

THE FELLOWSHIP OF *American*
Bibliophilic Societies

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Preserving American Bindings 🍁 Thomas Streeter Auction 🍁 Missing Bewick
Blocks in America 🍁 Curling Up with a Good Book 🍁 Club News and Notes

THE FELLOWSHIP OF AMERICAN BIBLIOPHILIC SOCIETIES is an organization whose goal is to inform member book clubs of news, events, publications, and activities that take place in the book world during the year. The *FABS Newsletter* publishes twice a year to facilitate that goal.

The *FABS Newsletter* publishes on September 1 and January 1. Member clubs are requested to have all information to the Editor thirty days in advance of the publication date, preferably in Microsoft Word as an e-mail attachment. Single subscriptions to institutions and individuals are not available at this time.

Back issues may be ordered through the Editor based on availability for the cost of shipping and handling. Submissions for articles are welcome. All correspondence should be sent to the Editor.

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The Aldus Society, Columbus, OH
www.aldussociety.com

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The John Russell Bartlett Society, Providence, RI

The Bixby Club, St. Louis, MO

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www.bccbooks.org

The Caxton Club, Chicago, IL
www.caxtonclub.org

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Fine Press Book Association, Boulder, CO
www.fourriversbooks.com

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Fontaneda Society, Fort Lauderdale, FL
www.co.broward.fl.us/liio7400.htm

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www.grolierclub.org

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www.woram.com/LIBC

Northern Ohio Bibliophilic Society, Northern Ohio
www.nobsweb.org

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www.english.upenn.edu/~traister/philo.html

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www.trfn.clpgh.org/bibliophile/index.html

The Bibliophile Society of Rochester, Rochester, NY

The Rowfant Club, Cleveland, OH

The Roxburghe Club of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA

Sacramento Book Collectors Club, Sacramento, CA

The Book Club of Texas, Lubbock, TX
www.bookclubtexas.org

The Ticknor Society, Boston, MA
www.ticknor.org

Washington Rare Book Group, Washington, DC

Book Club of Washington, Seattle, WA
www.bookclubofwashington.org

The Zamorano Club, Los Angeles, CA

Contents

- From the Chair John C. Carson, M.D. 3
- FABS in New York City 2004 Paul W. Romaine 3
- Preserving American Bindings Mindell Dubansky 4
- FABS NYC Book Tour & Symposium Agenda 5
- The Thomas Streeter Auction Geoffrey D. Smith 6
Great Auctions of the Past
- Capturing the Captivities John Neal Hoover 10
Indian Captivities and Collectors
- Missing in America William Hesterberg 14
In Search of Bewick's Lost Blocks
- Curling Up with a Good Book John Neal Hoover 17
In the Old Log Cabin
- Club News and Notes 19

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The cover image is a detail from a mid-nineteenth century engraving by Felix Darley.
Courtesy of The St. Louis Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri.

From the Chair

I'VE BEEN RESEARCHING Daniel Coit Gilman, the founding President of Johns Hopkins in 1876. My interest first stemmed from his status as the dedicatee of Sir John Osler's *Aequanimitas*, and was further fueled by admiration for what Hopkins means and has meant to scholarship and academic tradition, and by the striking parallels between Hopkins in 1876 and the University of California, San Diego, in 1960.

Gilman, the librarian of Yale College, and, as Secretary of Yale's Sheffield Scientific School, the real force behind its emergence, became, in 1872, the first President of the University of California,

Berkeley. The post had first been offered to Lincoln's "do nothing General," George B. McClellan, who turned it down.

In the course of my studies I have been welcomed and helped by librarians and archivists at the Eisenhower in Baltimore, the Bancroft at Berkeley, the Sterling in New Haven, and the archives of the Lake Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz, New York. Booksellers have helped my education: I think of Peter Stern in Boston, Priscilla Juvelis in Cambridge, Peter Howard and Nancy Kosenka in Berkeley, and Charles Goldsmid in Claremont. What a pleasure it is to work with such people!

In 1892, Gilman warned young men of the danger of losing:

The Elements of Repose
The Quiet Pursuit of Knowledge
The Friendship of Books
The Pleasures of Conversation
The Advantage of Solitude

Is this not a succinct statement of what we are all about?

The FABS Eleventh Annual Trustees meeting will be held at The Grolier Club on the afternoon of Thursday, April 15, 2001 just prior to the opening of the New York Book Fair. It's your organization and we welcome your attendance.

JOHN C. CARSON, M.D.
Chair

FABS in New York City 2004

TIMES A-WASTIN' if you want to join FABS in New York City for our 2004 Book Tour and Symposium, May 20-23. We are almost filled and will soon be creating a waiting list. Our host, The Grolier Club, America's oldest bibliophilic organization, is promising to make this year's event one of our most memorable tours. In addition you can count on Gotham, America's intellectual and financial capital, to add its unique character to this trip. New York has so much to offer booklovers beyond its libraries and collectors, its booksellers and bookshops, its publishers and book artists. We left Friday night open, but you may want to come early or stay late to see booksellers, friends, or visit more sights.

Unfortunately, there's little space in the big city, and, regrettably, our tour is being squeezed to fit those smaller spaces. On top of traditional tight spaces in Manhattan and regular security, we are living with new security procedures since 9/11. This tour, especially the on-site visits, will be strictly limited to 55 FABS Members, and preference will be given to out-of-town members. (Helpful librarians have allowed us to increase the number of

travelers.) Our receptions, dinners, and Symposium will permit greater numbers, and we will welcome friends and your traveling companions and spouses, as well as resident Grolier Club members. (You may inquire about additional cost for dinners or lunches, space permitting.) Remember that the Saturday Symposium (see below) is free and open to the public.

The tour will begin Thursday morning with a visit to Columbia University's ivy walks where we will visit Butler Library, and some of the other specialized libraries in Morningside Heights. Travelers will be able to see treasured books and manuscripts, as well as take in some of the sights of the McKim Mead campus. After lunch the Metropolitan Museum's Book Conservator, Mindell Dubansky (her column follows) will show us the conservation lab and some of the rare books and prints normally not displayed. Immediately following we will travel to the New York Academy of Medicine, which holds the world's oldest surviving cookbook, a ninth-century manuscript in Latin by Apicius, as well as the Smith Surgical Papyrus (ca. 1700 B.C., but the text is said to be older than the pyramids)

and a Middle English surgery manual (ca. 1345). Thursday evening will feature a first-ever event, a Grolier Club "Showcase," with Grolier members presenting treasures from their collections; including, Victoriana, Lapiniana, Updike-iana, and a pre-Fire history of old St. Paul's Cathedral in London, owned by Sir Christopher Wren, before he dabbled in architecture. The Grolier's own treasures from its substantial research library will also be on exhibit, such as incunables, some of the earliest bookseller and book auction catalogs in existence, manuscripts of great collectors, printers, and designers. Our tour members will have the chance to talk books over cocktails and then join us for dinner in the Club's exhibition hall.

Literary hounds, rejoice! Friday is your day, first at the New York Public Library in the Berg Collection and Rare Books and Special Collections, and later at New York University's Fales Library. At the Berg, Curator Issac Gewirtz will show us treasures spanning the centuries, from autograph manuscripts by John Donne, to Charles Dickens (his heavily annotated reading copy of *A Christmas Carol*), to

Mark Twain, Virginia Woolf, and T.S. Eliot, not to mention William Butler Yeats and Jack Kerouac.

At NYU's Fales Library, we'll have a similar sweep, from Homer's *Iliad*, to Lewis Carroll, Arthur Conan Doyle, and Robert Frost, as well as its relatively new "Downtown Collection" of New York writers. The Morgan Library may be closed until 2006, but join your fellow travelers that evening in drowning those sorrows with a glass at Ursus Books, after which enjoy dinner on your own.

Saturday morning will offer the latest in the FABS' series of highly praised bibliological symposia at The Grolier Club. Our Symposium organizer, Robert Jackson, has brought together another inimitable panel consisting of the long-time Curator of Rare Books in the Harvard

College Library, Roger Stoddard; proprietor of The Brick Row Book Shop and president of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America, John Crichton; editor of *American Book Prices Current*, Katharine Kyes Leab; and collector and Grolier Public Exhibitions Chair, Arthur L. Schwarz. The event will be open to all members of FABS. After lunch, we will sally forth to see private collections in the homes of some generous Grolier members. Travelers can choose among collectors who specialize in literature, history, bibliography, science, and the fine arts.

On Saturday evening we will conclude with a gala reception and banquet at The University Club, a true beaux arts treat for the eye.

Although Manhattan's stores, parks, museums, and street-life offer thousands

of opportunities to engage your time, we plan an optional excursion on Sunday, May 23, to the New York Botanical Garden and Libraries, in the Bronx.

Only Tokyo surpasses Manhattan for high costs, but we think FABS members will find great value in the trip, which is priced at \$495.00. The cost of the optional excursion on Sunday is \$45.00. A block of hotel rooms has been reserved at the Roger Smith Hotel, 501 Lexington Avenue, for \$175.00 per night. Please dial 800 445-0277 and ask for The Grolier Club "FABS" rate.

Please e-mail Paul Romaine with any questions regarding the FABS Book Tour or registration, at fabsnyc@fastmail.fm. Registrations may be mailed to Paul W. Romaine, c/o The Grolier Club, 47 East 60th Street, New York, NY 10022.

Preserving American Bindings

LATE 18TH & EARLY 19TH-CENTURY

THE PRIMARY FOCUS of this issue of the *FABS Newsletter* is Americana, so I thought I would turn my attention to preservation and conservation issues relating to 18th and early 19th-century American bindings.

In general, the bindings on American books are less refined and simpler in comparison with their European counterparts. The binding materials are less sophisticated, exhibit less decoration and gold stamping, and are frequently more fragile.

You can preserve these books by maintaining them in their original condition, protecting them from harm, and following good book preservation guidelines and standards for environmental control, storage, handling, conservation treatment, exhibition, emergency planning and response, and archival housing.

Preservation guidelines are readily available from your conservator or from the many regional conservation centers. These organizations publish information that is available online or by mail. Many give technical assistance and referrals by telephone and some perform conservation treatment:

The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC)
100 Brickstone Square
Andover, MA 01810-1494
978 470-1010 or www.nedcc.org

The Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts (CCAHA)
264 South 23rd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215 545-0613 or www.ccaha.org

The Upper Midwest Conservation Association
2400 Third Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55404
612 870-3120 or www.preserveart.org

The Southeastern Library Network, Inc. (SOLINET)
1438 West Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 200
Atlanta, GA 30309-2955
800 999-8558 or 404 892-0943
www.solinet.net

Amigos Library Services, Inc. (AMIGOS)
14400 Midway Road, Dallas, TX 75244-3509
800 843-8482 or 972 851-8000
www.amigos.org

Etherington Conservation Center
7609 Business Park Drive
Greensboro, NC 27409
336 665-1317
www.donetherington.com

High quality preservation enclosures can be purchased from numerous archival suppliers, many of them will send you samples. Here are a few of my favorites:

CMI
10034 East Lake Road
Hammondsport, NY 14840
607 569-2738 or www.archivalboxes.com

Archival Products/LBS
P.O. Box 1413, Des Moines, IA 50305-1413
800 247-5323 or www.archival.com

University Products, Inc.
P.O. Box 101, 517 Main Street
Holyoke, MA 01041
800 628-1912
www.universityproducts.com

Gaylord Archival Supplies
Box 4901, Syracuse, NY 13221-4901
413 562-2587 or www.gaylord.com

Suggested reading:

French, Hannah D. *Bookbinding in Early America: Seven Essays on Masters and Methods*. Worcester: American Antiquarian Society, 1986. Quarto, cloth. xxiv, 230 pages. Also contains catalogues of bookbinding tools prepared by Willman Spawn

You may contact me at 212 650-2891 or mindell.dubansky@metmuseum.org with any questions.

FABS BOOK TOUR & SYMPOSIUM

New York City

May 20-23, 2004



Thursday, May 20

Columbia University, Rare Books & Special Collections
New York Academy of Medicine, Rare Books & Special Collections
Metropolitan Museum of Art
Grolier Club Showcase and Treasures Exhibition

Friday, May 21

New York Public Library, Humanities and Research Division, Rare Books & Special Collections, Berg Collection
New York University, Fales Library
Center for Book Arts

Saturday, May 22

Symposium at The Grolier Club
Roger Stoddard, Curator of Rare Books in the Harvard College Library
John Crichton, Proprietor of The Brick Row Book Shop & President of the ABAA
Katharine Kyes Leab, Editor of *American Book Prices Current*
Arthur L. Schwarz, Collector & Grolier Public Exhibitions Chair
Private Libraries of New York City
Banquet at The University Club

Sunday, May 23

(Optional) New York Botanical Garden & Libraries

Registration: The cost is \$495.00 per person. Reservations will close on March 1, 2004. Reservations cancelled after March 31, 2004 will not be refunded in full. Communications for the FABS New York Book Tour & Symposium should be by e-mail or self-addressed/stamped envelope. Please reserve _____ places for:

Name: _____ and _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ Fax: _____

Please reserve _____ places for Sunday optional tour (add \$45 per person).

I enclose a check for \$ _____ Payable to FABS.

Send Registration to: Paul W. Romaine, The Grolier Club, 47 East 60th Street, New York, NY 10022.
fabsnyc@fastmail.fm

Headquarters: Roger Smith Hotel, 501 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

Make your own hotel reservations. Roger Smith Hotel phone: 800 445-0277 and ask for the Grolier Club "FABS" rate at \$175 per night. e-mail: reservations@rogersmith.com

GREAT AUCTIONS OF THE PAST
The Thomas Streeter Auction

≈ PART ONE ≈

AMERICANA

Books, etc., about, connected with or printed in America, usually, but not exclusively, the United States of North America; or relating to individual Americans: as distinct (properly, though nowadays not invariably) from books by American writers. *The Columbus Letter* is a piece of Americana, as describing the discovery of the continent . . . Poe's *The Raven*, on the other hand, is not Americana.

