THE PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY CHRONICLE

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It is fitting that the Friends of the Princeton Library should dedicate this number of the Chronicle to Philip Ashton Rollins '89, the first chairman of the Friends, serving from 1930 to 1933, a member of the Advisory Council for the Library since 1941 and one of the Library's foremost benefactors.

Motivated by a deep personal interest in the West and by the realization that the true picture of one of the most memorable periods in the history of the United States was in danger of being obscured by lack of a proper appreciation of the value of source material relating to that period, Mr. Rollins, with the active assistance of Mrs. Rollins whose knowledge of and enthusiasm for the subject were akin to his own, assembled over a period of many years a notable collection of Western Americana.

As one who had lived and worked with cowboys and had become intimately acquainted with their life and habits, Mr. Rollins became an authority on those vanished pioneers of the cattle ranges and has presented a faithful portrait of them in his writings.

The University is proud of Mr. Rollins' achievements as a collector and scholar. It is proud that his devotion to the University has been such that he has enriched it with his collection. And it is proud and grateful that the books and manuscripts brought together with such distinguished zeal and discrimination and presented to the University by Mr. and Mrs. Rollins will find a permanent home in a special room in the Harvey S. Firestone Memorial Library where scholars may be enabled to recapture some of the life and spirit of the Old West that Mr. Rollins experienced in his youth.

HAROLD W. DOODS
A Conversation with Mr. Rollins

BY ESTHER FELT BENTLEY

"You must understand," said Mr. Rollins with a little smile as he reached for a cigarette, "that I'm sentimental about the cowboy. I have a right to be—I had my life saved three times by cowboys when I was just a kid."

He paused to see that his host had suitable refreshment, made appropriate comments on the doctor's ruling which forbade his participation, and leaned back in his chair. He is a tall spare man ("Too tall to ride a bucking horse; my head described such a wide arc that I got dizzy before I ought to."); with white hair, keen, gentle blue eyes, and the generous brow and good bony structure of the face that Gutson Borglum felt so beautifully in the head he did of Rollins and which Mrs. Rollins has presented to the University, along with the portrait by John Young-Hunter. The accidents of time and circumstance which so shaped his career that Princeton is proud to have his likeness on canvas and in bronze and is honored to receive the fruit of that career began their course when Rollins was very young indeed, and are perhaps nowhere more dramatic than in the episodes which he mentioned so casually. Upon being pressed for details, Mr. Rollins said quickly, "You're sure this won't bore you? Well, once when I was riding herd in Montana, my horse went over a steep bank into quicksand—I was twelve then. He began to flounder as he was rapidly sucked down, but before I had time to do anything or to think of doing anything, I was pushed or thrown onto solid ground where the other riders could get a lariat to me and pull me up. That was all I knew at the moment. What had happened was that a cowboy had seen me go over the bank and had instantly spurred his own horse down into the quicksand beside me so that he could throw me with one powerful shove out of the saddle to safety. We never did find his body, though we waited for three days. Years later—I was afraid to say anything before then—I spoke to his brother about it. 'Why, hell,' he said, 'you got no call to worry. Nothing else he could do. He had to do that or leave the range.'"

"Another time I was riding a horse that was too much for me. He threw me out of the saddle, but my foot caught in the stirrup, and I was in instant danger of being crushed by the hooves of the excited, bucking horse when I saw a flash of steel: a cowboy dived out of his saddle at my horse, grabbed hold of the stirrup, and with his open knife cut it loose. They told me that horse stamped on his head ten times before it could be stopped. The cowboy had known it was certain death to try to cut off the stirrup, but that didn't stop him. I was twelve then, too."

"The third time was in a blizzard in Montana. A blizzard could cause the loss of a whole valuable herd if it caught them in an unsuitable place, so when a bad storm came up the cattle had to be driven to a place where they would be out of drifts, preferably a low hill where the snow would be blown away so they could get to the grass but protected by higher hills from the full force of the wind. This night the wind was blowing in great wild gusts, driving and whipping the snow, which fell so thick that it was impossible to see more than a foot or so. It was a sudden and dangerous storm, and the cowboy who went out to try to head the lead steer into a safe spot told me not to come with him. I followed him anyway. Presently my horse stumbled, and I was thrown out of the saddle. When they found me next morning, I was lying on top of a steer that had been killed to provide me with warmth, and over me was not only my own bearskin coat but the cowboy's. Beside me was a lump of ice—the cowboy. Later on in the bunkhouse they brought me his saddle—it was the custom when a cowboy died to give his saddle to his best friend. I broke down then, but one of the men said, 'Don't cry, kid. He was ridin' for the brand.'"

"That was the important thing—riding for the brand. It meant the same thing to them as dying for dear old Rutgers does to a college man, only it was a great deal more serious with them. They all had a strong pride in their vocation: it wasn't conceit, it was pride. They were as proud of being cowboys as those newly created cardinals over in Rome are of being cardinals. They were fiercely loyal to and proud of the ranch they worked for and willing to make any sacrifice for it, and they all believed in and obeyed the law of the country that any man, any stranger, would be protected against danger of whatever sort by the outfit of the ranch he was on."

"Riding for the brand was their whole life, and they were brought up in the tradition. Most of them were born on ranches, went from their cradles to a horse's back, and started in as professional cowboys when they were fifteen or sixteen, sometimes earlier. They had to be tough physically, they had to be loyal, and they had to be intelligent in the ways of the range, for sometimes
the safety of a herd of 30,000 cattle would depend on them. But, contrary to the current folklore, they weren't tough characters, ready to draw a gun at the slightest provocation. As a matter of fact, they seldom used their guns, in spite of what the movies show you. For one thing, ammunition was too expensive to waste. They always carried guns on the range, because they might find a wounded steer, or a wolf or a coyote, and there was always the theoretical danger of seeing a man-killing horse. (As a matter of fact, there weren't many man-killing horses; I saw only one in all the time I spent in the West.) Guns weren't toys to make a noise with; they were taken seriously, and there was a strict etiquette about their use. For instance, it was bad form to take a gun into the house; a cowboy riding up to visit at a ranch house would never wear his gun inside; he'd take it out of his holster and tie it to the horn of his saddle. Nobody ever had a gun on in the house unless he was getting ready to go out on the range. And it was anathema to touch another man's gun. Even as a ranch owner I would never have thought of picking up a cowboy's gun without first asking his permission."

Philip Ashton Rollins through his contact with ranching when it was at its apogee developed the love for the West and the interest in its customs and lore which led to his making the splendid collection of Western Americana which he and Mrs. Rollins have generously presented to Princeton. He is an Eastern man with an Eastern education, and the early auspices were that his experience would be confined to a small part of the Atlantic seaboard. At the time of his birth, January 20, 1858, his father was Commissioner of Internal Revenue under Johnson, but so that he might be born in New Hampshire his mother left Washington and went back to the family home in the little town of Great Falls, now Somersworth, just outside Dover. He was early introduced to learning, for he began Latin when he was not quite five, and Greek when he was not quite eight, and he is firmly convinced that no man can write well who has not known those languages. With a half year or so to go before he turns eighty, Rollins' own speech is the clear, fluent, diversified speech of one who early learned to shape a sentence and to respect a paragraph. The amazing thing, however, is the flow of stories, of facts; in the quiet room on Library Place, the pleasant, even voice creates a whole vanished world, a way of life now gone, a profession eliminated. In spite of his quizzical disclaimer, there is sentiment but not sentimentality in the stories, and if the appraisals may sometimes be too generous, it is because the man is generous. Mr. Rollins was not a cowboy, but he has shared the cowboy's life; he observed it and appreciated it with the intensity of a boy, and he has increased his knowledge of its ways with the intelligence and assiduousness of a man.

Young Philip's formal education had two backgrounds, for during the winters of his boyhood he attended the West Philadelphia Academy and in the summers he went to a school in Wakefield, New Hampshire. It was at the latter school that he received a prejudice against the state of New Jersey that, he says, "I have never been able to outgrow. My teacher was from Harvard, and he taught us that during the French and Indian Wars when Massachusetts sent to New Jersey for help, New Jersey promised assistance but never sent it; that during the Revolution not only were there many Tories in New Jersey and none or few in Massachusetts, but that a commission from New Jersey which went to New York to buy supplies for the Colonial forces instead bought supplies for New Jersey; that in the War of 1812 Massachusetts' shipping suffered great losses while New Jersey was very little affected; and that finally in the Civil War Massachusetts furnished many soldiers, New Jersey comparatively few. I'm not saying, mind you, that this is strictly true, but it's what he taught us to believe as fact. Indeed, we had to learn the states of the Union from a wall map out of which New Jersey had been cut!"

The pattern which would have made Rollins a typical Easterner was broken by a bank failure and the great thrust westward by the railroads. In 1879 his father moved to Philadelphia as a partner in the great private banking firm of Jay Cooke and Company, the J. Pierpont Morgan Company of its time. The day he arrived Jay Cooke and Company failed. Mr. Rollins senior was appointed receiver and so was brought in touch with the Pennsylvania Railroad, with one of whose directors he went West to join a surveying party and, becoming interested in the possibilities of the country, was soon the owner of three enormous ranches. "At one time in the 1890's," said Mr. Rollins, "my father owned in one ranch more land than was in the state of Massachusetts. It extended from Helena to the edge of what is now Glacier National Park. And in all his ranches he owned more than 90,000 head of cattle. My father was one of the first ranchers to offer his cowboys a share in the profits of his ranch. He always had the best cowboys, he never had any trouble on his ranch, and he refused to hire a cowboy who
hadn't served a prison sentence. He figured that a man who got in jail in those free and open days was tough enough to handle any situation—and his father was an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Rollins senior went West yearly to look after his ranches, and he took young Philip, whose mother was an invalid, with him, accompanied by an English tutor named Bronson. Philip's first stay of any length was in 1875-1876, when he was six and seven, but at the ripe age of five he spent four months in Wyoming in the care of Jim Bridger, the celebrated plainsman and scout. Every year thereafter, until he entered Princeton in 1885, he went out to the West, twice making the long and arduous drive from Texas to Wyoming with a herd of 3,000 cattle. The riders who accompanied the herd had a heavy responsibility, for the slow-moving, stubborn, excitable herd represented a tremendous investment and a potentially large profit, both of which could be lost through bad judgment, failure to check or prevent a stampede, or failure to recognize the warnings of sudden disaster. Indians had ceased to be a significant menace, but flash floods, freak blizzards, or the sudden drying up of water holes were always threatening. It is worth noting that the cowboys to whose seasoned judgment was entrusted the job of moving capital worth $100,000 some 1,500 miles from the bottom of the country to the top were seldom out of their twenties and often were no more than fifteen or sixteen.

No outfit about to start out on the annual trek ever advertised in the Abilene paper for guest riders who would be coddled on the trip and introduced to a fine stretch of geography for a generous consideration, and we can be reasonably sure that Mr. Rollins went along not as a dude but as a working member, with his own string of horses and his full share of duties. Each cowboy had a string of about twelve horses which he rode two a day on slow days when there were no stampedes or other excitement or exertion to tire or lame the horses. They were never fed en route, but foraged for themselves; in fact, even on the ranches only the work (i.e., wagon) horses were ever fed, and even in the winter when the water holes and streams were frozen over they were not watered, for, according to Mr. Rollins, both horses and cattle, unlike human beings, can slake their thirst with snow.

Even college life did not break the ties with the Western ranges, for Mr. Rollins went back twice while he was an undergraduate, and in 1887, just after graduating, he went to Oregon as official photographer with a paleontological expedition under the direction of William Berryman Scott, the distinguished paleontologist. "We brought back," says Rollins, "a good many fossils, but they were mostly destroyed in a fire afterwards." After his return from the Princeton Expedition, he was in New York for a few months, then back to the West for not quite a year, and in 1894 he returned to his own ranch for the last time to sell his property to a Scotch syndicate. Two days after the sale, a sudden snow storm killed the herd and wiped out the syndicate. In those days men made fortunes and lost them in the cattle industry as they had before in mining and were to do later in oil.

But though he was no longer a ranch owner, Rollins made almost yearly trips to the West, in spite of the fact that he had settled down to the study of law, first at Columbia and then at New York University. He was admitted to the New York bar in 1895 and decided not to take the school examination for a degree. "A New York law school degree, at that time," he wrote in answer to an inquiry made later by the statistics-gathering Secretary of the University, "ranked with chicken pox." After being admitted to the bar, he became a member of the firm of Rollins and Rollins. The trips West, now that business no longer called him out, gradually became scouting expeditions of a different order, for his long and close association with the West of vast ranches, enormous herds, and especially with the particular kind of man which the cowboy had to be, led Rollins to begin to collect books and other more ephemeral material on the history of the country and of the industry which dominated that vast un governed empire. In his collecting and later in the painstaking and difficult job of classifying and cataloging, he was enthusiastically joined by his wife, the former Beulah Brewster Pack, of Princeton, to whom he was married May 16, 1895.

