

The Report of the Council

October 18, 1972

ONE hundred and sixty years have passed since Isaiah Thomas and his colleagues founded this Society. I believe it to be an honest statement that the Society is in good health and that the members of the present day are fulfilling faithfully the original purposes to 'enlarge the sphere of human knowledge, aid the progress of science, to perpetuate the history of moral and political events.'

Although the responsibilities of overseeing the construction and renovation to Antiquarian Hall as well as the pursuit of funds to permit the enlargement of the Society's activities have absorbed most of the energies of the Director and Council, other accomplishments have been achieved also. In April we announced the selection of six scholars who had been awarded fellowships in order to encourage their use of the resources of the Society's library. Ranging in duration of term from two weeks to three months, the program which was funded by a gift from the United States Steel Foundation was a complete success. This, despite the inconveniences caused by renovations work and a harassed staff. The scholars benefited greatly from the use of the collections and the staff found their presence to be a stimulating experience. One scholar wrote at the completion of his term, 'The research services of the society are excellent. The holdings of the library in early Americana have always been unparalleled, and, certainly as important, the staff this summer did everything to make the collection as available to the scholars as possible.'

The arrangements under which the Society has been operat-

ing are undergoing study. Practices relating to the staff have been reviewed by the Personnel Committee under the leadership of President Wiggins, and a policy has been adopted by the Council. Yet to be fully considered are the two major problems of an upward revision of staff compensation as well as the need for additional professional staff members.

In addition to performing their normal duties in an admirable manner staff members have also served the Society in the following ways. The assistant director, Mr. Mooney, continues as assistant director of the Loyalist Program and has recently attended a meeting of its International Board held at the University of New Brunswick; has represented Mr. Wiggins at meetings of the Heritage Committee of the American Revolutionary Bicentennial Commission; and has edited the very interesting anniversary booklet, *Worcester Celebration 1712-1972*, which was published by the City to mark the two-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of Worcester. Mr. Bauer, the assistant librarian, is serving as chairman of the Worcester Area Cooperating Libraries, the original element of the Worcester Consortium of Higher Education. The development officer, Mr. Knowlton, carries responsibilities of other institutions as Junior Warden of All Saints Church, as well as serving as trustee of Holden District Hospital, Worcester Science Center, Shepherd Knapp School, Worcester Heritage Society, and incorporator of the Worcester County Institution for Savings. Mary E. Brown, in recognition long overdue of her contribution to the Society's work, was named by the director to be Head of Readers' Services. She also served as President of the Worcester Branch of The National League of American Pen Women. The Society's Curator of Prints and Maps, Georgia B. Bumgardner, was elected a Trustee Member of The Print Council of America and attended the Council's annual meeting in Cleveland. In June she represented the Society at the symposium on 'American Printmaking before 1876' held at the Library of Congress.

From the Society's collection of printed broadsides, Mrs. Bumgardner made an outstanding selection of broadsides representing American society in the eighteenth century. It was published in facsimile, with her notes, by the Imprint Society as *American Broadsides*. Eleanor S. Adams, secretary to the director, will supervise administrative details and was appointed by the director to be manager of the Society's office. Finally, the director was elected chairman of the newly established Independent Research Libraries Association, whose constituent members are: American Antiquarian Society, American Philological Society, Folger Shakespeare Library, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Henry E. Huntington Library, John Crerar Library, Library Company of Philadelphia, Linda Hall Library, Massachusetts Historical Society, Newberry Library, New York Academy of Medicine, New York Public Library, Pierpont Morgan Library, and Virginia Historical Society. Also he serves as treasurer of the Bibliographical Society of America, treasurer of the Committee for a New England Bibliography, and is a member of the Advisory Committee of Eleutherian Mills-Hagley Foundation. This past year he has published articles in *Vermont History* and the *Proceedings* of this Society.

The Society received from the National Endowment for the Humanities a grant totaling \$52,000 to fund a project which permits the Society for the first time to engage the services of a professionally trained Curator of Manuscripts. William L. Joyce was appointed to that position and reported for duty on October first. He is a native of Long Island and is presently preparing his dissertation on 'Editors and Ethnicity: A History of the Irish-American Press, 1848-1883' for a doctoral degree from the University of Michigan. He comes to the Society with four and a half years' experience at the William L. Clements Library at the University of Michigan where he served most recently as manuscript librarian. Mr. Joyce is married and is the father of two children.

