

ALMANAC

MARCH 2015

AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

NUMBER 89

LONGTIME MEMBER C. JEAN McDONOUGH GIVES EXCEPTIONAL GIFT TO THE SOCIETY



In an extraordinary gesture of philanthropic generosity, C. Jean McDonough, a Worcester-based AAS member and a former councilor of the Society, has recently committed \$1 million to the Society over the next two years. This gift is to remain undesignated at this time, and Jean looks forward to working with President Ellen Dunlap and the staff of the Society to make sure that it is used for the highest and best purposes. “The Antiquarian Society has been an integral part in the fabric of Worcester, and the nation, for more than two hundred years, and it is my privilege to be able to support it in this way,” Jean said.

In the 1950s Jean and her late husband, Myles, established FLEXcon, now a worldwide manufacturer of pressure-sensitive film used for innumerable applications (advertising, barcodes, product labels), in Spencer, Massachusetts. Jean served as chief financial officer of the company for many years, helping it grow into a business that now has over \$300 million in sales and over 1,000 employees in facilities throughout the world. FLEXcon is still privately held and is currently run by Jean’s son and fellow AAS member, Neil McDonough (elected 2008).

The generous donation of time and financial assets to the Worcester community by Jean and the McDonough family is nothing new. Jean has served as a trustee at the Worcester Art Museum, the Goddard/Homestead Retirement Community, the Visiting Nurse Association, and the Ecotarium, and is a corporator of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

At AAS, Jean has been an active member since her election in 1988. She served on the Society’s Council from 1989 to 1997, serving as recording secretary beginning in 1993. In addition to this most recent gift to AAS, the McDonough family has also established book funds at the Society, regularly contributed to the Annual Fund, and joined the Esther Forbes Society, the members of which have included the Antiquarian Society in their bequest intentions.

Class Visits Introduce the Society to the Next Generation of Scholars

“Because of the work the individuals at your institution do on a daily basis, students and scholars will have access to some of the nation’s most important documents forever. As a student and hopeful future research scholar, I thank you for the tireless and brilliant work that makes the American Antiquarian Society a world-class institution that I expect to return to on many occasions.” So goes one Providence College student’s takeaway from his recent class visit to the Society—a takeaway that sums up everything we hope to pass on to every college and K-12 class that comes to the Society.

And there are many. Every fall we’re contacted by members of the Society’s academic and teaching community hoping to bring their classes to AAS to dig through our treasure trove of early American printed material. The students always seem to enter sheepishly at first, struck by the beauty of a building they might never have set foot in if it weren’t required of them for a class. During a short tour through the building and into the stacks, students begin to understand the vastness of the Society’s holdings and appreciate what it takes to care for such rare materials. Isaiah Thomas’s printing press, known as Old Number One, and the glass flooring in the oldest parts of the stacks are always a big hit.

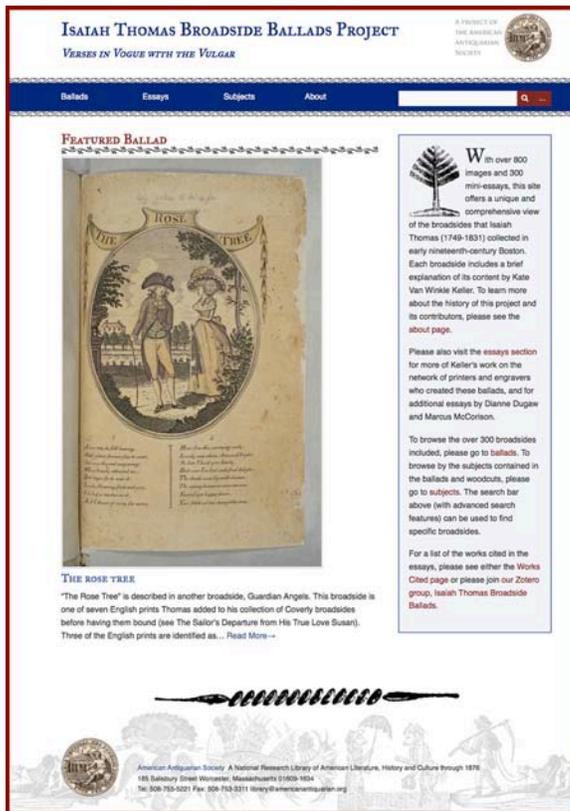
(continued on pages 4-5)



Right: A Worcester high school class working with Director of Outreach Jim Moran at Isaiah Thomas’s press and typecase.

New Digital Project Highlights

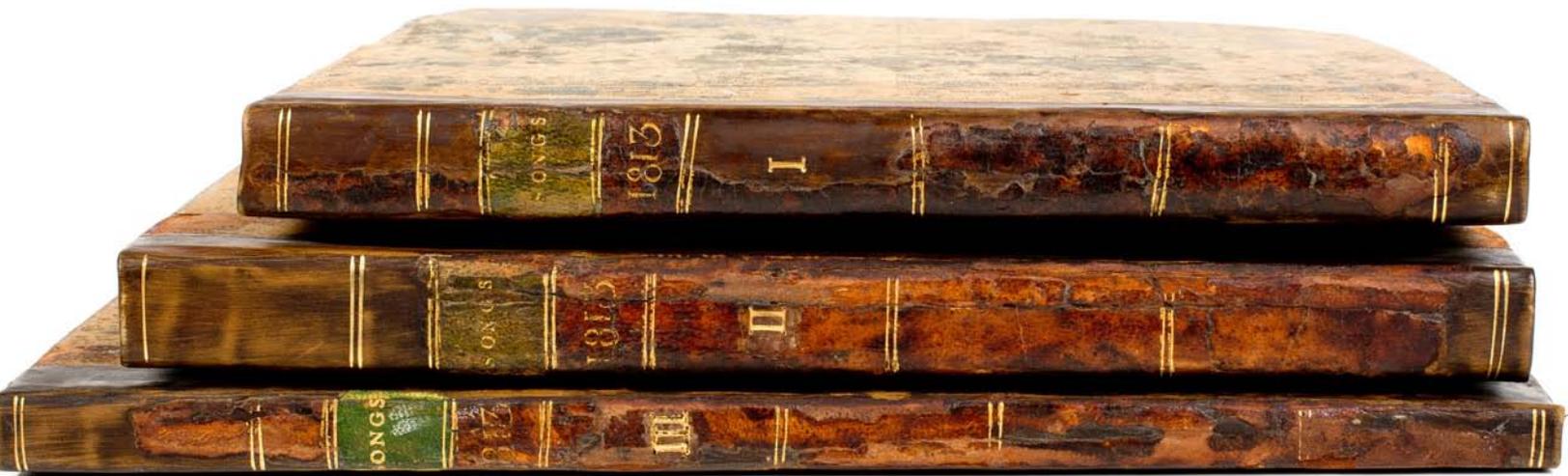
Isaiah Thomas Broadside Ballad Collection



In January we launched the digital *Isaiah Thomas Broadside Ballads Project: Verses in Vogue with the Vulgar*, the result of decades of work here at AAS. Arthur Schrader (elected 1995), a ballad singer and music associate at Old Sturbridge Village from 1956 to 1977, worked assiduously with this collection and first published about it in our *Proceedings* (1998). Kate Van Winkle Keller (elected 2004), who is the primary author of the content on the new site, consulted with Schrader starting in 2002 until shortly before Schrader's death in 2004. Caroline Sloat (elected 2012), then AAS director of book publication, worked with Keller on what was to be a three-volume book with images of the broadsides accompanying Keller's prose on the ballads as a whole and on the content, both graphic and textual, of each broadside. AAS President Ellen S. Dunlap increasingly saw the potential for a dynamic digital project, and with the help of a bequest left by Schrader to continue work on the broadsides, Dunlap charged AAS's digital humanities curator and ACLS public fellow, Molly O'Hagan Hardy, with managing the current project.

