BIBLIA

A publication devoted to the interests of the Princeton University Library and issued from time to time by the "Friends of the Princeton Library"

Vol. III, No. 1

November 1932

THE COUNCIL OF

FRIENDS OF THE PRINCETON LIBRARY

PHILIP A. ROLLINS, Chairman
28 East 78th Street
New York City

JAMES BARNES
Dickson Q. Brown
Ernest T. Carter
Alfred T. Carton
V. Lansing Collins
Whitney Darrow
John H. Finley
Aaron W. Godfrey
Andrew C. Imbrie

Edward L. Katzenbach
Louis E. Laflin, Jr.
Henry Goddard Leach
Wilton Lloyd-Smith
Charles W. McAlpin
Roland S. Morris
J. Harlin O'Connell
Philip A. Rollins

Whitney Darrow, Secretary
507 Fifth Avenue
New York City

John H. Scheide
Charles Scribner
Ludlow P. Strong
Frederick J. H. Sutton
Booth Tarkington
Paul G. Tomlinson
Perry Walton
Tyrrell Williams

JUNIUS SPENCER MORGAN, A.B., '88; A.M., '96

JUNIUS SPENCER MORGAN, honorary chairman of the Friends of the Princeton Library, died, August 18, 1932, at Valmont, Switzerland.

A son of George Hale and Sarah (Morgan) Morgan, he was born, June 5, 1867, at Irvington-on-Hudson, New York; and, after attending schools in England and St. Paul's School at Concord, New Hampshire, he entered Princeton in the autumn of 1884.

On graduating from college, he, as a matter of course, embarked in banking, a vocation to which the family's tradition beckoned him. However, scant men-
tion suffices for his business career, even though it covered twenty-two years, ran always in important business houses and oftentimes dealt with affairs of very considerable weight. Whether as a clerk in the New York office of John Paton & Co. or as subsequently a partner in the New York firm of Cuyler, Morgan & Co., he displayed commercial ability but not commercial ardor. Content with the amount of his patrimony and unavailing for wealth as such, he was little interested in financial gain and he was irked by the routine matters which interlard the affairs of every counting-room. And so in 1910 he closed his banking desk for the last time and bade a permanent farewell to mercantile life in any form.

This quittance meant no avoidance of labor, for Junius Morgan was incapable of being a drone. Coincidently with the retirement, his former avocation blossomed into an earnestly pursued calling and thereby he became a noteworthy contributor to America’s culture. His contribution was his assembling of books and aesthetic objects, an assembling maintained on so high a plane as to be intellectual rather than merely intelligent.

Though a born collector, he was unassuaged by acquisitiveness. Collation was for him more important than ownership, so much so that his expert knowledge was ungrudgingly and without recompense put at the frequent service of other collectors.

It was because of his urging that his uncle, the late Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, not only so enlarged the scope of his own collecting as to include books, but also erected the exquisite building which now shelters them in the city of New York; and, until his uncle’s death, he continued to be his uncle’s principal adviser regarding the acquisition of volumes. The Morgan Library, which in its field is one of the great libraries of the world, thus owes its inception to Junius Morgan.

Inheriting mental nicety and forcefulness, Junius gleaned in only the areas of elegance and he never mistook prettiness for beauty. Trivialities, particularly in literature, might evoke his indulgent amiability, but they could not arrest his attention—he preferred things with a backbone. A sumptuous binding of a futile content, unless the provenance disclosed significant association, was in his eyes mere borrowed finery.

Because he was logical, his collections were methodic and symmetrical; their various elements, however numerous, being definitely interrelated: and, because he was financially sound-minded—hard-headed, if you will—he restricted his quests to the spheres in which his purse could obtain the best results. Books and prints were his major quarry; silver, ceramics, and furniture his minor. Incidentally, the sixteenth century pulpit now in Princeton’s chapel, though not presented by him, was of his discovering.

Because he was scholarly, he accurately knew the technique and history of the arts within whose limits he hunted; and, because public-spirited, though not in the least didactic, he garnered with view to the instructional merit of his gatherings. Wholly inapplicable to him would be Macaulay’s censure: “The
mere connoisseur, who produces nothing, and whose business is only to judge
and enjoy."