John Carter, *ABC for Book Collectors*
(5th ed., rev.), 1990.

THE THOMAS STREETER Americana sale from 1966 through 1969 will remain one of the great auctions of the twentieth century, but before discussing the auction itself, I think it would be useful to examine, generally, the history of Americana collecting. Among

the diverse areas of book collecting, Americana has always seemed to me among the most robust. High point collecting is inspiring through its familiarity; fine bindings through its aesthetics; fine printing through its bibliographical integrity; modern firsts through its greater accessibility; and any number of specialized subject collections through their specialized content, which is so intimate with individual intellectual, emotional and spiritual dispositions. Still, as an American, those primary, historical documents remain for me especially vibrant and instructive for they witness the encounter and settlement of the new world, describe the conflicts and confluence of differing cultures, and document the founding and development of new territories and nations.

The tradition of Americana is as old as American printing itself, though early collections were to a great extent the amassing of current publications by intellectuals and scholars of the time, for instance the great library of Cotton Mather of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Among the earliest of collectors, as we would use the term today, would be the Reverend Thomas Prince (1687–1758), also of Massachusetts, who developed an historical as well as contemporary library. A Harvard graduate and long time minister at the Old South Church in Boston, Prince began collecting historical manuscripts of New England in 1703 and continued to do so throughout his life. Prince is most famous for having in his possession the manuscript of William Bradford's *Of Plymouth Plantation*, a

JOSEPH RUBINFINE



AMERICAN HISTORICAL AUTOGRAPHS

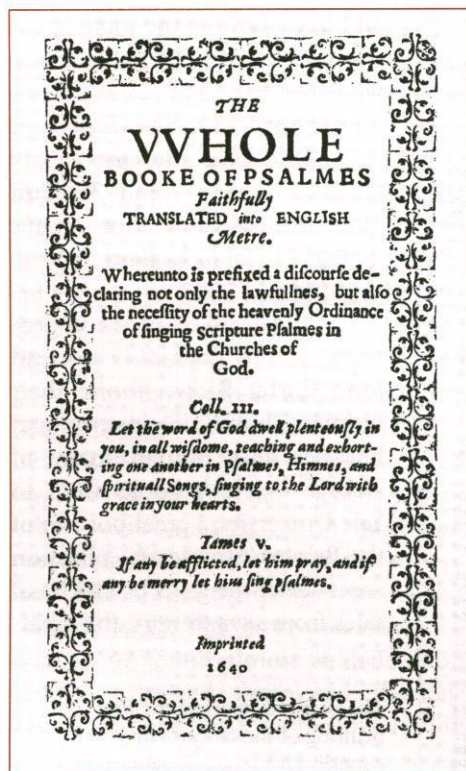
Illustrated catalogue \$5.00

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document that disappeared during the Revolutionary War, was rediscovered in England in the mid-nineteenth century, and, through prolonged diplomatic and ecclesiastical efforts, was returned to the United States in 1897. Samuel Morison eloquently describes the history of Bradford's manuscript in his introduction to the 1970 edition of *Of Plymouth Plantation* with comment on Prince's possibly spurious ownership of the manuscript: "Prince decided to write a New England history . . . The one document he needed for the Plymouth Colony was the Bradford History. He called on Major John Bradford at Plymouth in 1728 and apparently offered to buy it. According to Prince's own note in the manuscript itself, the Major said 'he would never part with the property, but would lend it to me' . . . But Prince undoubtedly regarded the loan as one of that indefinite sort which librarians and bibliophiles are apt to convert into complete ownership."¹ (The proprietorship of some collectors seems to have remained a constant through the ages.) The Bradford manuscript now resides at the Massachusetts State House. Other portions of Prince's collection were also plundered during the Revolutionary War but substantial numbers survived, most of which are at the Boston Public Library.

About a century later, John Carter Brown (1797–1874) established his great Americana collection. Concentrating on books printed before 1800 about America, Brown amassed a library of 5,600 volumes, which eventually became the eponymous John Carter Brown Library at Brown University. He greatly expanded the scope of Americana collecting over Prince and other early collectors who concentrated on local histories. Brown's collection included books about the entire western hemisphere, both North America and South America as well as the Caribbean. Brown's collection, which included such Americana high points as a Christopher Columbus manuscript (ca. 1494), Richard Hakluyt's *The Principal Navigations, Voyages and Discoveries* . . . (1589) and John Smith's *A Description of New England* . . . (1616), would become the archetype for all the great Americana collectors who succeeded him, including George Brinley and Thomas Streeter.

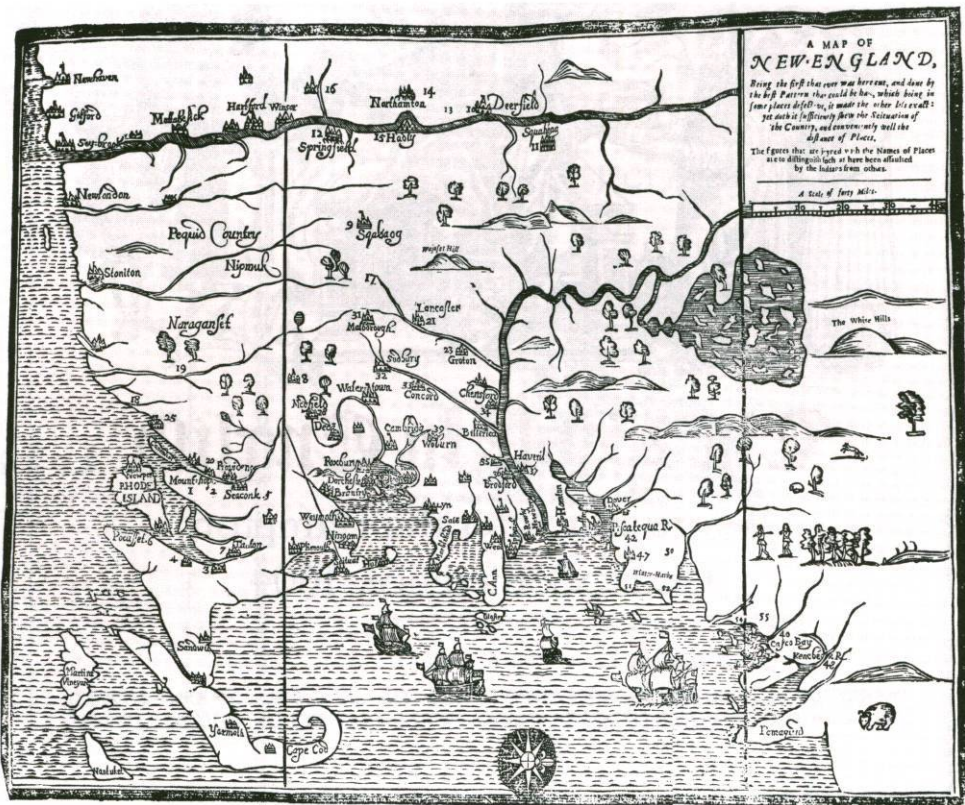


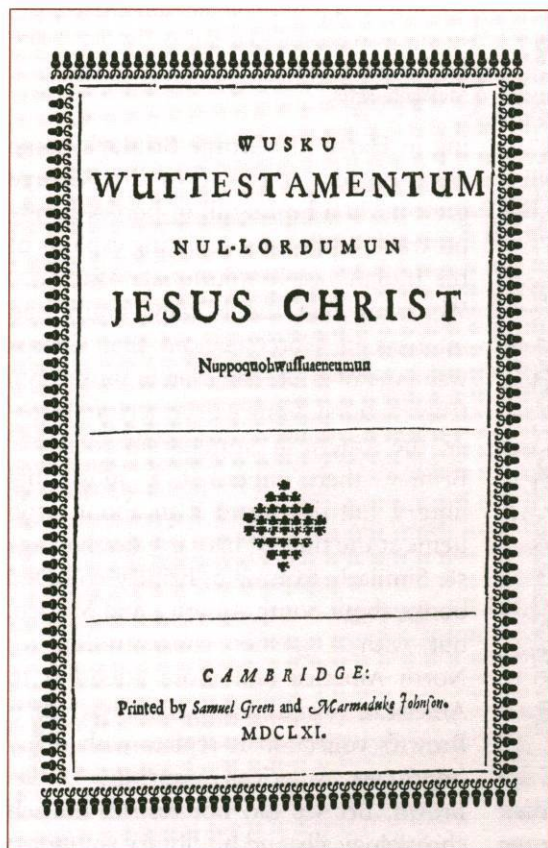
A generation younger though he died but a year later than Brown, George Brinley (1817–1875), like his colleague, was a scion of a distinguished New England family and was immersed in Americana from his youth. Donald B. Engle, in an address to the Bibliographical Society of America at its 1966 meet-

The first book printed on the North American continent is generally known as *The Bay Psalm Book*, it was printed in 1640 at Cambridge, Massachusetts.

ing in Hartford (George Brinley's home city), noted: "It is known that George grew up in a house full of books, family portraits, and prints depicting exploits of the Indian and Revolutionary Wars. . . . We know that the Brinley family had interests in Worcester and that George was a member of that, even in those days, truly 'national library of American history,' the American Antiquarian Society."² Brinley, then, inherited a substantial library, but developed it to about 9,500 items at the time of his early death at age 58. Similarly to Brown, Brinley collected books about South America and Mexico, but with a greater concentration on North America and more attention to American imprints, generally, albeit Brown's collection is replete with many important American imprints. Unlike Brown, Brinley did not restrict himself chronologically and his library contained items from the mid-nineteenth century

This folding map from William Hubbard's *A Narrative of the Troubles with the Indians in New-England, from . . . 1607 to this present year 1677* was the first map to be engraved and printed in English America.





and later. Among the many great volumes in the Brinley library were *The Bay Psalm Book* (1640), John Eliot's *The New Testament . . . Translated into the Indian Language* (1661), and William Hubbard's *A Narrative of the Troubles with the Indians in New-England . . .* (1677).

The greater part of the collections of both Thomas Prince and John Carter Brown found their ultimate home in institutional libraries and, though many of George Brinley's books went to Yale University, a great portion of the Brinley Americana collection went under the gavel in a series of sales from 1878 to 1893, the great-

The year 1661 marked the first printing of the Gospels in North America. A literal translation of the title would read:

"New his-testament our-lord Jesus Christ our-deliverer."

est Americana auction prior to the Thomas Streeter sale. Brinley did institute a practice emulated by Thomas Streeter many years later, for, according to a memorandum left at his death, Brinley directed that Yale University, the American Antiquarian Society, the New York Historical Society, the Pennsylvania Historical Society, and the Watkinson Library should share "\$25,000 in credit, to be used at the sale."³ As Engley points out, with its share of \$5,000 the Watkinson Library of Trinity College was able to bring a number of Brinley items back to Hartford.

The Prince, Brown, and Brinley collections are representative of the tradition of Americana collecting that Thomas Streeter inherited. Thomas Streeter, a graduate of the St. Paul's School, Concord, New Hampshire, Dartmouth, and Harvard Law School was to the manner born. A successful businessman, Streeter had the wealth and inclination to develop a great Americana collection. Streeter had a tremendous advantage over his



The Bible in English

Before and After the Hampton
Court Conference, 1604

HENRY VIII DISTRIBUTING BIBLES. WOODCUT FROM *THE GREAT BIBLE*, LONDON: EDWARD WHYTCURCHE, 1540. THE ELIZABETH PERKINS PROTHRO COLLECTION, BRIDWELL LIBRARY

This collaborative exhibition marks the 400th anniversary of the Hampton Court Conference, the meeting of King James I with English bishops and Puritan leaders that gave birth to a project to translate the Bible into English. The result, completed some seven years later, was the famous King James Bible. Visitors to the exhibit will experience the tumultuous political and literary history behind the King James Version. Rare manuscripts of the first translation of the Bible into English and first editions of all the significant English versions up to and including the King James Version will be on display.

30 JANUARY - 16 APRIL 2004
BRIDWELL LIBRARY, SOUTHERN METHODIST
UNIVERSITY, DALLAS, TEXAS

2 MAY - 8 AUGUST 2004
HARVEY S. FIRESTONE MEMORIAL LIBRARY,
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, PRINCETON,
NEW JERSEY

SEPTEMBER 2006 - JANUARY 2007
JOHN RYLANDS UNIVERSITY LIBRARY OF
MANCHESTER, UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER,
MANCHESTER, UNITED KINGDOM

antecedents, for, by the time Thomas Streeter began his collection, much bibliographic research on American imprints had been completed and circulated. G. Thomas Tanselle in his *Guide to the Study of American Imprints* notes the expansion of American research resources available for twentieth-century collectors: "Although much work remains to be done, especially in the recording of mid-nineteenth-century imprints, the number of lists currently available is impressive and is testimony to the devoted interest which the history of American printing has aroused over a period of more than a century."⁴ Citing the early work of Isaiah Thomas (*History of Printing in America*, 1810), the monumental work of Joseph Sabin (*Bibliotheca Americana*, begun in 1868), Tanselle also includes the many regional, state and local Americana bibliographies including Thomas Streeter's own work on Texas, still the major resource for collectors of Texas imprints.