The increasing demand for maintenance within and without the old and new buildings has required the addition to the staff of a senior custodian. Donald K. Strader assumed that duty on September first. He has worked for several years as a boiler and maintenance man at a Worcester manufacturing firm and possesses the experience necessary to care for our new, complex heating system.

The fiscal affairs of the Society reflect the greatly increased activity of the Society. Not surprisingly, the salary item in the budget is the largest one and the most thorny. Since fiscal year 1966-1967 that item has risen from \$101,185 to \$191,375 in 1972-1973, yet the *percentage* of the salary item within the total budget has risen only slightly from .633 to .67. Costs of maintenance, supplies, and the like have remained close to earlier levels, although charges for electrical power have risen steadily and will show a dramatic rise this year. We have spent considerable money on the elm trees which so effectively framed the facade of the building. Unfortunately, the effort has not been successful and it appears that in time we may lose them all. They are being replaced with zelcoua, a tree very similar in size and appearance to mature elms.

The members and friends of the Society have responded generously to the President's annual appeal for assistance with operating funds. The largest number ever, 137 members and thirteen friends, gave \$26,536. The Council is exceedingly grateful to all persons who advance the work of the Society in this way.

Also, to help pay for new charges against AAS funds, the Development Program goes on under the leadership of Howard B. Jefferson. The total raised in pledges and cash at the end of the fiscal year stood at \$1,700,000, an increase of \$90,000 since March 31, 1972. Of that amount \$801,200 has been paid in. Most of this is for unrestricted purposes, with \$60,000 received for acquisitions, and \$105,000 for fellowships. Bequests since 1968 total \$906,000.

In addition to these amounts, \$300,000 has been received from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation which will be known as The Andrew W. Mellon Fund, the income of which is to be used to 'facilitate use of the library's collections by qualified scholars.' For the present, the Council will use the income of the fund to continue the Society's short-term fellowship awards and to underwrite the costs of staffing of that program.

The death of Alden P. Johnson came as a most unhappy shock to us all. Further, his absence will undoubtedly affect our publishing program, for he served as Chairman of the Publications Committee long and well. Under the administration of James Mooney the publications of the Society continue at a high level of quality and quantity. The April issue of the *Proceedings* contains the Canadian portion of a finding guide for Loyalist Sources. Since the last annual report, the Society has published *William Cobbett and the United States, 1792-1835* by Pierce W. Gaines; and *A Calendar of American Poetry in Colonial Newspapers through 1756* by J. A. Leo Lemay. Eleanor Lowenstein's *Bibliography of American Cookery Books, 1743-1860*; and the late d'Alté A. Welch's *Bibliography of American Children's Books Printed Before 1821* will appear this fall. *The Angel of Bethesda* written by Cotton Mather and edited by Gordon W. Jones is now in page proof. *Chronological Tables of American Newspapers, 1690-1820* compiled by Edward Connery Lathem, and based on Clarence S. Brigham's work, is nearly ready. These last three titles are published in conjunction with the Barre Publishing Company. Meanwhile, the first portion of *The Diary of Ebenezer Parkman* which is edited by Francis G. Walett is now at the printer. The AAS-Readex Microprint Corporation project to reproduce American imprints through the year 1819 has now reached 1813, with a sizable backlog of film for the year 1812 still to be checked. Also, the enterprise by Readex Microprint Corporation to publish American newspapers which is based on our holdings progresses satisfactorily.

1777, . . . Printed and Sold [by Peter Edes] of the Printing-Office, Augusta. [Maine 1798?] The Braislin-F.C. Deering copy is now at the Newberry Library, thus the AAS copy is only the second located example of this early example of Maine printing.