New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art possesses one of the best four
extant collections of prints by Albrecht Dürer. A very considerable portion of
this collection was derived from Junius Morgan. His early French silver was
rated by critics as the finest assemblage in private ownership, and of very great
importance were his collections of Delft pottery and of Sèvres porcelain. And
too, there are the many incunabula—for the most part precious editions of the
works of various Greek and Latin authors—which year after year he placed
upon Princeton's shelves. There are also the prints and books which by his
testamentary bestowal are to come to Princeton.

But beyond all are the Virgilian volumes which, when and as he acquired
them after his graduation, he gave to Princeton and which, in number, imprint,
quality, correlation and provenance, stand as the foremost collection in any
country. The volume most recently given—a Wolfgang Stoeckel of Leipsig—
reached the Library but some three weeks before he died. The piecemeal as-
sembling of these books was no casual happening, for Junius Morgan was one of
the world's best Virgilian bibliographers.

In recognition of his attainment in this regard, the Italian Government last
January created him a Commendatore of the Order of the Crown of Italy. For
other accomplishment, France previously had made him an Officier of Public
Instruction and still earlier, because of his wartime beneficences, had gazetted
him a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor.

He had no vestige of conceitedness. His shrewdness and his all-pervading
sense of humor excluded the taint. He was so modest as often to seem shy. But
it was not the shyness of indecisiveness, for he stood assured against his family's
background, his breeding and his own achievements. It was merely the niceness
of a quiet, cultivated mind.

Being human, he liked appreciative commendation; but, being intellectually
honest, he detested flattery; and his feelings were as vibrantly sensitive as are
the strings of a tuned violin. So strong was the abhorrence of adulation that,
for his self-protection, he employed a strategy which ultimately grew to be a
mannerism. The moment he discovered himself the target of banal compliment,
he would make a socially conventional attempt at change of topic. If not imme-
diately successful in this, he would begin a badinage and continue it until his
persecution ceased. This badinage, gently whimsical at the outset, so waxed
in vigor that, if amid his intimates, it sometimes capped itself with lively
folly; but it never was indelicate. This formed the single exception to the
polish of his usual conversation; a polish that was sincere, pleasing, manly, and
unstilted.

And withal he was a very generous listener.

His interests were wide. Despite his connection with the classics, he was no
more absorbed in the initial printings of the Aeneid and the Iliad and in archae-
ology than he was in current letters, in international politics, in the modern
undergraduate’s studies and pranks and in the athletic ability of the ’varsity fullback.

Always thoughtful for the sensibilities of other folk, he was so courteous a guest that, though an epicure, he could appear content with a muffin.

To gauge the source and nature of the defensive foolery as also to locate the birthplace of the Virgilian collection, we must go backward in the calendar to the autumn of 1884 and we must wander through college grounds of almost a half-century bygone.

Junius, coming from St. Paul’s to Princeton, brought with him a liking for Latin and brought also his sense of humor.

He found himself enrolled in an entering class that immediately assumed a solidarity, a clan-consciousness, an independence, a joyfulness, and a mischievousness which have made it endearing in retrospect; but it was a pest at the time. Its intra-class friendships were so firm and so widespread that the members of this jocund organization tended to blend their surface characteristics, and thus they produced for themselves a hall-mark which they all exhibited and ever since graduation have fondly regarded. This hall-mark consisted of the habitual use of ingenuous persiflage, a particular bit of which demands our special notice. The class included a man—Brough, by name—who was assumed to be over-serious; and so, for his admonition, there was devised a cry which, with its letter “r” rolled as long as breath endured and with its terminal letter yelped in staccato stress, was launched primally at Brough, but presently was adopted as a challenge to hurl at society in general. “He-lo B-r-r-r-ux” reverberated on the Princeton campus at any hour of the day or night throughout four years. Even today it is an impulse alertly sejant in the mind of every living member of ’88.