On the other hand, with the proliferation of bibliographies and checklists,

Americana enthusiasts also proliferated and used these resources as their guides to collecting. That is, the book market became more competitive and the materials became more scarce and more expensive. Also, by the twentieth century, many of the landmark books were housed permanently in research library collections. In *Books and Bidders*, A. S. W. Rosenbach reminisced about the halcyon days of collecting Americana: "In the good old days, when such friends of Moses Pollock [Rosenbach's uncle] as James Lenox, old Menzies, Doctor Brinley, John Carter Brown . . . and countless others were enslaved by an inordinate passion for books, they did not have to go far a field to find the things that delighted their souls. The most precious relics were to be found almost at their doorsteps . . . Indeed, those were the days when you could pick up Smith's *History of Virginia* for fifty dollars almost as easily as you can secure today the latest novel of a popular writer."⁵ Still, Streeter, with his intellectual acumen, vast book

collecting experience, and financial means, was able to establish the great collection that went to auction in 1966. Having established Thomas Streeter in the tradition of Americana collecting, we will look more closely at his collection and the auction itself in the Summer issue of the *FABS Newsletter*.

Geoffrey D. Smith

Professor and Head

Rare Books and Manuscripts, Room 327

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¹New York: Alfred A. Kopf, p. xxix.

²PBSA 60 (1966): 467.

³Engley, 471. Of added Americana interest, Joseph Sabin was the auctioneer for the Brinley sale.

⁴Vol 1. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1971. p. xviii. For the current collector of Americana, there are over three decades of additional bibliographic investigation since the appearance of Tanselle's important work.

⁵Boston: Little, Brown, and Company. p. 267.

BENNETT GILBERT

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in the history
of ideas*



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Capturing the Captivities

INDIAN CAPTIVITIES AND THEIR CAPTIVATED COLLECTORS

WRITING in 1945 for what would become one of the more lasting contributions to bibliography to stem from the A.S.W. Rosenbach Lectures,* R.W.G. Vail remarked that:

"It is easy to understand why Indian captivities have been best sellers for the last four hundred years. Most of us have sat up till all hours to get the Count of Monte Cristo or Casanova out of prison or to help our soldiers and nurses escape from Corregidor or from the clutches of the Nazis. Stories of courage, fortitude, hair-breadth escapes, and skill in outwitting the enemy have always appealed to those whose native tongue is English, especially when these adventures are so recent as to be virtually a part of the reader's own experience. Just as World War II is a part of our own life (author's note: fast forward to Jessica Lynch, 'human shields', and Ron Howard's 'The Missing'), so King Philip's War, the French and Indian Wars, the Revolution, or the Sioux Wars of the 1860's were part of the lives of those who first read the stories of captivity which were episodes of those campaigns."

Omens and foreshadowing. Mockery by a seemingly invincible and satanic foe. The little cabin in the wilderness clearing, overgrown from the inactivity brought on by constant warnings of impending danger and defensive vigilance. The inevitable attack and savage murder of the pioneer family. Christian resignation to accept the Lord's will, to become a grieving supplicant to God in the wilderness—as in the words of Mary Rowlandson, the first Puritan captive: "When others are sleeping mine eyes are weeping." An escaped, shocked, and dazed captive's resolution either for revenge or to live apart as a hermit in deep sadness and overpowering memory of loss, a human emblem to the cost of taming a new nation. Captivity literature, possessed of these and other narrative conventions,

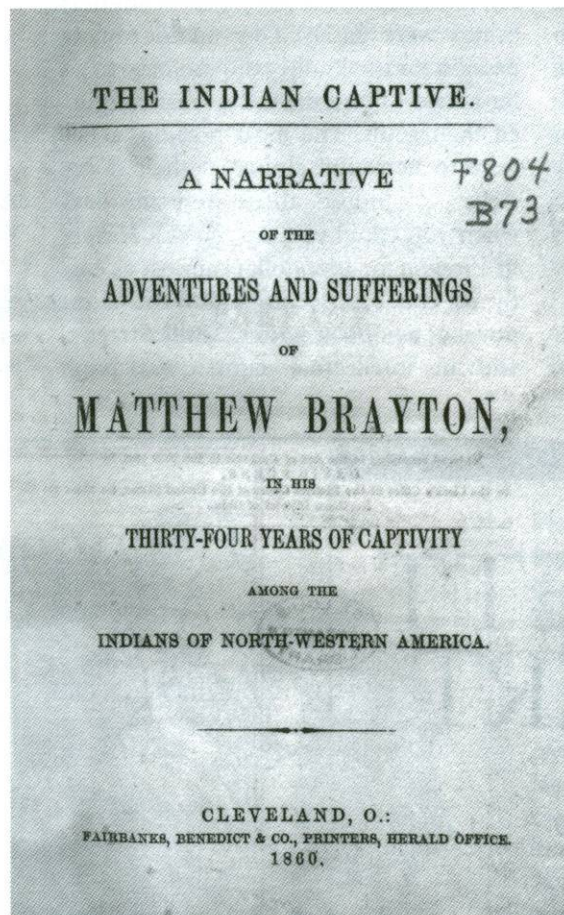
has yet the spell binding immediacy of a thrilling, modern adventure story.

We listen to these venerable narrative yarns with rapt attention to this day—with fearfulness, with disbelief to the violence and retribution visited upon man by man, all in a removed way. Yet something seems to echo down to us in such

dom, liberty, and democracy is measured solely in sacrificial blood.

The plaintive frontier voices in these powerful narratives may indeed be singing a siren song—some scholars of captivity narratives have postulated that we may be forever trapped or condemned to defining the nation in the violent terms of a folk memory learned when the nation was young. That risk has always been implied in subsequent commentary on this prototypical American literature. These narratives are instructively commemorative. They are genealogical. Evocative. Americans today in reading and studying captivities—and the subject is burgeoning—may just be presented with cautionary tales to the future, not merely exercising an antiquarianism in literary taste. Such works were never forgotten in our culture—they resonate with a relevancy to every American generation weaned successively on the violent clashes within our society, and they are instructive in revealing truths to those earnestly attempting to understand what it means to be an American.

I have been privileged to have helped develop the captivity literature collection at the St. Louis Mercantile Library Association for nearly twenty years. Collecting Indian captivities has been a tradition here for much longer than that. Indeed the frontier libraries of St. Louis—three of which merged in 1846 to form our institution—had collected captivities even earlier still than that 'year of decision'. It is interesting that original narratives were still being published as current events related to the settlement of the Plains and the Rockies at the time that the earliest American libraries, such as our own, as well as historical societies and private individuals across the nation were already avid collectors of the same. Some of these collectors, like George Brinley, John Carter Brown, Thomas



"voices of the old frontier" as Vail put it, voices of the American past. The thousands of captivity narratives estimated to exist in first printings and reissues and in primary source manuscripts across the United States from attic trunk to local courthouse records can be seen to be a defining point of our American-ness. A country forged in the violent wars between New World cultures may forever continue to redefine or renew its relation to the world of nations and cultures in more violent terms rooted in a long established belief that the cost of free-

* *The Voice of the Old Frontier* (Philadelphia; University of Philadelphia, 1949).

Fields, and James Lenox, aided the formation of other research libraries of Americana still some distance in the future.

Thus it was easy for one of my predecessors at the Mercantile to say during his tenure in the mid 1860's that "the aboriginal literature of the nation commands our . . . main interest." Another, Horace Kephart, early in the twentieth century was one of the acknowledged experts of the genre, producing long before Peckham, Derounian-Stodala, and Calloway, among others, one of the first edited anthologies of the genre, *Captives Among the Indians*, [New York: 1915]. Long before that the librarians here and in other cities watched what the collectors and booksellers were unearthing and offering for sale. The Mercantile's holdings on native Americans and the history of the nation no doubt were strongly enhanced by attendance at such sales as E. George Squier's and the William Menzies sale. The 1865 Gowan sale of John Allan's books or the 1875 sale of Thomas Field were typical of material coming on the market after the Civil War.



The Bangs, Merwin, & Co. 1876 sale of Squier's books was one of the great American sales—if not greatest Pan-American sales, with numerous works of world ethnology and archaeology interspersed with legendary rarities of Americana—the Lexington, Kentucky, printing of Metcalf's *Collection of Some of the Most Interesting Narratives of Indian Warfare in the West* [1821], with important accounts of Daniel Boone's two cap-

tivities, and that of Dr. Knight's. Slover's and Col. James Smith's, is marked in the Mercantile's copy as having sold for \$16.00. One of the Squier catalogue's addenda reveals one of the best collections of original Jesuit Relations up to its day offered for sale in America. The breadth of this sale was truly amazing, and narratives of captivity and the history of native Americans comprised a vast percentage of this library, which could

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have been the nucleus of another Huntington or JCB.

The year before (May, 1875) Bangs, Merwin sold the library of Thomas Field. Sabin waxed in the prefatory *Notice*:

"It is scarcely necessary for us to say, that it is simply impossible to study the history of this continent with reference to [the American Indian, a subject daily increasing in interest]. An entirely complete collection of books relative to the Indians, includes a large proportion of the works which compose American history."

Some of the works considered most important in the Field sale were Loudon's *A Selection of Some of the Outrages Committed by the Indians in Their Wars with the White People* [1808], which sold for the princely sum at the time of the Centennial, of \$100.00, thus a highly prized collectible in New York at the time that Fanny Kelly and others were currently engaged in recounting recent experiences during the Sioux uprisings and plains wars of the day. The 1784 Filson *Discovery, Settlement, and Present State of Kentucke* is marked in the Mer-



cantile Library's catalog as having sold for \$41.00, with the 1785 French edition knocking down in the next lot for \$3.03. Field's Metcalf went for \$24.00. The London, 1682 issue of the most accomplished of all captivity narratives, that of Mary Rowlandson, sold for \$12.00. And the most famous of all captivities, that of John Smith in the 1624 edition of *The General History of Virginia, New England,*

and the *Summer Isles* sold for \$147.50, followed by the 1630 edition, which sold for just as much.

However, for everyone in the nineteenth century busy with captivity collecting the third and fifth parts of the catalogue reflecting the monumental sale of the "American Library" of George Brinley (sold between the 1879 and 1893) were watersheds in this collecting genre in so much as these sales helped outline what subsequently became an outline, if you will, for American history. The Brinley sale was one of the first to use the term "Captivities" for this type of Americana. Early collectors must have thrilled to see the range of captivity material offered related to every region of the country. The sale also offered standard compilations of captivity related material by Drake, Metcalf, Withers, and a host of other historians of Indian wars from the Mathers and Hubbard in the seventeenth century first editions to works whose events predated the beginnings of the Brinley sales by a mere decade or so. Hence the presence of

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Narrative and Providential Escape of Misses Frances and Almira Hall with a Narrative of the Captivity of Philip Brigdon and An Account of the War with Black Hawk [1832], a personal favorite, being as it is one of the last captivities of the Old Northwest and one of the last along with those associated with the Seminole Wars east of the Mississippi. Standing to this day is not one, but are two monuments (one a mass grave for some of the massacred settlers) in a remote public park nestled quietly, almost totally forgotten, in the Illinois farmland of the LaSalle area for this significant event marking a key turning point in these cruel cultural wars.

Captivity literature has a canonical quality all its own with quick references made to the last names of captives the norm for most collectors. This too was invented to a great extent in the Brinley sales—already one could look for a “Williams” (one of the many editions of *The Redeemed Captive Returning to Zion* by John Williams), or a “Manheim,” a “Rowlandson,” or a “Johonnot;” a “Harbison,” “Eastburn,” “Tanner,” or a “Pattie.” Increase Mather’s *A Brief History of the War With the Indians in New England* [Boston, 1676] in two imperfect copies, was knocked down for \$130.00. However, most captivity narratives sold between \$1.00 and \$15.00 at the Brinley sales.

At the end of the twentieth century one of the last great frontier Americana collections sold in New York at Sotheby’s, that of Frank Siebert. Bailey Bishop remarked in the *Introduction* to the sale that Siebert’s collection, “by focusing on the Indian” (and his collection did indeed do that more than any collection of the past century, and was possessed of scores of captivities) “the dominant figure in the American landscape, by pulling on that one thread, it unravels the tapestry of American history.” I would agree with this wholeheartedly but would also go further in noting that Indian captivity literature alone can do the same. It is the most fascinating and the most romantic subgenre of Americana, one that yields perennial rewards to collectors, libraries, and students of Native American history.

Recently Linda Colley’s monograph *Captives* [Pantheon, 2002] takes the subject to a new level by examining how early modern British—and by extension, European—expansion into the rest of the world created cultural divides and captivities across many cultures. Such studies are harbingers of more research to come. In fact it is now possible to read hundreds

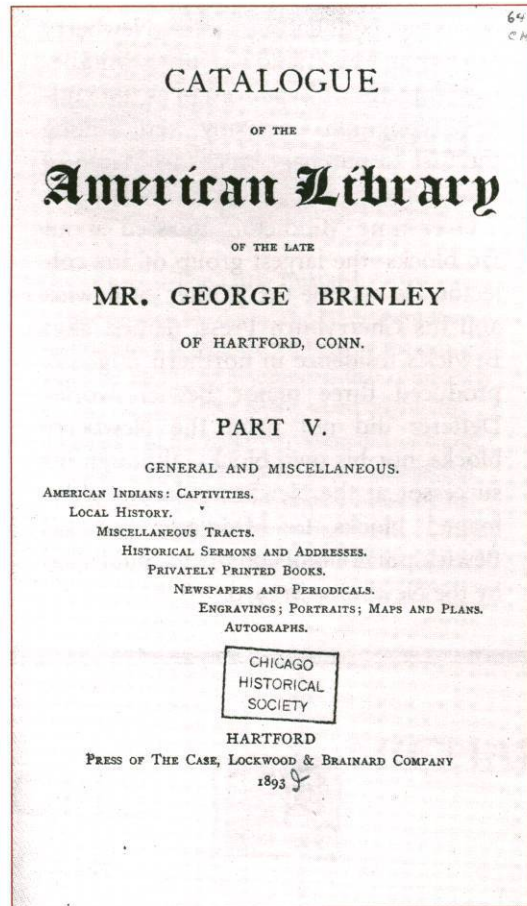
cuitously torturous routes into readers’ psyches generation after generation, and drawing conclusions as to why specific captivities had ‘revivals,’ so to speak.

