

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN

*"We were reported to burn with such desire for books, and especially old ones, that it was more easy for any man to gain our favor by means of books than of money."*¹

THE Library of the American Antiquarian Society is a scholar's library. It has grown to its present size and importance very largely through the gifts of scholars, each of whom has made the collecting of books in some one subject a lifelong avocation.

Each of these famous collectors wished to place his library where it would be carefully preserved for all time, where it would be administered by experts and made useful to appreciative and discriminating scholars.

They did not wish their collections, on which they had lavished time, money, and years of study, to be scattered to oblivion on the wings of an auction or placed in an institution where they might be subject to neglect and indifference, to the whims of political influence or careless administration; to the destructive and unappreciative use of immature students or the curious public.

For these reasons they brought their treasures to the American Antiquarian Society, where they remain as monuments to the scholarship of the donors, where they are forever assured the intelligent care they merit, and where they are of daily use to the world of American scholarship.

This great national historical library is no mausoleum. It is used, sooner or later, by every prominent

¹This and the following quotations are from "The Philobiblon" of Richard de Bury 1344, the first English treatise on the care of books.

student here or abroad who is interested in the fields of American history, bibliography, biography, geography, travel, literature, and the graphic arts. Its rich resources number more than a million pieces, and in scores of specific subjects its collections are unsurpassed.

This Library needs many more privately assembled, specialized collections, accompanied by endowments adequate to their maintenance and enlargement, so that it may continue to keep up with the ever increasing demands on its resources.

A USEFUL LIBRARY

"All of both sexes and of every rank or position who had any kind of association with books, could most easily open by their knocking the door of our heart."

The continued use of our Library by scholars is the only barometer by which we may know whether we are embarked on a fair and fruitful voyage. During the year now closing we have found more readers to serve and more thousands of reference letters to answer than ever before, so we may safely conclude that the course we are steering is one of usefulness and the cargo we carry is one for which there is a ready market.

Our clientele of historians, college professors, bibliographers, and graduate students continues to come from all parts of the country and from abroad. England, France, Canada, and Porto Rico are among the addresses to be found in our register, while students from Texas to the State of Washington and from Louisiana to Nova Scotia have kept the grass from growing on the path to our doorstep.

Let us glance over the shoulders of a few of our readers and see something of their varied interests. An author from Louisiana is deep in a study of the history of the theatres of New Orleans, while next to him, a man from Maine is poring over a volume of newspapers in a search for references to the lumber industry in that state between 1820 and 1861. Another is looking for

early booksellers' advertisements, while a fourth is examining our great collection of early music for selections by Haydn published in America before 1850.

A graduate student from Columbia is making a careful study of the sermons of our seventeenth century New England clergy, while a famous author is gathering first hand information on the scandals of our capitol in 1859 to be used as the background for a historical novel. Biographers are at work on the lives of famous folk as different as Noah Webster and Edgar Allan Poe, Joel Barlow and Herman Melville, Thomas Holley Chivers and Elihu Burritt. One reader wishes to learn all he can of Paul Revere's career as a dentist, and another is anxiously following the development of navigation on the Mississippi between 1820 and 1860.

A graduate student is assembling material for his thesis on the part taken by the Indians in the War of 1812, and another is following the intricate political tangle behind the separation of Maine from Massachusetts. Bibliographers are busily compiling lists of the publications of Miss Alcott, of Cooper, Irving, Poe, Longfellow, and Whittier. Others are interested in early printing in various states or in early textbooks of law or bookkeeping. A professor from Cambridge is greatly pleased with the multitude of riches which he finds for his study of the seventeenth and eighteenth century textbooks used at Harvard, while another is searching our shelves for English books printed before 1640 for the new edition of Pollard's "Short Title Catalogue."

Another reader wishes to know the part played by European culture in the history of colonial Philadelphia; and a mid-western professor is deep in a study of the evolution of the duties of the nineteenth century city school superintendent. A historian scans the contemporary newspapers for American opinion on the Canadian rebellion of 1837 and another is interested in the tribulations of the French emigrés who fled to America during the French Revolution. Another

westerner wants the history of the Wells Fargo Express Company, and a Columbia professor searches the local papers for contemporary accounts of Emerson's lecture tours. An artist needs a picture of a Revolutionary uniform, and a reader from the West Indies wishes material on the early families of those islands. And so the ever varied requests of American scholars prove to us the usefulness of a library such as ours.

STEADY GROWTH

"Let us now proceed to relate the manifold opportunities through which we have been assisted by the divine goodness in the acquisition of books."

Another depression year has brought to light even more desirable material than was offered to us a year ago and the prices asked have in many cases been surprisingly low. As a result we have been able, even with our sadly depleted finances, to place on our shelves hundreds of volumes of great rarity and scholarly importance. Our purchases represent, however, only a small fraction of the wonderful material which we wanted to buy and our correspondence files are full of letters of regret which we were compelled to write rejecting the most tempting of offers—offers so low that we knew that, in our generation, such opportunities would never come again. The total of our accessions is, however, not a little gratifying:

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| Books | 7,216 |
| Pamphlets | 9,456 |
| Engravings, maps, manuscripts, etc. | 11,424 |
| Miscellaneous unbound newspapers | 2,653 |

or a total of 30,749 accessions for the year, including several large collections of manuscripts and views which have not been itemized in the total count. This year's accessions bring the total of bound volumes to

205,129, and of pamphlets to 318,281, a total of 523,410 titles in the library exclusive of more than a half million of manuscripts, engravings, maps, broadsides, etc.

IMPORTANT ACCESSIONS

"There flowed in, instead of presents and guerdons, and instead of gifts and jewels, soiled tracts and battered codices, gladsome alike to our eye and heart."

In examining a selection of the more interesting volumes received during the year, we cannot do better than begin with a brief mention of the greatest book in the English speaking world, which you will no doubt agree is the first edition of the King James Bible, known to bibliographers as the Great He Bible, the name which distinguishes it from its second edition, known as the Great She Bible. This magnificent volume was printed in London by Robert Barker in 1611 and it is safe to say that not a half dozen copies could be located in America today. We have also received, as the gift of Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, a copy of the Book of Common Prayer of the Protestant Episcopal Church, printed by D. B. Updike at the Merrymount Press in 1930—an outstanding example of the art of the modern printer.

The more important newspaper files secured during the year are listed below, including seven very desirable eighteenth century runs and the two rare Lowell papers, the "Middlesex Standard," edited by Whittier, and the equally rare "Voice of Industry." Much progress was made during the year in completing our sets of periodicals and learned society publications. We were especially fortunate in completing our file of the "Pennsylvania Magazine," 1775-1776, edited by Tom Paine and containing many rare maps and historical engravings as well as the first periodical publication of the Declaration of Independence. We were also able virtually to complete the equally rare "New York

Magazine," 1790-1795 which is also notable for its early copperplates.

The list of the longer files of newspapers acquired is as follows:

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT GAZETTE, 1788-1789
MIDDLETOWN, MIDDLESEX GAZETTE, 1806-1809
WASHINGTON CITY WEEKLY GAZETTE, 1816-1817
BALTIMORE, FEDERAL REPUBLICAN, 1809-1810
KENNEBUNK, WEEKLY VISITOR, 1812-1813
PORTLAND TRANSCRIPT, 1841-1842
PORTLAND TRIBUNE, 1842-1843
WISCASSET, LINCOLN INTELLIGENCER, 1827-1828
BOSTON, FLAG OF OUR UNION, 1848-1849, 1866-1867
BOSTON HERALD, 1895-1906
BOSTON PILOT, 1841
BOSTON TRANSCRIPT, 1853-1854
DEDHAM, NORFOLK REPOSITORY, 1807-1808
HAVERHILL GAZETTE, 1823, 1837-1842
HAVERHILL, MERRIMACK INTELLIGENCER, 1809-1814
LOWELL, MIDDLESEX STANDARD, 1844
LOWELL, STAR OF GENIUS, 1850-1851
LOWELL, VOICE OF INDUSTRY, 1846-1847
NANTUCKET, ISLANDER, 1842-1843
NANTUCKET WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, 1843
ROXBURY ADVERTISER, 1848-1849
SALEM MERCURY, 1831-1832
DOVER, MORNING STAR, 1836-1842
PORTSMOUTH CHRONICLE, 1869-1877
PORTSMOUTH ORACLE, 1802-1805
NEWARK, CENTINEL OF FREEDOM, 1796-1799
NEW YORK EVENING POST, 1905-1907
NEW YORK HERALD, 1895-1909
NEW YORK WEEKLY MUSEUM, 1788-1789, 1794-1799, 1811-1814
PHILADELPHIA, AURORA, 1805
PHILADELPHIA MINERVA, 1796-1798
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA LEDGER, 1778
PHILADELPHIA PUBLIC LEDGER, 1836-1837
PHILADELPHIA, UNIVERSAL GAZETTE, 1798-1801
PHILADELPHIA, WEEKLY MONITOR, 1804
RICHMOND, CONSTITUTIONAL WHIG, 1828, 1831
RICHMOND, DAILY WHIG, 1829-1830
RICHMOND ENQUIRER, 1817-1834
RICHMOND, SOUTHERN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, 1863
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA PATRIOT, 1810-1815
QUEBEC GAZETTE, 1811

FIRST EDITIONS

"The novelties of the moderns were never disagreeable to our desires."