It was, however, Professor Scott, his former teacher and good friend, who gave purpose and direction to the collecting activities. That Scott should have entered his life at all was a mistake, for Rollins' contact with the paleontologist came about through the mistaken impression that he was signing up for a "gut" course. Though the professor, a scant ten years older than the student, turned out to be a slave-driver, he was also an inspiring and illuminating teacher and a man of delightful humor, and he had a great influence in shaping Rollins' career, though not in the direction of paleontology, in which he made the briefest of starts. After Rollins' graduation from Princeton, Scott arranged for him to
work with Julian Huxley, but after a fortnight in London, he was lured away on a big-game hunting expedition in Siberia, from which he went to Alaska on a scientific sporting hunt of the grizzly bear. Paleontology even as a semi-serious pursuit was then put aside in favor of the law. The great teacher, however, is forever trying to shape and to mold, and after Rollins had become really serious in collecting Western Americana, Scott told him, "Look here, Princeton lavished a lot of care and attention on you, and you gave us a lot of trouble. Now you ought to make some return. Don't be just a dilettante collector—make a study of your material and write a really accurate scientific study of that world before all the evidence is gone." The result was that Rollins commenced author with *The Cowboy; His Characteristics, His Equipment, and His Part in the Development of the West*, whose title gives a clear indication of the scope and sober, fact-displaying intent of the author. It was published in 1912, and a revised and enlarged edition was brought out in 1916, providing within its covers material for all future writers and lovers of the West. The versatility of the author is demonstrated by the later publication on the one hand of two books for boys which Scribner's wisely persuaded him to write, which small boys dote on and parents cheerfully read aloud over and over again, and on the other of his edition of Robert Stuart's account of an overland trip in 1812-1813 which received columns and columns of respectful and delighted reviews and which caused one distinguished historian to say, "The biographical note on Stuart's career, the foreword, and the mass of notes which accompany each chapter, are models of scholarly work, making easy the task of historians of the West who consult the volume." Another concluded five columns of review: "Not only has Mr. Rollins brought to light one of the most important and absorbing records of early Western exploration, but, in editing this volume with such painstaking care after exhaustive examination of available sources, he has also presented an example of American historical research scholarship at its best. The volume is beyond praise."

One unexpected bit of glory came to Mr. Rollins as the result of the publication of *The Cowboy*, for at the Pendleton Round-up in 1915 the liveliest bucking horse in the camp was named Philip Rollins. On the back of a picture postcard of the equine Philip Rollins about to unseat a grimly clutching rider with a fine, high sidewise swing, Mr. Rollins wrote to a friend, "If, by writing a history of the Cowboy, one has a bucking horse named for him, why not write a history of royalty and be awarded four queens? They would be grand in a poker game." The Pendleton Round-up that year was designed to honor him, and as Mr. Rollins as guest of honor trotted around past the stands with the officials, a band of twenty-one cowboys rode up to him, swept off their hats, and threw them on the ground. It was the equivalent of a twenty-one gun salute. "What did you do?" I asked. And he replied softly, "I bawled!"

It would be interesting to know which he prized more, that dramatic tribute or the Litt.D. conferred on him by Princeton the following year, partly for his work in recording the history and habits of the cowboy. His citation, written by Dean West, begins: "His success in the law and in highly confidential war service have figured less in public view than his marvelous skill in showing that the making and blending of the West from the Missouri River to the California Mountains was largely done by the much misprized cowboys, that virile race of tireless homemen now vanishing." Though the prose of degree citations is perhaps always a trifle luscious, still the fact is that "his writings are the first to disclose in just proportions, larger and lesser, what manner of men they were and the strong part they played, to take them out of the false lights of melodrama and place them in the sunlight of fact, and to make them real and more really romantic."

In our times the cowboy has become the symbol of a wild, free, independent life, but, according to Mr. Rollins, the shooting devil had no place in the serious business of ranching. The life was often lonely, and the responsibilities heavy. When the cowboy went to town—and from the outlying ranches that would be only twice a year, after being paid off—his first action was always a very prosaic one: he headed straight for the barber shop for a shave and a haircut. "Perhaps one of the reasons for the haircut," said Mr. Rollins, "was that often in those days horse thieves when caught had the tops of their ears cut off, so they wore their hair long to hide the deformity. Of course if there was a lady to be impressed, there was quite a bit of effort expended. I've seen cowboys the night before going to town, sit up for hours polishing every part of the guns; they seemed to think that a well polished gun had just as much effect on the female heart as the soldier used to believe his sword did."
foot or on horseback, demanded rhythm, balance, and a sense of
timing exquisite and instinctive. As little kids they played with
lariats, as boys now play with balls, until they knew how and when
to throw without conscious thought. And they were good: they had
to be. It is estimated that a 1200-pound steer makes a pull of a ton
and a half on a lariat—that’s the reason for the high heels, of
course, to dig into the ground or brace against the stirrup—and
I’ve seen a steer when caught just right about the neck jerked into
the air and thrown in a wide arc.

“The saddles differed considerably too in the two parts of
the West. The Texas saddles were narrower and had more dip; the
Montana ones were flatter, due to the difference in horses in the
two regions. The reasons for that difference are interesting. The
horse, of course, was originally brought to this continent by the
Spaniards. The men who cared for and guarded the horses were
lazy and careless, with the result that many of them escaped, and
many also were stolen by the Indians. Increasing in number, they
worked their way up the country in a Y-pattern, with a short prong
into Texas and a long prong into Oregon. In Texas, where there
was little water and sparse vegetation, they had to exercise a lot to
gain enough to eat, and as the years went by and generation suc-
ceded generation, the Texas mustang developed, a lean, rangy,
tough little animal. In Oregon, on the other hand, where there
was an adequate rainfall and lush pastures, the development was
into a bigger, heavier horse which needed a bigger, flatter saddle.
The Montana saddle also had a double cinch where the Texas had
a single one.

“There are practically no saddle catalogues extant now to show
us these differences. They got worn out, and anyway such things
weren’t kept. Some years ago I went to a saddle man I knew in
Wyoming and asked him if he had any old saddle catalogues for
my collection. ‘That’s a funny thing,’ he said. ‘A fellow from Har-
vard was here just last week and said he’d give me fifty dollars for
every catalogue I could get him over fifteen years old. Tell you
what—since you’re a Princeton man and collecting for the Prince-
ton Library, I’ll just give you the whole lot.’ As a matter of fact,
he did better than that: he sent a circular letter to all the likely
people he knew and so got me a lot more.

“There are practically no account books left from those early
ranches, either. Very few were kept; in fact no big enterprise was
probably ever so unsystematically run. All the ranchers figured that the calves were all clear profit, and after they were sold all the records were destroyed.

"I ran across something recently that is even more rare and that I thought I had lost—an undesirable notice, one of the last I ever saw. Whenever anybody came on the range who wasn’t wanted, the Ranchers Association got out a printed notice which said in effect, ‘It has come to the notice of the Association that the following people have been seen in this vicinity. Anybody hearing of them or seeing them, please notify a member of the Association.’ Sounds innocent enough, but it was really a notice to get rid of the people named, get them out of the country. There were about twenty-five members of the Association, who distributed the leaflets at their discretion. The Association also employed range detectives, who were hired to do a job and no inquiries made as to their methods. Their reports were almost always a brief note on the successful completion of a task; no details were given. I remember that at one time out of fourteen range detectives twelve were Texans.

"As a matter of fact, the good cowboys were apt to be Texans.

To be sure, the average cowboy could sit on anything short of a windmill, but even so the Texans were better riders, knew more about cattle, were very much better lariat throwers. And they were proud—proud of their skill and proud of being Texans. Somebody ought to do a study of why they were so violently and peculiarly proud of being Texans. It had nothing to do with the size of the state, though of course they were proud of that. I’m not a Texan myself, but I’ve ridden the range with a lot of them, and I never had the nerve to ask them the source of their pride. And once a Texan, always a Texan, no matter how long they had been away or how far. Why, I’ve seen half-a-dozen cowboys sitting on their spurs argue for hours that five rowsels was the only right number for spurs. There are five points in the Texas star, you see.

"All cowboys would argue indefatigably; it was their chief source of entertainment. There was a rule that you couldn’t change sides more than three times in the course of one argument, just to keep some kind of order. Some of them were excellent dialecticians. The favorite topic was religion, particularly the creation of the world. The essential virtues for them were courage in a man and daintiness and decency in a woman.

"One striking fact about the development of the West which I think we are apt to forget is that almost all the ranchmen in Montana and Wyoming had English partners. They were mostly remittance men sent over by their families for a few years until a scandal had been forgotten, or younger sons. They seldom stayed more than two or three years; the scandals blew over, or they came into the title, or because of a death came closer to it, and so they went home. But they brought a lot of money into the West; some years ago I tried to find out how much they brought and how much they lost—most of it was lost—but I never did get any conclusive figures. The Associated Scottish Banks after working on it for me for a year gave it up because it was too difficult to get hold of enough definite facts.

"The Englishmen also brought a lot of culture into the West. There were practically no books out there, but an Englishman always brought Shakespeare with him: it was the decent thing to do. And they read their books, too, read them aloud to the cowboys, many of whom never got any farther in their schooling than the rudiments of reading and writing. I’ve seen a bunch of cowboys sitting on their spurs listening with absolute silence and concentration while somebody read aloud. They were discriminating too, even if they lacked the sophisticated vocabulary of formal criticism. Once when something of Oscar Wilde’s was being read, one of the cowboys got up and left the room. Later I asked him why, and he said, ‘I don’t see no beauty in watching a hog eat swill.’ And I remember once after we’d been listening to Julius Caesar, one of them said to me, ‘That Shakespeare is the only poet I’ve ever heard who was fed on raw meat.’ When I sold my ranch in Montana I divided my books among the riders, and eighteen out of twenty-one wanted Shakespeare. I sent out fifteen sets of Shakespeare that year.

"I’ll tell you a funny little story about the cowboy and his appreciation of culture. Years after I had bought so many copies of Shakespeare, Mrs. Rollins and I were in Venice when Buffalo Bill’s show was playing in Verona. One morning I was near the Hospital of St. Mark, near which stands the colossal equestrian statue of Colleoni, and I went to see once more that magnificent pair, the noble spirited horse and the easy, bold, confident rider. I found a cowboy there standing stock-still before the statue. A gendarme saw me watching him and came up to ask if the man
The distinguished Rollins Collection of Western Americana had its beginnings about the year 1920 when Mr. and Mrs. Rollins began to assemble books relating to life on Western cattle ranches. Mr. Rollins was then writing *The Cowboy; His Characteristics, His Equipment, and His Part in the Development of the West*, a book which, since the first of its many printings early in 1922, has become the classic account of the life it portrays.

When Mr. and Mrs. Rollins began their collecting activities little attention had been paid to Western Americana by collectors or Eastern historians and there were opportunities to pick up rarities which are now almost unprocured. H. H. Bancroft, as an aid to the writing of his histories of California and other Western states, had assembled the great collection now kept in the Bancroft Library at the University of California, but this had made no impression on the Americana collectors of the East who, toward the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth, were still following the paths blazed by John Carter Brown and James Lenox. George Brinley, who was omnivorous in his collecting, had several early travels for the region west of the Mississippi but they were virtually ignored at the famous Brinley sale. A striking instance of a stone which the builders rejected was his perfect copy, with the map, of Wulizen's *Ein Ausflug nach den Felsen-Gebirgen im Jahre 1839*, St. Louis, 1840 (separately catalogued as No. 4529 in the Brinley sale for 1881). Only six copies of this early account of journeyings in the Rocky Mountains are known to have survived, one of them being among the gems of the Rollins Collection. If a copy showed up today it would bring a four-figure price at auction but in 1881 it fetched just twenty-five cents!

The five-volume catalogue of the famous collection of Americana assembled by E. D. Church, and later sold by him en bloc to Henry E. Huntington, was published in 1907. There are only two pieces in the entire catalogue which relate to the nineteenth-century West (both are in the Rollins Collection), one being the Philadelphia 1814 account of the Lewis and Clark expedition of 1804-1806 to the Pacific, and the other *The Book of Mormon*, Palmyra, 1830.
With the historians the case was somewhat the same. Except for the writings of H. H. Bancroft, few historians had shown any interest in the West until Frederick Jackson Turner gave a new orientation to historical study by the publication in 1894 of his "The Significance of the Frontier in American History." Followed two years later by his paper "The West as a Field for Historical Study." This trend developed slowly and when Lardner's *Literature of American History* (still an invaluable book for Americana collectors) was published in 1902, out of over 3400 entries on United States history there are only perhaps a dozen entries for the Trans-Mississippi West under the heading "Westward Expansion, 1793-1825," with another half-dozen in the section "The Middle West and Northwest" and thirty-six under "Midcontinental and Pacific Regions."

In 1905 the University of California finally succeeded, after several false starts, in raising $150,000 to buy Bancroft's great collection of Western Americana, for a guess the best purchase ever consummated by an American educational institution. Bancroft's successor as a collector in this field was Henry R. Wagner, who tells us in his entertaining reminiscences, *Bullion to Books*, how in the decade beginning with 1910 he began to assemble his renowned collection on the Spanish Southwest and on Texas, followed by his collections of Mid-Western books and finally by a collection of Far-Western books. During this same period Edward Eberstadt began issuing his catalogues with gradually increasing emphasis on books on the Far West, offered at prices which now seem unbelievably low. Charles P. Everett and Adolf Stager with their Cadmus Book Shop, then on Thirty-fourth Street, likewise began to deal in "Westerns."