I actually am thrilled to obtain dog-eared, heavily read and marked copies—the hands of the frontier touched these little books and tracts, read them again and again, and thus there is a special communion attached to the early readers and the latter day collectors. Dozens are offered to me each month by booksellers. Manuscripts are once more coming to light and it is impressive what Jerry Jordon, Michael Brown, Don Cresswell, and Wes Cowan are offering, among many other booksellers and auction companies. In the Mercantile Library, the modern booksellers follow in the footsteps of the early sales my predecessors attended such as Squier’s, Menzies’, and Field’s, and in those of booksellers such as Harper or the Eberstadts, William Harvey Miner, Wright Howes, Charles Heartman, Arthur Clark, Jack Rittenhouse, and a host of others our institution has been privileged to trade with for over a century and a half.

Howard Peckham, in his *Historical Americana* [1980] referred to a renewable quality concerning the continued vitality of Americana collecting, if one looks to the future of the nation as well as the past, breaking into newer subjects and more current topics—just as a frontier library like the Mercantile once was did, with the currents of Westward Expansion swirling around it in the middle of the nineteenth century. Of course, there is the sad but true fact based in current events that the captivity genre is not finished. Recent accounts of captivity in Columbia, coupled with worldwide terrorism and warfare make the field new again, even if the players and motives are not quite the same.

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The images that appear in this article are courtesy of The St. Louis Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri.



of captivities in easily obtainable modern editions, something impossible were it not for a group of enthusiastic narrators, publishers, libraries, collectors, and booksellers who preserved these experiences in early America.

Can one begin a collection of captivity narratives? Certainly. No one has to feel as if just the scraps are left to fight over. These were bestsellers, and as rare as many have become in specific editions and issues, they were often printed in multiple contemporary editions, and reprinted as the next wave of Indian troubles were visited upon the frontier. This is definitely a subject in which one is rewarded by gathering as many editions of these rather mysteriously produced narratives as possible, tracing their cir-

Missing in America

IN SEARCH OF THOMAS BEWICK'S LOST BLOCKS

A CONCERTED EFFORT to locate and document 1,300 wood blocks engraved in England during the early part of the 19th century by the legendary Thomas Bewick has been undertaken in the Chicago area. This story is known to many Caxton Club members, however, the whereabouts of one half of the blocks is unknown and undocumented. Most of the blocks are in private hands and are at risk of being discarded by unknowing heirs. Your assistance is being sought.

The story begins in 1942 when the 1,300 blocks were placed at auction by descendants of Bewick's cousins, the Wards. Ben Abramson, owner of the Argus Bookshop in Chicago entered a modest bid and purchased the collection for £300. The blocks then made the dangerous journey across the Atlantic during the height of World War II. Abramson was unable to

interest anyone in the entire collection and announced his intention to sell the blocks individually.

Ernst Detterer, Custodian of the John M. Wing Foundation at the Newberry Library and his friend R. Hunter Middleton, Director of Type Design at the Ludlow Typograph Company were among the first to purchase blocks in March of 1943.

Over time Middleton amassed about 170 blocks—the largest group of any collector. He became the 'printer' of Bewick and his Cherryburn Press, named after Bewick's residence in northern England, produced three major Bewick works. Detterer did not print the Newberry blocks, nor his own blocks, although his successor at the Newberry, James Wells, loaned blocks to Middleton for his Bewick portfolio of 100 prints, published by the Newberry in 1970.

Most of the blocks from these three collections are still in the Chicago area and have been well documented. Detterer's purchase of 22 blocks for the Newberry remain there along with some of his personal blocks and 84 of Middleton's donated blocks. Leo Calapai purchased 30 *Fables* blocks from Middleton and then produced a work, with Middleton's assistance, entitled *30 Aesop Fables* in 1973. Most of those blocks are at the Northwestern University McCormick Library along with the Ferriss Collection.

Many Bewick blocks are still in the Chicago area and have been well documented and, fortunately, there is a document listing buyers of the individual blocks from the Argus. The document was copied by Greer Allen from a set of *The Memorial Edition*, 1885 to 1887, with notations alongside the cuts with buyers' names and occasionally a date. Many of



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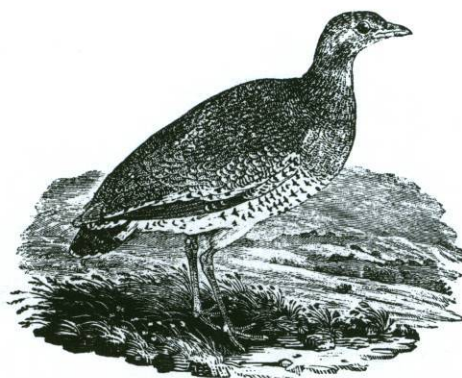
the listed buyers are unknown and several of them purchased sizable numbers of blocks. Identifying these individuals would help to possibly locate the dispositions of their collections. I have also listed known individuals whose blocks are still unaccounted for.

It was suggested that some of the 5,300 members of the 27 FABS member organizations that receive the *Newsletter* might be able to identify a few of these individuals and allow documentation of the Bewick blocks in their collections. In addition, the provenance of their blocks might reveal the whereabouts of some of the other unknown collections.

The following names are listed as they appeared in the *Argus* records. The numbers of blocks and comments in parentheses are mine.

Bortman (56 blocks), Carl Gazeley (31 blocks), Fitzpatrick (10 blocks), Harold Willoughby (3 blocks, University of Chicago Religion Professor), Vilas Johnson (11 blocks), Mrs. Fred Biesel (7 blocks, Executive Secretary of the Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago), Phillip Reed (4 blocks, Illustrator and

fine press printer), Mish Kohn (28 blocks, artist and teacher, recently deceased, was living in California), and Richard Ellis (7 blocks listed in the *Argus* records and 27 blocks on a Middleton list, believed to be



The Little Bustard.

One of nine blocks in The Hesterberg Press collection it is reproduced here by the process of offset lithography, a process that completely fails to do justice to the wood engraving.

Bewick cut his blocks in dense cherry wood using engravers tools. A three-dimensional effect was achieved by slightly lowering the middlegrounds and the backgrounds. Careful inking and letterpress printing on dampened paper produced a truly sculpted effect.

an art director, designer, owner of the Georgian Press, and associated with the Haddon Craftsmen in New York).

Thomas Bewick: *The Blocks Revisited, Volume I* was published for the Typographers' gathering in Chicago in 2002. A proposed Bewick: *The Blocks Revisited, Volume II* will update the Newberry story and will document other known collections at the University of Chicago, Northwestern University, The Art Institute of Chicago, Harvard University, University of Kansas, The Free Library of Philadelphia, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the University of Michigan, among others.

It is hoped that input from members of the FABS member clubs will lead to undocumented collections and collectors or, perhaps, even to a single block that has been acquired and squirrelled away by some discerning collector.

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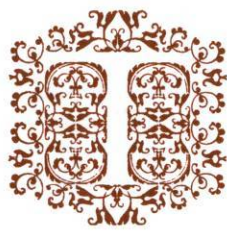
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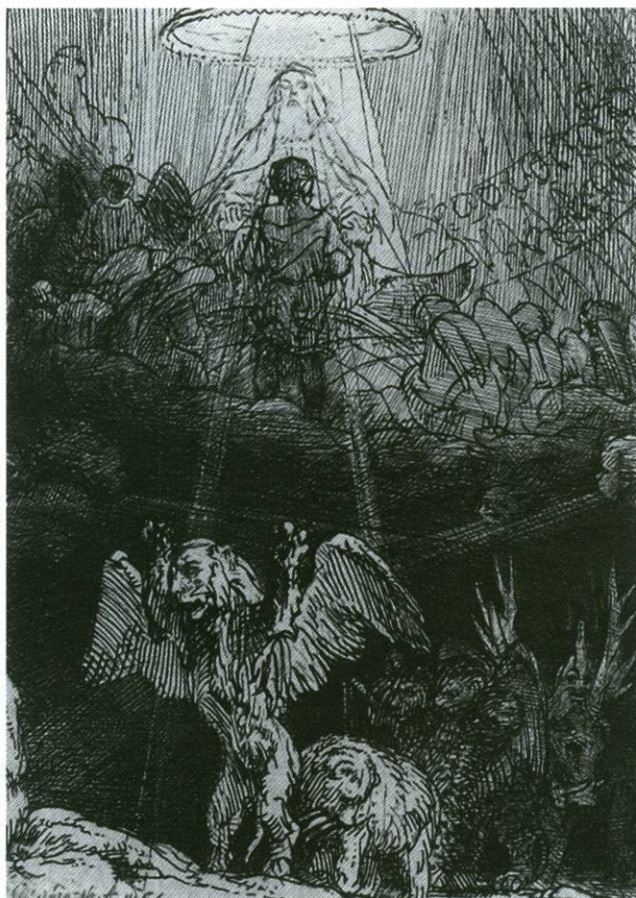


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IN THE OLD LOG CABIN

Books on the Frontier: Print Culture in the American West, 1763-1875.

Richard W. Clement. 139 pages. \$29.95.

The Library of Congress and the University Press of New England; 2003
ISBN 0-8444-1080-2.

As Richard Clement notes in the acknowledgments to this study, *Books on the Frontier* had difficulties in being published at all. It was first planned as a “glitzy, illustrated trade book;” however, the series at LC that it was planned for subsequently ceased publication. Next, the title was seemingly ping-ponged among editors, publishing directors, and distributors. Some of this ordeal is reflected implicitly in this work on how books were published in America in its frontier days—books that were written for an avid frontier reading public, often with a great deal of hardship. This is a perennially fascinating subject and this work stresses how, while acknowledging the indisputable given that the “frontier” shaped the national character, one of the tools of that metamorphosis was books—books that not only documented the momentous events of national expansion but also reflected the lives and frontier life that early publishers met when they crossed and criss-crossed mountains, rivers, prairies, and mountains once again.

This is a refreshing and subtly beguiling theme for a book such as this to present these days. Much of the history of books and printing has drifted out of the hands of enthusiastic booksellers (such as Americana examples as Sabin and Eames; and the author’s duly acknowledged mentors of more recent times, Leona Rostenberg and Madeleine Stern) and into the competent but less lively hands of book “historians.” As great and as indispensable as some of the expensive works now coming out in scholarly and specialist circles are, they are not as accessible to budding collectors (and certainly not to general readers) as they probably should be.

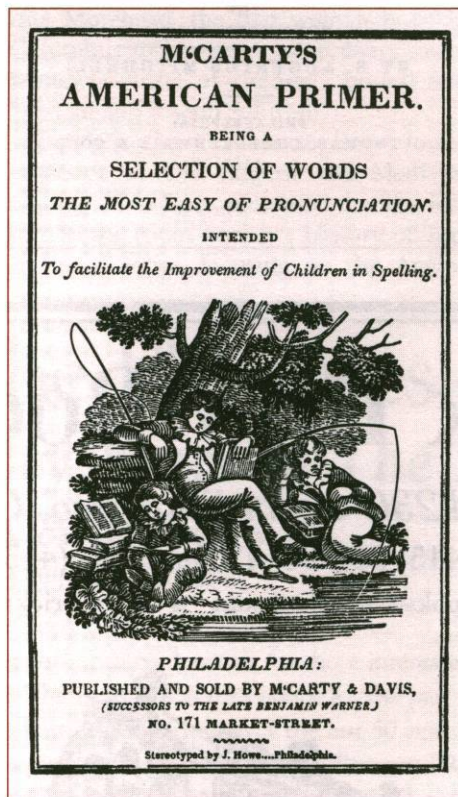
Furthermore, the subject of books on the frontier, as logically engaging a topic as it is, has been given very little attention in recent years, even though giants like Sutton, Kaser, McDermott, and Ewan all pointed the way to numerous uninvestigated topics long ago. It seems to have been deemed more important to investigate, presumably, trans-Atlantic importation of European books and how thus the Old World shaped America through a relatively unsubstantiated readership. Or perhaps the study of the printing of card

does not fit neatly into an established historical grid centering on the lives of early printers and publishers in Boston, Philadelphia, and New York.

The captivities, almanacs, arithmetics, and spellers with problems concerning distances of steamboats or how to spell Connecticut or Illinois, dime novels, and Sunday school homilies, along with the maps, geographies, travel diaries, and county histories defined who we all are and how we got that way—not just frontier people, but modern day Westerners, Midwesterners, Southerners, and Easterners. So a little glitz and celebratory prose such as the work in hand is not a bad substitute for most of what the masses of readers assume to be rather dry. (Many are descended from and thus in part shaped by—in keeping with the author’s theme—pioneers and the frontier literature read there.) Indeed, that may be why LC and its hired publicity agents have sent me a new press release weekly through this past autumn concerning this work’s merits.

Clement analyzes frontier literature through a logical timeline. This moves the reader from the first frontier, as he calls it, of provincial publishing centers, such as upstate New York and the Bemis printing of Seaver’s sanctimonious yet poignant *Narrative of the Life of Mary Jemison*, through the famous printing centers of Cincinnati and St. Louis. The history of seminal types of books, such as McGuffey, Midwestern guidebooks, riverlore, and the lives of printers such as Joseph Charless, who published the first books and newspapers west of the Mississippi, are recited through these latter cities. Patterns of printing and publishing are repeated in the Plains and the Rockies; the sketches of Jotham Meeker, who published legendary rarities on Indian missions of the Baptists in Kansas, and the bookselling exploits of Anton Roman and H.H. Bancroft in California are presented in turn.

