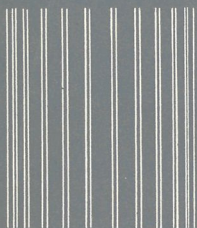


COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS



NOVEMBER 1957 · VOLUME VII, NUMBER 1

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Columbia Library Columns

VOLUME VII

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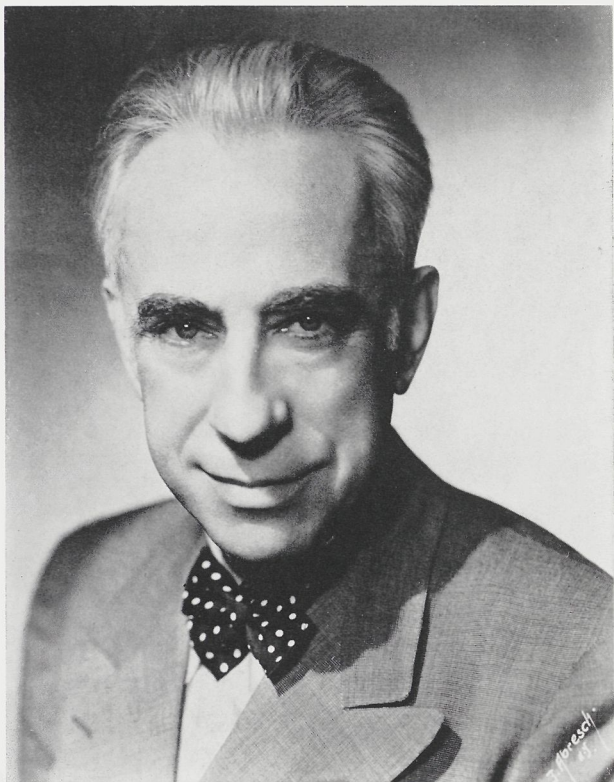
NUMBER 1

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JOHN ERSKINE, 1879-1951

Teacher, author, musician, and administrator.



COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS



Records of a Friendship

In the Eighteen Nineties two youngsters, John Erskine and Melville Cane, entered Columbia Grammar School and soon became friends. The friendship endured over half a century. Although terminated by the death of Erskine in 1951, it was movingly revived in reminiscence when Mr. Cane spoke to the Friends in January about Professor Erskine. It lives also in the correspondence between the two men which, along with other material, has recently been added by Mrs. Erskine to her husband's papers in the Columbia Libraries.

We print in the following pages Mr. Cane's memoir of his friend—for those of our members who did not have the pleasure of hearing him as well as for those who did and would like to renew the recollection. We wish we could print in full the Erskine-Cane correspondence—letters written chiefly when Erskine was a fledgling professor at Amherst. There is room only for a selection, although included are an early poem and a “fable.” But the excerpts help to round out the image of a young man who radiated infectious enthusiasm to friends and pupils alike, standing “in ecstasy” (his own words) on the threshold of a brilliantly creative career as writer and educator.

John Erskine: An Appreciation*

MELVILLE CANE

I AM deeply mindful of the honor of being invited to speak on this occasion. It will, however, be an impossible task, within the imposed time limit, to do even scant justice to the rich and manifold personality we knew and remember as John Erskine. At best I can only sketch out and suggest the range of his interests and his durable impact on the life of our time.

John was, with one exception, my oldest friend. Our relationship covered 58 years. It was close from the start and never suffered the slightest lapse in warmth or depth. We first met in the fall of 1893, when we both entered Columbia Grammar School to gain the groundwork of a classical education. We continued as classmates and with common interests at Columbia College in the class of 1900, and from there with ever deepening intimacy we moved on together into maturity and the larger world, down the years, until his death in June, 1951.

John was one of the taller boys in our class at prep school, probably 5 feet 7 or 8, at the age of 14, and giving every promise of the towering, generous figure of his adult years. He was definitely serious, in essence the student type, but at the same time outgoing and popular. He laughed easily and heartily not only at other people's jokes but also at his own. His laugh grew, in the process of time, to the thunderous proportions we all remember as characteristic of him.

From the early days of our acquaintance I still recall an episode which may throw light, in different ways, on each of us. One day

* Address given on the occasion of the presentation by Mrs. Helen Worden Erskine of her late husband's papers, Low Memorial Library, Columbia University, January 16, 1957.

we were discussing poetry, already a bond between us, when John shocked me with the statement that he didn't think too well of Longfellow. To my uncritical mind which accepted all poets as equally divine and untouchable, this was not only heresy, it was sacrilege.

The grounds of his dissent are forgotten and unimportant. What stands out sharply for me is that at the age of fourteen John already had a mind of his own and was prepared to deliver independent judgments, however unorthodox. It was an augury of the future.

Columbia Grammar School in the Eighteen Nineties was situated on 51st Street, just off Madison Avenue. Around the corner, a block below, lay Columbia College. The times were tranquil and, except in the Balkans, warless. The tempo matched the speed of the ambling, passing horsecars. We boys were fortunate in enjoying the stimulation of teachers who loved teaching. Languages—Greek, Latin, French, German, English—took up the greater part of the curriculum; it may be truly said that our lifelong feeling for literature, John's certainly, was energized at this source. In 1896 we left Columbia Grammar to become freshmen in the College, the last class ever to register and attend at the old site.

That fall we were baptized in the clouded waters of politics. It was a presidential year. If Bryan, with his populist heresies, should get in, the country, we were told, was headed for disaster. So, naturally, McKinley was our man. As patriots, John and I marched side by side up 5th Avenue in the Great Sound-Money Parade, huge gold-bugs of shining metal pinned to our blue-serge lapels. McKinley, partly through our support, won; the country was saved. The effect on either of us is conjectural. I can report only that John's later Republicanism did not prevent his voting for F. D. R. in 1932 and 1936, and that I, with reasonable regularity, prefer the Democrats.

John's strong interest, even as a child, was music. It remained so throughout his life. Like most of us of that era he learned to play the piano. Unlike most of us he dedicated himself to that instrument to the point where ultimately he was to perform professionally as

a soloist with the leading orchestras of the country. But his enterprise was not confined to the piano. When only 13 years old, he took formal charge of the music at Grace Church, Weehawken, where the family then lived. There, for four years, he drilled the choir, selected the programs and presided regularly at the organ.

The part of John's life which was described in one of his autobiographical volumes, *My Life In Music*, would by itself make a full career for the average person.

In no small way John was also a composer. In our Senior year he not only wrote the complete score, to my lyrics, of the Columbia Varsity Show, "The Governor's Vrouw," but he did the orchestration as well, a product of a course with Edward MacDowell. Following the method of Gilbert and Sullivan, whom we distantly resembled, I would hand on my lyrics to John who would then set them to music. Despite certain temperamental differences our friendship survived the strains of collaboration, which was not the case with G. and S.

In a larger area John was later to become a crusader for music as an essential element in our cultural life. To this end he lectured across the country, encouraging the formation of community groups to develop choral singing, chamber music, local orchestras, and even opera.

It seemed only natural therefore for John Erskine to have been selected above all others as the person signally qualified to organize and direct the Juilliard School of Music. He became its President in 1928, served it for eight devoted years and wisely laid the foundation for its eminence today.

John's literary career may be said to have started at Columbia Grammar in 1894 as editor of the school paper. He contributed prose and verse, but, chiefly verse, of adolescent seriousness and loftiness. In those school and college years I think of him first as a poet. At Columbia he was elected our class-day poet, and also poetry-editor of *Morningside*, a bright, saucy magazine of the period. At the same time I was running the more sedate *Lit*, its friendly rival. On occasion each would submit a poem to the other

fellow's paper, with the attendant risk of rejection, but I can't recall that this ever happened. Naturally his quality steadily improved, and we were not too surprised to learn in 1901 that he had won youthful fame with his classical poem, "Actaeon," for which he received the prize offered by *The Century* in an intercollegiate competition for students in the year after graduation. "This success," he reports, "opened doors for me. Mr. Gilder . . . continued to publish my work, and Bliss Perry, then editing *The Atlantic Monthly*, took some of my poems. But I had set a mark in 'Actaeon,' which for a long time I could not equal. Though I still had faith in myself, I began to doubt my talent for verses; if I were to go far, it might be in fiction or drama." Fiction rather than drama, as it turned out, proved to fulfil his prediction. Twenty-five years after "Actaeon" came *The Private Life of Helen of Troy*.

From time to time John would report progress as we lunched at the Columbia University Club. Particularly I remember one time when the book was nearing completion. It was at Briarcliff in June 1925 where we were holding our 25th class reunion. John and I and a third friend, already a best-selling novelist, were loafing in the shade, discussing the current state of belles-lettres, when John ventured to say he was making a try at fiction. He then went on to tell what his book was about. Our professional friend was unimpressed, if not actually scornful. Perhaps John's presentation was faulty; perhaps the advent of a possible rival was too much to be borne. I rather believe the man saw John only as a college professor forever doomed to write literary essays and to edit texts for high school boys. But John was not disturbed.

In *The Memory of Certain Persons* he sets forth in amusing detail how the idea of this novel had forced itself upon him. He had been committed to do a book on Milton for Bobbs-Merrill, but was too bored to get it going. Meantime, while reading widely for fresh legends for his graduate course on "Materials of Poetry," he fell captive to the seductions of the face that launched a thousand ships, and soon began to fantasy a myth of his own. "I was fascinated," he says, "by that period in Helen's career of which Homer gives one

tantalizing glimpse in the *Odyssey*; after Troy, Menelaus took her back to Sparta, and for the rest of their lives they lived—how?”

“The war is over,” he goes on. “Nothing to do now, but go home and meet each other daily at the breakfast table, like any other husband and wife. What did they talk about?”

A brief paragraph gives one a taste of how that question teased him.

“I began to imagine conversations in which Menelaus, having over-strained himself in the effort to forget the past, suddenly remembers it and picks on Helen; calm, controlled and as though her conscience were clear, she answers sweetly and reasonably, and in no time at all argues him off his feet.”