In 1921 and 1922, just as Mr. and Mrs. Rollins were interested in taking on new fields of Americana to complement their cowboy collection, two factors gave a powerful impetus to an interest in Western America. One was the publication of Mr. Wagner's *The Plains and the Rockies; A Contribution to the Bibliography of Original Narratives of Travel and Adventure, 1800-1885*, San Francisco, 1900. The 1920 issue with its interesting preface was quickly withdrawn from sale (this issue is "excessively rare" as the saying goes), and republished with a new preface in 1921, and then in 1938 reissued in a new edition, edited by Charles L. Camp. The other event was the first of the three Eberstadt auction sales. "A Great Collection of Original Source Material relating to the Early West and the Far West," held at the Anderson Galleries in November, 1922. When the lure of these contemporary accounts was thus made evident, an interest in the fundamental Western books was created which has increased rather than diminished as the years have gone by.

It is difficult for us to realize now how little was known of the country between the Mississippi in the east and California and Oregon in the west in the early decades of the nineteenth century. Our gradual gain in knowledge of that unknown western country, whether from an expedition definitely organized for that purpose as that of Lewis and Clark, or from the accounts of fur traders such as Jedediah Smith, is a fascinating subject for the collector or historian. In the case of Phil Rollins the desire to assemble books on ranch life and the cattle trade was followed by an absorbing interest in the Oregon Trail to which he gave tangible expression in his *The Discovery of the Oregon Trail; Robert Stuart's Narratives*, New York, 1935. It is in these two quite unrelated subjects, narratives of overland journeys to the Pacific for the period of ten years or so beginning in 1841, and ranch life east of the Rocky Mountains after the Civil War, that the Rollins Collection is the strongest.

For the opening up of the West in the first sixty-five years of the nineteenth century, or to the end of the Civil War, there is much in the Rollins Collection besides its distinguished holdings of overland narratives for the period of ten years or so beginning with 1841. It has the representative books for the first decades of the century, including the two cornerstones for any collection of Western Americana, the London 1801 edition of Mackenzie's *Voyages from Montreal . . . through the Continent of North America, to the Frozen and Pacific Oceans*; in the Years 1789 and 1793 . . . and the Philadelphia 1814 edition of the classic account of the Lewis and Clark expedition of 1804-1806 from the Mississippi to the Pacific and back.

For years after Lewis and Clark, the only information on the Pacific Northwest region came from the Astorians and their Canadian successors, first the Northwest Company, then the Hudson's Bay Company. The story was first told in printed form by Gabriel Franchère in his *Relation d'un Voyage à la côte du Nord-Ouest de l'Amérique Septentrionale, dans les années 1820, 1821, 1822, et 1823, et 1824, Montreal, 1820*, and then by Ross Cox in his *Adventures on
the Columbia River, London, 1831. 1 Franchère’s Relation is one of the most important of Western books, for it is not only the first account in book form of Astor’s colossal scheme but also the first printed account of a journey back from Oregon to the East through Canada. Mackenzie’s journey was much farther north and his journal of the return trip ends with his arrival at Peace River. Also on the same subject are Alexander Ross’s Adventures of the First Settlers on the Oregon or Columbia River: being a narrative of the expedition fitted out by John Jacob Astor, to establish the “Pacific Fur Company” . . ., London, 1849, and his The Fur Hunters of the Far West; a narrative of Adventures in the Oregon and Rocky Mountains, London, 1855.

Much of our early knowledge of the Rocky Mountain region and what is now Utah, Nevada, Arizona, and California came from American fur traders. Jedediah Smith reached California as early as 1826. Perhaps ahead of him in reaching the Pacific was James O. Pattie, who left St. Louis for the West in 1824, as did Zenas Leonard seven years later. A letter from Smith describing his route in going from Great Salt Lake to Los Angeles in 1826 is printed in Volume 37 of Nouvelles Annales des Voyages, Paris, 1848. In addition to the Smith letter there are the very rare Cincinnati 1831 edition of The Personal Narrative of James O. Pattie, of Kentucky . . ., and the first edition of the Narrative of the Adventures of Zenas Leonard . . ., Clearfield, Pa., 1839, a book almost as hard to find as the 1831 Pattie. Other contemporary accounts of the Rocky Mountain and Upper Missouri regions are Wyeth’s Oregon; or A Short History of a Long Journey . . ., Cambridge [Mass.], 1853, Maximilian’s Reise in das innere Nord-Amerika in den Jahren 1832 bis 1834, Coblenz, 1839, and the already mentioned rare Ein Ausflug nach den Felsen-Gebirgen im Jahre 1839, St. Louis, 1840, by Dr. Wildilenzus. Two later books relating to this period are Marsh’s Four Years in the Rockies; or, The Adventures of Isaac P. Rose . . ., New Castle, Pa., 1834, and Osborne Russell’s Journal of a Trapper or Nine Years in the Rocky Mountains 1834-1843 . . ., Boise, Idaho, 1914. Wagner-Camp refers to the Russell Journal, which is now very scarce in the first edition, as “one of the principal sources of information regarding this interesting period.”

Washington Irving’s The Rocky Mountains; or, Scenes, Incidents, and Adventures in the Far West; Digested from the Journal of Captain B. L. E. Bonneville . . ., Philadelphia, 1857, though not at all scarce, is another important book for this period as it tells of Joe Walker’s 1833 journey from Great Salt Lake into California. A companion book, Douglas Watson’s fascinating West Wind, the Life Story of Joseph Reddeford Walker . . ., published at Los Angeles in 1854 in a small edition, might well be added to the collection before it gets too scarce.

From 1818 to 1846 the Oregon Country was in theory under the joint occupation of Great Britain and the United States, but in practice the Hudson’s Bay Company ruled supreme nearly to the end. Hall Jackson Kelley, a New England schoolteacher with an almost fanatical obsession that the region should be colonized by citizens of the United States, published in 1830 at Charlestown, Massachusetts, his A Geographical Sketch of . . . Oregon . . ., followed in 1831 by his A General Circular to all Persons of Good Character, who wish to emigrate to the Oregon Territory . . . Good copies in printed paper wrappers of these two fundamental pamphlets on the colonization of the Pacific Northwest are in the collection which, however, does not seem to have any of the later Kelley pamphlets.

The government’s mission to the Indians was established on the Willamette by the Methodists under Jason Lee in the fall of 1834 and by the Presbyterians at Walla Walla under Marcus Whitman in 1836, at the end of the thirties there was only a handful of actual settlers in the whole Oregon Country, toward which the tide of emigration did not begin to flow until the forties. The literature in the Rollins Collection on what might be called the missionary phase of the Oregon Country includes Samuel Parker’s Journal of an Exploring Tour to the Rocky Mountains, under the direction of the A. B. C. F. M. Performed in the Years 1835, ‘36, and ‘37 . . ., Ithaca, N.Y., 1838, Townsend’s Narrative of a Journey . . . to the Columbia River . . ., Philadelphia, 1839, and Ten Years in Oregon, New York, 1844, by Daniel Lee and J. H. Frost. There is also a file of the first eleven numbers, October, 1838 through August, 1839, of The Oregonian, and Indian’s Advocate, Boston, 1838-39, and a set of the reports issued at intervals from 1835 to 1874 at Quebec by the Association de la Propagation de la Foi. The collection does not include Brouillet’s Protestantism in Oregon. Account of the Murder of Dr. Whitman, and the Ungrateful Calumnies of
H. H. Spalding, Protestant Missionary, New York, 1853, but it does have his Dix Ans sur la Côte du Pacifique par un Missionnaire Canadien. . . , Quebec, 1873. Brouillet was the Roman Catholic Vicar-General in the Oregon Country. Though the United States did not acquire sole title to the Oregon Country until 1846 and did not acquire California until 1848, the Great Emigration may be said to have begun in 1841 when the first emigrant caravan for California crossed the Plains. Irene Padon in her Wake of the Prairie Schooner (New York, 1943) calls what followed “the greatest migration in the known history of the world.” D. M. Potter in his penetrating preface and introduction to Trail to California (New Haven, 1945) calls the Gold Rush of 1849 “the last, and in some respects one of the greatest achievements of pre-Industrial America” and says that the journals kept by the participants “are to the Gold Rush what the sagas were to the Vikings, or the Chansons to the Age of Chivalry.” Mr. and Mrs. Rollins have assembled one of the four or five leading collections of first editions published in 1845 or earlier of these overland narratives, and so included in Wagner-Camp’s Plains and the Rockies, and their collection of journals and accounts published after 1855 is perhaps unsurpassed.

While the 1849 and 1850 journals of the Gold Rush show the westward movement at its peak, the accounts of the first years of the emigration have the interest which attaches to all beginnings. Only two separately printed accounts of the Bidwell-Bartelson journey of 1841 have survived. One of these, written by John Bidwell and probably printed at Liberty, Missouri, in 1842, is known only by the copy in the Bancroft Library. The other is Williams’ Narrative of a tour from the State of Indiana to the Oregon Territory, in the Years 1842-3, Cincinnati, 1843, of which six copies are known, one of them being in the Rollins Collection. In this narrative Williams, a Methodist preacher, gives a fascinating and almost day-by-day account of the first emigrant party headed for California. The tale of the Bidwell-Bartelson California party ends at Bear River where, as Williams records, “They went down the Bear River in order to go to California.” For the 1849 emigration there is Hastings The Emigrants’ Guide, to Oregon and California, Containing Scenes and Incidents of a Party of Oregon Emigrants, - Cincinatti, 1845, and for the 1849 emigration George Wilkes’ The History of Oregon . . . to which is added a Journal of the Events of the Celebrated Emigrating Expedition of
burgh, N.Y., 1851. Oddly enough, this is not listed in Potter's excellent discussion of the 1849 narratives in his *Trail to California* (New Haven, 1945). The Aldrich *Journal* is especially interesting as it is one of the few for the southern route and, in fact, is the first journal in print of a civilian journey through Arizona.

Western Americana collections usually contain a number of "recollections" of crossing the Plains and the like, written long after the event. Occasionally these recollections are useful and worth reading but, as a rule, they do not compare in interest or historical value with diaries, or with accounts based on memoranda made at the time. Accounts of the 1849 journey printed after 1865 in either diary form or the equivalent, include S. B. F. Clark's *How Many Miles from St. Joe...*, San Francisco, 1869; Elizabeth Page's *Wagon West, a Story of the Oregon Trail*, New York, 1930; W. G. Johnston's *Experiences of a Forty-Niner*, Pittsburgh, 1892; W. J. Pleasants' *Twice across the Plains...*, San Francisco, 1906; Sarah Royce's *A Frontier Lady...*, New Haven, 1932; Joseph Sedgley's *Overland to California in 1849*, Oakland, 1877; Webster's *The Gold Seekers of '49...*, Manchester, N.H., 1917; and Isaac Jones Wistar's *Biography...*, Philadelphia, 1914.

The Rollins Collection has first editions of three narratives of the 1850 overland journey to the Pacific which are now almost unprociable: the William Miles *Journal of the Sufferings and Hardships of Capt. Parker H. French's Overland Expedition to California...*, Chambersburg [Pa.], 1851 (no printed wrappers), Josephine Shepherd's *Journal across the Plains to California...*, Racine, 1851 (the only known copy), and Ingalls' *Journal of a Trip to California, by the Overland Route across the Plains in 1850-51*, Waukegan [Illinois], 1852. Other 1850 narratives are: Abbey's *California. A Trip across the Plains in... 1850...*, New Albany, Ind., 1850 (copy in printed paper wrappers), Coke's *A Ride over the Rocky Mountains to Oregon and California...*, London, 1852, Langworthy's *Scenery of the Plains...*, Ogden, 1855, Udell's *Incidents of Travel to California...*, Jefferson, Ohio, 1856 (also the extremely rare 1856 Udell giving an account of his tragic journey by the southern route in 1859), and an imperfect copy, lacking the title-page, of the *Journal of John Wood, Chillicothe, 1852*.

Guidebooks were essential to the emigrants. David M. Potter who analyzed thirty-five diaries of the 1849 journey reports in his *Trail to California* that Bryant's *What I Saw in California: Being the Journal of a Tour... across the Continent of North America... and through California...*, New York, 1848, was most frequently referred to by emigrants and that the 1845 edition of Freymont's *Report of the Exploring Expedition* came next. Both of these books are in the Rollins Collection which also has Shively's *Route and Distances to Oregon and California...*, Washington, 1846, Robert Creuzbaur's *Route from the Gulf of Mexico... to California...*, New York, 1849, T. H. Jefferson's *Accompaniment to the Map of the Emigrant Road from Independence, Mo., to St. Francisco...*, New York, 1849, Schmölzer's *Neuer praktischer Wegweiser für Auswanderer...*, Mainz, 1849, Andrew Child's *Overland Route to California...*, Milwaukee, 1858, and Horn's *Overland Guide...*, New York, 1852. There is also an imperfect copy, lacking the map, frontispiece, and printed wrappers, of the Wadsworth *National Wagon Road Guide...*, San Francisco, 1858. The Shively, Creuzbaur and Schmöldir guides are very rare and only one other copy is known of Jefferson's *Accompaniment* and its magnificent map. Even the reprint of the Jefferson *Accompaniment* which was recently published by the California Historical Society is selling at a considerable premium, and the original copy is, in my humble opinion, about the most desirable book in the Rollins Collection.