With over 800 images and 300 mini-essays, the site offers a unique and comprehensive view of the broadsides that Thomas collected from Boston printer Nathaniel Coverly in 1814. Keller not only explicates the content of each ballad, but she also offers insights into the music that would have accompanied these texts. And of course no AAS project would be complete without careful consideration of the work of Coverly and his network of printers.

Please visit the site at www.thomasballads.org and contact our digital humanities curator, Molly O'Hagan Hardy, at mhardy@mwa.org with any questions or comments.



The Scholar's Fund

Our great thanks to those fifty-eight scholar members who generously donated to the Scholar's Fund, raising a total of \$40,500 to date! A special thank-you to the committee members, who made the campaign happen: Richard D. Brown, Ann Fabian, Robert Gross, Helen Horowitz, Mary Kelley, and Meredith McGill.

The Scholar's Fund was established to encourage special gifts from the academic and scholarly members of AAS to exclusively fund projects relevant to research. If you are interested in supporting this fund, please contact Matthew Shakespeare, executive vice president for external affairs, at mshakespeare@mwa.org or 508-471-2162.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS:

New Significant Holdings from the Islands and the Heartland

This past fall Doyle New York held a massive and historic auction featuring highlights from the New York City Bar Association's collection of early American constitutions and laws, many of which had not been on the market in at least a century. These items were so rare that more than half of those within scope for AAS were "wants" the library didn't have, and so it was no question the Society would participate in the auction. In consulting with experts, we quickly realized we would be priced out of the running for the earliest Americana, and so we chose to target items from Midwestern states and islands. AAS member Joseph J. Felcone (elected 1992) generously offered to bid for AAS at the auction, and with his help we were able to make some exceptional new acquisitions.

The Society's collection of early Hawaiiana is so strong, especially in missionary publications, that opportunities to improve upon it are almost nonexistent. Yet at this auction AAS was able to fill in seven of the remaining gaps in our political holdings for Hawaii printed in Honolulu between 1846 and 1853 in Hawaiian or English. The earliest was the 1846 statute laws that marked the formal establishment of a codified system of government in Hawaii. Already these volumes of Hawaiian constitutions and laws have proved indispensable to a current AAS fellow working on religion and secularism focusing on Hawaii.

The other highlight AAS acquired was a remarkably comprehensive collection of early Jamaican laws in fifteen bound volumes published between 1751 and 1834. Some even have manuscript emendations and most were printed on the island itself, which makes their survival all the more unlikely. Given the climate, eighteenth-century West Indies imprints are incredibly rare. This cache practically doubles AAS's holdings (excluding newspapers) from Jamaica before 1800. The legal volumes have already proved invaluable to another fellow using them to examine connections between slavery and mass incarceration in the lives of people of color in a transatlantic context.

AAS was also able to inexpensively secure extensive runs of some of the earliest laws from Michigan (fifteen volumes), Illinois (four volumes), and the Dakota Territory (nine volumes)—starting at lot prices of only \$275! Our strategy of targeting the center and periphery of North America significantly improved our holdings for these underrepresented areas.

Even though the auction is done, there's still a chance to be part of the story! AAS secured all these important volumes by dipping deeply into our regular acquisitions funds. A generous donation to support one of these purchases would allow us to consider them your gift to the Society, and we would prominently feature your gift as part of our future promotion of these valuable collections. To inquire about subsidizing the purchase of laws from your favorite island or Midwestern state (with full prices ranging from \$275 to \$13,000, but any contribution is appreciated), please contact Elizabeth Pope, curator of books, at 508-471-2118 or epope@mwa.org.

Right: Laws of Jamaica, 1770-1783; General Laws of the Territory of Dakota, 1867-1868; Constitution and Laws of Hawaii. *Hawaiian and English edition*, 1852.

L A W S

O F

J A M A I C A.

An Act for remedying the Inconveniences which may arise from the
Number of Negro Huts and Houses, built in and about the Towns
of Saint Jago de la Vega, Port-Royal and Kingston. 1770
Passed the
of Decem

W H E R E A S, many Inconveniences have arisen and daily
do arise from the number of Negro Huts and Houses being
built in and about the Towns of Saint Jago de la Vega,
Port-Royal and Kingston, on Lots of Land detached and
separate, from the Houses or Habitations of the Owners of
such Lots, by which Means such Huts, or Houses, become a Refuge
and Receptacle for Thieves, loose, idle and runaway Negroes and other
Slaves, belonging to the said Towns and other Parishes. And whereas,
such Number of runaway Negro and other Slaves, from different Parts

GENERAL LAWS.

OF THE

TERRITORY OF DAKOTA.

CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE.

AN ACT TO SIMPLIFY AND ABRIDGE THE PRACTICE, PLEADINGS
AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE COURTS OF THIS TERRITORY.

WHEREAS, it is expedient that the present forms of actions
and pleadings in cases of common law should be abolished

MOI KAMEHAMEHA III.,

KE ALII O KO HAWAII PAE AINA,

I KAUIA E NA

ALII AHAOLELO, A ME KA POEIKOHOIA,

ILOKO O KA AHAOLELO O KA 3



Class Visits Introduce the Society to the Next Generation of Scholars

(continued from page 1)

Though a tour through the stacks is a real pleasure for the students, the magic happens when the groups reach the Council Room for the hands-on portion of the visit. For many of them, this is their first opportunity to interact with such rare and historically significant materials. After the excitement of seeing a vial of tea from the Boston Tea Party, John Hancock's desk, and the Mather family high chair has subsided, students turn their focus to an array of books, pamphlets, newspapers, broadsides, manuscripts, and prints displayed on tables in the room.

This "exhibit" of AAS collections, coordinated by AAS staff and the students' instructor, consists of primary source materials relevant to the students' coursework. For example, on recent class visits women's literature students from Clark University browsed a first edition copy of *Little Women*; Worcester Polytechnic Institute students developing a role-playing game based on Worcester history uncovered the city's early efforts to develop the Blackstone Canal; students from UMass Amherst studying African American print culture investigated escaped slave Harriet Jacobs's *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, poems written by Phillis Wheatley, and several early editions of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. During these Council Room sessions, students discuss a range of topics, from the work's intended audience to how the size and shape of a book provides clues about how it was meant to be read. By the end of their visit, students leave with a new understanding of print culture, American history, and the important work of archives and libraries.

