washington Advertiser*, August 17, 1795 – August 9, 1796. The other purchase was of fifty-eight issues of the Detroit *Michigan Herald*, May 23, 1827 – April 30, 1829. Also purchased were volumes one and two of *The Dramatic Mirror, and Literary Companion* (Philadelphia: Turner & Fisher, 1841–42), and we were particularly pleased to obtain, through the agency of a helpful bookseller, five 1845 monthly issues of William Gilmore Simms's very scarce *Southern and Western Monthly Magazine and Review*. This important periodical later merged into the *Southern Literary Messenger*. The AAS file now stands at six of twelve issues.

In looking through the year's acquisitions, a large number of important or merely interesting American publications seem to leap out at your reporter. For example, James Logan's *A More Just Vindication of the Honourable Sir William Keith, Bart.* [Philadelphia, 1726], Evans 2759; the 1726 *Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends* [in Pennsylvania and New Jersey], printed by Andrew Bradford in 1727, Evans 2875; Mississippi almanacs of 1817 and 1819, both printed in Natchez, Drake 4507 and 4509; an unrecorded Worcester imprint of 1795—*The History of Reprobate* by Henry Brooke; *Rules of the St. Andrew's Club* (Charleston, South Carolina, 1788); other unrecorded imprints from Buffalo, 1818, or from Floyd County, Indiana, 1838, by Eaphras Jones; land speculation promotions from Augusta, Georgia, 1799, and from Gamble, Pennsylvania, 1804; William D. Robinson's *A Cursory View of Spanish America* (Georgetown, D.C., 1815); a broadside relating the *Dead Rabbits' Fight With the Bowery Boys. New York, July 4th 1857* by the Saugerties Bard; or the *Journal d'un Exile Politique aux Terres Australes* (Montreal, 1845) by Leon Ducharme. But enough of miscellany! Let us conclude this portion of our report by mentioning a few acquisitions in the fields of literature and the arts.

Although we try not to get into the way of our friends at the Harris Collection at Brown University, from time to time we do acquire American verse. For example, we were pleased to obtain a copy of a very uncommon publication, *A Poem Occasioned by A Funeral Essay on Governor Law*, [New London?], 1754. Broadside verse seems to appear in never ending quantities and at prices which our predecessors would have thought mad. This year's crop at AAS included an 1823, Boston, bootblack's new year's greeting to his patrons; the address of the *Kalamazoo Gazette* carriers for 1840, the gift of the Vermont Historical Society; a ballad entitled *The Cuckoo's Nest*, printed at the Heart and Crown in Boston in the 1790s; and an occasional piece written by Daniel Eldridge to commemorate the deaths of two Gorham, Maine, men who were killed by the collapse of the meetinghouse there on June 8, 1797.

The pursuit of American fiction is a favored activity at AAS. Among a goodly number of purchases were some unrecorded examples, such as *The City of the Sun: A Patriarchal Tale* (Philadelphia, 1829), or *Almira: or, Happiness Sacrificed to Passion* (New York, 1836). Other purchases, although recorded by Lyle Wright, are uncommonly met with, such as *Imogine; or The Pirate's Treasure* by George A. H. Sherburne (Washington, 1839), I Wright 2381; or Frank Hardwicke's *Nezbitt Sinclair* (Philadelphia, 1844), I Wright 1127a; Mrs. J. R. Beckwith's novel *The House Behind The Poplars* (New York, 1871), II Wright 243, was known by only the copy at the Boston Public Library. Peggy Christian gave the Society a sum of money with which to purchase books in interesting bindings—a gift made in honor of Michael Papantonio. One of the books purchased on the fund contained two novels which were awarded prizes in a fiction contest sponsored by the publisher, Frederick M. Gleason of Boston. They appear in a florid binding executed, we take it, in Belleville, Ontario. The first is *The Knight of the Silver*

Cross by Edgar W. Davies (1849), I Wright 825c, and the other, a copy of which we did not own, is *Paolina; or, The Sybil of the Arno* by Martha Ann Clough (1849), I Wright 552.

Musical acquisitions were interesting and useful and included 175 pieces of sheet music published between 1800 and 1825. They were received from the Harris Collection at Brown in partial exchange for a large collection of late sheet music sent to Brown many years ago. Almost as soon as Irving Lowens's fine, new bibliography of American songsters appeared, we obtained a unique example—*A Choice Collection of Favorite Songs*, published in Kingston, New York, in 1795—which does not, of course, appear in any bibliography! A scarce tunebook, *Occasional Music* by Benjamin Holt (Boston, 1810), was purchased in June.

