

Report of the Council

OCTOBER 19, 1988

BUOYED BY a grand celebration upon completing one hundred and seventy-five years of service to historical scholarship and to the nation, the American Antiquarian Society has weathered its 176th year, a year marked by decided accomplishments in the pursuit of our essential goals and, yet, one fraught with fiscal worries.

The 175th annual meeting and attendant celebrations brought the Society's members, staff, and friends together as few other events—probably none since the one hundredth anniversary in 1912—have done. For example, the efforts by our truly superior staff in mounting the 175th-anniversary exhibition, in leading tours, and in compiling and publishing both a guide to the collections and programs of AAS and a list of all AAS members since our founding, the 175th anniversary guidebook and list of AAS members, dramatically demonstrated their cohesiveness and the pride they share in the quality of their work in advancing the Society's usefulness as a learned institution. The Council cannot adequately acknowledge their intelligent diligence and loyalty. The report that follows is only the barest record of their accomplishments. However, before beginning that account, we wish to state our gratitude to speakers and delegates who generously gave of their time to honor the Society at the convocation. Members of the Pursuing Committee of the Worcester Association of Mutual Aid in Detecting Thieves gave hours in preparing the smashing, imaginative, and delightful birthday ball. The October meeting was followed by a stimulating experience in April in Atlanta at which the Society considered topics of a Southern variety and were treated to the open-handed hospitality of the Atlanta

Historical Society and the Carter Presidential Center and Library. Some itinerant members, reluctant to return home, continued on a tour of Savannah and Charleston, where they were royally entertained by local members and associates. Thank you, every one!

As we indicated above, the staff was exhilarated (and exhausted) by the preparations for the 175th-anniversary celebration. It was the year's high-water mark. Nevertheless, their normal work went on at the usual intense pace under the inspiration of John Hench, associate director for research and publication; Nancy Burkett, associate librarian; Eleanor Adams, executive assistant to the director; Donald Strader, superintendent of buildings and grounds; Lynnette Sodha, development officer; and Carol-Ann Patterson, the director's secretary. We acknowledge, as well, the inestimable contributions made by the library department heads and curators, who provide superior leadership to all members of the staff, who in turn made important gains in all areas of our work.

The pool from which the 1988-89 class of fellows was chosen was high in quality, as we have come to expect, but also large in number. Work progressed well on several major publications. Those attending lunch-time colloquia, the undergraduate seminar, and the sessions of the seminars on political and social history and on American literary history profited from the wisdom of our speakers and of the advisors to those programs. Plans are well in hand for the publication of a collaborative work on the history of the book in American culture, under the editorship of David D. Hall, who is the chairman of our Program in the History of the Book in American Culture. The 1988 summer seminar, which focused on methods of research in the history of the book, was led by Mr. Hall and was a decided success. Income from the Stephen Botein Memorial Fund provided scholarships for several of the participants. Also, generous gifts to help defray a substantial portion of the costs of the ten-day session were received from the Houghton Mifflin Company, Little, Brown & Co., Barbara J. H. Taylor, and ABC-Clio. We are grateful to the Exxon Education Foundation for its multiyear grant which has supported the Pro-

gram's activities and to the New York Times Foundation for a pledge of \$10,000 that will fund the Program in the immediate future. Applications are now in the hands of other likely sources to provide long-term support.

Library activities increased satisfactorily on all fronts. Joanne D. Chaison survived her first year as head of readers' services in a highly satisfactory manner, despite the fact that the number of registered library readers rose 7 percent, while the number of research visits increased by more than 16 percent. Progress continues on the North American Imprints Program with an anticipated conclusion of the work on the eighteenth century within the next several months. These labors have been made possible through a series of grants, made over the past nine years, that total nearly one million dollars by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Pew Memorial Trust, and by the U.S. Department of Education under its Title II-C authorization. We continue to supply definitive data on early American authors to the cooperatively established name authority files maintained at the Library of Congress. Our senior cataloguer has been recataloguing the Society's enormous collection of biographies of Americans born by 1851. After producing 1,000 records, she has passed the letters 'Ban,' with only 'Bar' to 'Zz' still ahead.

Work on the catalogue of our great collection of literature for children goes on apace through another NEH grant. The grant has just been renewed for two more years, although at a reduced level that will require the raising of matching funds, a very difficult task if past experience is any true indication of things to come. This episode is particularly distressing because our proposal was awarded highest scores in the appraisal process. Over the past few years, the National Endowment has not increased its budget for research grants, resulting in an inability to adequately fund proposals that are intended to provide improved access to research collections, even if those proposals are judged to be of the highest value to the advancement of scholarship.

Members of the newspaper department mailed notices to more than 14,000 libraries and historical societies, reminding them of our continuing interest in collecting and preserving American newspapers. We undertook a similar task a decade ago with quite satisfactory results. Occasionally during the last few years we would receive materials that were attributable to that ten-year-old letter. We decided it was time to remind our colleagues that AAS is still in business, ready and eager to relieve them of unwanted 'culch,' one man's 'culch' being another man's treasure.