In Potter's *Trail to California* there is an interesting discussion of the constitutions or by-laws of the emigrating companies and of the collectivist set-up of many of them. There was a real necessity for these regulations in the companies, especially those going overland, were planning to spend a long time in regions where no laws prevailed. Separate contemporary printings of these constitutions or by-laws are a field of collecting on the Gold Rush which does not seem to be represented in the Rollins Collection.

Discovery of gold in what is now Colorado in 1858, and in what are now the states of Idaho and Montana a few years later, laid the foundations for the subsequent settlement of these regions. LeRoy Hafen in his *Pike's Peak Gold Rush Guidebooks of 1859* (Gendale, 1941) has described seventeen of the guidebooks of that year. Original editions of five are in the Rollins Collection: Gunn's *New Map and Hand-Book of Kansas & the Gold Mines...*, Marcy's *The Prairie Traveler...*, Parsons' *The New Gold Mines of Western Kansas...*, Redpath and Hinton's *Hand-Book to Kansas Territory...*, and the anonymous *Traveler's Guide to the New*
Gold Mines in Kansas and Nebraska. There are also photostatic copies of the other guides. For the later gold rush to the Northwest there is a magnificent copy of Granville Stuart’s Montana as It Is ..., New York, 1865, also the Lowell Map of the Nez Perces and Salmon River Gold Mines in Washington Territory ..., San Francisco, 1862 (this has twenty-four pages of text), J. L. Campbell’s Idaho; Six Months in the New Gold Diggings, New York, 1864, and Angelo’s Idaho; A Descriptive Tour ..., San Francisco, 1865.

Later Wagner-Camp items include Brown’s A Journal of a Trip across the Plains ... in the Year 1856 ..., Columbus, 1860, Hewitt’s Notes by the Way. Memoranda of a Journey ... from Dundee, Ill., to Olympia, W.T. ... [in] 1862, Olympia, 1863, and Carleton’s report on the massacre of the emigrant train at Mountain Meadows, Utah, published at Little Rock in 1866. The Brown and Carleton pamphlets are rare and Hewitt gives one of the first accounts of a civilian journey to Washington Territory by what was then a new route through southern Idaho and western Montana.

Many titles in Wagner-Camp’s bibliography of “Original Narratives of Travel and Adventure, 1800-1865” have been referred to in the foregoing brief survey of that part of the Rollins Collection covering the period ending with the Civil War. In the last edition of Wagner-Camp there are 428 entries. Excluding individual entries for serials, such as individual issues of Niles’ Register and excluding composite entries and books mentioned in notes, there are 379 main entries in Wagner-Camp. One hundred eighty-five of these are represented by books and pamphlets in the Rollins Collection. When one states the number of Wagner-Camp items in the Rollins Collection, one should also observe that some fields covered by Wagner-Camp have apparently been deliberately excluded by Mr. and Mrs. Rollins or for some reason only have slight representation. In their collecting, all contemporary accounts of travel in the Canadian West were excluded except Mackenzie’s Voyages of 1801 and those books where the primary interest was the Oregon Country. Mr. Rollins apparently had little interest in the Pacific railroads and their beginnings and about all there is on that subject is the quarto set of Pacific Railroad Reports issued in the late fifties and a little material on the Union Pacific and the Union Pacific Eastern Division. There are three interesting items for these two railroads: Samuel Reed’s report Union Pacific Railroad ... Surveys and Explorations from Green River to Great Salt Lake City, Joliet, Illinois, 1864; a similar report by James A. Evans, ... Exploration from Camp Walbach to Green River, Montrose, Pennsylvania, 1865, and the Shoemaker report of the surveys from Fort Riley to Denver City for the Union Pacific Eastern Division published in Cincinnati in 1866. For the Overland Mail and Telegraph there are some government documents and George Chorpenning’s important A Brief History of the Mail Service ... and the Indian Depredations ... on the several Routes between Salt Lake and California from May 1st, 1850, to July, 1860. Books of fiction relating to the West such as Averill’s Kit Carson, the Prince of the Gold Hunters ..., New York, 1849, and Mrs. Dunway’s Captain Gray’s Company; or, Crossing the Plains ..., Portland, Oregon, 1859, are usually excluded though occasionally a hewer such as Beschke’s The Dreadful Sufferings and Thrilling Adventures of an Overland Party of Emigrants ..., St. Louis, 1850, has been added to the collection with a warning note by Mr. Rollins in the catalogue that “this book is wholly fictional.” Another instance of this is the 1874 edition of Edwin Eastman’s Seven and Nine Years among the Camanches ... where Mr. Rollins’ note reads: “This book is included in the collection to give warning of its historical worthlessness.”

For a guess, Mr. Rollins has had more pleasure from his books on ranch life and the cattle trade than from any other part of his collection. On two occasions before entering Princeton in the fall of 1883 he had ridden with one of his father’s trail herds from Texas to Montana and he had spent six months on the Dakota reservation of the Cheyenne Indians. Perhaps because of having ridden the trail, one of his most prized possessions has been a little advertising folder and map, copyrighted by the Kansas Pacific Railway and published by them at Kansas City in 1875, entitled Guide Map of the Route of the Shortest Cattle Trail to the Kansas Pacific Railway; with a Concise and Accurate Description of the Route: ... from the Red River Crossing ... to Abilene.

Probably the most sought after books for a cattle and ranching collection are those which list and give a picture, under the name and address of the owner, of the cattle brands of the region. These books are invaluable records of times past which for some reason are now rare. Louis Pelzer in his interesting book The Cattlemen’s Frontier (Glendale, 1946) regarded the first Wyoming brand book, Cattle Brands Owned by Members of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association, Chicago, 1888, as so important that he reprinted it in
full in his appendix. This first Wyoming brand book is not in the Rollins Collection but it has such interesting examples as Colorado Brand Book . . . , Denver, 1887, South-Western Brand Book . . . for the Round-up of 1883, Barbour County Index, 1883, Brand Book Published by the Montana Stock Growers' Association, Helena, 1890, Brand Book Jackson County Stockmen's Association, Medford Mail Print [Oregon], 1904, and Brand Book for 1883, Published by the Wyoming Stock Growers' Association, Fourth Edition, Cheyenne, 1885.

The three standard books, now quite rare, on the cattle trade which are almost invariably referred to in later discussion of that subject are McCoy's Historic Sketches of the Cattle Trade . . . , Kansas City, 1874, James Cox's Historical and Biographical Record of the Cattle Industry . . . , Saint Louis, 1895, and Volume I (no more volumes issued) of Prose and Poetry of the Live Stock Industry of the United States . . . , Denver and Kansas City, 1905. These are all in the collection together with a great many general accounts of ranch life in the West. Among the interesting early accounts of this way of life are Curley's Nebraska, Its Advantages, Resources, and Drawbacks, London, 1875, Brishin's The Beef Banana; or, How to Get Rich on the Plains . . . , Philadelphia, 1881, Cattle Ranches and Cattle Raising on the Plains, Boston, 1881, Cattle Raising in South-Central and South-West Kansas, Topeka, 1886, Richthofen's Cattle-Raising on the Plains of North America, New York, 1885, William Shepherd's Prairie Experience in Handling Cattle and Sheep, London, 1884, and Siringo's A Texas Cow Boy . . . , Chicago, 1885. One of the later, but most entertaining, of these books is Benjamin S. Miller's Ranch Life in Southern Kansas and the Indian Territory . . ., New York, 1896, and one of Mr. Rollins' great favorites is Mercer's The Banditti of the Plains or The Cattlemen's Invasion of Wyoming in 1892 (The Crowninjng Infamy of the Ages), Cheyenne, 1894. In the early days any member of the Wyoming Stock Growers' Association who could lay hands on this book would destroy it.

Peter has an interesting bibliography of books on cattle and Western ranch life in his The Cattlemen's Frontier but, as he says, it is not intended to be exhaustive and as far as I know there is no general bibliography of books on this subject. Anyone undertaking such a bibliography will find many titles to record from the Rollins Collection.

If space permitted, much more could be written about the Rollins Collection. One could list interesting books on life in the region along the eastern flank of the Rocky Mountains from Texas in the south to North Dakota and Montana in the north. Though for the most part the collection for this region relates to life since the Civil War, there are several interesting and rare Texas books for the period of the Texas Republic, and many of the Wagner-Camp titles on the Great Plains and the Upper Missouri are present. Even California is represented with twenty-five or so books which are listed in The Amorarao 80, A Selection of Distinguished California Books (Los Angeles, 1945).

The collection also includes some fine Western maps. I have already mentioned the magnificent map in Jefferson's Accompaniment to the Map of the Emigrant Road . . . , New York, 1849. Another map which Mr. Rollins prizes greatly is the John H. Robinson Map of Mexico, Louisiana and the Missouri Territory . . ., Philadelphia, 1819. Some twenty years ago we were friendly rivals for the only copy of the Robinson map which up to that time either of us had ever seen. I was the loser and for years tried to tempt my friend to part with his copy, pleading that it was essential to my Texas collection, to which he always replied that it was essential to his South Pass collection. Finally, a search of about a dozen years was rewarded by my finding a procurable duplicate of the map in a great institutional library.

Fragmentary and incomplete as this survey of the Rollins Collection may be, it could not have been carried out at all if there had not been an excellent card catalogue, with careful collations, of the twenty-three hundred or so books in the collection. Mrs. Rollins was tremendously interested in building up the collection and personally supervised the research incident to compiling its card file. She knew the books and their authors well and had a keen eye for the valuable. Mr. Rollins has contributed to the catalogue by writing brief descriptive notes to many of the entries. It would be most helpful if a printed classified catalogue of the collection were published, especially of the books on ranch life and cattle trade for which there are at present only brief bibliographies.

It has been a real pleasure for me to attempt this quite inadequate survey of the Rollins Collection, for Phil Rollins is an old and dear friend. We have spent many happy hours over the years, discussing well-known characters of our native state of New Hampshire, swapping yarns of our book collecting experiences and hypo-
critically commiserating each other for having missed out on this or that prize. Much to my regret, a slight indisposition has prevented him from discussing this paper with me. I wanted him to tell me more about his books on ranch life and cattle (I have an uneasy feeling that full justice is not done here to that phase of the Rollins Collection), but most of all I wanted the pleasure of talking again with one of the finest gentlemen of our time.

The Writings of Philip Ashton Rollins

BY ROBERT GLASS CLELAND '09

The frontier was one of the basic factors in American history from the establishment of the Virginia Colony in 1607 to the closing years of the nineteenth century. Then, except in a greatly restricted sense, the frontier vanished, never again to reappear. No future age of Americans will know by experience what it meant to every generation of their predecessors. It lives for us now only in the history and tradition of the race.

The term frontier was used in an extremely elastic sense. There was the Allegheny frontier, the Rocky Mountain frontier, the Kentucky frontier, the Mexican frontier, the Indian frontier, the fur trading frontier, the mining frontier, the cattle frontier. Though differing greatly in customs, manner of life, and historical significance, all of these frontiers had certain common denominators: they were characterized by simplicity, isolation and difficulty of access; they possessed few comforts, conveniences, and cultural opportunities; they represented a society that relied to a large degree on its own initiative and resources, even for such basic needs as law, order, and protection.

The frontier, of whatever kind, developed in turn certain compensating traits: self-reliance, hospitality, quickness of eye, keenness of observation, toughness of fiber and sinew, contempt for self-pity and hatred of sham and all pretentiousness; deep, if usually unspoken, appreciation of the glory of sunrise and sunset and the quiet beauty of a starlit night; humor, sometimes crude, rough, elemental, sometimes subtle, skillfully camouflaged; and above all, a democracy that led the individual to respect the intrinsic dignity of his fellows and demand the same recognition for himself.

"What was the spirit of the West, of the Old West? It was a spirit that begat personal service and extreme self-reliance. . . . It was a spirit that gave to a man an intense individualism. . . . It was a spirit that nurtured an undying pride in the country of the West, a devoted loyalty to its people as a class, a fierce partisanship in favor of that country and its people, and a complete silence about and very generous forgiving of whatever wrongs any of the latter might have done. . . .
... The West had no wish to be uplifted from afar, no wish to be uplifted by any one claiming superiority to it, no wish in fact to be uplifted at all. It was quite content with its own system of democracy."

Philip Ashton Rollins, who wrote the words just quoted, was a product of this Old West. He lived on the frontier, he loved the frontier, he made a remarkable collection of books and manuscripts dealing with the frontier, he wrote of the frontier. His frontier was the cattle country of the Northwest. At least that was the frontier with which he had first-hand, intimate acquaintance, though he possessed more than passing knowledge of all the range country from Texas to the Canadian border, and he lived close enough to the days of the fur traders to know Jim Bridger, in some respects the greatest of the long-vanished mountain men.

Rollins wrote three books dealing with the cattlemen, the cowboy, and the open range; and he edited the narratives of Robert Stuart, the discoverer of the South Pass and the Oregon Trail. The books appeared in the following chronological order: The Cowboy; His Characteristics, His Equipment, and His Part in the Development of the West, New York, 1922. (The title of the revised and enlarged edition of 1936 reads: The Cowboy; An Unconventional History of Civilization on the Old-time Cattle Range.)

