

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN

THE USE OF THE LIBRARY

WHEN Messr. Marco Polo returned from his adventures in far Cathay, his old-time friends knew him not and esteemed him little, for he was clothed all in rags. But when he stripped off those rags and they saw that his body was swathed in ropes of precious jewels, the ransom of an emperor, they believed his story and were ready enough to restore him to his rightful place among the noblemen of Venice. And so it is with this Library of ours for, though there is pressing need of more money for cataloguing and binding, it too has concealed beneath its outer garment one of the greatest treasures of all the land—a precious hoard of historical and literary jewels which far outshine the rubies and diamonds with which the mighty Kahn rewarded the adventurous Venetian.

But we do not wish our jewels to lie hidden in a strong-box; we want to share them with the ever-growing crowd of scholars who come from all over the land to find what they most need in our ancient treasure house. Their wishes are many and strange and their questions of infinite variety. Here are only a few of the thousands of inquiries that have come this year from our readers or from our equally welcome correspondents.

The owner of an Indian scalp taken by a frontiersman in the Black Hills of Dakota in pioneer times wished to know its history and we were not only able to supply the complete story in the words of the old frontiersman himself but to tell the owner of the scalp where to buy a copy of the rare volume containing

this exciting adventure. A great foundation, wishing to publish a volume of recipes in the style of the first cookery book printed in America, was supplied with photostats and a rubbing of the binding from the only perfect copy in existence. A graduate student wished to learn of the civilian life of the Southern Confederacy, an antique collector needed to know more about the early cast iron chunk stoves that toasted the toes of our ancestors. A scholar from a nearby state wished the original text of a Mother Goose rhyme; and a Columbia graduate student found hundreds of American translations from the French for use in his thesis. A student from Fairbanks, Alaska, came in search of Alaskan newspapers; and a representative of the Department of State called on us for the text of an important treaty as published in a Hawaiian paper; a lady from Oklahoma wished to read the early poems of J. T. Trowbridge. An almanac in our collection gave the location of a road a hundred years ago, and so helped settle a boundary dispute between two states. A nationally famous novelist was furnished with circus material for a forthcoming story and a well-known illustrator was supplied with the picture of a pioneer ferry over the Ohio River. A West Indian student came to us for the only available files of certain of his native newspapers; and another famous novelist wished to make sure that our colonial soldiers wore armor. A California gentleman of inquiring mind wanted to find out who was the mother of Benjamin Franklin's illegitimate son; and a New Yorker wrote to know where to find books from the library of Miles Standish containing his autograph. A collector of manuscripts wished our opinion on the genuineness of a forged Salem witchcraft document and a correspondent from New York needed to find out when and where Leghorn bonnets were first manufactured.

Many they are who enter our domed hall, some for the answer to a single question, others for months of research; some are students slaving on a thesis;

others are seasoned scholars working on a history destined to become a classic. We see the life of a distinguished statesman rise from the pile of manuscripts and newspaper volumes before the biographer; or we help a great novelist get the background right for his next year's best seller. Many a famous book has grown from the seeds planted here by Isaiah Thomas a century and a quarter ago.

ACCESSIONS

The lack of an adequate book fund has again hampered the normal and healthy growth of our Library. We have, however, added a fairly good number of necessary and useful titles to our shelves but we have been unable to compete with our rivals for the rare and expensive items of which, in the past, we have generally secured our small share. Had it not been for the helping hands of a few of our staunch friends, this year would have seen few important additions made to our collections. However, through careful buying and the gifts of our friends, we are able to report the following additions to the library:

Books	4925
Pamphlets	6922
Prints, maps, manuscripts, etc.	3562
Unbound newspapers	214
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	15,623

This year's accessions give us a total of 229,981 bound volumes and 369,406 pamphlets, or a grand total of 599,387 titles in the library, exclusive of manuscripts, prints, maps and broadsides.

OIL PORTRAITS

We have received as a bequest from our late Vice-president, Mr. Clarence W. Bowen, two oil portraits, both most welcome to our collection of portraits of

officers of the Society and other illustrious Americans. The life portrait of Charles Sumner by Francis B. Carpenter (1830-1900) is interesting since it shows Sumner at a different period from that of the portrait by Willard given us in 1933 by Mr. Tatman. Carpenter painted individual portraits of Lincoln and his cabinet and most of the other statesmen of the day but is best known to the public for his large historic painting of Lincoln reading the first draft of the Emancipation Proclamation to his cabinet, which was painted in the Capitol, where it still hangs. The portrait of Mr. Bowen, painted in 1928 by Mr. Frank O. Salisbury, gives us our third example of the work of this distinguished English artist, the others being the portraits of Mr. Calvin Coolidge and Mr. Waldo Lincoln.

NEWSPAPERS

The most important additions to the Library during the past year have been made in the Newspaper Division, thus continuing and enlarging our important position in this most necessary and useful field. For the period of the Revolution and the years immediately following, we have secured the *Pennsylvania Evening Post* for 1783, thus virtually completing our file, the best in existence, of this important Philadelphia paper for the Revolutionary years. We also secured the *Pennsylvania Journal* for 1783, a year which was previously represented in our collection by only a half dozen scattering issues. The *New Jersey Gazette* was published at Trenton between 1778 and 1786 and our collection has included for many years a fairly good file except for 1784 and 1785. These years have now been secured, thus filling an important gap in this most useful file.

One of the longest lived of the early newspapers of Western Massachusetts was the *Pittsfield Sun* which was established in 1800 and lasted until 1906. Formerly, the only good file was that in the Pittsfield

Athenæum but this year brought us a nearly complete run from 1805 to 1865 which, added to the earlier and later issues already on our shelves, makes ours the second best file in the country. Early Southern newspapers are particularly hard to find and we have always wanted to improve our file of the *Norfolk Gazette*, which was published from 1804 to 1816. This year we have secured the years 1810 through 1813, thus making ours one of the three best sets and the only good one north of the Mason and Dixon Line.

It is quite naturally important for us to have a good showing of the *Boston Transcript* but the early years are very scarce. However, we have been able to secure by purchase the years 1835 through 1841 and, through the gift of one of our good friends on the Council, the years 1853 through 1858, thus making ours one of the best runs in the country, from the first issue in 1830 to date.

The pioneer newspapers of Oregon are so rare as to be practically unobtainable but this year we were so fortunate as to secure an unique file of one of the earliest and rarest. Small in size and destined to live for only part of the year 1853, the "Journal of Commerce" was very sprightly and controversial, full of local news and gossip and a prize to the historian. Only 15 issues ever appeared and when a file containing all but the 12th issue and the first leaf of No. 1, was offered to us, we pounced on it at once. We already had two odd numbers in our collection and, by good luck, one of them was the missing No. 12. The other was a duplicate but it was lacking from the Oregon Historical Society file, so we sent it to them and, a few weeks later, received in exchange a copy of the first issue with a damaged second leaf. But since we already had this leaf, we were able to make our set entirely perfect by the exchange. The only other located copies are numbers 1 and 3 to 5 in the Oregon Historical Society and numbers 2 to 6 in the New York Historical Society.

The most important newspaper file to be added to our shelves in a number of years is the complete set of the "Whalemen's Shipping List," published in New Bedford from 1843 to 1915. It is one of two complete files, the other being in the New Bedford Public Library. This important journal was the trade paper of the whaling industry. Every merchant, sea captain and every seafaring family in New England scanned its pages for news of their loved ones, their ships or their investments, for it contained a complete record of the movements of every whale ship on the Atlantic coast, from the day it sailed away for a cruise until it was shipwrecked or came home loaded with whale oil, whalebone and spermicetti. Though primarily a commercial record, there are hundreds of exciting narratives of shipwreck, mutiny, adventure in tropic isles or Asiatic ports scattered through its pages. No history of the whaling industry can ever be written without consulting this paper and it contains the raw material for many a yarn by future Danas, Melvilles and Conrads. This important file came to us as the appropriate gift of one of our members who has always had the keenest interest in the history and lore of sailing ship days—Mr. Charles H. Taylor.

An unusually interesting collection of 112 odd numbers of eighteenth and early nineteenth century newspapers has been given us by Mr. Thomas W. Streeter. This collection was formed by the veteran collector of Americana, Mr. F. C. O'Brien, and includes many issues of great rarity and even a few examples of papers which had never previously been known to exist. For the historian of the press, this collection is invaluable.

The more important newspaper files added during the year are as follows:

CONNECTICUT

HARTFORD, AMERICAN MERCURY, 1801, 1804-1806, 1808, 1809,
1813, 1822

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WASHINGTON CONSTITUTION, Jan. 1861
 WASHINGTON EXPOSITOR, 1808
 WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN, 1821-1822
 WASHINGTON NATIONAL JOURNAL EXTRA, 1823-1824
 WASHINGTON NATIONAL REPUBLICAN, 1862-1874, 1876-1878
 WASHINGTON REPUBLIC, 1853
 WASHINGTON SENTINEL, 1853
 WASHINGTON SUN, 1835-1836
 WASHINGTON UNION, 1858
 WASHINGTON UNITED STATES TELEGRAPH, 1826-1827, 1829-1832,
 1836