Volunteers Augusta Kressler, Judi Miller, Mildred Nestor, and Eleanor O'Donnell contributed much to the work of the Society through their enthusiastic friendship, as well as through the hours that they give to our graphic arts, newspaper, cataloguing, and manuscript departments. We benefited also from the presence, for the second year, of the OPEC intern who busily oiled leather bindings and made simple protective cases for fragile books and pamphlets, the wherewithal coming from member Michael Zinman.

Acquisitions for the library collections proceeded at an overheated rate. Additions in all categories, totaling 4,337 items, were made to the library holdings. Of those, 452 were gifts, the value of which amounted to \$51,000. The Society subscribes to 640 periodicals.

SELECTED ACQUISITIONS, 1987-1988

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. *Instructions of the Prudential Committee ... to the Sandwich Islands Mission*. Lahainaluna: Press of the Mission Seminary, 1838. 122 pp. Contains foundation documents dated 1819 of ABCFM, as well as subsequent charges to missionaries who were sent out at later times. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.

Berry, Harrison. *A Reply to Ariel*. Macon, Geo.: American Union Book and Job Office Print, 1869. 36 pp. Berry, a black himself, responds to a vicious and slanderous diatribe against blacks written by

H. Payne Buckner entitled *The Negro: What Is His Ethnological Status*, by Ariel (Cincinnati: 1867). Berry refutes one by one Buckner's arguments, demonstrates the "Negroes superiority over the White Races," and suggests that Buckner's "hyperbolic cant" arises from the fact that Buckner is either an imbecile or is controlled by the devil. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.

Biggs, William. *Narrative of William Biggs, While He Was a Prisoner with the Kickepoo Indians, Then Living Opposite the Old Wearwes Town, on the West Bank of the Wabash River . . .* Printed for the Author. June, 1826. [Edwardsville? Ill.] 22 pp. Biggs was captured at his home in Bellefontaine, Ill., in 1784. *Illinois Imprints* 60a; one of five known copies. John Thomas Lee Fund.

Beissel, Johann Conrad. *Zionitischen Stiffts I. Theil. Oder eine wolrichende Narde, die nach einer langen Nacht in der herrlichen Morgen-Röthe ist auf gegangen auf dem Gefelde Libanons, und hat unter den Kindern der Weissheit einen Balsamischen Geruch von sich gegeben. Des von Gott hoch begnadigten und beadelten fürtrefflichen Theologi der mystischen Gottes-Gelärtheit. Irenici Theodicäi . . . Ephrata in Pensylvanien: Drucks und Verlags der Brüderschaft, 1745. 283 pp.* This fundamental theological statement of the Solitary Brethren of the Community of Seventh Day Baptists (the Ephrata Community,) by the founder of the Community, bears the text of the title page and 'Vorbericht' that were prepared by Israel Eckerlin, prior of the Community. Beissel was displeased by same and had the offending texts burnt. Later issues of this book contain canceled preliminary leaves that present Beissel's approved texts. Evans 5537.

Boston Type Foundry. *Specimens . . . Containing a Selection from the Printing Materials Made at This Establishment, Commenced in 1817, First Letter Foundry in New England.* Boston: 1884. 135 lvs. plus inserts, folio. A retrospective catalogue of types available from the company. John Thomas Lee Fund.

Bradley, Mrs. E. R. *Elementary Tables & Lessons, in the Siamese Language . . . Revised & Enlarged by D. B. Bradley:* 4th ed., 1000 copies. Bangkok: American Missionary Association Press. 1860. 131 pp.

Brown, Samuel R., and James G. Hathaway. *American Naval Gallantry, or Biographical Notices of the Constellation of Heroes . . . of the Naval Glory of America . . .* Part first. Auburn: Printed by J. G. Hathaway. 1815. 96 pp. *American Imprints* 34232. John Thomas Lee Fund.

