

The Report of the Council

October 17, 1979

NINETEEN SEVENTY-EIGHT-seventy-nine has been a year during which the American Antiquarian Society has made progress toward reaching long-standing goals and one in which new directions have been taken. Some difficulties are evident when we look toward the immediate future. Eleanor Adams, my secretary and the manager of our office, said, 'the first thought which came to mind when I reviewed 1978-79 was the one I had in 1976-77 and 1977-78. We were busier than ever.' The Council agrees with that estimate and is profoundly grateful to the entire staff of the Society for their hard work, done well and in the very best of spirits.

Just as the collections of the Society lie at the heart of our mission, the members of our staff are the soul and mind of our activities. Nancy Burkett, who was appointed head of readers' services last August when Mary Brown retired, has proven to be a worthy successor. It is fortunate that she came to these new duties well oriented and with helpful assistants, for this past year has been the busiest on record. Research visits increased by 16 percent over the year before, making a total of just over 4,000. Book circulation rose to nearly 16,000 volumes, a monthly average of 1,320. This represents a 40 percent increase over circulation of the past year and almost a 100 percent increase since 1976. A total of 967 individuals were responsible for the enlarged number of daily visits and calls for Society materials.

Among Mrs. Burkett's able assistants, who included two volunteers, Eleanor O'Donnell and Carroll M. Abbott, was

Keith Arbour, a student at the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Arbour had experience as an employee of the firm of William H. Allen Bookseller in Philadelphia and put his interest to work by sorting through our Mather collection. This effort to provide a better shelflist of Mather materials resulted in the rediscovery of an American imprint that had not previously been catalogued at AAS, namely, *A Direction for a Publick Profession in the Church Assembly* (Cambridge, Mass., 1665). Among Mrs. Burkett's extracurricular professional activities were addresses before the historical editing seminar of the College of the Holy Cross and the New England American Studies Association. She was a voting delegate to the Massachusetts Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services and continues to serve as a director of the Worcester Public Library.

Members of the Graphic Arts Department, in addition to time-consuming work of preparing frequent exhibitions, had an active year dealing with readers and mail requests. Inquiries and orders for photographic materials increased over the past year and we continued to lend materials from our collections of art to other institutions, such as the Maltwood Gallery at the University of Victoria, the National Collection of Fine Arts, the National Portrait Gallery, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities, the New England Historic Seaport, the Currier Gallery in Manchester, New Hampshire, and the Worcester Historical Museum. Also, Mrs. Bumgardner prepared an exhibition using materials illustrative of family life for a meeting of the New England Society of Newspaper Editors which was held at Old Sturbridge Village in November.

Work continued apace on identifying graphic arts materials that needed conservation work. A total of 340 broadsides were so identified, and new acquisitions were routinely repaired before being added to the collections. Thirty-six lithographs were cleaned and mended as were three games, including a wonder-

ful toy theater made by the McLoughlin Brothers, 'Uncle Sam's Panorama.' Also repaired was a group of seventy-three architectural drawings by Elbridge Boyden of Worcester.

From March through August Daniel Younger, a candidate for a master of arts degree at the Visual Studies Workshop in Rochester, New York, served an internship under Mrs. Bumgardner's supervision. He sorted through the Society's collection of nineteenth-century portrait photographs and catalogued them. His work was to identify the photographic process for each, to date the portrait, and to find biographical information about each subject. This work has resulted in a much more rational arrangement of our portrait file and explicates the photographic element at AAS for the first time.

Acquisitions for various collections housed in the Graphic Arts Department were substantial. Over 125 broadsides were acquired, including 9 carriers' addresses ranging in date from 1804 to 1868. The collection of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century prints was enlarged by some 50 items, and 200 or so pieces of sheet music were added to that particular collection. Daniel Farber of Worcester continues to enrich the Society's collection of 'Carvings on Early New England Gravestones,' a very large photographic archive that is entirely the work of Daniel and Jessie Lie Farber.

However, the portentous development in the Graphic Arts Department was the award of a substantial grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the H. W. Wilson Foundation of New York City that will enable Mrs. Bumgardner to oversee the revision to the catalogue of early American engravings first compiled seventy years ago by David McNeely Stauffer and Mantle Fielding. Perhaps my readers will recall that we shall build upon the work of the late H. Dunscombe Colt, who began the revision some years ago. After interviewing a considerable number of applicants, Judy L. Larson, formerly a member of the print department of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, was engaged to serve as Mrs. Bum-

gardner's first assistant. Miss Larson has a master's degree in graphic arts from UCLA. The second assistant in the project is Karen A. Papineau, formerly at the Museum of Fine Arts, Springfield.

In addition to all of these activities Mrs. Bumgardner has been busy professionally, attending the sessions of the American Print Conference at the National Portrait Gallery, and the annual meetings of the Print Council of America, held in Philadelphia, and the American Historical Print Collectors Society, which gathered at Winterthur. Also, she attended seminars on the conservation of works of art on paper, as well as of photographs. Further, she presented lectures to the Dedham Historical Society, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts Print Club, the Massachusetts and Rhode Island Antiquarian Booksellers Association, and the Bay State Historical League.

A major shift in the conduct of the Manuscript Department took place on the first of January when the department staff was launched forth from the protecting harbor of six years of funding by the National Endowment for the Humanities. William L. Joyce, the curator of manuscripts, continues in the post on a part-time basis. Departmental assistant Kathleen A. Major serves readers and takes care of other day-to-day duties. The major event of the year was the publication, at the end of July, of the *Catalogue of the Manuscript Collections of the American Antiquarian Society* in four folio volumes. Published by G. K. Hall and Company in Boston, it appears to be meeting with good success. We hope that the catalogue will draw scholars to the Society to use the splendid manuscript resources that have heretofore been substantially unknown outside our walls. The Council congratulates Mr. Joyce and his former colleagues in attaining this major achievement. In addition to carrying on substantial work in cataloguing or improving access to already catalogued collections, the department noted with satisfaction the continuing use of the collections by scholars from very far afield as well as by several of the Society's visiting fellows.