Jinglebob; A True Story of a Real Cowboy, New York, 1927.
The Discovery of the Oregon Trail; Robert Stuart's Narratives, New York, 1935.
Gone Haywire; Two Tenderfoots on the Montana Cattle Range in 1886, New York, 1939.

Jinglebob and Gone Haywire recount in the form of thinly veiled fictional narrative Rollins' own experiences as a boy on his father's cattle ranches in Wyoming and Montana. They are interesting but not outstanding. The other two volumes, The Cowboy and The Discovery of the Oregon Trail, however, have distinct and permanent value.

Published first in 1922, The Cowboy ran through various printings and appeared in 1936 in a new and considerably enlarged edition. The book's value lies in its great accuracy, its vivid and detailed descriptions, its correct historical appraisals, and the preservation of stories of humorous, colorful, and dramatic episodes. It is an indispensable source book on the cowboy and the cattle range and will survive as long as Americans have an interest in the history and tradition of the West.

"The American cowboy, by reason of his picturesque, has been a frequent subject for the dramatist, the novelist, the illustrator, and the motion-picture photographer," wrote Rollins in the preface to the first edition of his book.

"The portrait is often charmingly presented," he added a little later, "but it is not accurate. The cowboy was far more than a theatrical character. He was an affirmative, constructive factor in the social and political development of the United States.

"Consequently he deserves to be assured more kindly treatment by ultimate history than presumably he will receive unless, while the testimony of eye-witnesses be still procurable, such testimony be gathered and recorded..."

"He [the author] makes no pretension of having discovered the West, any part of it, any person in it, or anything relating to it. But in this book he has earnestly striven to record truthfully what Western ranchmen, in the ordinary course of their business, said within his hearing and did before his eyes, and thus to recount accurately the every-day life of the old-time Range."

So Rollins has stripped the cowboy of his phony Hollywood trappings and drawn him true to life, a figure that might have served Emerson Hough for a model or furnished the prototypes of the characters in Owen Wister's The Virginian.

The Cowboy, as I have already intimated, is especially valuable because of its wealth of authentic information on all that pertained to the cattlemen's way of life and the technique of his vocation—his food, bed, dress, manners, speech, weapons, saddle, spurs, bridle, lariat, brands, and everything else that related to his life and calling. Rollins tells how the cowboy talked, roped, shot, trailed, caroused, joked, doused himself with patent medicines, cooked before an open fire, fought, courted, cared for his wounded comrades, and on occasion, died. The book, too, might serve as a glossary of the cowboy's characteristic speech, colorful vocabulary, and technical nomenclature.

The cowboy's sense of humor, though penetrating and direct, had in it an elemental quality like that of the mountains, the forests, and the gusty wind. He seemed to laugh both at and with the universe. But his reverence was as simple and unaffected as that of a little child.
“A man in chaps, taking his first look down into the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone,” wrote Rollins, “remained quiescent for two minutes, then straightened in his saddle and made a soldierly salute to that great abyss and galaxy of color. All that he later said about it was ‘God dug that there hole in anger, and painted it in joy.’

Another man, Tazewell Woody, who, while not a ranchman but instead a scout and hunting guide, yet lived in close relationship with ranchmen, was with a companion searching for mountain-sheep. The men had reached the summit of a peak the moment before the morning sun rose from behind another peak, and shot a golden pathway across the intervening field of snow. Woody’s companion, with eyes glued to binoculars which were pointed elsewhere, said at that climactic instant: ‘There’s a big man,’ and was answered: ‘Shut up, God’s waking.’ . . .

“The cowboy was quite apt to talk in quizical terms. Jim Stebbins and Joe — (7) accompanied a military detachment during the Sioux campaign of 1876. In a skirmish the horse of one of them fell and laid a stunned rider on the ground. There ran toward this man a squaw armed with one of the stone-headed, long-handled hammers known as ‘skull crackers,’ and used by Indian women for crushing the heads of wounded enemies. The semi-insensible puncher was recalled to action by his companion’s announcement: ‘Look out, Jim. There’s a lady coming.’

“Dave Radio, of Oregon and Texas, thus described a Texas ranger’s killing of a renegade: ‘The ranger came up and said quietly: “You’re wanted. You’d better come along peaceable-like.” The outlaw he began to throw talk. The ranger he said: “Don’t act up. Be sensible and come along with me.” The outlaw, still jawing, started to reach. He hadn’t a tenderfoot’s chance at that game, for the ranger he just whirled out his own gun, and that outlaw stopped plumb short talking to the ranger and began a conversation with Saint Peter.’

It is scarcely necessary to point out that the cowboy enriched American speech with vigorous, homespun words and descriptive phrases as vivid in their direct simplicity as some arresting lines from the Old Testament or Homer’s Iliad. It is equally obvious that the cowboy left his stamp on the history and traditions of the West and added the leaven of his democracy to our society. “He was,” to use Rollins’ phrase again, “an affirmative, constructive factor in the social and political development of the United
States." The trail over which he rode "was no mere cowpath. It was the course of empire." He and his fellows "not only definitely shaped public opinion throughout America's West, but also dominated for a quarter of a century in its government, and finally left upon it a social and political impress which... may prove itself to be permanent."

Rollins' second noteworthy volume, The Discovery of the Oregon Trail, contains the narratives of the altogether remarkable fur trader and explorer, Robert Stuart. The text is taken from the original manuscripts in the collection of William Robertson Coe, now in the Yale University Library. Rollins has added as an appendix to the volume An Account of the Tonquin's Voyage and of Events at Fort Astoria [1811-12], and Wilson Price Hunt's Diary of His Overland Trip Westward to Astoria in 1811-12.

The American fur trader, beaver hunter, or mountain man, to whose profession Stuart belonged, was a unique figure among American frontiersmen. He was a restless, daring, hawk-eyed wanderer who roamed through half a continent and vanished from the earth a long, long century ago. He was the product of the wilderness, its deserts, mountains, forests, winds, and streams. He was the first to take an interest in the vast and lonely spaces of the West, to explore its mysteries, discover its hidden trails, and "march with the sun to the last frontiers."

Robert Stuart and Ramsay Crooks, members of John Jacob Astor's ill-fated venture on the Columbia, were among the earliest representatives of this unusual breed of men to reach the Northwest. Their heroic return to St. Louis resulted in the discovery of the famous South Pass across the Continental Divide and marked the route of the subsequent Oregon Trail.

In editing Stuart's narratives, Rollins has placed all students of the early history of the Northwest and the fur trade under lasting obligation. The discovery of Stuart's priority in the use of the South Pass and the Oregon Trail is in itself an important item in American annals. But Rollins has gone much further. His notes constitute an amazing storehouse of facts, data, and bibliographical material, an invaluable reference source on the geography, routes, Indian tribes, flora, and fauna of the Northwest. Much of this information, as in the case of the material he embodied in his works on the rancher and cowboy, the author acquired firsthand from his own observations in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming; the rest he gathered by painstaking and detailed research. Robert Stu-
art's narratives are an important addition to Western Americana: their value is vastly increased by an editor who knew the region through which Stuart blazed the trail, who followed that trail through all its devious windings, and who searched for facts as carefully as ever an old-time Indian scout looked for sign when the Blackfoot warriors were known to be abroad.

The McIlwain Collection

By Joseph R. Strayer '25

Charles H. McIlwain '94, Trustee Emeritus of Princeton, long Eaton Professor of the Science of Government at Harvard, has recently given the University Library his unique collection of books on history and political science. The result of many years of intelligent and foresighted buying, the McIlwain Collection will fill large gaps in the present holdings of the Library and will stimulate research in many areas of the social sciences.

The collection of about 4500 books and pamphlets reflects the wide interests and extensive reading of the donor. It is difficult to find a period of history or a topic in political science which is not represented by some important work. But while the collection ramifies in all directions, the main trunk is the history of law and the two principal branches are the history of Western political institutions and the history of political theory.

Professor McIlwain realized, earlier than most scholars, the significance of legal history in the development of Western civilization. The laws and judicial system of a country must reflect its beliefs and standards; they are intimately connected with its social and political framework. Legal writings cover the whole range from specific consideration of individual problems to the most sweeping generalizations concerning right and wrong, liberty and obedience, and the nature of the good society. Lawyers have had a remarkable influence upon Western civilization; their role in Mediterranean and European countries has been far more important than in the Orient. For all these reasons, it is impossible to understand our past history and our present condition without a thorough knowledge of legal history.

The McIlwain Collection is distinguished by the large number of early treatises on law. Since legal studies reached a relatively advanced state centuries before other disciplines, these works of medieval, Renaissance and seventeenth-century scholars are extremely valuable. Early lawyers had as much material to work with as we do—in some cases much more—their minds were as acute as ours, and they had the added advantage of actually living with institutions and legal forms which are mere memories today. Their conclusions are always interesting and often enlightening. The
Princeton University Library has not been very rich in this early legal literature; the McIlwain Collection will give it a leading position in the field.

In English law there is everything of importance from Bracton to Blackstone (including first editions of both of our terminal authors). There is also the first edition of Coke upon Littleton (1648), the first edition of Selden’s Mare Clausum (1655), the first edition of Plowden’s Commentaries (1571), and the rare Selden edition of Fleta (1647). There are several of the fine editions of legal works printed by Tottel, including a Natura brevium of 1584. Maynard’s edition of the yearbooks of Edward III (1679), once owned by Senator Hoar of Massachusetts, Brooke’s Abridgement, and Stanford’s Pleas del Coron (1589) are other interesting sixteenth-century books. Lambard’s Eirenarcha is represented by a 1614 edition, and an early edition of his Archeion (1655) is also present. The first edition of Polydore Vergil’s History (1554) is an important sixteenth-century item. The material on the seventeenth century is even richer. All the great legal, constitutional, and religious controversies of the period are illustrated by contemporary pamphlets and tracts. The case of impositions, the quarrel over Parsons and the Jesuits, and the propaganda for and against the execution of Charles I are well covered. There are many tracts of Lilliburne, the apostle of free speech who defined four English governments, and a rich collection of Prynne’s works, including the Brief Register (1659-63), the Plea for the Lords (1658) and the Epsicope Martii (1658). Cowell’s Interpreter (1607) and Institutes of the Laws of England (1651) and Lyndwood’s Provinciale (1679) are also included. Other important seventeenth-century works are Sadler’s Rights of the Kingdom (1649), Hakewill’s Libertie of the Subject (1641), Fowler’s History of Romish Treason (1681), and Dugdale’s Summons (1685).

For France, the most interesting material is that connected with the great period of political speculation caused by the rise of strong monarchy and the religious wars. The collection includes a remarkable group of editions of Bodin’s Republic—the first Latin edition, the first Paris edition in French (not the first French edition of Lyons) and the rare English translation of 1606. Hotman’s Franco-Gallia appears in the 1574 version (bound with Du Moulin’s Traicté de l’Origine du royaume des Français, 1561) and in the scarce English translation of 1711. There is also the extremely rare Memoires de l’Estat de France, sous Charles Neuf-Isme (1578) and the De Justa Abdicacione Henriici Tertii (1586). Gentille’s Apologie (1588), one of the earliest pleas for religious toleration, and Degrasulus’ Regaliun Franciae (1545) are other important sixteenth-century works.

The great French lawyers, both feudalists and civilians, are well represented. The collection includes the complete works of Bacquet, Coquelle, Gui-Pape, Choppin, Blackwood, Rebuffé, and Sossey (with the 1590 edition of the Traité des Seigneuries). We find also a fully glossed edition of the Grand coutumier de Nogent (1599), Bugnyon, Traicté des lois abrogés (1605), Charles Le Caron’s Pandectes (1599), the 1611 edition of Bouteiller’s Somme rustique, Chassin’s Consuetudines Ducatus Burgundiae (1616) and the books of both Saienga and Brusel on feudal customs. Scarcie tracts on French government are La Roche-Flavin’s Trois livres des parlements (1617), Girard’s Trois livres des offices (1638), and Traquaire’s De nobilitate (1615). The collection of Actes des Cours Souverains (1615 ff.) will be a useful addition to the material on French courts in the Library. Finally, there are some interesting works on the question of Gallican liberties, including both Fevet’s and Dupuy’s books on the subject.

All of the standard works on Roman law are included in the collection; an especially valuable item is an edition of the Corpus Iuris with full medieval glosses. The material on the history of political theory is also very rich, especially for the medieval period. Notable works in this area are the De Planctu cœlesti of Albertus Pelagius (1157), the De Jurebus regni et imperii Romani of Lupold von Bebenburg (1592), the De Regimine Principum of Augustinus Triumphus (Lyons, 1478 or 1479), which is one of three known copies in American libraries. For the early modern period, in addition to the English and French works already listed, we have the first edition of Bellarmine’s De potestate Summi Pontificis (1610) and his complete works in the 1615 edition, Mariana’s De rege (1611), Barclay’s De Potestate Papae (1609), and Lipsius’ Politics (1612). The collection also contains many of the series of Elzevir Republics, an early attempt to make possible comparative constitutional studies by publishing brief treatises on the governments of European countries.