LOUISIANA

NEW ORLEANS DAILY PICAYUNE, 1842
 NEW ORLEANS PRICE-CURRENT, 1827-1830

MAINE

HALLOWELL GAZETTE, 1817
 PORTLAND GAZETTE, 1798-1800

MARYLAND

BALTIMORE, REPUBLICAN, 1802

MASSACHUSETTS

BOSTON, BAY STATE DEMOCRAT, 1840-1841
 BOSTON, DAILY ADVERTISER, 1833-1842
 BOSTON DAILY JOURNAL, 1850-1851
 BOSTON DAILY NEWS, 1834
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS MERCURY, 1793-1794
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN, 1888-1894
 BOSTON PEARL, 1833
 BOSTON TELEGRAPH, 1831-1834
 BOSTON TRANSCRIPT, 1835-1841, 1853-1858
 BOSTON, TRAVELLER, 1846-1848
 GREENFIELD GAZETTE, 1798, 1800
 NEW BEDFORD, WHALEMEN'S SHIPPING LIST, 1843-1915
 NEWBURYPORT HERALD, 1799, 1803, 1805, 1806
 NEWBURYPORT, DAILY HERALD, 1835-1836
 PITTSFIELD SUN, 1805-1865
 ROXBURY, NORFOLK ARGUS, 1837
 SALEM OBSERVER, 1834
 SPRINGFIELD, HAMPDEN PATRIOT, 1822-1823
 STOCKBRIDGE, BERKSHIRE HERALD, 1815
 STOCKBRIDGE, BERKSHIRE STAR, 1816-1817

NEW JERSEY

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY GAZETTE, 1784-1785
 TRENTON, TRUE AMERICAN, 1801-1806

NEW YORK

CHENANGO WEEKLY ADVERTISER, 1811-1812
 NEW YORK, DIARY, 1793
 NEW YORK EVENING POST FOR THE COUNTRY, 1819-1820
 NEW YORK GAZETTEER, 1786
 NEW YORK LEDGER, 1881-1890
 NEW YORK, MORNING COURIER, 1837
 NEW YORK, SHIPPING AND COMMERCIAL LIST, 1829, 1830, 1833
 NEW YORK SPECTATOR, 1823-1825
 NORWICH, OLIVE BRANCH, 1808-1809

OREGON

PORTLAND, JOURNAL OF COMMERCE, 1853

PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA, AURORA, 1805-1807
 PHILADELPHIA, NATIONAL GAZETTE, 1824-1825
 PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA EVENING POST, 1783
 PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA JOURNAL, 1783

RHODE ISLAND

PROVIDENCE, GOSPEL MESSENGER, 1840-1841
 PROVIDENCE, NEW ENGLAND DIADEM, 1848
 PROVIDENCE, TEMPERANCE PLEDGE, 1847

SOUTH CAROLINA

CHARLESTON MERCURY, 1846-1847

TENNESSEE

KNOXVILLE, BROWNLOW'S KNOXVILLE WHIG, 1851-1853, 1863-1865
 NASHVILLE, DAILY REPUBLICAN BANNER, 1842, 1845, 1846, 1850
 NASHVILLE, TRI-WEEKLY NASHVILLE UNION, 1856-1857
 NASHVILLE, WEEKLY NASHVILLE UNION, 1866

VIRGINIA

NORFOLK GAZETTE, 1810-1813
 RICHMOND ENQUIRER, 1858-1860
 RICHMOND, VIRGINIA ARGUS, 1802

CANADA

QUEBEC GAZETTE, 1838-1847

ALMANACS

Well over a hundred almanacs have been added to our great collection this year but space will only allow the mention of five of outstanding importance and rarity. The first is the Nathaniel Whittemore almanac for 1716, the only other copy of which is in the Library of Congress. This rare series was published in Boston from 1705 to 1740 and of the 36 issues, 13 are not known to have survived. With the accession of the 1716 issue, we now have the only complete set of the 23 known issues.

Rival almanac makers have never been very fond of each other and so we are not surprised to see Whittemore pay his respects to one of his newer rivals in the preface to this 1716 almanac as follows:

And altho' there was the last year a bold Pretender which goes by the name, J— G— [MDCCXV. *The Young American Ephemeris* for 1715. By Increase Gatchell, Etat 16. . . . Boston: Printed for George Brownell. (16) p. AAS] He hatcht up his Nonsense, and with his Hammers would have beaten out his Neighbours Brains; but instead of that, struck upon his own Pate, and brought him to a Consumption of the Purse. But I never will be envious with Saturn, or furious with Mars, but wish good for evil.

This is really a mild answer to the inexcusably ill-natured attack of young Gatchell in his almanac of the previous year, but Whittemore could well afford to be forgiving, for Gatchell issued no later almanacs and appeared no more to plague his rivals in the art of divining the weather and the "celestial motions."

Our next rarity is a fine and perfect copy of the second New Hampshire almanac, Nathaniel Ames' "Astronomical Diary" for 1758, printed at Portsmouth by Daniel Fowle, Portsmouth's first printer, in the second year of New Hampshire printing. When Nichols prepared his bibliography of New Hampshire almanacs, this title was known only from a contemporary advertisement but since then this copy and one at the Massachusetts Historical Society have come to

light. We already had a copy of the first New Hampshire almanac, published the previous year.

On the final leaf the author published a highly patriotic and prophetic essay on America which shows that, almost twenty years before the Revolution, thoughtful students of American affairs were beginning to advocate the union of the Colonies. He says:

Our numbers will not avail till the Colonies are united; for whilst divided, the strength of the Inhabitants is broken like the petty Kingdoms in Africa. If we do not join Heart and Hand in the common Cause against our exulting Foes, but fall to disputing amongst ourselves, it may really happen as the Governour of Pennsylvania told his Assembly, "We shall have no Priviledge to dispute about, nor Country to dispute in." . . . O! Ye unborn Inhabitants of America! Should this Page escape its destin'd Conflagration at the Year's End, and these Alphabetical Letters remain legible,—when your Eyes behold the Sun after he has rolled the Seasons round for two or three Centuries more, you will know that in Anno Domini 1758, we dream'd of your Times.

By a fortunate exchange, we were able, this year, to add to our collection a fine and uncut copy of the Poor Richard almanac for 1739, other copies of which are at the Library Company of Philadelphia and at Yale. Our set of this famous series, issued by Benjamin Franklin from 1733 through 1766, is now complete except for the issues of 1733, 1735 and 1738 and is one of the two or three best sets extant.

We have quoted from the prefaces of two other famous almanac makers. One was querulous, the other prophetic. Now let us see how Franklin, in the foreword of his almanac, of which he was both compiler and publisher, could be whimsical.

Some People observing the great Yearly Demand for my Almanack, imagine I must by this Time have become rich, and consequently ought to call myself Poor Dick no longer. But the Case is this. When I first began to publish, the Printer made a fair Agreement with me for my Copies, by Virtue of which he runs away with the greatest Part of the Profit. However, much good may't do him; I do not grudge it him: he is a

Man I have a great Regard for, and I wish his Profit ten times greater than it is. For I am, dear Reader, his, as well as thy

Affectionate Friend,
R. SAUNDERS.

Sheet almanacs were very popular in the eighteenth century but, being issued in broadside form, they were generally tacked on the wall for convenient consultation during the year and then thrown away. Consequently they are now of the greatest rarity and generally are known only from early newspaper advertisements.

Until the present year this was true of the sheet almanac printed at New London by Timothy Green & Son, with the caption title: "An Almanack, for 1793," the sole surviving copy of which is now in our collection. When we received this almanac it had been cut up into twelve leaves and made into a pamphlet, apparently by one Samuel Daggett, who scrawled his business accounts over the back of it. We have put it together once more in its original broadside form and are very happy to have it complete, in its original, though patched condition.

Printing was introduced into the Territory of Missouri by Joseph Charless in 1808 but for ten years he printed little except his newspaper and the laws of the Territory. There are, in fact, but eleven extant examples of the work of this pioneer press before 1818 and all but two of them are official documents. Of these two, our Library has the only copy of Frederick Bates' Masonic oration, printed in 1809, and we have just secured one of the two known copies of the first Missouri almanac, printed by the first printer in 1817 for the year 1818, the other copy, which, like ours, is defective, being in the State Historical Society of Missouri. The title is as follows: "No. 1. Charless' Missouri & Illinois Magazine Almanac, for 1818. . . . St. Louis, Mri. Ter. Printed and sold by Joseph Charless . . . [1817]." It contains, in addition to the

usual weather prognostications, a great deal of valuable statistical material regarding the new territory.

LITERATURE

One of the most interesting of the early New York State printers was Elihu Phinney of Cooperstown. His publications were varied and form a pleasant relief from the drab theological output of the contemporary press of New England. He established the first press in Cooperstown in 1795, but only three titles with this date and his imprint, other than his "Otsego Herald," are recorded by Evans. H. Farnsworth's "An oration on Music" appeared in that year and this Library appears to have the only surviving copy of it. The "Prophecies of the Reverend Christopher Love, and his last words on the scaffold" has survived only in a contemporary advertisement; and Evans could find no copy of Samuel Richardson's "Clarissa Harlowe," though one was later secured by Dr. Rosenbach and is recorded in the catalogue of his collection of children's books (No. 199).

This interesting bit of Cooperstown incunabula is now on our shelves, through the gift of Mr. Thomas W. Streeter, thus giving us copies of both the surviving titles from Phinney's press during its first year. This much abbreviated edition was frequently reprinted in this country from the original abridged edition published in London by the famous printer of juveniles, John Newbery. Though the title of the Cooperstown edition calls for copperplates, none were ever issued with our copy and there are none in the copy owned by Dr. Rosenbach. The title is as follows:

"The paths of virtue delineated; or, the history in miniature of the celebrated Clarissa Harlowe, familiarized and adapted to the capacities of youth. . . . With copperplate engravings. Cooperstown: Printed and sold by E. Phinney—first door east of the Court-House. Wholesale and retail. M DCC XCV." 154, (1) p., 12mo.

During the anti-slavery excitement which led up to the Civil War, Jonathan Walker was accused of slave stealing, was fined, imprisoned and branded in the right hand with the initials "SS." He was treated as a martyr by the abolitionists and John G. Whittier wrote a poem: "The branded hand" which was published in 1845 in an edition of 10,000 copies from the Anti-Slavery Office in Philadelphia, as No. 9 of a series of tracts, presumably issued by the Anti-Slavery Society of Eastern Pennsylvania. It was a four-page leaflet and also included James Russell Lowell's "Lines, on reading of the capture of certain fugitive slaves near Washington." In spite of the fact that 10,000 copies were printed and given away, Mr. Currier in his splendid Whittier bibliography was only able to locate a single surviving copy in a private collection. We now have this rare first edition which, strange to say, was picked up in Norfolk, Va., in 1864 by Miss Lucy Chase of Worcester. We are indebted to Mr. T. Hovey Gage for our copy of this interesting piece which must be one of the rarest of Whittier first editions.