Our splendid collection of American literary first editions has continued to grow rapidly during the past year. Many hundreds of titles have been added and at a surprisingly small cost. Through fortunate purchase and the continued generosity of our friends we were able to secure among many other famous first editions the following: Miss Alcott's "Little Women," Cooper's "Deerslayer" and "Imagination," the exceedingly rare first issue of Mark Twain's first book "The celebrated jumping frog of Calaveras County" and Bret Harte's equally rare "The luck of Roaring Camp," the two latter coming as the gift of Mr. Chandler Bullock. We have been able to complete our set of the first issues of the seven original parts of Irving's "Sketch book." We have also secured Roosevelt's first book, "The Naval War of 1812," Melville's "Pierre," and the first English edition of his first book, "Typee," which completes our set of the first editions of this author; and last, but by no means least or easiest to secure in genuine first edition, "Peck's bad boy and his pa" and T. S. Arthur's "Ten nights in a bar room."

Fortunately for us, American collectors have not yet fully appreciated the delightful possibilities of gathering the first and early American editions of the great British classics which form such an important part of our cultural background. Our library has always been rich in this field, and we are steadily adding important titles. Last year we reported having secured a copy of Charles Lamb's "Mrs. Leicester's school" in its first American edition, and this year we have been even more fortunate, for we have added, through the gift of two of our members, copies of the first American edition of Lamb's "Poetry for children," Boston, 1812 and the second series of his "Elia"

essays, Philadelphia, 1828. The latter is a splendid copy in the original boards, uncut, and is of particular interest because it is the real first edition, having appeared five years before the first English edition.

This year's fishing also brought to our net two new juvenile editions of Fielding's "Tom Jones," neither of which was recorded by Evans. We now have five early American editions of this charming toy book with its quaint cuts and gay paper wrappers: Worcester, 1787 (first Worcester edition); Boston, 1791; Worcester, 1794 (third Worcester edition); and Worcester, 1799 (fourth Worcester edition), as well as the more complete Boston edition of 1797. There are still more of these fish in the sea, however, for at least five other eighteenth century American editions are recorded.

GOLDSMITH IN AMERICA

"We have always desired with more undoubting avidity to investigate the well-tested labors of the ancients."

Few eighteenth century British authors were better loved in America than Oliver Goldsmith, and the purchase, this year, of his "Deserted Village," Philadelphia, 1782, and "Goody two shoes," Wilmington, 1796, tempted your librarian to examine the other eighteenth century American editions of his works on our shelves. Eleven different titles were discovered with a total of twenty-four of the forty-three known editions, which is indeed a good showing when we consider that there are a dozen editions of which no copies seem to have survived, though they are known from contemporary advertisements. Among these early works on our shelves are what are probably the first American editions of Goldsmith's "Citizen of the world," "Vicar of Wakefield," and "The Traveller." Of the more famous titles, we have four of the seven editions of "The Deserted village," two of eight editions of "Goody Two Shoes," one of three of "She stoops to conquer," and five out of nine of the

“Vicar of Wakefield.” A more or less complete list of eighteenth century American editions of Goldsmith follows:

- Abridgement of the history of England. Philadelphia, 1795. AAS.
 Beauties of Goldsmith. Philadelphia, 1797. AAS.
 Citizen of the world. Albany, 1794. AAS.
 Deserted village. Philadelphia, 1771. Title from Evans. Henkels sale, July 13, 1921, No. 102 and other sales.
 Philadelphia, 1782. AAS.
 Springfield, 1783. AAS.
 Philadelphia, 1786. Title from Evans. No copy located.
 Boston, 1790 (In Mrs. Burke's "Ela"). AAS.
 Boston, 1793. AAS.
 Hartford, 1793. Title from Evans. No copy located.
 Edwin and Angelina. New York, 1797. (Acting edition adapted by E. H. Smith for use as an opera.) AAS.
 History of the earth. Philadelphia, 1795. 4 vols. AAS.
 History of Goody Two Shoes. New York: Hugh Gaine, 1774. (Adv. in Gaine, 1774 ed. of "Robinson Crusoe.")
 New York, 1775. NYPL.
 Philadelphia, 1776. Title from Evans. No copy located.
 New York, 1785. Title from Evans. No copy located.
 Philadelphia, 1786. Title from Evans. No copy located.
 Worcester, 1787. AAS.
 Philadelphia, 1793. (In Evans under 1794.) WMS.
 Wilmington, 1796. AAS. WMS.
 Charlestown, 1797. Title from Evans.
 Miscellaneous works. Boston, 1793. AAS.
 Philadelphia, 1794. Title from Evans. No copy located.
 Brookfield, 1795. AAS.
 Poems. London: Printed for Berry and Rogers, No. 35, Hanover Square, New York. 1785. AAS.
 Philadelphia, 1791. AAS.
 Roman history. Philadelphia, 1795. AAS.
 Philadelphia, 1798. AAS.
 She stoops to conquer. Philadelphia, 1773. Two editions. Titles from Evans. No copies located.
 New York, 1773. Title from Evans. No copy located.
 Boston, [1794]. Acting edition. AAS.
 Traveller. Philadelphia, 1768. Two issues, both in AAS. One issued separately; the other, though with a separate title and pagination, was issued with "The Poetical Works of Lady Mary Wortley Montague . . . her letters . . . The Traveller . . . By Oliver Goldsmith, M. B. London: Printed for Charles Thomson," MDCCLXIX. 57, 24 p., front. engr. by J. Smither. Though its

main title has a London imprint, it was printed in Philadelphia by Robert Bell, according to Evans and Stauffer. James Smither, the engraver of the frontispiece, was employed by Bell at this time. It is, therefore, probable that both issues of the "Traveller" of this year were printed by Bell.

Traveller. Philadelphia, 1786. Title from Evans. No copy located.

Vicar of Wakefield. Philadelphia, 1772. AAS.

Philadelphia, 1773. Title from Evans. No copy located.

Newburyport, [1780]. Title from Evans. Anderson sale, January 20, 1919, No. 449 and other sales.

Norwich, 1791. AAS. Not in Evans.

Philadelphia, 1791. AAS.

Providence, 1792. AAS.

Philadelphia, 1794. Title from Evans. No copy located.

Philadelphia, 1795. Title from Evans. Anderson sale, January 26, 1925, No. 201.

Worcester, 1795. AAS.

EARLY POETRY

"And if he have found profit in poetry . . . he will not have done amiss."

Two years ago Oscar Wegelin published the second edition of his bibliography of early American poetry from 1650 to 1820, which lists 1377 titles and includes a majority of the volumes of verse written by Americans during the first two centuries of our history. In checking over this volume a few days ago I was pleasantly surprised to find that our library contains 645 or almost half of the titles listed.¹ When we remember that scores of these titles have not survived to our day, and that in many cases only a single copy has been preserved, it is somewhat surprising that any library could have had the good fortune to secure half of the total output.

We never could have made such a splendid showing were it not for the enthusiastic zeal of our own members who, knowing our keen interest in this field, have sent to us, especially during the last year, many rare and often unique additions to our collection. Mr.

¹The 1931-32 report of the library of Brown University credits their Harris collection of American Poetry with 594 titles within the same limits.