The Diocesan Library of Maryland disposed at auction of a major collection of Maryland printed laws and legislative journals. We were able to acquire at the sale twenty-five items dated from 1726 until 1786. The last is a report by Samuel Chase, the chairman of a committee whose task was to ascertain the value of certain lands within the state (Wheeler 395 and Evans 19552). The committee did its job but Chase prefaced the report with this admonition in verse:

*In Parts superior what advantage lies?
Tell (for you can) what is it to be wise?
'Tis but to know, how little can be known;
To see all others faults, and feel our own:
Condemn'd in bus'ness, or in arts to drudge,
Without a second, or without a judge:
Truths would you teach, or save a sinking land?
All fear, none aid you, and few understand.*

An unrecorded Maine imprint of a political nature is *The Anti-Aristocrat, or Congressional Election for York District, Nov. 1806*. [n.p.]. We think it to be a product of the Portland press. The unknown author argues vigorously against the reelection of Richard Cutts in favor of Joseph Bartlett, a true Federalist, untinged with republican conceits and not at all well connected with a prominent Virginia family; thus being without 'foreign attachments.' That Mr. Cutts won in the face of such logic is hard to believe!

William Gaston of Newbern, North Carolina, in 1808 ran for the office of Presidential elector opposed to James Madison's reelection. Rather, Gaston proposed to vote for Charles Colesworth Pinckney of South Carolina. His seventeen-page

pamphlet has a caption title of *To the Freeman of the Counties of Wayne, Green, Lenoir, Jones, Craven and Carteret*. Gaston signed it on the last page at Newbern on September 19, 1808. No doubt the pamphlet was printed there. Our tale would not be complete without reporting that Gaston's Federalist politics carried the day.

In July 1819, Dr. William Howard and a Dr. van Rensselaer became the ninth party (and the first American) to successfully climb Europe's great mountain, Mont Blanc. Howard's *Narrative of a Journey to the Summit of Mont Blanc, Made in July, 1819* was first published in the May 1820, issue of *The Analectic Magazine*. Howard corrected it for publication by Fielding Lucas, Jr., in 1821. The book contains a handsome mezzotint of the party crossing a glacial crevasse, as well as a well written account of the ascent.

John Kingman's *Letters written while on a Tour to Illinois and Wisconsin in the Summer of 1838* is a rarity which was printed in Hingham, Massachusetts, in 1842. The forty-eight-page pamphlet is quite celebrated as an early description of the Mid-West. However, I found it disappointingly devoid of any real insight into the condition of things in that area. Even so, AAS now has a copy, purchased on the Lee Fund.

Utopian affairs were represented by at least two major acquisitions. The more uncommon is a three-page, quarto leaflet in which is printed the *Constitution of the Society of the 'United Germans,' At Teutonia*. The essential tenet of the Constitution that 'no member shall have any privilege before the other' comes from its immediate predecessor, The Harmony Society. Among the signers and the chief promulgator of the community was Peter Kaufmann, the printer and philosopher, a portion of whose printing records we obtained a few years past. This Ohio, Christian community would establish schools of excellence for their own children as well as for others. Blacks and Indians would be welcome, for the members of Teutonia opposed slavery of all kinds. Teutonia was located near Peters-

burgh, Columbiana County. It was established in 1827 at which time our leaflet must have been issued.

A major thinker in the Utopian movement of the mid-nineteenth century was François Marie Charles Fournier. Several communities were established in this country which were based on the principles he advocated—essentially that man's senses, emotions, and intellect must be balanced into a Unityism or True Religion. His psychological-philosophical system was organized in a book, *The Social Destiny of Man, or Theory of the Four Movements*. His chief American disciple was Albert Brisbane who introduced Fournier's work with a 199-page explanation. This, the most important American edition, is not common and was published in New York in 1857. The bookseller, Calvin Blanchard, whose advertisement adorns the book, sold books to independent thinkers.

Finally, let me report the acquisitions of ninety titles of American murder literature acquired from Thomas M. McDade. Mr. McDade is the compiler of the standard bibliography of that fascinating subject. He has allowed us to select from his own extensive collections the material which was not already at AAS. Thus our own collection was strengthened markedly—so much so that ours is surely one of the best in existence, if not the best. The Society owes Mr. McDade its thanks for making these books available to us in such an advantageous manner.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

Hamilton College Library, following the generous impulses of Walter Pilkington, its librarian, and the lead of others such as Dartmouth, gave to AAS a thousand issues and sixteen volumes of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century American newspapers. Coming in the main from small localities, these added issues made a notable improvement in our collection. This sort of gift, it seems to us, makes a great deal of sense.