Although most visits are organized for college and university classes, the Society occasionally hosts K-12 classes that also find the workshop experience in the Council Room to be very rewarding. A recent visit of two high school classes from South High Community School in Worcester was spurred by their teacher, Josiah Burden, who had participated in numerous AAS-sponsored K-12 teacher workshops. Burden was so inspired by his own workshop experiences at AAS that he wanted to provide the same experience to his students. He succeeded, as their sessions in the Council Room were marked by heated debates about the interpretation of collection material relating to the Mexican-American War. "My students worked together and individually to understand what each of the items meant,

and how they could contribute to their understanding," Burden wrote on the Society's blog, *Past is Present* (www.pastispresent.org), on September 16, 2014. "It was great to see them interacting with the collection, gingerly turning the pages of a 150-year-old newspaper, disagreeing with each other over the meaning of a campaign poster produced in 1848." The Society has also reached even younger scholars, sixth-grade students from Bancroft School in Worcester having made visits the past two years to examine items related to the building of the Blackstone Canal.

For some student groups, the journey of discovery does not end in the Council Room, but continues through guided or independent research in the Society's reading room. This is where students hone their archival skills through searching the library catalog, consulting bibliographies, and navigating useful subscription databases. The reading room is also where powerful discoveries take place. It was there that a group of art history students from the College of the Holy Cross first gazed upon the beautifully hand-colored and gilded frontispiece of Carel Allard's *Atlas Minor* (a Dutch atlas dated circa 1696). Guided by their professor and readers' services staff, the students' initial experience with seeing the atlas led them to feature it in their *Global Encounters in Early America* exhibit at the college's Cantor Gallery.

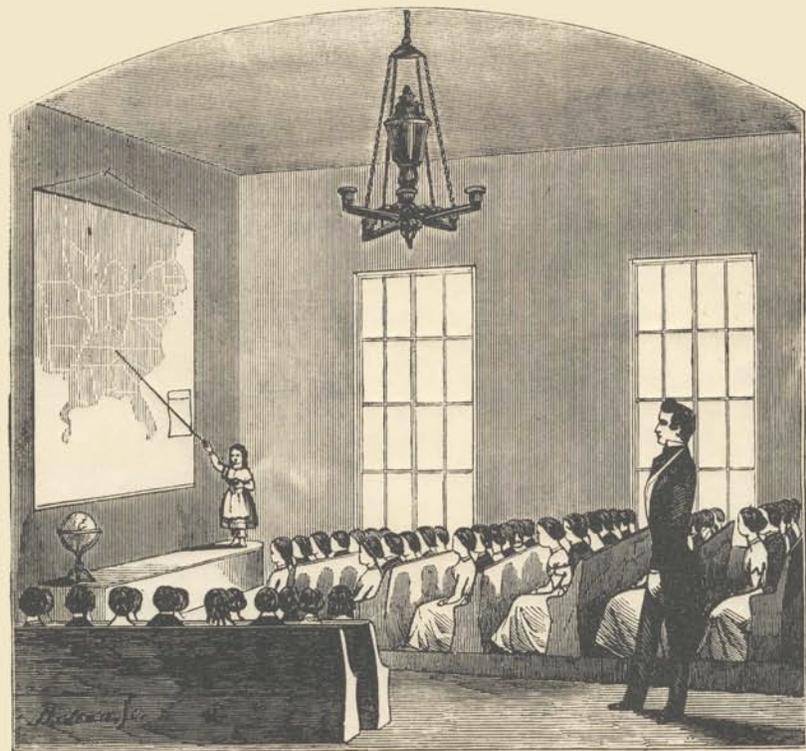
Likewise, guided research can have a wonderful impact as an alternative learning experience. Each year a small group of high school students from Eagle Hill School, a private college-preparatory school for students with learning disabilities in Hardwick, Massachusetts, comes to the Society with its teacher, Nym Cooke. The group's goal while here is to discover an understudied item in the collection and become the "world expert" (also the name of the class) on that item. Two full days at the Society and a semester back at their school yields a paper from each student about a different object (copies of which are shared with AAS), along with an immeasurable sense of empowerment and accomplishment.

Beyond working with the materials, students are sometimes afforded the unique opportunity to meet with a curator or other AAS staff person whose own research interests overlap with students' projects. One such opportunity arose this past October, when Professor Steven Smith and his Early American Republic seminar students from Providence College visited the Society to enhance their

research related to the database A New Nation Votes (ANNV). A unique project, ANNV chronicles American democracy through the compilation of election returns for the years between 1786 and 1825. Aside from browsing early election returns from various eighteenth-century newspapers in the reading room, students relished the opportunity to talk with AAS staff member Philip Lampi, whose life's work in collecting early election returns constitutes the entirety of the data used for the project. The students' own projects were improved due to their in-person access to primary source materials and AAS staff. "From my perspective, the evening could not have been better," said Smith. "Our visit only served to reinforce my sincere belief that AAS is the finest research institution and scholarly community in a country full of great research institutions and scholarly communities."

All told, class visits to AAS are a one-of-a-kind experience, allowing the Society to showcase its collections to a new generation. In the past two years, more than 60 class groups and over 600 students have explored the Society's buildings and the collections within. For these students, working with primary materials brings their classroom experiences to life and gives them the resources they need to become confident and adept scholars. AAS is truly a special place for researchers of all ages.

— Kimberly Pelkey, Head of Readers' Services



WE CAN'T EXPLAIN THE VALUE OF THESE CLASS VISITS BETTER THAN THE STUDENTS THEMSELVES, SO HERE'S HOW STEVEN SMITH'S STUDENTS AT PROVIDENCE COLLEGE SUMMED UP THEIR VISIT:

Coming to the American Antiquarian Society was a great way to bring what we've been discussing in class to life. In secondary works, one is somewhat distanced from the primary material, and forced to see history through their excerpts and interpretations. To be able to see the documents with my own eyes was a truly enriching experience.

Before visiting the Antiquarian Society, I had never gotten to see such a vast amount of manuscripts from early America. Previously, I had only seen some at museums and online through Internet databases. Furthermore, it was a great privilege to be able to sit down and read some of the documents....Learning history from the perspective of those whose lives were at the center of historical events adds a new dimension to one's understanding of the past.