During the past year Mr. Reginald Washburn has inaugurated a pleasant custom which might well be emulated by other friends of our Society. Realizing that our book fund is so small as to make it impossible for us to buy important current books as they appear, he has volunteered to supply us with first editions, signed by their authors wherever possible, of all books within our field, published by two of the country's leading publishing houses. In this way, dozens of important current books have been added to our collections, all of them greatly needed but quite beyond our hopes were it not for his generosity. If there are other friends of the Library who would like to have the fun of systematically building up a corner of our collection in a similar way, we would be extremely happy to suggest other publishers whose books would find a welcome place on our shelves.

BROADSIDE BALLADS

The story has been frequently told of how Isaiah Thomas went into a ballad seller's shop in Boston in 1812 and bought one each of every ballad he had in stock. This was the beginning of our great collection of several thousand American broadside songs and ballads; a collection of the greatest importance to every student of American social backgrounds. Not many of these old songs were great poems but they reflect the fiery patriotism, the partisan bias and the sentimental tastes of their times and we cannot ignore them. Our modern jazz is an outgrowth of the earliest Negro songs which are, in some cases, preserved to us only in this form; the most popular sentimental songs of old and New England appear among them; Yankee Doodle, Hail Columbia and the Star Spangled Banner are included, and so are the well-loved songs of Stephen C. Foster and the ballads made famous by Rice, Emmet and Jenny Lind.

Not since the day of Isaiah Thomas have we secured in a single collection such a fine showing of early ballads as that presented to us this year by a member of the Council. This collection of 208 broadside songs is particularly valuable since it fills a gap in our collection in the period from 1828 to 1840. Thirteen of them are rare early Negro songs, 62 have an American historical or social origin and 132 are reprints of well-known English ballads of the half century before 1840 or earlier. The elusiveness of material of this type is evident from the fact that only one of the entire lot turned out to be a duplicate.

With the exception of a half dozen titles, all of this collection was issued by one man. Leonard Deming is described in the Boston directory as a "trader,"—that is, a dealer who supplied Yankee pedlars, street vendors and such. He came to Boston from Middlebury, Vermont, in 1828 and returned to his old home in 1840, after which he was best known as the compiler

of the still useful: "Catalogue of the principal officers of Vermont." Middlebury, 1851. While in Boston, he lived at five different addresses and, since his imprint, with street address, is given on practically all of his ballads, it is possible to date virtually all of them within two or three years, in spite of the fact that few of them have a printed date of publication. The dates of Deming's various imprints, as shown by the Boston directories, are as follows:

16 Salem St.—1828.

1 South side Faneuil Hall—1829-1831.

1 Market Square, corner of Merchant's Row—1829-1831.

Corner of Merchant's Row and Market Square (Up stairs)—1829-1831.

62 Hanover Street, and Middlebury, Vt.—1832-1837.

61 Hanover Street, and Middlebury, Vt.—1837-1840.

Local tragedies served as inspiration for many of these ballads, though they seem far from tragic if we try to sing them today. One of them was based on a brutal murder which took place in the factory town of Fall River. If you do not think it amusing, just follow directions and try to sing it to the tune of the Star Spangled Banner. Here is the first of its seven verses:

Oh! list the sad tale of the poor factory maid,
 How cheerful she went when the day's work was over,
 In cloak and in bonnet all simply arrayed,
 To meet a dark fiend in the shape of a lover.
 How gladsome and gay she tripped on her way,
 But alas! on her path the foul murderer lay.

CHORUS

Oh! weep for Maria, the poor factory maid,
 So charming, so fair, and so basely betrayed.

Dan Rice, America's first great circus clown, was made famous by one song. In the days of the one-ring circus it was still possible for the audience to hear the performers and all of the best known clowns were made popular by their comic songs as well as their amusing antics. Rice generally made up as a Negro

and his greatest hit was "Jim Crow" which had 65 regular verses of two lines each and a two-line chorus but he was also in the habit of ad-libbing additional verses based on the local events and celebrities of the town where he happened to be playing at the time. If you can imagine the comical antics which accompanied the singing of the chorus, it is easy to understand the popularity of this old clown and his song. It began like this in the 1837 to 1840 edition in our collection:

Old Jim Crow's come agin, as you must all know,
And ebery body say I cum to jump Jim Crow.

CHORUS

Weel about and turn about, and do jis so,
Ebrry time I weel about, I jump Jim Crow.

My name is Daddy Rice, as you berry well do know,
And none in de Nited States like me, cam jump Jim Crow

I was born in a cane brake, and cradled in a trough,
Swam de Mississippi, whar I cotch'd de hoopen coff.

To whip my weight in wild cats, eat an alligator,
And drink de Mississippi dry, I'm de very critter.

LAST VERSE

Now white folks, white folks, please to let me go,
And I'll cum back anuder night and jump Jim Crow.

JUVENILES

No report would be complete without speaking of a few of the more interesting children's books received during the year and so we have selected ten worthy of at least a passing mention. The earliest is a sermon by Rev. Samuel Phillips of Andover with the following pleasingly quaint title: "Children well imployed, and, Jesus much delighted: or, the hosannahs of Zion's children, highly pleasing to Zion's King . . ." Boston: S. Kneeland and T. Green for D. Henchman, 1739. We have failed to find a mention of any other copy.

We also wish to record with gratitude Miss Harriet E. Clarke's gift of a perfect and unworn copy of the

fifth edition of the "History of The Holy Jesus," printed in Boston by J. Green in 1748, which had descended to her through many generations of her ancestors. It seems to be unique, for Mr. Bates in his bibliography was compelled to follow Evans' incorrect description, taken from an advertisement. We now have 22 editions of this Colonial classic. We have a fragment of an earlier edition but this is the oldest edition of which a complete copy has survived.

An early Virginia sermon for children which seems to have been quite popular was Rev. Samuel Davies' "Little children invited to Jesus Christ," of which we have just secured the fifth edition, printed in Boston in 1765. This piece also has a Princeton University interest since it includes "an Account of the late remarkable Religious Impressions among the Students in the College of New-Jersey." We have what is presumably the first edition of this rare little sermon as well as two others of the 10 recorded editions. The known editions are as follows:

- London, 1758. AAS.
- Boston, 1759. Evans 8337.
- Boston, 1761. Rosenbach 45.
- London, 1763. BA.
- Boston, 1764. Evans 9629.
- Boston, 1765. AAS.
- Hartford, 1766. CHS.
- Boston, 1770. BA, CHS.
- Boston, [1791?]. AAS.
- Boston, 1791. Evans 23312, perhaps same as previous edition.

Because of its miniature size, it is quite remarkable that any copies have survived of "Tom Thumb's play-book; to teach Children their Letters as soon as they can speak." . . . Boston: Kneeland and Adams, 1771. 31 p., 64 mo., $2\frac{7}{8}$ by $1\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Two copies of this tiny primer have survived, however, the other being in Dr. Rosenbach's wonderful collection of juveniles. We also have the Boston edition of 1764 and the two Worcester editions of 1786

and 1794 while the Doctor has another Boston edition with the imprint of J. Boyle.

Though it is beginning to be difficult to find New England Primers which we lack, we did secure four new ones this year, including the following editions: Hudson, 1805, not in Heartman; Albany, 1811, Heartman locates in Mr. Bates collection; Baltimore, 1820, with the imprint of Fiedling (sic) Lucas, Jr., not in Heartman; New London, 1820, Heartman locates in Mr. Bates' collection. Also the Boston Primer. Boston, 1809, of which Heartman 31 gives no collation and locates no copy.

Of course, metamorphoses are of great rarity and we were fortunate to have secured the second edition of James Paupard's "*Metamorphosis . . .*" Philadelphia, 1811, another copy of which is in Dr. Rosenbach's collection (Rosenbach 445). We now have 32 of these elusive toy booklets.

COTTON MATHER ON WITCHCRAFT

It is always a joy to the librarian, as Mr. Wroth points out in the last annual report of the John Carter Brown Library, when the crippled copy of a book of great importance is at last made perfect and needs no longer be a reproach to its owner. This Library secured for \$32.00 at the Brinley sale in 1886, no. 7632, a very imperfect copy of Cotton Mather's most famous work, "*The wonders of the invisible world,*" printed in Boston by Benjamin Harris in 1693. It had been made up from two imperfect copies but still lacked most of one leaf of the main text and pages 7-32 of the sermon at the end. This year one of our most generous friends presented to the library his copy which was in splendid condition and in the original binding, except that it had the title and following leaf in facsimile. The Brinley copy, however, had these two important leaves in good condition and so it was only necessary to transfer them to our new copy to

give the Antiquarian Society one of the ten recorded perfect copies of this precious work. (Perfect copies: AAS, BPL(2), HCL, HEH, LC, MATHER-MCGREGOR, MHS, NYPL, YALE.) So now we have a copy of which we may be proud of Mather's great treatise on the witchcraft delusion—one of the most important and interesting volumes written in colonial New England. We also have, from the Brinley sale, a copy of the first English edition, published in 1693.

Our imperfect copy of one of the famous books of another period was also completed recently. For many years we had owned an odd Volume I of the first edition of the "Federalist," published in 1788, but neither volume of the even rarer second edition which appeared eleven years later. Then one of our members presented a set consisting of Volume I of the second edition and Volume II of the first. This completed our set of the first edition but left the second imperfect. We have now secured Volume II of the second edition and so, at last, have complete sets of the first two editions in their original bindings. The other important early editions were already on our shelves, so now scholars can make a comparative study of all of the fundamental editions without leaving our reading room.