The publishers sensibly accepted the book in lieu of the one under contract, but balked over the title. Wasn't it too frivolous? “Admitting the possibility,” Erskine says, “I reminded them that it was Helen's public life which was scandalous; in private she was as I had represented her, a conventional woman, differing from her sisters only in looks and in brains. The brains were my gift to her. In Homer and the Greek dramatists Helen is inspiring to look at but not to listen to.”

The publication of *Helen* made a stunning hit; it marked the start of a new career, that of the novelist. *Helen of Troy* has been translated into most of the European languages and Japanese, and as late as 1952, the year after John's death, it was dramatized and produced in Paris to a cheering audience by the French playwright André Roussin.

Helen and the two following books, *Galahad* and *Adam and Eve*, definitely established John Erskine as the innovator of a fresh genre in American fiction, that of the ironic commentary on human relationships, the characters derived from past history or legend, but reinterpreted in the light of our contemporary mores. As late as 1949 he was to repeat the formula effectively in his final novel, *Venus, The Lonely Goddess*.

Time will not permit more than a passing reference to Erskine's role as a distinguished scholar, editor and seminal force in the ad-

vancement of challenging ideas. One of his most noble pronouncements is to be found in his essay, "The Moral Obligation To Be Intelligent," an American classic, and reprinted in a recent paperback collection of "Great Essays" of the English language from Francis Bacon to our present day. The theme appears in its title. Intelligence, in short, is not merely a cultural desideratum. "We really seek intelligence," Erskine says, "not for the answers it may suggest to the problems of life, but because we believe it is life; not for making the will of God prevail, but because we believe it is the will of God. We love it as we love virtue, for its own sake, and we believe it is only virtue's other and more precise name."

Here at Columbia John Erskine is remembered above all things as a great educator, an inspired teacher. From the moment of graduation, teaching was to form the main stream of his life. He started most fortunately in 1900 with the award of the Proudfit Fellowship in Letters, a grant to cover three years of preparation. Armed with a Ph.D. he was called to Amherst where he taught English literature for six years and took an active part in the life of the campus. Although I missed the satisfaction of hearing him lecture, I had the good luck to observe his popularity with his students. On John's invitation I visited Amherst twice to give talks on non-academic subjects. As soon as he entered the lecture-hall to introduce me, the boys crowded around him with affectionate greetings and with unselfconscious intimacy. I might add for the record that my two subjects, at John's suggestion, were "Nonsense Verse and Parody" and English "Vers de Société," subjects which as undergraduates we had pursued with extracurricular relish.

In 1909 he was summoned back to Columbia and remained on the faculty until 1937. His effect on his hearers is best expressed by one of his most stimulating students and disciples, the late Irwin Edman: "The end of almost every lecture was punctuated by applause. . . . The incipient writers were best served by John Erskine. In his Elizabethan literature course he was a virtuoso lecturer who dramatized and illuminated every book he touched on. . . . He was a wonderful mentor and taught young writers the

discipline of an art and the sense of and need for craftsmanship in writing. In a period when sentimental notions of the writer's function still flourished, he reminded us what we would make of our experiences and how we could look at our immediate world with the directness which Homer looked at his, how not to muse and dream nostalgically about Greece, but to write about New York City and Columbia University."

In 1917 he suggested a revolutionary step in the teaching of the humanities. Against stout resistance he battled for a new kind of course extending over the junior and senior years, in which the student was required to read and discuss a different classic each week. This eventually grew into "The Great Books" course; it enlisted the services of the younger instructors, Edman, Mark Van Doren, Mortimer Adler, Clifton Fadiman, Henry Morton Robinson, to name only a few. Its influence has spread nationwide through the liberal arts colleges, especially at the University of Chicago under Hutchins and Adler and at St. John's College, Maryland, under Stringfellow Barr.

Erskine's role as an administrator antedated his appointment at Juilliard by ten years. Perhaps his most valuable contribution as a citizen was his work in France at the end of World War I. Obtaining a leave of absence from the University, he assumed the prodigious task, with no precedent to guide him, of organizing and directing the American University at Beaune, France—an institution which with a hastily assembled faculty of 800, cared for 10,000 American boys during the months of delay before they were returned to this country and the pursuits of peace. For his patriotic services he received a special tribute from General Pershing, was decorated by both the French and American governments and was made an honorary citizen of the City of Beaune.

Undreamed of at the time, the Beaune experiment was to have far-reaching influence. Thirty years later, at the close of World War II, it became the model for similar army schools in Germany, Italy, France and England, sustaining morale in the perilous period of transition.

Despite the handicap of desperate illnesses and even the crippling

infirmities of his later years, Erskine nevertheless continued unselfishly to answer every call to public service. In 1941, to cite but one instance, on the invitation of Secretary Cordell Hull and as the official representative of the State Department he sailed for South America on a mission to improve cultural and diplomatic relations. His visit proved both a personal and a diplomatic triumph. He lectured at the leading universities of Argentina and Uruguay, conferred with the heads of state, encouraged the exchange of scholars and even successfully brought about changes in one college curriculum through the introduction of courses in music at the University of Cordoba, a subject theretofore neglected.

This account is necessarily fragmentary and incomplete.

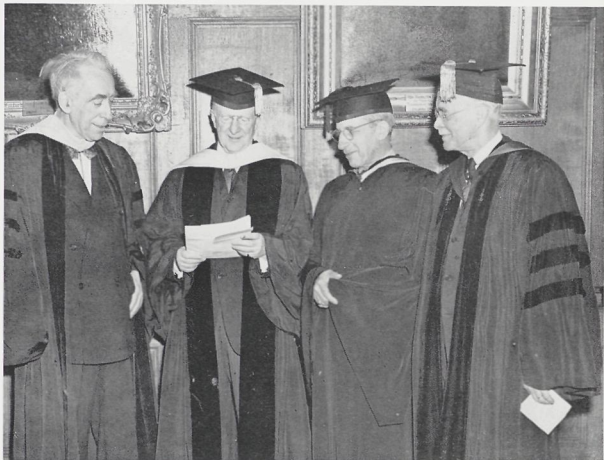
I hope you will in charity make allowances for the indulgences of friendship. For it is of John Erskine, my friend, that I have spoken, with admiration, respect and, first of all, affection. Others of greater and special competence have made and will continue to make more objective appraisals.

Whenever I think of John, the virtue I think of first is generosity. The generosity of the physical man, over six feet tall, broadly proportioned to match the height, wide-eyed, ample and strong of countenance, was the fitting repository for the spirit within. Generosity means largeness and liberality of spirit. To be generous is to live nobly, abundantly, freely, open-handedly. In defining the word the dictionary uses this illustration: "As a generous friend."

John was always the generous friend, unfailing in sympathy and support, encouraging with praise, strengthening with sharp but kindly criticism.

He was a lover of life—hearty, expansive, witty, caustic, ironic but uncynical over the frailties of mankind. Looking back on the Amherst days, when still under twenty-five, he once said: "I was already committed to the active life rather than the contemplative, so far as there is a mutually exclusive opposition between them." Time and maturity made such an exclusion unthinkable, for with the breadth of his interests came a correspondingly philosophic perspective, a basic sense of the meaning and aim of existence.

Scholar, artist, teacher, administrator, citizen of his country and



John Erskine, Acting President Frank D. Fackenthal, Melville Cane, and Professor Oscar J. Campbell, participating in a program honoring the memory of Professor George E. Woodberry on May 12, 1948.

of the world, John Erskine will be remembered as a twentieth-century humanist, a modern child of the Renaissance.

It gives me a personal pleasure to recall that eight years ago in this very place we each paid memorial tribute to George Edward Woodberry, our old teacher whose inspiration and idealism John was to carry forward into his own life and teaching. This was his final appearance at Columbia.

It was to Woodberry, our most popular professor, that we dedicated our senior year-book, the "Naughty Naughtian," with the following quatrain:

One who took manhood for his Art,
Taught it by manliness so rare,
We keep his lessons in our heart,
But first of all he entered there.

These lines, which are John's, I now rededicate to *his* memory.

Excerpts from John Erskine's Letters to Melville Cane

October 3, 1906

My dear Melville:

I was delighted to hear from you. Of course we want the Gilbert talk,—and you must not think of not giving it; it will do you good to work it up and to give us a visit, and by that time your home affairs will be in order again, I am sure. . . . You remember the discussion of prayer that we had? Surely there is nothing unmanly in the prayer of Solomon for a wise and an understanding heart; with that gift, we can solve our own tangles, and I pray for it for us both.

April 15, 1907

I'm delighted you liked the book.* It has had uniformly good notices, except from the *Boston Transcript*, which said I might write when I had forgotten my Greek. All of the reviewers seem to think the book better for expression than for substance—which at first hurt a little, as my heart happens to be written all over it, quite as much as Ledoux's is in his book, but I haven't that manner of taking the public into my confidence. After I had thought of it, however, I realized that it is a young man's work, and probably there isn't anything in it of value for substance. We must learn to be humble. Woodberry wrote me such a letter about it, that I can well afford to forget what other people, less kindly, have said.

June 23, 1907

You ask for some poetry or prose. The poetry I will send a bit later; several things are in an unfinished state, which I hope to round out over Summer. There is a bit of prose-poetry from my new book, the first chapter of which I send to you (Houghton Mifflin have given no decision yet on the volume). . . .

* *Actaeon and Other Poems* (New York, John Lane, 1906)

The Fable of the Five Gifts of Flame

Long ago, before the gods gave up their personal interest in this earth, they fell into the habit of using willing mortals, here and there, to accomplish their divine errands. While the world was new, and the gods were not yet tired of it, they came themselves from their bright thrones, to see that the blossoms were well started in the Spring, that the harvest was gathered into the storehouse, from vineyard and field, and that the summer rain fell where it was needed most.

. . .

Just before their visits ended, they would sometimes send deputies, and most often they would send a certain messenger, a lesser god, who had something of a name for the speed of his errand-going. The truth is, he had a foster-brother, of human blood but touched with immortal love, like the child Demeter would have made divine; this mortal youth, for worship of the gods, relieved the wingéd messenger of his arduous duties, counting the privilege of that service reward enough; and the far-off gods heard nothing of it, and cared not to hear.