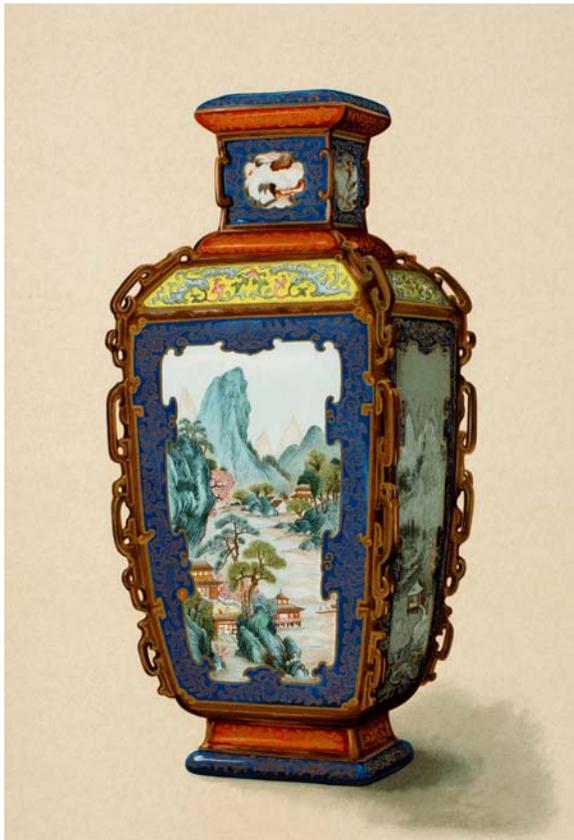
The highlight of our visit...was our discussion with Dr. Lampi. He is a wealth of knowledge and expertise.

I was amazed that for every project proposal [AAS staff members] were able to come up with feedback and suggestions specific to the areas we had chosen just off the cuff. It was obvious that they put a good deal of effort into our discussion, and I am grateful for their time and hard work. This was a terrific trip and learning experience for me.



Left: An art class from the College of the Holy Cross meets with Head of Readers' Services Kimberly Pelkey. Above top: Students from Bancroft School in Worcester interact with materials in the Council Room. Above bottom: Lauren Hewes, curator of graphic arts, with students at the Global Encounters exhibit in the Cantor Gallery. Above right: Detail from *Excursion...to enjoy the entertainment to be given by J. G. McKindley, and geographical class, 1852.*

COLORPLATE MASTERPIECE COMES TO AAS



This past December, collector and AAS member Joanne S. Gill (elected 2001) generously donated to AAS the chromolithographic masterpiece *Oriental Ceramic Art*, published by D. Appleton and Company in New York in 1897. This enormous four-volume set describes the ceramic collection of William T. Walters (now in the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore), reproduced in astonishing clarity by Louis Prang & Co. of Boston. One hundred sixteen colorplates depict the intricacies of glaze, surface, and form found in Walters's collection of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean ceramics. One contemporary reviewer stated, "The reproductions are so perfect, they look like paintings," and noted that he "had no idea that it was possible to obtain by printing such depth and richness of tone." It took Prang and his staff of artists, *chromists*, and printers sixteen years to complete the project, issuing 500 "imperial folio" copies that sold for \$500 each. At the time it was hailed as the most costly book ever produced (half a million dollars, mostly subvented by Walters and his son), and Prang considered the work his greatest technical achievement as a color printer.

Dubbed by noted bookman William S. Reese as "perhaps the greatest tour de force in chromolithography ever executed," *Oriental Ceramic Art* complements outstanding holdings of works by Louis Prang & Co. already at AAS. This includes a portion of the company's archive (sixty copies of salesman's sample and progressive proof books), dozens of titles (including the 1876 edition of Dr. Ferdinand V. Hayden's survey of Yellowstone National Park with chromolithographs after Thomas Moran, as well as more than twenty-five brightly illustrated children's books), ephemera, lithographs, and maps, all printed and published by the firm. The acquisition of *Oriental Ceramic Art*, produced at the very end of Prang's long career, now crowns it all.



Left: Four Seasons Vase and Dragon Plate, Plate LXIV and Plate LXIX. Oriental Ceramic Art. Stephen W. Bushell and W. T. Walters. Chromolithography by Louis Prang & Co. New York: D. Appleton and Co., 1897.

Underlay below: "View of the City of Providence, R.I., from Smith's Hill," Gleason's Pictorial Companion, 1853.

2015 SEMIANNUAL MEETING

Save the Date!
April 24 and 25 in Providence, Rhode Island

Details forthcoming

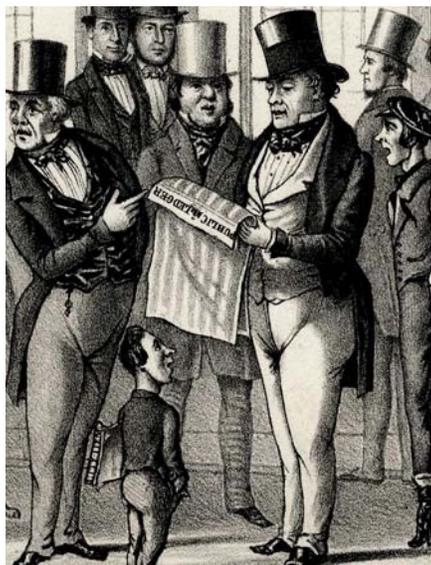
HANDS-ON HISTORY: “THE VISUAL CULTURE OF THE CIVIL WAR”

As the 150th anniversary of the Civil War comes to a close this spring, on May 2 we’ll take our own look back at the war through a Hands-On History Workshop called “The Visual Culture of the Civil War.” Sponsored by the Center for Historic American Visual Culture (CHAViC), this daylong program will use the visual culture of the war to explore how Americans envisioned this conflict as it was being fought and how it was commemorated once the war ended. Through a series of scholarly discussions and hands-on workshops, we’ll explore photographs, stereographic images, lithographs, drawings, illustrated newspapers, and ephemera of all kinds, such as recruiting broadsides and illustrated letters and envelopes.

Our lead scholar for the day will be AAS member Joshua Brown (elected 2006), executive director of the American Social History Project located at the City University of New York. Brown, whose current project focuses on the rise of the illustrated press, is a social historian and an expert on the history of American visual culture. He has worked closely with AAS in several capacities, including conducting the CHAViC Summer Seminar in 2012 (on the same topic as this workshop) and delivering the 2009 James Russell Wiggins Lecture in the History of the Book in American Culture.

Please join us for this unique program that provides participants the chance to engage with an expert scholar and our library materials in an informal, interactive, and thought-provoking workshop setting. The cost of this daylong program is \$75 (\$65 for AAS members, Friends of AAS) and includes materials and lunch. There is funding available for K-12 educators to attend at no cost. Please contact Jim Moran, director of outreach, at jmoran@mwa.org for more information about this opportunity. Professional development points are also available for K-12 teachers. For more information and to register please visit www.americanantiquarian.org/hands-history.

NEH Summer Institute for K-12 Teachers to Explore Early American News



We are very excited to be offering our first National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute for School Teachers this coming summer! These NEH Institutes provide K-12 educators with an opportunity to work closely with scholars and archives for an extended period of time to expand their depth of knowledge, inspire their teaching, and allow for personal and professional growth.