Accessions to the manuscript collections were valuable and interesting. They included a diary, 1869–70, of an unidentified blacksmith's apprentice of Medfield, Massachusetts; nine diaries of Lizzie A. Wilson Goodenough (1865–1903), which provide a revealing glimpse of the life of a Vermont domestic servant; four volumes of journals of the Reverend Mr. Justice Forward of Belchertown, a Congregational minister, which include comments on Shays's Rebellion. Materials relating to printers included a diary, 1827–29 of Vestus Haley Parks; a record volume, 1820–26, of Solomon Clark, a Bennington, Vermont, newspaperman; and a similar volume, 1848–49, recording the activities of Mills, Roth, and Mackay, printers of Sandusky, Ohio. The largest collection of materials came as a gift from Eunice Wheeler of Worcester and include approximately ten running feet of correspondence, diaries, accounts, and other documents of the Cheever and Wheeler families. The Cheever material joins an already substantial collection relating to the well-known mid-nineteenth-century intellectual figures George Barrell Cheever and Henry Theodore Cheever.

Mr. Joyce continues to be active in the Society of American Archivists. He is chairman of its Ad Hoc Committee on Institutional Evaluation, a member of the Committee on Educational and Professional Development, and a member of the Workshop Advisory Committee, a group assisting the Society in implementing an NEH-funded project designed to improve the education of archivists. He is immediate past president of the New England Archivists and continues to serve on its board. He was elected a member of the Committee on the Profession of the American Historical Association and served as a delegate to the Massachusetts Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services.

The curator of newspapers and serials, Joyce Ann Tracy, continues her work in organizing and cataloguing the collections in her charge. They cover several miles of shelves, and her task is truly enormous. When Miss Tracy came to the So-

ciety six years ago, much in these collections was not under full control; that is, we were not able to tell an inquirer precisely what issues we had of many newspapers or periodicals without going to the shelf. With the help of her assistant, Audrey Zook, Miss Tracy has brought large quantities of newspapers and periodicals under control so that our catalogue cards inform us at once of what we have of a particular file. In addition to this work, Miss Tracy has assisted the librarian in improving the collections through a systematic program of identifying out-of-scope materials. Such materials have been moved out of the collections, either onto the shelves of other depositories or into the hands of dealers. Miss Tracy and her assistants have identified a large number of newspapers that require conservation and has overseen the process of microfilming several runs, including the *Massachusetts Spy*, a project that was funded in part by a grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities.

We received this past year a very substantial amount of material to be added to the collections. Large gifts came from the Andover-Newton Theological School library, the Andover-Harvard Library at Harvard University, the Dover Public Library, the Massachusetts Medical School, and the Library of Congress. Many public libraries from distant parts of the nation responded to our form letter inviting donations of unwanted materials be sent to AAS. Gifts have come from Roger Butterfield, the Trowbridge-Brown family, Janet Lane Reynolds; they include such uncommon things as *The Quaker City* for 1849; the *American Volunteer* of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, 1819-22; and the *Ohio Observer*, 1840-49 of Hudson, Ohio. In all, newspaper acquisitions amounted to 174 titles in several hundred volumes.

Miss Tracy attended the New England Library Association annual meeting last September and the Massachusetts Library Association annual meeting in the spring. She served the National Endowment for the Humanities as a member of its Advi-

sory Committee on bibliographic guidelines for newspaper projects.

All these multitudinous library activities are under the immediate supervision of Frederick E. Bauer, Jr., our worthy and valued associate librarian. It is he who meets frequently with individual staff members and who makes rough paths smooth. He has supervision of the Society's building, and in this, of course, he is ably seconded by Donald K. Strader, superintendent of buildings and grounds. Beyond daily responsibilities, Mr. Bauer has spent a very considerable time in assessing ramifications of the new rules for cataloguing that will soon be upon us. These rules have been prompted by the ever increasing presence of computer technology in libraries. Because AAS must not become isolated from the research library community of which we are an important part, the Society must insure that its standards adhere to national conventions. Unless they do, AAS cataloguing records will not be easily available to scholars at a distance. Thus, Mr. Bauer and members of the cataloguing staff have spent many hours considering such matters as computer program formats that accept cataloguing records; and they have worried about authority files for main entries, uniform subject headings, and a variety of other arcane matters. In this effort, we confess that the director and librarian has been involved also in his capacity as chairman of the committee of the Independent Research Libraries Association to establish standards for rare book cataloguing on a nationwide basis.

The cataloguing staff consisting of Richard L. Anders, Carol R. Alexander, Alan N. Degutis, and Dorothy M. Beaudette continue to make inroads into the Society's new acquisitions and uncatalogued materials. This past year witnessed the conclusion of a long-term project to catalogue a substantial group of the Society's miscellaneous pamphlets, and now that staff is attacking the broadsides in our collections printed during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Some 900 broadsides have been catalogued in machine-readable form. For the first

time the Society's very large collection of those extraordinary research materials are being made available in a rationalized manner. The work is made possible, as was the pamphlet project, by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

In order to organize the work on the Hosmer Collection, Mr. Bauer has spent a good deal of time with Mrs. Elizabeth Norwood, a valued volunteer, Herbert H. Hosmer, the donor and honorary consultant on children's books, and Carolyn A. Allen. The object of the work is to compile a catalogue of the combined Hosmer and AAS collections of children's books published by the McLoughlin Brothers and related firms. We look forward to a major exhibition of this significant collection of juvenile literature. This brief description of Mr. Bauer's activities hardly does him justice. He is concerned with myriad details concerning every aspect of the Society's work, and without his sound advice and level disposition affairs at the Society would be considerably less advanced than they are at present.