CANADA IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

One of the best popular accounts of seventeenth century Canada is that written in 1663 by Pierre Boucher, Governor of Three Rivers and published the following year in Paris under the title: "Histoire veritable et natvrelle des moevrs et prodvctions dv pays de la Novvelle France, vvlgairement dite le Canada. A Paris, Chez Florentin Lambert, ruë Saint Iacques, vis à vis Saint Yues, à l'Image Saint Paul. M. DC. LXIV. Auec permission." [24], 168 p., small 12mo.

Though the author modestly says that his little book contains nothing which may not be found in the Jesuit

Relations and Champlain's Voyages, it was also based on his own years of observation, from 1635 to 1663, in the pioneer French colony. This little vest pocket volume gives a condensed but excellent account of the earliest French settlements in Canada, a description of the plant and animal life and of the customs of the Indians. Though ten copies have been located in public libraries and others are known to exist, it is an extremely rare and desirable piece of Canadiana and is so scarce that it was not described by Gagnon and there is no copy in the great Toronto Public Library collection. It was reprinted in Quebec in 1849, in Montreal in 1882 and an English translation appeared in Montreal in 1883. It is described in Harisse, in Sabin 6843, Church 584 and the new John Carter Brown catalogue, Vol. III, p. 107. Our copy has the earlier of two variant title pages without the name of the author and the second form of the dedication to Colbert, thus corresponding with the Lenox and Church copies, now in the New York Public Library and the Huntington Library, respectively. The John Carter Brown copy has the second form of the title with the author's name included. Copies located: AAS, BIB. ST. GENÈVIEVE, Paris, BM (2), HCL, HHH, JCB, NEWBERRY, NYPL, WILLIAMS COLLEGE. Our beautiful and perfect copy came as the generous gift of Judge Robert C. Taylor, of New York.

"COMPANY, ATTENTION!"

This library has always been keenly interested in the military manuals used in our early wars and it is probable that no better collection of these rare volumes can be found. Beginning with the first book published in America on the subject: "An abridgment of the military discipline," by James Fitzroy, Duke of Monmouth, reprinted from the English edition by Samuel Green of Boston in 1690 (the only other recorded copy being in NYPL), we have scores of these

interesting volumes which taught our ancestors how to defend themselves in approved British fashion. Of course, most of the copies were worn out by use in camp and field but of the few remaining we surely have a generous share. Two new additions to our collection are especially worth recording; both used in the Revolution, one by the Yankees of Connecticut and the other by the Tories of up-state New York.

The most popular British manual of the later French and Indian War period became, on the outbreak of the Revolution, the principal military textbook used in both the contending armies. In American reprints, it was popular in the continental regiments until Baron Steuben's "Regulations" superseded it in 1779. This was Edward Harvey's "The manual exercise as ordered by his Majesty in 1764," of which we have just secured one of the three recorded copies of the Norwich, 1775 edition, the others being at CHS and HCL. It contains the manual of arms and the orders for open and closed formation for the use of the company and regiment, with General Wolfe's "Instructions to young officers" on the last page. It is an octavo of 23, [1] p.

Of the 23 recorded American editions of the "Manual exercise," only 13 seem to have survived the rigors of the campaign, the other 10 being known only from contemporary advertisements. Of the 13 known editions, we now have seven. The complete list of recorded editions is as follows:

New York: W. Weyman, 1766. Evans 10330

New York: Hugh Gaine?, 1769. Evans 11288.

New York: Hugh Gaine, 1773. Ford, p. 132. Evans 12807

Boston: T. and J. Fleet, [1773]. AAS, BA, MHS, NYPL

Generally dated [1774] but a copy in Goodspeed's catalogue 227 (1934):

837, describes a copy with the contemporary inscription: "Saml Pierce, This Day, Dorchester, May 13th 1773."

Boston: Isaiah Thomas [1774]. AAS

Newbury Port: E. Lunt and H. W. Tinges, 1774. AAS

New Haven: T. & S. Green [1774]. AAS

Norwich: Robertsons and Trumbull [1774]. AAS, CHS. (Verso of p. 23 blank).

- Norwich: Robertsons and Trumbull [1774-5]. CHS. (General Wolfe's "Instructions for young officers" on verso of p. 23.)
 Providence: John Carter, 1774. LC
 Baltimore: M. K. Goddard, 1775. Evans 14101
 Lancaster: Francis Bailey, 1775. HSP
 New York: Hugh Gaine, 1775. Ford, p. 140; Evans 14103
 Norwich, Robertsons and Trumbull, 1775. AAS, CHS, HCL
 Philadelphia: William and Thomas Bradford, 1775. NYHS
 Philadelphia: R. Aitken, 1775. Evans 14106.
 Williamsburg: Alexander Purdie, 1775. Evans 14107
 Williamsburg: J. Dixon and W. Hunter, 1775. Evans 14108
 Wilmington: James Adams, 1775. HSP
 Philadelphia: J. Humphreys, R. Bell, and R. Aitken, 1776. AAS, LCP.
 Issued separately and also bound with Thomas Simes' "Military Guide," 1776; and with his "New military dictionary," 1776: Both in AAS.
 New York: Hugh Gaine, 1777. Ford, p. 146; Evans 15359
 New York, 1780. NYHS
 Boston: T. and J. Fleet [1780-1783?]. AAS. Has "Bible and Hart" in imprint. Fleet's imprint was changed from "Heart and Crown" in 1780.
 Norwich: John Trumbull, 1794. Evans 27099

An even more interesting drill manual, no copy of which has been previously discovered or mentioned by bibliographers, was written by Colonel Guy Johnson, nephew of Sir William Johnson and one of the famous Tory leaders of the Revolution. It is not only interesting because it was doubtless the manual used in drilling the up-state New York Tory regiments, but also because it is one of the earliest publications from Albany's first printing press which had been set up the previous year. Evans lists no Albany imprint, other than a newspaper, as early as this and we have failed to find any to precede it. The title runs thus:

"Manual exercise, evolutions, manœuvres, &c. to be observed and followed by the Militia of the Province of New-York: with some rules and regulations for their improvement; &c. and an explanatory plate. By Colonel Guy Johnson, Adjutant General for the Northern District of that Province. By order of his Excellency William Tryon, Esq; Governor and Commander in Chief. Albany: Printed by Alexander and James Robertson, at their Printing-Office in Pearl-Street, M,DCC,LXXII." 23, [1] p., small 4to, original plain blue wrappers, all edges cut.

GEORGE III, HIS PEDIGREE

It is rather odd that a Worcester County Revolutionary patriot should have written a tract defending the title of George III to the throne of England. The explanation is, of course, that it was written before our ancestors had any expectation of declaring their independence and before the name of George III had become anathema among them. And besides, the author found considerable satisfaction in the fact that the sovereign was a Protestant and he was quite willing, at the time the tract was written, to defend any English King who was not a Catholic.

Captain Hezekiah Gates "of Lancaster, in New England," as he styled himself, had seen years of active service in the French and Indian Wars and when he resigned his commission, was captain of a mounted company of militia known as the Lancaster Troop. His only son, Thomas, succeeded him in its command and led the troop in the Lexington Alarm and throughout the Revolutionary War, while his father stayed at home as a member of the local Committee of Correspondence and Moderator of the patriotic town meetings of Lancaster. He was 73 years old when he died in 1777 and, of course, too old to take the field again when the war began. He had inherited large holdings from his grandfather, one of the founders of the town and was the proprietor of the famous Gates Tavern, the principal patriot hostelry of the region.

It is curious that one who had led such an active career should have had time for the study of history and that he should have been prompted to compile and publish a genealogical table of the kings of England from mythological times to the reign of George III. Though his compilation was finished in 1769 when he was 65 years old, it was not published until three years later. It is thus quaintly entitled:

"King George's right to the crown of Great-Britain, displayed: being a collection from history, from the first known

times to the present year, 1769. Extracted for the benefit of those in the Province of Massachusetts-Bay, who have not leisure to study history. Shewing it to be the duty of all officers and others, to defend the heirs of Sophia, being Protestants, upon the British throne, and the undoubted right that King George the third hath to the crown of Great-Britain. Extracted by Hezekiah Gates of Lancaster, in New-England. Boston: Printed and sold by W. McAlpine, in Marlborough-Street. M,DCCLXXII." 19 p., 8vo. Copies located in AAS, BA, LANCASTER PL, MHS.

Since our collection is somewhat weak in contemporary British tracts on the Revolution, we are glad to be able to record the accession of 10 important controversial works by Edmund Burke, Samuel Johnson and other partisan pamphleteers of the period.

HORRIBLE! HORRIBLE!! HORRIBLE!!!

The Greeks had a name for it and they called it "Katharsis"; we might speak of it as "synthetic tragedy." All civilized nations have realized the value of seasoning the joyousness of their recreation with a poem, a play or a story of the misfortunes and tragedies of others. The Greeks had Æschylus, we have Eugene O'Neil, but our American ancestors did not believe in play-acting or in the corrupting influence of the novel, so they limited themselves to dubious true tales of horror in the form of deathbed confessions, stories of shipwreck, plague and disaster, of Indian torture, Royal adultery and divorce scandals which were seldom well written and often much more raw than the legitimate imaginative literature of their own or earlier days.

Four titles which we have recently received will illustrate this macabre taste of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The first is the story of a particularly gruesome ax murder which is quaintly described in the title of our apparently unique copy as follows: "Sinners directed to hear & fear, and do no more so wickedly. Being an impartial account of the in-

humane and barbarous murder, committed by Jeremiah Meacham, on his wife and her sister, at Newport on Rhode-Island, March 22d. 1715. . . . Boston, Printed by J. Allen, for N. Boone, at the sign of the Bible in Cornhill, 1715." [2], xix, [1], 56, [2] p., 12mo. This little book also contains an account of the culprit's life, trial, dying words and the execution sermon by the famous Newport divine, Rev. Nathaniel Clap. Substantially the same narrative appeared as: "The Lord's voice, crying to his people . . ." Boston: B. Green, 1715, also in our library; and Clap's sermon was also separately published as: "A broken heart acceptable with God through Christ. . . ." Boston, 1715.