Our two-week program, called “The News Media and the Making of America, 1730-1865,” will run from July 27 to August 8. It will be led by Jim Moran, AAS director of outreach, and AAS member David Paul Nord (elected 1992), professor emeritus of history and journalism from Indiana University. The Institute will also include as guest faculty David Henkin, University of California-Berkeley; Joshua Brown, City University of New York; Megan Kate Nelson, independent scholar; and AAS curators Vincent Golden and Lauren Hewes. The Institute will explore the function of news and public information in the community life of the United States from the colonial period through the Civil War. Participants will work extensively with the AAS collections, studying—among other things—sermons and lectures, books and pamphlets, magazines and newspapers, photographs and illustrations, and letters and journals.

Nord has been one of our most engaged and active members. He has held three AAS fellowships, including the Mellon Distinguished Scholar in Residence for the 2008-09 academic year. In 1996 he delivered the fourteenth James Russell Wiggins Lecture in the History of the Book in American Culture. He co-conducted the 2008 Summer Seminar in the History of the Book in American Culture with John Nerrone and coedited volume five of the Society’s series *A History of the Book in America*, entitled *The Enduring Book: Print Culture in Postwar America* (2009), with Joan Shelley Rubin (elected 1996) and Michael Schudson (elected 1992).

For more information on this program, visit www.americanantiquarian.org/neh-2015-summer-seminar.

Left: Detail from *The Ledger Polka*, no date.

2015 SUMMER SEMINARS

CHAViC: “Culinary Culture: The Politics of American Foodways, 1765-1900” July 12-17, 2015



This year's Center for Historic American Visual Culture (CHAViC) Summer Seminar will explore the link between food and politics in pre-twentieth-century America. The domestic language of food became increasingly popular beginning in the mid-eighteenth century as a means to communicate caution or approval of political structures and ideologies through print and visual culture. The seminar will examine how and why a culinary vocabulary and food imagery developed and was employed as a widespread method of political, cultural, and visual expression. It will commence with the years surrounding the Stamp Act to the War for Independence, continue through the Civil War and Gilded Age, and will conclude with current implications and questions to consider.

Through workshops, lectures, field trips, and cooking demonstrations, participants will learn “how to look” by exploring an interdisciplinary approach to the study of American culinary culture as a means to understand the relationship among American foodways

and evolving political, social, gender, public health, and economic ideologies through the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Participants will have the opportunity to learn from a wide variety of materials from the extraordinary collections at AAS, including prints, cookbooks, political cartoons, broadsides, diaries, domestic manuals, newspapers, ceramics, ephemera of all kinds, botanical and horticultural illustrations and literature, children's literature, and more.

The seminar will be led by Nancy Siegel, professor of art history at Towson University in Maryland. Additional guest faculty will also be included during the week. Further details are available at www.americanantiquarian.org/chavicsummer2015.

PHBAC: “Reading Children” June 21-26, 2015

What did it mean to be a child reader in pre-1900 America? This question will guide the inquiries of this year's Program in the History of the Book in American Culture (PHBAC) Summer Seminar. AAS's holdings in artifacts of childhood number over 26,000 objects, and thus provide a unique laboratory for thinking about the changing ideas of childhood and the child reader from the seventeenth through the nineteenth centuries.

Seminar participants will explore the collection's rich archive of print and visual artifacts created for and by children, with hands-on workshops informed by historical and theoretical readings in the history of childhood, the history of reading and print, as well as ideologies of literacy, literature, and print culture inflected by race, class, and gender. Materials include not only those produced by printers, publishers, and pedagogues—children's literature, toy books, games, primers, and school texts—but also those created by children themselves, such as amateur newspapers, diaries, letters, composition books, copybooks, scrapbooks, and autograph books. Looking at this diverse range of artifacts of childhood reading materials and reading activities will offer fresh lenses for both beginning and senior scholars across multiple disciplines.

The seminar will be led by Martin Brückner, professor of English at the University of Delaware, and Patricia Crain, associate professor of English at New York University. Guest faculty will be announced closer to the time of the seminar. Further details are available at www.americanantiquarian.org/summer-seminar-2015.



Above: Mr. and Mrs. Bull reflecting on the Taxes, *no date*. Below: The story of poor Cock Robin, 1852.

Spring Public Programs Explore Three Centuries

This April marks the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War and the death of Abraham Lincoln. To commemorate both of these events we are producing a two-part lecture series featuring two AAS members whose books on Lincoln will appear this spring. On April 2, Louis Masur (elected 2003) will give a talk entitled “Lincoln’s Last Speech and the Problem of Reconstruction” based on his forthcoming book, *Last Speech: Wartime Reconstruction and the Crisis of Reunion*. The following week, on April 9, Richard Wightman Fox (elected 2002) will deliver “Lincoln’s Republicanism as a Way of Life,” which will be based on his latest work, *Lincoln’s Body: A Cultural History*. Fox researched this work at AAS while he was the Mellon Distinguished Scholar in Residence during the 2005-06 academic year.

We will continue celebrating the work of AAS fellows with a panel discussion featuring three AAS-National Endowment for the Humanities Fellows who were in residence during the 2010-11 academic year and whose research has resulted in recently published books. The panel, taking place on April 23, will include Kyle Volk with *Moral Minorities and the Making of American Democracy*, Lisa Wilson with *A History of Stepfamilies in Early America*, and Elizabeth Maddock Dillon with *New World Drama: The Performative Commons in the Atlantic World, 1649-1849*.

On May 12, our programming will continue with Matthew Stewart’s talk, “Radical Philosophy at the Origin of the American Republic.” Drawing on his recent book, *Nature’s God: The Heretical Origins of the American Republic* (2014), Stewart will make the case that the unusual philosophical religion that inspired many of America’s revolutionaries was more radical than we now tend to think and at the same time central in the creation of the world’s first modern republic.

Finally, we will wrap up our spring series with a concert of early American music on May 21 entitled “Mild Melodious Maze’: Songs and Instrumental Music from Early America (1770-1830).” This concert will feature musical scores found in the AAS collections and performed by Anne D. M. Harley, a 2012 William Randolph Hearst Creative Artist Fellow. Harley will both sing and contextualize these selections. She will be accompanied by Olav Chris Henriksen, performing on historic guitars, and Na’ama Lion, playing period flutes.

Right: “Gulliver Abe, in the White House,” Frank Leslie’s Budget of Fun, 1861; Nicolaes Visscher’s *Novi Belgii Novaeque Angliae*, 1655; “The Holy Alliance”, or, Satan’s legion at Sabbath pranks, by James Akin, 1830.



THE CHIMNEY CORNER Almanac.

Calendar of Events for Spring 2015

Please see the key at the bottom for event classifications and details.

