CONTENTS

The First Twent-five Years
by Wilford Thorp


Library Notes & Queries

New & Notable

Bible

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THE PRINCETON UNIVERSITY LIBRARY CHRONICLE

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The First Twenty-five Years*

BY WILLARD THORP

It is incredible that the Friends of the Princeton Library celebrate today their silver anniversary. It does not seem that long ago when I first heard the name of the organization and was asked to help with one of its activities. At this rate some will soon be saying that it is a great shame no one has written a history of the Friends. I hasten to assure you that I am not the one to be tapped for that job. No man knows all our history and my view of the organization is a limited one. For a time in the early days, I was just an awed listener in the presence of Philip Ashton Rollins, Dickson Q. Brown, Charles W. McAlpin, and the other founding fathers; but since what I have to say this evening will have to be one man’s view, I might as well begin at my beginning as a Friend.

It must have been in the spring of 1930 that Robert Root called me into his office in Nassau Hall and, as usual, got right down to business. “Willard,” he said, “some influential alumni who are interested in books are about to found an organization to be called the Friends of the Princeton Library. They intend to ask the Faculty for suggestions about books to be bought. I hope you’ll be willing to give the help they want from the English Department.” Of course Mr. Root’s will was law, though he always made his requests with the utmost courtesy. And so I agreed.

Actually this was just the chance I had been waiting for, a chance to have even a small part in bringing the Princeton Library up several levels in the eyes of scholars and collectors. We had very little we could boast of in those dim days. Princeton wisely became

*An address delivered at the annual dinner of the Friends of the Princeton Library, at the Princeton Inn, on May 16, 1955.
a university in 1896 but the money the Library had for books was necessarily spent for current publications and sets of the learned journals. Even by 1900 there was seldom anything left over for a rare book or an important unpublished manuscript. When your faculty friends at Harvard or Yale asked you what valuable collections were there in the Princeton Library, you began with the Morgan Vergils, the Patterson Horace collection, the Meirs Cruikshanks and there you stuck, unable to go further. This reminds me that Mr. Peck, then in sole charge of Special Collections, had a distressingly brief routine he could perform when a casual visitor came to the Treasure Room. If he showed no interest in the Audubon elephant folio, Mr. Peck would try the proof sheets of Tennyson’s *The Princess* on him. If that produced no astonishment, gasps, there was a mammoth choir book, under the table, and the William A. White copy of the Shakespeare first folio. At that point Mr. Peck was stuck unless he descended to the Hutton death masks, which we all disregarded in those days, chiefly, I suppose, because they fed their pallor on our meager rations.

It was evident to those far-sighted men who organized the Friends that this was a ridiculous state of affairs. Surely a university as old as Princeton, with many wealthy and book-loving alumni, could do better than this. They might not uncover a Widener or a Folger overnight but they could try. These founders did things in the grand manner as befitted their generation and their Princeton heritage. When Volume I, Number 1 of *Biblia* appeared in June, 1896, it was sumptuously printed on rag paper. The Friends asked for no dues and money was mentioned only obliquely. Then there were those elegant annual dinners in New York: one honoring John Galsworthy; one to which a horde of Pulitzer Prize winners in literature came as free-loaders. There was also the famous Southern dinner. The Council forgot or did not know that Southerners will talk a long time on their feet, if they have an audience. If I remember correctly, when Mrs. Thorp and I slipped out to catch the 12:30 train to Princeton, there were still two more orators waiting their turn.

To some of us younger members on the periphery this sumptuousness was a little hard to take. We couldn’t help figuring how many Restoration quartos could have been bought for the price of two hundred bombes glacées. But now I’m not sure that the founders weren’t right after all. From the outside, rag paper for *Biblia* and oysters Rockefeller at the Plaza looked like a false front. Actually all this splendor symbolized the founders’ supreme confidence in what the Friends would eventually do.

And how they did it! If you will look back to the early rosters of members of the Council you will be struck at once with the fact that almost all of them were preparing to make generous gifts to Princeton. Philip A. Rollins, the first Chairman of the Friends, and Mrs. Rollins were arranging his magnificent collection of Western Americana so that it could come to the Library in perfect order. Dickson Q. Brown was adding constantly to his Rowlandson collection, the greater part of which he had already given to Princeton. Booth Tarkington must have had it in his mind to leave to the college he loved his valuable papers, a gift which came to us from Mrs. Tarkington. John H. Scheide would soon deposit in the Library the eight thousand European legal manuscripts which later were given to Princeton by his son. J. Harlin O’Connell was gathering for his own delight but with Princeton in mind, his impressive collection of books and manuscripts from the not-so-gay nineties. James Boyd thought of Princeton as the place where his papers should finally rest and when the new library was built his wife gave his name to the Manuscripts Room. From the widow of Wilton Lloyd-Smith came valuable gifts, most notable of them his Thrale collection of over two hundred letters and other rarities. Charles Scribner, Jr. endowed us with his father’s collection of Charles Lamb and with his own Cervantes books. It must have sobered a man who was elected to the Council in those days. He was evidently expected, sooner or later to bring very great gifts to the Princeton Library.

I cannot tell many tales of those earliest days because my part was small indeed. When the ‘secret history’ of the Friends is written it will have to be the work of someone who was really on the inside: Whitney Darrow, our first Secretary, for example, or William Savage who succeeded him. But a few vivid impressions stand out in my mind. There was, for instance, that anxious moment when four guests of Morris Parrish wondered what he was going to say next. In the end, as most of you know, Mr. Parrish was very happy with his decision to leave his books to Princeton, to be housed in a room which is a replica of the famous library at ‘Dormy House.’ But he took quite a while to make up his mind. Meantime he permitted us to have great expectations. One hot summer day two members of the Faculty and their wives had gone down to have dinner with him. As we sat drinking our Scotch and soda in the belvedere overlooking the golf course, it became evident that the market had not been behaving at all well that day. Mr. Parrish was out of sorts. He turned directly to me and said, “The whole fault is in Washington. I suppose all of you—like all
Faculty people—are new-dealers." This was a dreadful dilemma. I did not want to play Peter to President Roosevelt and I didn’t want to add to Mr. Parrish’s annoyance either. It was a long moment until one of the wives spoke up and said, “Not at all. I’ve been a Socialist for years.” Another silence. Then Mr. Parrish began to laugh that deep, throaty laugh of his. He had never met a Socialist before, except in Victorian novels, and he really wanted to know how anybody could be one. We forgot the market.

There was another anxious moment in our annals on the occasion when Mr. deCoppet appeared at a Council dinner—it may have been the first time he attended a meeting of the Council. James Gerould was then Librarian. Those of you who knew him will remember that he had very decided views about what our Library did not need as well as what it did need. For one thing, he saw no point in Princeton’s trying to accumulate newspaper files. We were years behind Harvard and the New York Public Library. Newspapers are difficult to store and microfilm was coming along anyway. In an expansive mood after dinner, Mr. deCoppet was talking about some of his treasures which he had stored in a loft-building in New York. “By the way,” he remarked, turning to Mr. Gerould, “you may have those colonial newspapers of mine if you want.” Whereupon, before our eyes, Mr. Gerould politely but distinctly declined the gift. There is probably some kind of moral to be drawn from this tale, for you have seen this afternoon the magnificent historical manuscripts which were Mr. deCoppet’s bequest to Princeton.

To have something to say to you tonight I have been browsing through, as the centennial celebration of the Chronicle suggests, this as a refreshing day’s occupation. The first thing that struck me was the brisk pace with which we moved. Collections began to arrive: the Le Brun Montaignes; the Henry Van Dyke Tennysinos and Stevensons and Dr. Van Dyke’s papers; the Gest Oriental Library; the William Seymour Theatre Collection, which might have gone to Harvard but stopped off here, and permanently, on the way; the private Library of Edward Sheldon, presented by Mrs. Charles Ogrodnick; the magnificent Ogrodnick Collection; the McKenzie Fable Collection; the Hamilton Collection of American Illustrated Books. And the endowed funds also begin their beautiful procession: the Paul Elmer More Fund for English criticism; the Parker Lloyd-Smith Fund for the drama; the Carl Otto v. Kienbusch, Jr. Fund for books in the field of American civilization. Not all of these important gifts in the earliest days were turned our way by the Friends, but at last, because of the Friends, Princeton had a journal where they could be properly and gratefully acknowledged.

Another impressive fact which rises out of these hundreds of pages is that we have had a host of benefactors whom I shall call secret givers. It is true that their names appear casually again and again and thus their names are known. But who can reckon up what they have given the Library over the years? Let me name them here, though these are not all who could be named: John H. Scheide, John W. Garrett, Francis H. Payne, Frank Jewett Mather, Jr., David A. Reed, David H. McAlpin, Paul Bedford, Edward Duff Balken, Thomas Marc Parrott, A. E. Gallatin, Wheaton Lane, Sterling Morton, Kenneth H. Rockey, John G. Buchanan, Aliza C. Powell, Lawrence R. Carton, Archibald A. Goddard, Edward E. Rankin, Carl Otto v. Kienbusch, Henry E. Gerstley. There was also Charles W. McAlpin, who became Chairman of the Friends in 1934. In those good old free-enterprising days a young member of the Faculty was permitted to come right out and ask Mr. McAlpin for a book or for many books as you sat in his suite in the McAlpin Hotel or conversed with him and Miss Belle da Costa Greene over at the Morgan Library. And Mr. McAlpin never said No; I doubt if he ever said No to Princeton.

If you will follow my advice and take Biblia and the Chronicle off your shelves, you will notice another interesting fact. The pages positively have second sight. You can foreknow the future by reading them. Does it not give you a sense of things to come when you note that Mr. Parrish’s Trollopues were exhibited in the old Library (a most indecent setting for them) late in 1938? Can you not recall the fact that Cyrus H. McCormick had further Genealogical Society papers in mind when you read, in Biblia, VI, 2, about “Mr. McCormick’s Splendid Gift”—the manuscript of Strachey’s Historie of Travell into Virginia Britania? Browsing in Biblia, VII, 1, you will open your eyes wider when you read that Mr. deCoppet has deposited the important Beulahharnais archives at Princeton. Music over the activities of the Friends in 1936 you will be struck by the fact that there was a Shakespeare exhibition drawn largely from the library of Henry N. Paul ‘82. Is there, perhaps, some connection between that fact and the gift by bequest this year of the several hundred invaluable sixteenth- and seventeenth-century books from Mr. Paul’s library? If Mr. Dix has not already discovered this method of divination, I commend it to his attention.