Little has been said of books published after 1700, since these are more easily available to scholars and have not been so difficult for
A Medieval Genealogy of the Kings of France

BY ALFRED FOULET

The Library has recently purchased a fifteenth-century vellum roll which contains a genealogy of the French kings reaching down to the year 1480. The acquisition was made possible by drawing on the Chaliant Robinson Fund and the John Gould Ralston '90 Memorial Fund.

The roll is made up of six strips of vellum glued end to end, and measures slightly over fourteen inches in width and twelve feet eight inches in length. On the verso of the first sheet the contents of the roll are summarized in Latin: “In presenti rotulo continentur cronica prior regis Franciae et descenditum ab eodem prout in ipsa videri potest.” At the right of this synopsis stands another inscription, which has become illegible through erasing and the disappearance of a small piece of vellum torn from the manuscript at that place. With the aid of the Library's ultraviolet ray lamp, I have attempted to decipher the remaining letters, but with no other result than to convince myself that the writing represents a medieval hand. Quite possibly the vestigial lettering is all that remains of a statement of ownership which someone wished later to eradicate.

A lengthy title and a prologue preface the genealogy. Translated from the Old French, the title reads: “Here will be found the lineages of the kings of France, how each royal family came to an end and was followed by another, with a brief summary telling what the kings did, when they reigned and for how many years, where they lie buried, and how many children they had; when the city of Lutetia was begun and owing to what circumstances it came to be called Paris, and the kingdom of Gaul to be named France; and you will see listed several famous churches which the kings of France have built.” Light on the purpose of the genealogist and on the source from which he gathered his material is shed by the somewhat repetitious prologue: “For the benefit of all those of gentle birth who rejoice in noble deeds and good histories, I wish—and may God assist me in my undertaking—to write down and record

1 See The Princeton University Library Chronicle, IX, No. 3 (Apr., 1948), 179.
2 In the Old-French text, the incipit reads: “Cy s'en suit les lignées des roys de France et comment les generacions sont descendus l'une de l'autre et comment ils sont faillies,...”
when and in what fashion the kingdom of Gaul and the city of Lutetia, which at present are called France and Paris, had their beginnings; and I shall name in the order of lineal descent those who have reigned, making known who their descendants were, as is shown by the [genealogical] tree. And I beseech those who will hear it read out or who will themselves read it that, if they discover any mistake therein, they forgive me, for I have abridged matters as best I could, according to my small understanding, and you will find all these things related at length in the Chronicles of France, because the only purpose of this [genealogical] tree is to make the lineage of the kings of France a matter of easily acquired knowledge.  

The genealogical tree of the kings of France is flanked on both sides by a running commentary. Encircled within medallions borne by the tree are the likenesses of many of the French monarchs. A similar arrangement of material, textual as well as pictorial, is found in two other rolls located in Princeton, a genealogy of the English kings owned by the Library, and a short universal chronicle which is the property of the Museum of Historic Art. In the following paragraphs I shall consider briefly the arboreal design, the illustrations, and the contents of the text.

The Tree:

The genealogical tree belongs to the conventional and stylized type which branches downward, differing thus from the less common and upward growing variety, represented in the Middle Ages by the tree of Jesse. The accompanying text, which of course reads downward, left the genealogist no choice. The tree starts with Priamus the Younger, a mythical figure, and ends with the children of Charles VI. As the future Charles VII is still termed Count of Pontieu, one of the titles he bore before his accession to the throne in 1422, and as, on the other hand, his sister Catherine appears as Queen of England—she was married to Henry V in 1450—


4 See Frank Hewett Mather, Jr., Record of the Museum of Historic Art, V, No. 1 (Spring, 1946), 7-9.

it may be assumed that the genealogist completed his task during the years 1420 to 1422.

The Illustrations:

At the very top of the roll is spread a representation of the royal arms of France: azure, three fleurs-de-lis or (pl. I). The reduction of the number of lilies to only three, in honor of the Holy Trinity, took place during the reign of Charles V, perhaps in the year 1376. Twenty-six medallions enclose the portraits of twenty-one dukes and kings, several of whom appear more than once. The portraits, which are half-length, show no great variety of treatment. The faces are differentiated by little more than the presence or absence of a beard. The sovereign's crown is either colored red or of a brownish hue, and he holds his scepter now in the right hand, now in the left. Queen Constance, the consort of Robert II, is also depicted. It is worth noting that the genealogy of the English kings alluded to above shows only the head of the monarch, whereas the universal chronicle in the Art Museum gives a complete figure of the king or emperor, even representing his throne and throne room. Thus, pictorially, the genealogy of the Merovingians, Carolingians, Capetians and Valois occupies an intermediate position between the genealogical tree of the Plantagenets and the universal chronicle. Plate II reproduces that part of the tree which deals with Philip VI, his two wives, Joan of Burgundy and Blanche of Navarre, and the children born of his first marriage.

The Text:

As indicated by the genealogist in his prologue, the source of the running commentary with which he framed the genealogical tree is to be found in the Grandes Chroniques de France. This celebrated work, compiled circa 1270 at the Abbey of Saint Denis and which was later followed by several sequels bringing it down to the death of Charles V, served as an official history of France during the later Middle Ages. It is entirely possible that the genealogist worked at Saint Denis, which was both a center of historical learning and a "publishing house" of historical works. Since the

* I am indebted for this information to Professor Henry L. Savage, C. H. Gourdon de Genouillac, L'Art heraldique, Paris, 1889, p. 235.

textual part of the genealogy is derived from the *Grandes Chroniques*, it contains nothing which is not reported more accurately and in more detail by its model. In agreement with the *Grandes Chroniques*, albeit in more garbled fashion, the Trojan origin of the Franks is recounted: Priamus the Younger, a most valiant knight, was the father of Francion, who gave his name to the "François," etc., etc. Afterwards, in conjunction with the parallel progress down the ages of the *Grandes Chroniques*, fiction largely yields to fact. Well along in the text there occurs an error which is repeated in the genealogical tree: Philip III is given as the father of Louis X, when in reality he was his grandfather. The text ends with a eulogy of Charles V, who died in 1380."  

According to the catalogue of its collection of manuscripts, the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris apparently owns four copies of the genealogy described in this article, but it should be emphasized that manuscripts f. fr. 4990, 5691, 7714, and nouv. acq. fr. 4209 are manuscript volumes or codices, not rolls, which makes them much less of a rarity than the Princeton acquisition. That illustrated genealogies of the royal line of France long remained popular is attested by the title of an eighteenth-century manuscript likewise located in the Bibliothèque Nationale (fonds français 6193): "Histoire manuscrite généalogique des trois races des rois de France, avec les portraits des rois et des reines enluminés à la hollandaise et tracés avec la plume."  

1 The Art Museum roll contains the same mistake in its genealogical tree, but it is absent from the text.  
2 The explicit reads: "Carles, premier filz du roy Jehan, fu couronné l'an MIII. C.XIII. Cestul et moust grant païse de mettre son royaum en paix et tant fat a l'aid de ses freres et amis et il mist le royaum en bon point et fut premmne et saige. Et bien gouverna son royaum tant comme il v descendants s'il bien gouverner leur royaum qu'il pusissent avoir le royaum de Paradis. La nous veulle mener le Pere, le Filz, et le Saint Esprit. Amen."
THOMAS JEFFERSON THROUGH THE EYES OF HIS CONTEMPORARIES

"[Thomas Jefferson] was riding one day in the neighborhood of Washington, in his usual plain attire—a black suit verging on brown—when, from a crossroad, a Connecticut farmer trotted up to him, and immediately displayed his provincial spirit of barter by surveying the president's superior steed, and asking him to 'swap.' Jefferson, however, asked too much money in exchange, so, after a fruitless attempt to draw him into a commercial transaction in respect to the saddle and bridle, the stranger began to favor the president with his history. He had lately quitted 'Down East,' and was coming South to 'explore' a brother, hid away somewhere among the niggers in Virginnny. He was anxious, therefore, to obtain all the knowledge he could of the country and the state of politics in parts 'contagious' to the seat of government. This wish led directly to the topic of the new president, Thomas Jefferson, who had been elected to that dignity in direct opposition to the said stranger's advice. 'I,' said he, 'support John Adams, a real old New-Englander, after the manner of our forefathers, the Pilgrims of Plymouth Rock. I have smallish faith in these chaps from the nigger states, upon principle. Doesn't it stand to reason, mister, that they must be a largeth bit tyrannical?' Jefferson attempted some refutation of the charge, but the farmer scarcely listened to ten words before he rejoined, 'Come, come, mister, I guess you don't see the moral sin of niggery; but it ain't only that. This Thomas Jefferson—did you ever see him?' The president nodded. 'Well, that's more luck than I've had; but that doesn't matter. Now I hear that this Thomas Jefferson is a very wasteful chap with our hard-earned money' (Jefferson stared), 'and you'll allow, mister, that that's unpatriotic upon principle. They tell me he never goes out but he's got clothes on his back that would sell for a plantation,
or kiver a wagon-load of immigrants; he's a couple of watches or more, that he never thinks of swapping; rings on all his fingers; and a frill to his shirt big enough to turn a windmill. Now, if you've seen him, mister, you can tell me if that's about right.' Jefferson laughed, and replied that, on the contrary, the president was seldom better dressed than himself at that moment. The farmer had his prejudices, and shook his head knowingly as he continued, 'Come, come, squire; I see you are a small measure biased. I guess now this Jefferson's a friend of your's?' The president confessed it. 'I dare say a man you speak to when you please?' Another nod. 'Perhaps the smallest end of a relation?' Nod and laugh. 'There, now! I guessed it. I knew you could not speak the truth on principle.' At this moment they came in view of the president's house, and the farmer inquired who it belonged to. As soon as he received the intelligence he burst into one of those conventional substitutes for oaths which emphasize the language of the Northern lower orders. 'Well, now, may I be 'tarnally starved down for mutton broth, if that sight doesn't come over a man like a suspension of the works of nature.' Now, mister, doesn't that prove my words, awfully strong? There's a house as big as Noah's ark? At the smallest count, there's thirty rooms in it. What can any careful chap, 'pon principle, want with more than six? I ha'n't got more than four. I say this Jefferson's wasting the people's money, and Congress is winking at it, and I guess its all naked truth about the frill and watches; and I ain't afraid to affirm that it's my guess the inside of house shows just as much wastefulness as Jefferson a-horseback.' To this charge the president could make but one reply—an offer to introduce the farmer to the mansion, and give him ocular conviction. The latter readily consented, and they rode on, Jefferson planning an elaborate lesson of reproof to his columnist. But as they approached the gate, some gentlemen, who were engaged to dine with him, stepped forward and exclaimed, 'Good-morning, president; you have had a fine day.' At the word 'president' the farmer, who was trotting on briskly, drew up so short he was near flying over his steed's ears. He turned and stared at Jefferson with a mixture of curiosity and alarm, which drew from the latter a quiet smile of enjoyment. In another instant he had struck his spurs into his horse and was flying away like a whirlwind, fully convinced that he should in some way pay for his temerity. 'Hallo, friend!' shouted Jefferson, 'won't you go over the house?' 'No, thank ye, president,' was the reply; 'I'll look in when I come back.'"

This story, supposedly told by Jefferson to John Bernard, an English comedian who came to America in 1797 and was prominent in the American theater from that date till his return to England in 1819, is one of the many anecdotes of conversations with and stories about Jefferson in Bernard's *Retrospections of America, 1797-1827* (New York, 1887). Although Bernard's stories are probably highly colored, they nevertheless provide revealing evidence of how Jefferson was viewed by contemporaries.

Few men in public life have had as many first-hand accounts published about them. Jefferson not only had the desire and capacity to make and keep friends, but also, after his rise to prominence, was besieged by hordes of visitors who came to pay homage or merely to gaze at the great man. His daughter, Martha Randolph, who was the hostess at Monticello during the years of his retirement, on being asked the greatest number of over-night guests she had ever accommodated, replied that she believed fifty! One of Jefferson's grandchildren wrote to Henry S. Randall, his biographer, "... his visitors... came of all nations, at all times, and paid longer or shorter visits. I have known a New England judge bring a letter of introduction to my grandfather, and stay three weeks. The learned Abbé Corrée, always a welcome guest, passed some weeks of each year with us during the whole time of his stay in the country. We had persons from abroad, from all the States of the Union, from every part of the State, men, women, and children. In short, almost every day for at least eight months of the year, brought its contingent of guests. People of wealth, fashion, men in office, professional men military and civil, doctors, Protestant clergymen, Catholic priests, members of Congress, foreign ministers, missionaries, Indian agents, tourists, travellers, artists, strangers, friends. Some came from affection and respect, some from curiosity, some to give or receive advice or instruction, some from idleness, some because others set the example, and very varied, amusing and agreeable was the society afforded by this influx of guests. I have listened to very remarkable conversations carried on round the table, the fireside, or in the summer drawing-room. Since many of these visitors were writers, statesmen and distinguished Europeans whose diaries and memoirs have been published, for a period of more than forty years there were varied comments on Jefferson—some superlatively laudatory, others bit-
terly derivative—but all fitting together to give a composite picture of the man and his surroundings.

