

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

THE presence in the same city and within a block of each other of the Worcester Society of Antiquity, incorporated in 1877, and the American Antiquarian Society, incorporated in 1812, still creates in some minds inconvenient confusion. A list of the names given to both societies during the past twenty-five years would be curious and instructive reading. The latest effort to rechristen this ancient and honorable institution appears in a communication addressed "To the Librarian of the American Abyssinian Society!"

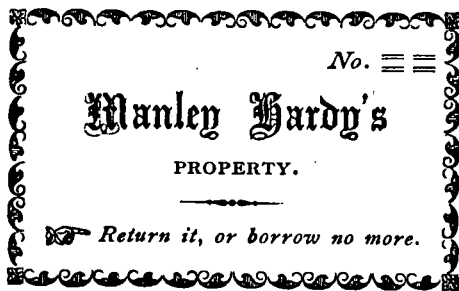
The library committee, to whom the purchase of a type-writing machine was referred, has provided that most desirable library appliance. Colonel William Henshaw's journal and orderly books, bequeathed to the Society conditionally by Miss Harriet E. Henshaw of Leicester, Massachusetts, are being type-written under the ruling of Hon. Charles A. Denny, Executor. The provisions of the will, with other facts relating to this important bequest, may be found in the librarian's report of October, 1896.

The Hall basement has been renovated and an asphalt floor laid; the draft of the large chimney increased on account of the necessity for the use of soft coal; the spreading tendency of the iron book-stack checked; and in other ways the library committee has sought to provide safety and comfort for all.

Miss Christine Robinson became a regular member of the library staff on January 1, 1903, after serving two months as a volunteer assistant.

The Odd Volume Club visited the library on November 26, 1902, under the guidance of their associates and ours—Mr. Nathaniel Paine and Dr. Charles L. Nichols. Such callers are quite sure to impart as well as to receive useful information and are therefore greeted with special pleasure.

The present *Ex Libris* interest leads me to submit a specimen, probably of the eighteenth century, though in a London imprint of the seventeenth :



I also give a lined title of this typical, exhaustive, rubricated 12° of 462 pages, as an example of the class of books the owner wished to protect :

THE | SCEPTICAL CHYMIST : | OR | CHYMICO-PHYSICAL
 | Doubts & Paradoxes, | Touching the | SPAGYRIST'S |
 PRINCIPLES | Commonly call'd | Hypostatical. | As they
 are wont to be Propos'd and | Defended by the Generality
 of | Alchemists. | Whereunto is præmis'd Part of another
 Discourse | relating to the same Subject. | By | The
 Honourable ROBERT BOYLE, Esq.

The following information regarding a rare eighteenth century newspaper is offered:—

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

Washington, D. C., March 31, 1903.

Dear Mr. BARTON:

I thank you very much for the memoranda about the *Massachusetts Gazette* [or the *Springfield and Northampton Weekly Advertiser*, 1782-1784]. You may perhaps be interested to know that we have just come into possession of a complete volume 1, with the exception of the first two pages of number 10. This volume was probably the office file. It bears the names on the fly-leaf of Elisha Babcock, Hartford, Conn., and Sidney Babcock, New Haven, Connecticut. It has been for many years the property of Mrs. W. H. Dickson of New Orleans, a descendant of the Babcocks. The missing leaf in this volume was clearly torn out after it was bound.

With regard to No. 19, I am satisfied, after close examination, that only two pages were printed of this number. You will note that it contains upon the first page a column of advertisements, which in other issues appear upon either the 3rd or 4th page.

Mr. Nelson, in his New Jersey Archives, makes the statement that the earliest number known is Vol. 1, No. 10. That is one excuse I have, for having bothered you.

Sincerely yours,

ALLAN B. SLAUSON,

Chief of Periodical Division.

Mr. EDMUND M. BARTON, Librarian,
American Antiquarian Society,
Worcester, Mass.

In the interest of library economy, I call the attention of librarians and the friends of libraries to the waste of transportation funds. It should be more generally known that special, prepaid book-rates are offered by the express companies to all who care to avail themselves of the great reduction in cost. For instance, I have just paid expressage on books sent to us amounting to six times the charge by the United States Mail, which postal charge is also the special book-rate of the express companies. Petitions for lower postal rates on books transferred from one library to another are now before Congress.