As I read on and on in these pages I was impressed and stirred by another discovery. In the early days the Friends published lists
of desiderata, compiled by willing members of the Faculty. The amazing thing is that mysteriously, almost unbelievably, these lists produced results. I have done a little checking (or rather, someone on the staff of the Library has done a little checking). What does one find? In Biblia, 1, 1, we asked quietly for eleven rare first editions of Browning; eight of them are now in the Library. In Biblia, 1, 3, growing bolder, we presented a staggering want-list from the English Department. One small section from this list serves my present purpose excellently. Was there any fruition of our desire to possess eighteen first editions of plays by the amorous Aphra Behn? Indeed yes. We now lack only three. Possibly the title of one of these disgusted an earlier generation, but in this emancipated post-Freudian company he is a superb administrator, but we had not time to give Princeton the missing quarto of The Forez Curtain. Someone responded to the appeal for Palmer’s Index to the London Times and his generosity cost him £38. A request from the Art Department for eight items brought to the front several munificent givers and all of these books Princeton now owns, including I Disegni dalla R. Galleria degli Uffizi in Firenze (price $710.00). Most astonishing of all—and most gratifying—has been the response to the list of the Hundred Great English Books, published in Biblia in February, 1936. Of these Harvard then had 79, Yale 74, and Princeton a piddling 19. In the years since 1936 Princeton has acquired no less than 57 books in this list. Of these, thirty-six were presented or bequeathed by Friends and two more are in the Kane Collection, in the acquisition of which the Friends were instrumental. God loveth a cheerful giver who gives not grudgingly, or of necessity, but he loveth also a cheerful asker—as we now have proof.

Another reassuring fact emerges from even a cursory reading of the files of our journal and I speak of it because it was a matter of concern to the founders. I remember that they worried a good deal about where their successors would come from. Were there, they wondered, enough lovers and collectors of books in the Princeton community to make it possible for the Friends to survive and flourish? Their anxious question was soon answered. The first Chairman from a younger class was Robert Cresswell, but he was not the last of his line. Cresswell begat David H. McAlpin, McAlpin begat Sinclair Hamilton, Hamilton begat Robert Taylor, and how pleased the founders would be with this latest begetting. Our present Chairman was a mere infant when the Friends came into being, a Princeton senior worrying about comprehensives and a thesis. Yet here he sits in Phillip Ashton Rollins’ chair like one, as he is, to the manor born. Other leaders, full of ideas and enthusiasm, emerged year by year. There has been no dearth of them. Who—and a lucky day it was for us—induced Edward Naumburg to become a Friend? Or John C. Cooper? Or William H. Scheidel? And now we have our expectant eye on those youngest members of the Council, Robert B. Rock, Jr., and Waring Jones. Elmer Adler brought them up by hand over at 56 University Place and we naturally expect great things of them.

One important part of our history which is not revealed in the pages of the Chronicle is the grateful co-operation which the Friends have had all along from the officials of the Library. James Grier was a superb administrator, but he had little time left over for the work of building great collections. And so he welcomed the Friends with open arms. In turn Julian Boyd supplied us with a magnificent vision. He was determined that Princeton should have not only the most functional university library building in America but a collection of books worthy of it. He challenged the Friends at every turn—to help find the money for the Grenville Kane Collection, to persuade contemporary writers to place their papers in the Archives of American Letters. There are still enough Julian Boyd projects lying around to keep the Friends busy for another twenty-five years. And now comes William S. Dix, listening, prodding gently, seeing his chance when the chance comes, solving by his vigorous little publication Needs a question which had always vexed the Friends—how to ask for money without doing so crassly. And all along there has been Lawrence Heyl, with his shoulder to the wheel. There was a time when he and I used to debate for an hour over the wisdom of spending ten dollars for a first edition. Now, thanks in large part to the Friends, he can send a hundred without a moment’s hesitation. I think you ought to know, if you do not, that Lawrence Heyl has carried through many a project initiated by the Friends or supported in the beginning by them. It is one thing to say: “We must have all the William Butler Yeats Cuala Press books.” Or to say: “Princeton ought to collect the Victorian poets.” It is another thing to sit day by day, checking bibliographies and catalogues, bargaining with dealers, suggesting to susceptible members of the Friends that here is a needed purchase which will put the capstone on a collection.

I am going to conclude by asking a foolish question and then demolishing the hypothetical questioner: what have the Friends accomplished in twenty-five years? What achievements can go into
the record? Let us begin by pondering one significant fact. When the Friends came into being the Princeton Library had one man in charge of Special Collections and he was certainly not overworked. To receive, catalogue, care for, and make available to scholars and students the thousands of rare books and manuscripts Princeton now possesses requires a staff of six full-time curators, two others on half-time, and two secretaries. I am told that the fact that they cannot keep up with the flood of new and indispensable acquisitions. The Administration will have to hold the Friends accountable, in large measure, for this admirable increase in the Rare Book bureaucracy.

In the second place, the Friends must be accused of being great sowers of the seed. They keep right on planting ideas in the minds of collectors and the next thing we know the seed is sown, flourished, and produced beautiful fruit. They often plant their seeds in foreign soil, in the minds of those, that is to say, who have not been brought up to bow their heads as they pass in front of Nassau Hall. Who persuaded Mary and Donald Hyde to join the Friends? Who brought Arthur Houghton, a Harvardian, into our fold? Or Frederick B. Adams, Jr. or Thomas W. Streeter or Irmi de Vegh or Daniel Maggin, or years ago Miss Henrietta Ricketts, a part of whose Dante collection is now on display in the Princetoniana Room? And speaking of seeds planted, I invite you to imagine the mighty harvest which will someday accrue from Edward Naumberg's "Collector's Choice." Many of the collectors who are invited to show us their choicest things will not forget that their treasures shone with a new brilliance in their Princeton setting. Many others, visitors who stop for a moment before that handsome case—the first object which catches the eyes as one enters the Exhibition Gallery—will find that a stray seed has been blown their way and that it has begun to sprout.

I will now ask our hypothetical caviler to leave the room with Gillett Griffin and have a look at the Graphic Arts Room. Whose idea was it, I wonder, that Elmer Adler should be asked to come to Princeton, bringing with him his unrivalled collection? Once he was in our midst, it took no prodding from the Friends to inspire him to organize the remarkable activities at 40 Mercer Street and 56 University Place which have introduced hundreds of undergraduates to the arts of printing and engraving and the joys of book collecting.

Surely one of the most noteworthy achievements of the Friends has been the publication, in the depression years and the years of war, of The Princeton University Library Chronicle. We who are Friends read it with delight, taking pleasure in seeing the familiar names of generous donors new and old, and with a sense of pride in what the organization accomplishes for Princeton. Possibly some of the Friends may not know how highly this journal is regarded in the world of learning. Its influence and usefulness carry far beyond the Princeton community—and for a very good reason. Its editors, successively Lawrence Thompson, Carlos Baker, Shirley Weber, Julie Hudson, and Alexander Wainwright have never been parochial. From the beginning, the Chronicle has published papers of importance to scholars and collectors alike. I am confident that when Bibli was expanded into the Chronicle, the Friends had no reason to suppose that their modest journal would soon become invaluable to historians and literary scholars, librarians and bibliophiles. Among its best articles and the Chronicle, the Morris L. Farrish Collection of Victorian Novelist, the F. Scott Fitzgerald manuscripts, and the Booth Tarkington Papers.

All this immense labor of gathering facts, writing articles, making up the "New & Notable" section, planning, editing, and proofreading, has been performed as a labor of love. So far as I know only once has a contributor been paid for an article. The story of how that happened I shall have to reserve for my memoirs when I write them at eighty.

I now expect my hypothetical questioner to crawl out from under this mass of proof and say in a weak but determined voice: "I surrender. An armored car will deliver to the Library tomorrow my collection of Shakespeare quartos."
The Andre deCoppet Collection of American Historical Manuscripts

A CATALOGUE OF AN EXHIBITION
IN THE PRINCETON UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
MAY 16 TO JUNE 30, 1955

Andre de Coppet (1802-1853), a member of the Princeton Class of 1815, was one of the foremost American collectors of his generation and assembled an unrivalled collection of historical documents. During his lifetime he presented to the Princeton University Library some thirty-four thousand documents relating to the Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy from 1804 to 1814 and over four hundred volumes from one of the residences of the Emperor Napoleon. At Mr. deCoppet’s death Princeton University received as his bequest his collection of American historical manuscripts, the most important collection of such material yet acquired by the University.

The deCoppet American manuscripts, conservatively estimated to number some thirty-seven hundred pieces, extend from 1566, the date of the letters of Catherine de Médicis and Charles IX relating to Florida, up to the year 1942, represented by a single letter of former President Harry S. Truman. Although manuscripts from Colonial America are included in the collection, by far the larger number date from the period since the founding of the United States, especially from the years of the Revolutionary War, the Federal period, and the Civil War.

The collection is an “autograph” collection in the sense that it consists largely of manuscripts from the hands of important national leaders, with most of these manuscripts being in the form of the personal letter. Most prominently represented are the Presidents of the United States, including all from Washington through Truman, with manuscripts of Washington, John Adams, Jefferson, Jackson, Lincoln, and Grant forming the major groups. Military figures, not included among the Presidents, are represented by sizable collections of the manuscripts of Nathanael Greene, William T. Sherman, Robert E. Lee, and by numerous smaller groups of other military and naval officers of the Revolutionary and Civil Wars especially. There are highly significant letters of many Americans of the stature of Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Adams, Patrick Henry, John C. Calhoun, and Henry Clay; and informative and characteristic ones of such diverse personages as Thomas Paine, Robert Fulton, and John Wilkes Booth.

Diaries, collections of documents representative of a period or a place, and contemporary copies comprise still other types of historical evidence, enhancing the research value of the collection. Paper currency of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, bank notes, and broadsides are also included in the collection.

In the present exhibition attempt has been made to represent the deCoppet Collection fairly, giving emphasis to its areas of strength and to its diversity as well. Although the limitations of space made it necessary to omit many prominent figures, it is nevertheless believed that this exhibition presents a clear indication of the importance and scope of a collection which augments so significantly the resources of the Princeton Library in American history.

Alexander P. Clark
CURATOR OF MANUSCRIPTS

A NOTE ON THE EXHIBITION AND THE CATALOGUE

The manuscripts are listed here in a generally chronological order, which does not, however, reflect their exact arrangement in the exhibition. In the descriptions the following abbreviations have been used: a.l.a. (autograph letter with signature); l.s. (letter signed by the author but not in his hand); t.l.s. (typewritten letter with signature); d.s. (document signed); a.m.s. (autograph manuscript with signature).

The planning of the exhibition and the preparation of this catalogue have been greatly facilitated by the descriptive cataloguing of the major part of the collection by Miss Emily Driscoll.
CATHERINE DE MEDICIS (1519-1589), wife of Henry II, King of France, 1547-1559, and chief power in several succeeding reigns.

1. Letter (i.s.) to Raymond de Fourquevaux, ambassador of the French Court to Spain, 17 March 1568, concerned with events in the struggle between the French and the Spanish over Florida. This letter and that of Catherine’s son, Charles IX, listed next in this catalogue, are from a group of official manuscripts, in the deCopper Collection, from the archives of Raymond de Fourquevaux. The manuscripts include three letters of Catherine de Médicis, seven of Charles IX, autograph memoranda of Fourquevaux, and other related documents, all concerning the rivalry between France and Spain over Florida. Most of this material has been published by the Abbé Césarin Dousin in Dépêches de M. de Fourquevaux... 1565-1572, Paris, 1856-1854.