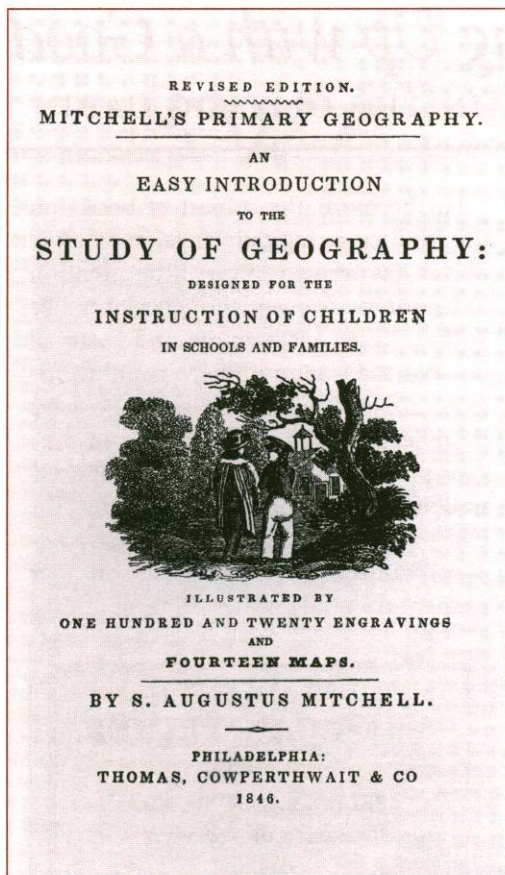
In a very useful final chapter dubbed “The Frontier in Books,” the author puts



games for children in New England has seemed a more fitting topic of bibliographical investigation. What is interesting to most Americans is what happened in the 19th century, in the relevant here and now of there and long ago, a time of our grandparents and great-grandparents. How publishers back East had to compete with upstart rivals in the Midwest and the West in the publishing and distribution of original works that suited the needs of frontier Americans is virtually an untold story; this is because it

this literature in the perspective of American myth, reinvention, and the generational values inherent in the concept of the American dream and American memory. This final chapter should probably be expanded into a scholarly monograph, because this work as a whole romps and rollicks through a vast topic, murkily lit as well by the afterglow of the Turnerian Thesis; and it does it all in 139 too-brief pages, leaving the reader hoping for even more enthusiastic and sensitive studies on the same topic from the pen of this author.

There is one point of irritation with the editors from LC and their publicity concerning *Books on the Frontier*; that is, all of the publishers' statements mention how one of the purposes of this book is to showcase the vast visual holdings on the American West at the Library of Congress, which indeed it does; however, one is made somehow to believe that the illustrations are drawn solely from LC. For one thing, that is not a very scholarly thing to do



in any illustrated work with such an inclusive text made up of regional histories. In this age of collaboration and cooperative ventures, it would have been far better to have mentioned that a small but significant percentage of the illustrations were drawn from other great library holdings around the nation, from collections that hold this subject so important that these institutions have devoted much time and effort in collecting them. At least they gave credit lines, but I know for a fact that colleagues around the country dropped everything, as usual, to assist on this work when LC called, because it helped validate what they have been doing for a great portion of their careers. With a reading list and index.

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THE ALDUS SOCIETY



SINCE its founding in 2000, the Aldus Society has continued to expand in both its membership and its programming, which deals with all aspects of the book. Members include book collectors, archivists and preservationists, book lovers and booksellers, writers, small press printers, calligraphers, artists, and librarians. Our programs have reflected members' varied personal and professional interests.

FALL ACTIVITIES

September: This fall, The Aldus Society continued its monthly programming on September 18, when Charles C. Cole, Jr., spoke on "Overlooked Authors born in Columbus, Ohio, in the Nineteenth Century." His talk was held in conjunction

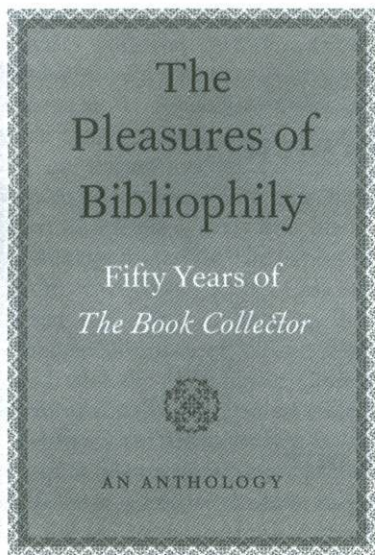
with a book exhibition on early Ohio imprints being held in the Philip Sills Gallery of the William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library at The Ohio State University.

Among the writers included in Cole's talk were Thomas Donaldson, a biographer of Walt Whitman who was also instrumental in having George Catlin's fire-ravaged paintings of Native Americans donated to the Smithsonian; Wilbur H. Siebert, who spent his career collecting firsthand narratives of the Underground Railroad; Lovinia Morehead, the first woman born in Columbus to become a poet; Mary Perry Jenney, a writer of children's books; and William and Joseph Sullivant.

October: On October 16 Drew Jones, professor of Old English and Medieval Latin at Ohio State, presented the fifth lecture in the Aldus Society's History of Text & Image series, focusing on the Anglo-

Saxon manuscript tradition. These texts were created between 700 and 1100 A.D. The names of many of the authors are unknown, but their texts resonate with tales of heroism, frequently intertwining with religious themes. The script in which these texts were written was derived from the Roman alphabet with some Runic influence. It is a rather distinctive hand, looking something like modern calligraphy. (Copies of the complete series of History of Text & Image presentations on DVD are available.)

November: On November 20, Aldus Society member Donald Tritt gave a presentation on his extensive collection of books and papers dealing with Switzerland. Tritt recently helped to found the North American Swiss Center in New Glarus, Wisconsin, where he is donating the books and papers which he has accumulated during a lifetime of research and travel. In 1998



The Pleasures of Bibliophily Fifty Years of The Book Collector An Anthology

Edited by Nicolas Barker

The Book Collector (started publication in 1952) has established itself as one of the leading authoritative journals for those interested in all aspects of bibliophily. Nicolas Barker, The Book Collector's editor for the past 37 years, has produced an anthology taking the best essays printed over the last 50 years and combining them into one book. Many articles deal with particular collectors: J.R. Abbey (A.N.L. Munby and Anthony Hobson), Chester Beatty (Christopher de Hamel), Martin Bodmer (B.H. Breslauer), John Cosin (A.I. Doyle), C.H. Hartshorne and Richard Heber (Arnold Hunt), Philip Hofer (W.A. Jackson), Geoffrey Keynes (David McKitterick), Narcissus Luttrell (J.M. Osborn), Solomon Pottesman (Alan Thomas), Richard Rawlinson (B.J. Enright), and Harry

Widener (Arthur Freeman). A number of other essays are concerned with particular books, authors, or related topics.

This work also examines notable books, including the first edition of the infamous Fanny Hill, and also portrays the personalities of a number of famous collectors, from Richard Heber and Sir Thomas Phillipps, to Chester Beatty and Philip Hofer. Co-published with The British Library.

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— David M. Szewczyk & Cynthia Davis Buffington, Proprietors —

he published the book *Swiss Festivals in North America*. He is president of Tritt Family Research, a non-profit organization that researches and publishes the family's history, which has roots going back to sixteenth-century Switzerland.

December: Our December 6 meeting was held at the studio of Columbus artist Malcolm Cochran, who is completing a series of drawings in response to a new poem, "Fire," by Maine poet Wesley McNair. The poem and drawings will be printed in a limited edition letterpress book produced by Darin Forehand Press in early 2004. Aldus members and their friends met the three collaborators and were able to view the original drawings in this program. December 15 saw members of the Aldus Society gathered together at the annual Holiday Dinner to celebrate the wrap-up of another year.

UPCOMING WINTER PROGRAMS

January 22: Lucy Caswell, curator of the Cartoon Research Library at The Ohio State University will present a talk titled "Comics 100: The History of American Comic Strips." Established in 1977, the Cartoon Research Library is currently the largest and most comprehensive academic research facility documenting printed cartoon art in the United States. Its inventory includes editorial cartoons, comic strips, graphic novels, sports cartoons, and magazine cartoons. Its current holdings include more than 370,000 graphic materials, including 240,000 original cartoons; more than 20,000 books; more than 13,000 serial titles; and more than 2,800 linear feet of manuscript materials. The papers of Milton Caniff, the Walt Kelly Collection, the Robert Roy Metz Collection, the Woody Gelman Collection of Winsor McCay cartoons, and the Will Eisner Collection are the most notable cartoon art collections.

February 12: Aldus trustee Bill Rich will present a talk on First American Editions of Nineteenth Century British Authors. He will also touch on the topic of pirated editions, which in many cases were first American editions. Rich's quietly humorous recollections of discoveries of treasured books in local shops have been the topic of a newsletter article and short talks at Aldus meetings. His finds have included a 1787, two-volume set of Milton's *Paradise Lost* published in Philadelphia, which was the first separate publication of this work in America. Bill's talk should be of special interest to those who might think all the "good stuff" is hidden away behind the glass doors in collectors' private collections.

March 11: The March program will have a "Show and Tell" format, and Aldus members will bring samples from their collections or interesting book-related items which they wish to share with attendees to this meeting. The annual business meeting for the society will precede this program.

April 8 (Date Tentative): Daniel Frank, Assistant Professor in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures at The Ohio State University will present the sixth chapter of the History of Text & Image series when he speaks on early Hebrew manuscripts. (Copies of the complete series of History of Text & Image presentations on DVD are available.)

May 13: At our last regular meeting of the program year, Paul Ruxin, member both the Rowfant and Caxton Clubs, is scheduled to speak on his interest in Samuel Johnson.

Meetings of The Aldus Society are held at 7:00 PM at: The Thurber Center, 91 Jefferson Avenue in Columbus, Ohio. Check the Aldus Society web site for last minute updates and changes.

SPECIAL SUMMER PROGRAM A CELEBRATION OF THE BOOK

July 22-23: Next summer, The Aldus Society and the Friends of the Ohio State University Libraries are co-sponsoring a two-day "Celebration of the Book" that will combine presentations, exhibits, and camaraderie for people interested in the book arts. Key speakers will include Nicholas Basbanes, author of several books on books and book collecting, and well-known book artist and designer Barry Moser.

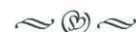
There will also be book signing opportunities, panel discussions, presentations by others related to book collecting, preservation and libraries, and special exhibits that highlight interesting and important book collections of Aldus Society members and others.

All events, with the exception of a special reception on July 22, will be free and open to the public. FABS members are strongly encouraged to attend and join the Aldus Society for two summer days of book-related activities. More details will be available on the Aldus Society web site as the event gets closer.

Remember to check out the Society's web site at www.aldussociety.com, where you can find up-to-date information about our programs and activities and in-depth articles about many of our speakers.

For additional information about The Aldus Society, contact Ronald L. Ravneberg at (614) 457-1153, or rravneberg@aol.com.

THE BALTIMORE BIBLIOPHILES



THE Baltimore Bibliophiles have the following events planned for the Spring.

March 20—Celebrating the 125th Anniversary of The Johns Hopkins University Press. On site tour. Lunch afterward at The Johns Hopkins Club.

May 26—Celebrating the Re-Opening of the Peabody Library: Challenges and Possibilities. Speakers: Cynthia Requardt, Curator of Special Collections, Sheridan Libraries, Johns Hopkins University and Sophia Jordan, Head of Preservation, Sheridan Libraries, Johns Hopkins University. The Johns Hopkins Club.

June—An Evening with Barbara Holdridge, Publisher, Stemmer House Books at The Johns Hopkins Club.

November—Annual Meeting and Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of The Baltimore Bibliophiles. Details will appear in the Fall issue of the *FABS Newsletter*.

For additional information, contact Binnie Syril Braunstein, Corresponding Secretary and Program Chair, at 410 486-6178 or bsbgc@aol.com.

THE JOHN RUSSELL BARTLETT SOCIETY



THERE will be talks scheduled in January and February, the Annual Meeting will take place in March, and The Stillwell Prize Event will occur in April. For final dates and times please contact Pamela Rakowski at 401 751-5581 or prakowski@provlib.org.

THE BIXBY CLUB



ON the evening of DECEMBER 9, The Bixby Club convened at The University Club for dinner, a book signing, and a talk by Director of the the University of Missouri Press, Beverly Jarrett, who has edited and published a "vivid and charming" collection of essays in honor of her friend and mentor, John Hope Franklin, entitled *Tributes to John Hope Franklin: Scholar, Mentor, Father, Friend*.

On the afternoon of January 18 The Bixby Club will gather at the home of Kay and Virginia Kramer for some post-holiday revelry and a talk entitled "Something for

Every Taste." Topics will include: inscribed & association copies, books borrowed & stolen, monumental inscriptions & rubbings, leaf books & book plates, type & paper specimens, watermarks and pressmarks, and wood type & woodcuts.

After the well behaved Valentine's Day gathering last February at the home of John Hoover, Bixby Club members are invited back for the second annual Valentine's Day Open House when John will share selected jewels from his diverse private collections.

Plans for the April 29-May 2 bibliophilic tour of Southern New England are nearly complete and include visits to the John Hay Library, the John Carter Brown Library, the American Antiquarian Society, the Houghton Library, and the Redwood Library. Also planned are tours of the Longfellow House, Rough Point (home of Doris Duke), and visits to the Third and Elm Press and John Stevens Stone Cutters.

The final itinerary with dates, times, and costs included will be mailed to members of The Bixby Club shortly after the first of the year.

For additional information about The Bixby Club or the trip to Southern New England please contact John Hoover at 314 516-7245 or jhoover@umsl.edu.

THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA



THE Book Club of California is pleased to be very active in publishing these days. *The Colt Springs High: A Publishing Memoir of the Colt Press* by William M. Roth, designed and printed by The Arion Press, appears in early 2004. A December gala honoring Mr. and Mrs. Roth launched this lively reminiscence of an important West Coast publishing venture of the late 1930s.