Scattered issues of newspapers in many miscellaneous collections are of very little service to scholars. We propose to our readers that AAS, with an already great collection of newspapers from every corner of the nation, is a proper place to gather together such miscellaneous collections. We will be pleased to hear from anyone who would care to discuss with us such a proposition.

Amongst other newspaper acquisitions were volumes of *The Weekly Aurora* of Philadelphia, 1816-1817 and 1818-1819; as well as *The Baltimore Sun*, 1811.

We continue to search for periodical publications and met with some success. Some of the more interesting were *The American Athenaeum*, New York, volume one, 1825; *Truth's Advocate and Monthly Anti-Jackson Expositor*, Cincinnati, volume one, 1828; the *Virginia Literary Museum*, Charlottesville, volume one, 1829-1830; *Latter Day Saints' Message and Advocate*, Kirtland, Ohio, volume one, 1834-1835; and another Mormon publication, *The Gospel Reflector*, Philadelphia, 1841.

BOOK TRADES

At AAS the quest for booksellers' catalogues, library catalogues, and bibliographies never ends. This year we made some surprising additions—surprising because one or two should have been at AAS, long since.

The earliest bookseller's catalogue acquired was a broadside list of books offered for sale on Monday, the 13th of October, 1766, by Philip Freeman. He had a shop in Boston in 'Union-Street, opposite to the Corn-Field.' The broadside is dated September 30, 1766, and is listed in Bristol as B2646. Freeman offered books on a broad selection of topics as well as maps, prints, and optical instruments. This useful item was purchased on the John Thomas Lee Fund and has already been used by a bibliographer of architectural books.

Purchased on the Harriette Merrifield Forbes Fund was

Ezekiel Russell's receipt book. Russell was a printer of Boston. It consists of two printed receipts per page, only seven of which were used. The receipt book was the property of John Henry Jenks whose father, William, was a founder of AAS. The printer was William Jenks' father-in-law.

Benjamin Warner was a printer and bookseller of Philadelphia who died in 1821. His estate held a sale on November 1st, 1821, at his former shop at 171 Market Street. We purchased a broadside announcement of the sale and advertisement of the stock.

We reported in 'American Bibliographical Notes' the acquisition of the *Constitution and By-Laws* of the New York Typographical Society, February 27, 1818, an unrecorded pamphlet of a major, early forerunner of typographical unions. Books of type specimens are hard to come by. We obtained on the George Watson Cole Fund a copy of *The Minor Specimen Book of Printing Types from New England Type Foundry* issued in 1868 by Chandler, Cousens, & Co. It is a quarto consisting of ninety-two leaves.

Among the library catalogues acquired were those of the Law Association of Philadelphia, 1828; the Mercantile Library Association of the City of New York, 1830; and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, Philadelphia, 1840. All three were obtained with funds from the Lee bequest.

Quite surprisingly, as we pride ourselves on this collection, three nineteenth-century bibliographies came in last year. The most unsettling were two addenda to O.A. Roorbach's *Bibliotheca Americana*, the original part of which was published in New York in 1852. The *Supplement* was issued in 1855 and a further *Addenda* in 1858. It is hard to admit that these were not at AAS and even more difficult to confess that a fourth part, 1861, is still absent from our collections. Similarly, we lacked Joseph Maria Finotti's *Bibliographica Catholica Americana* (New York, 1872). Fortunately, this substantial and pioneering bibliography is now at AAS.

Three titles were acquired which are of interest in themselves as well as for their bindings. The earliest is Brady and Tate's *New Version of the Psalms of David* (Boston: D. & J. Kneeland, for T. Leverett, 1760) Evans 8544. We lacked this edition, but the book is made even more desirable by its binding from the shop of Andrew Barclay. It formerly belonged to John Gardiner and to Mark Bortman. The book carries Paul Revere's engraved bookplate of Gardiner's which may be a later addition.