- Camden South Carolina Gazette*. P. W. Johnson for the Proprietors, 1817-1819. 86 issues from vols. I-IV. John Thomas Lee Fund.
- Carson, James H. *Early Recollections of the Mines, and a Description of the Great Tulare Valley*. Stockton: Published to accompany the steamer edition of the "San Joaquin Republican." 1852. 64 pp. Greenwood 321. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- Cenbadwr Americanaidd*. Remsen, N.Y.: R. W. Roberts, 1840-76. Vols. I-XXXVII. Gift of Alexander Senchyna.
- Church, Jeremiah. *Journal of Travels, Adventures, and Remarks of Jerry Church*. Harrisburg: 1845. 72 pp. Church left home at age 13, traveled a great deal, and founded Lockport, Pennsylvania, in 1833, leaving the town in 1845 for Iowa and the great West where he died in 1874, aged 78. The first edition of his narrative is not common. John Thomas Lee Fund.
- Clapperton, Robert Henderson. *Paper, an Historical Account of Its Making from the Earliest Times down to the Present Day*. Oxford: Shakespeare Head Press, 1934. xvi, 158 pp. Number 13 of 50 copies printed on special paper. Harold Hugo Memorial Book Fund.
- Confederate Receipt Book. A Compilation of Over One Hundred Receipts, Adapted to the Times*. Richmond: West & Johnston, 1863. 28, 1 pp. Cover title. Crandall 2906. John Thomas Lee Fund.
- The Crisis*. London: Printed and published for the authors, by T. W. Shaw: Newport, Reprinted [by Solomon Southwick, 1775]. Numbers III, V-IX, pp. 17-24, 33-72. Evans 42803, 13937, 13946, 13955, 13962, 13969; *Rhode Island Imprints* 580 ff.
- DeLorme, A. C. *Mercantile and General City Directory of Columbus, Miss. — 1873. Containing an Interesting History . . .* Columbus, Mississippi: Index Job Office, 1873. 44 pp. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- The Dental Mirror*. Northampton, Mass.: John Walker, 1843. No. 1. John Thomas Lee Fund.
- Y Detholydd*. Remsen, N.Y.: R. Everett, 1850-52. Vols. I-II. Gift of Alexander Senchyna.
- DeWitt's Six Penny Music* and *DeWitt's Half Dime Music*. New York: R. M. DeWitt, 1869-72. DeWitt, the dime novel publisher, issued at least 200 sheet-music titles in the 'Half Dime' series. Each issue consisted of a vivid uniform title page and rear cover, printed in two

colors, with the sheet music inserted. Matthew J. Needle added 42 issues of these two series to our collections.

Discussions between Several Members of the Regular Medical Faculty, and the Thomsonian Botanic Physicians, on the Comparative Merits of Their Respective Systems. Edited and published by Dr. A[lna]. Curtis, teacher of botanico-medical science. Printed at the office of the Thomsonian Recorder, by Jonathan Phillips. Columbus, Ohio: 1836. 400 pp. *American Imprints* 36985. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.

Directory of Los Angeles for 1875. Los Angeles: Printed at the Mirror Book and Job Printing Office, 1875. 175 pp. John Thomas Lee Fund.

The Factor's Garland . . . Printed for the Purchaser. [n.p., n.d., ca. 1800?] 8, 8 pp. Two leaves of *Philander and Rosabella* appear with this with separate pagination, pp. 4 & 6 (error for p. 5), 7-8. This edition is unrecorded. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.

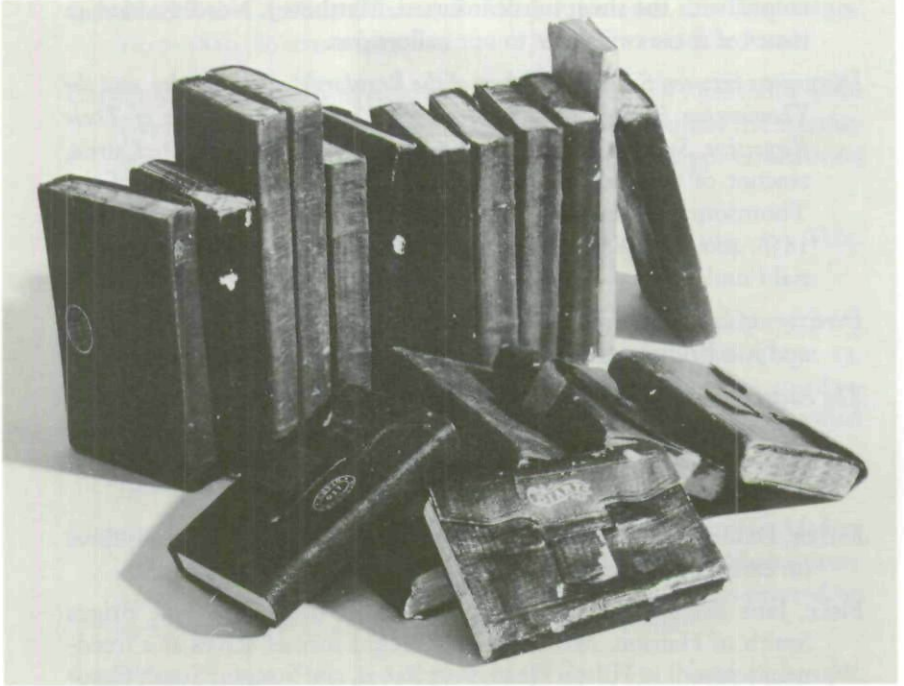
Farber, Daniel, and Jessie Lie Farber. 355 photographs of 192 sculptures on early American gravestones. Gift of the photographers.

Fiske, Jane Briggs Smith. Diaries, 1871-1910, in 34 vols. Jane Briggs Smith of Hanson, Massachusetts, taught former slaves at a freedman's school in Hilton Head, Port Royal, and Sumter, South Carolina, for five years prior to her marriage in 1872 to Friend Fuller Fiske of Webster, New Hampshire. Gift of Jean M. Harrington.

