

*Proceedings
of the Semiannual Meeting*

APRIL 24, 1998

THE BRITISH LIBRARY,
LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

THE SEMIANNUAL MEETING of the American Antiquarian Society was held at the British Library in London, on Friday, April 19, 1998, at 4:30 P.M. with the following members present: Gillian Avery, Charles Beach Barlow, Robert Charles Baron, James Durelle Boles, Jr., Karl Lombard Briel, Mary Pratt Cable, William Robert Coleman, Richard Watrous Couper, Bruce Goddard Daniels, Margery MacNeil Dearborn, Ellen Smith Dunlap, John Bixler Hench, Saundra Baker Lane, Julian Lee Lapides, Linda Zeva Fishman Lapides, Polly Ormsby Longsworth, John Morris McClelland, Jr., Marcus Allen McCorison, Donald Robert Melville, Donald Frederick Nelson, Calvin Peter Otto, Cynthia Nelson Pitcher, James Russell Raven, Penelope Booth Rockwell, David Frederic Tatham, Stephen David Weissman, Meridith Daniels Wesby, Peter Howard Creagh Williams, Ian Roy Willison, and Peter Stephen Winkworth.

Chairman Robert C. Baron presided. The reading of the minutes of the Annual Meeting of October 15, 1997, was waived, and the minutes were approved as circulated. Mr. Baron reported as changes in membership the following:

Bill D. Moyers, resigned October 21, 1997, elected April 1989
Emmett William Housh, resigned November 11, 1997, elected
October 1984

Stephen Davies Paine, died November 8, 1997, elected April 1990

Lillian Beresnack Miller, died November 27, 1997, elected October 1988

Don Edward Fehrenbacher, died December 13, 1997, elected October 1975

Richard Carney Higgins, died January 22, 1998, elected October 1970

Bernard J. Flanagan, died January 28, 1998, elected October 1976

Henry Steele Commager, died March 2, 1998, elected April 1940

Archibald Kimbrough Davis, died March 13, 1998, elected October 1982

Mrs. Dunlap gave the Report of the Council.

Mr. Baron introduced Gillian Avery, historian and author, who would deliver the lecture 'Children's Books of Two Worlds' following the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 P.M.

Meridith Daniels Wesby
Recording Secretary

1998-99 FELLOWS AND RESEARCH ASSISTANTS AND
THEIR PROJECTS

*American Antiquarian Society —
National Endowment for the Humanities Fellows*

Barry Levy, professor of history, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, 'The Ordeal of Early American Equality: Orphans, Poor Children, and the Massachusetts Labor Regime, 1630-1820'; Jean M. O'Brien, associate professor of history, University of Minnesota, 'Changing Identities: Native American Peoples in Early New England'; Brian Roberts, assistant professor of Eng-

lish, California State University at Sacramento, 'Psalms, Reels, and Glee: Popular Music and American Identity from the Colonial Era through the Civil War.'

Mellon Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence

Jay Fliegelman, professor of English, Stanford University, 'Stored Associations: Books from Important American Libraries, 1650-1860, and the Tales they Tell.'

Mellon Post-Dissertation Fellow

Renée M. Sentilles, visiting assistant professor of history, Franklin and Marshall College, 'Performing Menken: Adah Isaacs Menken's American Odyssey.'

Mellon Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Helen R. Deese, professor of English, Tennessee Technological University, 'The Journals of Caroline Healey Dall.'

American Historical Print Collectors Society Fellowship

David Brett Mizelle, Ph.D. candidate in American studies, University of Minnesota, "'To the Curious": Exhibition Animals, Human Identity, and the Contested Boundary between Man and Beast in Early America.'

AAS-American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Fellowships

Martin Brueckner, assistant professor of English, University of South Carolina, 'The Culture of Geographic Letters in Early America'; Mark Valeri, professor of history, Union Theological Seminary, 'Religion, Moral Discipline, and the Market in Early America.'