CHARLES IX (1550-1574), King of France, 1560-1574.

2. Letter (i.s.) to Raymond de Fourquevaux, 6 March 1566, on the preparations of a Spanish expedition to Florida which the King had believed to be destined for the Low Countries.

GREAT BRITAIN, PRIVY COUNCIL.

3. Manuscript (rough draft with corrections) containing suggestions for assisting the plantations in New England by sending there the idle sons of gentry and poor and vagrant children, ca. 1670-1673.

PETER STUYVESANT (1592-1672), Dutch administrator in America.

4. Grant of land (d.s.), dated 25 January 1662, Fort Amsterdam in New Netherland, to Johannes Theodorus Polhuenus.

WILLIAM PENN (1644-1718), founder of Pennsylvania. There are four Penn manuscripts in the collection.

5. Receipt (d.s.), 20 August 1681, for ten pounds for the sale of five hundred acres of land in Pennsylvania.

JONATHAN BELCHER (1668-1757), American colonial governor. There are two Belcher manuscripts in the collection.

6. Letter (i.s.), as Governor of New Jersey, to Governor Stephen Hopkins of Rhode Island, written 20 November 1755, shortly after Braddock’s defeat, reflecting Belcher’s anxiety over the cause of the American provinces.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN (1706-1790). The collection contains twenty-three manuscripts of Benjamin Franklin.

7. An example of Franklin’s printing, with contemporary manuscript heading: “A Letter from Geo. Thomas Esqr. Govr. of Pennsylvania to the Lords of Trade & Plantations”; 1740. (Evans 4618)

8. Permit, in the autograph of Franklin, to William Frizzel to carry and deliver mail between Philadelphia and Lancaster, 10 March 1757.
9. Letter (a.l.s.) to the English physician Sir John Pringle, 27 May 1768, being a detailed inquiry by Franklin into the genuineness of "A Letter from Admiral Bartholomew De Fonte..." on the Northwest Passage.
10. Letter (a.l.s.) to Miss Polley Stevenson, 28 October 1768, containing some sage advice.
11. Letter addressed to the Speaker of the Pennsylvania Assembly, written from London, 24 December 1774, in which the American agents report that they have presented to the King the petition of the Continental Congress requesting repeal of the recent restrictive acts of Parliament. The letter is in the autograph of Franklin and is signed by him and by William Bollan and Arthur Lee.

JEFFERY AMHERST, BARON AMHERST (1717-1797), British army officer. In the collection are two manuscripts of Lord Amherst.
12. Letter (l.s.) to John Bradstreet, 8 January 1761, referring to horses necessary for logging at Ticonderoga.

PAPER CURRENCY. The collection contains more than one thousand specimens of eighteenth-century American paper currency and over six hundred nineteenth-century American bank notes, postage and fractional currency, bank share certificates, etc.
13. Eight specimens of paper currency issued by Pennsylvania in 1773 and four issued by Delaware in 1776.

THOMAS HULTON, British Stamp Act administrator.

BROADSIDES. The collection includes some sixty eighteenth- and nineteenth-century American broadsides, the majority of which refer to political events. Many bear signatures and manuscript notations.
On the revolt of the American colonies.
17. "Copy of a letter received by the Lord Mayor," from C. J. Fox, respecting the signing of the peace treaty. Newport, Printed by Henry Barber, 27 October 1783.

GEORGE WASHINGTON (1732-1799), first President of the United States, 1789-1797. The deCoppet Collection includes over 170 manuscripts of George Washington, as well as seven autographed books from his library.
19. Land survey (a.m.s.) for Lawrence Washington, 28 August 1750.
20. Letter (a.l.s.) to Robert R. Livingston, 8 August 1776, concerning the weak state of the American army in New York.
21. Letter (l.s.) to General Anthony Wayne, written from Valley Forge, 2 March 1778, with orders to obstruct the enemy in New Jersey.
22. Letter (l.s.) to William Greene, Governor of Rhode Island, 22 January 1781, concerning mutinies in the army and the need for supplies and money.
23. Letter (a.l.s.) to Tench Tilghman, his aide-de-camp and military secretary, 21 April 1789, on the approaching peace.
24. Appointment of John Paul Jones as Consul to Algiers, 1 June 1798, signed by President Washington and Thomas Jefferson, Secretary of State.

PAUL REVERE (1753-1818), American patriot, silversmith, and engraver.
26. A bond of the State of Massachusetts, dated 1 December 1777, printed from a plate engraved by Paul Revere.

JOHNADOWS (1755-1820), second President of the United States, 1797-1801. There are over forty manuscripts of John Adams in the collection.
27. Letter (l.s.) to Arthur Middleton, of the Continental Congress, written from France, 24 April 1779, concerning the activities of John Paul Jones.
28. Letter (l.s.) to John Trumbull, 31 March 1791, with an apologia for his conduct as Vice-President, in the face of French invasion.
29. Letter (l.s.) to his son, Thomas Boylston Adams, in the Netherlands, 5 December 1794, with advice in the matter of intellectual pursuits.
30. Letter (l.s.) to Benjamin Rush, 1 August 1808, containing an analysis of Napoleon and a discussion of his own ideas as to the role of a chief magistrate.
31. Letter (l.s.) to Benjamin Rush, 10 July 1813, with a discussion of Madison's re-election and with mention of many contemporary topics in politics.

PATRICK HENRY (1736-1799), American Revolutionary leader. Five Henry manuscripts are in the collection.
33. Letter (a.l.s.), written as Governor of Virginia, 15 March 1779, to Theodorick Bland, about supplies for his troops.

JOHN HANCOCK (1737-1793), President of Congress, 1775-1777, first signer of the Declaration of Independence. There are five Hancock manuscripts in the collection.
34. Letter (l.s. with autograph postscript) to William Alexander, Lord Stormont, in command of American troops in New York, 15 March 1776, ordering preparations for the immediate defense of the city.

ISRAEL KEITH, American Revolutionary officer.
35. Draft of a letter (a.l.s.) to J. P. Palmer, 26 September 1776, describing the retreat of the Continental Army from Long Island and from Manhattan.

JAMES McMICHAEL, American Revolutionary officer.

THOMAS PAINE (1737-1809), political philosopher and author. The collection contains four Paine manuscripts.
37. Letter (a.l.s.) to his parents, 11 September 1785, concerning personal plans and prospects.

SIR GEORGE COLLIER (1738-1799), admiral in the British Navy during the American Revolution.
38. "A detail of some particular Services performed in America during the Years 1776-1777-1778 & 1779 . . ." A contemporary manuscript account of naval action in America, written from the original journals. 156 pp.

THOMAS SCOTT (1745-1849), British army officer.

BENEDICT ARNOLD (1741-1801), American Revolutionary officer and traitor. Arnold is represented in the collection by three manuscripts.
40. Letter (a.l.s.) to Colonel Timothy Pickering, Quartermaster General, at Philadelphia, written from West Point, 29 August 1780, demanding building supplies and other stores for the military installation.

NATHANAEL GREECE (1742-1786), American Revolutionary officer. There are more than 160 manuscripts of General Greene in the collection.
41. Letter (a.l.s.) to his wife, 20 July 1779, with a discussion of the character of General Gates.
42. Autograph draft of a letter to George Washington, 15 March 1781, written from “Camp at the Iron Works 10 miles from Guilford Court House,” reporting on the Battle of Guilford.
THOMAS JEFFERSON (1743-1826), third President of the United States, 1801-1809. Jefferson is represented in the collection by some 155 manuscripts.

43. Letter (a.l.s.) to Isaac Zane, 8 November 1789, on political and scientific matters, and including a sketch of his water wheel.

44. Letter (l.a., partly in cipher, with interlinear decipher) to William Short, American chargé d'affaires in Paris, 26 August 1790. This letter, written while Jefferson was Secretary of State in Washington's cabinet, concerns the Treaty of Amity and Commerce between the United States and France.

45. Letter (a.l.s.) to John Holmes Freeman, 14 November 1809, about Monticello.

46. Letter (a.l.s., in the third person) to Attorney General Caesar A. Rodney, 24 April 1808, concerning the "Long Embargo."

47. Letter (a.l.s.) to James Fishback, written from Monticello, 27 September 1809, on tolerance and morality.

48. Letter (a.l.s.) to Littleton D. Teackle, 31 March 1826, on education.

ANTHONY WAYNE (1745-1796), American Revolutionary officer. The collection contains three Wayne manuscripts.

49. Document signed by a group of torts, January 1783, who had transferred their loyalties to the American cause, one of a selection of documents in the collection addressed to Wayne during the Georgia campaign.

BENJAMIN RUSH (1745-1813), American physician and political leader. There are three Rush manuscripts in the collection.

50. Letter (a.l.s.) to an undesignated correspondent, 29 May 1788, touching upon the abolition of Negro slavery and stating his conviction that American Independence will effect a profound change for the betterment of human happiness.

JOHN JAY (1745-1829), first Chief Justice of the United States, 1789-1796. There are two Jay manuscripts in the collection.

51. Letter (a.l.s.) to William Petty, Marquis of Lansdowne, 16 April 1786, voicing his hopes for future friendly relations between Great Britain and the United States.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL HOUSTON (ca. 1746-1785), librarian and professor of mathematics and natural philosophy at Princeton; member of the Continental Congress. The collection has three Houston manuscripts.

52. Letter (a.l.s.) to Professor John Winthrop of Harvard, 27 December 1775, describing a journey from Cambridge [?] to Princeton, with news and rumors from various parts of the colonies.

JOHN PAUL JONES (1747-1792), American naval officer. The collection has two Jones manuscripts.

53. Letter (l.a.) to Benjamin Franklin, at Passy, written from L'Orient, 3 July 1779, forwarding papers concerning naval activity.

JAMES MADISON (1751-1836), fourth President of the United States, 1809-1817. Twenty-five Madison manuscripts are in the collection.

54. Letter (a.l.s.) to George W. Campbell, 2 November 1814, defending his actions during the British attack on Washington.

55. Letter (a.l.s.) to James Monroe, 9 May 1815, outlining the problems arising from Napoleon's return to power and the renewal of war in Europe.

56. Autobiographical sketch in Madison's hand, September 1816.

JOHN LANSING (1754-1849), American Revolutionary soldier and jurist. Included in the collection are two Lansing manuscripts.

57. Letter (a.l.s.) to Richard Varick, 2 July 1777, with information about the movements of General Burgoyne gathered from British prisoners of Mohawk Indians, allies of the Americans.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON (1757-1804), first Secretary of the Treasury, 1789-1795. The collection includes more than fifty manuscripts of Alexander Hamilton.