Franklin, Benjamin. *Father Abraham's Speech to a Great Number of People at a Vendue of Merchant Goods; Introduced to the Public by Poor Richard* . . . New-London: Printed and sold by T. Green. [n.d., 1760]. 24 pp. *New London Imprints* 718. One of the earliest separate printings of *The Way to Wealth*, which first appeared in the 1758 edition of *Poor Richard's Almanack*. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.

Gaylord, Betsy. Manuscript ballad and tune book, 1798-1817, compiled by Gaylord, a woman living in Connecticut but otherwise unidentified. ca. 500 pp., 8vo.

Georgia and the Supreme Court. An Examination of the Opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States, at January Term, 1832. Delivered by Mr. Chief Justice Marshall, in the Case of Samuel A. Worcester, Plaintiff in Error, versus the State of Georgia. Augusta: 1832. 22 pp. Signed on p. 22, 'Oglethorpe.' Pertains to the attempts, ultimately successful, by the State of Georgia to drive the Creek Indians from their lands. Austin, an ABCFM missionary to the Creeks, was born in Worces-



Diaries of Jane Briggs Smith Fiske, 1871-1910, 34 volumes. These diaries complement letters in the Society's archives from Fiske's years as a teacher of former slaves in South Carolina. Gift of Jean M. Harrington.

ter, Mass., the son of one of Isaiah Thomas's journeyman printers.
Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.

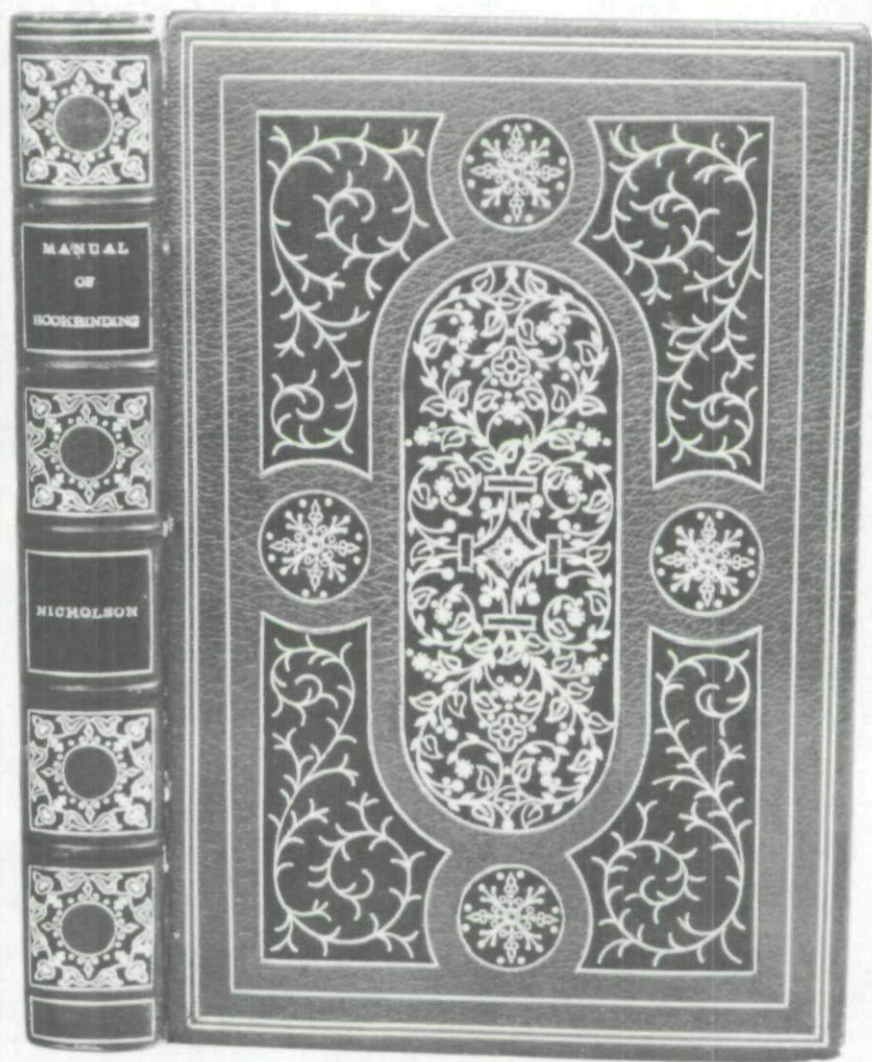
Grant, C. W. *Descriptive Catalogue of Vines, etc. etc. with Explanatory Remarks, and Indications for Cultivation*. 3d ed. Iona: Near Peekskill, Westchester County, N.Y., [n.d., 1859]. 31, 1 pp. Cover title.

Gurley, Ralph Randolph. *Life of Jebudi Ashmun, Late Colonial Agent in Liberia*. New York: Leavitt, Lord & Co.; Boston: Crocker & Brewster, 1835. 396, 160 pp. Isaac and Edward Davis Fund.