A quite spectacular binding in red and gilt is on a most uncommon book pertaining to the Burr-Wilkinson adventures in the Mississippi Valley. The book is *Privada y Oficial Correspondencia de Don Josef Bruno Magdalena* who was secretary of the Spanish legation to the United States. The book was published by William Duane in Philadelphia in 1806. It is recorded in Sabin as number 43815 and in Shaw & Shoemaker at 10779.

The first American edition of *The Arabian Nights Entertainment* was published in Philadelphia in 1826, twelve volumes in six. We acquired a set in fine condition in an outstanding binding on the Henry F. DePuy Fund.

LITERATURE

Before considering more serious literature, let us record the purchase of several examples of flighty fiction which were designed to entertain our forebears, rather than to improve their minds or morals. Among these naughty books were *The Ladies' Garter* (or the Platonic Marriage) by Greenhorn [George Thompson] published in the 1850s in New York (11 Wright 2486). *The Pirate's Revenge; or a Tale of Don Pedro and Miss Lois Maynard* is a tale of what can happen to a simple New Hampshire girl in Boston, New York, and on the high seas. It is by J.H. Ingram and was published in Boston in 1845 (1 Wright 1366). *Julia, or, the Singular Adventures of a Beautiful Girl!* sold in Boston in 1845 for 12½ cents a copy. This title

is not recorded in Wright. It bears upon its back cover advertisements of several novels by Joseph Holt Ingram all of which were from the house of Henry L. Williams, the publisher. The book was given to AAS by Roger E. Stoddard. *The Mob and the Law, or Dispersion of the Freebooters. A Tale of the Mississippi: Founded on Fact* was published in Columbus, Ohio, by John T. Blain in 1847. The author is announced as 'Blizzard.' This title is not in Wright although it falls within his category. We can only assume that it is rare and will forgive some wretched mouse for chewing the corners. The tale is an exciting one of inland water piracy with retribution at the last. Still one more pirate! This one on the great western land pirate, John A. Murrell. H.R. Howard recorded his fictitious *Life and Adventures* first in 1847, a copy of which we also have. The present copy was published in New York by Long in 1848. It is in fine condition and wrapped in yellow (1 Wright 1238).

Passing on to more substantial matters we note that the AAS collection of books of James Fenimore Cooper grew apace. One hundred and eleven different editions or printings were purchased, among them being a three-volume set, in original boards, of *Afloat and Ashore; or, the Adventures of Miles Wallingford* published in London by Richard Bentley in 1844. It formerly belonged to Lord Esher and is one of a half dozen first, English editions obtained. We have been adding translations of Cooper's works to the collection with some regularity. A recent example is a copy of *The Spy* in Swedish, entitled *Spionen på neutrala omradet*, which was published in Stockholm by Georg Scheutz in 1825. This three-volume set is in the original blue wrappers. Another translation of a novel 'del Sig. Cooper' is *Redwood*, published in Milan in 1827 by Rulolfo Vismara. However, the author is Catherine Maria Sedgwick—not Fenimore Cooper—a fact which may not have troubled Italian readers in the slightest and may be taken as a sign of Cooper's already large reputation. Another Bentley imprint acquired this past year is a very interesting set in

twelve volumes, 'Novels and Romances,' with the date 1836. The twelve are *The Boarders*, *The Water Witch*, *The Red Rover*, *Lionel Lincoln*, *The Spy*, *The Pilot*, *Last of the Mohicans*, *The Pioneers*, *The Prairie*, *The Bravo*, *The Heindenmauer*, and *The Headsmen*. Only the first has the general title page, although all have a binder's title, 'Cooper Novels,' with the title of the novel, with a volume number. The date of each novel does not necessarily correspond to that on the general title. The texts are those revised earlier by Cooper for Bentley.

Despite our substantial acquisitions of Cooper's works we still lack a good many printings of the 1850s as well as English and European editions. The most important items not yet at AAS are *The Wept of the Wish Ton-Wish* (Florence, 1829), *Contributions for the Poles* (Paris, 1831), *Brief Statement of the Pleadings and Argument in the Case of J. Fenimore Cooper versus Horace Greeley* (N.Y., 1843), and *The Cruise of the Somers* (New York, 1844). The aid of interested parties in locating and obtaining copies of these or any other desiderata will be greatly appreciated.