April

- 2 “Lincoln’s Last Speech and the Problem of Reconstruction” by Louis P. Masur *
- 9 “Lincoln’s Republicanism as a Way of Life” by Richard Fox *
- 23 “A Panel of Recent National Endowment for the Humanities Scholarship” with Kyle Volk, Lisa Wilson, and Elizabeth Maddock Dillon *
- 24-25 2015 Semiannual Meeting for AAS members ±

May

- 2 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Hands-On History Workshop (sponsored by CHAViC): “The Visual Culture of the Civil War” ±
- 5 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., 8th Annual Adopt-a-Book
- 12 “Radical Philosophy at the Origin of the American Public” by Matthew Stewart *
- 21 “‘Mild Melodious Maze’: Songs and Instrumental Music from Early America (1770-1830)” with Anne D. M. Harley, Olav Chris Henriksen, and Na’ama Lion *
- 29-30 “The Digital Antiquarian” conference ±

June

- 1-5 “The Digital Antiquarian” workshop **
- 21-26 PHBAC Summer Seminar: “Reading Children” **

July

- 12-17 CHAViC Summer Seminar: “Culinary Culture: The Politics of American Foodways, 1765-1900” **
- 27-31 NEH Summer Institute for School Teachers: “The News Media and the Making of America, 1730-1865” (continues to August 8) **

August

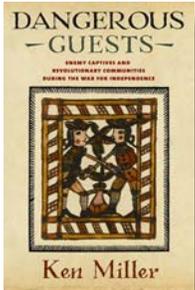
- 1-8 NEH Summer Institute for School Teachers: “The News Media and the Making of America, 1730-1865” (begins July 27) **

KEY

- * Public Programs: All 7 p.m. at AAS, free of charge, unless otherwise noted
- ** Require acceptance of application and payment of fee (please see our website)
- ± Require registration and payment of fee (please see our website)

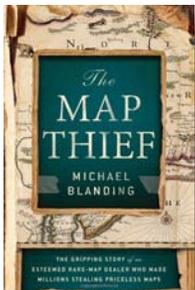
Recommended Reading

For this issue we invited several AAS staff members to recommend nonfiction books about our collecting period or the practice of collecting itself, published within the last five years.



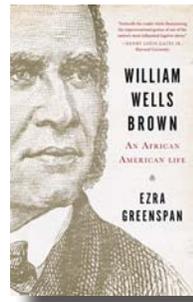
When writing about war, it is easy to focus on the major battles or the political maneuverings. Ken Miller's *Dangerous Guests: Enemy Captives and Revolutionary Communities during the War for Independence* (2014) subverts this tendency by focusing on the Pennsylvania town of Lancaster and its role as a major center for holding prisoners of war. Not only did the mixture of ethnic and religious perspectives in Lancaster provide a wide and conflicting array of attitudes toward the war, but it was also fertile ground for many different areas of tension between the citizens and their prisoners. All in all, this book is an engrossing and wonderfully readable perspective on the Revolution.

— Brenna Bychowski
Cataloger



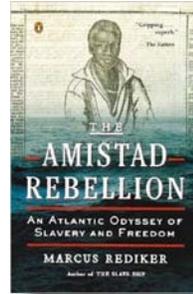
The Map Thief: The Gripping Story of an Esteemed Rare-Map Dealer Who Made Millions Stealing Priceless Maps by Michael Blanding (2014) tells the sorry tale of E. Forbes Smiley, a former map dealer turned thief who stole more than three million dollars' worth of maps from institutions starting in the 1990s until his arrest in 2005. Blanding conducted interviews with Smiley, his friends, cartography dealers, librarians, curators, and law enforcement officials to put together the narrative—and it is very disquieting to those of us who preserve historic material. Blanding's book not only documents the crimes and consequences of the thieving, it also serves as a commentary on institutional practice—are the libraries and museums that do not have comprehensive records (digital scans, descriptions, tracking methods) for each item in their vast collections as much to blame as the thief?

— Lauren B. Hewes
Andrew W. Mellon Curator of Graphic Arts



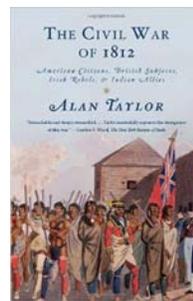
I can't think of a better book to recommend than Ezra Greenspan's recent biography *William Wells Brown: An African American Life* (2014). Greenspan worked on this book when he was a Mellon Distinguished Scholar in Residence from 2009 to 2010, and the finished product shows heavy use of AAS collections, from lithographs and dime novels to newspapers and manuscript collections such as the Abby Kelley Foster collection and Lee and Shepard papers. Ezra's careful historical detective work allowed him to reconstruct Brown's family, travels, and work from scattered archival pieces in this wonderful book.

— Ashley Cataldo
Cataloger



I picked up Marcus Rediker's *The Amistad Rebellion: An Atlantic Odyssey of Slavery and Freedom* (2012) for two reasons. One, I knew that the story of the rebellion had influenced in part my favorite Herman Melville story, *Benito Cereno* (1855), and two, because I knew Rediker to be not only a formidable scholar, but also a great storyteller. Suffice it to say, I was not disappointed as I followed his research to southern Sierra Leone in his effort to tell a history of the 1839 rebellion “from below.” Rediker adeptly tells of the enslaved people's horrendous experience leading up to the rebellion, and then the aftermath of the rebellion through to their defense, argued by John Quincy Adams in front of the Supreme Court. Rediker offers fresh insight into how and why this rebellion captured the popular imagination and further fueled the abolitionist movement in this country.

— Molly O'Hagan Hardy
ACLS Public Fellow/Digital Humanities Curator



Alan Taylor's *The Civil War of 1812: American Citizens, British Subjects, Irish Rebels, & Indian Allies* (2012) does much more than resurrect the oft-forgotten conflict. It weaves a complicated tale of shifting loyalties, identities, and borders. Concentrating on the action around the Canadian border, Taylor deftly illustrates how the questions about subject versus citizen that erupted around impressment before the war also persistently plagued the front lines. Desertion, fluid civilian allegiances, Native American alliances, and immigration status each contributed to the ways in which those involved in the war identified themselves or were identified by others as British, American, or Canadian. This book is not only a good read, but often a surprising one.

— Kayla Haveles Hopper
Outreach Coordinator

NEWS FROM MEMBERS, FELLOWS, & STAFF

MEMBERS

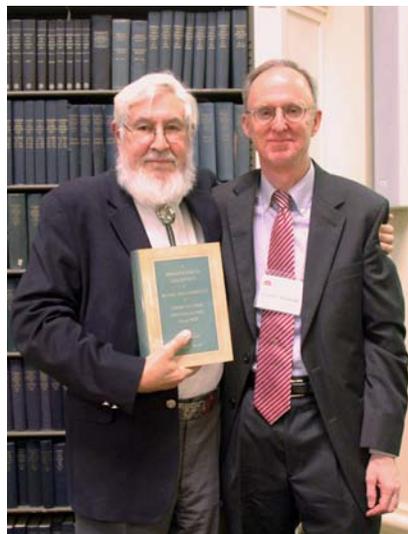
John Demos's (elected 1979) book *The Heathen School* was named to the “longlist” for the 2014 National Book Award in nonfiction. He put the finishing touches on this book while he was the Distinguished Scholar in Residence in 2012.