One day they who have in their keeping the celestial fires, sent the wingéd messenger to earth with five gifts of vital flame, for it was the Spring of the year, when all things come into being. The five gifts were these—the sacred fire for the altar of them that worship the gods; the simpler, kindly flame for the human hearth; the flame of the beauty of the rose; and the twin fires of love for the heart of a boy and a girl. Now even before he started, the wingéd messenger was weary of his errand, for after so many seasons it was an old story. So when he found his foster-brother eager to serve him, he put the five immortal gifts into his human hands, saying, "Take this to the altar, and this to the hearth; give this to the rose, and these to the boy and the girl," and he turned his wings comfortably to the free heaven.

The foster-brother heard the words, but had not time to distinguish the five gifts; all alike seemed divine. While he was pondering,

he felt sorrow at his heart, and saw that one of the flames was burned into his bosom; he knew it not, but it was the flame of love, which the gods had destined for the heart of a boy. He pondered no more, but set about his errand, bestowing each gift as he thought the gods willed. But his skill was little. The hearth-fire he gave to the altar, where it flickered forever, in a timid blaze that had been good cheer enough for man's use, but meagre worship for the gods. The altar fire he laid on the hearth of two poor folk, who had no wealth but love, and thereafter the hearth was to them and their children a divine thing. The flame of the beauty of the rose he gave to a girl, who by the gift became the supreme loveliness of the world—but without a heart. The fire of love that should have been hers, he gave to the rose, which from that time leaned to mankind as to a companion soul, and no other flower so well understood the love of man, to tell it.

Now the boy had bestowed four of the gifts. The fifth was in his own heart, and led him, by the ordering of the gods, to seek its kindred flame. Human love he craved, and human beauty. But when he found the girl, and knew too well that the heart he sought was elsewhere, he went away sorrowful. And when he found in the rose the heart he sought, but missed the lips, the hands, the divine body, framed for the heavenly gift—he sorrowed still, and past [sic] on. He serves the wingéd messenger no more; for him this earth is an endless wandering. The rose is in his heart, his fate, yet he yearns for his destiny of mortal love. Only whenever he comes to the rose, he gathers it.

* * *

Don't show this to anyone, but tell me how it strikes you. I feel as if I had had enough of prose for awhile; now I shall go on with my old love, verse. But this little volume is a faithful chronicle of real experiences, which I'm glad I have written out.

Professor Genung, just back from the Holy Land, brought me a reprint of my little poem "Parting," which he clipt from a local paper in Constantinople! How's that for fame?

October 15, 1907

I send a "sheaf," as you call it, of verse—a record of a bird I heard singing last Spring, as herein described; his call made me realize that the perfect expression of sorrow might be identical with the perfect expression of joy—the same beauty in both. They say that the different orchestra instruments, when superbly played—horn, violin, cello, clarinet—all tend to sound the same. Quite a line of thought, isn't it? It explains the charm of tragedy. But I didn't mean to write an essay!

The Whip-poor-will

We traveled thro' the soundless night
And breathed the fragrant June,
Tumultuous fragrance, flooded bright
With an unwaning moon;
Till from the whitened field the wood
Rose dark along the hill,—
And there with sudden joy we stood
To hear thee, Whip-poor-will!

O Bird, O wonder! Long and high
Thy measured question calls!
I marvel, till thy perfect cry
Almost too perfect falls.

What art thou singing, voice divine,
Heart of the poignant night?
What utter loveliness is thine,
Of suffering or delight?
Delight too lovely—all but pain,
Would thy frail spirit pour?
Would sorrow, in thy perfect strain,
Be joy forevermore?

Thou hadst no answer but thy song,
Clear as the soft June light,
Sweet as the fragrant earth, and long
As that immortal night.

May 2, 1909

... Butler & the Trustees are anxious I should come,* & I have superb backing all along the line. I start as adjunct-professor, with a fine salary, & promotion ahead, & I shall have all sorts of opportunities to write. If I had followed my wish, I should have waited till I was older, but the administration was determined to rescue the English in the College at once, & of course if anyone else got the place, the chance would be lost forever. I felt also that as a friend of Woodberry's I can count on the support of the loyal band, & if I make good, I can heal that breach. It's the chance of a lifetime, & I'm going to make a gigantic effort to live up to it. We shall live right by the college, as the plans now are, & I'm going to work for the boys as I've done here. I have the satisfaction of leaving in a stream of local tears. One of the nicest sides of it is, we shall see something of each other!

Yours in ecstasy,
John

* To Columbia

The Otto Rank Collection, and its Relation to Freud and Psychoanalysis

JESSIE TAFT

IN May of 1924, there arrived in New York City from Vienna a young man who came to undertake the practice of psychoanalysis in this country over a period of several months. His name was Otto Rank, and he came as the first emissary from Freud's inner circle. He was just forty, though looking much younger. His degree was Ph.D., not M.D., and he was a comparative unknown here except to those who were in touch with German publications and the journals which he had edited for years, including *Imago* and *Die Internationale Zeitschrift für Psychoanalyse*. Apparently there was no lack of applicants for analytic therapy, for, as he quotes in a letter to Sandor Ferenczi in Budapest, they were said to be "lined up the whole length of Broadway." The majority of his patients, if one may call them so, were the psychiatrists whom Freud had analyzed earlier, and who now, needing further help, applied to Rank with Freud's full blessing. A letter from Freud in this collection indicates his awareness of the situation and in effect wishes Rank joy of them, for Freud could never seem to think of America or Americans, including the psychiatrists he himself had analyzed, without considerable aversion.

This was Rank's first trip to America and his first major contact with the language. However, he managed to read a paper in English before the American Psychoanalytic Association in June which I had the good fortune to hear. Despite his strong accent, his slight, unimpressive figure, and sober German-student demeanor, I was left in no doubt that here was a man who had something important to say. What I did not know, nor, I imagine, did the others present,



Otto Rank in the Freudian "Inner Circle" about 1922. Sigmund Freud, Sandor Ferenczi, and Hanns Sachs are in the front row; and Otto Rank, Karl Abraham, Max Eitingon, and Ernest Jones are standing behind them. (Photo reprinted with permission of Gregory Zilboorg).

since neither Rank nor Freud himself had realized it, was the fact that this paper, on the effect of setting in advance an ending to psychoanalytic treatment, and on the relation of the ending to the birth trauma, marked the beginning of Rank's final separation from Freudian psychoanalysis both in theory and in practice. The differentiating effect of the so-called "innovations" Rank was introducing, combined with his new freedom to practice independently in a foreign country for the first time, soon brought him to full awareness of their growing divergence and of Freud's inability to acknowledge or understand it, as well as the necessity for Rank to come to grips with the increasing gulf between them. Freud's letters during this period are touching in their patient kindness and concern for Rank who had grown ever more necessary to him, especially now when he was ill and felt his age. For Rank, the

situation was almost intolerable, involving as it did the personal devotion of twenty years, his obligation to the man who had trained him and given him unfailing professional backing, now in conflict with his own integrity and freedom to develop independently.

From 1924 to 1926, when Rank separated from Freud overtly by moving from Vienna to Paris, Freud struggled to keep Rank within the group, finally joining with other members of the inner circle in attributing to neurosis the source of his unaccountable behavior. So reluctant was Freud to abandon Rank to his fate, so really anxious to save him from himself, that the growing conflict, clearly stated theoretically by Rank in the published books that followed the *Trauma of Birth* in quick succession, was not clearly apprehended in New York for several years. Meanwhile Rank continued to analyze the younger psychiatrists in New York City with a few from Boston and near-by cities, and to hold weekly seminars during his yearly visits up to and through the winter and spring of 1930. In the Rank papers at Columbia are to be found the minutes of his last seminar, conducted primarily for psychoanalysts but including a few Ph.D.'s like myself.

In May of that year, the meeting of the first International Mental Hygiene Congress in Washington, where Rank presented his point of view in a paper, finally brought into the open the irreconcilable differences between Freud and Rank and gave the Freudian analysts their opportunity to attack and repudiate Rank before the world. From this time on, Rank stood alone, a successful psychotherapist to the last, despite the overt hostility of the psychoanalytic group and its failure to recognize his genius.

When the threat of war began to empty Paris of Americans, Rank decided to come to this country. In the fall of 1934 he settled in New York—to remain until his death in 1939.

My own relation to the Rank collection, which has recently been given to the Special Collections Department of the Columbia Libraries, requires some explanation. From 1926 to 1930, my acquaintance with Rank was on a friendly but professional basis, as I had begun to practice psychotherapy in Philadelphia after my

own analysis with him in 1926. When Rank was ostracized by the Freudian group in 1930, my independence of medical support and my academic background of pragmatism and the philosophy of John Dewey made it inevitable that I would adhere to Rankian theory which completed and complemented my own viewpoint. It was then that the acquaintance deepened into a friendship which included his first wife and his daughter as well as his second wife. Thus, at the time of his sudden death in 1939, the members of the family, not knowing what to do with the many papers he had preserved so carefully, decided to send them to me because I represented all of his current interests—philosophy, psychotherapy, teaching and social work. Moreover, I was responsible for the English translation of his *Technik der Psychoanalyse* which stated the essential differences in his practice from Freud as well as from Jung and Adler, and of *Wahrheit und Wirklichkeit*, his philosophic presentation of the will psychology which horrified the psychologists no less than the psychoanalysts of the period. The mass of material that reached me, most of it in German and much in German script, filled two large trunks and presented what seemed to me at the time an impossible task. Indeed I never found the time to approach it systematically until after my retirement from the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work in 1952.

In this collection, which retains the imprint of Rank's extraordinary genius for organization, the items which are perhaps the most valuable from the standpoint of the biographer are four handwritten Journals in the most perfect German script, written when Rank was nineteen and twenty—just before his meeting with Freud. To these Journals we owe the only material available, to my knowledge, on his parentage and early youth, since Rank was noted for his extreme reticence about himself—a characteristic that was never altered during the thirteen years of my acquaintance with him. A fifth notebook contains early poems.