When the new Park Theater was opened in September 1820, a poem was read to celebrate the event. It was written by Charles Sprague of Boston and had been selected from near sixty other poetical candidates. A year later Nathaniel Smith published Sprague's effusion as well as *The Rejected Addresses* written by the losers of the competition. This uncommon volume contains a fine wood engraved view of the theater as well as poems by Fitz-Green Halleck, Philip Freneau, MacDonald Clarke, and Samuel Woodworth. The AAS copy is in the original orange, printed boards.

Other poetic publications include Refine Weekes' *The Age of Liberty* published in West Chester, Pa., in 1833; John H. Smith's *The Latter Days' Intelligence, or Mental Food, on Various Serious Subjects* (Kewanee, Illinois, 1857); and *Bride Brook. A Legend of New London, Connecticut* (1852) by Frances Manwaring Caulkins, the well-known antiquarian.

David Paul Brown was a Philadelphia lawyer of wit and breadth. In addition to obtaining copies of two of his arguments made during murder trials, we also found a copy of his play, *The Prophet of St. Paul* (Philadelphia, 1836) to add to our holdings.

Examples of broadside verse were acquired, some quite interesting. Among them were two ballads still joined at top and bottom as they had come from the press, although they lacked the pair that flanked them on their left margins. *The Tyringham Tragedy: or Misfortune of 7 Youths* and a *Wonderful Account of a little Girl 10 Years Old* emphasize the awful shortness of life and the advisability of being prepared for death. There is no record in the *Vital Records of Tyringham, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* of the demise of Almond Benton, Ruth Mills, or of Betsey Gaffield. Thus we cannot precisely date this broadside which appears to be of the period 1820-1830.

Shocking Earthquakes . . . Boston: Printed and Sold at the Printing Office. [1812] describes the quake which shook Charleston, South Carolina, on February 6, 1812, for twenty-five minutes. The poem describes the natural disaster in terms of the Last Judgment and admonishes the reader, 'Prepare, O! man, to meet an injur'd God.' The broadside, which is unrecorded, was the gift of St. Lawrence University.

Of the annual greetings—usually called Carriers' addresses—the best was *City Scavenger's New Year's Address, for 1837* (New York) with the admonition, 'Please give nothing to any but the present Scavengers.' The small broadside is decorated with a handsome cut of a two-horse scavenger's wagon, attended by two workmen.

MUSIC

We continued to make substantial additions to our music collections. A half dozen sheets dated before 1801 joined our collections while more than eighty pieces of sheet music dated

1801-1825 were acquired and an equal number added which were published after 1825. The star piece was a copy of *Massa Georgee Washington and General Lafayette* (1824), composed by Micah Hawkins and is the earliest known American illustrated Negro Song. The engraving is by David Claypoole Johnson and the publisher was Edward Riley of New York City. Another interesting piece is a political campaign song of 1798 by Robert Treat Paine, formerly Thomas Paine of Boston. The composition entitled, *The Green Mountain Farmer*, was published in New York by Hewitt. The refrain, which tells what the story is all about, is 'Love Adams Law and Liberty!'

PRINTS

We call attention to the acquisition of a striking folio lithograph by Fitz Hugh Lane of a *View of the Battle Ground at Concord, Mass.*, done by Thayer at about 1840. The lithograph is a good example of Lane's developing talent as a landscape artist. In 1849 after seventeen years as a drawer on stone, Lane devoted all his energies to landscape painting.

Christian Meadows was a well-known engraver who spent some time in the state prison at Windsor, Vermont, for the crime of counterfeiting. This did not inhibit his work, for while a prisoner he executed a fine view of Dartmouth College. AAS now has a beautifully done plate, *ca.* 1853-1857, of *Leonard's Patent Revolving-Hammer Pistol*. This, 'the safest pistol made,' was manufactured by the firm of Robbins & Lawrence of Windsor. The engraving is the gift of Mrs. Albert W. Rice.

Currency issued by local banks or firms during the nineteenth century was an interest of Clarence Brigham. We remain at the lookout for examples which escaped his net. An interesting one, an uncut sheet, was purchased in Montreal. The Champlain & St. Lawrence Railroad issued on August 1, 1857, currency denominated 15 sous, 30 sous, and 3 Francs,

or 7½d., 15d., and 2s., 6d. The bills were engraved by Rawdon, Wright & Hatch of New York and each has an attractive view of a locomotive and cars with a mill or other place of business in the background.