Matt B. Jones has been particularly interested in this subject and spent a large part of his vacation excavating from unpromising shops all over New England and New York the rare and unusual bits of poetry, and quaint broadside ballads which he knew would delight us and through us the many students of early American literature who use our collections.

Perhaps you will bear with me if I speak for a few moments, not of a five foot shelf of books of early poetry, but of a mere three inches of verse, which came in since our last report. One of the earliest poetical volumes published in the South was Samuel Davies' "Miscellaneous poems, chiefly on Divine subjects." . . . Williamsburg: William Hunter, 1751. The author at the time of the publication of this volume was a Presbyterian minister in Hanover, Virginia. A few years later he was selected to solicit funds in Great Britain for the College of New Jersey, later to be called Princeton. He was remarkably successful, not only in securing financial aid for the struggling college, but in establishing his own reputation as the most eloquent American pulpit orator of his time. In 1759 Davies became the fourth president of the college which he had so successfully aided, a position which he held until his death in 1761, at the early age of thirty-eight. Though Davies' published sermons are familiar to students, this volume of poems seems to be almost unknown to bibliographers, though there are also copies in the Boston Public Library and Brown University.

"Poems moral and divine," . . . By an American gentleman. London, 1756, is also extremely rare, though there is another copy at Brown University. It contains "The prince and the patriot: a poem in three dialogues," which Wegelin calls "one of the earliest plays written by an American." In this well phrased satire on the political corruption of the English court, the Patriot gives the Prince a good deal of sound advice including one couplet which has a familiar ring:

One gen'rous act more solid comfort brings,
Than all the pomp and pageantry of kings.

Perhaps some one well versed in the identification of familiar quotations can tell us who wrote these lines and thus identify the anonymous author of the volume.

We have an excellent collection of negro literature in our library, but none of it is more interesting than the works of the famous slave poet, Phillis Wheatley. Heartman's bibliography of her writings lists forty-three titles, twenty-three of which are on our shelves, including the hitherto undescribed edition of her "Poems on various subjects, religious and moral" . . . Philadelphia: Reprinted, and sold by Joseph Crukshank . . . MDCCLXXXIX (1789). 66, [2] p., 12mo.

Another interesting negro item is "A pinkster ode for the year 1803 . . . By . . . Absalom Aimwell, Esq." Albany, 1803. It is a friendly satire on the contemporary custom of giving the negro servants a special holiday of their own at Whitsuntide. This poem of Pinkster Day gives us many interesting glimpses into the life of the Albany slaves of the period. Wegelin located no copy and ours seems to be unique.

Last year's report mentioned the acquisition of an unique edition of Major Andre's "Cow chase," and we have now another rare item relating to the unfortunate spy. It is Miss Anna Seward's "Monody on Major Andre," published at Philadelphia by Enoch Story, probably in 1789. Hildeburn, followed by Sabin and Evans, assigns the date 1782 to this edition, but it is probable that he lived at the address given in the imprint only in the year 1789. There is a second copy of this edition in the New York Historical Society. There is also a copy of this edition in Sabin and another in Heartman's auction of February 9, 1924, with only forty-seven pages. Our copy contains on pages 49-56 an additional poem: "Edmund," by Miss Sophia Lee which was apparently an afterthought and not included in all copies of the volume. We also have at least a half dozen other editions of this famous elegy.

The Revolutionary War inspired many of the poets of the time, among them Benjamin Young Prime, whose intensely patriotic poem: "Columbia's glory, or British pride humbled" . . . New York, 1791, has just been received from Mr. Jones.

Mr. Jones has also just secured for us two interesting anonymous satirical poems which were originally bound together. They seem to have issued from the same press and may very well have been from the same pen, though there is no hint of author or printer on their titles. They are "The Albaniad, an epic poem, in three cantos; by Pilgarlic, Printed for the author," 1791. 24 p., 12mo. (other copies in NYHS and RIHS); and "The glass; or, speculation: a poem. . . . New-York: Printed for the author." 1791 12 p. 12mo. (other copies in BU and NYHS). Both of these poems seem appropriate to our own times, for the former is a satire on the campaigns of the rival political parties of the day in the old city of Albany and the latter a biting attack on the speculators of the period after the Revolution when everyone, wishing to recoup his fallen fortunes, plunged into wild speculations of all kinds, with as much abandon and lack of judgment as his descendants have shown in more recent years. Of particular interest is the author's reference to the then current speculation in the new lands of Western New York, the lands recently wrested by force of arms, by clever treaty, and by the bribery of private buyers from the reluctant hands of the once powerful Iroquois. In these speculations began the westward movement of the people of New England who secured farms or townships around the present cities of Albany, Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo from the commissioners of forfeiture who had for sale the splendid confiscated manors of the Tory leaders of the Hudson valley, from the Revolutionary soldier-owners of the Military Tract, and from the Phelps and Gorham and the Holland Purchases. The author pays his respects to the land gamblers of his day as follows:

But not alone in notes they speculate,
They grasp all property within the state;
From where the Hudson in the ocean strays,
Up to the forests of the Genesees,
All confiscations, and all vacant lands,
Become the plunder of their grasping hands;
Thousands of acres sold off all at once,
As their wise lord, some hopeful lubber, owns;
Townships and counties purchased in a lot,
Some two or three long-headed chaps have bought;
The soldiers rights, acquired for a song,
To some of those famed bargainers belong;
These into baronies and manors made,
Shall well reward each speculating blade.

A famous and once popular poem of quite a different type is Joel Barlow's "Hasty pudding," the Salem, 1799 edition of which we secured this year, making ours the only complete set of the eight eighteenth century editions recorded by Wegelin. How many of us, remembering our boyhood days, could join with the famous Yale wit and Revolutionary poet in saying:

I sing the sweets I know, the charms I feel,
My morning insense, and my evening meal;
The sweets of Hasty-Pudding. Come, dear bowl,
Glide o'er my palate, and inspire my soul.

BROADSIDE BALLADS

"Where dost thou chiefly lie hidden, O most elect treasure! and where shall thirsting souls discover thee?"

From the day when Isaiah Thomas walked into Nathaniel Coverly's shop in Boston and bought copies of all the ballad sheets he had in stock, our library has been interested in this fascinating and ephemeral form of poetry. Only in the similarly published caricatures of the day can we so well reconstruct the feelings of our ancestors during the stirring times of our early wars and political campaigns. During the past year Mr. Jones has been very fortunate in finding for us several of these scarce broadside poems, while others have come from Mr. Taylor or from other sources.

Only a half dozen of these old ballads can be mentioned here. The most important are the two Revolutionary poems by the patriotic preacher, Elisha Rich. Wegelin credits him with two poetical pamphlets and three broadsides, and all are now in our collection except the 1776 broadside on the siege of Boston, the only copy of which is in the Boston Public Library. The two other broadsides were issued on a single sheet, as we know from the undivided pair now in the Chapin Library at Williams College, but the other known copies are all separate. The first of these is entitled: "A poem on the bloody engagement that was fought on Bunker's Hill in Charlestown New England . . . By Elisha Rich, minister of the Gospel . . . Chelmsford: Printed and sold by Nathaniel Coverly, 1775." It consists of twenty-six stanzas of very patriotic but very bad verse and the only other located copies are in the New York Historical Society and at Williams. The other ballad by Rich which we received this year is "Poetical remarks upon the fight at the Boston lighthouse which happen'd between a party of troops belonging to the United Colonies, commanded by Major Tupper, and a number of Regulars." It has the same imprint as the other and is signed "E. R." It consists of twenty-six verses fully as lame-footed as those in the previous ballad. "This fight, occurring on July 31, 1775, was one of several skirmishes which had for their purpose the cutting off of supplies to the British encamped in Boston. The lighthouse was destroyed. When an attempt was made by Tory carpenters and a guard of marines to rebuild it, American volunteers, commanded by Major Tupper, killed or captured all of the workmen. General Washington praised the volunteers for their valor." The Boston Public Library and Williams College have the only other recorded copies of this ballad and the former, like ours, is slightly defective.