These sprites of ’88 were Junius’ playmates, and he was among their leaders. Sprites indeed, but far from inconsequential. Their subsequent record discloses a bibliophile rivalling Junius, though in another line; discloses also, in universities’ service, two presidents, a secretary, a dean and six professors; lists two headmasters of important schools, three medical men of note, a sound lawyer, a very able electrical engineer, a vice-president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, a president of one of the principal public utility corporations and a benefactor of Princeton; and reveals a musical composer, a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, another distinguished soldier, and finally the donor of one of the largest unrestricted money gifts ever made to an American institution of learning.

Junius whole-heartedly participated in all the doings of his class save in two incidental ones. He was unamused by card-playing and he disdained the taste of crudely manufactured beer. And so, though gregarious by instinct, he was forced to seek a vesper recreation which neither revolved round the diminutive hazards of “penny-ante” nor offended the palate. Wherefore at the start of his first term as freshman, there was begun with a classmate an argument concerning esoteric Buddhism, a subject then but newly imported into American
thought. This argument was carefully nurtured, each opponent assiduously endeavoring that no conclusive point be raised until the winter rains had ended and the mud had disappeared from the village streets.

Another pastime was close reading of the works of standard authors, particularly of the Latin—and, it goes without saying, none of them in the textual passages prescribed by the college. Do not for an instant picture Morgan as having been a humdrum academic grind—he was too nearly autonomous to be willing to follow rote. But, when blithely graduating with rank at about the middle of his class, he not improbably was as widely educated as any of its members.

Still another of his individual diversions was strolling through the countryside. For many months, Junius suffered severe pain from an inflamed optic nerve. Frequently at night, when unable to sleep, he would pocket a pistol and wander among the vagabonds who then had a camping ground in the vicinity of the campus. These ill-favored men interested him, not because of any supercilious inquisitiveness on his part, but because they were human beings and he was human also.

In a horrid little room garreted into old-time Dickinson Hall, a room which often was badly ventilated, Dean West—at that time merely Giger Professor of Latin—conducted a course in what the catalogue specified to be Latin Prose Composition. Ostensibly it dealt with the dry bones of grammatical construction. Actually that stuffy room was an atelier in which Professor West, taking separate words, transformed them into strings of jewels and, by his running commentary of quotation, exemplars and interpretation, unveiled the craftsmanship of literature. Into that room went Junius with a liking for Latin, out of it he came with a love of the language. He himself says that, because of the inspiration in that room, he forthwith began the collecting of Virgils, and, by the time of his graduation, owned several that were of major rating.

Such was the man who later, while serving—1898-1909—as Associate Librarian of Princeton, was deeply to impress the University with realization that the format of books could affect the message of their wording and that, for stimulation of the student, the princes of thought should occasionally be seen in the splendid regalia which befits them. While fully believing that the books of actual daily use were the most urgent need, he insisted that there must be a place for the books of beauty also. Yet so unbiased was he as recently to urge that, during the current financial stress, we “should not so lose our perspective as to restrict our efforts to cake and thereby neglect the bread which the Library sorely needs.”

Such was the man on whose wise, painstaking, and eager counsel the Friends of the Princeton Library have confidently relied.

Such was the man who has done so much for his University and for America’s refinement.

His grave is in the Cedar Hill Cemetery at Hartford, Connecticut; his monument is on the shelves of the Princeton Library.
My last conference with him was by telephone. Though ill, he even then was willing to advise about the Friends of the Library. The details being finished, I could not help repeating to him a bit of praise overheard concerning him. Instantly, though in enfeebled voice, came the rejoinder: “Flattery défendu. Goodbye, Old Man. Hel-lo B-r-r-r-r-ux.”

Would that every future Princeton generation, when viewing the stateliness of the Library’s array of Virgils, might detect the murmur that should ever in gentleness hover over them, a murmur of “Hel-lo B-r-r-r-r-ux.”

And those who have seen on occasion only the elfin side of Junius Morgan should keep in mind his deeply serious scholarship and his great collections.

“For if you would remember me aright,
As I was born to be, you must forget
All fitful, strange and moody waywardness
Which e’er confused my better spirit, to dwell
Only on moments such as these, dear friends!”