T.W. Wason & Co. of Springfield were railroad car manufacturers from 1845 until this century. About 1860 they built a magnificent excursion car for the Vice-Roy of Egypt. It was constructed with a canopied 'breeze-way' located between two compartments. Theodore Jasper drew a picture upon stone of Wason's triumph, impressions of which were pulled by J.H. Bingham of Hartford. A copy is now at AAS.

Finally, John B. Bailey, a black professor of sparring and gymnastics, had his portrait done at his Boston gymnasium by D.C. Fabronius in 1870. The handsome lithograph was printed by A. Trochsler & Co., of Boston.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

The year's accumulation of children's books has not been particularly spectacular. We reported in April on an unrecorded Isaiah Thomas imprint, *The Renowned History of Giles Gingerbread* (Worcester, 1786), which carries the name of Ebenezer Battelle in the imprint. A few other unique items were also acquired but they tend to represent unknown editions rather than new titles.

A book by the important and famous Quaker schoolmaster of Philadelphia was bought. Anthony Benezet attained fame for his strong anti-slavery views, long before the cause gained notoriety. However, the point of these remarks is to report upon a handsome copy of Benezet's *Pennsylvania Spelling-Book* published by Joseph Cruikshank in Philadelphia in 1776. Although leaf D³ (pp. 53-54) is wanting, this copy is redeemed by a presentation inscription from Benezet to William Forster: 1st of 7mo: 1778.

Although the following is not terribly exciting, I hope my readers will admit to the importance of the publications of

Josiah Holbrook. Holbrook was an educational experimenter and reformer and the founder of the American Lyceum. The first branch was opened in 1826 at Millbury, Massachusetts, the records for which are at AAS. Another of his interests was the manufacture of teaching aids as well as the publication of correct texts. This past year we acquired a complete set of his *Scientific Tracts, Designed for Instruction and Entertainment and Adapted to Schools, Lyceums, and Families* (Boston, 1830-1831), 2 vols. Also, we obtained a wooden globe of the earth sold by Holbrook at his Exchange Lyceum in New York about the year 1845. It was made at Lyceum Village, Berea, Ohio, where he established and maintained an experimental community from 1837 until 1852.

Not a book, yet designed for the pleasure of children, is our final item in this group of acquisitions. AAS added to its collection of children's games and puzzles a fine example of *Panorama of the Visit of Santa Claus to the Happy Children* (Springfield: Milton Bradley & Co., ca. 1870). Included with the box theater and illustrated rolls of views of children at play is a narrative and a sheet of tickets for the performance. A poster announcing the show is missing. We also acquired two other rolls which, no doubt, were once contained in their own theaters. One is a panorama of views depicting great events in the early history of the nation. The other is of views of actions during the Civil War.

PRACTICAL MATTERS

A fine lot of books on transportation, agriculture, trades and other important aspects of every day life came our way. Christopher Colles's *Proposal of a Design for the Promotion of the Interests of the United States of America* (New York: Samuel Wood, 1808) is an important example due to Colles's influence on the internal improvements of the nation. His proposal called for the construction of a canal from the Hudson to the Delaware Rivers across New Jersey. Wool growing interests were

represented by a broadside *Schedule*, dated March 1, 1800 (Evans 49133), which was issued by John Percy in order to describe his wool-dyeing process; and by the 1826 *Proceedings of the Meeting of Manufacturers and Growers of Wool in the State of Vermont*.

An unrecorded pamphlet describing an improved water pump was bought at auction. The sixty-six-page pamphlet is entitled, *A Treatise on the New Invented Patented Machine*. Its Baltimore author, William Faris, describes in detail the process through which he went in designing and building the pump. The pamphlet was printed by Warner & Hanna for Faris in the fall of 1799. Apparently, Faris was by trade a silversmith.