Among the various devices to encourage the protection of bound volumes of newspapers, we have adopted for use on the outer covers of our own files and recommend for the use of other libraries the following :

PLEASE HANDLE WITH GREAT CARE.

1. The paper on which newspapers are printed is generally of poor quality and grows brittle with age.
2. Most newspapers are difficult or impossible to replace if worn or injured, and, unlike other publications, they will never be reprinted. Only a very small number of copies exist anywhere.
3. Future generations of readers have a claim on these volumes, which should be respected.

THEREFORE

PLEASE HANDLE CAREFULLY.

In the "Diary of Christopher Columbus Baldwin, Librarian of the American Antiquarian Society, 1829-1835," under date 5 October, 1831, is the following entry: "Attend Court and in the evening, at a meeting of the Historical Society, am chosen to make a report of all the proceedings of [the] 4th which report, with a bottle of wine and other appropriate articles, are to be enclosed in a tight and safe box, made for the purpose and committed to the care of the Antiquarian Society, and there remain unopened until the end of one hundred years, when they are to be brought forth and examined." In a foot note by Nathaniel Paine, editor, it is stated that "The bottle of wine is in the possession of the Antiquarian Society, but there is no record of the box having been deposited; neither Dr. Haven, the late librarian, or Mr. Barton, the present one, have been able to get any trace of it." Our steel safe protects the bottle, which is labeled "Wine. Deposited

for some future occasion. Worcester County Centennial Celebration Oct. 4, 1831." The address of Governor John Davis which was delivered on this occasion was not printed until the year 1839, when William Lincoln, editor, secured it for *The National Ægis*. It is possible that the missing box was opened to secure this oration, when the other "appropriate articles" were probably placed in the Society's Museum where the bottle was discovered. I offer this as a suggestion; and not as a solution of the problem.

I submit for information the following letter:

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

Oct. 13, 1902.

Mr. EDMUND M. BARTON,
Worcester, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Absence from the city has prevented an earlier acknowledgment of your kind reply to my letter of enquiry about Mather portraits and I beg you will now accept my sincere thanks. The portraits you report of Increase Mather by John Sturt are of English origin—Sturt being an Englishman, and so out of my present investigations—though it may interest—if you are not already possessed of the information—that the 1719 portrait is given by Whitmore (W. H.), as published in "The Life of Increase Mather," by his son Cotton Mather, Boston, 1723, printed by B. Green for R. Belknap, and the New York Library advise me they have this same portrait in "Sermons wherein those Eight Characters, &c." Boston, 1718. B. Green for Daniel Henchman.

With your copy [in *Angelographia*] this makes three works the portrait appears in—though you state that your portrait is laid in—the others claim it was published with their respective publications. It may be of interest to follow up. I am,

Yours very truly,

CHARLES H. WALSH.

The record of accessions for six months to April 15, shows gifts from three hundred and sixteen sources; namely, from thirty-eight members, one hundred and twenty-five persons not members and one hundred and fifty-three societies and institutions. We have received

from them fifty-five hundred and ninety-two books, forty-one hundred and twenty-two pamphlets, two bound and one hundred and forty-seven unbound volumes of newspapers, ten proclamations, two framed and six unframed engravings, seven maps, seven heliotypes, two photographs, and collections of programmes and newspaper clippings; by exchange, twelve books and nineteen pamphlets; and from the bindery, thirty-four volumes of magazines and four of newspapers: a total of fifty-six hundred and thirty-eight books, forty-one hundred and forty-one pamphlets, six bound and one hundred and forty-seven unbound volumes of newspapers, *etc.*

The list of givers and gifts suggests the following notes: while the number of contributing members has fallen a little below the average, an unusual number have given their own publications.

James Davie Butler, LL.D., of Madison, Wisconsin—fourth on our roll of membership—in the letter accompanying his semi-annual gift, writes: "Our Historical Society was the pioneer in its line west of the Alleghanies, and during the forty-five years of my life here it has been the thing for which I have cared most, and that while the association was in its cradle. I regret that I live too far away to re-kindle my historic zeal where it was first lighted up, under the roof of the old building of Isaiah Thomas."

Hon. Edward L. Davis, of our Council, has presented the rare volumes relating to the enrichment of the Book of Common Prayer,—the copies used by him as a member of the General Conventions of the Protestant Episcopal Church, which considered and concluded this important work.