Of the greatest theoretical importance, in addition to their human value, are the letters that passed between Freud and Rank, Freud and Ferenczi, and Rank and Ferenczi, during the period that followed

the appearance of Rank's *Trauma of Birth*. A great number of the Round-Robin letters which circulated from 1920 to 1924 among the innermost circle of which Rank was secretary have also been preserved in this collection, giving a graphic picture of the growing pains of the psychoanalytic movement.

For the student who would follow the development of Rank's thought, this collection contains an invaluable outline by Rank himself covering critical comments and reviews of every book he published up to the appearance of *Seelenglaube und Psychologie* in 1930. Fortunately, I have been able to add to this gift copies of all of Rank's works which have been published in English translation, including his first and only book to be written in English, just before his death, entitled *Beyond Psychology*—once printed privately but now out of print. I have added also copies of the German editions of the majority of his earlier works. For the one who seeks to understand Rank himself, his truly great book *Art and Artist*, published by Knopf in 1932, will provide an autobiography of his inner development with its comprehension of the conflicts of the artist type to which he belonged.

Rank's relation to social work, which remarkably enough began in 1924, the year of his first visit to New York, is recorded in some detail through copies of lectures, outlines, and notes of courses given for schools of social work primarily in Philadelphia and New York. Several books by social workers have been included which describe Rank's contribution to social casework theory and practice.

There are, of course, in the collection the original manuscripts, typescripts, and often galley proof with corrections of the majority of his works. Rank, who was so chary of personal reminiscence, seems to have committed to writing on the spot any idea that occurred to him and to have preserved every smallest scrap of paper on which a thought was recorded.

To my great surprise, there was finally uncovered in the mass of material an original manuscript by Freud, either one turned over to Rank for final editing before being printed or presented to him as a gift. Despite my lack of skill in reading German script,

especially in Freud's difficult hand, I made out its general relation to *Totem and Tabu*, which led me to look up an English translation of Freud's *Group Psychology and the Analysis of the Ego*, long forgotten on my library shelves. To my astonishment and delight, it turned out to be the printed version of the manuscript I had in my hands. It was an additional satisfaction to be able to present to Mr. Baughman, whose unfailing interest has made the preparation of the Rank papers a pleasure as well as a task, an original manuscript by Freud—with a first edition translation by James Strachey—to add to Columbia's growing collections.



PETER THE GREAT

There are various explanations as to how this energetic Russian Tsar became interested in the Pacific. According to one, it was due to Guillaume De l'Isle, First Geographer to Louis XV, whom Peter met in Paris in 1717(?). A contemporary Russian diary of events in Paris records a long conversation between De l'Isle and Peter, during which they examined maps of the Tsar's domain and discussed its eastern boundaries.

Others who must have contributed to his interest were the French and Dutch Academies of Sciences, and Leibnitz and Feodor Saltykov—both of whom recommended exploration to determine whether Asia and America were joined.

The Discovery of Bering Strait

VALERIEN LADA-MOCARSKI

Some of the illustrations in this article are from books in the Columbia Libraries, which may remind our readers of the University's extensive holdings in the area of polar exploration: notably the Libris Polaris Collection, acquired in 1944 from Bassett Jones. In addition to many eighteenth- and nineteenth-century "rare" books dealing with this subject, the Libraries also possess most of the Russian works of current scholarship.

IN the sixteenth century Giacomo Gastaldi, the renowned cartographer working in Venice, "invented" the Strait of Anian as a body of water separating Asia and America. Shortly afterwards one Lorenzo Maldonado claimed to have passed through it. His voyage has been proven just another invention, and it is now well established that the honor of demonstrating the existence of a narrow strait between the two continents belongs to the Russians. However, even today there is some question when this discovery was made and who was the first Russian to make it.

Just before the last war it was generally agreed that the Russians under the command of Vitus Bering in 1728 discovered the Bering Strait. Earlier, it had been accepted that, in 1648, Deshnev, a Cossack from the Siberian city of Yakutsk, coming from the river Kolyma which flows into the Arctic Ocean, had rounded the East Cape and had passed through the strait (which now bears the name of Bering) into the Pacific, only to be wrecked off the coast of Kamchatka. This view prevailed until the appearance in 1914 of F. A. Golder's book *Russian Expansion on the Pacific, 1641-1850*, in which the author tried to disprove the Deshnev theory. It was primarily his arguments that restored Bering's priority—although

not for very long. In recent years Soviet scholars have devoted much attention to the history of Russian exploration of the Pacific and have written a number of excellent studies. Needless to say, Deshnev's "case" has been given a thorough airing in all of these Soviet books, with a view to proving that Deshnev passed through Bering Strait some 80 years earlier than Bering himself. One must admit that this "rehabilitation" of Deshnev is most convincing.

This brings us to Peter the Great and the first Bering expedition of 1725-1730. How did it happen that Peter, the energetic Russian Tsar, turned his interest in the direction of the Pacific? Explanations are numerous and it is clear that the question of the northeast boundaries of Asia in relation to the northwest limits of the American Continent was very much in the minds of western Europeans and that a similar interest, on a smaller scale, existed in Russia. The time had evidently arrived to come to grips with this problem and the personality and wide interests of the Russian sovereign made this possible.

In 1719 Peter ordered two Russian "geodesists," i.e., surveyors, Yevreinov and Luzhin, to "Kamchatka and further, as ordered, to describe these territories, where and whether America joins Asia, which must be done very carefully, not only the south or north but east and west, and all to be placed correctly on a map." Up to that time maps of Russian discoveries in the Arctic Ocean and the Pacific were drawn free hand and were not exact. Peter's instructions for the first time ordered "careful" observation and "correct" tracing. This expedition visited and mapped a number of Kuril Islands but it failed completely to ascertain whether Asia and America were joined. Subsequently Peter decided on another expedition and on January 6, 1725, only three weeks before his death, he himself wrote instructions for this expedition, to be commanded by Vitus Bering. His order is short and contains only three points. These, however, admirably cover the objects in view:

1. It is ordered to build in Kamchatka or in some other place there, one or two boats with decks.
2. [To sail] in these boats along the land which goes to the

north and inasmuch as the end of it is not known, this land appears to be a part of America.

3. For this reason to look for the place where it joins with America and to proceed to some town under European jurisdiction or if a European ship should be sighted to learn from her how this coast is called and take it down in writing, and yourself land ashore and secure reliable information, and having placed it on a chart, return here.

Bering was a Dane, 44 years old, when appointed to lead the expedition. Earlier, in 1704, Peter the Great had invited him to join the Russian Fleet with the rank of sub-lieutenant. On several occasions he distinguished himself in combat and proved a good seaman. Undoubtedly, Bering was an excellent seaman but an average naval officer. He was timid in making important decisions and for this reason alone he was not particularly suited to command such an important expedition. As lieutenants for Bering, Peter appointed another Dane, Martin Spanberg, and Alexei Chirikov, a Russian. Spanberg was a good seaman but rough and cruel, causing many difficulties during the expedition. He hated Chirikov and was not on good terms with Bering himself. Chirikov was destined to play an important part in this and particularly in Bering's second expedition. He was 22 when appointed to the expedition but had already proved an able naval officer.

The number of participants in this "first" Bering expedition was modest. Only 34 persons were sent from St. Petersburg, although additions recruited in Siberia brought the total to about 100.

The general plan for the expedition was to traverse Siberia by land, using its many rivers as much as possible, until reaching the port of Okhotsk on the Pacific. From there it would go by sea to Kamchatka. According to Peter's instructions, it was somewhere there that the decked boats were to be built for the final phase of the expedition. It is difficult to realize today what an arduous task it was for Bering merely to move his men and supplies from St. Petersburg to the starting point in Kamchatka, a distance of some 6,000 miles. At several points river boats for the transport of men



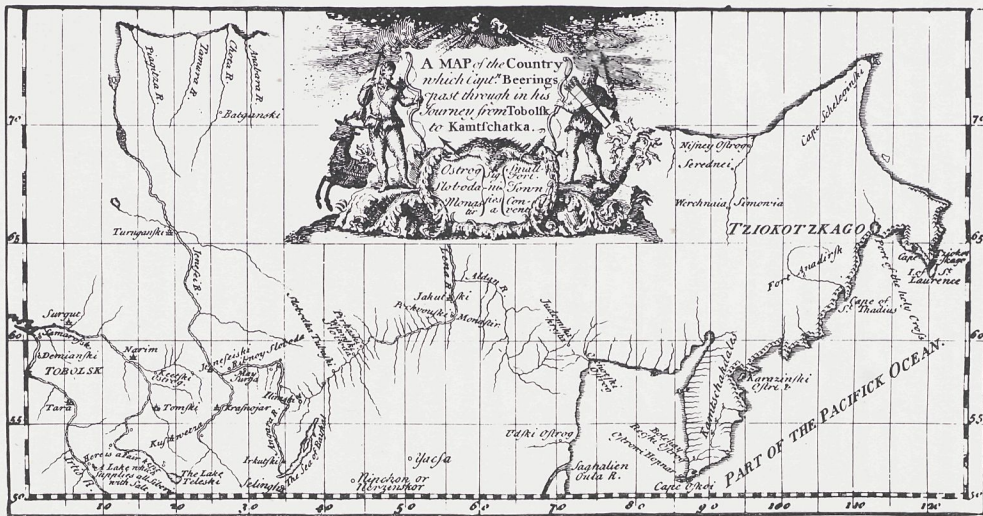
VITUS BERING, 1681–1741

and supplies were lacking and had to be built on the spot by the men of the expedition. Other means of transportation were often poor or insufficient. As Bering advanced eastward, Russian settlements grew scarcer and became smaller. In most places, of course, there were no roads—merely paths through wilderness. In winter the Siberian climate was rigorous enough even for local inhabitants and one can imagine the suffering of those

members of the expedition who came from St. Petersburg or other parts of European Russia.