Robert McCracken Peck (elected 2007), senior fellow of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, traveled to Cuba last September to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Ernest Hemingway receiving his Nobel Prize in Literature. He was accompanied by two of Hemingway's grandsons, John and Patrick, and a small delegation of marine biologists interested in the author's collaboration with the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia on the study of the big game fish of the Atlantic in the 1930s. After his return Bob gave several lectures about the trip and Hemingway's scientific studies as part of the nationwide “Big Read” program supported by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Roger E. Stoddard (elected 1965), retired curator of books at the Harvard College Library, and **David R. Whitesell**, former AAS curator of books and current curator in the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library at the University of Virginia, were awarded the eighth Modern Language Association Prize for a Bibliography, Archive, or Digital Project for their 2012 *A Bibliographical Description of Books and Pamphlets of American Verse Printed from 1610 through 1820*.

On November 20, 2014, the Colorado History Society presented its annual Barbara Sudler Award—given in honor of **Barbara Sudler Hornby** (elected 1983), longtime president of the Colorado History Society and a former councilor at AAS—to **Patricia Nelson Limerick** (elected 1992) for her 2012 book, *A Ditch in Time: The City, the West, and Water*. Limerick is the founder and president of the Center for the American West at the University of Colorado as well as current president of the Organization of American Historians. The book was published by Fulcrum Publishing, founded by AAS member and former chairman **Bob Baron** (elected 1989).

Bob Baron and Fulcrum Publishing are in the final editing stage of a film called *Wilderness in America*, which covers four centuries of American history and the nation's



relationship to the land. The film—produced by Fulcrum with a script written by Baron—will be shown nationally in 2015.

FELLOWS

AAS fellow **Ellen Gruber Garvey** received a Highly Commended Award at the recent SHARP conference in Antwerp for her book *Writing with Scissors: American Scrapbooks from the Civil War to the Harlem Renaissance* (2013), part of which she researched here at AAS as a fellow.

STAFF

Congratulations to those staff members—and there are many—who reached significant milestones in their tenures at AAS with the close of 2014: **Alan Degutis**, forty years; **Dennis Laurie**, thirty-five years; **Ann-Cathrine Rapp**, thirty years; **Babette Gehrich**, twenty-five years; **James David Moran**, twenty years; **Edmond Koury** and **Laura Oxley**, fifteen years; **Jaclyn Penny** and **Elizabeth Pope**, ten years; and **Kimberly Pelkey**, **Erik Beck**, and **Michael McConaghy**, five years.

Dan Boudreau, a former summer page, is now a full-time library assistant in readers' services. **Emma Huggard**, a former intern and catalog camper, has been hired as a full-time staff member, splitting her time between the Clarence project, cataloging, and readers' services.

New additions to the AAS team include **Alicia Murphy** as clerk for the Isaiah Thomas broadside ballad project, **Angelia Giannone** as a part-time development clerk, **Nicole Grdinich** as digital photographer, **Megan Sleeper** as a volunteer in books, **Rebecca Carpenter** as a volunteer in acquisitions, and **Stefanie Gough** as a volunteer in graphic arts and conservation.

The Society bid farewell to **Elizabeth Baldwin**, a data entry clerk for A New Nation Votes, who left to take a position at MIT; **Cade Overton**, digital photographer, who is now at the Worcester Public Library; and **Anna Moir**, coordinator of development operations, who took a position at Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts. **Trudy Powers**, who had been administrative editor for the online journal *Common-place* since 2001, retired in December after thirteen years.

Above: Robert McCracken Peck (at the head of the table) with the delegation in Havana. Below: Roger Stoddard (left) and David Whitesell at the 2012 Bibliographical Society of America Conference.

New Members

Twenty new members were elected at the annual meeting on October 24, 2014.

JAMES E. ARSENAULT

Arrowsic, Maine

James Arsenault is proprietor of James E. Arsenault & Company, which deals in rare books and prints with an emphasis on Americana, colorplate and color printing, trade catalogs, printing arts, photography, and literary first editions. He is a member of the Grolier Club, the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America, the Ephemera Society of America, and the American Historical Print Collectors Society. A strong partner of AAS curators, he regularly offers choice materials to the Society and also supports acquisition efforts through Adopt-a-Book.

MADISON SMARTT BELL

Baltimore, Maryland

Professor of English at Goucher College, Madison Bell is the author of thirteen novels, including an acclaimed trilogy about the Haitian Revolution: *All Souls' Rising* (1995), *Master of the Crossroads* (2000), and *The Stone that the Builder Refused* (2004). *All Souls' Rising* was a finalist for the 1995 National Book Award and the 1996 PEN/Faulkner Award, and won the 1996 Anisfield-Wolf Award for the best book of the year dealing with matters of race. He is also the author of *Toussaint Louverture: A Biography* (2007).

DANIEL PUTNAM BROWN JR.

West Granby, Connecticut

An attorney and partner at Shipman & Goodwin LLP, "Put" Brown is also a historian and collector of seventeenth-century New England furniture. In the early 2000s he was cohead of a firm working with divers in the English Channel to retrieve valuable Russian leather from a two hundred-year-old shipwreck to sell to major museums, collectors, and antique dealers. His civic involvement has included the Mortensen Library at the University of Hartford, the Connecticut Historical Society, and the Wadsworth Atheneum.

CATHERINE M. COLINVAUX

Northborough, Massachusetts

Catherine Colinvaux is a retired senior partner in the law firm of Zelle Hoffman

in Boston, where she served as lead counsel in the 9/11 insurance litigation case. With her husband, Phil Zamore, who heads an RNA lab at UMass Medical, she has been active in support of various Worcester community organizations and currently serves as president of the board of trustees of the Worcester Art Museum and treasurer of the board at Bancroft School.

JAMES G. DINAN

New York, New York

A Worcester native, James Dinan is founder and CEO of York Capital Management. He is also currently chairman of the Museum of the City of New York and a member of the board of the Alternative Investment Management Association, the Hospital for Special Surgery, the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, and the University of Pennsylvania. He also serves on the board of dean's advisors for the Harvard Business School and the Wharton board of overseers.

NANCY A. FINLAY

Unionville, Connecticut

Nancy Finlay was curator of graphics at the Connecticut Historical Society (CHS) from 1998 to 2014. She is an active member of the Print Council of America (PCA) and edited the Print Council newsletter from 2009 to 2013. She serves on the board of the American Historical Print Collectors Society. Prior to CHS, she worked at the New York Public Library, the Houghton Library, and the Princeton University Library. She edited *Picturing Victorian America: Prints by the Kellogg Brothers of Hartford, Connecticut, 1830-1880*, published by the CHS in 2009, and has written and published widely on prints and book illustration.

DAVID P. FORSBERG

Worcester, Massachusetts

David Forsberg is one of Worcester's foremost civic leaders. He has served in leadership positions with Anna

Maria College, the College of the Holy Cross, Lutheran Social Services of New England, Worcester Academy, and the Worcester Business Development Corporation. As a public servant, he also served as a Worcester city councilor, the city's chief development officer, secretary of health and human services for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and regional housing commissioner for HUD.