58. Letter (a.l.s.) to David Humphreys, 14 August 1790, while Humphreys was abroad on a diplomatic mission.

MARIE JOSEPH PAUL YVES ROCH GILBERT DU MOTIER, MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE (1757-1834). In the collection are seven Lafayette manuscripts.

59. Letter (l.a.s) to Nathanael Greene, 28 April 1781, on the opening of the campaign in Virginia, his movements, and the action of the British under Benedict Arnold.

60. Letter (a.l.s.) to James Brown, of Philadelphia, 28 March 1809, in which he writes of the political situation in France, and of the example of the United States.

UNITED STATES CENSUS (1790-1797).

61. Contemporary manuscript listing figures for the free and the slave populations of sixteen states and districts of the United States. From the Jefferson-Humphreys papers.

EDMOND CHARLES EDOUARD GENET (1763-1834), first French Minister to the United States, 1792. There are four manuscripts of "Citizen Genet" in the collection.

62. Autograph manuscript, "Entretien avec M. Jefferson le 26 juin [1793]", a memorandum of an interview with Jefferson, Secretary of State.

JAMES MONROE (1758-1831), fifth President of the United States, 1817-1825. Some fifty manuscripts of Monroe are in the collection.

63. Letter (a.l.s.) to his friend Littleton W. Tazewell, 30 October 1808, giving his views on Jefferson's administration.

64. Letter (l.a.s., partly in cod) to Joel Barlow, American Minister to France, 16 June 1812, instructing him to complain to the French government about the seizure and burning of several American ships.
65. Letter (a.l.s.) to Smith Thompson, 25 October 1819, concerned with measures for combating the slave trade.

J. S. GLENNIE, Scottish traveler in the United States.

66. Autograph manuscript journal, with letters, covering his voyage to the United States and particulars of his trip, in Philadelphia, Virginia, Delaware, Washington, and New Jersey, 1810-1811, with over sixty water-color and pencil sketches. 95 pp.

STEPHEN DECATUR (1779-1820), naval hero of the war with Tripoli and of the War of 1812. The collection has three manuscripts of Decatur.

67. Letter (a.l.s.) written aboard the frigate “United States,” at sea, 12 October 1812, addressed to “Littleton Waller Tazewell or Luke Wheeler, Norfolk, Virginia,” stating that he is sending in to that port the American ship “Mandarin,” which appears to have British goods aboard.

ROBERT FULTON (1769-1815), civil engineer and inventor. In the collection are six Fulton manuscripts.

68. Draft of a letter (a.l.s.) to Stephen Decatur, 29 July 1813, concerning his submarine experiments.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS (1767-1848), sixth President of the United States, 1825-1829. There are in the collection twenty-five manuscripts of John Quincy Adams.

69. Letter (a.l.s.) to P. F. F. De Grand, 21 January 1818, on German and Spanish intrigues in Florida and on the revolutions in South America.

70. Autograph manuscript of a speech in Congress, 8 February 1824, on the Congressional Apportionment Bill.

70a Minutes, in Adams’ autograph, of a cabinet meeting, 11 February 1824, relating to the settlement of Oregon and the extension of slavery there.

ANDREW JACKSON (1767-1845), seventh President of the United States, 1829-1837. There are twenty-nine Jackson manuscripts in the collection.

71. Letter (a.l.s.) to Daniel Smith, 11 February 1807, referring to the surrender and impending trial of Aaron Burr for treason.

72. Letter (a.l.s.) to John Coffee, 23 September 1819, concerning sending information about the expected movements of the Creeks and Spaniards against Mobile, a phase of the War of 1812.

73. Letter (l.s.) written from “Camp 4 miles below Orleans,” 13 January 1819, to an undesignated correspondent, reporting on the Battle of New Orleans.

HENRY CLAY (1777-1852), congressman and senator from Kentucky; Secretary of State, 1825-1829. There are twelve letters of Clay in the collection.

75. Political letter (a.l.s.) to Horace Greeley, 10 December 1847, in anticipation of the Whig convention of 1848.

JOHN C. CALHOUN (1782-1850), Vice-President of the United States, 1825-1829, advocate of states’ rights. In the collection are three Calhoun manuscripts.

76. Letter (a.l.s.) to Samuel D. Ingham, Secretary of the Treasury, 31 July 1831, concerning Calhoun’s views on the nullification controversy, the Presidency, the West, and other subjects.

MARTIN VAN BUREN (1782-1862), eighth President of the United States, 1837-1841. There are eight manuscripts of Van Buren in the collection.

77. Letter (a.l.s.) to Mrs. H. D. Gilpin, 9 June 1853, written from Belfast, Ireland, while Van Buren was on a European trip.

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON (1773-1841), ninth President of the United States, 1841. Included in the collection are twelve manuscripts of William Henry Harrison.

78. Letter (a.l.s.) to General Lewis Cass, Secretary of War, 19 February 1835, reporting on the popular support accorded President Jackson’s policies, particularly in the matter of “nullification,” in the state of Indiana.

JOHN TYLER (1790-1862), tenth President of the United States, 1841-1845. The collection contains six Tyler manuscripts.

79. Letter (a.l.s.) to the Rev. John Johns, President of the College of William and Mary, 25 May 1839, on College matters.

JAMES KNOX POLK (1799-1849), eleventh President of the United States, 1845-1849. Eight manuscripts of Polk are in the collection.

80. Letter (a.l.s.) to William L. Marcy, 25 August 1848, with reference to American neutrality as regards the troubles of the Irish people.

ZACHARY TAYLOR (1784-1850), twelfth President of the United States, 1849-1850. There are nineteen Taylor manuscripts in the collection.

81. Letter (a.l.s.) to Elwood Evins [sic], 5 January 1848, commenting on his attitude toward Mexico and on his consistent lifetime advocacy of the cause of peace.

DEED OF GIFT OF A SLAVE.

82. Document signed by Henry Bradford, Halifax County, North Carolina, 10 February 1850.

J. J. SCOTT, Oregon pioneer.

83. Letter (a.l.s.), written from Fort Hall, Idaho, to William Burton and Joseph V. Morgan, residents of Burlington, Iowa, 14 August 1846, describing his trip westward with seven wagon-loads of
settlers from Des Moines County and emphasizing the advantages of Oregon over Iowa, One of two similar letters of J. J. Scott in the collection.

JOHN BROWN (1800-1859), American abolitionist.
84. Letter (a.l.s.) to his wife, Mary, written from Troy, New York, 9 December 1851, concerning the care of the stock on their farm during his absence.

MILLARD FILMORE (1800-1874), thirteenth President of the United States, 1850-1853. Fillmore is represented in the collection by thirteen manuscript items.
85. Alexander B. Johnson's Where We Stood and Where We Stand [n.p., 1863], inscribed by Fillmore on the front wrapper, 26 February 1864.

FRANKLIN PIERCE (1804-1869), fourteenth President of the United States, 1853-1857. In the collection are four Pierce manuscripts.
86. Letter (a.l.s.) to William L. Marcy, Secretary of State, 7 March 1853, enclosing his revisions of the Secretary's notes on foreign affairs.

AUGUST BELMONT (1816-1890), American financier, diplomat, and sportsman.
87. Letter (a.l.s.), written from Newport, Rhode Island, to a Mr. Duncan, 16 August 1860, concerning matters of current political import.

JAMES BUCHANAN (1791-1868), fifteenth President of the United States, 1857-1861. The collection includes twenty-two Buchanan manuscripts.
88. Letter (a.l.s.) to Richard C. Davis, 7 February 1862, vindicating his actions as President in the months following the election of Abraham Lincoln.

ROBERT E. LEE (1807-1870), Commander in chief of the Confederate armies. The deCopper Collection has some forty manuscripts of General Lee.
89. Letter (a.) to Jefferson Davis, 3 December 1863, anticipating the invasion of Georgia and advising about the dangers to be expected from Grant's army.
90. Letter (a.l.s.) to Jefferson Davis, 12 April 1864, concerning the dire need for rations and supplies for his army.
91. Letter (l.s.) to Jefferson Davis, 28 June 1864, describing his position opposite Grant's army and suggesting a plan to surround Washington.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN (1809-1865), sixteenth President of the United States, 1861-1865. The deCopper Collection includes 150 manuscripts of Abraham Lincoln.
98. Letter (a.l.s.) to Simon Cameron, Secretary of War, 7 August 1861, on the defense of Missouri.
94. Letter (a.l.s.) to General Edward Canby, 12 December 1864, on the trade in contraband cotton and the occupation government of Louisiana.
95. Two military pardons and a discharge granted by Lincoln, with his endorsement written on each request.
96. Penciled notes by Lincoln, consisting of columns of figures said to be about Union forces at Knoxville.

JOHN WILKES BOOTH (1838-1865), actor, assassin of Abraham Lincoln.

97. Letters (a.l.s.) to Joseph H. Simonds, 1 March 1863 and 3 April [n.y.], two of a group of seven. The letters refer to financial speculations, his theatrical engagements, and make mention of members of his family.

ANDREW JOHNSON (1808-1875), seventeenth President of the United States, 1865-1869. Five manuscripts of President Johnson are included in the collection.

98. Letter (a.l.s.) to Alfred O. P. Nicholson, 12 February 1844, with reference to the Tyler administration, the tariff, and nullification; and with mention of prominent political figures.

JEFFERSON DAVIS (1808-1889), President of the Confederate States of America, 1861-1865. Davis is represented in the collection by six manuscripts.

99. Endorsement, as "President of the Confederate States," approving a routine transfer of funds, on an autograph letter of Judah P. Benjamin, Confederate Secretary of State, 27 August 1863.

JOHN A. DIX (1798-1879), Major General in the Civil War.

100. Printed proclamation, 13 November 1861, to the people of Accomac and Northampton Counties, Virginia, upon the entrance into the counties of the Union forces under his command. General Dix's autograph draft of this proclamation is also in the collection.

WILLIAM T. SHERMAN (1820-1891), American army commander. There are some fifty Sherman letters in the collection.

101. Four of a series of five letters (a.l.s.) written to Eugene Casserly, U. S. Senator from California, between 1864 and 1869. The letters contain remarks on Sherman's wartime military operations, a defense of the characters of Northern generals, much mention of Grant, Sherman's views on civil office, and many other matters.

JOHN C. VAN DUSER, Union officer in the Civil War, chief telegraph officer in the Military Division of Tennessee.

102. Manuscript diary kept while with Sherman's army during the march from Atlanta, Georgia, 15 November 1864, to Hilton Head, South Carolina, 22 December 1864, a vivid day-by-day description. 64 pp.
ULYSSES S. GRANT (1822-1885), eighteenth President of the United States, 1869-1877. There are more than one hundred Grant manuscripts in the collection.