By the middle of June, nearly a year and a half after leaving St. Petersburg, the expedition assembled in Yakutsk, the principal city of East Siberia. This was an important point for Bering because there he was to secure the rest of the necessary supplies and the horses for the overland transport to Okhotsk. The distance to that seaport on the Pacific was only about 700 miles but it was “the hardest and most dreaded part of the march.” A noted Soviet historian of Russian exploration of the Arctic, writing 200 years later, said that traveling over this road is “a task extremely difficult even at present.”

Over this dreaded route, towards the end of August, 1726, Bering sent most of the foodstuffs and lighter objects by some 600 pack-horses, each carrying under 200 pounds. Half of the horses perished en route from cold and exhaustion; the rest reached Okhotsk in the second half of October, only to die of starvation there because the winter set in early that year and it was not possible to collect enough food for them. The transportation of the heavier objects—cannons, sails, anchors and the rest of the provisions—was entrusted to a separate detachment under the command of Spanberg. He was to take a different route, partly by water. Spanberg’s



The Western World first learned of the Bering Strait discovery through *The General History of China* by the French Jesuit Père Du Holde which was published in Paris in 1735, to which was appended a short report of Bering's discoveries and the above map (which is reproduced from the first English edition, 1736).

expedition almost ended in disaster when he was still nearly 300 miles from Okhotsk. At that point it became so cold that the boats froze fast. He then decided to move the most necessary material overland and for this purpose 100 handsleds were built by his men during the first part of November. To these he and his men harnessed themselves. One section drawing 40 sleds struggled on to the Povorotnoi River and had to give up, completely exhausted. Another, not quite as large, moved on through the deep snow to the Talkova River and was stopped there. The third section, led by Spanberg himself, pushed on and finally reached Udoma Cross, an intermediate point, by the middle of December, more dead than alive.

One can imagine the suffering of these men. Their food gave out quite early and they ate their dogs, then chewed leather as long as their boot tops held out and were overjoyed when they found the carcasses of Bering's horses which had dropped dead along the trail several months earlier. Some deserted and tried to reach Yakutsk. Many died as a result of the hardships. Spanberg and his party were only saved from starvation by the flour which Bering had been obliged to leave by the way the previous fall when so many of his horses perished. In January, 1727, they reached Okhotsk.

We now return to Bering and those who traveled with him overland. Upon arrival at Okhotsk, Bering found a settlement of about a dozen primitive wooden houses. He therefore immediately ordered his men to build warehouses and living quarters for the winter. As the horses died shortly after arrival in Okhotsk, the building material had to be carried on the backs of the men, sometimes as far as six miles. It is not surprising that this hard work made the men discontented and led them to disobey orders.

At this point one should mention the boat which ship carpenters completed during the winter and spring. *Fortuna*, as she was named, was launched in June and was of the kind built on the shores of the White Sea in European Russia. This type of boat, known under the general designation of "Sheetiki," was built in lengths up to

30-35 feet, with a beam of about 12 to 14 feet. As a bottom for the construction of a "sheetik" a trunk of a tall tree was used, the middle portion of which was hewn out to form a trough. To this foundation side boards were "sewn." The Russian verb to "sheet" means to sew, hence the name "sheetik." The side boards were "sewn on," ordinarily with green willow or similar twigs. All the fissures between the boards were plugged with moss. Sails for sheetiks were often made of deer skins. The anchors, to which big stones were attached, were of wood. Although these vessels were precarious contraptions and were hardly of an ocean-going variety, they were frequently used by the Russians.

As we know, Bering had normal sails and anchors with him so that the *Fortuna* was an improvement on an ordinary sheetik. The original plans called for sailing in this ship to the east coast of Kamchatka, the starting point for the voyage of discovery, but Bering thought it unwise to embark in it on this long voyage. Instead he sent Spanberg with supplies and ship carpenters to the west coast of Kamchatka, instructing him to send the carpenters overland to begin the construction of a new, larger boat at Nijne-kamchatsk in which the final phase of the expedition was to take place. In April Bering reached this point and by the end of May all his men straggled into the town.

The keel of the new boat had been laid in April. She was launched in June and named *St. Gabriel*. She was 60 feet by 20 feet by $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet. On the memorable date of July 13, three and half years after leaving St. Petersburg, the *St. Gabriel*, with a complement of 44 officers and men, sailed out of the harbor, provisioned for a year. The quality of these provisions was equal to that carried by any sailing vessel of the time. As a result, no case of sickness was reported. Once in the open sea the ship headed northward along the shore, as instructed by Peter the Great. During the rest of July the weather was intermittently clear or foggy and drizzly; some days there was a dead calm. Land was in sight nearly all the time. August was mostly foggy, rainy, and brought much wind. On the morning of August 8, at $64^{\circ} 30'$ north latitude, a leather boat



An “American” in a canoe. This is the first pictorial representation of an Aleutian, taken from the first Russian edition of Krasheninnikov’s *Description of Kamchatka*, St. Petersburg, 1755.

approached the *St. Gabriel* carrying eight natives who conversed through Bering’s Koriak interpreters.

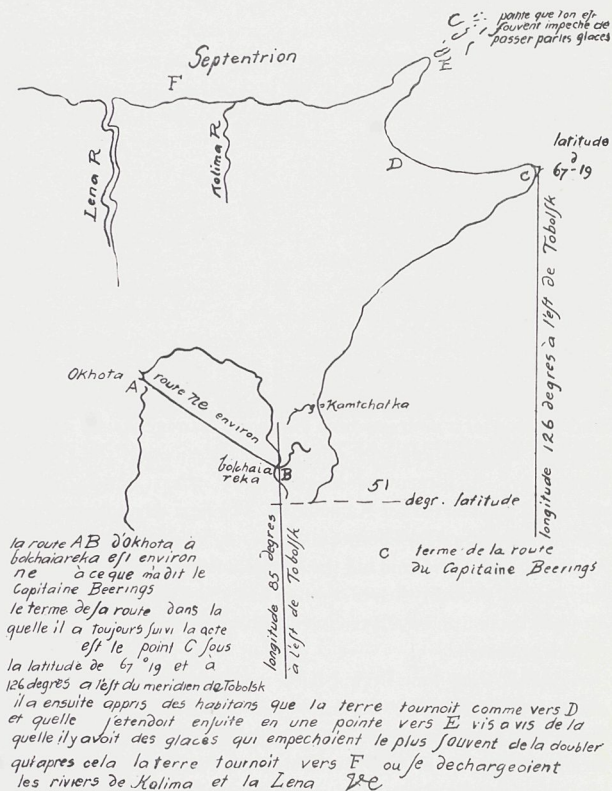
They said they were Chukchi. Bering invited them to come aboard and finally one of them plunged into the water, swimming to the ship with the aid of inflated bladders. The Chukchi said his people inhabited the neighboring land which “forms two bays and turns to the mouth of the river Kolyma, and that it is surrounded by sea and large sand banks and that the sea into which the Kolyma flows always has ice floating in it; that they had heard of the Russians from their relatives who go sometimes to Kolyma on their deer sleds but never by water; that there was an island in the sea on which live some of their people, but they knew of no other islands or lands.” Bering thus received confirmation that there was a strait between Asia and America. He gave presents to the Chukchi, who then swam back to the small leather boat from which he had come.

The next three days were spent in rounding Chukotsky Cape. On the 11th an island was sighted and named St. Lawrence. On the 13th—a month after leaving Kamchatka—Bering called a “council” of his officers to decide what should be done “since we have come to latitude $65^{\circ} 30'$ north and, according to my opinion and the statements of the Chukchi, we have reached and passed the most easterly point of their land. The question now is shall we go farther north? If so, how far?”

Spanberg and Chirikov held different views. The former, the senior of the two, pointed out the dangers of wintering in hostile and barren territory and proposed sailing north for another three days and then turning back. Chirikov thought they should continue until the Kolyma river was reached or at least until the ice blocked the ship’s way, the latter because this would indicate that they had passed into the Arctic Ocean, where there is always floating ice. If the land should continue north then, on the 25th, they should start looking for winter quarters. This was a courageous and sensible proposal but Spanberg won out. In the afternoon of the 16th, in latitude $67^{\circ} 18'$, Greenwich longitude $193^{\circ} 7'$ east, the *St. Gabriel* put about and started for Kamchatka. The next day an island was sighted and named St. Diomedé. As Bering’s bad luck would have it, the fog was heavy and hid the American shore which otherwise they would probably have sighted. On the 17th the *St. Gabriel* dropped anchor and everyone went ashore to spend the winter at Nijnekamchatsk.

The following June Bering tried to reach America, which the old inhabitants told him was visible from Kamchatka on clear days. However, after three days’ sailing in heavy and foggy seas he turned back, sailed around Kamchatka’s southern promontory, and by the way of Bolsheretsk in July reached Okhotsk. From there Bering started for St. Petersburg, retracing the now-familiar route. On March 1, 1730, Bering arrived in the capital after an absence of five years, of which only about three months had been spent on the high seas.

Thus ended the first Bering expedition which was so costly in



A contemporary sketch illustrating Bering's voyage to the western shore of Bering Strait in 1728, which was drawn by Joseph Nicholas Delisle, an astronomer, after a conversation with the explorer.

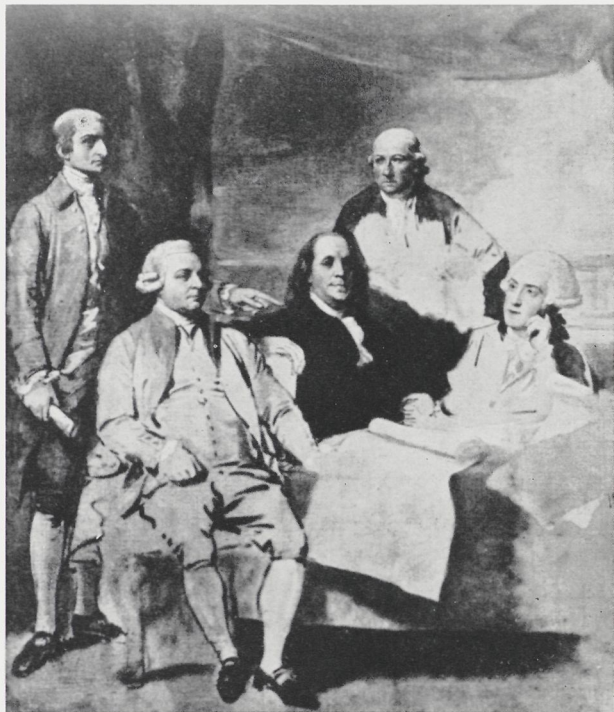
human life and in money. Bering did not fully accomplish the mission entrusted to him by Peter the Great. As Chirikov stated at the "Council," Asia and America could be joined north of Bering's return point. Furthermore, only a half-hearted attempt was made to reach America. The Russian Senate recorded these failures in its "Ukase" of December 28, 1732, which contained instructions for Bering's second expedition.