The third of our ballad sheets celebrates in thirteen verses the exploits of the United States Frigate

Commodore Rogers which had just returned to New York after a successful foray against the British merchantmen during the War of 1812. Like so many other ballads of its period, it was printed by Coverly of Boston. On the back of the ballad is another called "The prentice boy." One curious broadsheet is particularly interesting because it has a different imprint on each side. It is "The duel: or an affair of honor settled by a peaceable quarrel. Alias—The battle of the frogs!" It has the imprint: "Providence, (R. I.) Printed for Thomas Flang." On the verso of the sheet are two ballads: "The downhill of life, together with the Wounded Hussar." This side of the sheet has the imprint: "Printed for N. Coverly, No. 16, Milk-street, Boston." It may have been a printer's proof sheet, set up in some Providence printing office, on which the printer ran off proofs of ballads destined for two different customers.

Another War of 1812 ballad might be called an American "Danny Deever" for it records the fate of a sailor from Admiral Perry's brig *Niagara* who had fought gallantly in the Battle of Lake Erie only to be shot later on as a deserter. It is entitled: "The mournful tragedy of James Bird" and all of its twenty-two verses were to be sung to the tune of "The Tempest." It has no imprint and may have been printed a few years after the war for it has a former owner's name and the date 1821 written on the back.

Many a strange religious sect has come out of Rhode Island, but one of the most interesting was that headed by Jemima Wilkinson who finally left Rhode Island with her followers in the last years of the eighteenth century and founded a pioneer settlement, which she called New Jerusalem, in the woods on the shores of Keuka Lake in Western New York, not far from the present town of Penn Yan. According to her own account she died and an angel occupied her body and, under the name of The Universal Friend, led her followers in their pilgrimage into the wilderness.

After her reincarnation, Jemima invariably spoke of herself as *The Universal Friend* and never used her own name again except in the making of her will, where both names appear.

A broadside ballad purporting to give her own account of her reincarnation was added to our collection this year. It is entitled: "A wonderful dream. By Miss Jemima Wilkinson, a sleeping preacher." In spite of its title, this long poem of sixty-eight verses was not by the lady herself, for she would never have used her own name in anything she wrote and the story as given in the poem is not at all as she recorded it elsewhere. The broadside is without imprint or date, but probably was printed after her death. Jemima Wilkinson was the author of two pamphlets setting forth her religious beliefs: "Some considerations, propounded to the several sorts and sects of professors of this age." [Providence: Bennett Wheeler] "Printed in the year MDCCLXXIX." (1779). 94 p., 8vo. 100 copies printed. Sabin records three copies in addition to ours. Of her: "The Universal Friend's advice, to those of the same religious society . . . Philadelphia: Printed by Francis Bailey . . . MDCCLXXXIV" (1784), only one copy is known and that is owned by a descendant of one of her followers, while another owns the original manuscript of it. This pamphlet was reprinted as: "The Public Universal Friend . . . [Colophon:] Printed by A. H. Bennett, in Penn Yan" . . . 1821. 8 p., 12mo., a photostat made from the unique original in a private collection being in our library.

We were very much interested in finding hidden away among our broadsides, not long ago, a copy of the first printing of the words of S. F. Smith's "America." It appeared, along with the words of three other hymns, in the program of a "Celebration of American independence, by the Boston Sabbath School Union, at Park Street Church, July 4, 1831." It is a curious commentary on the fallibility of the human memory

that the author himself and all later musical historians made the mistake of dating the first public use of the famous hymn a year later than its actual first appearance, but the dated program of the meeting, backed by an account in the *Christian Watchman* for July 8, 1831, prove that the celebration at which America was first sung took place on July 4th of that year. It is also worth noting that the program prints the five verses of the hymn as recorded in the original manuscript preserved by the author, whereas all later publications omit the original third verse. There is another copy of this broadside in the Chapin Library at Williams College.

EARLY DRAMA AND FICTION

"But in truth we wanted manuscripts not moneyscripts: we loved codices more than florins, and preferred slender pamphlets to pampered palfreys."

Scores of new and interesting titles were added during the year to our remarkable collection of early American dramatic literature. David Belasco's collection of 150 plays printed in the United States between 1803 and 1833 was secured, greatly enriching our collection of dramatic literature by native American authors as well as our early American editions of the British and Continental drama. The addition of another edition to our group of plays by the Revolutionary dramatist John Leacock gives us all three of the 1776 editions of his "The fall of British tyranny" recorded by Wegelin, including those printed at Boston, Philadelphia and Providence. The compiler of a new bibliography of early American plays, recently spent considerable time in examining our collection and found many titles new to him and a large number of editions of which he had no previous record.

Interest in early American fiction is steadily growing not only among specialized students in our universities, but also among book collectors. As a result of this

increased interest, we have found many of our readers turning to our collection of early novels during the year, thus justifying our activities in this field. Some mention was made in last year's report of the amazing popularity of the writings of Mrs. Susanna Rowson and especially of her "Charlotte Temple," the first American best-seller. In that report it was recorded that our library contained forty-six editions of that popular novel. A little intensive collecting has now raised our total to ninety-one editions out of the hundred and sixty that are known. Of the total output of this prolific writer our library now contains a hundred and thirty-one of the two hundred and fifty-two editions of her various works, our nearest rival, the New York Public Library, having but fifty-two, with Harvard and the Library of Congress coming third with thirty-five each. Perhaps the rarest of Mrs. Rowson's works to be secured this year was the first edition of her "Inquisitor," London, 1788, of which there are but three known copies. A bibliography of Mrs. Rowson's writings will be found in Volume 42 of our *Proceedings*.

Mrs. Hannah Foster's "Coquette" has often been compared with "Charlotte Temple," for both are founded on the lives of unfortunate young ladies whose love affairs proved their undoing. "The Coquette," based on the story of Elizabeth Whitman, is in many ways superior in its workmanship to Mrs. Rowson's earlier novel, but it was far less popular. There are nineteen recorded editions of "The Coquette," but there are doubtless others still unrecorded. The first edition appeared in Boston in 1797 and the second, almost equally rare, in Charlestown in 1802. A copy of the latter was placed on our shelves this year, giving us five editions: Charlestown, 1802; Newburyport, 1811; Exeter, 1828; Boston, 1833; and Boston, 1855.

Another American novel which went through many editions in the early days was Isaac Mitchell's "The asylum; or, Alonzo and Melissa. An American tale,"

first published in Poughkeepsie in 1811. Though the scene was laid in Connecticut and the hero was a Yale student, the treatment of the novel was in the manner of Mrs. Radcliffe and a survival of the gothic school of English fiction of the previous century. Its descriptions of natural scenery were excellent, however, and since its plot was laid during the Revolution, the patriotism of the hero doubtless accounted for its popularity in spite of its stilted and unnatural style and character portrayal. The first edition, of which we have a fine copy in boards, uncut, is the only one with the original title or with the author's name on the title page. All later editions are called: "Alonzo and Melissa, or the unfeeling father" and Daniel Jackson, Jr. is given as the author. In all but the first edition the text is revised and corrected. This year we added three editions to our collection, those of Boston, 1842; Portland, 1837, and an undated edition printed in New York in the 1850s, giving us a total of ten editions: Poughkeepsie, 1811; Brattleboro, 1824; Exeter, 1828; Exeter, 1831; Sandbornton, 1835 and 1836; Portland, 1837; Boston, 1842; Hartford, 1853; and New York [1850-1855].

JUVENILES

"There are delightful libraries, more aromatic than stores of spicery."

No annual record of our juveniles is ever complete without mentioning the "New England Primer" of which we added fourteen new editions this year, swelling our total to two hundred and eighty-five. It gave us a special thrill to secure the Boston, 1762 edition, of which the only other copy is in the Huntington Library. We also secured the Boston [1790-92] edition, published by White and Cambridge, of which Heartman records four copies. The complete list of editions recently secured is as follows: Boston, 1762; Boston [1790-92]; Boston [1796-1800]; New York, 1801; Charlestown, 1802; Philadelphia, 1802, Massa-

chusetts, 1810; Boston, 1812; New Haven, 1825; New Haven, 1838; Trenton, 1846; Boston, n.d.; Groton, n.d.; and Rutland, n.d.

The most famous of all rules for polite conduct are, of course, those found in "Lord Chesterfield's letters to his son." This work, under various titles, appeared in the United States between 1775 and 1816 in at least thirty-five editions. Several new editions were picked up for our library this year, and it is gratifying to find that we now have twenty-five.