103. Letter (a.l.s.) to his brother, 24 October 1839, on private affairs.
105. Letter (a.l.s.) to General J. B. McPherson, written from Vicksburg, 7 July 1863, relative to Negroes accompanying white families leaving the city.
106. Letter (a.l.s.) to General George H. Thomas, 26 November 1864, reporting on Sherman’s position.
107. Letter (a.l.s.) to Vice-President Schuyler Colfax, 4 August 1871, asking him to give up that office to become Secretary of State.
108. Letter (a.l.s. and c.) to George W. Childs, publisher of the Philadelphia Ledger, written from London, 6 June 1877, expressing his pleasure over the reception given him in England, with remarks about the future relations between the United States and Great Britain.
109. Hilarious note pencilled by Grant to his doctor, John P. Gray, 30 June 1884, while unable to talk during his last illness.


110. Two files from his records, one relating to the Union ship “Kearsarge” and the other to the Confederate raider “Alabama,” sunk by the “Kearsarge,” 19 June 1864. Both had called at the port of Cherbourg before the battle. Shown, from the file on the “Kearsarge,” are two letters to Liais from William L. Dayton, U. S. minister to France, 1861-1864, concerning the “Kearsarge”-“Alabama” affair.

FREDERICK WATERHOUSE (d. 1864), American soldier in the Civil War, with the 145th Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1862-1864.

111. Part of a collection of approximately eighty-five letters written between Private Waterhouse and his family and friends, 1864-1864.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

112. Oath to defend the Constitution and Government of the United States, administered to, and signed by, George W. Gibbs, at Chillicothe, Missouri, 13 September 1863.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES (1822-1893), nineteenth President of the United States, 1877-1881. In the collection are nine manuscripts of President Hayes.

113. Letter (a.l.s.) to W. C. Crane, 28 February 1887, with details of his services in the Civil War, at the conclusion of which Hayes was brevetted a major general.

LELAND STANFORD (1824-1885), American capitalist and politician, railroad builder.

114. Letter (l.s.) to Professor George Davidson, 13 April 1878, offering his assistance in the purchase of a collection of material [insecta] for scientific research.

JAMES G. BLAINE (1830-1893), American politician, Secretary of State, 1881.

115. Letter (a.l.s.) to a Mr. Clarkson, on political matters, 7 March 1864, the year of his nomination for President on the Republican ticket. In the election Blaine was defeated by Grover Cleveland.

JAMES A. GARFIELD (1831-1881), twentieth President of the United States, 1881. There are thirteen Garfield manuscripts in the collection.

116. Letter (a.l.s.) to Cornelius Udel, 25 May 1868, concerning the impeachment of President Andrew Johnson and the nomination of Grant for the Presidency.

CHESTER ALAN ARTHUR (1830-1886), twenty-first President of the United States, 1881-1885. For President Arthur there is but one autograph item in the collection.

117. Appointment of James Kel as postmaster at York, Pennsylvania, 4 March 1884, signed by Arthur.

ROBERT INGERSOLL (1833-1899), American lawyer and agnostic.

118. Autograph sentiment, signed, on the subject of free speech, 20 October 1880.

GROVER CLEVELAND (1837-1908), twenty-second and twenty-fourth President of the United States, 1885-1889, 1893-1897. Included in the collection are thirty-seven manuscripts of President Cleveland.

119. Autograph draft of a letter to G. H. Pendleton, 17 January 1885, concerning the Nicaragua canal project.

120. Letter (a.l.s.) to J. Rice Winchell, 9 April 1904, calling for a tariff reform plank in the Democratic platform.

BENJAMIN HARRISON (1833-1901), twenty-third President of the United States, 1889-1893. Included in the collection are nine manuscripts of Benjamin Harrison.

121. Letter (a.l.s.) to his son, Russell Harrison, 11 May 1884, reporting on political news before the Republican national convention of 1884.

HENRY ADAMS (1838-1918), American historian.

122. Letter (a.l.s.) to an undesignated correspondent, 7 January 1904, on the place of literature in our present civilization.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER (1839-1937), American businessman, oil magnate, and philanthropist.

123. Letter (a.l.s.) to Professor H. B. Nason, 29 April 1887, acknowledging the gift of a book and an invitation to visit.

WILLIAM McKINLEY (1843-1901), twenty-fifth President of the United States, 1897-1901. In the collection are eleven McKinley manuscripts.

124. Autographed photograph, undated.
ANTHONY COMSTOCK (1844-1915), American reformer, Secretary of the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice.

125. Letter (a.l.s.) to a Mr. Bamberger, 11 August 1909, on routine business of the Society. The letterhead is graced with the pictorial seal of the Society showing the burning of books and the casting of a man into a prison cell.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT (1858-1919), twenty-sixth President of the United States, 1901-1909. The collection contains more than 150 manuscripts of Theodore Roosevelt.

126. Letter (c.l.s.) to W. Hallett Phillips, 23 June 1894, on the subject of torture as practiced in the warfare between the Indians and whites in America.

127. Letter (c.l.s. with autograph corrections) to Frederick Coudert, Jr., 8 July 1901, discussing the Philippines and American expansion.

128. Letter (c.l.s.) to Henry A. Buchtel, Governor of Colorado, 8 June 1908, advising of the appointment of a national conservation commission.

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT (1857-1930), twenty-seventh President of the United States, 1909-1913. In the collection are thirty-eight manuscripts of President Taft.

129. A representative letter from a series of eighteen written to W. Hallett Phillips, 1892-1896, on legal, political, and social matters.

130. Letter (a.l.s.) to Franklin A. Shotwell, 13 April 1914, on the current political scene.

WOODROW WILSON (1856-1924), twenty-eighth President of the United States, 1913-1921. Wilson is represented in the collection by over one hundred manuscripts.

131. Letter (a.l.s.) to R. L. Bridgman, 26 October 1885, giving "practical politics" and "statecraft" as his major interests.

132. Letter (a.l.s.) to his father, 20 March 1890, describing his feelings upon the occasion of his recent appointment to the Princeton faculty.


134. Autographed copy of Wilson's Mere Literature and Other Essays, Boston, 1896, open to "A Calendar of Great Americans."


William T. Sherman to Eugene Casterly, 10 February 1868
No. 101. Andre deCoppet Collection, Princeton University Library
EDWARD M. HOUSE (1858-1938), friend and confidant of President Wilson and his personal representative to European nations during World War I and the peace negotiations.
137. Letter (t.i.s.) to Don C. Seitz, 28 June 1923, concerning Joseph Pulitzer and Padrewski.

LEONARD WOOD (1860-1927), American physician, general in the army, and colonial administrator.
138. Letter (t.i.s.) to Professor Albert Bushnell Hart, 2 November 1914, in acknowledgment of his book on the European war and expressing concern over American preparedness.

JOHN J. PERSHING (1860-1948), Commander in chief of the American Expeditionary Forces in World War I. There are nine Pershing manuscripts in the collection.
139. Statement on the Fourth Liberty Loan, 27 August 1918, typescript, signed.

WARREN G. HARDING (1865-1923), twenty-ninth President of the United States, 1921-1923. The collection includes some seventy-five Harding manuscripts.
140. Series of twenty-four typewritten letters to Charles R. Forbes, Director of the Veterans' Bureau, written between 1920 and 1922.

CALVIN COOLIDGE (1872-1933), thirtieth President of the United States, 1923-1929. President Coolidge is represented in the collection by twenty-two manuscripts.
141. Letter (t.i.s.) to Richard Henry Dana, 30 November 1923, relative to Dana's advice to the President on the subject of civil service reform.

HERBERT HOOVER (b. 1874), thirty-first President of the United States, 1929-1933. There are ten manuscripts of President Hoover in the collection.
142. Letter (t.i.s.) to S. H. Clark, 28 May 1929, with reference to an atrocity episode of World War I.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (1882-1945), thirty-second President of the United States, 1933-1945. For Franklin D. Roosevelt there are eleven items in the collection.
143. Letter (a.i.s.) to "the Members of the Executive Committee," 1938, reporting on the progress of his New York gubernatorial campaign of that year.
144. Autographed copy of Roosevelt's first inaugural address, 4 March 1933.
145. Caricatures of Roosevelt and Hoover by an unidentified artist, on one piece of paper, signed by both Presidents.

HARRY S. TRUMAN (b. 1884), thirty-third President of the United States, 1945-1953. The letter exhibited is the sole Truman item in the collection.
146. Letter (t.i.s.) to Ernest Angell, President of the Council for Democracy, 17 April 1947, with caustic reference to "the vermin"
Library Notes & Queries
WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO PRINCETON

GRAPHIC ARTS COLLECTION

The exhibits in the Graphic Arts Room have again attempted to point up a variety of fields of graphic interest this year. An exhibition of "Representative Prints from the Lending Collection" was held from September 10 through September 30 to make freshmen and others aware of the range of subject matter and techniques to be found in our own print collections. During the fall, from September 26 to December 1, an exhibition of "Paper and Its Origins" told the story of the invention and spread of paper from China, with examples dating from the seventh century to the present. Paper molds, handmade papers, watermarks, and paste papers were shown as well as a large section devoted to contemporary handmade papers of Japan. From December 15 through March 14 "Greece in Photographs," by Robert McCabe '59, brought together some 170 photographs of unusual quality in an exhibition which proved to be the most popular one of the year. The pictures, which were taken during a short stay in Greece last summer, as a result of the exhibition, were televised over a special broadcast in Baltimore, have been shown at the University of North Carolina, and were also exhibited at Trinity College in Connecticut. Concurrently with the Greek photographs there was an exhibit of "The Decipherment of the Mycenaean Linear B Script." This included photographs of the sites of Knossos, Mycenae, and Tiryns, rare publications lent by Alan Wace and Erik Sjöqvist, and casts of tablets with the accounts of the steps of the decipherment by Michael Ventris and the meaning of the new discovery. To coincide with the publication of a new book on Jacques Callot, an exhibition of "The Etchings of Callot" was held from March 15 through June 15. Examples of the drawings and etchings of one of the greatest and most original etchers were borrowed from the Princeton Art Museum, which has the most complete collection of Callot etchings in the world.

Elmer Adler gave a series of four seminars on "Prints and Printmaking Techniques" from November 22 to December 19. The seminars traced the history of every basic medium with particular emphasis on its use today. Eighteen enthusiasts signed up and because of the response Mr. Adler had to give the seminars to two groups each day.

The lending of over five hundred prints this year each term proves that there is a great demand for original material. The prints all lend in one afternoon and many students come in advance to try to find just the right ones for their rooms.

The Graphic Arts printing equipment has been used considerably this year. Invitations and posters, printing for theses, and pieces for undergraduate organizations make up the majority of the printed matter but Professor James Thorpe's graduate class again printed individual poems as a part of their course.