* * *

Who should be considered the discoverer of Bering Strait? Not counting the apocryphal voyages, we have three candidates. The first is the Cossack Deshnev who, in 1648, is supposed to have passed from the Arctic Ocean into the Pacific. The second is Bering and his companions who in 1728 passed through the Bering Strait in the inverse direction (however, Bering saw only the western shore of the strait and did not see the eastern, American shore). Finally, we have Fedorov and Gvozdev who, on still another expedition sent by the Russian Government, in 1732 sailed along both shores of Bering Strait, discovered all the Diomed Islands, sighted the northwest shore of America, and were in touch with the "Americans" on the Little Diomed and on the King islands.

To give the answer one must first agree on what is considered "discovery." Is it just sighting the unknown territory (and if so, how much of it?) or is a landing the prerequisite?

In any event, Bering's first expedition and his second one in 1741, during which he sailed along the southern shore of Alaska, contributed valuable information about the North Pacific area. Following his discoveries, the Russians made increasingly frequent visits to the Aleutians and to the north-west coast of America establishing permanent settlements which continued under Russian rule until the sale of Alaska to the United States in 1867.



John Jay and the other American Peace Commissioners in Paris in 1783. (Left to right: John Jay, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, William Temple Franklin, and Henry Laurens). Painting by Benjamin West (Winterthur Museum).

The John Jay Papers

RICHARD H. LOGSDON

THROUGH the good offices of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries and of others who have the interests of the University at heart—including two Foundations—the John Jay Papers, so rich in source materials in the period before, during, and after the American Revolution, are now safely in the archives of Special Collections, where they are already serving the needs of scholarship. The purchase was completed exactly on schedule.

Columbia is indeed grateful to those who assisted so generously in making this major event possible. The Friends, in particular, may be justly proud of the part they have taken. It was the action of the Council of the Friends in giving the John Jay project its official support, culminating in the formation of the John Jay Committee of the Friends, that made possible the obtaining of the large sum that was needed. The John Jay Committee, comprising Mrs. Harold G. Henderson, Mrs. Donald Hyde, Professor Allan Nevins, Mr. Edmund A. Prentis, and Mr. Roland Baughman, bore the principal responsibility for arousing widespread interest in the project, and its successful conclusion is to be credited to their efforts and enthusiasm. Two large grants toward the purchase were made by the Avalon Foundation and Columbia University, but even these left us far short of the goal. Individual Friends subscribed more than eighty percent of the balance—an evidence of serious interest in the Libraries that will never be forgotten.

An exhibition of the John Jay Papers is being planned for the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the Friends in January, 1958.

Our Growing Collections

ROLAND BAUGHMAN

Barzun gift. Dean Jacques Barzun (A.B., 1927, A.M., 1928, PH.D., 1932) added twelve correspondence files of material relating to his published works, to book clubs, and to his other affiliations. Included in the gift are several items of note that are destined for the Berlioz Collection which Dean Barzun has so enthusiastically worked to develop.

Brunner gift. Through the great generosity of Dr. F. H. Brunner, an outstanding 18th-century French publishing venture in the field of Art, with important additions, has been presented to Avery Library. The 81 books (bound in 84) of the "Cabinet du Roi" were issued on the order of Louis XIV of France, and the present set was supplemented by continuations executed in the reigns of Louis XV, Louis XVI and the Emperor Napoleon, dealing with royal properties, collections and fêtes. The sumptuous plates were executed by various of the most noted French engravers of the times. In its present form, this copy is doubtless one of the most extensive exemplars known. There is no record of any complete copy of this work having been sold in the last 40 years.

The Clark Papers. Professor John M. Clark (A.M., 1906, PH.D., 1911) presented a voluminous collection of pamphlets, offprints, and notes by and relating to his late father, Professor John Bates Clark (LL.D., 1929 HON.). This gift greatly augments a corpus of the latter's papers which was presented in 1954 by the same donor.

Delano gift. Mr. William Adams Delano, head of the architectural

firm of Delano and Aldrich, has directed to Avery Library a group of 12 of his early sketches executed during his sojourn at the École des Beaux Arts in Paris. These will be added to the Delano Collection already at Avery Library.

Drake gift. James F. Drake, Inc., presented three pamphlets of early Columbia interest, two of them being by or about Dr. John W. Francis (A.B., 1809, A.M., 1812, M.D., 1811, LL.D., 1860 HON.), and the third being by Dr. Samuel W. Francis (A.B., 1857, A.M. 1860). Included in the gift is an autograph letter from Dr. Samuel W. Francis to William Loring Andrews, dated 21 March 1845(?).

The Erskine Papers. Mrs. Helen Worden Erskine presented twenty-three valuable letters which her late husband, John Erskine (A.B., 1900, A.M., 1901, PH.D., 1903), had written to Melville Cane (A.B., 1900, LL.B., 1903) in the period from July 11, 1899, to May 2, 1909. These will be added to Mrs. Erskine's earlier gift of the papers, writings, and memorabilia of John Erskine.

Fairburn Marine Educational Foundation gift. Fairburn Marine Educational Foundation of Center Lovell, Maine, has given a monumental work in six volumes entitled *Merchant Sail*, compiled by the late William Armstrong Fairburn. The product of years of devoted study, the set is an invaluable source work on "ships and their relation to the development of the American colonies and the United States."

Friedman gifts. The name of Mr. Harry G. Friedman (PH.D., 1908) is seldom missing from these accounts of gifts. During the past five months Mr. Friedman has shown his usual generosity by presenting a number of items of interest and usefulness. Just recently, however, he presented a most exceptional group of fifteenth-century works of religious and classical interest, numbering 23 titles in 21 volumes, plus two other works that were published in the very early years of the sixteenth century. This is a most wel-

come gift, as a check shows that only one of the items is already in the Columbia Libraries, and that in sixteen instances no other copies are listed as being available to scholars in New York.

The Harrison Papers. Mr. George Leslie Harrisson, a member of the Board of Trustees of Columbia University, has presented his papers to the Libraries. The gift is of exceptional interest, because it makes available to scholarship the detailed records of one who was concerned with the administration of the Federal Reserve System from its inception through the 1920's and 1930's. Mr. Harrison joined the System in 1914 as Assistant Counsel to the Federal Reserve Board, just two weeks before the Federal Reserve Banks opened; he remained with the System until he resigned as President of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York in 1941. (He had served as Governor of that Bank from 1928 until the title was changed, in 1936, to President.)

"The George Leslie Harrison Papers on the Federal Reserve System," as the collection is officially titled, give an insight into the development and operations of this country's credit and monetary systems, domestic financial problems, foreign loans, and international credit relations. They record conversations and reports on foreign trips. They reflect the tensions and negotiations between the Bank, the Board, and the Treasury through the critical periods of inflation, the crash of 1929, the depression, and the years leading up to World War II.

Henkind gift. Mr. Paul Henkind (A.B., 1955) presented a selection of 315 books in Yiddish and Hebrew "In Memory of Samuel J. Henkind," his father.

Herrick gift. Seven letters written by or relating to Leo Tolstoy were presented in the name of Mrs. Gerardus P. Herrick, through the kind offices of Mrs. Matthew Josephson of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. All of the letters (two by Tolstoy himself; two by his English literary agent, Aylmer Maude; two by

Tolstoy's daughter, Tatiana Sonkhotine; and one by V. Tchertkoff) were written to Bolton Hall (LL.B., 1888), Mrs. Herrick's father.

Isham gift. Mr. Ralfe Isham has presented Avery Library with a group of six books of architectural interest dating from the 16th through the 19th centuries.

Joffé gift. Dr. Judah A. Joffé (A.B., 1893) generously presented six valuable and useful volumes, including 16th-century editions of Horace, Terence, Hesiod, and Homer, and a rare two-volume work, *Storia della guerra presente tra la Russia e la Porta Ottomana*, Venice, 1770.

Kienbusch gift. Mr. C. Otto v. Kienbusch presented Izaak Walton's *Der Vollkommene Angler*, Hamburg, 1859, an exemplar of the only translation of this work into a foreign language. Only six copies are recorded as being in American libraries.

Lada-Mocarski gift. Mr. Valerien Lada-Mocarski has presented a most extraordinary series of books. His gift falls into two principal categories, one consisting of eight valuable works relating to historic voyages of discovery in the Pacific and Atlantic, and to the early knowledge of the countries bordering those seas. The second category represented in the gift comprises twenty-four items chiefly in the field of bibliography, fine printing, and the graphic arts.

Meloney gift. Mr. William Brown Meloney (A.B., 1927) has added three magnificent items to his earlier gift of nearly 200 letters and related pieces that passed between Madame Curie and his mother, the late Marie Mattingly Meloney. The present gift comprises the original draft in French of Madame Curie's address of acceptance delivered when she was presented with a gram of radium for use in her experiments (one page, dated 22 mai 1921); a draft in

English of the above with Col. William Brown Meloney's suggested changes in pencil, and dated May 1921 by him; and finally, an eleven-page article in English in Mme. Curie's hand, giving her impressions of America on the occasion of her visit in the Spring of 1921 to receive the gift of radium.

Pomeroy gift. Miss Gertrude Pomeroy has presented the unpublished manuscript diary which her father, Edward Noyes Pomeroy, kept exactly a century ago, when he served as a common sailor on a ship which carried a cargo of "deals" from the provinces to Wales. Edward Noyes Pomeroy was born in Maine in 1836, and attended Dartmouth and Bowdoin Colleges until his health failed during his junior year. A sea trip was advised, and he sailed to the British Isles on the voyage which this diary particularizes. The diary covers the period from September 17, 1857, to April 2, 1858.