Another famous book of deportment was Eleazer Moody's "The school of good manners," of which we secured the hitherto unrecorded Boston, 1775 edition this year. We now have seven early editions and lack only one recorded by Evans, that printed in Troy in 1795, which is in the John Carter Brown Library. Our collection now includes: Boston, 1775; Portland, 1786; Hartford, 1787; Windsor, 1793 (17th edition); Boston, 1794; and Boston [1796]. The little book was still being published as late as 1829 when Simeon Ide printed an edition in Windsor.

Last year we reported that our splendid collection of "Robinson Crusoe" had reached a total of seventy-nine editions. We now have ninety-one different copies, including the very rare German edition printed in Philadelphia by Carl Cist in 1788. This is probably the seventh American edition and its only known brother is in the rare book room of the New York Public Library. Another early but undated eighteenth century edition of the "History of the Holy Jesus" also joined our collection of juveniles this year, as well as an unique copy of the "History of Master Jackey and Miss Harriot," published in Boston about 1789-1790.

Dean Swift's "Gulliver's Travels" does not seem to have found much favor in the early days of our republic, even in abridged editions. We were able during the twelvemonth, however, to find a copy of the "History of Captain Gulliver," Boston, 1794, of which the Library of Congress and Mr. Wilbur Macey

Stone have the other recorded copies. This we can now put on the shelf next to our New York, [1793] edition and the first Dutch edition (which, however, was printed in French), printed at the Hague in 1727, a year after the first English edition. An even more widely read boy's book of the eighteenth century was Thomas Day's "History of Sandford and Merton." This year brought us a variant of this juvenile classic printed at Philadelphia in 1793. We now have two issues of this edition as well as the three other editions recorded by Evans: Philadelphia, 1788-1791; New York, 1792 (abridged); Philadelphia, 1793 (two issues); and Boston, 1796.

There is one classic of juvenile literature which has probably given more happiness to more children than any other book ever written and we may well feel grateful to Mr. Aldus Higgins for presenting to our library a fine copy of the very rare first American edition of "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," published in New York by D. Appleton and Company in 1866.

The year 1932 is the hundredth anniversary of the birth of C. C. Dodgson, better known as Lewis Carroll, the author of "Alice in Wonderland," and there have been special exhibitions in his memory this year in all parts of the English speaking world. The most notable of these exhibits is that which was held in the Library of Columbia University. This wonderful loan collection included the original manuscript of "Alice in Wonderland," the very rare first English edition, and scores of other editions of this most famous of all children's books, including translations into nearly all modern languages, from French and German to Chinese and Japanese.

Our library has wanted a copy of the first American edition of "Alice in Wonderland" for a long while, and it is most appropriate that a fine copy in the original binding came to us in this anniversary year. The story of this edition is interesting. When the first English edition of 1865, with its forty-two illustrations by Sir

John Tenniel, was printed, the author did not like the way the illustrations were reproduced. He, therefore, caused the entire first edition to be suppressed, and new cuts from the original drawings were made for the regular English trade edition, which appeared in the following year. A thousand copies of the suppressed 1865 edition were sold by the thrifty English publisher to D. Appleton & Company, of New York. The original English title page was removed and a new one with the American imprint and the date 1866 was inserted before shipment to the American publisher. The book was then offered for sale in this country, and its great popularity resulted in its almost immediately being read to pieces by the children of America. The remaining copies of the original English edition, except for a very few which the author had given to his friends, were sent to the various London children's hospitals where they were soon worn out and discarded, so that there are now only about fifteen known copies of the book with the original English title page, and even the American edition has become very scarce.

CAPTIVITIES

"In books warlike affairs are set forth."

Most of us enjoy an interesting narrative of captivity and have sat up till all hours of the night to get the Count of Monte Cristo out of his troubles. Not all of the stories of hairbreadth escapes happened in Europe, however, as we may learn by glancing over the collection of Indian captivities and other pioneer narratives which we received not long ago as the generous gift of Mr. F. C. Deering. Stories of captivity of other kinds are included in the fascinating collections recently presented by two of our other generous friends, Mr. M. B. Jones and Mr. C. H. Taylor. Here is a sample half dozen of these charming yarns:

The captivity of Benjamin Gilbert among the Seneca Indians is, next to that of Mary Jemison, the

most important account of Iroquois captivity of the Revolutionary period. We now have the third (first English) edition, printed in London in 1790 as well as the first edition, Philadelphia, 1784. During the unsettled times following the Revolution, a Pennsylvania woman, Massy Harbison, or more correctly, Mercy Herbeson, was carried into captivity while her husband was acting as a scout for Mad Anthony Wayne. Her adventures were published in Pittsburgh in 1825, 1828, 1829 and again in 1836. We had sought in vain for these rare little volumes but are now fortunate in having an excellent copy of the second edition of 1828.

Of equal interest and greater historical importance is John Niles Hubbard's "Sketches of border adventures, in the life and times of Major Moses Van Campen" . . . Bath, 1841, a copy of which has just been presented by Mr. Jones. It was first published in Dansville in the same year and was reprinted in Bath in 1842 (also in our library) and in Fillmore, N. Y. in 1893.

The Abraham Panther Indian captivity is a great rarity in any edition but none is more interesting than that printed at Leominster, Massachusetts by Charles Prentiss for Chapman Whitcomb about 1799, a copy of which we recently bought. With this addition, our collection of Chapman Whitcomb imprints now lacks but a single title of all those that are known. Of the twenty editions of this supposed captivity, which is really a bit of early American fiction, at least seven are known only from advertisements. Mr. Deering's great collection contains but five editions, the Ayer collection four and the Library of Congress and our library three each. (For full account see *The American Book Collector*, August-September, 1932, p. 165-172).

This year Mr. Taylor turned over to us his large and interesting collection of marine pamphlets, including many narratives of shipwreck and piracy. One of these is of considerable importance. It is "A narrative of the

captivity of John Fillmore, and his escape from the pirates. Printed at Portland, by B. Ticomb, Jun, 1792." 16 p., 8vo. Sabin mentions editions printed in Johnston, New York in 1806 and 1809 but omits this edition and those of Bennington, 1804 and Aurora, New York, 1837, all of which seem to have escaped the notice of other bibliographers as well. The 1804 edition, which we also secured this year, has a somewhat different title and misspells the name of the hero. It is called: "A narrative of the singular sufferings of John Fillamore and others, on board the noted pirate vessel commanded by Captain Phillips, with an account of their daring enterprise, and happy escape from the tyranny of that desperate crew, by capturing their vessel . . . Bennington: Printed by Haswell & Smead." 1804. 23 p., 12mo. This edition, which was unknown to Spargo, adds a page of introduction dated at Bennington, September, 1804, and probably written by Haswell, which states that the hero of the tale was a virtuous and industrious early settler of Bennington. Other accounts, however, state that he spent most of his life in Connecticut. (N. E. Hist. Gen. Reg., XI, p. 61-66, 141-147.) Not the least interesting thing about this story is that its hero was a great uncle of President Millard Fillmore. Our copies of the editions of 1792 and 1804 seem to be the only ones which have survived.

For many long years the pirates of the Barbary States levied tribute on the ships which sailed the Mediterranean and carried away captive to the harems of their chiefs hundreds of English and American men and women, some of whom escaped or were redeemed after years of slavery. Their pathetic adventures sometimes found their way into print and were very popular with the generation which lived just after the Revolution. That such stories still have an appeal is very evident from the popularity of the novel and motion picture "The Sea Hawk." Our library has many of the older narratives of Algerian

captivity and still another was added this year. It is entitled: "History of the captivity and sufferings of Mrs. Maria Martin, who was six years a slave in Algiers: two of which she was confined in a dark and dismal dungeon, loaded with irons, for refusing to comply with the brutal request of a Turkish officer. Written by herself. . . . Boston—Printed for W. Crary." 1807. 72 p., port., 8 vo. We now have seven editions of this interesting narrative: Boston [c 1806]; Boston, 1807; Philadelphia, 1809 and 1811; New Haven, 1812; New York, 1812; and Brookfield, 1818.

A captivity of a very different sort was John Reynolds' "Recollections of Windsor Prison" . . . Boston, 1834. 252 p., front. This is a story of the unfeeling severity of those in charge of the state prison at Windsor, Vermont, written by a man who served a considerable sentence there. It is a valuable study of prison conditions at a time when they were by no means humane. The volume is so rare that Gilman's Vermont bibliography only mentions the third edition of 1839. It is practically unknown with the frontispiece showing a view of the prison. This year brought us not only the first but also the third edition.