COLOPHON CLUB

With twenty-six members the Colophon Club realized another active year. An organizational meeting in late September was followed in early October by an introduction to the Parrish Collection of Victorian Novellas. Later, on October 26, the Friends of the Library and the Colophon Club sponsored a talk on English writers of the nineteenth century by Bertram Rota, who arranged in connection with the talk an exhibit of manuscripts and facsimiles of the figures under discussion. In early November Tung Yiu, of the Department of Oriental Languages and Literatures, gave a demonstration of Chinese calligraphy, with an account of the history of its origin and development. In late fall members of the Colophon Club were specially invited to participate in Mr. Adler's print seminar. In the spring there was a Babylonian seal roll in which the students made rollings of ancient Babylonian cylinder seals from the Library's collection. Early in May the annual picnic for members of Mr. Adler's seminar and Colophon Club members was held at Mr. Adler's home in Bucks County. Several days later, on May 5, Beaumont Newhall, Curator of the George Eastman House, gave a talk on "Wet Plate and Early Photography," using for illustration the photographs and equipment from the Graphic Arts Collection. On May 10 E. Harold Hugo and John F. Peckham '40 gave an informal and informative talk on "Techniques of Fine Printing by Colotype and OFFSET." To illustrate the talk the Meriden Gravure Company specially prepared examples, specimens, plates, and proofs of pieces in the Graphic Arts Collection for the Library and had complimentary portfolios for the audience.
**UNDERGRADUATE BOOK COLLECTING CONTEST**

The thirteenth annual undergraduate book collecting contest took place on Wednesday evening, April 27, 1955, in the Friends Room of the Firestone Library. The judges, John M. Crawford, Jr. and William S. Dix, awarded the first prize to Robert J. Ruben '55 for a Sinclair Lewis collection. Two other prizes were presented to Paul W. Gunzelmann '58 for a complete collection of books on organ building printed in English since the turn of the century and to Michael D. Kiser '57 for a group of books on whaling. Each of the seven contestants was given a copy of *An informal talk by Elmer Adler at the University of Kansas, April 17, 1953* [Los Angeles, 1954].

**COLLECTOR’S CHOICE**

Unique and rare items from the collection of John M. Crawford, Jr. were exhibited as the “Collector’s Choice” for April. Included in the exhibit were two sixteenth-century books printed on vellum: Nicolas Eymeric’s *Directorium inquisitorum*, Barcelona, 1509, a guidebook for inquisitors by a fourteenth-century Catalan theologian who was chaplain to Gregory XI and chief inquisitor in Aragon; and the Hoe copy of the first Aldine edition of the comedies of Terence, published in Venice in 1517, with ornamental initials illuminated in gold and colors. On the verso of the title-page of the *Directorium inquisitorum* is a full-page woodcut of Christ with emblems of the four evangelists and throughout the volume are numerous decorative initials in white on a black ground. Also exhibited were a sixteenth-century Spanish Gospel lectionary in Latin, written in a fine roman hand, in red and black, on vellum, with an elaborately decorated first page and many illuminated initials in gold and colors; and a book of prayers in Latin dedicated to, and executed for, Philip III of Spain (1578-1621) by Diego de Barrech, a Dominican monk. The letters and decorations in the prayer book were all cut in thin sheets of paper, giving the effect of a stencil. Between two consecutive sheets was placed a piece of silk in yellow, blue, green, red, or some other color, and the two sheets were then sealed together around the edges, forming a single leaf.

The earliest manuscript draft of the play which was later developed into *The School for Scandal* was featured in its first public American appearance in the final “Collector’s Choice” of the academic year 1954-1955, on exhibition during May and June. This draft, which forms a part of the collection of Robert H. Taylor ’50, includes only the action of the Sir Peter-Lady Teazle plot. Although such characters as Lady Sneerwell and Crabtree do not appear, the scandal theme was already in Sheridan’s mind. On an otherwise blank page is scribbled the phrase “Crabtree to wear a muff,” and in a group of rough notes occurs “Lady Sneerwell to be with young Surface.” At the top of one page is the somewhat surprising inscription “Sk. for Sk.—” To accompany the draft Mr. Taylor also lent a copy of the rare first edition of the play and a contemporary manuscript copy. The first edition was the piracy of a Dublin publisher but even so it was not printed until three years after the first performance, May 8, 1777. Sheridan never authorized the publication of the play, for once printed it could have been acted without his permission at rival theaters. There are extant perhaps a dozen contemporary manuscript copies of *The School for Scandal*; some were used as prompt copies and others were circulated among those who wished to read the play. The copy in Mr. Taylor’s collection bears on a flyleaf the words “From the Author.” According to a slip laid in the volume, these words are in the hand of Frederick, Duke of York, the original owner.

The monthly “Collector’s Choice” exhibit, designed to bring to Princeton for exhibition notable items from the collections of alumni and Friends, are sponsored by the Committee on Collectors and Collecting of the Friends of the Princeton Library. The Chairman of the Committee, Edward Naumburg, Jr., ’24, 175 West 93rd Street, New York City 25, will be pleased to receive suggestions for future exhibits.

**EXHIBITIONS**

The exhibitions in the main gallery during the academic year 1954-1955 were as follows: a selection of caricatures by Thomas Rowlandson from the Dickson Q. Brown Collection, August 6 through October 18; “The Illustrated Book, from the 15th Century to the 20th,” October 22 through December 19; “A Victorian Anthology,” books, manuscripts, and other material from the Morris L. Parrish Collection of Victorian Novelists, December 30 through March 6; “The Hundred Great English Books,” March 11 through May 8; and a selection of items from the Andre deCoppet Collection of American Historical Manuscripts, May 16 through June 30. With the exception of several items lent by Sinclair Hamilton ’06, Gillett G. Griffin, Robert H. Taylor ’30, and the Princeton Art Museum for the exhibition of “The Illustrated Book,” all the material in these exhibitions came from the col-
lections of the Library. The final exhibition was opened on the sixteenth of May with a tea in the Manuscripts Room.


There were three exhibits in the Theatre Collection during the year: "Summer Theatre 1954, U.S.A. and Canada," October 18 through November 5; French lithographic posters and stage designs, December 2 through January 25; and "Movie Memories," celebrating sixty years of motion pictures, March 7 through June 15. The exhibits of the Graphic Arts Collection are described elsewhere in this issue.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

WILLARD THORP, Holmes Professor of Belles Lettres at Princeton University, has been a Vice-Chairman of the Friends of the Princeton Library since 1942.

J. KEENE FLECK is a Reference Assistant in the Princeton University Library.

JAMES HOLLY HANFORD was a member of the staff of the Princeton University Library during the year 1954-1955 as Visiting Bibliographer.

DOUGLAS W. ALDEN is an Associate Professor of French at Princeton University.

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New & Notable

A DANTE COLLECTION

From the library of the late Miss Henrietta G. Ricketts Princeton University received as her bequest a small but exceptionally interesting collection of 160 volumes, consisting of editions of Dante Alighieri's works and books about the "divine" poet. Included in the collection are two fifteenth-century editions of The Divine Comedy: the Venice edition of 1477, in which Boccaccio's Vita di Dante appears for the first time; and the first Florence edition, dated 1481, the only Florence edition with the Landino commentary. In the latter volume space for an illustration was left (with two exceptions) at the beginning of each canto, but after plates were made for the first nineteen the plan was abandoned. Few copies have a complete set, Landino's own copy having none. The Princeton copy has the "Boticelli" engravings for the first two cantos only. An early illustrated edition of Dante's works in Miss Ricketts' bequest is the Venice edition of 1512, again with Landino's commentary, which contains rather primitive woodcuts. The collection of the Divina Commedia, to mention a few more, includes the important Aldine edition published in Venice in 1515, the first translation into Spanish, published in Burgos in 1518, and the Ashendene Press edition of 1512. Among the books on Dante are standard reference works, dictionaries, as well as a selection of critical material. Of particular interest is Dante Gabriel Rossetti's Dante and His Circle, London, 1873, with a presentation inscription to Alice Wilding "from her old friend" and inserted a letter from John Ruskin to Rossetti on which there is a brief note in Rossetti's hand to his brother William. Finally, the collection contains a set of the seven plates designed and engraved by William Blake to illustrate Dante, issued in 1886.

JANSEN'S AUGUSTINUS

The Library has recently acquired through the gift of Imrie de Vegh a fine copy of Cornelis Jansen's Augustinus in the Paris edi-
tion of 1641 (folio, three volumes in two). This book is important historically as being the basic document in the religious movement known as Jansenism, which agitated France for at least a century, producing fruits of piety and martyrdom and inspiring the genius of one of the greatest French men of letters, Blaise Pascal. Although the Augustinus was once eagerly read and must have been widely distributed, it has now become extremely rare, the reason perhaps being the condemnation of Jansen's heresies by ecclesiastical authority and the gradual suppression of the movement. Jansen himself died a bishop two years before the publication of his life work, submitting it in a prefatory letter to correction by the Pope. But his theological opponents had tried to prevent its appearance, and, under the repressive policies adopted by Louis XIV, to render it in France was to invite exile. The Union Catalogue at the Library of Congress lists a copy of the first edition, Louvain, 1640, as being at the Union Theological Seminary. This and the Princeton copy of the second edition are apparently the only recorded Jansens in America. It has never been translated.

The Princeton copy is in good condition except for a small tear or two and many wormholes which have been neatly patched. The text is said to be identical with the first edition except for small matters, but there is an added tract of great interest by one Florence Conry, originally published in 1642, dealing with the state of unbaptized infants after death. They must suffer in hell, it is argued, by real torment and not only by deprivation of the light of God.

The provenance of the copy presented to Princeton by Mr. de Vlieg is indicated by the library stamp of the Grande Seminaire de St. Charles d'Avignon, a notable institution the former buildings of which are objects of tourist interest. When and for what reason the Seminary parted with a once cherished volume does not appear.

The import of the Augustinus is dramatically represented in the engraved title-page. The figure of St. Augustine stands triumphant-ly on the head of his great opponent, Pelagius, holding a flaming heart aloft in his right hand. Four popes tender him their bulls confirmatory of his doctrines and one, Boniface, stamps angrily upon a book of heresy. Above is a text from the Pauline epistles, oftentimes cited by extreme predestinarians against the prevailing doctrine of the Church: "The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts" (Rom. 5).

It takes only a little reading in such an account of Jansenism as Sainte-Beuve's Port-Royal to make one realize the kind of emotion which this symbolism once aroused. Jansen was engaged in a crusade of the spirit similar in that of Luther and the English Puritans. It is not really Pelagius who is being confuted by St. Augustine and the older church but the lax and opportunistic moderns, notably certain Jesuit theologians who in Jansen's conviction have revived the Pelagian heresy of free will and in so doing all but destroyed the Christian faith.—JAMES HOLLY HANFORD

TWO SYMBOLISTS

A few years ago a group of some eighty letters written to the American-born French poet Francis Vielé-Griffin by various correspondents was purchased by the Princeton Library. Subsequently, in the Chronicle for the spring of 1951 these letters were described by Howard C. Rice, Jr., who gave a thumbnail biographical sketch of the poet.1 Because of the interest of this original collection of letters, the Library has now acquired several additional groups of letters centered around Vielé-Griffin and another equally famous American-born French symbolist, Stuart Merrill, already represented in the Library by an extensive correspondence.2

It would be somewhat premature to say that Princeton is thus becoming a center of documentation on these two poets, but at least the Princeton holdings are significant and will be invaluable to future students, particularly of Vielé-Griffin's work. There is at present no worth-while study of this poet (Stuart Merrill has faced somewhat better) and it seems very likely that one of our own graduate students, whose career is momentarily undergoing a military interlude, will undertake this work which so definitely needs to be done.