Finally, we will mention a few important acquisitions in the field of the visual arts. To our mind the most interesting is a copy of August Köllner's *Common Sights on Land and Water*, published by the American Sunday School Union of Philadelphia in 1852. It is one of a deservedly famous set of volumes made up of beautiful lithographic views of Philadelphia streets or of its environs. The Society now holds three of the series, the other two being *Common Sights in Town & Country*, 1850, and *City Sights for Country Eyes*, 1856. They deserve reprinting.

Certainly one of the most important acquisitions was an acceptable copy of John Hill's folio *Drawing Book of Landscape Scenery* (New York and Charleston, South Carolina, 1821). Other print acquisitions included a rare lithographic portrait of Abby Kelley Foster (of Worcester) published in Philadelphia in 1846 at the Gallery of the Daguerreotype.

In reviewing this hasty listing of some of our more interesting acquisitions, it would appear to us that it has, indeed, been a fruitful year in improving the Society's research collections.

Other departments of the Society have been busy also. In addition to the demanding work of editing the Society's *Proceedings* and overseeing the work of the Readex Microprint series *Early American Imprints*, John B. Hench, the Society's Alden Porter Johnson Editor of Publications, in the past year has presided over the publication of five books. Two of them came out in January: *The Declaration of Independence: Two Essays* by Howard Mumford Jones and Howard H. Peckham and *A Dictionary of Colonial American Printers' Ornaments and Illustrations* by Elizabeth Carroll Reilly. The former is a reprinting from the *Proceedings* of two articles on one theme. *A Bibliography of Songsters Printed in America before 1821* by Irving Lowens appeared in May. Two reprints of AAS books were published during the year. The first was the Weather-vane Books edition of *The History of Printing in America* by Isaiah Thomas, edited by Marcus A. McCorison. This is an inexpensive, photo-offset version of the 1970 Imprint Society edition. The second reprint is *History and Bibliography of American Newspapers, 1690-1820* by Clarence S. Brigham. It has been published by Greenwood Press and includes the 1961 'Additions and Corrections.' The University Press of Virginia continues to distribute our books with satisfactory results. In addition to the efforts of the Press, the Society's publication office did a substantial amount of advertising and promotion of our books.

Several books are now in progress. *The Press and the American Revolution* and *Wellsprings of a Nation: America before 1801* are bicentennial projects. Also, we are preparing for the press C. K. Shipton's *Index to the Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society, 1812-1961* as well as Philip Lampi's *American Election Returns, 1789-1824*. Shipton's *Index* promises to open up the *Proceedings* to full scholarly use while the Lampi tabulation of early American electoral statistics will be the most complete source of such information. We expect that these works will be published in 1977.

During the past year the Worcester Bicentennial Commission published three titles in its series Worcester People and Places, which have AAS connections beyond the fact that Mr. Hench is the series's general editor. They are *Isaiab Thomas* by Richard C. Steele, *Abigail Kelley Foster and Stephen S. Foster* by Nancy H. Burkett, and *Esther Forbes* by Margaret Erskine.

The April 1976 issue of the *Proceedings* is the third printed under an agreement with The Stinehour Press. The 'page-proofs only' system works well from our standpoint by allowing more efficient editorial work. It has brought a decrease in the cost of authors' or editor's alterations. The Committee on Publications voted to raise the price of a yearly subscription for the *Proceedings* to \$20. This, the first price increase in seven years, responds to the great rise in paper and production costs that have occurred in recent months. The staff and the publication committee continue to examine ways by which the usefulness and potential audience of the *Proceedings* may be increased. In particular, there are plans to solicit new subscribers to the journal.

The Committee on Fellowships made awards to the following persons:

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships

Ronald P. Formisano, Clark University, 'Massachusetts political culture, 1790-1840'; Douglas Greenberg, Lawrence University, 'Public festivities in colonial America'; Mason I. Lowance, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 'Symbolism in American writing from the Puritans to the Civil War'; Carroll Smith-Rosenberg, University of Pennsylvania, 'A study of actual and prescribed gender roles in the American family, 1760-1895.' Mr. Greenberg was unable to accept the fellowship awarded to him.