THE MATHERS

"They are masters who instruct us without rod or ferule."

The writings of the Mather family have always demanded a large share of attention in this library, so that ours is now the largest collection of their first and early editions extant. In addition to this we have the largest remaining portion of their private library, and most of the original oil portraits of these early worthies. We may, then, be pardoned for mentioning a few Mather items added to our collection of their writings during the year.

We have had for a long time an imperfect copy of Cotton Mather's "Ecclesiastes. The life of the Reverend & excellent Jonathan Mitchel; a pastor of the

church, and a glory of the colledge, in Cambridge, New-England . . . Massachusetts; Printed by B. Green, and J. Allen. Sold at the booksellers shops in Boston. 1697." By great good luck we found a fragment of another copy this year which furnished us with a title page for this very great rarity, of which there are only three known copies and one fragment.

We were able this year to purchase a fine and perfect copy of Cotton Mather's "Decus ac tutamen . . . New-London: Printed by T. Green," 1724. This funeral sermon on the death of Governor Gurdon Saltonstall is important because of its author, subject, and very early imprint, and is known to have survived in but ten recorded copies.

Samuel Mather's "Memoirs of the life of the late Reverend Increase Mather, D.D." . . . London, 1725 is seldom found with the portrait, but we now have a copy with this rare frontispiece, which does not seem to have been issued with all copies. This portrait was engraved in 1688 when Mather was forty-nine years old. Ours is the second impression with the date and age changed. The original copper was used for many years, with various changes in the legend.

It is not very easy to find an important early edition of one of the works of Increase Mather which we lack, but Mr. Jones discovered one this year which we did not have, and very generously presented it to us, though it left him without the item in his own choice New England collection. This volume is Increase Mather's "The order of the Gospel" . . . London, 1700. It is the first English edition, printed the same year as the first American edition.

Before leaving the Mathers, I must mention a work which has only recently come from the press, but over which I become more enthusiastic each time I turn its pages. This is Mr. Thomas James Holmes' "Increase Mather, a bibliography of his works" . . . Cleveland, 1931. 2 vols., illus., 8vo. There are only five hundred copies of this work, and it is being sold at cost. Every

scholarly library, public or private, here or in Great Britain, should have a copy. Every library school should secure it to teach its pupils what a near approach to bibliographical perfection looks like.

There have been very few bibliographies in the field of American history which have lived up to the highest standards of present day scholarship. Lawrence Wroth's "History of printing in colonial Maryland" and his last volume of the catalogue of the John Carter Brown Library had few, if any, competitors until the arrival of this Mather bibliography.

I cannot take time in this report to give an adequate review of this great work, but it is one of the most complete and finished pieces of scholarship yet produced in this country in the field of bibliography. We must pay tribute alike to the scholarship of the patient and learned author, to the generous patron who made it possible to publish the work, to the printer who helped the author with the make-up and production of the volumes, and to the gentlemen whose introductory and supplementary material did much to make this a well-nigh perfect bibliography.

There are four comparative tables at the beginning of this work which may well attract our interest, for they list the seventeen largest collections of Mather's works, and they put no library ahead of ours. The first table is based on the possession of titles in first editions only, and our library is shown as tied with that of Mr. William G. Mather, each containing seventy-nine editions.

The second table is based on the possession of first or other editions published during the author's lifetime. This table gives Mr. William G. Mather eighty-five and our library eighty-four titles, but as we have secured No. 84b of the bibliography (described above) since the work was published, we too have eighty-five titles and so are again tied with Mr. Mather. The fourth table is based on the possession of titles in any edition, and here we are credited with ninety (now

ninety-one) as against the eighty-seven of the Boston Public Library and of Mr. Mather's collection. The last table is based on the possession of any edition of Mather's works and also of fragmentary items written by him. Our library is here credited with a hundred and forty-seven (now a hundred and fifty-one) titles, while the Boston Public Library is second with a hundred and thirty-six. From these tables, it is evident that our collection of Increase Mather's works is larger than any other.

A title generally attributed to Cotton Mather but which later research seems to assign to Judge Sewall is: "Early piety; exemplified in Elizabeth Butcher . . . The fourth edition. Boston: Printed by J. Draper, for C. Harrison" . . . M,DCC,XL,I. (1741). No earlier American edition seems to have survived and the Massachusetts Historical Society has the only other copy of this edition. We also have the London, 1689 edition.

OTHER RARE AMERICANA

"All the glory of the world would be buried in oblivion, unless God had provided mortals with the remedy of books."

One of the rarest and most interesting little volumes received this year is John Smith's "The husbandman's magazene. Being a treatise of horses, mares, colts, oxen, cows, calves, sheep, swine, goats: with directions for their breeding & ordering . . . With cutts. Boston in New-England: Reprinted by John Allen, for Nicholas Boone, at the sign of the Bible in Cornhill." 1718. [4], 145, [1] p., 24mo. This is the only perfect copy of the first American book on the care of domestic animals and contains the first American pictures of the horse, bull, ram, and hog. These crude woodcuts are among the earliest of American book illustrations. There are imperfect copies of this rarity in the Huntington and New York Public Libraries, and in the private collection of Mr. F. A. Jenks. This edition was prob-

ably reprinted from the London edition of 1704 which was, in turn, a reprint of "Profit and pleasure united or the husbandman's magazine . . . By J. S., London, Printed for S. Lee," 1684, a copy of which is in the Library of Congress. Our copy of the first and probably only American edition came as the gift of Mr. Taylor.

The rarest and most interesting edition of Captain Cook's "New voyage, round the world, in the years 1768, 1769, 1770, and 1771 . . . By John Hawkesworth . . . New-York: Printed by James Rivington," 1774, has been on our shelves for many years, but a new variant has just come to hand. In the first issue the verso of p. 17 of the list of subscribers is blank while in our recently acquired copy this page contains lists of additional subscribers from New Haven and Antigua. The existence of this variant, which in other ways is identical with the first issue, has heretofore escaped the notice of bibliographers. This edition is notable for its two folding plates by Paul Revere and its folding map by B. Romans. Evans locates no copy but there is one with the added text on the verso of p. 17 in the John Carter Brown Library.

The first printed catalogue of an American public library was that compiled by Joshua Gee for Harvard College and published in 1723. A first supplement was compiled by John Hancock and printed in 1725, and a second supplement by James Diman appeared in 1735. We succeeded this year in completing this rare volume from two fragments, and so have on our shelves one of the two known perfect copies, the other being in the Massachusetts Historical Society. The copy at Harvard lacks both the supplements.

One of the rarest volumes of American incunabula is John Eliot's "The harmony of the gospels . . . Boston; Printed by John Foster, in the year 1678." Evans locates no copy, but one is owned by the New York Public Library and another by Dr. Rosenbach. Our copy has the misfortune to lack six leaves. Our

collection of colonial laws was enriched this year by the addition of a fine copy of "A journal of the General Assembly of Her Majesties colony of New-York in America. Beginning the 20th day of October," 1702. [New York: Printed by William Bradford, 1708]. The New York Public Library has the only other recorded copy. We also recently secured by exchange a long run of New York laws from 1788 to 1820, including many of considerable rarity; and a broadside copy, printed on satin, of the first edition of the inaugural address of Thomas Jefferson, printed in 1801. This is doubly interesting to us as Jefferson was one of our early members and the second of a dozen presidents of the United States, who have belonged to the American Antiquarian Society, the complete list including John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, Rutherford B. Hayes, Theodore Roosevelt, William H. Taft, Woodrow Wilson, Calvin Coolidge, and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

We are justly proud of our unique collection of almanacs, and this year has added several hundred of more or less rarity. It is indeed remarkable that we should have been so fortunate as to add six of Franklin's Poor Richard almanacs to the collection in a single year. We now have all but four of the issues of this rare and important set which were actually published by Franklin and most of the issues published in later years by his successors, having added this year the issues for 1741 through 1746, the first two being somewhat imperfect.

Other almanacs of great rarity recently secured are Leeds' American almanac for 1736, 1737, and 1743, printed by the Bradfords in New York and Philadelphia; and Taylor's Pennsylvania almanacs for 1745 and 1746, also printed by the Bradfords.