As an example of the police court reporting of 200 years ago, we quote the following from this gory narrative: "When he had murdered them, he stood watchfully upon his Guard, with his Ax in hand, threatning all that offered to come up Stairs: knock'd one man down with his bloody Ax. Others endeavouring to apprehend him, by breaking up the Chamber Floor under him, & the Roof over him; he laboured to defend himself, as if against the worst Enemies. And when they carried some Fire, flaming to light their way before them, he snatch'd away the Fire, and laid it among some combustible matter, and got ready more, and quickly kindled a great Fire in the midst of the Chamber, as if he chose rather to Burn himself alive, and the dead Bodies with him than to be taken: but finding the Chamber quickly growing too hot for him, and he being very hot with constant motion; he sprung out headlong at the Window among the People, that were now surrounding of his House."

One of the most famous narratives of Indian captivity in the west is: "The remarkable adventures of Jackson Johonnet, of Massachusetts. Who served as a soldier in the western army, in the Massachusetts line, in the expedition under General Harmar, and the unfortunate General St. Clair. Containing an account

of his captivity, sufferings and escape from the Kickapoo Indians. Written by himself, and published at the earnest importunity of his friends, for the benefit of American Youth. Printed by Henry Blake, & Co. Keene, New-Hampshire. M, DCC, XCIII." 12 p., 12mo., original plain blue wrappers. Ours seems to be the only recorded copy of this edition.

This narrative is especially important for its first-hand account of the defeat of General St. Clair at the battle of Miami on November 4, 1791 but the story of the author's previous capture and escape from the Indians and his rescue of another prisoner are classics of frontier adventure. Of the baker's dozen of editions of this narrative, we now have four as well as three more as published with the eight editions of the Manheim captivity. The recorded editions are as follows:

- Lexington, Ky., 1791. Known only from the imprint of the Providence, 1793 edition.
- Boston, 1793. BM, F. C. DEERING, NEWBERRY
- Concord, 1793. Evans 25666
- Keene, 1793. AAS
- Newburyport, 1793. 12 p.
- Newburyport, 1793. 30 p. LC
- Providence, 1793. LC
- Windsor, 1793. AAS, NYPL
- Walpole, 1795. AAS, HCL
- Schenectady, 1797. Evans 32322
- Salem, 1802. Tapley, p. 384
- Greenfield, 1816. AAS, NYPL, NEWBERRY, WLC
- Exeter, n.d. F. C. DEERING
- Same, published with the Manheim captivity:
- [Exeter], 1793. F. C. DEERING, NYPL, NEWBERRY
- Philadelphia, 1794. AAS, LC, MHS, JCB, NYPL, NYSL, NEWBERRY
- Newport [1798-9?] Terry sale, part 3, no. 180
- Boston, 1799. LC
- [Leominster] Chapman Whitecomb (1800?). AAS, LEOMINSTER PL, NEWBERRY
- Philadelphia, 1800. AAS, BA, F. C. DEERING, LC, NYPL, NEWBERRY
- Bennington, 1802. Sabin, 44258
- New York, 1929 as *Magazine of History*, Extra Number 152
- This narrative also appears in the collections of Loudon, McClung, McKnight and Pritts.

Stories of virtuous females in distress have always appealed to our sentimental, thrill-loving ancestors and when one of them happened to fall into the hands of pirates and live to tell of it, her story was eagerly seized upon—the reader, no doubt, hoping for the worst. A popular thriller of this type was Lucretia Parker's "Piratical barbarity or the female captive," which tells the story of the capture by pirates of the sloop *Eliza-Ann* on a voyage to Antigua in 1825. The entire crew of ten was slaughtered but the too soft-hearted pirate chief set Miss Parker ashore on the island of Cuba. She took ship for Jamaica and on arriving there found that the pirates had in the meantime been captured and thrown into jail on suspicion. At the invitation of the authorities she promptly identified them and insured their execution by telling the gory details of the fate of the *Eliza-Ann*. She did not, however, accept their invitation to witness the subsequent hanging, but sailed at once for her brother's in Antigua. Then she wrote all the details to another brother, presumably the G[eorge] G. Parker whose name appears in the imprint, and he promptly turned her story into cash by printing the letter, with embellishments, in the pamphlet we are discussing.

Three of the four located editions are in our collection and also a folio broadside, purporting to have been written by the heroine, which tells the story of her adventures in verse. The various editions are as follows:

New York, Printed by S. Walker for G. G. Parker [1825]. 36p., folding woodcut frontispiece showing the murder of the crew of the *Eliza-Ann*. AAS, BPL, LC, Sabin 58670

Providence, Printed [by S. Walker of New York from the type of the first edition] for W. Avery, 1825. Same collation and front. LC

New-York—Printed by S. Walker for G. G. Parker. 1826. Same collation and front. AAS

Providence—Printed [by S. Walker of New York from the type of the first edition] for Z. S. Crosman. 1826. Same collation and plate. AAS

The broadside is described as follows:

Piratical barbarity. [same woodcut, with caption title, as in the pamphlets] [Row of 10 woodcut coffins, representing the crew of the sloop] Lines composed by Miss Lucretia Parker [etc., 2 lines]. [Poem in 38 four line verses in three columns] [New York: S. Walker, 1825-6]. 11½ by 18½ inches. AAS

One of the rarest narratives of the mutiny of the Ship *Globe*, the story of which Mr. Stephen W. Phillips told us in such interesting fashion last year, is the "Life of Samuel Comstock, the terrible whaleman," written by his brother William Comstock. An equally scarce and even less known volume by the same author (a New York newspaper man, born on Nantucket and familiar since boyhood with the whaling industry) is: "A voyage to the Pacific, descriptive of the customs, usages and sufferings on board of Nantucket whale-ships. [Cut of a ship] Written by William Comstock. [4 lines quoted] Boston: Published by Oliver L. Perkins, 62 Cornhill. Printed at the Seamen's Journal Office, by Joseph S. Hart, 1838" 72 p., 12mo., original yellow printed wrappers. This is a story in novel form of the adventures of a whaling voyage. It gives, in brief compass, a vivid picture of the life of a whaler, for those who lack the patience to wade through the fat volume of "Moby Dick," but it is particularly interesting for its incidental use of the story of the mutiny of the *Globe*. In this story the whaler speaks the *Globe* in mid-ocean while in the hands of the mutineers and sees her again in the harbor of Valparaiso after her recapture. This very rare sea story was sent to us by Mr. Charles H. Taylor, thus adding another choice item to the scores of books on the sea which he has presented to this library, one of the finest of which is an uncut copy in the original boards, of Lay and Hussey's "narrative" of the *Globe* mutiny, published in New London in 1828.

FROM THE DESK OF JEFFERSON DAVIS

When the Union army occupied the capital of the Confederacy in 1865 and a Northern staff of civil

officials took temporary charge of the running of affairs in Virginia, Miss Lucy Chase, daughter of Anthony Chase of Worcester, and aunt of Mrs. T. Hovey Gage, was among those who took over the offices of President Jefferson Davis and the home of Governor Henry A. Wise of Virginia. Miss Chase rescued some of the papers left behind in these offices and they have just been given to us by Mr. Gage. Among them there are about a hundred letters and manuscripts from the office of Governor Wise, 26 very rare examples of Confederate printing, most of which are not represented in the Boston Athenæum Confederate collection, taken from the private office of Jefferson Davis; 34 Confederate printed blanks and forms, including two or three muster rolls; about a hundred Confederate bonds, bills and (no longer) negotiable paper; and many miscellaneous southern publications of the Reconstruction period; a bundle of early Norfolk lottery tickets and about 70 duplicate Confederate imprints. This interesting and valuable collection includes such rare Confederate imprints as Jefferson Davis' own copies of several of his printed messages, the Confederate statutes at large of 1862, the "Directory of the [Confederate] House of Representatives" and the Richmond "City intelligencer; or, stranger's guide. By V. & C." Richmond, 1862, which gives a full list of Confederate States of America and Virginia officials and miscellaneous information about the city. All of these papers had been discarded by the Confederate officials when they abandoned the offices.

A GENEALOGICAL RARITY

The first national interest in American history in general and in local and family history in particular came as a result of the celebration of our Centennial in 1876. The average citizen then became conscious of his historic past and local and family histories have flooded the country from that day to this. Conse-

quently, genealogies of an earlier date are uncommon and those before 1820 are of great rarity.

We have had for some years the first American genealogy, that of the Stebbins family, published in 1771, but this year a new one came our way which does not seem to be in any of the great genealogical collections. Since it has not been described and since our copy contains an inscription identifying the author and date of publication, it may be worth mentioning. It is a chart, $17\frac{1}{2}$ by $22\frac{1}{4}$ inches in size, showing seven generations of the Turner family, and has this caption title:

A genealogical table of the family of, and descendants from Humphrey Turner, who came from Essex, in England, and settled at Scituate, in the Colony of New-Plymouth, about the year 1630; brought with him four children, and had four afterwards."

There is no author's name given and no imprint, but there is a footnote referring to one of the Charles Turners in the chart which reads: "By whom the foregoing table was collected and arranged." Turning to Samuel Deane's "History of Scituate," p. 361, we find the further statement that "there is extant a genealogical table [of the Humphrey Turner family] prepared by Hon. Charles Turner, jr." On the back of the chart is the contemporary inscription: "Given to L. B.[aldwin] by Mr. [Charles] Turner a member of General Court from Scituate. Jan 1804."