P.A.R., ’89

THE PARKER LLOYD–SMITH MEMORIAL FUND

The Library is now enjoying the benefit of the fund established in memory of Parker Lloyd-Smith, ’24. Several valuable books in the field designated by the bequest—the English drama—have already been purchased. For the present the fund will be used to increase the collection of modern drama and theatrical history, but the English Department is making a detailed study of the needs of the library in the whole field of the drama, and with these new resources, will be able to carry through the development of an important dramatic library for Princeton.

Mr. Lloyd-Smith’s private library of 400 volumes, which comes to Princeton as part of the gift, will form a fitting basis to the collection hereafter to be made by means of the fund. His literary taste was exceptional; and, as his interests expanded and developed, he had already begun to seek out the rarer treasures which are the delight of the collector and the indispensable tools of the scholar. His library includes many novels, plays, books on economics and politics, of which no university library ever has enough duplicates. There are definitive editions which only serious students care to own. And there is a small shelf-full of treasures which will some day grace the exhibition room of a new library: early editions of Dryden and Johnson; firsts of Emerson; a first of Christabel; the 1853 Poems of Arnold, in which volume he acknowledged himself as a poet. It is such a library as only a cultured young college graduate would own, and though it is our pleasure to have it now, we must regret that it was not his to enjoy for a longer life.
AMBASSADOR GARRETT’S GIFT

Ambassador John W. Garrett, ’95, as one of the Friends of the Princeton Library, has presented a collection of 180 volumes representative largely of the best of recent Italian literature. His recent gift contains a complete set of *I classici della musica italiana* in thirty-six volumes and several other books on Italian music. Ambassador Garrett has contributed liberally to Princeton’s music collection in the past. Italian art is represented in the new gift by a set of reproductions of the more important drawings of Michelangelo, Raphael, Leonardo, Fra Bartolomeo, Tintoretto, and Andrea del Sarto, published by the Istituto de edizioni artistiche of Florence.

FRIENDS OF THE KNOX COLLEGE LIBRARY

The idea of organizing groups of men and women interested in college libraries is growing. The latest group was formed in May, 1931, “to promote the interests of the Knox College Library and to increase its usefulness as a factor in the undergraduate life.” One of the moving spirits in this new organization is Dr. John H. Finley, a member of the Council of the Friends of the Princeton Library, and a graduate and trustee of Knox.

Biblia extends cordial greetings to these Friends of the Knox Library and in particular to their official publication, Books.

LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY

The developments of the past few years have given the people of the United States a new interest in our relations with Latin America. We have realized more than ever since the opening of the Panama Canal how important it is to our own welfare that the small and in many cases backward countries which dominate the approaches to that waterway should develop a sufficient degree of political stability to free them from the danger of intervention by non-American powers. We also have invested many hundreds of millions of dollars in government loans, railroads, power plants, and other enterprises in Central and South America, and we now find these investments imperilled by economic and political disturbances. Conditions in the other nations of this hemisphere have become of more importance to us than ever before.

The primary object of the new courses in Latin American history at Princeton will be to give the student an understanding of these conditions, particularly as they affect our own foreign policy, and our own interests. We are dealing with twenty different countries, each with its distinct national character and its own history. The development of each has been influenced by factors peculiar to itself: by the character of the aboriginal Indian population and of the first European settlers, by geographical and climatic conditions, and by its own particular contact with the outside world. It is such factors which have made the history of Uruguay different from that of Nicaragua, and the history of Brazil different from that of Haiti. Only by understanding them can we under-
stand, and deal intelligently with, the problems arising in our own relations with Latin America.

[A want list of books on Latin America has been prepared. Either Mr. Gerould, University Librarian, or Professor Dana G. Munro, who occupies the new chair of Latin American History, will be glad to supply copies to all who are interested.—Ed.]