Stecher gift. Professor Emma Stecher (A.B., 1925, A.M., 1926) presented a collection of nearly 400 books, pamphlets, and periodicals, mainly in the fields of science fiction and the occult.

Upjohn gift. Through the continued generosity of Professor and Mrs. Everard Upjohn, Avery Library has received extensive additions to its Upjohn Collection dealing with the first three architectural generations of the Upjohn family. The present gift includes the oil portrait of Hobart Upjohn (architect grandson of the designer of Trinity Church), 27 original drawings, ten books from the Upjohn library and two documents.

Activities of the Friends

The Libraries' 200th Anniversary. The initial gathering of the Friends for the academic year will be the Annual Meeting which will be held in the Rotunda of Low Memorial Library at 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 21, with a program centering around the Bicentennial anniversary of the founding of the Libraries. (The first books for the Library of King's College came by bequest from the Honorable Joseph Murray, one of the Governors of the College, who died in 1757.) Although this birthday event was originally planned for a date in November of this year, it was finally decided to defer it until the Annual Meeting in January in order to have ample time for securing the prominent speakers who are desired.

Books from the King's College period, and a substantial part of the John Jay Papers, which were recently purchased by the Libraries through the personal gifts of our members and others, will be on display. A subscription buffet dinner at the Men's Faculty Club will probably be held before the meeting. Details will be sent to our members later.

Bruce Rogers Memorial Exhibit. At the time of our going to press with this issue of *Columbia Library Columns*, a major exhibit of books which were designed by Bruce Rogers is being installed in the cases in the exhibit area on the third floor of Butler Library. Printed materials selected from the Libraries' Book Arts, Limited Editions Club, and "Fifty Books of the Year" collections portray the versatility of this famous designer who died this year. The Friends are invited to view the exhibit at any time between 8:30 a.m. and 10 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, or between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

PICTURE CREDITS

Otto Rank and Sigmund Freud in group picture: Gregory Zilboorg's History of Medical Psychology (New York, W. W. Norton and Company, 1941); *Peter the Great*: Courtesy of Dimitry V. Lehovich; *Vitus Bering*: Bol'shaia Sovetskaia Entsiklopediia. 2nd ed., vol. 5. (Moscow, Gos. Nauchnoe Izdatel'stvo, 1950); *Map of Bering's route across Siberia*: Père Du Halde's General History of China (London, John Watts, 1736), vol. 4; *Sketch of Bering's voyage to Bering Strait*: Delisle Manuscripts, XXV, 6, as reprinted in F. A. Golder's Russian Expansion on the Pacific, 1641-1850 (Cleveland, Arthur H. Clark Company, 1914); *Aleutian in a canoe*: S. Krashennnikov's Opisanie Zemli Kamchatki. Vol. 1. (St. Petersburg, Imp. Akademiia Nauk, 1755); *Erskine-Fackenthal-Cane-Campbell group picture*: Columbia University News Office; *John Jay in group picture*: Frank Monaghan's John Jay; Defender of Liberty (New York, Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1935).

ADDITIONAL CREDIT

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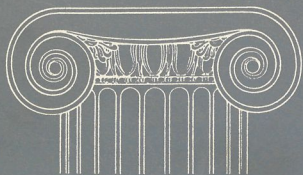
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Columbia Library Columns

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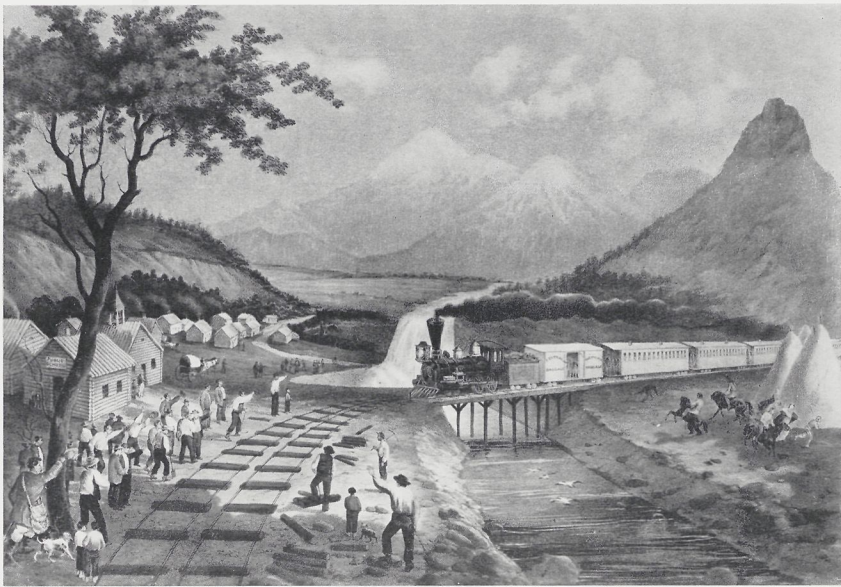
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“Across the Continent.” The original colored print, published in 1870, portrays a Central Pacific Railroad train crossing the Humboldt River.
(*Parsons’ Print Collection*)



COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS



The Vanishing Art of Railway Travel

For many of our readers' children, a long, scenic trip by railway is almost an unknown experience. They are travelers by air, to whom the earth is a remote, patchwork lawn on which human movement is antlike or invisible. Or, they travel by car—a low-slung, claustrophobic rocket from which their eyes, 39 inches above the asphalt, catch fleeting blurs of field, tree and house. Not for them are the sights which thrilled the March children in *Niagara Revisited*, as described by Clara Kirk in the article which begins on page 5: the glimpse from the train of “a small shanty,” where they saw a cat, a coffee-pot on the stove, and an old woman standing outside to see the train go by. (Naturally no one stands and watches cars whiz past on a thruway.)

Mrs. Kirk describes these experiences in the second part of her article; in the first part she tells the story—and how it ended in fiasco—of *Niagara Revisited*. This was W. D. Howells' effort to promote, via the adventures of the March family, the beauties of a railroad journey to Niagara—“by the Hoosac Tunnel Route.”

The theme is continued in Professor Williams's survey of the railway material in the Columbia Libraries, and in Messrs. Finch and Hamlin's introduction to the Parsons Transportation Prints. The facing illustration, from a print in that collection, depicts an express train carrying its passengers across the continent. We dedicate this issue to all long-distance train passengers, who are beginning to vanish faster than the buffaloes and Indians they once delighted to observe.



TOM WAS VERY WELL AS BOYS GO
BUT NOW HIS CONTRIBUTION
TO THE COMMON ENJOYMENT
WAS TO VENTURE AS NEAR AS
POSSIBLE TO ALL PERILOUS EDGES.

An exciting moment on the March Family's trip to the Falls.
(From *Niagara Revisited*)

Niagara Revisited

CLARA M. KIRK

THE Columbia University Library possesses a copy, perhaps unique, of an extremely rare little brochure by William Dean Howells entitled *Niagara Revisited 12 Years After Their Wedding Journey, By the Hoosac Tunnel Route* (1884). The pamphlet, profusely illustrated, was printed by a certain "D. Dalziel" of Chicago. In several copies which the present writer has examined the text is followed by sixteen pages of advertising, proclaiming the beauties and comforts of a railroad journey to Niagara by the Hoosac Tunnel Route which had recently been opened by the Fitchburg Railroad. The copy of *Niagara Revisited* to be found in the Library of Columbia University contains no advertising. A note folded within the cover states:

Despite the fact that only a few copies of this book are known, the present example represents a different issue from that of the other recorded copies in that the end papers are printed in a blue figured pattern and that it has no advertisements. In the other copies the end papers display a black flowered design, and there are 16 pages of advertisements at the back which are an integral part of the book. It has been conjectured that this copy represents a trial issue.

This conjecture is probably correct; the story of why the trial issue was run off and why the pamphlet itself is so extremely rare remains to be told.

Howells, well known to American readers both as editor of the *Atlantic Monthly* and as the author of popular novels, clashed with the officials of the Fitchburg Railroad who, without his consent, had reprinted *Niagara Revisited* from the May *Atlantic* of 1883, as an advertisement for the scenic route to Niagara. When the railroad refused to pay the author, Howells threatened suit and forced the company to suppress the whole edition. Because the

pamphlet, gayly adorned with brightly-colored illustrations of the well-known March family, was so attractive, ten or twelve copies were secreted when the issue was destroyed and are now to be found in the hands of a few libraries and private book-dealers. Since the Boston and Maine Railroad took over the Fitchburg Railroad in 1900, destroying the papers, we are not likely to learn more of the story of the book from the point of view of the railroad; sixteen letters exchanged between Howells and his literary agent, James R. Osgood, however, state the author's position very clearly. Only one of these letters is included in *The Life in Letters of William Dean Howells* (edited by Mildred Howells, 1928); the remaining fifteen are still scattered in libraries from Los Angeles to Boston. The present writer has been able, from a study of these letters, to support the conjecture that the copy of *Niagara Revisited* owned by Columbia was a trial copy.

The exchange of letters between Howells and his agent as to the disposition of *Niagara Revisited* took place in the year 1882-83, after Howells had resigned from the *Atlantic* and set out on his trip to England and Italy. The letters make it plain that Osgood had some difficulty in disposing of the manuscript but that it was finally sold to the *Atlantic*, where it appeared in May, 1883. The cover of the pamphlet states that it was "published by D. Dalziel, Chicago," but makes no reference to the Fitchburg Railroad. In italics under the title is the additional information, "Published by arrangements with James R. Osgood & Co., Publishers, Boston." The correspondence which was continued after Howells's return to this country in July, 1883, indicates that, in fact, there was also "an arrangement" between D. Dalziel and the Fitchburg Railroad, whereby the profits from the publication of the pamphlet were to be shared. The trial issue owned by the Columbia Library was evidently submitted to Osgood with no advertisements; these were added later and without the consent of either Howells or Osgood. When Howells returned to the United States in the summer of 1883 and discovered that the Fitchburg Railroad had not only vulgarized his essay by sixteen pages of blatant advertising, but

also refused to pay, he threatened suit and forced the company to destroy the issue. Fortunately, a few copies of this entertaining reminder of the adventures of the March family escaped destruction. Though the sketch itself is slight enough, it forms a link between the first story of Isabel and Basil March, which was told by Howells in *Their Wedding Journey* in 1871, and the subsequent accounts of their experiences in eight other novels and stories with which the author delighted his readers for fifty years.