In his article on the first collection of letters, Mr. Rice explained how Vielé-Griffin, though an American, came to be a French symbolist and also referred to his American ancestry. The recently acquired letters contain some more precise information on this

1 Howard C. Rice, Jr., "Francis Vielé-Griffin," the Chronicle, XII, No. 3 (Spring, 1951), 116-117.
2 These consist of the following: (1) seventy letters from Vielé-Griffin to Albert Mockel, 1891-1898, with related material, purchased as a memorial to the late J. Harlow O'Connell '74 with donations received from a number of Mr. O'Connell's friends and associates; (a) some ninety letters addressed to Vielé-Griffin by various writers and artists, including Francis Jackman, Adolphe Rethé, Marcel Schwob, Emmanuel Signoret, Charles Whibley, "Willy," Rodin, and Whistler, purchased on the Acquisitions Committee Fund of the Friends of the Princeton Library; (b) five letters from Vielé-Griffin to Gabriel Mourey, 1857-1908, purchased on the Acquisitions Committee Fund; and (c) fifteen letters from Stuart Merrill to Gabriel Mourey, 1890-1916, also purchased on the Acquisitions Committee Fund.
3 For an account of a series of sixty-four letters written by Merrill to Thomas Rudman-Brown, now in the Princeton Library, see Gilbert Chinard, "Letters of Stuart Merrill to Rudman-Brown," the Chronicle, VIII, No. 4 (June, 1947), 108-113; and "Letters of Stuart Merrill," the Chronicle, XIV, No. 1 (Autumn, 1950), 49-
subject in the form of the genealogy which Viéle prepared for the Belgian poet Albert Mockel, who in 1927 was sponsoring his candidacy at the Royal Academy of Belgium (perhaps the word "candidacy" is inappropriate, for nothing in the letters indicates that the initiative came from Viéle). The following is a translation of this document, which is interesting both as Americana and as French literary history:

Egbert Ludovicus Viéle, called Francis Viéle Griffin, born at Norfolk, Virginia, May 26, 1804, the son of Teresa Griffin and General Egbert Ludovicus Viéle, the latter being military governor of the city in the name of the Union.

A direct ancestor, whose line is traceable for eight generations, landed in New York about 1606. Here is this line running through three American centuries (The Abridged Compendium of American Genealogy: First Families of America):

8. Cornelia Viéle (died in 1648), married to Marie du Treport.
6. Louis Viéle (before 1676, after 1718), married Maria Freer.
5. Jacob Viéle (1719-97), Revolutionary soldier, married Eva de Fort.
4. Ludovicus Viéle (1742-1800), Revolutionary soldier (there were a hundred Viéles in Washington's armies), married Affie (Eva) Toll.
2. Egbert Ludovicus Viéle (1822-1902), U.S.M.A., graduate of West Point, took part in the Mexican War (1848), the War of Secession (1862-64); general, civil engineer, member of Congress, Order of the Aztec, Sons of the Revolution, etc.; married Teresa Griffin (1832-1906).

Maternal ancestry:
8. Jasper Griffin, native of Wales.
6. Lemuel Griffin (before 1704), married Phoebe Cromstock.
5. George Griffin (1781-1814), married Eve Dorr.

3. Francis Griffin (1802-52), married Mary Sands (her mother was a Parisian), daughter of Comfort Sands, member of Congress from New York.
2. Teresa Griffin, their daughter, was the mother of Francis Viéle Griffin.

The latter, brought to Paris in April 1872, has lived there since this date, except for trips and sojourns in England, Germany, and Italy; was a pupil at the Collège Stanislas (ten years); studied law and literature.

For some strange reason, Viéle kept his American passport throughout his life and this sometimes caused him no end of annoyance. When he was planning his trip to Belgium for the ceremony at the Royal Academy, he was irate at having to pay an exorbitant fee for a French visa to get back into France. He wrote in high dudgeon to Mockel: "France cannot modify its regulations, either in the ministries or at the French Academy. A residence of sixty years, four French sons-in-law, sixteen grandchildren, not to mention a few poems written 'in the very language of the natives,' do not entitle one to 'exceptional favors.' " Although there is nothing in these letters to indicate that he had even the slightest interest in the United States, the American passport somehow symbolizes a refusal to be completely integrated into French culture. A future biographer will certainly have to go into this problem, which, in the correspondence, has very noticeable psychological repercussions. Viéle loved France, particularly the French countryside where he lived by preference in his later years, and his letters are full of chauvinistic remarks during the war and of his pride at being the father-in-law of a soldier at the front. Nevertheless, his later years are embittered by a feeling that France does not love him.

As a matter of fact, the Princeton letters do not go back beyond 1891, so there is no record of his attitude toward France in the heyday of symbolism. But already in 1900, perhaps in common with many other symbolists, he feels that he is out of step with the new literature, for he writes: "I no longer feel any solidarity with my 'generation' of which I am only the contemporary." And in 1905 he says: "It is rare in these times of she-monkeys and pseudo-clasicism, to hear the delicate music of our language." However, it was French chauvinism during the war which really gave him a feeling of being a foreigner. The following letter, dated March 18, 1918, is particularly significant:
The year which preceded the war, Verhaeren was preoccupied—he was not the only one—with being suddenly considered in France as "a foreigner." I reassured him as best I could. "Where do they call you a foreigner?" I asked him, leaping astonishment. "Why in the Mercure," he answered. Since the war, the Revue hebdomadaire has even called attention to the "attentats de deux dags" (obviously Verhaeren and myself) to disorganize French literature. Haraucourt, at Lyon (the home town of Maurice de Scève, Puvis de Chavannes and all the mystics), in the name of the Society of Men of Letters, in the presence of Mayor Hériot [sic], compared symbolism to German asphyxiating gas.

I was, at that time, propagandizing in America, where the French government had dumped the adventurers that you know about. I interrupted all activity. . . .

My dear friend, I shall always have a feeling of indignant resentment over the way the Action Française insulted intellectually the still quivering body of Verhaeren and the bier of our good Merrill. The shame of such a gesture is made worse by its gratuitity.

In the face of such malevolence, ingratitude and stupidity, one is anxious to emphasize that if one has loved France, it was disinterestedly and as a man of honor who offers a bouquet and not as a parasite who expects profit from it.

After the war, he continues to feel that France does not appreciate him. In 1927 he writes:

I hardly meddle in things, but I am really anxious to communicate my thought; whatever I do, I only rarely succeed in being understood by the French. To that I am accustomed, being persuaded that, with the passing of time, my thought will appear in its complex rectitude, at least to those whom it may concern.

In 1928 he has a presentiment of what may be his own fate when he writes to Mockel concerning a monument for Théo van Rysselberghe:

At least our poet has a burying place; I think of the grave of Laforgue, abandoned by Bourget, forgotten by his kin; the guardian of the cemetery, consulting his registers, announced to me that it had been "taken over"—the five-year concession not having been renewed—and the bones of the poet borne to the common grave. The slowness of all official work saved us from this shame; the place of burial, located by me and an employee, revealed that the "taking over" had stopped at the very grave of the poet, which, for lack of a cross or an iron fence, was designated only by a black stick, stuck at random into the bare ground.

"You are lucky!" the guardian told me. "What must be done? Can I renew the concession?" "Certainly." And thus I learned that one can buy the graves of poets.

And thus Paul Bourget could be praised in the Gaulois for having made secure the burying place of Jules Laforgue—let us make no change in legends.

At the time of his election to the Royal Academy in 1938, he remarked to Mockel with a certain bitterness that the French newspapers had ignored the honor paid to him. He seems to have spent his last years as a complete misanthrope, for he wrote to Mockel that same year:

I feel grateful to the flowers, to the high grasses, to the iris, to the peonies, to the first roses. Each day I see the sun rise in the mist of the valley; I want nothing to do with the discordant refrains of humanity; it is because of having listened to them that I have felt faith in life grow feeble in me.

One would say that, if a poet is without honor in his own country, he runs an even greater danger of being without honor in an adopted country. Perhaps the moral is that life as a poet is precarious in itself, if one must really live by his pen. Apparently Vielé had no such concern, but the correspondence reveals that he was not unaware of the fate overtaking other symbolist poets who did not enjoy personal fortunes like his own. There are several letters in the incredible handwriting of Emmanuel Signoret which André Gide described, in the preface to Signoret's posthumous Poètes Complètes, as being composed of scratches which the fleeting pen of the poet made occasionally on the paper as it bounded through space. These are pathetic letters in which the dying Signoret, writing from a corner bistrot, implores his richer colleague and master to telegraph him twenty-five francs to save him from starvation. Since there is more than one letter with the same plea, one wonders whether the rich American turned a deaf ear. And there is a similar letter, this time asking for fifty francs, from Adolphe Rœttlé, whose wife is ill and who is himself crumbling under a load of debts. This time also one wonders whether Vielé took pity.
Many of the letters which Viélé received are trivial thank-you notes from fellow poets, providing interesting autographs but only inconsequential information. However, some of the miscellaneous letters are capital documents. Such is the case with some letters from Francis Jammes to Viélé in 1897 which record this poet's disagreements with the Revue Blanche and his opinions of men like Renan.

The Stuart Merrill letters, fifteen in number, to Gabriel Mourey contain valuable information about Merrill's literary relationships and plans for reviving the Belgian periodical Le Masque, but they cannot begin to give as complete a picture of the life of the poet as the seventy letters of Viélé-Griffin to Albert Mockel. For this reason, we have devoted most of the discussion to Viélé. All told, these recent acquisitions by the Library could be examined with profit by anyone concerned with the entire group of symbolist poets, for innumerable famous names are represented.

---DOUGLAS W. ALDEN

**SOME ADDITIONS TO THE MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION**

Most extensive of the recent additions to the manuscript collections are the papers of Elmer Adler, which came to the Library as the gift of Mr. Adler. The Adler papers include the archives of the Pynson Printers, a printing business conducted by Mr. Adler in New York, and the archives of The Colophon, of which he was an editor and publisher. The papers cover the years generally from 1920 through 1951. They are contained in upwards of one hundred filing cartons occupying approximately 240 feet of shelves. The three main divisions consist of representative samples of printing designed and executed by Elmer Adler, business records pertaining to the Pynson Printers and to The Colophon, and an extensive personal and business correspondence including many letters received from persons of prominence in literature and in the fields of printing and the graphic arts.