After Benjamin Franklin 'invented' electricity, ingenious Americans tried to find ways to use it to their advantage. One of them was William King, Electrician, who toured with an ELECTRIC BATTERY and an ELECTRICAL ORRERY. In June, 1810, he offered two lectures in Kingston [New York?]. The first was to be on the history of electricity and its peculiar properties. The second evening he proposed to demonstrate the battery and the orrery. He promised not to shock any person without consent. AAS has an unrecorded broadside announcing the exhibition which was held at the house of Joseph Wheeler of Kingston.

Three interesting books on horses were purchased. The earliest was an unrecorded Morristown, New Jersey, imprint, *The Complete Farrier* by Jonathan Lipencott. It was published in 1801. At the same sale that we bought Faris's book on his water pump, we purchased a book about a famous horse, *An Authentic History of the Celebrated Horse American Eclipse containing an Account of his Pedigree and Performances* (New-York: Ephraim Conrad, 1823). As announced on the title page, there is a frontispiece portrait of the horse engraved on wood by Alexander Anderson. The proud owner of the horse was C.W. Van Ranst who actively abetted the publisher in the publication of the pamphlet. The last horsey item to be listed here

is *Horse Stock at Lakeland Farm, the property of Charles S. Dole, Crystal Lake, McHenry County, Ills., Jan. 1st, 1868* (Chicago: Jameson & Morse, 1868). Mr. Dole's prize stallion was 'Alhambra,' a direct descendant of, none other than, 'American Eclipse.'

ALMANACS

There were few almanac acquisitions this past year worthy of note. Happily, an exception was a gift of Edwin Wolf, II. It is a beautiful copy in Dutch, gilt-paper wrappers of *Bailey's Pocket Almanac, being an American Annual Register, for . . . 1787* (Philadelphia). This elegant little book is well printed on good paper and is decorated with an engraved map of the nation, the lunar eclipse of January 3, 1787, and a plate showing the naval flags of twenty nations. The map is particularly interesting as it shows the boundaries and names of the new Northwest territories, as suggested by Thomas Jefferson. Polypotamia appears where southern Illinois now lies while his Metropotamia would have included the locations of Detroit and Toledo. However, Jefferson did not foresee something called Megalopolis.

The acquisitions of two Kentucky almanacs also should be acknowledged. Both were purchased on the Lee Fund. The earlier is *An Almanack, for the Year 1801*. This was published by William Hunter in Frankfort. It is a plain almanac but it does boast a calendar for Kentucky gardeners. It seems to be the second known copy, according to Drake 1752. The other is *The Kentucky Almanac, for the Year of our Lord 1804*. It is from the press of John Bradford of Lexington (Drake 1760). Drake locates four other copies of this fine Kentucky imprint.

Here, we conclude this very partial recital of the past year's additions to the Society's collections. We urge our readers and others to come to use them.

The matter of security and preservation is very much on our minds. The theft of paintings from the Worcester Art Mu-

seum has served as a warning, and our planning for increased security of our collections and regulation of readers has intensified. Arrangement of public space in the renovated building should do much to improve our practices. The Society's bindery also has been greatly improved by the installation of adequate work areas and a large stainless steel sink and ventilation system which will permit not only more efficient handling of repair work but also improve techniques of preservation of paper and bindings. This improvement was made possible through the generous gift of the Morgan Construction Company of Worcester and The Charles E. Merrill Trust of Ithaca, New York.

That brings us, through the ground floor, to the building. At last, it is all but complete! The planning, supervision, and worry have been a heavy burden and the director is happy that it is at an end. The Committee on the Hall, chaired by Robert W. Stoddard, as well as Keyes D. Metcalf and his Library Committee, have been extremely helpful in working through the job with James Ford Clapp, Jr., and Robert D. Farley of the firm of Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott. The E. J. Cross Company has performed the work in a first class manner under the supervision of Ernest F. Jost, Sr., and George R. Carlson. Peter Astukwicz and Richard A. Arell were the capable job foremen.

We cannot close without thanking all members, staff, and friends of the Society who have supported its activities so generously. The American Antiquarian Society will be able to serve scholars and our fellow citizens more effectively in the future because of the foundation laid up in the past upon which we now build. It is an effort that requires the help of all friends of learning and especially of those who have allied themselves with the future of this Society. The Council can but thank those colleagues who have answered and continue to answer our particular call for action.

M. A. McC.

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