The final portion of this report pertaining to the library will deal with acquisitions. During the past year the Society added 8,816 pieces to the collections. They included 1,519 gifts of books additional to two large gifts: the Papantonio bequest of 670 volumes and Mr. Hosmer's McLoughlin Brothers Company collection that numbered 1,230 items. The close work demanded in searching, comparing, collating, annotating bibliographies, and attending to other details is accomplished well by Carolyn A. Allen and her assistant. In addition to the above, Daniel Farber presented 2,250 photographs. Of the purchased materials, we acquired 399 pieces published before 1831, 1,668 items printed between the years 1831 and 1877, and 1,072 items published from 1877 to date. Gifts of printed materials followed the same patterns: 94 pre-1831 pieces, 742 items dated 1831-76, and 682 pieces published in 1877 or thereafter. Purchases averaged \$104 per item for the pre-1831 materials. The mid-nineteenth-century material averaged \$25 per piece,

while later materials were purchased at an average of \$16 per piece.

From a review of only a small portion of the year's acquisitions, it is evident that it was a very good year. Also, it was an expensive one, but, although we may deplete our coffers, at least we are enriching our research collections. The first two additions that we will mention pertain to two learned societies, and, although they are duplicates to our holdings, they were *not* expensive. The Reverend Dr. Jeremy Belknap issued on November 1, 1791, a prospectus of a new periodical publication, to be issued in Boston, called *The American Apollo*. With it was a circular letter from the Massachusetts Historical Society of which Belknap was the principal founder. *The American Apollo* became the unofficial organ of the Massachusetts Historical Society, our nation's first such organization, in which various historical articles were published from time to time. The prospectus was to encourage subscriptions to the new periodical while the circular letter was designed to encourage donations of historical materials, objects, or what have you, to the society. The letter was designed so that it could also be circulated separately. In our copy, a contemporary hand has excised a line or two that refer to the periodical, suggesting that this copy was, indeed, sent without the prospectus attached. The other acquisition pertains to the American Antiquarian Society. It is a small rectangular slip of paper that bears the call for the first membership meeting of the Society, to be held on November 19, 1812. We discovered we had another copy of this little remnant of our past pasted into the first minute book of the Council. Over the years, I have often remarked how things of a like nature often seem to come in pairs and these two pieces seem to prove the rule.

Of materials that can be classified only as American imprints we obtained a bewildering variety. For example, two unrecorded Baptist publications from Savannah, Georgia, came our way. They were printed in 1807 and 1808 and carry the minutes

of the General Committee of Georgia Baptists, along with their deliberations on the future of Mount-Enon College. Also printed in 1808, in Philadelphia by William Duane, was an uncommon pamphlet written by Hugh Henry Brackenridge entitled *Considerations on the Jurisprudence of the State of Pennsylvania*. One of our favorite publishers is Josiah P. Mendum who issued for a generation of mid-nineteenth-century Bostonians a variety of volumes on free thought. His favorite publication was the *Works* of Thomas Paine, but occasionally he included other authors in his stable. This year, in addition to an edition or two of Tom Paine, we found Baron deHolbach's *Letters to Eugenia* (Boston, 1870), a book Mendum first issued in 1857. The baron's work is a vigorous statement upon the ill effects of religiosity. Mendum acquired the printing plates from Gilbert Vale of New York City when the latter went out of business in the late 1850s, thus continuing a publishing tradition that goes back to Fanny Wright and to Robert Dale Owen. Two earlier and a good deal more important publications relating to social change are represented by Robert Owen's *Address Delivered to the Inhabitants of New Lanark, on the First of January, 1816*. This was reprinted by S. J. Browne for Luman Watson in Cincinnati in 1825. The other was Owen's *New View of Society: or, Essays on the Formation of the Human Character*, also published by Watson in Cincinnati in 1825, Looker & Reynolds being the printers.

An interesting nonce volume was acquired through the agency of Robert Hayman of Carey, Ohio. It is entitled *Life Among the Nymphs*, published by the author, Calvin Blanchard in New York in 1867. The book is decorated with a number of plates of Venus-like figures displayed in alluring poses. Although one's first impression is that he has in hand a volume of pornography, actually *Life Among the Nymphs* is a series of separately published essays that attack prevailing social customs and political attitudes. The titles of the four essays are 'Life Among the Nymphs'; 'The Art of Real Pleasure,' pub-

lished in 1864 (apparently as a separate for it appears in the National Union Catalog); 'Human Nature Unveiled,' published in 1865; and 'The Secret History of a Votary of Pleasure,' published in 1866. The entire volume was published in 1867 as the titlepage has it. We have found very little concerning Calvin Blanchard other than an obituary that appeared in the *New York Post* on January 7, 1886, stating that he, a bookseller by trade, had died on January 2.

As our readers will recall, the fate of a number of Americans who took part in the Papineau rebellion in Canada in 1837 caused a good deal of interest in this country and elsewhere. A number of the American interlopers were convicted for their troubles by the British government and were banished to Van Diemen's land, a remote section of Tasmania. Several of their narratives were published about the year 1840. We have all but one or two of them. A recent addition to this body of literature is *A Letter to Her Majesty, The British Queen, with . . . a Report of the Testimony Taken at the Trial of the Writer*, by Thomas Jefferson Sutherland. He published it in Albany, New York, in 1841. It is one of the more uncommon examples in this body of literature. While thinking of Australia, it might be worthwhile to mention the fact that we obtained a guide to that land entitled *Australia: Its Scenery, Natural History, and Resources* published in New York by Carleton & Phillips in 1854. It contains a guide to the Australian gold fields as well as detailed advice for the emigrating American. We well may doubt that any of the Van Diemen's land prisoners took advantage of the glowingly described opportunities.