Among the first to set down his recollections of a visit to Monticello was the Marquis de Chastellux in his *Voyages ... dans l'Amérique Septentrionale dans les années 1780, 1781 & 1782* (Paris, 1786). It was he who said of Jefferson that he was the first American who consulted the fine arts to know how he should shelter himself from the weather.

In 1784 a young man from the Netherlands, Gijsbert Karel van Hogendorp, met Jefferson on a visit to Annapolis where Congress was in session. He summarized his conversations with Jefferson on slavery and the representation in Congress and gave succinct descriptions of the Congress and its members in his *Brieven* (S'Gravenhage, 1866-1903).

La Rochefoucauld-Liancourt, whom Jefferson had met in France, came to America and visited Monticello in 1790. He reported in some detail on the agricultural practices at Monticello and the farming machinery used by Jefferson in his *Voyages dans les États-Unis d'Amérique* (Paris, 1799).

When Jefferson became president, there were added to the flood of travelers' accounts and comments on the Washington social scene all the violent partisan political tracts, satires, poetry and fiction that the contest between the Federalists and the Jeffersonian party aroused. Controversial literature in which Jefferson figures prominently continued until long after the Civil War. William Cullen Bryant, at the age of thirteen, expressed New England Federalist sentiment on Jefferson in the following lines:

> And thou, the scorn of every patriot name,  
> Thy country's ruin and thy council's shame!  
> Poor servile thing! derision of the brave!  
> Who erst from Tarleton fled to Carter's cave;  
> Thou, who, when menaced by perfidious Gaul,  
> Did prostrate to her whirskered minion fall;  
> And when our cash her empty bags supply'd,  
> Didst meanly strive the foul disgrace to hide;  
> Go, wreath, resign the presidential chair,  
> Disclose thy secret measures, foul or fair,  
> Go search with curious eye for horned frogs,  
> Mid the wild waste of Louisiana bogs;  
> Or, where Ohio rolls his turbid stream,  
> Dig for huge bones, thy glory and thy theme.

A more mature and fashionable poet, Thomas Moore, had set down his impressions of the city of Washington and of Jefferson three years before Bryant. Two poems resulted from Moore's visit to Washington in 1804: "To the Lord Viscount Forbes" and "To Thomas Hume, Esq., M.D." In the latter he describes Jefferson as:

> ... that inglorious soul,  
> Which creeps and winds beneath a mob's control,  
> Which courts the rabble's smile, the rabble's nod,  
> And makes, like Egypt, every beast its god. ...  

In his preface to "Poems relating to America," Moore admits that he associated almost exclusively with officers of the British navy and American Federalists and was thus subject to their prejudice, but adds, "... so strong, at the time, I confess, were those impressions, that it was the only period of my past life during which I have found myself at all sceptical as to the soundness of that Liberal creed of politics, in the profession and advocacy of which I may be almost literally said to have begun life, and shall most probably end it."

One of the best-known satires of Jeffersonian democracy is Washington Irving's "Chronicles of the Reign of William the Testy" in Book IV of *Knickerbocker's History of New York* (New York, 1809). In opposition to these violent critics, however, Margaret Bayard Smith, writing from her intimate knowledge of Washington social life, says of Jefferson in the introduction to her novel *A Winter in Washington* (New York, 1842), "No one excited in my mind so ardent an enthusiasm as our venerable president, the wise and virtuous sage of Monticello, whom it was impossible to know, without loving for his virtues, and admiring for his talents."

After Jefferson retired from the presidency to Monticello, the political animosity and adulation which colored so much of the literature about him between 1801 and 1809 subsided somewhat, and again accounts of visits to the great man became predominant. In 1814 Francis Calley Gray kept a journal of a visit to Monticello with such care and detail that it has been of great value to biographers and students of Jefferson, and has supplied details for the restoration of Monticello.

In December, 1844, Daniel Webster visited Jefferson and Madison with a party of friends. He not only made notes about Jefferson's home, dress, appearance and daily routine, but also a
memorandum of his conversations, which included an evaluation of Patrick Henry, a discussion of Greek and Anglo-Saxon, historical recollections of the times of the Revolution, and anecdotes of his sojourn in France. This record by a prominent statesman of a later period is tremendously valuable to a student of Jefferson.

No attempt has been made in this discussion to make a thorough survey of what may be called Jeffersoniana. These are merely a few of the high lights in the section allotted to "Jefferson Allusions" in the bibliography now being assembled by the editors of the Papers of Thomas Jefferson in the University Library. The field is so wide and so varied that even relative completeness will be difficult to achieve. The editors wish to enlist the assistance of the readers of the Chronicle in supplementing this important and colorful section of the bibliography. They would like to have reported to them any contemporary political tracts, orations, novels, poetry, satire, travel books, letters, diaries, and reminiscences in which Thomas Jefferson figures in any significant way. Communications should be addressed to Julian P. Boyd, Editor, The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, Princeton University Library, Princeton, New Jersey.—MINA R. BRYAN

§6 UNIVERSITY PLACE

In an effort to serve the community as a whole, the Graphic Arts Division and the Print Club placed their facilities at the disposal of the Princeton Group Arts and an exhibition of paintings in various media, sketches, sculpture and photographic portraits by instructors of the Princeton Group Arts opened on Sunday, the eleventh of January, with a tea at which Miss I. A. R. Wylie was the guest speaker.

The first task of the Print Club, at the opening of the new term in February, was the lending to undergraduates of prints from its loan collection. The twelfth of February marked the first meeting of a new series of seminars conducted by Mr. Adler. This series is designed specifically to give the many students participating in campus publications a broader view of the publications industry with its numerous problems and requirements.

An exhibition of lithographs and wood engravings by John D. Muench was sponsored by Dean and Mrs. Kenneth H. Condit and opened with a tea, held on February the fifteenth, at which Mr. Muench was the guest of honor.

The eight membership prints issued by the Print Club since 1941, as well as the special Bicentennial print by John Taylor Arms '09, were included in the Print Club's exhibition at the Activities Fair held in the Dillon Gymnasium during the annual midwinter meeting of the National Alumni Association. Concurrently, the 1948 membership print by John C. Menihan, together with the progressives of the print, was placed on display at §6 University Place.

A dinner was held on the evening of February the twenty-sixth in conjunction with an exhibition of the work of Bruce Rogers, whose health, unfortunately, prevented his attendance. P. J. Conkright of the Princeton University Press gave a brief talk on Mr. Rogers and his work as a book designer.

March began with an exhibition of the illustrative work of Boris Artzybasheff, familiar to all as the artist responsible for the provocative covers which appear on Time with pleasant regularity. On the evening of March the twelfth, Mr. Artzybasheff was the guest of the Graphic Arts Division and gave an informal talk on his work. A light meal of this evening was the meeting for the first time of the artist and Dr. Arnold Toynbee, British historian now at the Institute for Advanced Study, whose portrait Mr. Artzybasheff had executed for a recent issue of Time.

During the month of May an exhibition of art work of faculty members outside of the Art Department was held at §6 University Place. Continuing through June is an exhibition in honor of the sesquicentennial of lithography which opened in May under the auspices of the Graphic Arts Division. Arranged by a committee headed by Professor Francis A. Comstock '19, the exhibition, which traces the historical development of lithography, includes prints of the first two lithographs produced in this country, both by Bass Otis—a portrait of Abner Kneeland (lent by the Princeton Theological Seminary) and a landscape. The exhibition includes also the Laurence H. Hutton Collection's death mask of Aloys Senefelder, who is credited with the invention of lithography, as well as several examples of Senefelder's early work. On the evening of April the twenty-seventh A. Hyatt Mayor '22, Curator of Prints at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, gave an illustrated talk on lithography.—STEPHEN H. PATTERSON, JR. '48
THE TREASURE ROOM

An exhibition of engravings by William Hogarth (1697-1764) was shown in the Treasure Room from the twentieth of December until mid-February.

During the annual Alumni Day week end, nine wood engravings of scenes on the Princeton campus—the work of the late Macowin Tuttle—were shown. At this time a group of Nazi documents, assembled by Dr. Gustave H. Gilbert while serving as prison psychologist at the Nuremberg Trials, was placed on view for a six-week period. Dr. Gilbert, Visiting Lecturer in Psychology at Princeton, has deposited these papers, which include the private diary of Rudolph Hess and a thousand-page essay on Hitler by Hans Frank, in the Library where they will be accessible to scholars in sociology and psychology.

“Show Business in the Latin Americas,” an exhibition of handbills, posters, programs and pictures presented to the William Seymour Theatre Collection by Olivia and Oden H. Meeker ’41, on display from March twenty-fifth to April twenty-fifth, was followed by an exhibition arranged in honor of the birth of Jeremy Bentham (1748-1832), jurist, philosopher, essayist and reformer.

GEORGE LIPPA

Roger Butterfield, White House, Hackett, New York, is at work on a biography and appraisal of George Lippard (1822-1854), the Philadelphia novelist and reformer. He would welcome information about manuscript material of any sort relating to Lippard, or any letters written by or to him, either in libraries or private hands. He would also like to locate (and if possible, acquire) the following books by Lippard: Rose of Ephrata, Bel of Prairie Eden, and The Bank Director’s Son. Rose of Ephrata may have appeared only in a Harrisburg newspaper of which no files have been traced.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

ESTHER FELT BENTLEY is the wife of Professor Gerald Eades Bentley of the Department of English of Princeton University.

THOMAS W. STREETER, Chairman of the Committee on Bibliographies of American Imprints of the Bibliographical Society of America and member of the committee of three that compiled the Grolier Club’s One Hundred Influential American Books Printed before 1900 (New York, 1947), is well known as a collector of Americana. He is a member of the Council of the American Antiquarian Society and Treasurer of the New York Historical Society and a former president of the Bibliographical Society of America. Mr. Streeter is also a member of the Advisory Council for the Princeton University Library.

ROBERT GLASS CLELAND ’09, Alumni Trustee of Princeton University, is a member of the research staff of the Huntington Library. He is the author of a number of books on American history, including several on California, the most recent being California in Our Time (1947).

JOSEPH R. STRAYER ’35 is Henry Charles Lea Professor of History and Chairman of the Department of History of Princeton University.

ALFRED FOULIET, Associate Professor of French at Princeton University, has published articles on the chroniclers of the Crusades, including several on Joinville, the biographer of Saint Louis. At present he is engaged in completing a critical edition of the Roman d’Alexandre, left unfinished by the late Professor Edward C. Armstrong.
Perhaps the most fascinating and rewarding task of librarians is the correlation of a library's acquisitions with its established strengths. In purchasing, this is, of course, kept constantly in mind. Somewhat surprising, however, is the consistency with which gifts to Princeton fit so perfectly into the picture. Friends and alumni keep adding to the resources which the Library, from its general and special funds, has been expanding, slowly sometimes, but with perseverance, over a long period of years. In New and Notable, this quarter as often before, there can be drawn together a number of books and manuscripts, produced over the span of four and a half centuries, to aid in rounding out interesting and valuable collections already in the Library.

A fitting example, illustrating the selective policy of acquisition, is Cornelle Wytfliet's *Descriptionis Ptolemaicae Augmentum, sive Occidentis Notitia*, Louvain, 1598, secured with general funds, a volume of significance to cartographer, bibliophile and student of history and geography alike. This Belgian continuation of Ptolemy's *Geography* has been described by Winsor as "the earliest distinctly American atlas." The first edition appeared in 1597, was followed in the same year by a reprint, and again, in 1598, by the second edition, which bears a dedication to Philip III. It is this second edition which Princeton has acquired. A general history of the early voyages and discoveries in the Western hemisphere occupies the first part of the work, while nineteen beautifully executed and intriguing maps with explanatory text comprise the second. Mention of a few of the titles of the maps will give more than a little idea of their interest: "Cranata Nova et California," "Limes Occidentis Quivira et Anian" (Quivira is an imaginary Indian kingdom and Anian the Alaskan coast, Anian being the early name for Bering Strait and adjacent country), "Norvmbega et Virginia," John Russell Bartlett, in his *Bibliotheca Americana* (Providence, 1875), has written an illuminating note on the first edition. "The map of Estotiland and Labrador...", he explains, "shows that the author had full faith in the voyage of the brothers Zeni, as he has also given an existence to the island of Frisland, to which they allude. The map of Norvmbega and Virginia is equally curious, as it was made while the sea-coast was quite unknown... The Hudson is called the Rio Grande. An island called Claudia, to the eastward, was so named by Verazzano, who discovered the entrance to the Hudson River in 1524..." Long Island Sound is not shown on the map. The island Claudia is referred to in the first edition of Hakluyt, and it was so known until the Dutch Adrien Blok named it for himself. It is still Block Island!

A map of the imperfectly known coast of Virginia, the Hudson (as the Rio Grande), Block Island (under the unfamiliar name of Claudia)—here surely are the beginnings of America.