Hanson, William. *The Watchmakers Manual, a Concise yet Comprehensive Treatment . . . on Watch Work in General*. Binghamton, N.Y.: Miller & Stoppard, 1867. 36, 1 pp., illus. with photographs. Henry F. DePuy Fund.

- Harpel, Oscar H., ed. *Poets and Poetry of Printerdom ... First Group*. Cincinnati: Oscar H. Harpel, printer and publisher, 1875. 397 pp. How is it that it was not until 1987 that AAS obtained a copy of this book? Roderick Stinehour Fund.
- The History of Sindbad the Sailor. Containing an Account of His Several Surprising Voyages and Miraculous Escapes*. New-York: Printed by John Tiebout, 1801. 119 pp. Unrecorded edition of this popular book for children. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- The Humming Bird; or, New American Songster: with Modern Toasts and Sentiments*. Boston: Printed and sold by Spotswood and Etheridge. 1798. 278, x pp. Evans 33913. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- Hymns and Spiritual Songs, Intended for the Use of the Churches of Christ*. Savannah: Printed by Henry P. Russell. 1822. 84 pp. This work is unrecorded. *Hymns Selected for Christian Worship* (New York: J. C. Spear, 1823) 27 pp. is bound in with this hymnal.
- The Jewish Miscellany. No. II. Hebrew Tales; Selected and Translated from the Writings of the Ancient Hebrew Sages: by Hyman Hurwitz*. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 5605 [1845]. 120, 1 pp. With this volume we obtained another volume containing nos. v, xi, and xiv (Philadelphia, 1847). Rosenbach 566 and 668. Henry F. DePuy Fund.
- Kennedy, Archibald. *Serious Advice to the Inhabitants of the Northern Colonies, on the Present Situation of Affairs*. New-York: Printed for the Author [by James Parker], 1755. 20 pp. Kennedy advises British subjects, particularly those in Canada, of means of protecting their property against the French. Evans 7347.
- Larned, Mrs. L. *The Sanfords, or Home Scenes*. New-York: Elam Bliss, 1830. 2 vols. in 1; 202, 280 pp. 1 Wright 1605.
- Leibert, Peter. Manuscript ledger of accounts pertaining to his Germantown, Pa., printing business, 1793-1812. 205 pp., folio. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- Literary Record and Journal of the Linnean Association of Pennsylvania College*. Gettysburg, Pa.: H. C. Neinstedt, 1844-48. Vols. I-IV. Gift of Gettysburg College.
- The Literary Picture Gallery, ed. by Simeon Senex, Esq.* Ballston Spa, N.Y.: Miller & Riggs for I. Cook, 1808. Nos. 3-5. George Watson Cole Fund.

- Lives and Exploits of the Banditti and Robbers of all Nations*. Philadelphia: R. W. Pomeroy, 1839. 2 vols.; 284, 288 pp.
- McKenny, Thomas L. *Memoirs, Official and Personal; with Sketches of Travels among the Northern and Southern Indians*. New York: Paine & Burgess, 1846. Salesman's sample book, with illus. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- Mackenzie, William Lyon. *Mackenzie's Own Narrative of the Late Rebellion . . . Exhibiting the Only True Account of What Took Place at the Memorable Siege of Toronto, in the Month of December, 1837*. Toronto: Printed and sold at the Palladium office, 1838. 23 pp. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- Maistre, Xavier, de. *The Leper of Aoste . . . together with Other Tales and Sketches*, trans. by N. W. Chittenden. New-York: Adee & Estabrook, 1842. 216 pp. 1 Wright 2599a. Cover title: Good Things in a Cheap Shape (1843). Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- The Marriage Bed; or Wedding Secrets Revealed by the Torch of Hymen*. New York: [n.d., ca. 1850] vii, 191, 1 pp.
- Matthews, John. *Instructions for Making Fine Syrups and Aerated Beverages*. New York, 1875. 16 pp. This is the first of four pamphlets bound into a volume that was presented by Matthews to the Franklin Institute on April 13, 1876. The others are: *Matthews' Apparatus for Manufacturing . . . Aerated Beverages*, 1876, 64 pp.; *Matthews' Soda Water Apparatus, Catalogue No. 1*, 1876, 112 pp.; 1876. *Matthews' Soda Water Apparatus, Catalogue No. 2*, 80 pp. Each illustrates examples of Matthews's soda water apparatus, with prices and instructions for their use.
- Mills, Robert. *The American Pharos, or Light-House Guide*. Washington: Thompson & Homans, 1832. 184 pp. First and rare edition of this important book of sailing directions. *American Imprints* 13757.
- Miller & Coates. *Minton's Tiles for Floors of Churches, Banks and Other Public Buildings, and for Vestibules, Halls, Hearths, Conservatories, etc. in Dwellings, as Laid in the Capitol at Washington*. New York: [n.d., ca. 1875]. unp., illus., large 4to. Hitchcock 797. Gift of the Worcester Association for Mutual Aid in Detecting Thieves.
- My Mother's Cook Book Compiled by the Ladies of St. Louis, and Sold for the Benefit of the Women's Christian Home*. St. Louis: Woodward, Tierman & Hale, Steam Printers and Binders, 1876. [8], [vii], 212, [8], 213-218, [12] pp. with 8 pp. of ms. receipts. John Thomas Lee Fund.