A number of almanacs were acquired, including *Bickerstaff's Boston Almanack for 1782* published by Ezekiel Russell. Its title-page is embellished with a vignette of Phillis Wheatley. *Elton's Comic All-My-Nack! for 1834* was published by R. H. Elton in New York in two editions, both of which are now present at AAS. *The Pirates Almanac and Calendar of the Sea for 1844* is a lurid and popular production that was published in

Boston by James Fisher. Also of a nautical nature but of a more serious variety is Samuel Stearns's *The Navigator's Kalendar, or Nautical Almanack, for 1783* published in New York. The latter is particularly uncommon and was not recorded by Milton Drake in his checklist of American almanacs.

Turning from the miscellaneous to publications relating to Americans on the frontier, at war, or at large in the world beyond our shores, I would mention particularly a very uncommon pamphlet by Samuel White entitled *History of the American Troops*, containing reminiscences of his experiences in the War of 1812. It was printed by E. Edes in Baltimore for the author in 1829. Following the second war with Britain, troubles along the northwestern frontier caused Samuel Appleton Storrow, a judge advocate of the United States Army, to tour the area of the Great Lakes eastward to the St. Lawrence River. He presented his findings in a rare pamphlet called 'Narrative of a Tour to the Northwest in 1817 in a Letter to Maj. Gen. Jacob Brown.' The pamphlet, which bears no formal title-page or place or date of publication, appears to have been issued in 1818 and contains a remarkably informative account of the trip which was sent to Maj. Gen. Jacob J. Brown, the senior officer of the United States Army.

There were other troubles along the American border farther to the west. Lord Selkirk's settlements on the Red River met a variety of opposition from the Hudson Bay Company. A good deal of literature was generated concerning that effort to colonize a wonderfully rich agricultural area. This year we obtained the New York edition of John Halkett's *Statement Respecting the Earl of Selkirk's Settlement upon the Red River in North America*. The book was published by James Eastburn in 1818 with a map engraved by Maverick & Durand. At AAS it joins the edition in French published in Montreal, also in 1818, by Nahum Mower. The settlement of the Old Northwest produced a variety of literature that pertains to the peopling of that great area. Among those obtained this year was the first

printing of the Michigan territorial laws, called the Cass Code. They were printed in Detroit by Theophiles Mettez in 1816. Its proper title is *Some of the Acts of the Territory of Michigan . . . Now in Force. March 20th, 1816*. Of the same chronological era, but published many years later, is a now rare volume of *Reminiscences of Colonel John Ketcham an Early Settler of Indiana Territory* (Bloomington, 1806). It was edited by Thomas M. Hopkins. Moving westward to the time of the gold rush, we find a copy of the *Constitution of the New-England and California Trading and Mining Association*, printed in Boston in 1849. It is one of thirty such publications of organizations formed to enable their members to buy ships and supplies to go to California. One of the more amusing publications of the period is an oblong-shaped pamphlet filled with cartoon-like figures depicting life in the California gold region. It is entitled *Journey to the Gold Diggings by Jeremiah Saddlebags* and was compiled by James A. Read. Its style is similar to that of Rudolph Toepfer, but it was published in 1849 by V. P. James of Cincinnati. A slightly later period of life on the western frontier is represented by two state documents, the *Journals of the House of Representatives of Colorado Territory* (Fifth Session, 1866) and that of the *Journal of the Legislative Assembly of Idaho Territory* (Seventh Session, 1872-73). The earlier was printed in Blackhawk by Ovido Hollister in 1866. The Idaho journal was printed in Boise City by Milton Kelly in 1874.

Going on still farther west, one comes across the islands of the Pacific. At an auction we purchased a pristine copy of *The Island World of the Pacific* by Henry T. Cheever. This was published by Harper & Brothers in New York in 1850. Almost all other copies bear the date of 1851 on the title-page because, as it turned out, the type of the date became battered. We suspect that the printers changed the date to 1851 during the press run. Above, we mentioned the large addition from Miss Eunice Wheeler to our Cheever family collection of manuscripts. Also, she gave us a number of volumes of the publications of Henry

and George Cheever, including English editions of this book and others that were inscribed by the author to members of his family. A contemporary of Henry Cheever was James Jackson Jarvis, a fascinating American whose life encompassed many interests. One of them was centered in the Sandwich Islands, and he wrote two books concerning them. Later he went to Europe and became the first American collector of Italian primitive paintings; his collection is now at Yale. Jarvis wrote a number of books on aesthetics, Japanese art, and in this instance a book based on his Italian travels, *Italian Sights and Papal Principles, Seen Through American Spectacles*. It too was published in New York by Harper & Brothers in 1856. Before heading west from the island world of the Pacific, we return briefly to San Francisco to note the publication of *An Answer to the Common Objections to Chinese Testimony*, written by William Speer to counter mounting prejudice against Asian immigrants on the West Coast. The pamphlet was published by the Chinese Mission House in San Francisco in 1857. Two years later several unnamed Americans residing in the Far East addressed a letter *To the Editor of the Hong Kong Register*. Their four-page statement was occasioned by articles from the London *Times* and reprinted in *The Register* to the effect that really the British were responsible for the signing of the 1857-58 treaties that opened up Japan. The Americans sardonically protested the accuracy of comments that implied that American representatives in the Far East, in particular the indomitable Matthew C. Perry and the patient Townsend Harris, had taken far too much credit upon themselves for gaining access to the Japanese ports. The writers wish to make clear that the treaties had been signed before Commodore Tatnall of the Royal Navy arrived off Shimoda with a show of force that nearly closed the ports again. The American presence in China is also attested to by an 1866 publication issued by the American Methodist Episcopal Mission Press in Foochow in 1866. This thirty-two-page pamphlet lists the various Protestant