Among other important pieces of Americana, we received this year as the gift of Mr. Deering the "State of the British and French colonies in North

America" . . . London, 1755; Charles Beatty's "The journal of a two months tour; with a view of promoting religion among the frontier inhabitants" . . . London, 1768, a first edition with interesting notes on the manners and customs of the Delaware Indians; and the rare first edition of M'Afee's "History of the late war in the western country." Lexington, 1816. From Mr. Jones came the excessively rare second volume written by Ira Allen giving a "Narrative of the transactions relative to the capture of the American ship Olive Branch." [Philadelphia, 1804]. 368 p., 8vo, issued without title page. This was one of the important controversial tracts leading up to the War of 1812 and written by the founder of the State of Vermont.

Our collection of Hawaiian printing was considerably enlarged this year by the addition of thirty separate pieces and partial files of five early newspapers and periodicals, printed between 1825 and 1901, mostly products of the early Hawaiian mission press. Fourteen of these separates and all of the newspapers and periodicals came as the gift of the Hawaiian Historical Society, the others by a fortunate purchase.

It may be worth noting that we have received by exchange or gift from the Library of Congress and the Worcester Public Library a total of 2,647 city directories, making ours one of the two or three best collections in the country.

A large and important collection of early Californian and Spanish-American historical material was received as the gift of Mr. Henry R. Wagner; and fifty-six volumes and forty-four pamphlets on the early history of the pioneer days of the west came as the gift of Mr. George T. Watkins of Boston. Mr. Charles H. Taylor's many important gifts included over one thousand books and pamphlets, three hundred lithographs and engravings, and over two thousand stereoscopic views. No one in recent years has done so much towards the building up of our collections,

especially in the field of the graphic arts and in the literature of the sea. Mr. Matt. B. Jones has added over three hundred and fifty rare items to our collections of early American poetry, New England history and juvenile literature during the year, including many of the choicest items secured during the twelvemonth. From Mr. Frank C. Deering we have received twenty-eight important volumes of early Americana and Indian captivity, thus adding notably to our holdings in the field in which his private collection is the finest in the world.

As in past years, we have received scores of books and pamphlets, and hundreds of current periodicals and learned society publications from Chief Justice Rugg, Mr. T. Hovey Gage and Mr. Grenville H. Norcross. It is particularly gratifying that the latter, through his frequent gifts, keeps in helpful touch with us even though he cannot now attend our meetings.

EARLY IMPRINTS

"Amongst the mass of these things we found some . . . which when skilfully cleansed and freed from the disfiguring rust of age, deserved to be renovated into comeliness of aspect."

So many thousands of early imprints come our way that it is difficult to select any outstanding new examples. Perhaps we can find one each from different parts of the country which will illustrate this collection, which has been so useful during the past year to historians of the press. "A short history of a long travel from Babylon to Bethel the house of God" is the quaint title of a rare and early Vermont chapbook with the imprint: "Bennington: Printed by Anthony Haswell, for Thomas Spencer, and sold at his book store, a few doors north of the Low Dutch Church, Albany. M,DCC,XCIII. (1793) 35 p., 24mo. This very early Vermont imprint is unknown to Spargo's Haswell bibliography and seems to be unique. It is curious that a Vermont printer should have been

employed by an Albany bookstore, when there were at least three well established presses operating in Albany at the time.

Turning now to the south, we find John Thomson's "The letters of Curtius addressed to General Marshall, Richmond: Printed by Samuel Pleasants, Jun. December, 1798." 40 p., 16mo., one of the very early books printed in that city. No other copy of the 1798 edition of this celebrated collection of political letters is known. Our library also has another edition printed by Pleasants in 1804.

In the year 1812 the present city of Buffalo, New York was a frontier hamlet, but still it boasted a recently established printing press on which was printed "Public speeches, delivered at the Village of Buffalo, on the 6th and 8th days of July, 1812, by Hon. Erastus Granger, Indian Agent, and Red Jacket, one of the principal Chiefs and Speakers of the Seneca Nation, respecting the part the Six Nations would take in the present War against Great Britain. Buffalo: Printed and sold by S. H. & H. A. Salisbury—Sold also at the Canandaigua and Geneva Bookstores." 1812.

The importance of this piece is evident from the fact that it is the earliest Buffalo imprint and that no other item, other than a newspaper, is known to have been printed in that village prior to 1818, and only two unimportant pamphlets appeared in that year. Buffalo was burned by the British and Indians in December, 1813 and it was not rebuilt until 1815. It is probable that the burning of the town destroyed practically all copies of this work, only three having survived. There is a copy in the Buffalo Historical Society (reprinted in facsimile in their Publications, Vol. IV, 1896.) and Granger's annotated but imperfect copy is owned by one of the officers of that society.

As an historical work this item is of real importance, for it is made up of the principal speeches delivered at the critical council between the United States and the Iroquois Indians at which the latter decided to side

with the United States in the second war with Great Britain, thus saving the frontiers from the inevitable repetition of such massacres as those at Wyoming and Cherry Valley. Granger, the Government agent, and Red Jacket, the spokesman and most famous orator of the Senecas, were the principals in this council, and as a result of their eloquence the New York State Iroquois joined the United States and furnished hundreds of warriors to fight their former friends, the British, and their Indian brothers in Canada.

Our copy of this rare pamphlet belonged to Hon. John C. Spencer, of Canandaigua, who was on duty on the Niagara frontier at the time and doubtless attended the council in the capacity of Brigade Judge Advocate of New York State Militia. There are several annotations in his hand in the text. Spencer later became, in turn, Secretary of War and Secretary of the Treasury under Tyler.

The collecting of the military regulations of our various wars, as was pointed out in last year's report, has always interested this Library. This interest is due not only to the difficulty of securing these scarce volumes, but especially because it is impossible to write the story of the development of our military establishment without them. Even the historical novelist must have access to them, for it would be embarrassing if he should cause his hero to execute a military manoeuvre a hundred years before that evolution had been invented. What if he should say: "Port arms" when he should say "Poise firelock" or "advance to be recognized" instead of "advance and give the countersign?" This year added several of these military manuals to our collection, notably the unique copy of William Windham's "A plan of exercise for the militia." Boston, 1768, with the half title reading: "Second edition." 1770; and the Boston, 1781 edition of Baron Steuben's "Regulations for the order and discipline of the troops of the United States," which was unknown to Evans and of which we seem to have the only copy.



GEORGE WASHINGTON
Crayon Portrait by Thomas Sully, 1800.

Our collection of cookbooks continued to grow at a rapid pace during the year, largely due to the vigilance of Mr. Waldo Lincoln, the godfather of the collection. Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Lombard have thoughtfully added the newer United States postage stamps to the splendid collection given to us last year by Mr. Lincoln. To those of our friends who collect stamps, we would like, however, to suggest that our collection still lacks many early issues and variants.

THE GRAPHIC ARTS

"Arts and sciences, all the advantages of which no mind can enumerate, consist in books."

In the field of American graphic arts our collections are notable, chiefly through the constant addition of important lithographs and unusual engravings by Mr. Charles H. Taylor. Many fine and rare prints have also been given during the past year by Mr. Matt B. Jones and our Director. Our print collection includes everything from the copperplate and lithograph down to the lowly but useful stereoscopic view, of which we received nearly three thousand this year, and fifteen thousand historic views on post cards which were secured during the twelvemonth, largely the gift of Mr. Edward F. Coffin of Worcester.

An outstanding addition to our collection was Thomas Sully's charming colored drawing of George Washington in uniform, which now hangs in our Council Room. On the back of the drawing the artist has written the following presentation inscription: "My dear Sir, I have much pleasure in presenting you with this drawing. Sincerely your friend, Th. Sully., Oct' 23, 1800." At this time Sully, who was only seventeen years old, was studying in his brother Lawrence's studio in Norfolk, and it was during this period that he was learning to paint small portraits. His first miniature from life was painted the following year. We are indeed fortunate to have secured such an interesting

and important early example of the work of this famous portrait painter. Its reproduction as an illustration for this report cannot, of course, convey the charm of coloring of the original.

Comparatively few of the original copperplates from which Paul Revere printed his patriotic engravings exist. One of them, copied from a British original, is entitled: "The able doctor or, America swallowing the bitter draught." It represents America in the allegorical figure of an Indian lying on her back while the spout of a teapot is being forced between her teeth by a figure labeled the Boston Port Bill. Other allegorical figures stand in the background. This important tea tax cartoon was used in the "Royal American Magazine," June, 1774 and was doubtless very effective in aiding the anti-British propaganda of the day. This important original copper was presented by Mr. Brigham.