THE DEPARTMENT OF ORIENTAL LANGUAGES NEEDS BOOKS

Princeton is one of a very few institutions in the country where it is possible to study both Islamic civilization and the Arabic language. The importance of a knowledge of both, in consequence of the developments following the war, is increasingly evident. Unfortunately, the equipment of the Library in aid of such studies is top-heavy. It has the unequalled Robert Garrett collection of manuscripts, and the Princeton University Press has a linotype machine which permits the publication of studies based on them, but there is no special fund for the purchase of important books which are needed by students not yet prepared for the higher study. The Department of Oriental Languages needs such a fund sorely.

PRINCETON'S LIBRARIAN HONORED

James Thayer Gerould, Librarian of the Princeton University Library was given the honorary degree of Litt.D. by Dartmouth College last June.

Mr. Gerould is a graduate of Dartmouth, Class of 1895, and the honor conferred upon him by his alma mater reflects honor also upon Princeton. He has been librarian at Princeton since 1920, coming from the University of Minnesota, where he occupied a similar post. He was also at one time librarian at the University of Missouri, and has held library positions at Columbia University and the General Theological Seminary.

Mr. Gerould is a history associate of Current History and contributes an article on international affairs to that magazine each month. He is a fellow of the American Library Institute, a member of the American Library Association and of the Bibliographical Society of America.

ANOTHER FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY HONORED

On February 28, 1932, our fellow member, Dr. Walter Damrosch, was decorated as a Commander of the White Lion of Czechoslovakia by Hon. Ferdinand Veverka, Czechoslovakian Minister to the United States, who made a special trip to New York from Washington to present this decoration.

In presenting the decoration Minister Veverka said:

Dear Maestro, We Czechoslovaks may have many faults, but we are generally credited to boast of two good qualities. We are good musicians and a grateful people. It is because of these two reasons that I am here to repay in a small way the big contribution and the big service you have rendered to our music and to our culture.
For centuries past, the best our nation could produce was accumulated and found its expression in our national music. Smetana and Dvorak became international figures. Your genius and skill have brought them into the homes of the art-loving people of America.

Dr. Damrosch is an enthusiastic member of Mr. Ernest Carter’s Music Committee. The White Lion of Czechoslovakia is the government’s official order, and the most distinguished of Czechoslovakian decorations.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Position and Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Robins</td>
<td>'91</td>
<td>President, Robins Conveying Belt Co., 13 Park Row, New York City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. C. Durland</td>
<td>'93</td>
<td>President, Canadian General Electric Co., 212 King Street West, Toronto, Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. C. Spruance</td>
<td>'94</td>
<td>Vice-President and Director, E. I. du Pont de Nemours Co., du Pont Building, Wilmington, Del.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. F. Voorhees</td>
<td>'00</td>
<td>Voorhees, Gmelin &amp; Walker (Architects), 101 Park Avenue, New York City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles E. Patterson</td>
<td>'01</td>
<td>Brooklawn Park, Bridgeport, Conn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jasper E. Crane</td>
<td>'01</td>
<td>Vice-President, E. I. du Pont de Nemours Co., du Pont Building, Wilmington, Del.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George H. Malcolm</td>
<td>'05</td>
<td>Vice-President, Otis Elevator Co., 600 West Jackson Street, Chicago, Ill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Penrose</td>
<td>'07</td>
<td>Asst. General Manager, Day &amp; Zimmermann, 112 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ludlow P. Strong</td>
<td>'09</td>
<td>General Commercial Engineer, New York Telephone Company, 1775 Grand Concourse, New York City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland E. Dodge</td>
<td>'09</td>
<td>Vice-President, Phelps Dodge Corp., 40 Wall Street, New York City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick B. Rentschler</td>
<td>'09</td>
<td>President, Pratt &amp; Whitney Aircraft Co., and President, United Aircraft &amp; Transport Corp., 1844 Albany Avenue, West Hartford, Conn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlton S. Proctor</td>
<td>'15</td>
<td>Moran &amp; Proctor, Consulting Engineers, 342 Madison Avenue, New York City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COUNCIL MEETING

A meeting of the Council of the Friends of the Princeton Library was held at the Princeton Club of New York on Friday evening, October 7. Those present were:

Philip A. Rollins, *Chairman*  
Dickson Q. Brown  
Ernest Trow Carter  
Aaron W. Godfrey  
Andrew C. Imbrie  
Charles W. McAlpin  
J. Harlin O’Connell  
John H. Scheide  
Ludlow P. Strong  
John H. Finley

Whitney Darrow, *Secretary*
Plans were made for an active year of work. Membership was reported as four hundred and fifty-two.