Then comes Richard H. Dillon's monumental *Napa Valley Heyday*, designed by Jonathan Clark of the Artichoke Press. This history of a California region, known now for its viticulture, documents a time when grapes were only part of the story, and the photographs of Charles B. Turrill (d. 1927) envision a nearly-forgotten past. This is a substantial book in all ways.

Elizabeth G. Seaton's *WPA Federal Art Project: Printmaking in California 1935-43*, designed by Patrick Reagh Printers, contributes to scholarship and is an occasion for bibliophilic pleasure. Over fifty illustrations, many in color, show the surprising range of government-sponsored graphic

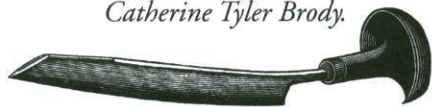
art. Dr. Seaton's text illuminates an important part of the pre-World War II scene.

Other books are in various stages of preparation, and there have been two Keepsakes for members: the 2002 Keepsake, *Up the River: Steam Navigation above Carquinez Strait*, edited by David Hull and printed at The Arion Press, illustrates many aspects of early-day travel and commerce on California's inland waterways. *Historic Trees of California*, under the editorship of Deke Sonnichsen, designed by Bruce Washbush at the Anchor & Acorn Press, and illustrated by Rik Olson, is the Keepsake for 2003. From El Palo Alto to the Joshua Tree, from the Jepson Laurel to the Dawn Redwood—here is the lore of California's noblest trees, both coniferous and deciduous, some to drive through and some to dance under.

The Club's exhibits have been varied and absorbing. Dr. Adela Roatcap encouraged Charles Hobson III to lend his books and graphic art, Degas and Me, though early January. Through March, we could enjoy works by the faculty of the San Francisco Center for the Book—a lively and varied display. March and April are reserved for the Rounce & Coffin Club's annual Exhibition of Western Books, always of interest. For May and June, Dr. Roatcap is putting

JOHN DEPOL A CATALOGUE RAISONNÉ OF HIS GRAPHIC WORK, 1935-1998

Compiled and edited by James Howard Fraser and Eleanor Friedl. Foreword by Donald R. Fleming. Preface by John Dreyfus. Biographical Essay by Catherine Tyler Brody.



This 2001 publication of The Book Club of California was designed and printed in an edition of 400 copies by James Wehlage at the Tuscan Press. Paper: Mohawk Superfine; typeface: Adobe Caslon. 12 by 9 inches, 162 pages, profusely illustrated. Clothbound with decorative paper sides and slipcase. Price \$150, plus applicable sales tax for CA residents; \$7 shipping and handling. Visa and Mastercard accepted. Other Book Club of California limited-edition books are available; for details see our website bccbooks.org.

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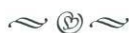
together something unique indeed: San Francisco Psychedelia: The Summer of Love. This will include memorabilia from the era carefully preserved (in patchouli?) by Club members and others. After the triumphs of November 2003, Roger Wicker and his Public Programs Committee took a little time for breathing and planning, but events there will be—worthy successors to Donald Etherington on Otto Zahn; to Jack W. Stauffacher and Roger Swearingen on a 1951 film by Frank Stauffacher—the text, by Robert Louis Stevenson, was narrated by Vincent Price; and to Alastair Johnston on the work of Zephyrus Image, a West Coast private press with something of a guerilla character. . . .

The Club's expanded program of grants continues to support worthy endeavors in the Book Arts and Western History, both for individuals engaged in research and for institutions. February 9, 2004, is the date for the Club's presentation of the annual Oscar Lewis Awards in the Book Arts and Western History, but as of this writing, the recipients have not been determined.

A final note: The Club welcomes visitors, and all members of FABS-related organizations are urged to stop by when in San Francisco. Our informal Monday nights, from 5 to 7, are an ideal time to meet other book-lovers, but guests are welcome at all times.

For additional information contact Ann Whipple at 800 869-7656 or bbc@slip.net.

THE CAXTON CLUB



IN ADDITION to our schedule of luncheon and dinner meetings, we are pleased to inform the FABS members about some of our other activities:

Leaf Book Exhibition. The Exhibitions Committee of the Club, chaired by Kim Coventry, has begun preparation for an ambitious new exhibition chronicling the history of leaf books, *i.e.*, fine press books that contain a single leaf from a medieval manuscript, an incunable, or an important historical book. This is a bibliographical area in which little research has been done, and the Committee hopes to publish a catalogue containing important new essays by notable scholars.

This show is scheduled to open at the Newberry Library in 2005, the centennial anniversary of the Caxton Club's own publication of E. Gordon Duff's *William Caxton*, a book containing a leaf from Caxton's first printed edition of *Canterbury Tales*.

The Committee hopes that the exhibition will travel to other cities on the east and west coasts.

Public Lectures. Council members Kathryn DeGraff and George Leonard have taken the lead in organizing a joint undertaking with the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Dominican University in River Forest for a lecture series on topics related to special collections and the book arts. Details have yet to be worked out, but our hope is that this will provide an interesting activity for Club members, for library school students, and for the public.

Scholarships at Columbia College. The Council recently approved continuation of two \$2,500 scholarships for graduate students in the book arts at Columbia College in Chicago. These scholarships were first awarded last year.

Private Library Visits. Vice President Bob McCamant and Steve Tomasefsky have begun to organize a series of limited-attendance visits to the libraries of Club members. They plan to hold two or three such visits each year, and hope to highlight the diverse collecting interests of our members.

Ongoing Member Activities. The Club continues to provide its members with interesting programs and information about books and the book arts through the monthly dinner meetings, the Friday luncheons, the *Caxtonian*, the reinvigorated Web site, and the various committees that keep the Club functioning as an active and important cultural organization.

LUNCHEON PROGRAMS

The winter season begins on Friday, January 9, 2004 with Caxtonians Jill Summers and Emily Reiser, Fellows and graduate students at the Columbia College Center for Book & Paper Arts. They will present a short slide presentation on their most recent artists books.

Jill will show works in which she strives to combine seemingly disparate elements in bindings related to her content, to comment on the completely hidden, lingering just below the surface, or the completely obvious but ignored. She will also discuss her current in-progress project, *Three Flat: An Audio Novella*, which she was recently awarded an Albert P. Weisman Grant to complete.

Emily will show her latest project "The Bedbug Book." It is the result of her participation in the Center's class "Editions" in which students must conceptualize, write, make the paper, create illustrations, letterpress print and "bind" or build the results

in an edition of at least 10. She will take you through the various stages involved in the production and present the finished piece. She will also exhibit some of her other traditional and non-traditional work. Many of their works will be available to examine in person.

On Friday, February 13, 2004, we will find out why "Pictures Speak Louder Than Words." Susan Jackson Keig, graphic designer, believes that pictures do speak louder than words. For the past 40 years she has pursued the collecting of historical photographs and has been active in the restoration of the Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill, KY, by utilizing these resources to help visualize to others what part this remarkable communal sect played in the settling of the country. She will speak of, and show the collection and the various ways it has been used in printed pieces and exhibits, and what she has written and designed.

On Friday, March 12, 2004, Kim Coventry, Daniel Meyer, and Arthur H. Miller will present their book *Classic Country Estates of Lake Forest*. They will show, describe and discuss their new book which explores the development of the Lake Forest community, beginning with Almerin Hotchkiss's original romantic picturesque town plan of 1857, charting the transition from suburban villas and Italianate styles to grander, more sophisticated country estates. This is the first in-depth study of this richly textured built environment, disclosing both the roles of notable design professionals and influential estate owners, and examining the creative design theories central to the community's development, particularly the careful integration of houses with their surrounding landscape.

In its unique convergence of striking topography, wealthy elite, and architectural achievement, Lake Forest, Illinois, has been a landmark of impressive American residential architecture and landscape design. Abundant landscape plans, drawings, and period photographs of architecture and gardens, many never before published, illustrate the works of these masters, and offer a look at sumptuous homes and gardens from the high period of the country estate.

Related to our upcoming Leaf Book Exhibition, on Friday April 9, 2004, Kay Michael Kramer and Michael Thompson, will talk about their collections of leaf books.

On Friday May 9, 2004, Betty Jane Wagner will talk about the press of her late husband, Caxtonian, Durrett Wager: "Swallow Press" (now Ohio University Press).

Finally, on Friday, June 11, 2004, Caxtonian Bob Williams will talk about and show some of his writing books. "American Manuals & Copy Books." Bob says that It would be a pleasure to talk about my writing books. I've concentrated on collecting 19th century American manuals & copy-books so I can give a short talk on the second "R" of readin', ritin', rithmetic.

DINNER PROGRAMS

We start off the new year on Wednesday, January 21, 2004 with Sid F. Huttner and his talk about "Lucile: The Other Woman in My Life." Many Caxtonians know Sid Huttner from his days at the University of Chicago. Since 1999, he's been at the University of Iowa as head of the library's special collections. In his spare time, Sid has become the world's leading authority on Lucile, a not particularly good book of poetry, but one that was issued in a staggering 2000 or more editions between 1860 and 1938.

Lucile was written by one Owen Meredith, the pseudonym of Edward Robert, first Earl of Lytton (1831-1891), son of the novelist Bulwer-Lytton. Here is the start of Huttner's own summary: "The book is a novel-length narrative poem composed of

iambic pentameter lines, about 6,000 of them, more or less rhymed, couplet by couplet, relentlessly through description, letters, dialogue, and even footnotes. The plot, based on a novelette by George Sand, concerns a wealthy young widow, Lucile, Comtesse de Nevers, who ten years before the story begins had courted with the English Lord Alfred Vargrave, who is about to marry another woman, Miss Darcy—though mutual feelings remain. Now living on the Continent . . ." In short, not a book most people would collect to read.

But it is a fascinating book to collect. For example, one Chicago publisher, Belford, Clarke & Co., produced some 32 editions and variants of the book, ranging from modest "home editions" through lavish gilt-edged and padded copies. The story of the editions is also the story of copyright in the U.S. and England. Huttner again: "Foreign titles had no American copyright protection in this period, but American publishers did, by and large, respect a trade practice of not poaching on each other's titles. This gentleman's agreement began to break down in the 1870s, and it was gone, gone, by the end of the 1880s. The Copyright Act of 1891 for the first time extended copyright protection to writers in other

countries if those countries, in turn, extended it to American writers, but it offered no protection to titles by foreign writers published before its enactment. A title with a juicy sales record, like Lucile, was fair game for anyone who took the effort to produce an edition. Some 75 American publishers did make that effort, each bringing out one, a handful, a dozen or two, or a couple of hundred editions between 1880 and 1920." Huttner is a most entertaining speaker, and this promises to be a convivial evening about a subject both serious and fun.

Then on Wednesday, February 18, 2004, Richard Kuhta will take us from "Caxton to Langston: Celebrating Books and their Owners." He will talk about questions of provenance in collecting.

Richard Kuhta is the Librarian of the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, DC, where he has been since 1994. He is an expert on the Irish literary Renaissance, the Shakespearean paintings of Henry Fuseli, and has lately become interested in the subject of provenance: the history of who has owned a book and what use they made of it. That interest led to a 2002 exhibit at the Folger Library titled "Thys Book Is Myne," which title came from a line boldly written

Available from Sherwin Beach Press

The Essence of Beeing,
by Michael Lenehan



An account of two beekeepers, one who has hives on the roof of his apartment building in the city, and one who keeps bees on his farm in the country. With line illustrations by Alice Brown-Wagner and custom ornaments by Albert Richardson. Hand set in 12 and 14 point Cooper Oldstyle and printed on Fabriano Roma Michelangelo in an edition of 200. 45 pages, 9½ x 13 inches. \$300.

Within the Context of No Context,
by George W. S. Trow



This book explores the role of television in American life, proffering a bleak vision that seems more and more accurate with the passage of time. With four interpretive illustrations by Howard Coale. Hand set in Centaur and printed on Rives Johannot in an edition of 200. 110 pages, 6 x 9¼ inches. \$340.

\$144 a Month, by Steve Bogira



This is the story of people living (in 1983) on General Assistance, a now-discontinued Illinois program that was the last resort of those at the bottom of the welfare ladder. Includes four portraits by the late photographer Mike Tappin, reproduced as duotone lithographs. Set by hand in Century Expanded and printed on Rives Johannot in an edition of 200. 24 pages, 12¼ x 9 inches. \$450, of which a \$100 donation will be made to Marillac House.

The Innocents Abroad, by Mark Twain



In 1867, Mark Twain took a pleasure cruise with a group of Americans through Europe and the Holy Land. *Innocents Abroad* is the report of that trip, laced with acid observations of Americans and foreigners alike. For this edition, Twain's text is paired with cartoons by Heather McAdams, who went

many of places Twain did and reported on the state of tourism today. Monotype set in Bell and printed on Rives Johannot in an edition of 200. 445 text pages, plus 20 pages of illustrations, in two volumes, 7½ by 11 inches. \$1200.

Ballet for Opening Day, by Nelson Algren



This story of the Black Sox scandal of 1919 features eight "baseball card" etchings of the players by Chicago artist Tony Fitzpatrick. They have been hand-stitched into the Twin-rocker handmade paper using a baseball stitch. Monotype set in Walbaum and printed in an edition of 50. 51 text pages, 10 by 11 inches. \$2000. (One available at press time.)

At the New York Public Library through May 28, 2004: "Ninety from the Nineties: A Decade of Printing," which includes the Sherwin Beach *Innocents Abroad*.

For more information, or to arrange to view the books, contact: Priscilla Juvelis [Cambridge, MA] 617-497-7570; Joshua Heller [Washington, DC] 202-966-9411; Califia Books [San Francisco, CA] 415-284-0314; Vamp and Tramp Books [Birmingham, AL] 205-321-9974; or PABA Gallery [New Haven, CT] 203-773-3665.

by the schoolboy Henry VIII in his copy of Cicero: "Thys Boke Is Myne Prynce Henry." [That copy now resides at the Folger.]