Another rare anti-British cartoon, dealing this time with the events of the War of 1812, is William Charles' "John Bull stung to agony by insects." This is one of a series of twelve cartoons dealing with John Bull's misfortunes in his second American war, all of which are of great rarity. We have four others of the series, the present one having been presented by Mr. Jones. The work of Richard Brunton is so rare that Stauffer in his checklist of early American engravings credits him with but a single title. We have several of his engravings and book plates but none more interesting than the view of a New England village with a stagecoach in the foreground which adorns a large poster advertising the stagecoach line between Boston and New York. This unique poster, like so many others of our best engravings, came from Mr. Taylor.

Nathaniel Hurd, one of the earliest native American engravers on copper, is best known for his bookplates but his name is signed to a few other well executed copperplates of the period preceding the Revolution. One of the finest of these is his portrait of George III, which bears the inscription: "Britons behold the best

of kings." This small engraving has a bust portrait of George III in a circle at the top of the plate, with a eulogistic legend beneath. On either side and somewhat below that of the king are similar portraits of William Pitt and General James Wolf. The plate is signed: "Nathaniel Hurd, Sculp. 1762." This attractive engraving has original contemporary coloring and is in a contemporary frame. It is entirely unknown and was never described before. It comes as the gift of Mr. Brigham.

One of the rarest of early American engraved portraits is that of "The most Noble Lord Timothy Dexter," the famous eccentric of Newburyport. This amusing, full-length portrait was "engraved from the Life by James Akin. Newburyport" and "Entered according to act of Congress June 1st 1805 by James Akin Newburyport. Massts. And sold by Thomas & Whipple." Our copy, which we secured this year and which measures 5 by 7 inches, seems to be the only one known with the final line of text: "And sold by Thomas & Whipple." This line may have been printed after the execution of the engraving, as the ink seems to be blacker than that of the rest of the inscription and the lettering is in Roman type and not the engraved italic used by the engraver. This engraving shows the Noble Lord with a huge cocked hat on his head and a most amazing pet dog trotting along behind him. This curious animal, which is almost as famous as its master, was doubtless a Mexican hairless dog and is described by Edmund Pearson in his study of Dexter as combining "the engaging qualities of the pig, the dachshund, and the bat." Another engraving of Dexter also in our collection, from a wax figure in the Columbian Museum, was drawn by Doyle and engraved by Wightman and appears in "Omnium Gatherum" for June, 1810. The wax figure from which this was taken was obviously inspired by Akin's engraving.

Lord Timothy Dexter is principally known to fame for his pamphlet: "A pickle for the knowing ones: or,

plain truths in a homespun dress," which was first printed for the author in 1802 and reprinted in 1805. It is notable for its total disregard of the accepted canons of spelling and punctuation, scarcely a comma or period appearing in the entire production. In some copies of the second edition he is said to have added a page of punctuation marks with which the readers "may peper and solt it as they plese." No copy with this additional leaf seems to have survived, though later editions reprint it. Our library has the following editions: [Newburyport], 1802; [Newburyport], 1805, Newburyport, 1838, 1848, 1852, 1858, 1881 and 1916. We also have: "Something new: or, memoirs . . . of Timothy Dexter." Montpelier, 1808, written by his poet laureate, Jonathan Plummer, and reprinted from a Newburyport broadside of 1806; and Samuel L. Knapp's "Life of Timothy Dexter." Boston, 1838, Newburyport, 1848, 1852, and Boston, 1858, all but the first containing the "Pickle"; and "Lord Timothy Dexter," by J. P. Marquand. New York, 1925. Mr. Edmund Pearson states that his chapter on Dexter: "An American eccentric" in "Books in black and red." New York, 1923, (which we have in our Library), was reprinted from the New York Public Library Bulletin of February, 1922, "by consent of its Editor, upon whose erudition and courtesy I need not enlarge." (The Editor, of course, was the modest Mr. Pearson himself!).

The unique set of "Twelve original designs by G. Spratt," Baltimore, 1831 is, perhaps, the most interesting current addition to our collection of lithographs. It represents the apothecary, the green grocer, etc., and is most attractive and entertaining. The set is beautifully colored and is the only known set so issued. It is one of Mr. Taylor's choicest gifts of the year.

Though a considerable number of bookplates have come to rest on our shelves this year, largely through the continued good offices of the founder of our bookplate collection, Rev. Herbert E. Lombard, the outstanding addition of the year to this collection was the

gift of six letter files of the Sidney L. Smith bookplate correspondence, presented by Miss Amy G. Smith, the daughter of the artist.

Among the new books of distinction which have been received this year are the following: Mr. T. J. Holmes' Increase Mather bibliography; Volume III of the new John Carter Brown Library catalogue; E. L. Stevenson's translation of the geography of Claudius Ptolemy, published by the New York Public Library; Mr. Harry T. Peters' "America on Stone;" Mr. I. N. Phelps Stokes' "American historic prints," also published by the New York Public Library; C. A. Hoppin's genealogy of the Washington and allied families; and Volumes X-XII of "Colonial families of America," published by the National Americana Society and presented by the publishers. We also received as the gift of the author the revised edition of Mr. Luke Vincent Lockwood's "Colonial furniture," published several years ago.

Mr. Charles Arthur Hoppin's "The Washington ancestry and records of the McClain, Johnson, and forty other colonial American families." Greenfield, Ohio: Privately printed, 1932, came as the generous gift of Mr. Edward Lee McClain for whom it was prepared. This sumptuously printed three volume work is one of the outstanding genealogies recently received, for it represents years of careful study of the difficult and confusing ancestry of George Washington and adds much to our knowledge of the Washington family and of the forty other prominent Southerners included in its beautifully printed and lavishly illustrated volumes.

THE CARE OF THE LIBRARY

"Moreover, we had always . . . copyists and scribes, binders . . . and . . . all who could usefully labor in the service of books."

The cataloguing of the library has gone forward as fast as was possible with only three people giving part

time to this work. The loss this year of one of our cataloguers, due to reduced finances, was most unfortunate, coming as it did at a time when more material was being received than ever before. In spite of having so few cataloguers, the genealogical collection has been recatalogued, according to the Library of Congress classification, down to the letter Q and the miscellaneous dated pamphlets through the year 1797. The more urgent cataloguing of incoming material has also been accomplished but thousands of titles must needs await better times and a larger staff.

The tens of thousands of pieces of sheet music in the library have at last been carefully arranged by composers and a large amount of undigested manuscript material has been made available by careful arrangement in the manuscript room. The current newspapers for 1931 have been bound and will shortly be moved to their temporary stacks in the one-time coal bin where they will wait their permanent transfer to the new stack wing which we hope may materialize within a very few years. Many sets of periodicals have been completed and bound and the bindery has repaired and rebound more of the old books, whose bindings no longer protected them, than in any other year. The bindery has also done a great deal of skillful repair work and mounting of manuscripts, broadsides, and prints, thus making a considerable portion of our collection safe for the use of future generations of American scholars.

"Moreover, every year the aforesaid keepers shall render an account to the Master of the House."

Your librarian, in addition to his regular duties, has found time during the past year to prepare for publication bibliographical studies of James Johns, the Vermont pen printer; Benjamin Gomez, the first New York Jewish bookseller; Simeon Ide, the early Vermont printer; Mrs. Susanna Rowson, early novelist; and a bibliographical essay on the Abraham Panther Indian

captivity, in addition to his editing of "Sabin's Dictionary of Books Relating to America." He has also addressed several local organizations on the history and activities of this society.

A year ago, in order to cope with the added accessions of the library, we placed a new cataloguer on our payroll, but this year our financial condition made it imperative to let this member of our staff go and to scale down the salaries of those who remained. The added burden of work fell heavily on the survivors and the increased use of the library by scholars and the heavy accessions of the last few years have meant hard work for the staff which, even in normal times, was inadequate. The same amount of work would, in most libraries, be assigned to double the number of people. The work of the library runs smoothly, however, for there is an excellent *esprit de corps* and a genuine interest in the Society among the loyal staff members who make the treasures of our Library available to the public.

Respectfully submitted,

R. W. G. VAIL,
Librarian.

"Books delight us, when prosperity smiles upon us; they comfort us inseparably when stormy fortune frowns on us."

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