Fred Harris Daniels Fellowships

Carol Berkin, Baruch College, City University of New York, 'Men in crisis: four Loyalists in the American Revolution'; Roderick Cave, University of the West Indies, 'A history of printing in the West Indies'; Elaine K. Ginsberg, West Virginia University, 'Female *Bildungsroman*, 1820-1875'; J. Brian Harley, Exeter University (England), 'Maps in eighteenth-century North American libraries'; H. James Henderson, Oklahoma State University, 'Local political culture in Virginia and Massachusetts, 1775-1800'; Pauline Norton, University of Michigan, 'American march music of the nineteenth century'; Lawrence Rosenwald, Lehman College, City University of New York, 'New England diaries'; Kathryn Kish Sklar, University of California, Los Angeles, 'Female education in New England, 1780-1820'; and Wendy Wick, National Portrait Gallery, 'Eighteenth-century American portrait engraving.'

All of the Fred Harris Daniels Fellows reported for duty during the summer months. For much of July and August, four to six of them were in residence at one time. They were a most congenial group and they mixed in splendidly with 'old hands,' such as Richard Crawford, and with our staff. Although the fellows put considerable pressure on library staff it was well worth it, for the experience was stimulating for all concerned—particularly the softball games which were notable for enthusiastic, if not skillful, play.

Ms. Carroll Smith-Rosenberg, the first of our NEH fellows, arrived at AAS in mid-September 1976. Mr. Formisano will begin work in November, while Mr. Lowance will not come to AAS until after the first of the new year.

Competitions for our Daniels and NEH fellowships will be held again in 1977-78. The National Endowment for the Humanities, Fellowship Division, has awarded AAS \$80,000

for support of this program during the next three years. For the coming year, \$30,000 is available for at least two NEH Fellowships, with the stipend and term of appointment negotiable. The maximum stipend is \$15,000. The fellowships may be held for not less than nine, nor more than twelve, months. In general, stipends will be lower for persons on sabbatical leave or with grants from their own institutions than for those who need to take leaves of absence. The pattern of the Daniels Fellowships will not vary significantly from past years.

Microfilming AAS holdings for the Readex Microprint American Imprint Series goes ahead satisfactorily. We are currently well into the S37000s, the letter D in 1816. Boxes of published cards now reaching subscribing libraries are numbered in the S32000s.

The Society continued to be the locus of meetings of a seminar in American political history, 1750–1850. The Association of Worcester Consortium Historians and Political Scientists, as well as other academic gatherings, such as a Brown University NEH summer seminar for college teachers, also meet at AAS. During the summer, weekly teas, receptions, or talks were scheduled for or by the Daniels Fellows and other visiting scholars. Six public lectures were given at AAS during the year. George A. Billias, Clark University, spoke on the American Revolution; Delphin A. Muise, The National Museum of Man in Ottawa, on the coal miners of Cape Breton Island; Henry Borger, Leicester Junior College, on Col. Henry Knox; John E. Reilly, The College of the Holy Cross, on Edgar Allan Poe; Arthur Schrader, Old Sturbridge Village, a lecture-concert on the songs of the Revolution; and Tamara K. Hareven, Clark University, on the historiography of the family.

We have completed work on a research project which was undertaken at the request of a number of the editors of the papers of American statesmen and which was funded by a

grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Entitled 'Index to Manuscripts of Prominent Americans, 1763-1815, in Book Auction and Dealers' Catalogues,' the work was directed by Helen L. P. Cripe and was completed with the assistance of Charles E. Howell and Diane E. Campbell.

Dr. Cripe and her aides searched all available American auction catalogues to the year 1895. Also, they searched American booksellers' and autograph dealers' catalogues through the year 1970. They compiled some 22,000 index slips for identifiable manuscripts written by Americans between the years 1763 and 1815. Pertinent manuscripts were reported to the appropriate editors. The main entries, with an index to recipients and to writers, will be published in a chronological order by Scholarly Resources, Inc., of Wilmington, Delaware.

The advisory committee of the project was chaired by Robert A. Rutland, editor of *The Papers of James Madison*. Other members were Thad Tate, Institute of Early American History and Culture; Herbert A. Johnson, *The Papers of John Marshall*; Lyman H. Butterfield, *The Adams Papers*, Howard H. Peckham, William L. Clements Library; William B. Willcox, *The Papers of Benjamin Franklin*; and Marcus A. McCorison.

The staff of the Society, adopting suggestions laid down sometime past by our Committee on the American Revolution Bicentennial, was heavily engaged with various bicentennial projects. Mr. Hench and Mrs. Bumgardner, in particular, have been busy planning, supervising, or otherwise working on them. The scholarly project at AAS to commemorate the bicentennial is the editing and publication of a book of essays entitled *The Press and the American Revolution*. Work is well under way with a number of a dozen essays in hand. They are being edited by Bernard Bailyn and James Russell Wiggins. We have received a substantial grant from

the Gridiron Foundation of Washington, D.C., to underwrite the project. Publication is scheduled for 1977.