James B. Nicholson, A Manual of the Art of Bookbinding (Philadelphia: Henry Carey Baird, 1856). A stunning example of the craft itself, this book is ticketed by its binder, Pawson and Nicholson. Purchased through the Michael Papantonio Memorial Fund.

- The New York Coachmaker Magazine*. N.Y.: E. M. Stratton, 1860. Vol. III. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- Nicholson, James B. *A Manual of the Art of Bookbinding*. Philadelphia: Henry Carey Baird, 1856. 318 pp. The binding of this book, the finest late nineteenth-century American binding in our collections, is ticketed by Pawson & Nicholson, 1856. Michael Papantonio Memorial Fund.
- Oaklawn Stud of Percheron-Norman Horses*. M. W. Dunham, Importer and Breeder, Wayne, Du Page County, Illinois. Elgin, Ill.: The Advocate Power Print, 1875. 40 pp., illus. with 9 full-page metal cuts. Herbert E. Lombard Fund.
- The Oneirocritic, Being a Treatise on the Art of Foretelling Future Events by Dreams. Carefully Done from the Arabic Manuscripts of Ibrahim Ali Mohamed Hafez*. New-York: Printed for every purchaser, [n.d., ca. 1800]. 144 pp. Unrecorded. Henry F. DePuy Fund.
- Orthodox Bubbles, or a Review of the "First Annual Report of the Executive Committee of the New York Magdalen Society."* Boston, Printed for the publishers, 1831. 24 pp. A facetious tract lampooning the Society's own report, a copy of which also is at AAS. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- Peet, Harvey P. *On the Legal Rights and Responsibilities of the Deaf and Dumb*. Richmond, Va.: C. H. Wynne's steam-power presses, 1857. 109 pp. Reprinted from the *Proceedings* of the fourth convention of the New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- Philadelphia Pennsylvania Inquirer*. Jasper Harding, 1831-50. Vols. III-XLIII. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- Piton du Spiral. *Épître a Sa Majesté le Roi de France, sur le Non-Payement de la Chétive Indemnité Promise aux Anciens Colons de St.-Domingue*. Nouvelle-Orleans: Chez A. L. Boimare, libraire, 1829. 8 pp. Piton du Spiral, an 'Ancien Artiste et Planteur' indicts his complaint to his king in verse. Title is taken from the caption title on p. [1]. *American Imprints* 4009. George Watson Cole Fund.
- Pollard, Edward A. *Black Diamonds Gathered in the Darkey Homes of the South*. New York: Pudney & Russell, 1859. 122 pp. A volume of letters describing this Virginia author's response to slave life. Gift of Albert S. Matlack.

- Portage Sentinel. *Carriers Address to the Patrons of the Portage Sentinel, 1846*. Ravenna, Ohio: S. D. Harris and E. R. Batterson. Printed on linen.
- Règlement Militaire, Concernant la Police et la Discipline, que Doivent Observer les Troupes qui Sont ou Seront dans la Suite Levées & Payées par les Treize Colonies Unies de l'Amérique Septentrionale. Traduit de l'Anglais, par F. Daymon*. Philadelphie: Chez Fleury Mesplet & Ch. Berger, M.DCC.LXXVI. 39 pp. Evans 15190. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- Saint-Memin, Charles B. J., Fevret de. *The St.-Memin Collection of Portraits; Consisting of Seven Hundred and Sixty Medallion Portraits, Principally of Distinguished Americans . . . Taken from Life . . . from 1793 to 1814*. New York: Elias Dexter, 1862. viii, 104, plus photographic plates, folio. J. Gurney & Son's photographs of St.-Memin's engravings form the basis of the book. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- Sliced Nations*. New York: Selchow and Righter, c. Dec. 28, 1875. A jigsaw puzzle in the original box and in fine condition.
- The Southern Boys and Girls Monthly*. Richmond, Va.: Baird and Turner, 1867. Eight issues from vols. I-II. John Thomas Lee Fund.
- Sterling, James. *A Sermon, Preached before His Excellency the Governor of Maryland, and Both Houses of Assembly, at Annapolis, December 13, 1754*. Annapolis: Printed by Jonas Green, MDCCLV. 48 pp. Evans 7574. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- Terrell, William. *Letter from Dr. Terrell, to the Executive Committee of the Southern Central Agricultural Society . . . Sparta, Georgia, December 1854*. Broadside. Pertains to the use of slave labor. Unrecorded in Hummell. John and Eliza Davis Fund.
- Three Letters, by "Conestoga," to a Friend in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, upon Slavery and the Fugitive Law. November, 1851*. Lancaster, Pa.: Geo. Sanderson, printer. 16 pp. The author, identified in an inscription as Dr. John Carmichael Jenkins of Adams County [near Natchez], Mississippi, defends slavery as being neither a sin nor a crime and as being sanctioned by religion, economics, and the Constitution.
- A Treaty with the Shawanese and Delaware Indians . . . Negotiated at Fort-Johnson . . . by Sir William Johnson*. New-York: J. Parker and W. Weyman, 1757. 10 pp., pp. 9-10 in facs. Bristol B1870. John Thomas Lee Fund.