Three centuries and a half later much of America was still new and little known when James Rulison made his arduous journey from New York to San Francisco and back, a journey which occupied just a little less than a year. The story of his travels he detailed in *Across America: or, The Great West and the Pacific Coast* which appeared in 1875. Until its publication Rulison's life was scarcely that of a historian. Born at Washington, New Jersey in 1834, educated at Pennington Seminary and Dickinson College, he was for a few years a teacher of natural sciences until, in 1869, he was admitted to the New Jersey bar and opened law offices in Trenton. During the Civil War he rose to the rank of brigadier general, remaining in the army for some time after the end of the war. As Inspector in the Quartermaster's Department, Rulison undertook the trip to the West in 1866 "to examine into the condition of our various depots and posts West, and consider their bases and routes of supply, with a view to reducing if possible the enormous expenditures, that then everywhere prevailed there, and in addition to his official reports, he kept a rough journal, and, some years later, decided that the account of his experiences should be published. "If what is here roughly said," he wrote in his preface, "will lead any American to a better love of his country, or to a truer pride in it, or to a fuller respect for any foreigner to a kindlier appreciation of the Republic, verily I have my reward."

Together with the book itself and several pamphlets (Rulison became a rather prolific writer of pamphlets on patriotic and local historical subjects) the Library recently bought the bulky manuscript upon which *Across America* was based, not the rough
diary, but a manuscript in a round and careful hand, probably that of an amanuensis. It is a significant addition to Princeton's collection of Americana and nicely supplements the Rollins Collection. The Library's general funds were used for the purchase of the Rusling items.

The first edition of John Locke's *An Essay Concerning Humane Understanding*, London, 1690, is, in itself, of considerable interest, but the copy which the Theodore Whitefield Hunt '65 Fund brought to Princeton this winter demands particular attention, for it was once in the library of Thomas Gray and bears annotations in his hand. Locke's influence, in his lifetime and immediately following, was extraordinarily widespread and a study of Gray's notes may disclose something of its effect upon Gray. Gray's copy in later days belonged to David White, manager of Bohn's, the famous English publishing house, and to one William Tomlinson. From either the Locke or Gray angle it makes a fine addition to the Library's resources in English literature.

During the past decade Princeton has had a lively interest in the period of the Celtic Revival, not only for its own sake but because it is so closely allied with the end of the Victorian age. William Butler Yeats has been mentioned more than once in New and Notable. First editions of his works—and some of the early ones are exceedingly scarce—have been acquired slowly but the shrill is now very good indeed. With the acquisition of *Poems and Ballads of Young Ireland*, 1889, Dublin, 1888, purchased on the Francis H. Payne '91 Fund, one of the most elusive titles has been added to the collection. The little anthology which came out when Yeats was only twenty-three contains the first appearance of four of his poems produced in the formative years when he was on most familiar terms with Wilde, Henley and Morris and had at least met, by his own authority, "most of the poets of my generation," "The Stolen Child," "King Cull," "The Meditation of the Old Fisherman," and "Love Song" were here first printed, and chronologically, *Poems and Ballads of Young Ireland* is the second of Yeats's published works, preceded only by *Monada* which was reprinted from *The Dublin University Review* in 1888. An indication of the rarity of the book is the fact that there was apparently no copy in the famous Quinn collection.

By a particularly happy coincidence, at about the same time as these early poems of Yeats were acquired, the Library had an opportunity of buying a collection of most interesting letters writ-

ten by his father, John Butler Yeats, the artist. The group of sixty-two letters to John Sloan, the American genre painter and etcher, covering the period from January, 1912 to January, 1928 and eighteen to Mrs. Sloan dated from January, 1916 to July, 1920, contains discussions on art and its technique, and on various artists and exhibitions, together with a goodly amount of art criticism. They are delightful letters with the added charm of pen and ink sketches. With the letters to the Sloans is another group of about fifty pieces from Yeats to Miss Ann Squire dated from December, 1911 to July, 1920. These are most informal and chatty, dealing rather more with people than with art, and among them are poems and sketches as well as the typescript of a story entitled "Extra gardening Written in Anticipation." The Arthur Paris Mizer Fund, given by Arthur M. Mizener '30 in memory of his son, together with general Library funds enabled Princeton to acquire the Yeats letters.

The Charles Grosvenor Osgood Fund brought to the Library the rare *Philemythe or Philomorphology. wherein Outlandish Birds, Beasts, and Fishes, are taught to Speak true English plainly*, London, 1616. Its author, Thomas Scot, may have been the political writer of the same name who was chaplain to James I in 1616. It seems likely, since Locke, in a letter to Sir Dudley Carleton, dated February 4, 1659, writes of the author of *Populi* being questioned about a "book of birds" and Collier says "the author of *Philomorphie* seems to have been so fearful lest his satire should be considered personal and individual, that ambiguity often renders him incomprehensible." The engraved frontispiece, typical of the period, is by Elstracke and portrays Aeop and (probably) the author. Between the first and second parts is a separate title—*Certaine Pieces of This Age Parabolical*—with its own title-page.

The good friends, too, who give to Princeton rare books or manuscripts from their own collections, or who buy desirable items especially for the Library, do so more often than not with an eye to the needs in certain fields, or to the way in which they may add to resources already worth-while.

Carl Otto v. Kienbusch '06 has recently presented to the Library a most interesting sixteenth-century manuscript of a work on heraldry written by Jean Le Périn (1504-1570) and presented to Jacques Gourdon Genouihac (1466-1540), "grand écyer et maitre d'artillerie de France." The manuscript was eventually
printed at Paris in 1555 with the following title: *De la Primitive institution des roys, héraldes et poursuitans d'armes*. Professor Donald Egbert has commented that the illuminations are especially interesting in that they display "the mixture of Italian Renaissance elements with Gothic elements so characteristic of the early Renaissance in France and of the style of Francois I." He explains this by noting that the leaf forms and the coloring of the initials reflect the influence of those in earlier Italian manuscripts, while some features are in the northern Gothic tradition. There are also the twig-like line endings which show the dry naturalism of the late flamboyant Gothic which at that time was on its last legs in France.

The manuscript bears the arms of Jean Le Fèron on its last page. It was formerly in the library of one of the most distinguished of nineteenth-century medievalists, Alexandre Du Sommerard, whose ownership is in itself an indication of its importance. Mr. v. Kienbusch has added another treasure to the manuscript collection.

A quite different type of gift has come from Edward Platt '15, a fine collection of books from his own library—among them many autographed presentation copies, volumes with letters from the authors laid in, and first editions. Both English and American authors are represented. There are presentation copies of Matthew Arnold's *A French Eton*, London, 1864; Dumas' *Théâtre Complet*, in four volumes, Paris, 1868-70; Holmes' leaflet *In Memory of Fitz-Greene Halleck* with an autograph letter of Halleck laid in; Victor Hugo's *Quatrevingt-Treize*, Paris, 1874; and Joaquin Miller's *Songs of the Sierras*, Boston, 1880, a copy sent to Oscar Wilde whose autograph initials appear on the title-page. A copy of *The Ingoldsby Legends*, London, 1840-47, has a pencilled sketch and an autograph letter of George Cruikshank laid in; Elizabeth Bisland's *The Life and Letters of Lafacido Hearns*, Boston, 1906, has a page of a Hearns manuscript; and W. S. Gilbert's *Original Plays*, London, 1895, bears on the half-title a quotation from Ruddigore in the hand of the author. There are several of Mark Twain's works autographed, and one with an autograph letter to his editor concerning *A Tramp Abroad*. Henry James's *The Library of Babel*, London, 1888, is inscribed "I must work the garden—I must work the garden"—an inscription which seems to uncover a new aspect of James! The Woodrow Wilson Collection will be enhanced by three volumes bearing signed inscriptions, and one with a typed letter signed by Wilson tipped in. The original manuscripts of

John Burrough's *Matthew Arnold's Criticism* and F. Hopkinson Smith's *Kennedy Square* (incomplete) are notable additions to the Library's American literature resources. These are the high lights of Mr. Platt's very handsome gift.

The valuable collection of United States stamps of the late Edgar Palmer '09, presented by Mrs. Palmer, is a gift quite different from any ever recorded in New and Notable. It enriches the stamp collection already in the Library and is of special interest at this time as the new building, where the Philatelic Collection will at last be adequately housed, is so nearly ready for occupancy. According to William H. Tower '94, the Palmer Collection closely approaches completion up to about 1936 in stamps for postal service, including, in addition, many of the Fiscals, or revenue stamps. It abounds in rarities, among which may be mentioned most of those on blue paper, a block of twelve showing two of the five-cent error, the 1869 pictorial issue complete, the official department stamps (notably those of the Executive, Justice and State Departments), the three Pan-American Inverts, and the highly valued stamps of the second issue of the Internal Revenue Department. A decidedly interesting section of the collection consists of post-marked stamps on covers. Among these is the James M. Buchanan five-cent Postmaster's Provisional, in addition to a number of the more desirable of the early locals, some of them used in combination with the government's regular issue. The Edgar Palmer Collection will be a source of delight to the philatelist.

To describe with any degree of adequacy Mrs. Marshall Ludington Brown's magnificent gift to the Library of over four hundred and fifty of the choicest books and manuscripts from the library of the late Cyrus H. McCormick '79 is beyond the scope of New and Notable. The editors of the *Chronicle* are planning an issue to be devoted largely to this extraordinarily rich and varied collection. It is difficult indeed to single out for mention here merely a few among so many exceptionally fine items for every one of them is an important addition to the Library's shelves.

The most notable, perhaps, is the second Plancck edition of *Epistola... de Insularibus in medio oceani et insulis ad finem terraegether Columbus*, printed in Rome in 1499, which is being exhibited on the Freedom Train as showing the very beginnings of American history. The seventy-five items on Virginia are all of the greatest interest, but some of them are fairly breath-taking. There is James Rosier's *A True Relation of the most prosperous voyage*
made this present yeare 1605, by Captaine George Waymouth, in the Discovery of the land of Virginia, London, 1605; there is the Beckford-Hamilton-Kalbbleich-Hoe copy of John Smith’s The Generall Historie of Virginia, New-England, and the Sommer Isles, London, 1624, known as the “Dedication Copy,” in the original binding, with the arms of James I and the Duchess of Richmond; and there is the rare “second impression” of the narrative of John Brereton, A Brieue and true Relation of the Discouerete of the North part of Virginia, London, 1605. Here are incomparable riches for the Library’s resources in American history—and they are only a few selected as being fairly representative of the Virginia items.

As for English literature, the range is from Shakespeare to the Victorians, the McCormick collection containing the first two Shakespeare quartos acquired by the library, A Midsummer night’s dreame, the second edition falsely dated 1600, and Poems, London, 1610, and Browning’s excessively rare Pauline, London, 1835; Milton’s Paradise lost, London, 1667, the first edition with the second title-page, and Dickens’ The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby, London, 1839, a presentation copy to Mrs. George Cattermole with an autograph letter from Dickens to Mrs. Cattermole tipped in. To Princeton’s list of the One Hundred Great English Books, so familiar by now to the Friends of the Princeton Library, three more first editions have been added: Goldsmith’s The Vicar of Wakefield, Salisbury, 1756, Gray’s An Elegy Wrote in a Country Church Yard, London, 1751, and Spenser’s The Faerie Queene, London, 1590-96.

Three more titles will serve to demonstrate the diversity of Mr. McCormick’s interest and the collection’s inestimable value to Princeton: a superlatively handsome copy of De claris mulieribus by Jacobus Philippus Bergomensis, printed in Ferrara in 1497; the Hoe copy of Homer’s Opera, the edito princeps printed in Florence in 1488; and the Ives—Hoe copy of Hakluyt’s The Principal Navigations, Voyages, Traffiques and Discoueries of the English Nation, London, 1599-1600, with a copy of the Wright-Molyneux map in the first state.

Readers will await with eagerness the issue of the Chronicle covering the McCormick collection. A selection of these books and manuscripts will be on exhibition in the Treasury Room of the Library from June through August.

Biblia

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE FRIENDS OF THE PRINCETON LIBRARY

Volume XIX, Number 4
June 1948

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions totaling $1125.00 to be used for the purchase of books have been received from Friends since the report made in the April issue of the Chronicle. A contribution from Laurence R. Carton ’07 was for seventeenth- and eighteenth-century English literature; Robert C. McNamara ’09 made a contribution for books in the graphic arts; and Willard Thorp added to the resources of the Frenenau Fund, which is maintained by means of his generous support for purchases of American literature. The contributions from Mr. Carton and Mr. McNamara cover additional assistance to the Library to make purchases in fields in which these two Friends have already given excellent help.

GIFTS

Varied gifts have been received from Friends since those reported in the preceding issue of the Chronicle. From John C. Cooper, Jr. ’09 the Library received the typescript of his book entitled The Right to Fly, published in 1947. Carl Otto v. Kienbusch ’06 presented an illuminated manuscript of a work on heraldry by Jean Le Féron, dated 1535, which was printed at Paris in 1555 with the title De la Primitive institution des roys, héraulds
et poursuivans d'armes. A copy of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, Dublin, 1727, which had belonged to Thomas Newcomen, the English inventor, was presented by U. J. P. Rushton '36. Additions to the Princetoniana Collection were made through gifts received from Robert Garrett '97, Archibald A. Gulick '97 and Andrew C. Imbrie '95.

The following Friends also presented gifts to the Library: Clifford N. Carver '15, Thomas H. English '18, James Thayer Gerould, Robert C. McNamara '05, Thomas M. Parrott '88, Henry L. Savage '15, W. Frederick Stohiman '99, M. Halsey Thomas, and Stephen F. Voorhees '00.
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