missions located in China along with their denominational affiliation and staff. *The Directory of Protestant Missions in China* is not listed in the National Union Catalog and presumably is an uncommon publication. The final volume to be noted in this section of publications relating to Asia is a novel published in 1876 in New York. Its title is *Chiusbingura: or, The Loyal League*. It was published by G. P. Putnam, and I suspect was issued in response to the great interest shown by Americans in the Japanese exhibitions at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. The novel, which relates the plot of a popular and traditional Japanese tale, was translated into English by Frederick V. Dickins. It is decorated with woodcuts printed in two colors in Japan on tissue paper. The whole volume, although in not terribly good condition, is most charming and, I think, a considerable rarity.

Turning now to literature we note a number of extremely interesting additions to our collection of American fiction including the unrecorded *Adolene Wellmont, or the Female Adventurer*, New York, 1853. *The Secrets of the Twin Cities: or, the Great Metropolis* by Charles E. Averill (Boston, 1849; I Wright 212); a copy inscribed to President Franklin Pierce of *The Planter's Northern Bride* by Caroline Lee Hentz (Philadelphia, 1854; II Wright 1163); as well as several other fictions that are listed by the late Lyle Wright in his ever-helpful bibliography. *The Bank Director's Son, a Real and Intensely Interesting Revelation of City Life* is a novel written by George Lippard. It is a reissue of his book entitled *The Kellers* and was published by E. E. Barclay and A. R. Orton, Philadelphia, 1851. It has been added to the splendid collection of Lippard publications presented to the Society by Roger Butterfield. A considerable rarity is John Pendleton Kennedy's *The Red Book* (Baltimore: J. Robinson, 1820-21; BAL 11037). This work was issued in two duodecimo volumes and apparently is a collected edition of Kennedy's essays and stories which were issued in parts during 1819-21. Undoubtedly, our new literary acqui-

sition with the most unusual imprint is that of *The Knights of the Horseshoe; a Traditionary Tale of the Coked Hat Gentry*. It was published in Wetumpka, Alabama, in 1845. The novel (I Wright 495), by William Alexander Carruthers, is a romantic tale set in late seventeenth-century Virginia and recounts the adventures of those legendary Virginia cavaliers who set the tone for the future Cavalier State.

The great rarity added to our collections is the first edition of Phillis Wheatley's first publication, *A Poem . . . On the Death of the Reverend George Whitefield* (Boston: Ezekiel Russell, 1770). None of our other scarce poetical acquisitions were as important as Phillis Wheatley's pamphlet. However, we should note that we added Joseph Allen's *Last Advice and Farewell* published in Brookfield, Massachusetts, in 1795; a broadside poem, probably printed in Portland or Hallowell, described a religious revival in Thomaston, Maine (the broadside is entitled *A Poem on the Experience of a Young Man . . . 3rd of May, 1808*); from midstate New York, probably about 1825, is *The Interesting Narrative of the Conversion and Happy Death of Miss Sarah Pebbles*; Timothy Walker's *The Flaming Sword*, printed in Groton, Connecticut, in 1812, is a most uncommon edition.

Among works pertaining to the fine arts we obtained a copy of *The Theatrical Budget, or Actors Regalia*, number fifteen, published by E. M. Murden at the Dramatic Repository in New York in 1828. In the same year in New York Solomon King published *The Blackbird, Being a Choice Collection of the Most Popular American, English . . . Songs*. Four years earlier in Petersburg, Virginia, Yancy & Burton published John M'Creery's *Selection, from the Ancient Music of Ireland, Arranged for the Flute or Violin*, while a generation later Richard Marsh, a New York publisher of popular ephemera, issued *The Low Back Car Songster*, another compilation of Irish songs.

As usual we located a number of interesting pieces of juvenile literature. I was particularly taken by a set of volumes comprising Oliver Optic's Starry Flag Series. The set, lacking volume

one, was published by Lea & Shepard in Boston in 1873-74. What is remarkable about this broken set is that it arrived in its original box which is still in excellent condition. We obtained it from Matthew Needle of the Bogside Book Shop. Two other publications that took my fancy were publications from Hopedale, Massachusetts, issued in 1873 at the Advertiser Office. They are stories by H. N. Greene Butts entitled *Eda Darlin; or, the Little Flower Girl* and *Little Susie; or, the New-Year's Gift*. Several of the children's books contained stunningly executed illustrations, such as the chromolithographs in *The Illuminated Fable Book* (New York, 1848?) and those in a volume of stories translated from the German, *Will You Not Tell Us Some Pretty Stories?* (Philadelphia: John Weik, ca. 1855). *Henry Brown* by Lawrence Lovechild was published in 1847 by George B. Zieber in Philadelphia. This attractive pamphlet contains handsome illustrations by F. O. C. Darley. One particularly fine eighteenth-century volume was obtained. It is *An Approved Collection of Entertaining Stories, Calculated for the Instruction of All Little Masters and Misses* by Solomon Winlove. It was published by that excellent printer, Samuel Hall of Boston, in 1792. This edition was unlocated by d'Alté Welch, although he noted its existence from an advertisement in another publication of Hall's.