- U.S. Treasury Department. *Circular to Collectors, Naval Officers, and Surveyors. Treasury Department, Comptroller's Office, May 28th, 1822.* A quarto volume of individual documents, paged continuously from [240]-417, and concluding with the date of March 13, 1834. John Thomas Lee Fund.
- Weems, Mason Locke. *God's Revenge against Gambling.* Augusta: Printed by Hobby & Bunce, 1810. 48 pp. *American Imprints* 21998. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- . *God's Revenge against Murder.* 2d ed., enl. Augusta: Printed by Hobby & Bunce, 1807. 40 pp. *American Imprints* 14195. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- . *The True American, Shewing the Beauties and Blessings of the American Republic . . . Highly Approved of by Our Chief Magistrate, Thos. Jefferson.* 3d ed. [Augusta: Hobby & Bunce], 1807. [36] pp. Unrecorded edition. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- Westborough, Mass. *Saturday Chronotype and Weekly News.* Hemenway & Pierce, 1867-70. Vols. 1-v, no. 25. Gift of the Westborough Public Library.
- . *Westborough Chronotype.* H. H. Stevens, 1871-76. Vol. v, no. 26-x. Gift of the Westborough Public Library.
- Wightman, Thomas, Jr. *The Cipher Engravers Companion. Containing Every Combination of the Letters of the Alphabet.* Boston: Pub. According to law Aug't 1814 and for sale wholesale & retail. 25 plates. Unrecorded in Nash's *American Penmanship, 1800-1850.*
- Wyeth, Samuel D. *The Rotunda and Dome of the U.S. Capitol . . . For Sale in the Capitol.* Washington, D.C.: Gibson Brothers, printers, 1869. vii, 108-231 pp. This guidebook is illustrated with 21 photographs. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.
- Whitfield, James M. *America and Other Poems.* Buffalo: James K. Leavitt, 1853. 85 pp. A collection by a black poet. Gift of Sidney E. Berger.
- Worthington, Thomas. *Shiloh, or the Tennessee Campaign of 1862.* Washington City, M'Gill & Witherow, 1872. 164 pp. Bound with Worthington's *Blunders of the Rebellion and their Dead-Sea Fruit* (Washington, 1869). 15 pp., the first of six proposed parts. Worthington's pamphlets contain unrelieved attacks upon the military abilities of U.S. Grant. Harry G. Stoddard Memorial Fund.



The gravestone of Anne Pinney of Bloomfield, Connecticut (1778), from the recent gift of photographs of sculptures on early American gravestones from Daniel and Jessie Lie Farber.

Senior members of the staff are considering the spatial and other requirements that pertain to a future addition to Antiquarian Hall. There are a number of sound reasons why we must begin to plan for an expansion of the building. The present library building was built during the years 1909–10, with additions to the original stacks being built in 1924 and 1950. The 1971 construction of new offices and renovation of the rotunda—now eighteen years old—was designed to serve for ten years.

The most important reason for the planning of new space relates to the dynamics of the Society. We reached a point a few years ago where we could not expand in any significant manner the programs

of AAS without the services of a larger staff. This applies to all of our activities: library, scholarly, public. To support a larger staff, AAS needs not only more endowment, but also more space, space that will enable us to better integrate our activities. Staff dealing with research, publications, fellowships, and public programs are unable to expand activities without additional help. The number of annual fellowships cannot be increased until we can provide more study carrels.

A number of critically important desiderata exist for the library. First is security of the collections. Growing, exceedingly complex, and valuable research collections demand housing commensurate with their importance and value. The construction of the book stacks is of a design that, should fire or flood occur, ensures that large portions of the collections would be damaged. No stack section is a discrete unit, and water mains, electrical circuits, and other utilities course through them.

A reading room must be arranged to provide sufficient space to accommodate current and projected populations of readers and to provide adequate security for materials while in use. 'Back room' library operations such as acquisitions, cataloguing, conservation, and maintenance require well-planned work spaces that will take advantage of current technologies and facilitate effective coordination between processes. Questions must be answered: to what use do we put the present rotunda space—for public exhibitions and programs? Do we provide separate reading rooms for each curatorial department? Can we provide evening and weekend service for readers?

President Conway has presented four matters to the Council about which she wishes consideration and advice. They are: more effective involvement of scholars in the affairs of AAS; the necessity to insure continuity of lay and professional leadership for AAS; the need to plan for the Society's next epoch—staff, building, endowment; and the desirability of enlarging the Society's influence throughout the nation in scholarly matters and before the public.