Councillor Samuel A. Green places alongside of his "Old Boston and Neighborhood" his companion volume containing ten facsimile reproductions relating to New England. Librarians have a special interest in Upham's

Washington presented by Dr. Green at the last meeting with remarks relating thereto. I am therefore asked to give supplementary facts with this acknowledgment. The title is "Life of Washington in the form of an Autobiography; the Narrative being, to a great extent, conducted by himself, in Extracts and Selections from his own Writings." It is a 12^o, in two volumes, bearing the imprint of Marsh, Capen, Lyon, and Webb. Boston, 1840. The first contains the following explanatory note by the giver: "This copy of the Life of Washington came from the library of Dr. Thomas H. Webb (M.D. Harv. 1825), who was one of the publishers; and I bought it many years ago, soon after his death. Once on showing it to Mr. Upham, the writer of the book, he was quite surprised to learn that any copies were issued with a Boston imprint; and at my request then and there he wrote the lines on the fly-leaf of this volume. A few weeks ago I gave it to the library of Harvard College, with the understanding that it was to be returned to me, if a duplicate, which it proved to be; but it was stamped before the fact was known. See Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society, October 21, 1875, page 20. Samuel A. Green, December 1, 1900."

The receipt of Mr. John T. Doyle's "Recovery of the Pious Fund," which he prepared for the "History of the Bench and Bar of California," recalls his services as counsel in this now celebrated case—the first to be finally passed upon by the International Arbitration Tribunal. It is perhaps worthy of note that in June, 1880, Mr. Doyle wisely compiled as many copies of the printed papers relating to the Pious Fund of the Californias as his materials afforded; "from 25 to 40 in all, some more, some less complete—for deposit in public libraries, where they may be accessible to any persons to whom in the future they may prove of interest or value." Our bound copy, received June 6, 1881, contains an historical intro-

duction by Mr. Doyle and the following title: Some Account | of | the Pious Fund of California | and | The Litigation to Recover it. | By John T. Doyle. | San Francisco. | 1880. Our roll of members also reminds us that Hon. J. C. Bancroft Davis was the Secretary of the Alabama Claims Treaty Commission and that Hon. Dwight Foster served officially in the Arbitration of the Fishery Claims.

Mr. Waldo Lincoln in the note accompanying his exhaustive work on the Waldo Family writes: "It gives me great pleasure to present to the library of the American Antiquarian Society a copy of the Genealogy of the Waldo Family, in the compilation of which I was much assisted by the valuable collections of the Society."

Dr. Charles L. Nichols has added to our ten English and American editions of John Mason's "Self Knowledge" our founder's Worcester issue of 1785. He has also offered to give his excessively rare first edition (1669) of Morton's New England Memorial if needed to complete our imperfect copy.

Your librarian—without mentioning names—would render especial thanks to those persons not members who have presented their finished work on account of aid in its preparation. Doubtless modesty prevents some authors and forgetfulness others from attending to this privilege.

The family of our late Councillor Hon. P. Emory Aldrich has made a large contribution of miscellaneous literature. While classifying the material I discovered a circular in quarto form bearing the endorsement: "I wrote this circular & circulated it through the mail from Worcester. The meeting at Chapman Hall was largely attended & was the first in a series of meetings assembled in the formation of the Republican party of Mass. P. E. A." Following is the historic call:

BOSTON, AUGUST 9TH, 1855.

SIR:—At a Meeting of gentlemen recently assembled in this city, from various sections of the State, the undersigned were

appointed a Committee, with instructions to invite yourself and many other gentlemen from every portion of the Commonwealth, and all the different political parties, to meet in **Chapman Hall**, in Chapman Place, (which leads from School Street), in the **City of Boston**, on **THURSDAY**, the **16th day of August** instant, at 10 o'clock, **A. M.**, for the purpose, then and there, after free and full discussion, and consultation, of devising the best mode of concentrating and giving expression to the almost universal opposition of Massachusetts to the repeal of the "Great Ordinance of Freedom," and to the more recent aggressions of the Slave Power, in its invasion of Kansas, and the overthrow of the rights of the Free Settlers of that Territory. One important question, to be considered, at this meeting, will be, the expediency of calling a Convention of the people of the State, without distinction of party, with the view of placing Massachusetts in sympathy and connection with the great republican movement now in progress.