Charles Turner, Jr. (1760-1839) was Lieutenant Colonel of Massachusetts Militia; was at various times member of both houses of the Massachusetts Legislature and Member of Congress. Since the inscription is dated Jan. 1804, it is probable that the chart was printed in Boston (there was no printer in Scituate at the time) late in 1803 or early in 1804.

THE FRUGAL HOUSEWIFE

One of the local delicacies with which New Englanders like to regale their visiting friends when they

take them to luncheon at Mr. Ford's Wayside Inn is baked Indian pudding. Since not everyone can visit that famous old tavern and enjoy its real Yankee food, it might be interesting to have your own cook try our baked Indian pudding on the family at home. The recipe is simple and here it is:

"One quart of boiled milk to five spoonfuls of Indian meal, one gill of molasses, and salt to your taste; putting it in the oven to bake when it is cold."

Then serve it hot, with a dab of ice-cream for a crown and you have a royal dish from simple and inexpensive ingredients. Or, since Thanksgiving is approaching, you might prefer a real New England pumpkin pie. Here is how it is made:

"Take the pumpkin and peel the rind off, then stew it until it is quite soft, and put thereto one pint of pumpkin, one pint of milk, one glass of malaga wine, one glass of rosewater, if you like it, seven eggs, half a pound of fresh butter, one small nutmeg, and sugar and salt to your taste."

These are but two of the delicious recipes to be found in "The frugal housewife, or complete woman cook. . . ." New York: G. & R. Waite, 1803, 216, [8] p., 12mo., a copy of which we now have in our almost complete collection of early American cook-books. Originally written by an Englishwoman, Susannah Carter, this justly famous cookbook was reprinted in Boston in 1772 with two plates by Paul Revere. The recipes just quoted are taken from the appendix which contains, according to the title page, "Several new receipts adapted to the American mode of cooking." This was the second American cookbook of which a copy has survived the thumbing of greasy-fingered kitchen maids, and it appeared in half a dozen editions, all of which are now in our collection. (Boston, 1772, New York, 1790, 1792, Philadelphia, 1796, 1802, New York, 1803.) The last edition, of which we have recently secured the only recorded copy, is not mentioned in Mr. Lincoln's "Bibliography of American cookery books."

ALOHA OE

Our excellent Hawaiian collection received a number of additions this year including an unusually fine copy of a little volume from the early Mission Press which is interesting for several reasons. In the first place, it was written by Rev. Hiram Bingham, pioneer missionary to the islands and the ancestor of our member of the same name; it is a valuable addition to our already large collection of catechisms and it is an extremely rare example of early printing in the native language. It is the second of three editions (the others having appeared in 1831 and 1864) and is the first to be illustrated. Though printing was established in Hawaii in 1822, the first two presses were pitifully small and inadequate and few substantial volumes were published until the coming of a new press and printer and more liberal financial aid in 1832, the year this volume was printed, and two years before the establishment of the first Hawaiian newspaper. The title is as follows: "He ninauhoike no ka mooolelo o ka palapapa hemolele. . . . Oahu: Na na misionari i pai. 1832." This may be translated: "A scripture catechism, containing a historical survey of the prominent events recorded in the Bible. . . . Honolulu: At the Mission Press. 1832." 216 p., illus., 12mo., original full leather. We already had a copy of the first edition of the previous year and a considerable number of earlier and later publications from this extremely interesting press. We are grateful to Mr. Foster Stearns for the gift of this interesting volume.

MANUSCRIPTS

A valuable collection of papers from the estate of Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris, Corresponding Secretary of our Society from its foundation until 1831, has been received as the gift of his granddaughter, Miss Elizabeth Harris of Cambridge. There are 10 autograph letters of Isaiah Thomas on the affairs of the

Society, written between 1822 and 1825; correspondence with members of the Society, including 15 letters and manuscripts; seven original manuscripts, presumably by Samuel Mather; 4 historical and archeological manuscripts of Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris and 12 miscellaneous printed pamphlets and an engraved map of the Western Reserve.

The personal letter book of Jonathan Trumbull Smith, of Hartford and New York, from 1825 to 1855, containing about 150 letters from his family and friends, was purchased this year. Its principal interest is in the collection of sixteen letters written by his foster brother, John Ingalls, from the gold mines and frontier towns of California between the years 1849 and 1853. Written by a lively, intelligent observer who was at various times a merchant in San Francisco and Sacramento and a miner at Hangtown, later known as Placerville, the letters are a distinct contribution to California history and we are planning to include them in an early issue of our Proceedings.

On one of her last visits to our Library, the late Mrs. Charles F. Marble (Annie Russell Marble), the biographer of Isaiah Thomas and author of a shelf of authoritative books on American literature and history, brought to us a treasured collection of 54 letters which had been written to her by the leading authors of the country during the past quarter century. We acknowledge this generous gift with sincere thanks mixed with sorrow that we have lost one of our best friends and most appreciative readers.

COPPERPLATES

NATHANIEL HURD

When we can add a new bookplate to our collection from the burin of the prolific eighteenth-century Boston goldsmith and engraver, Nathaniel Hurd (1730-1777), we consider ourselves very fortunate. This year we secured the unique armorial plate of

John Murray, signed "N. Hurd Scp^t," thus adding one more to our outstanding collection of the work of this early engraver.

The active years of Hurd's life as an engraver were from 1749 to 1777 and within this period of little more than a quarter of a century he did a prodigious amount of work, much of which can never be credited to him since it is unsigned. Many of his copperplates and bookplates, however, were signed and others are so decidedly in his style that they may be attributed to him with some confidence. The fact that Stauffer only described five of his coppers and Fielding only three more, including one bookplate, is eloquent of the need for a thorough study of his work. Allen in his "American bookplates," only mentioned 27 by Hurd and no better list exists in print today. It is therefore surprising that our print collection contains a hundred of his engravings, nearly all of them heraldic bookplates. It is interesting that so many coats of arms were in use in colonial New England and we cannot but wonder what manual of heraldry Hurd and his clients used or where they secured the heraldic designs which he reproduced, since they do not seem to follow the contemporary English heraldic manuals. The proposed volume on Hurd now being compiled by Hollis French will doubtless solve many of our problems regarding this interesting early engraver.

Since our collection is so excellent and a checklist of Hurd's engravings so obviously needed, we are glad to give below a preliminary listing of such of his work as we have in our print room, together with the titles of a few of his coppers not yet in our collection.

CHECKLIST OF ENGRAVINGS BY NATHANIEL HURD

Georgius III Rex [port. in circle] The Right Honourable William Pitt [port. in circle] Major General James Wolfe. The British Hero. [port. in circle] Britons Behold The Best of Kings. [etc., 13 lines] Nathaniel Hurd Sculp. 1762. 5¾ by 4½ inches. Hand colored, in contemporary frame. Fielding describes from adv. in *Bost. Eve. Post*, Dec. 27, 1762, but located no copy. AAS

- [Harvard commencement dance invitation of 1767. Modern restrike from original copper]. Mr. [Thomas] Bernard & Mr. [Edward] Oxnard present their compliments to . . . [Signed at lower right:] N. Hurd Sc.p. [1767]. $4\frac{1}{4}$ by $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches. AAS
- Joseph Sewall . . . Engrav'd & Sold by Nat Hurd Boston. 1768. AAS, MHS, NYPL. The original copper is at MHS. Stauffer 1476
- [Massachusetts bill of exchange, 1762] AAS
- [Massachusetts commission, circa 1771. Filled in with date 1773. Signed:] Nathl Hurd Sc. [in ornamental initial B]. AAS 2 copies, MHS, Stauffer 1478
- Philip Godfrid Kast . . . [Trade card of Salem druggist, with his full length sign at left. Circa 1774. Signed at lower right:] Nat. Hurd. Sculp. $7\frac{3}{4}$ by $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches. AAS
- Courtship and Marriage. [Two verses at top. Reversible caricature of heads of man and woman. Two verses at bottom. Signed under caricature:] Engrav'd & Sold by Nat. Hurd Boston. [n.d.] 9 by $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches. AAS
- [Tables of coins, giving weights and values. No title. Emblematic figures above. Signed below at left:] Engrav'd Printed & Sold by Natl Hurd. [n.d.] $6\frac{1}{2}$ by $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches. AAS
- Dr. Seth Hudson, 1762. BPL, WORC ART MUSEUM, Stauffer 1475; Colonial Soc. of Mass., Pubs. Vol. 25, 1924, p. 40-43; with reproduction; reproduced in Murrell's American Graphic Humor.
- Massachusetts loan certificate, 1762. Stauffer 1479
- Masonic blank. [n.d.]
- Dial for a mariner's compass. YALE. (Photo at AAS)
- Ziphon Thayer advertisement. WORCESTER ART MUSEUM, Fielding 741
- Joseph Palmer trade card. Boston [n.d.]. Reproduced, from G. F. Dow original, in *Old-Time New England*, April, 1936, p. 121.
- Tree of liberty. [Caricature]. [For sale by Hurd but not engraved by him. Advertised by Hurd in *Bost. Eve. Post*, Nov. 4, 1765, but engraved by Wilkinson of Philadelphia. Described at length in *Bost. News Letter*, Nov. 7, 1765. BA has bound with file of *Bost. Eve. Post* for 1765. Murrell's *American Graphic Humor*, no. 20.
- The Revd. Jonathan Mayhew. Richd Jennys pinxt & Fecit . . . Printed & Sold [but not engraved] by Nat Hurd . . . [circa 1774]. AAS. Jennys also engraved a mezzotint of Hurd from an oil portrait by Copley, known by a lithograph by Pendleton, published with an article on Hurd in *New England Magazine*, Vol. 3, 1832. An unfinished oil portrait of Hurd by Copley (head only) was owned in 1910 by one of Hurd's descendants, Nathaniel Furness, of Tarrytown, N. Y. This may have been the original, owned in 1832 by a descendant then living in Medford, Mass., from which the Richard Jennys, Jr. mezzotint was made. There is a very fine bust portrait of Hurd by Copley in the Cleveland Art Museum.