In an effort to reach a broader reading public, we proposed to the American Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation a project to compile a series of sixty-four weekly newspaper articles, each illustrated by a reproduction of a broadside, title page, portrait, etc., selected from the collections of the Society. This project was adopted by the Foundation which provided us with a grant to underwrite the cost of compiling the articles and the photography. The articles were written by Francis G. Walett, professor of history at Worcester State College. The series appeared in nearly two hundred newspapers from April 13, 1975, through June 27, 1976. ANPA undertook the difficult task of reproducing the material and distributing the articles and photographs to the subscribers. Richard C. Steele, Robert C. Achorn, and Albert B. Southwick of the Worcester *Telegram & Gazette* and Frederic B. Farrar all provided substantial advice and help. The series has been reprinted in booklet form under the title of *Patriots, Loyalists and Printers: Bicentennial Articles on the American Revolution*, and will be ready for distribution soon.

The Society received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to sponsor a motion picture entitled *Pictures to Serve the People: American Lithography 1830-1855*. The producers of the film were Wheaton Galentine, who has made several films for the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Elizabeth Gilmore Holt, art historian and author of *A Documentary History of Art*. The film runs for nearly half an hour and is in color. It is distributed through the Museum of Modern Art (rentals) and through ACI Media, Inc., 35 West 45th Street, New York, New York 10036 (sales). It was a finalist in the fine arts competition at the American Film Festival, sponsored by the Educational Film Library Association in June 1976, and earlier had been cited in film showings in Chicago and Columbus, Ohio.

Also, we published a series of facsimiles of maps, broadsides, prints, title pages, newspapers, etc., with a teacher's guide to the material. This project was entitled *American Bicentennial Historical Facsimile Packet* and was issued for the Society by Allyn and Bacon, textbook publishers in Boston. The compiler was Francis G. Walett and the project to some extent grew out of his work for the newspaper series. The facsimiles and teacher's guide were aimed at a secondary school level. The set consists of 135 facsimiles grouped around four chronological periods from 1607 through 1784.

Miss Tracy and Mrs. Bumgardner selected some of the facsimiles for arrangement on a folding screen construction which was then taken by the Worcester Public School system for distribution and displayed at the various secondary and elementary schools around the city.

During 1976, AAS lent prints, pamphlets, maps, drawings, broadsides, manuscripts, sheet music, or books to the Amon Carter Museum, University of California at Berkeley, the National Collection of Fine Arts, the Whitney Museum, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Brandeis University Art Museum, Worcester Art Museum, Old Sturbridge Village, the London *Times*, Bowdoin College, Smithsonian Institution, Fogg Art Museum, Museum of Fine Arts, Pilgrim Society, Heritage Plantation, National Portrait Gallery, American Institute of Architects Foundation, Museum of Our National Heritage, and the United States Supreme Court.

One more major project is still in train. The staff is at work on an exhibition at the Worcester Art Museum which will open on April 19, 1977, closing early in June. It will be entitled 'Wellsprings of a Nation: America before 1801,' with three divisions, 'The Independent Mind—Road to Revolution,' 'The American Revolution,' and 'The Fruits of Independence.' This, too, has been funded by NEH and with a small matching grant from the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities. The catalogue is being written by

Rodger D. Parker, lately of the Clark University faculty. Selection of exhibits will be done by him and our staff. Installation will be done by the staff of the Worcester Art Museum, with our help.

The members of the Society's administrative staff have been exceptionally faithful. As the complexity of AAS activities grows, so do the problems of accounting, record keeping, and letter writing. Eleanor S. Adams and Vivian B. Schotte are to be commended for their fine work.

Elliott B. Knowlton retired as development officer at the Society at the end of June after eight years of effective and congenial service. In addition to his normal duties, Mr. Knowlton planned our participation in the citywide Heritage Weekend in mid-May. He and other staff members welcomed the largest number of visitors at any site, a total of three hundred guests, to Antiquarian Hall. Under his direction, the AAS staff, for the third straight year, led the city's cultural institutions in participation in the area United Way by contributing 235 percent beyond our goal. The office assistant, Jeanne H. Lenahan, carried on in the interim between Mr. Knowlton's departure and the arrival of his successor, Mary V. C. Callahan, who reported at AAS early in September.

We believe that the work of the Society is in good hands, that the AAS has a useful role to play in Society, and that the future holds promise.

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