The meeting is to be what is plainly indicated above; and no person who attends it, is to be compromised or bound by its doings, except by his own free choice, after he is made fully aware of all its acts and objects. Permit us to hope that you will favor the meeting with your presence and counsel.

Will you, at an early day, inform some one of the Committee, by letter or otherwise, whether you will be able to accept this invitation; and if you cannot, will you further inform us whether we may be allowed to append your name to the call for such a Convention, as is above alluded to.

Very Respectfully, Your Fellow Citizens,

SAMUEL BOWLES, Springfield;
 JOHN M. CLARK, Boston;
 SAMUEL G. REED, Greenfield;
 GERSHAM B. WESTON, Duxbury;
 EDWIN F. JENKS, South Adams;
 IVERS PHILLIPS, Fitchburg;
 JOHN A. GOODWIN, Lowell;
 P. EMORY ALDRICH, Worcester.

In the librarian's report of April 28, 1897, attention was called to "A Rhyming Geography; Or A Poetic Description of America, &c., by Victorianus Clark." 8°. Hartford, 1819. Evidence has been received quite recently that the teaching of geography with the musical attachment was revived about the year 1850. The gift of Mr. Francis W. Blacker is the work to which reference is made. It is entitled: The | Poetical Geography, | Designed to

Accompany | Outline Maps or School Atlases. | To which are added the Rules of Arithmetic in Rhyme. | By George Van Waters. | Published at Cincinnati. | And sold by Agents only. | 1851. At the foot of page four of the cover of this quarto text-book of eighty pages is the following: "It is expected that Agents will act the honorable part with subscribers, and never sell the work for less than the subscription price, for this is abusing our patrons, which is the *worst species of ingratitude*. As the Poetical Geography is sold only by subscription, Agents are expected to call at every house, that every one may have a chance to purchase one or more copies."

The method of instruction will best appear in the following extracts :

POLAR CIRCLES.

And of the Polar Circles now I'll tell:
They with the *Tropics* are found *parallel*;
Just *twenty three, one half*, and nothing less (*23½*),
Aloof the Poles;—these in degrees, I guess.

OCEANS.

An *Ocean* is a vast extent of brine,
Of salt sea water, boundless and sublime.

Five oceans there are found upon this ball:
Pacific, first, the largest of them all;
To Asia and America allied,
Eight thousand long and full *twelve thousand* wide.

Atlantic, second, in the list survey,
Upon the west, bound by *America*;
While *Africa* and *Europe*, on the east,
Heave up their sea-walls to her waves of yeast;
Three thousand miles in width—*eight thousand* long,
In such a space *Atlantic* sings her song.

The *Indian Ocean* is the third in size,—
Upon the north, the *Asiatic* shores arise;
Australia's east; while *Afric's* west her tide:
Four thousand long, and full *three thousand* wide.

The *Antarctic Ocean* laves the Southern Pole;
While, round the North, the *Arctic* billows roll:
Asia, and Europe, North America,
With Greenland, are the boundaries of this sea.

Preceding "The Rules of Arithmetic in Verse" are the following definitions :

ADDITION.

Addition, is joining more numbers than one,
And putting together to make a whole sum,
Addition's the rule that learns (*sic*) us to count,
And the sum that's produced is called the *amount*.

SUBTRACTION.

Subtraction, it teaches, when numbers are given,
One greater, one less, as 10 stands to 7,
To find out their difference, for difference we see,
And when worked and achieved, we find to be 3.

MULTIPLICATION.

Now, *Multiplication*, its nature I'll show,
It's a short way of working *Addition*, you know,
When the same number comes, in prose or in rhymes,
To be used or repeated a number of times—
Let the *less* number under the *greater* one stand,
Call one the *multiplier*, one the *Multiplicand*,—
Name the answer the *product*,—and then just annex
For the sign of the rule, the letter— \times .

DIVISION.

Next simple *Division*, the fourth Rule is seen,
It's a short way of working *Subtraction*. (I ween),
It shows us *Subtraction*, its smallest remains,
And how often one number another contains.
The *Divisor* is that, which divides, as you see,
The *Dividend's* that, which divided must be.
The *answer* is called the *Quotient*, and shows
How oft the divisor in the dividend goes.