Turning next to the subjects of medicine, technology, agriculture, and the like, we note the *Report of the Proceedings, Winter of 1813-1814* of the American Aesculapian Society, printed by John Forbes in New York in 1814. This nineteen-page pamphlet is not recorded in the bibliographies, although AAS has reports for 1812-13 and 1814-15. Another New York publication of interest is entitled *Hints Toward Promoting the Health and Cleanliness of the City of New York* published in 1802 by T. & J. Swords. Authorship has been attributed to William Sabatier by our rare book cataloguer, Richard L. Anders. Another interesting publication on public health is William Rumford Waring's *Report of the City Council of Savannah*

on the *Epidemic Disease of 1820*, a seventy-eight-page publication issued in Savannah in 1821. Among other acquisitions of particular interest in these areas are: William Moore's *Remarks on the Subject of Packing and Repacking Beef and Pork* (Montreal, 1820); *The Constitution of the Merino Society of the Middle States of North America* (Philadelphia, 1811); *A Ready Reckoner for the Use of Dealers in Timber* (Quebec, 1809); *The First Transactions of the Royal Hawaiian Agricultural Society* (Honolulu, 1851); a pamphlet on the *Bituminous Coal Lands in Centre County Pennsylvania* dated March 3, 1836; *Sample Book of Fine Colors . . . Manufactured Only by John Masury* (New York, 1872?); and the *Constitution and Rules of Order of the Iron Molders' International Union* (Philadelphia, 1864). We should mention a most unusual acquisition at least as far as the American Antiquarian Society is concerned: *A New Thirteen Inch Terrestrial Globe* constructed by James Wilson and Son in Albany, New York, in 1831. This globe, made by the first American globemaker, is in fairly good condition and an object of considerable rarity and desirability. James Wilson began his career as a blacksmith in Bradford, Vermont, making his first globe in 1809 in that Connecticut River valley town. Nine years later Wilson moved to Albany to conduct his globe-making business in a more convenient locale.

A number of acquisitions relate to the history of printing and bookmaking. Among the catalogues or specimens of printing materials or equipment was an illustrated catalogue of the Campbell Press Works, issued in New York in 1876; three lists of printing materials issued by R. Hoe and Co. in 1851, 1852, and 1867; *A Specimen of Printing Types* issued by Lewis Pelouze in Philadelphia in 1849; a specimen book of types in the printing office of John F. Trow (New York, 1856); and Elihu White's 1821 *Specimen of Printing Types*. We also obtained an unrecorded, small broadside advertisement of the famous loyalist printer of Boston, John Mein, issued at his 'London Book-store' in 1766. Benjamin B. Hopkins & Co. of

Philadelphia published in 1807 a *Catalogue of Very Rare, Ancient, and Valuable Books*, and Henry Dayton issued his *Catalogue of Popular Books, Sold by Traveling Agents* in New York in 1858. Ten years later A. Roman & Co. of San Francisco issued a *Monthly List of New Publications*. We obtained such a list for the month of November 1868.

Traveling salesmen carried with them not only catalogues but also abbreviated samples of books they were trying to sell by subscription. These were called salesmen's dummies, or blads, and several came to hand. Among them were D. C. Peters's *The Life and Adventures of Kit Carson* (New York: Clark, 1858), *The Lives and Deeds of Our Self-Made Men* by Harriet Beecher Stowe (Hartford: Worthington, Dustin & Co., 1872), Charles Sutton's *New York Tombs: Its Secrets and Its Mysteries* (New York: United States Publishing Co., 1874), and a prospectus for a miniature edition of Hoole's *Ariosto* issued by Henry Hudson of Philadelphia in 1815. Finally, among the items added to our collection of American bindings were two executed by Hartford, Connecticut, binders. The earlier is a volume of Isaac Watts's *Imitation of the Psalms of David* (Hartford: Patten, 1786) and the other *The Complaint: or Night Thoughts* by Edward Young issued by Silas Andrus in 1824.

John B. Hench, the Society's research and publication officer, was just as involved with projects as the rest of us. Not only did he manage to oversee the publication of the first two numbers in the Society's new series 'AAS Facsimiles,' but he also finished editorial work for our forthcoming bicentennial volume, *The Press and the American Revolution*. We expect this volume to be published early in 1980. Also, he finished much of the work on three additional volumes, Robert Winans's *Descriptive Checklist of Separately Printed American Catalogues of Books, 1663-1800*; *Prints of New England*, edited by Georgia B. Bumgardner; and Richard Crawford's *Bibliography of American Sacred Music Imprints through 1810*. Of course, the So-

ciety's *Proceedings* have appeared regularly under his editorship.

Mr. Hench also has oversight of the work of the AAS-Readex Microprint project for early American imprints through the year 1819. We are halfway through a five-year program to finish up that work, which is being performed by Margaret A. Donoghue, long of our staff, and her assistant, Joan Pingeton. We expect that this massive task, which began with the year 1640 under the direction of Clifford K. Shipton in 1957, will at last be finished sometime in 1981 or 1982. There is no doubt that this has been one of the major contributions of the Society to historical scholarship, but the staff looks forward to the time when this long-term task comes to an end.

Mr. Hench's attention has also been turned to a new and major effort, that of the North American Imprints Program. This task, for which we volunteered, is designed to do two things. First of all, we shall convert our records of early American printing through the eighteenth century into machine-readable form as the first stage in our efforts to reduce all of our records of American printed materials to machine-readable format. This will enable the Society to maintain an ongoing file covering the corpus of American printing from 1640 through the year 1876, so far as it is represented by the Society's collections. We believe that because the Society has the greatest collection of this type of material and because computerized records offer great flexibility we will be in a position to offer services to scholars of American bibliography, history, and culture. In any case, Mr. Hench has done yeoman's work in putting together a successful application to the National Endowment for the Humanities that resulted in a major grant to the Society to begin this work. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has provided funds to match the NEH grant. In a very real sense this program opens the way for the Society to enter a new era of bibliographical control over the materials that have absorbed our attention for our entire history. We believe it to be

of the highest importance to the future of the Society as a useful learned institution.