HERALDIC BOOKPLATES BY HURD
(All in AAS unless otherwise noted)

- Alleyne, Thomas. Signed: N. H. Sculp.
- Apthorp, Steph. Signed: N. Hurd Sc.
- Atkinson, George. Signed: N. Hurd Scp.
- Atkinson, Theodore. Signed: N. Hurd.
- Brown, Thos. Signed: N. Hurd.
- Campbell, John. Dartmouth College. Not in AAS. See Bost. Mus. of Fine Arts. Cat. Exhibit. Early Engr. 1904.
- Chandler, John, Junr. Esqr. Signed: N. Hurd. (Printed in black.) (Same, in red.)
- Chandler, Rufus. Signed: N. Hurd. (In blue.) Also in NYPL
- Child, Thomas. Unsigned but Allen 160 attributes to Hurd.
- Courtenay, Henry, Esqr. Unsigned but Allen 184 attributes to Hurd.
- Dana, Francis. Signed: N.H. (AAS has an early and a late impression)
- Dana, J. Freeman. Same as previous plate but with *Francis* erased and *J. Freeman* added with pen and ink
- Dana, Richard Henry (Son of Francis). Same plate with: "No.," owner's name and signature of N. H. entirely erased and with "A.D. 1569" printed in place of "No." and with "Richard Henry Dana" printed from script type
- Dana, Richard Henry. Same plate with date and owner's name printed from different type and with bracket for No. in upper right corner erased
- Dana, Edmund Trowbridge. Same plate with previous name erased and: "Edmund Trowbridge Dana" printed in script
- Dana, Edmund Trowbridge. Same plate re-engraved by another artist with motto separated as two words instead of as one word as in original plate. There are three states: First state: Proof on yellow paper before addition of "Dana." Second state: Proof on glazed white paper with "Dana" printed. Third state: Finished print
- Danforth [Samuel?]. Signed: N. H.
- De Blois, Lew[i]s. Signed: Nathaniel Hurd. [circa 1749, date of signed inscription of De Blois in book from which this plate was taken]
- De Blois, Geo. Same plate with "Lew[i]s De Blois" erased and with "Geo: Deblois" inserted in pen and ink
- Dering, Thomas. Signed: N. Hurd Sculp 1749. (Photograph only at AAS) Armorial. Same, Thomas erased and replaced by Hen^y L.
- Dering, Thomas 17 (Photograph only at AAS from copy in same book as previous plate.) Crest in circle, unsigned
- Dering, N. H. The Thomas Dering armorial plate with the "Thomas" erased and "N. H." added with pen and ink
- Dering, Nicoll H. The Thomas Dering armorial bookplate with name of owner, signature of engraver and date erased from plate and the name of "Nicoll H. Dering" engraved in
- Dering, Nicoll H. Same design re-engraved by a modern artist, with motto added above name, which is in old English

- Dumaresque, Philip. Signed: N. Hurd. Sculp. Not in AAS. Allen 236
- Foster, Isaac. Signed: N. Hurd. (in black. Also another impression in blue)
- Green, Francis. Signed: N. Hurd Sculp.
- Green, Francis Cushing. Same plate as above (or modern replica?) with name and signature erased and "Francis Cushing Green" engraved beneath
- Greene, Benjamin. Signed: N. H.
- Greene, Benjamin, 1757. Signed: N. H. Same plate as above, with date added. AAS has 1 original impression and 2 modern restrikes
- Greene, Thomas, Junr. Signed: N. Hurd Sep. Not in AAS. Allen 330
- Greenleaf, William. Signed: N. Hurd
- Greenleaf, William, Junr. Same plate as above, with "Junr." added
- Hale, Robert, Esqr. of Beverly. Signed: N. Hurd
- Harvard—Detur. Signed: N. Hurd Boston. Also at NYPL
- Harvard—Ex dono. Signed: N. Hurd Boston. Also at NYPL
- Harvard—The gift of. Signed: N. Hurd Boston
- Harvard—[in blank] (in red)
- Harvard—[in blank] (in black). Also at NYPL
- Harvard—Hancock (in red)
- Harvard—Hancock (in black)
- Harvard—Shapleigh (in red)
- Harvard—Shapleigh (in black)
- Harvard—Thorndike (in black)
- Hoar, Richard. Unsigned in the copper but with inscription written in with pen and ink: "Hurd Sep 1752." Also photograph of another impression in which the signature and date seem to be in the copper, but perhaps a photograph of our original with the signature lettered in by hand.
- Holyoke, Edward Augustus. Not signed but attributed to Hurd by Allen 385. However, Marshall thought this plate more likely the work of Thomas Johnston
- Hooper, Joseph. Signed: N. Hurd Sep.
- Hooper, Stephen. Signed: N. Hurd Sc.
- Hooper, William. Signed: N. H.
- Hubbard, William. Signed: N. Hurd, Sculp.
- Hurd, Name of. Unsigned but Allen 401 thought it an early work of Hurd's for himself or some member of his family. Our copy has written below it in ink: "Isaac Hurd's 1812."
- Jackson, Jonathan. Signed: N. Hurd
- Jenkins, Robert, Senr. Signed: N. Hurd
- Jenkins, Lewis. Same plate with "Robert" erased and "Lewis" added with pen and ink
- Jenkins, Mary. Same plate as above, with "Mary" added with pen and ink
- Johnson, Thomas. Unsigned but in the style of Hurd
- Livingston, Peter R. Signed: N. Hurd Sep. Not in AAS. Allen 497.
- Loring, John J. Unsigned but in the style of Hurd
- Lowell, John. Signed: N. Hurd.

- Marchant, Henry. Signed: N. H. (in black)
Marchant, Henry. Signed: N. H. (in blue)
Marston, John. Signed: N. Hurd (in black). Also at NYPL
Marston, John. Signed: N. Hurd (in red)
Miller, Jo. Signed: N. Hurd
Miller, Joseph. Signed: N. Hurd Boston
Murray, John. Signed: N. Hurd Sept.
Newton, Lucretia E. See under Williams, John C.
Oliver, Andrew. Has been incorrectly attributed to Hurd. Was engraved by Paul Revere
Osborne, Samuel. Signed: N. Hurd. Not in AAS. Allen 628
Pace, Henry. Signed: N. Hurd
Palmer, Thomas. Signed: N. Hurd
Phillips Academy. Unsigned but attributed by Allen 674 to Hurd. AAS has original, restrike and modern copy
[Potter, Wm. T.] Unsigned but same design and coat of arms as the Thomas Greene plate, with motto added. No name engraved on plate but "Wm T. Potter" added below with pen and ink
Price, Ezekiel. Unsigned but attributed to Hurd by Allen 700
Rogers, Nathaniel. Signed: N. H. Sep.
Simpson, Jonathan. Unsigned but attributed to Hurd by Allen 783 (in black)
Simpson, Jonathan. Unsigned but attributed to Hurd by Allen 783 (in green)
Smith, William. Unsigned but attributed to Hurd by Allen 803.
Spooner. Signed: N. Hurd. Two examples in AAS, one with the name "John J." written in before "Spooner," and the other with the name "Joshua" written in
Tracey, Nathaniel. Signed: N. H.
Tyler, Andrew. Signed: N. H.
Vassall, Henry. Signed: N. Hurd (in black)
Vassall, Henry. Signed: N. Hurd (in blue)
Vassall, John. Unsigned but attributed to Hurd by Allen 888. First state, without shaded background; second state, with shaded background (in black); same (in blue)
Vassall, John. Same plate as above, re-engraved, with British flag at stern of ship in crest. Unsigned, but in the style of Hurd
Walker, Edward. Unsigned, but in the style of Hurd
Wentworth, Signed: N. Hurd
Wentworth, John. Same plate as above, but with "John" added before "Wentworth" with pen and ink
Wentworth, John 3d. Same plate as above but with "John" added before "Wentworth" and "ter." added after the name with pen and ink
Williams, Henry. Unsigned but in the style of Hurd
Williams, Henr. Am. Unsigned but in the style of Hurd
Williams, John C. Motto: "Pauca respexi pauciora despexi." Signed: N. H. NYPL also has either this or the following plate

Williams, John C. Motto: "Cognosce occasionem." Signed: N. H.

Newton, Lucretia E. The above plate with the names of Williams and N. H. erased and the name of "Lucretia E. Newton" printed in from type

Wilson, David. Unsigned but undoubtedly by Hurd. Allen 946 describes this plate under the name of James Wilson. He probably confused the name with that of his David Wilson plate, Allen 945. He attributes it to Hurd.

We have recently secured from a Connecticut collector an interesting original copper of a portrait of Rev. Jonathan Bird (1746/7-1813), Yale 1768. He was both preacher and physician and lived most of his life in Berlin, Conn., though he also spent some years in Canaan, Conn. and Conway, Mass. He published four or five separate sermons and was at work on a collected edition of his sermons when he died. They appeared at Hartford the year following his death, in a 12mo of 372 pages. This collection and four of his separate sermons are in our Library. In 1805 he employed Abner Reed (1771-1866), born in South Windsor, Conn. but working at the time in Hartford, to engrave his portrait. From Reed's diary for 1799-1805, later owned by Henry R. Stiles, the historian of Windsor, we learn that he engraved this portrait though it was unsigned. Under date of March 7, 1805 we find the entry: "Begun J. Bird's likeness."; on the 8th: "Finished J. Bird's likeness"; on the 15th: "Fixed J. Bird's likeness"; on the 16th: "Altered J. Bird's likeness" and under the same date the memorandum: "Jonathan Bird. A.M. Dr. for engraving likeness and printing 3 dozen \$6.00."