His talk will explore the relationship between people and their books through five hundred years of printing history. It explains how bibliophiles, famous and forgotten, have signaled ownership of treasured volumes, revealing something of their character in the process. Books belonging to writers, collectors, royalty, actors, statesmen and women will be discussed, showing the interesting and amusing ways people connect with their books. Inscriptions, mottoes, marginalia, bookplates, book labels, armorials, and binding stamps will be shown and analyzed. And lest we be carried away, Kuhta promises to conclude with a discussion of the challenges and uncertainties faced by bibliophiles in determining provenance. He will look at two books the Folger is currently puzzling over: do they own Alexander Pope's annotated copy of a Third Folio? Can they claim to have Sir Walter Raleigh's personal copy of his monumental *History of the World*?

Writer's markings in their own libraries are especially interesting. It is thrilling to see copies we know were owned by Ben Jonson or John Dryden, and amusing to read Trollope's acid assessments of Marston's plays, sharply penned at the end of every play in his copy of the complete works. "These books exude a quality of life, at times highly idiosyncratic, that connects us with these historic figures," says Kuhta. In short, this promises to be an evening of anecdote and human interest as well as erudition.

On Wednesday, March 17, 2004: Claire Van Vliet, internationally-known hand printer and bookbinder, will discuss her recent work. Van Vliet, has operated her Janus Press since 1955, moving from traditional books of poetry and prose into unique editioned works which stretch the meaning of "book" through remarkable materials and structures. Van Vliet was a 1989 recipient of a McArthur prize, but she's no dry intellectual: she grows her own vegetables on her Vermont farm, and her wit charms just about everyone.

On Wednesday, April 21, 2004: Maud McInerney, of Haverford College, will tell us more about our seldom-discussed namesake. "William Caxton and the Ethics of Translation." The talk explores the implications of Caxton's practice and ethics of translation both with regard to his own translations, and to texts translated by others. "One of the issues I'm interested in is how Caxton as translator is related to

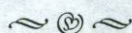
Caxton as publisher—how the literary man and the businessman intersect or overlap," says McInerney.

On Wednesday, May 19, 2004, Caxtonian Art Young, of Northern Illinois University, will bring us up to speed on one of his specialties. Young will talk on "Horatio Alger, Jr.: Juvenile Writer, Durable Metaphor, and Collectible Author." The presentation will encompass Alger as popular nineteenth century juvenile writer, Alger as cultural icon, and Alger as viewed by the collector community. Selected rare Alger volumes and memorabilia will be displayed.

Bringing the winter-spring season of talks to a close on Wednesday, June 16, 2004, Ralph Ehrenburg, until recently director of the map division at the Library of Congress, will talk about the acquisition process at the Library. He will talk on "Collecting Maps at the Library of Congress." Among the stories he will tell is of the effort to acquire the Martin Waldseemüller map of the world—a process which took the work of five curators over the course of 50 years.

For additional information please contact Hayward R. Blake at 847 864-9800 or hrblake@earthlink.net.

THE COLOPHON CLUB



THE Colophon Club meets for dinner and a speaker in San Francisco on the second Tuesday of each month from September through May.

January 13—Macy Chadwick, paper conservator, will speak on a topic to be announced.

February 17—Terry Belanger on "Another Turn of the Screw," at a joint meeting of the Colophon and the Roxburghe Clubs.

March 9—Nancy Leavitt, the well-known Maine calligrapher and binder, will speak about her current project and recent work.

April 13—Jean Stephenson, printer, artist and binder, will talk about the work she is doing on her current book on a recently built museum outside Oslo, Norway that incorporates Viking building foundations into it and exhibits Viking artifacts. She will show slides, as well, of the process she used in making a poster for the Guild of Book Workers' current exhibition "In Flight."

May 11—Madelyn Garrett, University of Utah Book Arts Program Director, will speak about "Book Arts in Utah Today."

For additional information, please contact Margaret Johnson, Pres., 415-673-7130, or marhiljoh@aol.com.

THE DELAWARE BIBLIOPHILES



OUR NEW president, Tom Doherty, is off to a good start exploring ways to increase membership and programs. He presided over our successful annual auction in November, although we missed some of our active buyers due to scheduling conflicts. Highlights of this auction included a World War I Red Cross poster; two tickets to the Delaware Symphony; a children's book, *A Cheese for Lafayette*, signed by both author(s) Elisabeth Meg; *Life on Chincoteague & Assateague Islands*, signed by the author Charles N. Showard and our member Kevin N. Moore, who also provided the beautiful photographs.

Other meetings this past fall included "Show & Tell" at a member's home in December and attendance and participation at the 10th Oak Knoll Fest in October, with its program of lectures and fine press exhibitors and the taping of two programs by "The Book Guys" on NPR. The September 2003 issue of *Endpapers*, the Club's semi-annual newsletter, was the largest ever with 40 pages. It had many interesting articles as well as 16 pages of "Remembrances" of member Tom Beckman.

Dates for our spring meetings have not been set but we know we will have our annual dinner in March with other programs and a possible trip. We hope FABS members who may be planning a trip to Delaware, or nearby, to see our many museums or libraries, or will be attending Oak Knoll Fest or APHA in 2004 will contact Tom Doherty at tdoherty@bookbarn.com to check our schedule.

Copies of our 25th anniversary publication *The Delaware Bibliophiles, 1977-2002: A History & Anthology* with an original leaf printed by Benjamin Franklin tipped in and an original John DePol wood engraving of Franklin's Press are still available for \$125. We also have the engraving as a separate print, signed by John DePol for \$35. Postage is \$5 in either case. Send your check, made payable to The Delaware Bibliophiles, and mail to Andrew McKay, Treasurer, 7 Hidden Valley Drive, Newark, DE 19711. If you have any questions you can contact him at mckay514@aol.com.

For additional information contact Tom Doherty at tdoherty@bookbarn.com or try Gordon Pfeiffer at GAPbookie@aol.com or 302-655-6473.

THE BOOK CLUB OF DETROIT



THE CELEBRATION of the Club's 46th year was held at the Scarab Club, our meeting place for many of those 46 years. A Wassail Dinner complete with entertainment and a display of Books on the Holidays were highlights.

We begin 2004 in March at Wayne State University Press where their latest publication *Riding the Roller Coaster* will be presented by author Charles Hyde.

On April 30 we will partner with the Friends of the University of Michigan Library in presenting "Collectomania," a program of show and tell by eight collectors. We will cover ABC books, Antarctica, Johnson-Boswell, Michigan Indians, and much more, while we partake of a sumptuous meal interspersed with stories of bibliomaniacs.

In May we will partner with the Friends of the Detroit Public Library in presenting a seminar on "Bird Books." This will be a day event in the Explorer's Room of the Detroit Public Library.

In June we will socialize with our annual Bookshop Crawl, visiting many of our used book suppliers and ending up in Windsor, Ontario for more booking and dinner.

Also in our line-up of events is participation in the First Annual Ann Arbor Book Festival, followed by the Antiquarian Book Fair. Also, many members will participate in the Second Annual Kerrytown Book Festival and the Third Annual Windsor Festival of the Book.

Contact Joan Knoertzer, 734 668-6815 (The Library B&B) for program details.

FLORIDA BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY

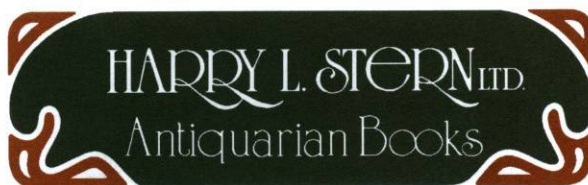


OUR September speaker was Robert Fondes who discussed his book on World War II memorabilia. In October, David Pullen, the senior archivist at the University of South Florida spoke on the

care of books and documents. The November meeting was our annual members' book swap and sale, as well as member talks on books that have special meaning to them. December was our annual holiday party and book auction to benefit a worthwhile book related cause. As usual, the party featured fine food, fine company, and fine libations. The topic at our January meeting at Heritage Village, Largo will be on "Journalism and Papers in the Revolutionary War." Lydia Bonome will discuss her book, *My Three Lives*, at our February meeting at the Merle Kelce Library at the University of Tampa. The March meeting at Largo will feature circus posters and memorabilia. April is yet to be decided and the time and place of our May banquet has not been determined.

We have organized our own speaker's bureau of volunteer members to make presentations to local library groups in hopes of creating greater interest in the FBS. We also maintained a table at the recent *St. Pete Times* Reading Festival and will do the same at the St. Petersburg Antiquarian Show in March.

Any questions, contact George Spiero at 727 376-4914 or at gspiero@earthlink.net.



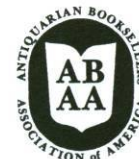
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FONTANEDA SOCIETY



ALL PROGRAMS, unless otherwise noted, are in the Bienes Center for the Literary Arts Ceremonial Room, 6th Floor, Broward County Main Library, 100 South Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

January 15—President's Program and Reception. 7-9 p.m., location will be announced.

February 19—Krystyna Wasserman, Curator of Book Arts, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C. 7-9 p.m., Florida Atlantic University Wimberly Library.

March 18—2003 Artists' Book Prize Exhibit and Program, co-sponsored by the Bienes Center for the Literary Arts and Florida Center for the Book.

April 15—Sackner Collection of Concrete Poetry 2-4 p.m., visit to site. Limited to members only.

May 20—Annual Meeting and Exhibit.

THE GROLIER CLUB



UNLESS otherwise stated, all exhibitions are held at The Grolier Club, 47 East 60th Street, New York, NY 10022.

Information about new publications, as well as older publications, can be found on the Grolier website. The newest publications we offer are:

Whistler and His Circle in Venice: 160 pp., with 164 illustrations in full color. 2003. Companion volume to the exhibition shown at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, from Feb. 8 to May 5, and running at the Grolier Club from Sept. 17 to Nov. 22, 2003. Includes commentary by exhibition organizer Eric Denker, curator of prints and drawings at the Corcoran. Softcover.

The Auroral Light: 24 pp., nine reproductions of photographs included in the exhibition, plus cover illustration. May 2003. Softcover. Checklist for *The Auroral Light: Photographs by Women from Grolier Club Member Collections*, curated by Grolier Club members Anne Hoy and Kimball Higgs, and exhibited at the Grolier from May 14 to Aug. 2, 2003.

The Grolier Club Collects: Books, Manuscripts, and Works on Paper from the Collections of Grolier Club Members, compiled and with an introduction by T. Peter Kraus

and Eric J. Holzenberg. December 2002. 192 pp., 39 color and 96 duotone illustrations. Catalogue for exhibition at Grolier Club from December 2002 to February 2003.

EXHIBITIONS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

"The Winterthur Library Revealed: Five Centuries of Design & Inspiration," December 10, 2003 to February 7, 2004. Drawn from the library collection at Winterthur, an American country estate located outside Wilmington, Delaware, this exhibition comprises printed materials that offer a rare and extraordinary visual catalogue of American design, art, history, and society.

"Reinventing the Wheel: Volvelles and the Magnificent Art of Circular Charting," February 25 to April 23.

"For Jean Grolier and His Friends: Treasures from the Grolier Club Library, 1884-2004," May 12 to July 31.

"The Club Bindery"—September 15 to November 20.

All of our public exhibitions are open free of charge Mondays to Saturdays from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. All our other events are open to Grolier Club members only. Please visit our website at www.grolierclub.org.

LONG ISLAND BOOK COLLECTORS



THE September meeting brought us together at Adelphi University. John Woram presented a program about Robinson Crusoe. John's interest in Robinson Crusoe arose out of his collection of 18th century voyages. Although the condition of the books was very good, this wasn't the way he found them. Most required re-binding. Of special interest was the three volume first edition. John explained how important this novel was at the time of its publication in 1719.

October found us at the home of member Joe Perlman in East Northport, L. I. Joe collects Modern Literary First Editions. On this occasion he presented his collection of Jack Kerouac, The Northport Years, A Collection in Progress.

November was time for our Annual Luncheon at the Milleridge Inn. Our speaker was Michael Silver, an historian and journalist. His expertise is in the sport of boxing. His reports on boxing brought him to the attention of the public television stations. Early next year he will show another presentation on PBS. He gave us the historical background of the sport. He

got everyone's interest when he described various fighters and the fights that took place in this country from the 1920s to the 1940s. Of late boxing has not been as exciting as in the past. Mr. Silver was concerned about the reaction of the women in the audience to his talk, but the women were just as interested as the men. The books that he showed us covered all the areas he spoke about.

Arthur Vidro, our new programming VP will be developing programs and discussion groups for our book collecting friends.

NORTHERN OHIO BIBLIOPHILIC SOCIETY



PROGRAMS are presented every other month as described in the previous issue of the *FABS Newsletter*. We have also issued a new keepsake for members: Bob Hayman: *This Business of Books: A Long-Time Ohio Bookseller Talks about the Book Business*. Bob Hayman was a book dealer from Carey, Ohio, specializing in Americana, who gave this interview to Ron Antonucci shortly before his death in 2002. Roy Preece edited the interview for this publication. Copies of the publication are available for \$10.00 from The Village Bookshelf, 746 Amherst Road NE, Massillon, Ohio 44646, where a list of other available NOBS publications may be obtained.

NOBS has introduced a special group of members who are especially interested in children's books. This group joins another which was established some time ago for those interested in maps. These groups meet at irregular intervals to enjoy programs based upon their special collecting interests.

NOBS President Larry Rakow would be pleased to provide information about our organization and its programs. He can be reached at Lrakow@earthlink.net or 216 932-3084. NOBS has also established a website at www.nobsweb.org.