It was reported that Louis E. Laffin, Jr., '23, has accepted the Chairmanship of a Committee on Drama, a field of steadily increasing interest in Princeton. Plans were discussed for a Committee to be organized on Oriental books and manuscripts.

There are special Committees now in existence covering Music, Undergraduate Use of the Library, Class Memorials, Engineering, and Library Needs.

Plans were made also for a series of talks in Princeton on book collecting and Mr. J. Harlin O'Connell was appointed chairman of a committee to make the necessary arrangements.

The arrangements are being made looking toward an exhibition in New York of the rare books and first editions collected by undergraduates.

It was decided to hold a dinner of the Friends of the Princeton Library in New York some time in April to be arranged by the Secretary.

**PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS LIBRARY**

The first of the bookcases which eventually it is hoped will encircle the manager's entire office have been installed at the Princeton University Press. These bookcases have been especially designed, with glass doors and locks, and extend from the floor some ten feet to the tops of the windows. The sections recently installed provide shelf space for about twenty-five hundred books; new units can be erected as needs require, and it is estimated that the shelves, when eventually they cover all four walls, will accommodate between seven and eight thousand volumes.

The Princeton University Press library, at present, is composed almost entirely of copies of its own publications, and of books it has printed for others. It is hoped, however, that the time is not far distant when a choice collection of books on printing and publishing may find a permanent resting place in this collection. Fine examples of the printing art will, of course, be accorded a position of honor, but first of all it is desired to collect a "working" library, where the person interested in printing and in publishing can acquaint himself not only with the practical side of these two subjects, but with their beginnings and development.

Books received for this printing and publishing library will be the property of the University Library, but housed in the manager's office at the Princeton University Press as a loan collection. Mr. Gerould is much interested in this proposed library; he has pledged his support and cooperation, and reports that there are many volumes scattered through the stacks of the Princeton University Library which would appropriately form a part of the collection. Possibly there are some Friends of the Princeton Library who have books on their shelves which they feel might be sent to Princeton for this purpose.

Mr. Aaron W. Godfrey, '66 is Chairman of the Princeton University Press Library Committee, and in cooperation with Miss Ruth S. Granniss, Librarian
of the Grolier Club, has recently prepared a list of about three hundred books which he feels should be included in the collection. Mr. Gerould has been furnished with a copy of this list and after a preliminary examination of it the University Library authorities state that they have a considerable percentage of the titles named. It looks, therefore, as if a good beginning had been made. Mr. Godfrey, whose address is Montclair, New Jersey, would be glad to hear from anyone interested in helping to make this important and unusual small library a reality.

The list prepared by Mr. Godfrey shows what kind of books it is hoped to acquire. There are volumes on typographical antiquities, histories of printing in various countries, biographies of famous printers, typographical manuals, style books, histories of printing types, the literature of paper making, treatises on type-founding, wood-engraving, bibliographies of well known presses, the typography of advertisements, ancient and modern fine printing, and a similar range of subjects on the business, or profession, of publishing.

**UNDERGRADUATE USE OF THE LIBRARY**

The Princeton Library, like most other enterprises, is nowadays playing its part with good temper in the difficult game of budget-balancing. It means, inevitably, the practicing of economies that will curtail the use of the Library by undergraduates, and in some directions make its service to the students more difficult to manage. Duplicate copies of new books for assigned reading cannot be supplied in this year of grace with the same liberality that was possible in more prosperous years. Hence, where the available volumes are limited, the students must either await their turn with such patience as they can muster, or else buy the volumes themselves, individually or in groups. This, of course, is unfortunate at a time when every effort is being made to minimize the individual’s cost of education.