In the appendix to the "Silas Constant Journal"—the gift of Mrs. Emily Warren Roebling, since deceased—may be found the documentary defence of Gen. Gouverneur K. Warren against the charges of Gen. Philip H. Sheridan. Warren was relieved of the command of the Fifth Army Corps of the Army of the Potomac after the battle of Five Forks, in favor of Gen. Charles Griffin.

Valuable archæological and ethnological material has been received from the Bureau of American Ethnology, American Museum of Natural History, Field Columbian Museum, Peabody Museum of Archæology and Ethnology and the University of Pennsylvania. The gifts from historical societies indicate an increasing disposition to work more carefully their chosen fields of labor and not to

trench upon the preserves of others. The careful naming of all such organizations at their birth is more and more recognized as of the first importance whether the name selected be from the town, county, Indian settlement, the state or nation. The Pennsylvania Society of New York has set a good example by a new departure. Their year books instead of merely reporting the usual after-dinner speeches, contain much Pennsylvania history with illustrations. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has supplied much historical and biographical material. The recent law encouraging the printing of the vital statistics of its towns to the year 1850, is already bearing fruit. As our Council took favorable action in this first effort, so it is hoped our wide-spread membership—especially in the older States—will encourage this important movement.

The Worcester Baptist Association, which had presented a set of its minutes from 1879 to 1885 in sumptuous binding, has added as a companion volume those from 1886 to 1902.

Our Proceedings contain much material along the lines suggested by the following communications :

BOSTON, 6 February, 1903.

Dear Mr. BARTON :—

My American postal studies have led me into the story of American engraving. The postage stamp is the *terminus ex quo*, and I find some remarkable results: 1. That steel engraving is of Massachusetts origin, whence the process was carried to London in 1809; 2. That we engraved bank-notes long before England.

Evidence on this latter point appears in the latest volume, 12, of our *Suffolk Deeds*, just printed. Whatever we did earlier, we issued bank-notes on and after 1 September, 1681, and while the mode of their manufacture is not yet known, we know that in 1688 we had a rolling-press in Boston, for printing from copper-plates. Every student knows that the Massachusetts legal-tender notes of 10 December, 1690, were printed from copper-plates.

Could you, without too much trouble, and for the honor of our country, give me a list of what old bills of credit, say, up to

1720, you have in your collection? The number may not exceed three or four.

Worcester men will be glad to know that our first bank-director of 1681, truly the financial father of the bank, was Daniel Henschman (d. in Worcester 15 October, 1685).

With great respect,

C. W. ERNST.

BOSTON, 10 February, 1903.

Dear Mr. BARTON:—

The Worcester item I sent you is all right. It appears from the Sewall diary that Daniel Henschman died in Worcester on Thursday 15/25 October, 1685, that he was buried there on the day following (probably the earliest person of note buried in Worcester), and from the Boston records (Old-South Church, Town Records, Suffolk Deeds, Suffolk Probate records) we know that he was a teacher in the Boston Latin School, a captain in the war of 1675, a man of property, and assuredly our first bank manager in this country. His bank began operations on 1 September, 1681, and was entirely successful. It appears to have made John Woodbridge rich (*teste* J. Hammond Trumbull), and one may suppose the bank to have ended when the managing director, Henschman, died in 1685.

The intellectual genealogy of that mortgage bank is easily traced to Governor Winthrop, of Connecticut, who was told in London by John Milton's friend, Samuel Hartlib. Winthrop proposed a bank to the Royal Society, which remained in apathy; Boston and Daniel Henschman acted, and were rewarded. It is certain that the Boston bank rested upon the principles set forth by Hartlib, who opposed William Potter. Henschman had a good library, as appears from his inventory.

It does not surprise me that we had a bank before England, meaning a bank of issue. We began 1681, England in 1694. It does not surprise me that we began our copper-engraving in making bank-notes. It is a fact, also, that, in order to assure uniformity in the appearance of bank-notes, we invented steel-engraving about 1800, the inventor being Jacob Perkins, Newburyport, whose methods are now in use.

I wish Massachusetts had one museum devoted, not to Japan or ancient Chaldaea, but to things actually done in Massachusetts, by Massachusetts people, for the good of mankind. Such a museum would be an inspiration, and I wish it might stand in the heart of the Commonwealth.

Very truly yours,

C. W. ERNST.

Respectfully submitted.

EDMUND M. BARTON,

Librarian.

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