OTTAWA BOOK COLLECTORS



MEETINGS are held in the small conference room located on B-1 of the Main Branch of the Ottawa Public Library, 120 Metcalfe Street (corner of Metcalfe and Laurier) and begin promptly (more or less) at 7:00 p.m.

January 5—Bibliowassail. Along with leftover seasonal goodies and pot-luck refreshments, members are invited to bring one recently acquired book (from Christmas or otherwise) for show'n tell . . . bring any more and the Grinch'll get ya for sure!

February 2—"East Meets West: Eastern Sources of Western Classics." Paul Shuttle, OBC member, will provide a survey of early books and authors from the Near and Middle East and their subsequent use—either acknowledged or inadvertently and/or deliberately disguised—in Western classics and lesser known works.

March 1—Library History Night. Author Phil Jenkins will discuss his most recent publication *The Library Book: An Overdue History of the Ottawa Public Library 1906-2001*.

April 5—Books About Books. Panel presentation by resident OBC experts John Audcent, George Beelen, and Peter Greig.

May 3—Panel on Children's Books. Panel presentation on Children's books by OBC members, to be announced.

June 7—OBC Annual General Meeting (with all that this usually entails, including a book exchange).

THE PHILOBIBLON CLUB



THE Philobiblon Club begins 2004, as it has begun the last century and more, with a full schedule of meetings.

In October, member Harris Hollin gave a wonderfully enthusiastic slide show about a small part of his astounding collection of color-plate books and brought a selection of them along for the Club to linger over.

November brought us Shannon Mattern, a visiting fellow at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Mattern gave a spectacular talk about the architecture of some new public libraries. This was made all the more timely by the coincidence of the announcement of a major addition to the Free Library of Philadelphia to be designed by the renowned architect Moshe Safdie.

In December, member Don Cresswell of "Antiques Road Show" fame, showed his breadth of knowledge with a talk on some Lincoln-related prints emphasizing a print which he was donating to the Cassatt House of the Library Company.

January 13—Steve Ferguson of Princeton University will be our Edwin Wolf, II

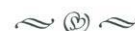
Speaker with "Two Prospects of Academic Libraries in the Nineteenth Century." This will also be our Annual Meeting.

February 10—Jennifer Milligan of Harvard will speak about 19th century French librarians.

March 9—Arthur Kiron of the Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania will speak on "An Atlantic Jewish Republic of Letters?"

April 13—Melissa Homestead, a Fellow at the Library Company, subject TBA. Meetings are held at the Franklin Inn Club, Camac & St. James Sts., Philadelphia. We meet at 6 p.m. for cocktails followed by dinner and a talk. For information Tom Whitehead at whitetm@astro.ocis.temple.edu.

PITTSBURGH BIBLIOPHILES



THE Pittsburgh Bibliophiles are proud to present the following programs:

February 19—"The Story of the Dick Thornburg Archival Collection." Nancy Watson, Curator of the Dick Thornburg

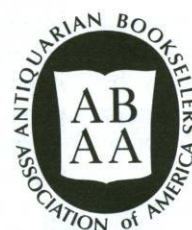
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Archives, University of Pittsburg. Thursday, 7:45 p.m. 271 Hillman Library, University of Pittsburgh.

March 18—"The 'Description de l'Egypte' and Parisian World's Fairs from 1855 to 1937." Dr. Michael West, Modern Languages Department, Carnegie Mellon University. Thursday, 7:45 p.m. 271 Hillman Library, University of Pittsburgh.

April 15—"Rare Books and Collecting" John Robinson Block, Co-Publisher and Editor-in-Chief, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. Thursday, 7:45 p.m. 271 Hillman Library, University of Pittsburgh.

May 20—"Chasing after collections over the past 35 years." William Joyce, Dorothy Foehr Huck, Chair and Head, Special Collections, Penn State University Libraries." Thursday, 7:00 p.m. Annual Dinner Meeting, Pittsburgh Golf Club.

THE BIBLIOPHILE SOCIETY OF ROCHESTER



THE November newsletter of the Bibliophile Society of Rochester featured the following call for participation in a special event to coincide with the December holiday festivity:

"We invite our members—You!—to participate in an exhibit of treasured items. Our event is based on the plan of a recent exhibition at The Grolier Club (see pages 14-15 of the fall 2003 *FABS Newsletter*) in which members chose from their collection or library an item of special meaning to them—a book, manuscript, or work on paper. Our exhibit will be less ambitious, but, we think, no less exciting or interesting. Thus, we ask you to paw through your library. Blow the dust off buried treasure. Burrow to the bottom of the barrel. Peruse pages with passion. After appropriate mulling and not a little anguish, select that special trophy, that pride and joy, that curious volume, or that singular godsend for display at our December meeting. Come share your bibliophilic *chef d'oeuvre* and help celebrate Rochester Bibliophiles Collect!"

Then the bibliophilic season continues into the New Year with a talk from the Reverend Father Jack Lee, St. John Fisher College, who will speak about T.E. Lawrence—Lawrence of Arabia. We conclude the season in May with our popular Members' Night, which features readings from works of prose and poetry by society members.

We are saddened to report the destruction of the Yankee Peddler Bookstore in Ontario, New York. The store, owned by founding society member John Westerberg, his wife Janet, and son Doug, burned to the ground on October 10 with a loss of 40,000 antiquarian books.

All meetings are open to the public and are usually held on the third Wednesdays of September through May at the Brighton Town Hall, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact Ray Edinger at redinger@rochester.rr.com or 585 663-1339.

THE ROWFANT CLUB



OUR guest speakers are scheduled three to four times per month October through mid May at our clubhouse at 3028 Prospect Avenue which we have continually occupied since 1895. Lectures are at 7:30 p.m. and are preceded by a social hour and dinner.

Members deliver talks of their choosing every Friday after lunch during our meeting season and informal current events/political discussion follows Saturday lunch.

Our most recent publication is *The Professional and Literary Careers of Charles W. Chesnut*.

Various trips for members and guests have been planned or are in the planning stages. This year a large group travelled to Ireland and next year a trip to the Low Countries is being arranged.

Our scheduled speakers for 2004 are:

February 11—"A Brief History of Americas Republican Empire." James G. Wilson, Professor of Law at Cleveland Marshall College of Law.

February 18—"The Burning of New London and the Massacre at Fort Griswold." Ted Sande, Architect.

February 25—"The Wasps and the Litigants: Courtroom Satires of Aristophanes and Racine." Albert Borowitz, Author.

March 10—Title TBA. Charlie Fee, Director of Great Lakes Theatre Festival.

March 17—Title TBA. Will be an "Illustrated" lecture featuring performances by CIM students. David Cerone, President of the Cleveland Institute of Music.

March 24—Title TBA. Robert H. Jackson, Rowfant Member and FABS Officer.

March 31—"The Collector as a Performer." Marvin Sackner M.D., Author and founder of the Archive in Miami Beach, Florida.

April 14—Title TBA. Daniel Sogg, Associate Editor Wine Spectator Magazine.

April 21—"The Myth of Identical Type." Stephen Pratt, Printer.

April 28—"Burns and Boswell." Gordon Turnbull, Scholar.

May 12—Title TBA. Peter Pesic, Tutor and Musician in Residence, St. Johns College.

May 21—"The Italian Renaissance Manuscript: texts, patrons and artists." Jonathan J.G. Alexander, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University. Scholar.

For information contact Alan Sogg, M.D. at ajssinus@aol.com or 440 247-1568.

THE ROXBURGHE CLUB



THE 76th season at The Roxburghe Club of San Francisco continues with Peter Rutledge Koch as the Master of the Press and Nancy Coopersmith as the Printers Devil. We are anticipating a Winter and Spring season of interesting guests and speakers. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at The University Club, 800 Powell St. atop Nob Hill in San Francisco, except where noted otherwise. Cocktails at 6; Dinner at 7; guest lecture at 8.

THE WINTER/SPRING SCHEDULE.

January 20—Robert Bringhurst, a noted Canadian writer, linguist, and cultural anthropologist will speak on his current collaboration with Peter Koch Printers: "Carving the Elements: The making of the fragments of Parmenides."

February 17—Terry Belanger, founder of the Rare Book School and university professor at the University of Virginia will give a talk entitled: "Another turn of the screw."

March 16—David Mostardi, an authority on Paul Elder, the noted San Francisco bookman, will address the club on the subject of Paul Elder's career as a publisher.

April & May programs are in preparation.

For more information, please contact Peter Koch, Master of the Press, at 510 849-0673 or pkoch@library.berkeley.edu.

SACRAMENTO BOOK COLLECTORS CLUB



THE Sacramento Book Collectors Club schedule for early 2004 includes our traditional annual "Show and Tell" meeting in January, providing members with the

opportunity to bring their favorite treasures to share with the group. In addition, the election of new officers for the coming year is held at that meeting. February also brings a tradition—our annual banquet. This year's speaker will be a return engagement by Club Member and noted author Joe D'Ambrosio. Further meetings will be scheduled by the incoming slate of officers.

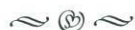
Our Publications Committee has selected four rare and important books on early California history for republication, with editing, introductions, and additional materials provided by a number of local historians and authors. We were pleased and delighted to receive a generous donation, earmarked for the Publications Committee, from one of our members, while several others are giving very generously of their time and talents to the project.

In addition, the Club is participating in a multi-organizational effort to select a "Sacramento List" of the most significant books and/or best original source material related to the history of the Sacramento area. This project is in its formative stages, and the number of selections has not yet been decided. A number of respected historians, researchers, professors, and book experts have been selected for the committee, and a call for title submissions has gone out. This should be an exciting project, sure to stimulate both intellectual interest and controversy, which is as it should be.

The Club, established in 1939, meets on the second Friday of each month except for July and August. Guests are welcome.

For additional information, please contact Virginia Hawthorn at 916 773-3562 or virginia@thoseoldrecords.com.

THE TICKNOR SOCIETY



MEMBERS of The Ticknor Society assemble several times during the year in an organization of book collectors, February—Date and time TBA. Decorated Paper Collection of Michèle Cloonan and Sidney Berger. Members Michèle Cloonan and Sidney Berger will host Ticknor Society members for a visit to their home to see their remarkable collection of decorated papers and to use their wonderful Har-Ma press. Guests will also get a chance to see a variety of unusual printing and papermaking equipment, such as miniature presses, a pica pole, composing sticks, a full-size dandy roll, Western and Eastern

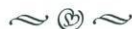
paper molds, a mold for hand casting printing type, a Rouse space maker, an old paper scale, a Monotype matrix case with photo-Monotype mats, and stereotype and electrotype plates. The visit will include a reception at the Cloonan/Berger home.

April 24—Time and location TBA. American Book Collectors of Children's Literature. Founded in 1986, the American Book Collectors of Children's Literature (ABCs) Connecticut Chapter is open to authors and illustrators, book dealers, collectors, faculty members, librarians, and others who have an interest in collecting, preserving, reading, and studying children's books no matter where they live. The group sponsors about ten meetings per year and will join The Ticknor Society for a visit in the Boston area to share their enthusiasm for children's books.

May 22—Time TBA. Visit to the Museum of Printing History, North Andover, MA. The museum is dedicated to the preservation of the history of the graphic arts, printing equipment, and printing craftsmanship. In addition to many special collections and exhibits, the museum contains hundreds of antique printing, typesetting, and bindery machines, as well as a library of books and printing-related documents. Our visit will include a tour of the museum and hands-on demonstrations, followed by a cookout on the grounds.

For more information, please contact us at info@ticknor.org or 617 495-9333.

WASHINGTON RARE BOOK GROUP



OUR spring line-up of meeting sites is as follows:

January: Executive Office Building Library.

February: Air and Space Museum Library.

March: Book Designer Presentation. Speaker TBA.

April: National Arboretum Library.

May: Ft. McNair Annual Luncheon. Speaker TBA.

BOOK CLUB OF WASHINGTON



THE 2004 schedule for the Book Club of Washington does not contain many specifics as yet. We will be presenting talks

on the second Wednesday of the month from April to September at the Barnes & Noble Booksellers located in the University Village Center. We will have a festive pre-Book Fair dinner on October 8, the night before the 2004 Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair opens. An event featuring John Dunning and his new *Bibliomystery* will probably be scheduled and at some time in 2004 we will be releasing for sale the Robert Mattila bibliography of George Sterling.

It should be noted that the pre Book Fair dinner this past October found eighty five booksellers and collectors regaled by the enthusiasm of Roger Wendlick the Lewis and Clark collector. Dealers were especially pleased to hear a private collector praise booksellers. Recognition of the symbiotic nature of the bookseller/book collector relationship seems hard to find in the rest of the country and the world!

For further information please contact www.bookclubofwashington.org or write 1211 East Denny Way, Seattle, WA 98122.

THE ZAMORANO CLUB



THE Zamorano Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month excepting July, August, and September. An annual outing is planned for June each year.

January 7—"Federal One and The American Guide: Creating a Portrait of America." William G. Donohoo. Introduced by Michael A. Gallucci.

February 4—"The Naked Finger for Lunch." Robert H. Jackson, Cleveland, Ohio, Lawyer and Bibliophile. Introduced by Brian E.C. Schottlaender.

March 3, 2004—"John C. Austin, Southern California Architect." James M. Schibanoff, M.D. Introduced by Nicholas A. Curry

April 7—"Scrambles Amongst the Alps: From Edward Whymper in the 19th century to the Present." Joseph B. Vander Veer, Jr. M.D. Introduced by John B. West, M.D., Tucson.

May 5—"Edith Wharton and Her Friends." Paul T. Ruxin, Chicago, Illinois, Lawyer and Bibliophile. Introduced by Loren Rothschild.

June 2—"Real Life Adventures of an Amateur Curator." Lori Anne Ferrell, Professor of Literature and Religion, Claremont Graduate School. Introduced by Stephen Tabor.



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