The problem of limited working space within the Library continues, and is not likely to be solved until we get our new building. Even before the formal opening of college, the librarians were besieged by eager undergraduates who begged to be assigned desk space with direct access to the stacks—even the use of a plank athwart a radiator was not scorned if it gave arms-length reach of the coveted volumes! So that the librarians have had, perforce, to examine the individual student’s academic record in order to give preference to those who seemed most worthy.

The insistent demand by the undergraduates for working space is not due merely to the need of direct access to books of reference, but is often prompted by the urge to escape the chatter of the dormitories and the raucous patter of the radio as it reverberates about the quadrangles. For the students specializing in the sciences, or in mathematics, or in art, archaeology and architecture, there are adequate facilities in the buildings dedicated to such studies; but the fact still remains, though not everywhere understood, that the majority of our
students are still devoted to the humanities. For such the Library is their only workshop.

The undergraduates retain from year to year their lively hope of relief in the days to come, when our projected new library will become a reality. They will have this year, as heretofore, a Committee on the Library, of which James A. Avirett, '33, of Cumberland, Maryland, is the chairman. These committees provide for the Friends of the Library exciting evidence of the appreciation the undergraduates nowadays have of the importance of the Library as the center of their intellectual life, and of their eager hope that Princeton may not be much longer denied the adequate facilities of which she can make such worthy use.

Andrew C. Imbrie, '95

The New Jersey Livy

Readers of Biblia will be interested in a copy of an early edition of Livy, the existence of which has been known to few classical scholars, inasmuch as it has been since 1885 in the possession of the New Jersey State Library in Trenton where one does not expect to find classical works.

The volume was printed in 1534–35 at Basle by the Froben press, and contains a dedicatory epistle by Erasmus, as well as learned commentaries by two scholars of the period, Beatus Rhenanus and Sigismundus Gelenius. The text, moreover, is of especial importance to palaeographers because it was based on collations of two manuscripts which have since been lost. The original pig-skin binding, delicately tooled with charming vignettes, remains fairly well preserved, and, with the exception of the title-page which is loose and somewhat damaged, the pages are in good condition.

In the margins are many notes. These have been described by former owners of the volume as by Melanchthon who is said to have possessed it at one time. These statements are inherently improbable, however, inasmuch as the handwriting does not appear to be similar to any authentic specimens, and is, indeed, by many different hands, while the character of the notes is not consonant with the reputation of the great reformer. Moreover, the attribution to Melanchthon can be traced back to the sale of the book in London in 1835 by Sotheby. It formerly had belonged to the German bibliophile, Kloss, who objected in print to Sotheby's claim that a large number of the volumes of the sale were Melanchthoniana. On other grounds, also, the statements of Sotheby are open to grave doubt. The Princeton Library already possesses one of the other volumes in this same sale, a Virgil presented by Mr. Junius Morgan, for which Sotheby made similar claims, but with as little evidence. While the association with Melanchthon would add to the value of both books, they are highly interesting and valuable in themselves, and this copy of Livy would be an excellent acquisition for the Princeton Library if some way could be found to exchange for it some Princeton volume of interest to the New Jersey State Library.

However much the director of the latter institution, who is a Friend of the Princeton Library, might wish to cooperate with the Princeton authorities in
placing the Livy where it would be of more use to scholars, it is feared that legal considerations may prevent an exchange. It is in the hope that some Friend of the Princeton Library may be able to overcome the difficulties in the way of this mutually beneficial trade that this notice is being printed.

NOTES FROM THE LIBRARY

Mr. Horace T. White, although a loyal Harvard man, is also a Friend of the Princeton Library, and to him and his family we owe a deep debt of gratitude for the gift of the splendid copy of the First Folio of Shakespeare which was presented to us in 1928. A few days ago, Mr. White was good enough to send us a copy of the privately printed “Catalogue of the Early English Books” in the library of his father, William Augustus White, of which collection the First Folio was the crowning glory.

In the June 1931 issue of Biblias, there was a note of the gift, by Aaron W. Godfrey, '96, of 240 book plates engraved by Charles William Sherborn. In January of this year Mr. Godfrey added to that collection 323 book plates designed by Edwin Davis French, some of them in several states. During his lifetime, Mr. French engraved in all 299 plates. Of these, all but 48 are represented in Mr. Godfrey's collection. Some of those that are lacking were prepared for Princeton men. The Library will be very grateful for any additional plates that would serve to make the collection more nearly complete.