The president has already initiated the planning process by



Jill Ker Conway, president of the Society, and former President Jimmy Carter, who was elected to membership at the semiannual meeting held in Atlanta on April 21, 1988.

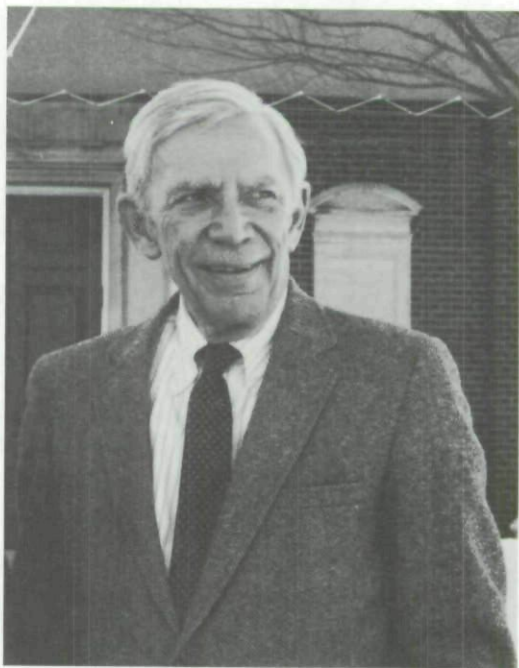
inviting several members of the Society to serve on a Development Committee, the agenda of which is to find means of creating a greater national presence for AAS, instigating heightened involvement of the Council, devising means of engendering additional capital for endowment and building needs, coordinating efforts of the development office and the Worcester Association of Mutual Aid in Detecting Thieves in increasing annual giving from all sources, and encouraging deferred giving from Councillors, members, and friends.

Such matters have taken on added urgency because, as you have heard from our treasurer and despite our sense in April to the contrary, our finances were severely affected by the October 1987 stock market debacle. The Society experienced a serious deficit between income and expenditures. This unsatisfactory situation

was caused by two factors: underachievement of budgeted income from endowments, trusts, and gifts to the Annual Fund by \$120,000; and expenditures in excess of budget for research materials (a matter that in past years would have been covered by capital gains on unrestricted endowments, but not this year). Even so, gifts for unrestricted annual support of the Society rose to \$141,230 and designated gifts amounted to \$130,700. That, no one can deny, is a very generous response to the Society's need for support. Nevertheless, 40 percent of our members do not respond to the requests of the treasurer and president for annual support. The Council trusts that in 1988-89 all AAS members, being individuals who have accepted responsibility for the welfare of the institution, will take up their share of the load.

We are pleased to acknowledge the gift of The Ahmanson Foundation of Los Angeles of \$25,000 to establish The Ahmanson Publication Fund. The Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities has awarded AAS a Merit Aid grant of \$87,200 to be received during the next biennium. As pleased as we are by this significant assistance from the citizens of the Commonwealth, we cannot but note that a review panel recommended to the Council that a considerably larger amount be granted. The recommendation could not be acted upon because the Council's budget was cut by 10 percent. Even more disturbing to us, however, is the fact that specific grants to several organizations were mandated by friendly lawmakers in the enabling legislation, thereby reducing substantially the amount of discretionary funds available to those of us who apply for merit aid through the normal channels of peer review. The AAS Council extends its warmest thanks to our members and friends who have provided these vital sources of support.

Over time, institutions must change. AAS cannot be an exception to this rule. During the year, Mary V. C. Callahan retired from the post of development officer, following more than eleven years of outstanding service to AAS. This meeting is the last at which our honorable recording secretary, Linwood Erskine, will read, as he has since 1967, the *Call to the Meeting*, an anachronism



John Jeppson, 2nd, who retired as president of the Society in 1987, after ten years in the office.

that he found somewhat tiresome but a tradition that your director is reluctant to abandon. We are equally reluctant to bid Mr. Erskine farewell as he leaves that office and the Council to whose business he has conscientiously attended since 1965. Also, Robert Cushman, a Councillor for nine years, retires from office at this meeting. During our Isaiah Thomas Fund campaign, he effectively led efforts to reach donors nationally, and he has never been reluctant to express sound opinions on the conduct of our affairs. Hail and farewell to you both!

This annual meeting marks the passage of a year since John Jeppson passed on the leadership of AAS to our new president, Jill Conway. Mr. Jeppson's steadfast concern for its welfare and his support of the administration are characteristic of his generous

nature. Mrs. Conway brings to the office differing interests that are as vital in moving our institution forward into the twenty-first century as have been her predecessors' in improving its usefulness as an agent for learning in this, our generation. But if the American Antiquarian Society is to attain its true potential as an instrument that can open to all inquirers the wonders and mysteries of the actions of God and mankind in the northern portions of this continent, she, like your Council and your staff, must have your continuing, energetic support. We are confident that you will give it.

Marcus A. McCorison

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