Stephen Botein Fellowships

Ann Fidler, assistant professor of history, Ohio University, 'A Cultural History of the American Law Book, 1700-1900'; Jen A.

Huntley-Smith, Ph.D. candidate in history, University of Nevada, Reno, ‘“The Genius of Civilization”: The Publishing Industry and the Creation of Western Regional Identity, 1848–1900.’

Legacy Fellowship

Bridget Ford, Ph.D. candidate in history, University of California, Davis, ‘People of Sorrow, Children of Grace: Race and Religion in the Ohio River Valley.’

Kate B. and Hall J. Peterson Fellowships

Leslie Butler, visiting assistant professor of history, Reed College, ‘James Russell Lowell and the Cultural Politics of Antebellum American Nationalism’; Scott E. Casper, associate professor of history, University of Nevada, Reno, ‘First Families: Presidents at Home in the American Imagination, 1789–1920’; Jonathan A. Cook, independent scholar, Portland, Ore., ‘The Apocalyptic Imagination in the American Renaissance’; Konstantin Dierks, Ph.D. candidate in history, Brown University, ‘Letter Writing, Gender, and the Middling Sort in America, 1750–1800’; Paul Erickson, Ph.D. candidate in American civilization, University of Texas at Austin, ‘“Welcome to Sodom”: The Cultural Work of the American City-Mysteries Novel, 1840–1860’; Candy Ann Gunther, Ph.D. candidate in the history of American civilization, Harvard University, ‘“A Sanctifying Influence”: Evangelical Reading and Writing Practices in Mid-Nineteenth-Century America’; Philip F. Gura, professor of English and American studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, ‘“America’s Instrument”: The Nineteenth-Century Banjo’; Nancy L. Hagedorn, assistant professor of history, St. John’s University, ‘Interpreters Among the Iroquois, 1664–1775’; Betsy Homsher, Ph.D. candidate in history, University of California, Santa Barbara, ‘The Diaries of Sally Ripley Stearns’; W. T. Lhamon, Jr., professor of English, Florida State University, ‘Jump Jim Crow: Plays,

Lyrics, and Street Prose of the First Atlantic Popular Culture'; Louis P. Masur, professor of history, City College of New York, 'The American Republic in 1831'; Colin McCoy, Ph.D. candidate in history, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 'Partisans and Pamphleteers: The Literature of Persuasion in Jacksonian America, 1820-1845'; Heather S. Nathans, Ph.D. candidate in theater history, Tufts University, "Avoiding Party Matters"; The Boston Theater Rivalries of the 1790s'; James Rixey Ruffin, Ph.D. candidate in history, University of Delaware, 'William Bentley and the Politics of Rational Religion, 1783-1800'; Steven Stoll, assistant professor of history, Yale University, "Larding the Lean Earth": Agriculture and the Environment in America, 1800-1850.'

Joyce A. Tracy Fellowship

Robert Bonner, assistant professor of history, University of Southern Maine, newspapers and the Confederate public sphere.

Research Associates

William Gilmore-Lehne, associate professor of history, Richard Stockton College, 'A Republic of Knowledge'; Lucia Knoles, associate professor of English, Assumption College, 'Self Culture and the Self-Made Man in Nineteenth-Century American Literature'; Donald J. Ratcliffe, senior lecturer in history, University of Durham, 'Political Responses in the United States to Participation in the British Informal Empire, 1783-1865.'

*Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest**Creative and Performing Artist Fellows*

Christopher Cokinos, writer, Manhattan, Kansas, American attitudes toward and representations of now-extinct bird species for a book, *The Dark Beneath Their Wings: Extinct North American Birds and the Trajectories of the Human Spirit*; Tom Dunn, playwright, Henniker, New Hampshire, a play on the early career of Winslow Homer; Cornelia Nixon, novelist and short-story

writer, Bloomington, Indiana, a novel about an 1869 murder committed by Martha Jane Cairnes in Maryland for which she was acquitted; Barbara Weisberg, children's writer and television producer, New York, New York, the Fox sisters and nineteenth-century spiritualism.

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