The Library's collection of Boudinot family manuscripts has been greatly enlarged by the gift of Frederick B. Stimson. The Stimson Boudinot Collection, of approximately two hundred pieces, consists of manuscripts, letters, and other documents of Elias and Elisha Boudinot, with other papers relating to the Boudinots, Stockton, Field, and Bradford families. The papers extend from 1758 to 1828. Other letters of Elias and Elisha Boudinot have been added through the gift of Andrew L. Cobb, Jr. '22, who has presented some thirty manuscripts from the papers of his ancestor, Lemuel Cobb, who was, in the 1820's, a deputy surveyor of the Eastern Division of the State of New Jersey.

Admiral Harold G. Bowen (U.S.N., Ret.) has given his personal papers, which contain correspondence, reports, and other documents. During World War II Admiral Bowen served as technical aide to the Secretary of the Navy, was Director of Naval Research Laboratories, and was in charge of plant seizures for the Navy.

The Library has purchased approximately sixty letters addressed to commandants of the Philadelphia Navy Yard between 1833 and 1858. The letters, written by Secretaries of the Navy Levi Woodbury and Mahlon Dickerson, supplement an earlier purchase of some five hundred documents of the Philadelphia Navy Yard dating from the years 1811 to 1866.

A large quantity of Cameron family papers has been presented to the Princeton Library by Nicholas G. Cameron. The Cameron papers include correspondence and other papers of Henry Clay Cameron, of the Class of 1847, for many years a member of the faculty, and papers of Arnold Guyot Cameron, of the Class of 1886. Of special interest in the Cameron papers are approximately thirty letters addressed to Arnold Henry Guyot, who taught geology at Princeton from 1854 until his death in 1884.

Albert E. Walker '51 and his wife, Susan Crane Walker, have presented the Library with a group of approximately fifty letters received from various correspondents by members of the Hunt family, at Hopewell, New Jersey, and at Trenton. Written between 1755 and 1850, many of the letters contain references to military action in the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812.

The personal papers of Fred I. Kent (1869-1954), banker and financial adviser to the United States Government, have been presented by his son, Warner W. Kent. Of exceptional interest is Mr. Kent's correspondence with Presidents Hoover, Roosevelt, and Truman, to which Presidents Kent wrote frequently on many subjects of national importance. Both the presidential letters and the carbons of the Kent letters are preserved.

Manuscripts of his writings, professional notes and correspondence, and other papers of the late Professor John Duncan Späth have been given by Mrs. Späth and Mrs. John de Martelly.

Ninety-seven letters addressed to Thomas Craig (1855-1900), editor of the American Journal of Mathematics, were the gift of Luther F. Eisenhart. Letters of James J. Sylvester, Felix Klein, Émile Picard, A. R. Forsyth, Charles Hermite, and Paul Appell may be found in the Craig mathematical correspondence.
Mrs. Douglas W. Demler and Charles A. Eaton, Jr. have presented to Princeton a collection of letters, documents, and photographs pertaining to the activities of the Honorable Charles A. Eaton, Congressman from New Jersey and a member of the United States Delegation to the United Nations Conference on International Organization in San Francisco in 1945. The documents were presented in memory of Lieutenant Douglas W. Demler, Jr. '44.

An autograph letter of Thomas Jefferson to Jacob Chamberlain, July 1, 1814, was received as the gift of A. Wriston. The letter concerns books and the importance of the study of the classics in the university curricula.

Among recent additions to the Woodrow Wilson Collection are three autograph letters presented by Carl Otto v. Kienbusch '06. Two of the letters are addressed to Monroe Smith and relate to writing Wilson was doing at the time; the third, to Gilbert Alleman, concerns the honor system at Princeton. Charles S. Presbrey '06 has given ten personal letters written to his father, Frank Presbrey '79, between 1915 and 1931, by Presidents Woodrow Wilson, Warren G. Harding, and Calvin Coolidge.

An autograph letter of Andrew Jackson addressed to James Jackson, August 1, 1821, has been given by the Nassau Club. Bernard K. Schaefer '40 has given an autograph letter of Robert E. Lee, written to Major I. McDowell, November 24, 1857. From Irving Brant came the typescript of James Madison, Secretary of State, 1800-1809, published by Bobbs-Merrill in 1953. Mr. Brant had previously presented typescripts of his three earlier studies of Madison.

Hubert M. Cummings '07 has presented a group of ten letters of Irish and Irish-American literary figures from his correspondence. Letters of Joseph Campbell, Seumas O'Sullivan, George Russell ("A. E."), and William Butler Yeats are included. A reader's report, by Richard Le Gallienne, on John Davidson's A Random Itinerary, was given by the late J. Harlin O'Connell '14. Several additions have been made to the Arthur Symons papers by purchase and through the gift of Mr. O'Connell.

Recent additions to the larger collections of literary manuscripts include an autograph letter of Booth Tarkington to Malcolm Johnson, given by Carl Otto v. Kienbusch '06, and the typescript of James Woodress' recent biography of Tarkington, the gift of the author. Luther P. Eisenhart has given an autograph manuscript sketch of Laurence Hutton by Henry Van Dyke, Jr. '79.

There have been numerous recent gifts of Princetoniana. Mrs. Varnum Lansing Collins has given to the Library her husband's personal annotated copy of his The Continental Congress at Princeton, which was published by the Princeton University Library in 1908. Through the courtesy of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Library has been enabled to add, through purchase, a microfilm of the diary of James Gibson, of the Class of 1787, kept while attending college at Princeton. James Carnwath, Jr. '90 has presented an autograph letter of Philip Lindley, of the Class of 1804, concerning his election as President of the College in 1829, which appointment Lindley declined, accepting later the presidency of the University of Nashville. Miss Mary W. McCulloch has given a letter of James Clement Moffat, of the Class of 1855, to John Sears McCulloch, of the same class. The letter, written in December of 1857, while Moffat held the rank of tutor, makes special reference to the building program then in progress at the College. The Library has also been glad to receive numerous welcome additions to the collections of Princeton diplomas and of the scrapbooks, autograph albums, and photograph albums kept by Princeton undergraduates.
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DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE FRIENDS OF THE PRINCETON LIBRARY
Volume XXVI, Number 4
Summer 1955

ANNUAL MEETING

About ninety members and guests met at dinner at the Princeton Inn on May 16, 1955, to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Friends of the Princeton Library. After the dinner, and following the election of members of the Council, Professor Willard Thorp gave an interesting and stimulating talk on the activities of the Friends during the past twenty-five years, which is printed in this issue. The dinner was preceded by a meeting of the Council and the opening in the Firestone Library of the exhibition of material from the Andre deCoppet Collection of American Historical Manuscripts.

THE COUNCIL

At the annual meeting the following were elected members of the Council for the 1955/56-1957/58 term: John C. Cooper '09, Robert Garrett '97, Sinclair Hamilton '06, Arthur A. Houghton, Jr., Donald F. Hyde, Thomas W. Streeter, Lawrence Thompson, Willard Thorp, and James Thorpe.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Since the last issue of the Chronicle members have contributed $1,136.50. From David H. Blair, Jr. '40 came support of the operation of a hand lithograph press which has been purchased in memory of Hugh Graham '46 by means of a donation from Mrs. Graham's mother, Mrs. Frank D. Graham. Mr. Blair's contribution, also in memory of Mr. Graham, will make it possible to secure the materials needed to operate the press, which is on loan to the Library from the Department of Art and Archaeology for an indefinite period for the use of those interested in the graphic arts and students in the Creative Arts Program and in the Department of Art and Archaeology. Carl Otto v. Kienbusch '66 generously covered the purchase of three letters of Woodrow Wilson. A contribution from Robert H. Taylor '30 enabled the Library to add to the Parrish Collection Robert Louis Stevenson's childhood copy of Cruikshank's Hop-o' My Thumb. Louis C. West continued his support of the special fund used for the acquisition of coins and books relating to coins, and also contributed toward a memorial to the late Professor Allan C. Johnson. Willard Thorp made a further donation to the Frenneau Fund, which is used for the purchase of older American literature.

GIFTS


Gifts were received also from the following: Elmer Adler, Mrs. Struthers Burt, George E. Clark '29, Rudolf A. Cle- men, Hubertus M. Cummings '07, Thomas H. English '18, Amos Eno '39, Charles E. Feinberg, Richard M. Huber '45, Mr. and Mrs. Donald F. Hyde, Albert E. McCvitty, Jr. '30, Miss Eleanor Muller, T. M. Parrot '88, William A. B. Paul '18, Charles S. Presbrey 06, Irving L. Roe '97, Lessing J. Rosenwald, Norvell B. Samuels '24, Henry L. Savage '15, M. Halsey Thomas, Alexander D. Wainwright '39, and Alba H. Warren, Jr. '36.
FRIENDS OF THE PRINCETON LIBRARY

The Friends of the Princeton Library, founded in 1950, is an association of bibliophiles and scholars interested in book-collecting and the graphic arts and in increasing and making better known the resources of the Princeton University Library. It has national goals and requests and has provided funds for the purchase of rare books, manuscripts, and other material which could not otherwise have been acquired by the Library.

Membership is open to anyone subscribing annually five dollars or more. Checks payable to Princeton University should be addressed to the Treasurer. Members receive The Princeton University Library Chronicle and publications issued by the Friends, and are invited to participate in meetings and to attend special lectures and exhibitions.

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CONTENTS OF VOLUME SIXTEEN
NUMBER ONE
The Mathematical Manuscripts of Lewis Carroll
by Warren Weaver
1
A Literary Duel
by Derek Patmore
10
Other Times, Other Manners; A Princeton Valedictory of 1789
With an Introduction by J. Bennett Nolan
17
Library Notes & Queries
23
New & Notable
by Lawrence Heyl
30
Biblia
by Lawrence Heyl
40
NUMBER TWO
The Tarkington Papers
by James Woodress
45
Tarkington's New York Literary Debut: Letters Written to His Family in 1899
EDITED BY James Woodress
54
An Editor in Pursuit of Booth Tarkington
by Barton Currie
80
Library Notes & Queries
by Lawrence Heyl
89
New & Notable
97
Biblia
by Lawrence Heyl
104
NUMBER THREE
The Death Masks of Dean Swift
by T. G. Wilson
107
Letters of Aubrey Beardsley
EDITED BY R. A. Walker
111
Library Notes & Queries
145
Pehr Kalm and His Travels in North America, by Erik Sjöqvist. The Boudinot Collection. Col-
lector's Choice. Contributors to this Issue.
New & Notable
by Lawrence Heyl
152
Biblia
by Lawrence Heyl
155
NUMBER FOUR

The First Twenty-five Years
by Willard Thorp

The Andre deCoppet Collection of American Historical Manuscripts; A Catalogue of an Exhibition

Library Notes & Queries
Graphic Arts Collection, Colophon Club, Undergraduate Book Collecting Contest, Collector’s Choice, Exhibitions. Contributors to this issue.

New & Notable

Biblia
by Lawrence Heyl

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