This engraving is not recorded in Stauffer or Fielding and has not been attributed to Abner Reed. It is in the manner of Reed's other portraits however, a head and shoulders in profile, looking left, executed in stipple in an oval $2\frac{3}{4}$ by $2\frac{1}{8}$ inches in size, on a plate measuring 4 by 3 inches, with the name engraved beneath: "Jonathan Bird, A.M." We have an impression from this copper on thick paper which may well be one of the original three dozen printed by Reed. We also have an impression on thinner paper as a frontis-

piece to his Sermons published in 1814, a separate of the same removed from a copy of the book, and a modern restrike on old paper, made recently by the collector from whom we secured the original copper, and from whom the Yale University Library secured Bird's original Yale diploma, his manuscript sermons and letters.

During his lifetime, the distinguished New Haven bookplate engraver, William F. Hopson, took a keen interest in helping us build up our collection of the bookplates which he had designed and engraved. This past year we have been very fortunate, through the generous aid of Mrs. Hopson and of Mr. Andrew Keogh of the Yale Library, in making this important collection virtually complete. It is probable that there is no better collection anywhere, except for that formerly owned by the artist himself, which is, very appropriately, to find a permanent home in the Yale Library.

We have also received as the gift of the English bookplate collector, Mr. Ambrose C. Potter of London, and through the courtesy of Mr. Eben Francis Thompson, a fine collection of 58 American bookplates, including five each by Hopson and Spenceley. Mr. Charles H. Taylor has also remembered our bookplate collection by the presentation of the original copper of his beautiful Bird-French plate, together with the first proofs from it, signed by the engraver. No mention of our bookplate collection would be complete without recording the continued generosity of Rev. Herbert E. Lombard, who on his frequent visits to the Library, seldom appears without several important additions to our collection.

Mr. Lombard has also enriched our fine collection of early American valentines by the addition of 100 new patterns. It is appropriate that we should form a collection of these charming bits of lace paper sentiment, for Worcester is the home of the valentine and they are still manufactured here in the establishment which has continued the business begun many years

ago by the deft fingers of a little lady of old-time Worcester.

We have a collection of many thousands of American historic views, street scenes and pictures of buildings with an interesting past. Many new views were added this year, including some 300 which came as a single gift.

WINSLOW HOMER

There is a deserved and growing interest in the works of the distinguished American artist, Winslow Homer, and though his paintings have been described and his book and magazine illustrations listed, little has been done to record his work as a designer of lithographs.

Homer began work for J. H. Bufford, a Boston lithographer in 1855 and it is probable that much of his earlier work was unsigned. We have two pieces of sheet music with covers which he illustrated, and two later collections of Civil War sketches, made in the field while he was employed to illustrate *Harper's Weekly*, both of which collections are rare. As a slight contribution to a checklist of Homer's lithographs, we submit the following titles from our collection:

LITHOGRAPHS BY WINSLOW HOMER

- "National songs of America [The Star Spangled Banner] [Three vignettes, showing battle scene, harvesting, capitol at Washington, with allegorical figures] Arranged for the piano forte by Francis H. Brown. . . ." Boston: Oliver Ditson. J. H. Bufford's Lith. [cop. 1856]. Signed: "W H." 5 p., 4to.
- "The wheelbarrow polka. . . ." [View of Major Ben. Perley Poore wheeling a wheelbarrow in payment of an election bet] Boston: Oliver Ditson. J. H. Bufford's Lith. Signed: "W H." [cop. 1856]. 5 p., 4to.
- "Campaign sketches." Lith & pub. by Prang & Co. Boston, Mass. [1863?]. Set of six 4to plates without general title but individually titled as follows: The baggage train; The coffee call; Foraging; The letter from home; Our jolly cook; A pass time. All signed with initials or surname.
- "Life in camp Part 1 [2] Published by L. Prang & Co. Boston." [cop. 1864]. [Title from lithographed envelopes]. Two sets of 12 colored lithographed carte de visite size cards, the first card of set 1 signed: "W H."

GIFTS FROM OUR FRIENDS

From the estate of Eben Putnam we have received a further gift of 875 volumes and 3080 pamphlets and a considerable amount of manuscript material mainly relating to New England local history and genealogy.

Mr. George T. Watkins has continued his previous generous gifts to our library of books on the old west and the Mormons by the addition of 32 books and 33 pamphlets.

Certain of our most loyal friends have formed the laudable habit of giving regularly to the Library, either individual books which are greatly needed but too expensive for our purse, or whole auto loads of books, pamphlets and periodicals, salvaged from their own libraries and attics or from those of their friends. Though their gifts are not individually mentioned here, we wish, once more, to acknowledge with gratitude the continued generosity of:

Mr. George Sumner Barton, Mr. John Stewart Bryan, Miss Harriet E. Clarke, Mr. Edward F. Coffin, Dr. Homer Gage, Mr. T. Hovey Gage, Mr. Charles E. Goodspeed, Mr. Francis Russell Hart, Mr. George H. Haynes, Mr. Matt B. Jones, Mr. William Vail Kellen, Mr. Herbert E. Lombard, Mr. Douglas C. McMurtrie, Mr. Thomas O. Mabbott, Mr. Victor Hugo Paltsits, Mr. Arthur P. Rugg, Mr. Foster Stearns, Mr. Wilbur Macey Stone, Mr. Thomas W. Streeter, Mr. Charles H. Taylor, Mr. Henry R. Wagner, Mr. Reginald Washburn and Mr. George T. Watkins.

THE CARE OF THE LIBRARY

It is encouraging to be able to report real progress in the preparation and cataloguing of our collections, in spite of the need of a more adequate permanent staff. The more important new material has been fully catalogued and time has been found to complete the cataloguing of the Hunnewell Collection of Illustrated Americana, the first edition collection through the

works of Bret Harte, and the large accumulation of some hundreds of almanacs. The dated pamphlet collection is now completely catalogued through the year 1807 and the old collection of pamphlet volumes, which were broken up some time ago, has been one-third re-catalogued, thus making this important block of early material adequately available for the first time.

Through the assistance of 14 clerical workers supplied through the WPA, we have been able to accomplish several large and important tasks. Three of this temporary staff have at last completed the huge task of cataloguing our collection of newspapers printed after 1820 and have not only supplied us with a card catalogue of this collection but have furnished a complete record of our holdings for publication in the national newspaper census now available in published form under the title of "The Union List of Newspapers." So, for the first time, our great collection of 18,000 volumes of newspapers is completely and accurately catalogued. Another group of three assistants has continued the valuable project of indexing the biographical sketches and obituaries in the *Boston Transcript*. This index, in typed form, now covers 55,000 entries for the years 1875 through 1900, and is a mine of otherwise inaccessible information for the historian and biographer.

Another group of four clerical workers has completed the making of one card for each of our 40,000 pieces of early American sheet music and is about to begin typing the four or five additional subject cards necessary to supply us with a complete catalogue by composer, author, title, first line, subject and illustrator. Still another worker from this group has given excellent service in her task of arranging incoming manuscript collections and in indexing certain important manuscript groups. Another of this staff has arranged in geographical and chronological order our large duplicate book and pamphlet collection, preparatory to our offering it for sale and exchange. Two others

have arranged geographically our collection of 8,000 American views; and the one man on the project has made over 3,000 neatly lettered folders for the clean and orderly preservation of the unbound portion of our newspaper collection.

By the employment of a part of our special gifts fund, we were able to engage an additional assistant during the summer months whose keen interest, intelligence and accuracy has finally completed the huge task of arranging in geographical and subject order our collection of 35,000 stereoscopic views. We should like to remark here, that Mr. Charles H. Taylor's continued interest in this collection has added over 2,000 new views during the twelvemonth. About 4,000 have also been received through a fortunate exchange of duplicates with a private collector of these historically important three-dimensional pictorial records.

Since the appointment of Mr. Theron J. Damon, the new Curator of Manuscripts, Maps and Prints, he has completely cleared up a several years' accumulation of incoming material in the Map and Print Room; he has sorted and arranged two very large manuscript collections and has begun a systematic rechecking of our manuscripts, bringing to light unsuspected treasures and putting in their proper place many items which had become lost through inaccurate filing. Here again, thorough knowledge plus enthusiastic interest promises much for the orderly care of one of the most important divisions of the library.

The bindery, in addition to the covering of current newspapers and periodicals, has made steady and satisfactory progress in the restoration of old bindings, the rebinding of early material, the mending and mounting of maps, prints and broadsides. The work of rescuing from destruction the early town records of West Boylston was satisfactorily accomplished in our bindery this year. These original manuscript records, covering the period between 1809 and 1930, had been seriously damaged by fire, water, smoke and mildew

as a result of the burning of the local town hall where they were stored. They have now been cleaned, silked, repaired and bound and will last, barring further disasters, for hundreds of years.

In addition to the writing of the new Guidebook of the Society, your librarian has found time to deliver nine addresses and papers in Worcester and other parts of Massachusetts and Rhode Island and he has also written several articles and book reviews, all of which he hopes serves the useful purpose of making our Society and its Library better known abroad.

The staff of the library, though saddened by the loss of one of its members, is glad that two permanent new members have come to share the task of making our resources more easily available to the public. It is a satisfaction to know that our Manuscript Room is once more to have a curator and that the stacks are not to be without an efficient custodian. In spite of these two valuable replacements, our Library is still undermanned and, though the staff has worked efficiently and well and our one trained cataloguer has accomplished a surprising amount, we are still more than a little wistful when we look about us and see the well staffed libraries of the other comparable scholarly institutions of the country. Each year we become better known among the historians of America and each year the demands on our resources are greater. More readers visit us and we answer many more reference questions by mail than we did five years ago. Let us hope that some day—and some day very soon, we may secure a sufficient endowment to insure to us an adequate and well paid staff, so that we may make more easily available to the historical students of the country the rich resources within our all too crowded walls.

Respectfully submitted,
R. W. G. VAIL,
Librarian

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