Our fellowship program continues to be a highly satisfying one both for the Society and for the visiting scholars who benefit from the awards we make. Those awards, as you are all aware, are based on income derived from the Society's Fred Harris Daniels Fund and from a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. In addition, we are pleased to announce that William F. Boni has established a third fellowship to honor his father, AAS member Albert Boni. The elder Mr. Boni is founder of the Readex Microprint Corporation and has been our colleague in our microform publications of early American printed material. The Boni Fellowship will be awarded to a scholar working on early American bibliography or printing or publishing history. We are grateful to both Messrs. Boni for their friendship and help.

As valuable as the AAS fellowships are to scholars working in the history of the American seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries, we have had difficulty in persuading private foundations (other than the Daniels Foundation) and individuals to assist us in the funding of these programs. For example, during this third and final year of our NEH grant we are required to raise \$5,000 in matching funds to obtain an additional \$5,000 for fellowships. However, appeals to a considerable number of agencies or persons have as yet proved to be unavailing. Further, an effort begun under the chairmanship of AAS member Walter Cronkite to raise a permanent fund in the amount of \$50,000 for visiting fellowships has met with disappointment, in that we have raised in the intervening time something less than \$10,000. This gives us considerable pause, for the fellowship program is truly important as a means by which the Society can make its great library available to scholars. In addition, as we have moved outward into the broader sphere of large research libraries, AAS is for the first time running into comparisons with the nation's large, general research

libraries. Thus, part of our trouble may lie in the perceptions that the research community has of independent libraries such as the American Antiquarian Society. They often think of us as being narrowly specialized and as lacking the supporting scholarly paraphernalia that scholars expect to find in major university research libraries. We have a considerable distance to go in altering the commonly held views of the Society's library and of our potential for furthering humanistic scholarship.

Mr. Hench, who is assisted by Julia A. Barnard, has been active in a variety of other things this year. He has attended meetings of the Organization of American Historians, the annual meeting of the American Council of Learned Societies as our staff representative and led a portion of the program at the meeting of the ACLS Conference of Secretaries. In addition he has prepared several articles and reviews for publication and last but not least completed his dissertation and received his degree as a doctor of philosophy in history from Clark University.

We reported at the April meeting on the success of the Society's most recent adventure into formal educational activities. William L. Joyce, our education officer, has with the help of the Worcester college advisory committee as well as our own education committee planned a second seminar for the fall of 1979 with Prof. David D. Hall of Boston University as the principal seminar leader and Elizabeth Carroll Reilly, a Ph.D. candidate at B.U., as his assistant. This fall's seminar, which is open as was last year's to two students from each of the five four-year colleges in Worcester, is entitled 'Popular Culture in Preindustrial America, 1650-1850.'

In addition to the seminar, Mr. Joyce planned a full schedule of events that included a schedule of meetings of the American Antiquarian Society Seminar in American Social and Political History, 1750-1850, which was originally organized by Profs. David Hackett Fischer of Brandeis University and Ronald P. Formisano of Clark University. The seminar is open to faculty

from neighboring institutions and meets several times each year. In addition to programs that are designed for professional scholars, Mr. Joyce planned a pair of concerts that made use of American music located in the Society's collections. Arthur F. Schrader, formerly of Old Sturbridge Village, presented an illustrated lecture and concert based on texts in our collection of broadside ballads formed by Isaiah Thomas in 1814. In May Sheila Reid led *The Hawthorne Tree* in a concert of early American chamber music. In February, A. Gregg Roeber, then an NEH-AAS Fellow, lectured on court day in colonial Virginia, and in March we cosponsored with the Worcester County Poetry Association a reading of the poetry of Walt Whitman by a contemporary poet, Galway Kinnell. Mr. Joyce himself conducted a well-received course entitled 'Victorian Culture in America' that was listed by the adult education department of the Worcester City Schools. The class was held on five successive Thursday evenings in March and attracted an enrollment of thirty-nine persons from the community as well as eight AAS staff members.

In planning for the coming year, a good deal of attention has been paid to a conference proposed to be held in October 1980 that will survey the structure of the book trades in the distribution of printed materials, analyze literacy and the diffusion of knowledge, consider the impact of printing on popular culture, and estimate the role of bibliography in the study of cultural and social history. The conference, which is entitled 'Printing and Society in Early America,' is being planned by Mr. Joyce and Profs. Richard D. Brown of the University of Connecticut and David D. Hall of Boston University. Mr. Hench and the director also serve on the committee. The planners have been extremely pleased by the numbers and quality of responses to their call for papers with the result that an outstanding array of participants have agreed to attend the three-day conference. Funding for the conference, which will result in a publication, has, thus far, proved elusive but the Council is confident—the

conference being important to AAS as a means of enunciating the vital connections between traditional bibliographical interests with those of historians—that the necessary monies will be located.

All of these activities are designed to bring people to the Society in order to acquaint them with the resources that await their use. They represent a determined effort by the Council and the staff to make the American Antiquarian Society a significant force in the learned and humanistic community. Because most of the activities of the Education Office represent new departures for the Society, we keep a close eye on all of the programs. The undergraduate and faculty seminars are clearly successful. We have high hopes that the conference on 'Printing and Society in Early America' will assist us in organizing additional programs that will relate American history to bibliography. Because these two interests form an integral part of the Society's mission, it is important that new educational programs not only accommodate them but will enlarge their contribution to one another. Should we be able to organize a program at the graduate level or find a means of linking graduate education with directed research, perhaps the Society may lay claim to a prominent place in sponsoring innovative studies in early American history and culture.