The latest gift of Cyrus H. McCormick, '79, is a splendid copy of Maurolico's Cosmographia, printed in Venice in 1543. Published as it was in the same year with, but just previous to, the great work of Copernicus, the author mentions, and argues against, the theory that the earth revolves on an axis. The book contains four passages that relate to America.

An exceedingly interesting book on the history of Genoa has come to us from Elroy Curtis, '00: a copy of Borgo's De Dominio Ser. Genvensis Reip. in Mari Ligustico. Rome, 1641. The book was given to Mr. Curtis's father, the Hon. W. E. Curtis, during his service as Historical Commissioner for the Madrid and Chicago Expositions.

Ernest T. Carter, '88, the Chairman of the Music Committee of the Friends, has made it possible for the Library to purchase a small collection of musical scores greatly desired by Mr. Downes, the Organist of the Chapel.

Henry Fairfield Osborn, '77, has just sent to the Library a collection of the historical publications of the Instituto de Valencia de Don Juan.

Interesting additions to our Princetoniana have come to us from Charles W. McAlpin, '88, Prof. T. M. Parrott, '88, Mrs. Fred Neher, Mrs. Samuel McLanahan, and Edward Duff Balkan, '97. Using a portion of the gift of Charles W. McAlpin, the Library has purchased several early editions of the works of Presidents Witherspoon and Jonathan Edwards, including some contemporary translations into Dutch and several pamphlets by other early Princetonians. From Mrs. H. A. Collingwood, we have received the Class cup awarded in 1871 to Edward S. Wilde, '61, as the father of the Class boy.
The Friends' general fund has been drawn upon for the purchase of photo-
static copies of a large collection of examples of the newspaper press of the
seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, some of them of the very greatest rarity,
and all of historical value.

The Rev. Sam Higginbottom, '03, has recently sent the Library an autograph
letter signed by Mahatma Gandhi in acknowledgment of the gift to him of one
of Dr. Higginbottom's books.

C. E. Patterson, '01, has presented the Library with an important volume
entitled Earthquake Damage and Earthquake Insurance. This copy is inscribed
by the author, John R. Freeman, who is president of the largest group of Fac-
tory Mutual Insurance Companies in the country, and an authority on the
subject of earthquakes.

Copies of the Librarian's report to the Board of Trustees have been mailed
to all members of the Friends of the Princeton Library. It is an interesting and
informative document and makes excellent reading for all members of our
organization.

Benjamin E. Messler, '03, has placed the Library in his debt by the presen-
tation of a large number of old New York City directories, atlases, and maps.
The Library's file of the directories is now complete from 1857-58, except for
the years 1865-66, 1866-67, 1867-68, 1884-85, and 1886-87. The fifteen atlases,
some of them in several volumes, cover the whole area of the greater city and
show the streets and building lots as they were in the '70s and '80s. Supplemen-
ting the atlases is a collection of 62 old sheet maps of the city.

As a result of several contributions of money, by members of the Friends, a
special fund has been established for the purchase of books by the Library. A
section of this fund is to be used for Princetoniana under the direction of
Professor Collins. Other purchases are approved by Dickson Q. Brown. The
fund has recently been increased by a gift from Henry Goddard Leach, '03.

The most important purchase of a general character was a collection of 600
books relating to Ireland which were secured at the rate of about thirty cents
a volume. Such of the books as proved to be duplicates were sold as a lot to a
neighboring institution at substantially the price of purchase.

Another interesting purchase included photostatic copies of a collection of
early issues, generally the first, of sixty-five English newspapers of the seven-
teenth and eighteenth centuries, the whole forming a sort of cross section of
the early history of the English press.

The Memorial Edition of the Works of George Washington, now in course
of publication, has been paid for out of the Friends' fund.

Charles Penrose, '07, a member of the Committee on Engineering and Tech-
nology has presented the Library with a number of valuable electrical engi-
neering books, pamphlets, and notes.