MARY BABSON FUHRER

Littleton, Massachusetts

Mary Fuhrer is an independent public historian and author of *A Crisis of Community: The Trials and Transformation of a New England Town, 1815-1848* (2014). Fuhrer works as a consulting historian for historical and humanities associations, providing research services and programs with a focus on everyday life in early New England, as well as helping others use primary source evidence to tell stories from the past. She received the Massachusetts History Commendation from Mass Humanities in 2014.

JOSEPH P. GROMACKI

Chicago, Illinois

Joseph Gromacki is an attorney and partner at Jenner & Block. His second home is a 1730 salt-box home originally built in Massachusetts but moved to Fredonia, Wisconsin, where Gromacki has a major collection of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century American furniture and decorative arts. He is a trustee at Historic Deerfield, the Art Institute of Chicago, Layton Art Collection in Milwaukee, American Arts Society at the Milwaukee Art Museum, and the National Trust Council.

RONALD ANGELO JOHNSON

San Marcos, Texas

Ronald Johnson is assistant professor of early American history at Texas State University. His first book, *Diplomacy in Black and White: John Adams, Toussaint Louverture, and Their Atlantic World Alliance*, appeared in 2014. Johnson previously

served as a Foreign Service officer in Luxembourg and Gabon and as an analyst within the U.S. intelligence community. He is presently researching Haitian emigration across the Atlantic world during the early nineteenth century.

DANIEL MANDELL
Kirksville, Missouri

Daniel Mandell is professor of history at Truman State University. His books include *King Philip's War: Colonial Expansion, Native Resistance, and the End of Indian Sovereignty* (2010); *Tribe, Race, History: Native Americans in Southern New England, 1780-1880* (2008); and *Behind the Frontier: Indians in Eighteenth-Century Eastern Massachusetts* (1996). Mandell has held both short-term (2002-03) and long-term (2012-13) fellowships at AAS.

PETER MASI
Montague, Massachusetts

The proprietor of Peter L. Masi Books, Peter Masi has been an independent book dealer since 1979. He specializes in American books with holdings in architecture, agriculture, decorative arts, cooking, business and industry, technology, medicine, textiles, history of education, religion, trade catalogs, and early American children's chapbooks. He has worked extensively with the AAS curators for many years and is appreciated by all for selling and donating materials of strong research value to the AAS collection.

DAVID S. ROSE
New York, New York

A successful entrepreneur and investor, David Rose is the founder of New York Angels, an early-stage technology investment group, and is CEO of Gust, which operates a collaboration platform for startups and early-stage angel investors. He is also a book collector, letterpress printer, author, and graphic designer, and established the Five Roses Press in 2001 to produce fine limited-edition letterpress works. He is a member of the Grolier Club, the Typophiles, and the American Printing History Association.

MICHAEL T. RYAN
New York, New York

Michael Ryan is the vice president and director of the Patricia D. Klingenstein Library at the New-York Historical Society (NYHS). Before arriving at the NYHS in 2014, he was director of the Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Columbia University, where he spent seven years building academic links and outreach programs. Previously, he had also worked in special collections at the University of Pennsylvania, Stanford University, and the University of Chicago.

NEIL SAFIER
Providence, Rhode Island

Neil Safier is director and librarian at the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University. Prior to coming to Brown in 2013, he was associate professor of history at the University of British Columbia. His academic specialty is in eighteenth-century European colonialism, particularly in South America, and he is the author of *Measuring the New World: Enlightenment Science and South America* (2008).

DAVID P. THELEN
Bloomington, Indiana

Distinguished professor of history emeritus at Indiana University, David Thelen's fields of interest are the social and political history of the United States since 1865, popular movements and democracy, and theory and practice of memory and history. He is also the retired editor of the *Journal of American History*; the author of several books, including *Becoming Citizens in the Age of Television* (1996); and coeditor with Roy Rosenzweig of *The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life* (1998).

JOSEPHINE TRUESDELL
Worcester, Massachusetts

Josephine Truesdell is a teacher at Bancroft School. Her family has a long history of AAS membership and active involvement in the affairs of the Society, including her brothers Frank Herron (elected 2007) and Jock Herron (elected 1989), her father, John Herron (elected 1998), and her grandfathers, Frank Dresser (elected 1909), Waldo Lincoln (elected 1898), Daniel Lincoln (elected 1869), Levi Lincoln Jr. (elected 1812), and Levi Lincoln (elected 1812).

WALLACE F. WHITNEY JR.
Princeton, Massachusetts

Wallace Whitney is general counsel at the Washington Mills Group in North Grafton, Massachusetts. He was previously vice president and general counsel at Wyman-Gordon and continues to serve as a director of the Wyman-Gordon Foundation.

A. S. "STEVE" WILLIAMS III
Birmingham, Alabama

Steve Williams is an insurance executive and book collector. In 2010 he presented to the University of Alabama an extensive library that included some 20,000 volumes and pamphlets published between the late seventeenth century and 2009 relating to the U.S. presidents and the history and culture of the South with a particular emphasis on the Civil War. He continues to collect avidly.

HILARY WYSS
Auburn, Alabama

Hargis professor of American literature at Auburn University, Hilary Wyss's books include *English Letters and Indian Literacies: Reading, Writing, and New England Missionary Schools, 1750-1830* (2012); *Early Native Literacies in New England: A Documentary and Critical Anthology* (2008); and *Writing Indians: Literacy, Christianity, and Native Community in Early America* (2000). The holder of a short-term fellowship at AAS in 2006, she also served as a faculty member for the 2013 Summer Seminar in the History of the Book in American Culture.

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Many Wishes to be Granted at This Year's Adopt-a-Book!



Mark your calendars! The Society will hold the 8th Annual Adopt-a-Book fundraiser on Tuesday, May 5, 2015, in Antiquarian Hall. During this popular event, which raises money for library acquisitions, participants have the opportunity to view and “adopt” rare books, pamphlets, newspapers, manuscripts, and prints, many of which were acquired this past year. These historical materials can be adopted in honor of someone or to mark a special occasion. We have had contributors adopt in honor of their parents, for a teacher, or for an important anniversary.

Many of our members tell us they look forward to this event all year. Last April, when we launched the online catalog that serves as a preview of the event, we were astonished at how quickly many pieces were snapped up by eager participants. The first adoption came from a former fellow who was on sabbatical in Europe and made his purchase via smartphone in the wee hours. Within three days, more than two-thirds of the offerings were adopted, and we had to choose more items for adoption to fill the floor of the event!

Last year Adopt-a-Book raised over \$20,000, bringing our eight-year total to well over \$100,000 for acquisitions. The curators, who have often spent much of their acquisitions budgets by this point in the fiscal year, really appreciate the springtime arrival of fresh funding, which they then use for purchases into the summer months. “Adopt-a-Book is a lot of work,” says Curator of Graphic Arts Lauren Hewes, “but the payoff is worth it. We get to share our enthusiasm with members and friends and also show off new purchases, all while raising money to bring even more great material into the collection.” Keep an eye on your e-mail and mailbox for more on this event.

Left: Illustration from Aladdin. Peter G. Thomson. Cincinnati, Ohio, ca. 1877-1884.