The work of the Society is fueled by human energy represented by our staff and volunteers, which we believe to be of the very highest quality, and by money that is always in short supply. Our perennial efforts to raise the funds to fuel our programs, as well as the library building's boilers, go on as actively as do our library, publication, and educational activities. Those activities are directed by Mary V. C. Callahan, our development officer. We note, not incidentally, that Jeanne H. Lenahan was forced to resign in June as assistant to the development officer owing to critical illness. I wish it were possible that we could report that Mrs. Lenahan's condition is improving, but such is not the case. The Council and staff thank Mrs.

Lenahan most cordially for her loyal and cheerful service that dates from the inauguration of the office. Mrs. Lenahan gave of herself wholeheartedly, took on extra duties cheerfully, and with a full heart we extend to her our gratitude and affection.

Donations from members and friends of the Society for annual, budgeted expenses amounted to \$76,249. Special gifts for particular purposes, usually unbudgeted, amounted to \$48,270. The gifts intended for the capital funds of the Society amounted to \$293,465 and included bequests from the estates of the late Bradford F. Swan, Mary Gage Rice, Guy W. Walker, Sinclair Hamilton, and Beatrice H. Goodnow in memory of her husband, the late Donald W. Goodnow. Major gifts for various purposes were received from the George I. Alden Trust, the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Elisabeth Ball, William N. Banks, the *Berkshire Eagle*, Mrs. Theodore Boardman, William F. Boni, the Capital Cities Foundation, Lamot DuPont Copeland, the *Des Moines Register and Tribune*, Henry Doehla Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord Donnelley, Daniel Farber, Field Enterprises Charitable Corporation, Mr. and Mrs. Paris Fletcher, the George I. and Sybil H. Fuller Foundation, the Gannett Newspaper Foundation, the Phillip L. Graham Fund, the Francis A. and Jacquelyn H. Harrington Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Hiatt, Milton P. Higgins, Arthur A. Houghton, Jr., the *Houston Chronicle*, the *Los Angeles Times-Mirror*, the Mildred H. McEvoy Foundation, the *Minneapolis Star and Tribune*, Morgan Worcester, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Nebenzahl, the New York Times Company Foundation, the Norton Charitable Trust, the Providence Journal Company, Raytheon Corporation, Frederick G. Ruffner, Small Newspapers, the Stoddard Charitable Trust, and Thompson Newspapers. Gifts to endowment were received from the Surdna Foundation, Henry S. Streeter, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Sawyer, Edward Connery Lathem, and Mr. and Mrs. James Hall Peterson.

Robert Cushman led our efforts to encourage corporate giving for the past three years. We were greatly encouraged and

helped by the responses to his requests. Having done his duty, Mr. Cushman has relinquished the task to W. Douglas Bell, who will carry on during the next three years.

The friends of our late member Michael Papantonio banded together under the leadership of Robert H. Taylor, H. Bradley Martin, and John R. B. Brett-Smith to establish a fund amounting to \$17,223, the income from which will be used to increase and improve the Society's collection of American bindings that rest so largely upon Michael Papantonio's own gifts and bequest.

The Worcester Association of Mutual Aid in Detecting Thieves goes on its merry way under the leadership of its clerk, Robert P. Hallock. One hundred fifty-seven individual gifts to the Society have been received from members of the Thief Detectors, which is made up of seventy-nine AAS members and seventy-eight friends of the Society. The Thief Detectors met in annual meeting on February 9th to consume a hearty dinner and to listen to an illuminating talk by Homer D. Babbidge on the history and convolutions of that common but important utensil, the corkscrew. On June 7, Mr. and Mrs. Milton P. Higgins opened their home and grounds to the Thief Detectors for an outdoor picnic enlivened by guests in appropriate costumes and sustained by the contents of delicious box suppers. I am sure that those hearing this report realize that membership in the Worcester Association for Mutual Aid in Detecting Thieves is open to anyone who wishes to join and who has contributed at least \$100 in cash or kind to the Society during a calendar year.

Joseph T. Carter and the director and his wife were hosts at three late afternoon receptions at which business and professional people from the area were invited to the Society and introduced to AAS and to our activities. In addition, the Associated Press editors of New England, a group of rare book librarians, the directors of the Independent Research Libraries Association, a tour group sponsored by *Antiques* magazine, spouses

of Worcester Polytechnic Institute trustees, and several other groups met at or toured the Society during the past year. The work involved in all of these activities and a good many more, including the editing of the Society's *News-Letter*, is accomplished by Mrs. Callahan. She is active as a corporator or trustee of community cultural organizations and in public relations groups in the Worcester area.

Despite the superb expressions of generosity that the Society has received and in spite of increased returns from an enlarged investment portfolio, the realities of inflation are as present at AAS as in any other organization or household. In looking toward the coming year, it is clear that although the Society will be able to maintain the same level of activity that we have during the last three or four years, the line between enlarged monetary resources for services and those required to offset the rise of inflation has disappeared. We continue to have good success in obtaining substantial grants for categorical purposes. Members and friends have responded in an extraordinary manner to our appeals for gifts to offset annual operating costs. However, it is quite apparent that we must work harder than ever to enlarge the permanent financial base of the Society, the foundation on which services and scholarly activities are built.

In bringing this report to a conclusion, it is impossible properly to acknowledge all the gifts of time, talent, funds, devotion, and loyalty that have been given so freely by so many people—members and staff of the Society and many others scattered across the nation—who give some part of themselves or of their substance to the Society. We are profoundly grateful to each person, each of whom made the American Antiquarian Society useful in the world of 1978-79.

Marcus A. McCorison

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