II

Readers of the *Atlantic Monthly* first became acquainted with Basil and Isabel March when they read the opening chapters of *Their Wedding Journey* in the July, 1871, issue of their favorite magazine. They caught a tantalizingly brief glimpse of the couple just leaving a Quebec hotel and still on their honeymoon in the first installment of *A Chance Acquaintance* in the January, 1873, issue of the same periodical. When *Niagara Revisited* appeared, ten years after *A Chance Acquaintance*, our romantic pair, now twelve years older and twelve years wiser, were welcomed by a public which had grown to know them not only through the pages of the *Atlantic* but also as they had been presented in the clever pen drawings of Augustus Hoppin, who had illustrated the novels when they came out in book form. *Niagara Revisited*, even without the colored plates in the pamphlet owned by the Columbia Library, pleased the readers of 1883 sufficiently to encourage Howells to reprint the twelve-page sketch at the end of every edition of *Their Wedding Journey* after that date.

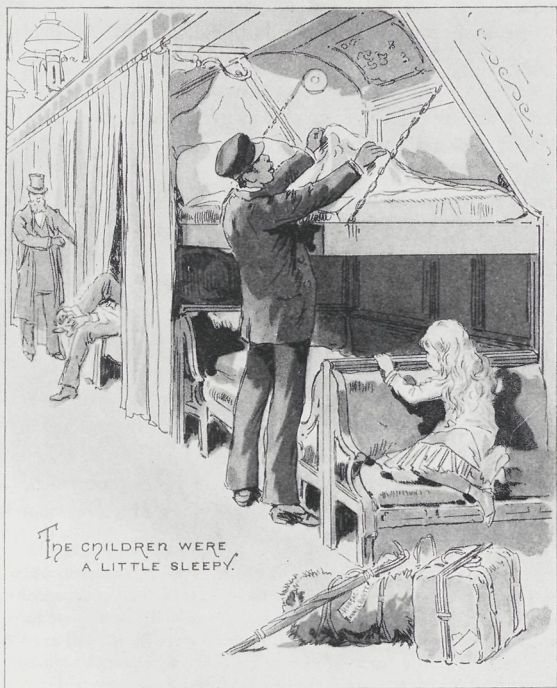
Howells informed his readers in the opening paragraph of this sketch, which sounds like an informal letter to old friends, that Basil was now forty-two and Isabel, thirty-nine; that, since last heard from, their two children had reached the ages of eleven and nine. Specific references to the ages of the four members of this famous family prove to be of particular interest. For in the ten stories and novels, written by Howells between 1871 and 1920, it is only in *Niagara Revisited* that their exact ages, in a certain

month of a certain year (June, 1882), were definitely stated. It is equally curious that the dates cited in the other nine March stories, with an apparently casual air, are, in almost every case, accurately calculated from the time-touchstone of June, 1882, which was firmly established in *Niagara Revisited*. It is, therefore, with this little-known pamphlet that any study of the Marches must begin. Here, then, are our characters, as they presented themselves to the readers of the *Atlantic Monthly*, "one lovely day in June" when the sky "was sincerely and solidly blue":

Basil was now forty-two, and his mustache was well sprinkled with gray. Isabel was thirty-nine, and the parting of her hair had thinned and retreated; but she managed to give it an effect of youthful abundance by combing it low down upon her forehead, and roughing it there with a wet brush. By gaslight she was still very pretty; she believed that she looked more interesting, and she thought Basil's gray moustache distinguished. He had grown stouter; he filled his double-breasted frock coat compactly, and from time to time he had the buttons set forward; his hands were rounded on the backs, and he no longer wore his old number of gloves by two sizes; no amount of powder or manipulation from the young lady in the shop would induce them to go on. But this did not matter much now, for he seldom wore gloves at all. He was glad that the fashion suffered him to spare in that direction, for he was obliged to look somewhat carefully after the outgoes. The insurance business was not what it had been, and though Basil had comfortably established himself in it, he had not made money. He sometimes thought that he might have done quite as well if he had gone into literature; but it was now too late. They had not a very large family: they had a boy of eleven, who "took after" his father, and a girl of nine, who took after the boy; but with the American feeling that their children must have the best of everything, they made it an expensive family, and they spent nearly all Basil earned.

The narrowness of their means, as well as their household cares, had kept them from taking many long journeys. They passed their winters in Boston, and their summers on the South Shore,—cheaper than the North Shore, and near enough for Basil to go up and down every day for business; but they promised themselves that some day they would revisit certain points on their wedding journey, and perhaps somewhere find their lost second-youth on the track. It was not that they cared to be young, but they wished the children to see them as they used to be when they thought themselves very old; and one lovely afternoon in June they started for Niagara.

The elder Marches, as they leaned back in their Pullman seats, were inclined to see their fellow-passengers as less interesting than they were in their earlier days of travel; now they were all soberly



Basil and Isabel and their children savor the delights of an 1883 Pullman car.
(From *Niagara Revisited*)

dressed and of a middle-aged propriety. Basil and Isabel were roused from their contemplations by Tom and Bella who declared themselves hungry before the train cleared the station platform. But soon the whole family—having devoured all the sandwiches which Isabel had “put up,” as well as the leathery chicken which Basil had snatched from a station counter—were absorbed by the scenes which flashed past the windows of the speeding train. For the Marches had managed to keep their own lives fresh by “their willingness to find poetry in things around them,” and they had taught their children “the secret of their elixir.” Though the Hoosac Tunnel on the route to Niagara was to be the great experience of the trip and though the children had begun to ask when they should reach it even before they demanded lunch, it was “the flying sentiment of the railroad side,” like “a passage from Goldsmith or Wordsworth,” which captivated the four Marches. To glance over the shoulders of these travelers at the towns and fields, the railroad crossings and streams, is to see again the New England countryside of the 1880’s from the windows of a train which, to a twentieth century traveler, seems leisurely indeed. At one moment they all stare into “a simple interior,”

a small shanty, showing through the open door a cook-stove surmounted by the evening coffee-pot, with a lazy cat outstretched upon the floor in the middle distance, and an old woman standing just outside the threshold to see the train go by,—which had an unrivaled value till they came to a superannuated car on a siding in the woods, in which the railroad workmen boarded: some were lounging on the platform and at the open windows, while others were “washing up” for supper, and the whole scene was full of holiday ease and sylvan comradery that went to the hearts of the sympathetic spectators.

But soon the possibilities of an unused railroad car as a permanent home are forgotten, for

The lovely Deerfield Valley began to open on either hand, with smooth stretches of the quiet river, and breadths of grassy intervale and table-land; the elms grouped themselves like the trees of a park; here and there the nearer hills broke away, and revealed long, deep, chasmed hollows full of golden light and delicious shadow. There were people rowing on the water; and every pretty town had some touch of picturesqueness or pastoral charm to offer: at Greenfield there were children playing in the new-mown hay along the railroad embankment; at Shel-

burne Falls there was a game of cricket going on (among the English operatives of the cutlery works as Basil boldly asserted). They looked down from their car-window on a young lady swinging in a hammock, in her door-yard, and on an old gentleman hoeing his potatoes; a group of girls waved their handkerchiefs to the passing train, and a boy paused in weeding a garden-bed.

Meanwhile, the spectators were lost in their dream. "The golden haze along the mountain-side changed to a clear, pearly luster, and the quiet evening possessed the quiet landscape" almost obliterating "a wood-cutter's shanty, losing itself among the shadows in a solitude of the hills."

The Hoosac Tunnel, after these glimpses, seemed to Basil and Isabel only "a gross and material sensation"; but the parents joined the children in trying to make the most of the tunnel experience, and Basil let Tom time it by his watch. "'Now,' said Tom, when five minutes were gone, 'we are under the very center of the mountain'." The tunnel, however, was like "all accomplished facts, all hopes fulfilled, valueless to the soul, and scarcely appreciable to the sense." The children emerged from the tunnel at North Adams with a "mean opinion of that great feat of engineering"; Basil, on the other hand, drew "a pretty moral from their experience":

'If you rode upon a comet you would be disappointed. Take my advice, and never ride upon a comet. I shouldn't object to your riding on a little meteor,—you wouldn't expect much of that; but I warn you against comets; they are as bad as tunnels.'

Though the children thought this moral was "a joke at their expense," we may take it as evidence of Howells's insight into the world of space-travel, and turn our attention, with the Marches, to the nearer adventure of sleeping on a Pullman train, and waking next morning at dawn to look out upon the "Enchanted City," which proved to be Rochester.

Perhaps the *Atlantic* readers of Howells's account of a family trip to Niagara Falls did not need the aid of the fourteen pages of brightly-colored illustrations which enhance the pamphlet now in the Columbia University Library. To the reader of today the unknown illustrator seems of genuine importance in recapturing

the "realistic" quality of this "commonplace" journey of four "ordinary" Americans of 1882. By the time one has enjoyed the sketch, and smiled over the drawings, one realizes that "realistic," "commonplace," and "ordinary," in Howells's imagination, were tinged with a poetic sense of the humor and pathos of the human voyage, lightly and briefly suggested. The Columbia Library is fortunate in possessing an illustrated pamphlet concerning the Marches which few, if any, readers of the *Atlantic* in the 1880's ever saw.

The Parsons Transportation Prints

JAMES KIP FINCH AND TALBOT F. HAMLIN

WE are apt to forget that the century which was brought to a close on New Year's Eve in the year 1900 was pre-eminently a Century of Transportation—pre-eminently the century of rails and locomotives. Our great-grandparents had, of course, ushered it in with tallow candles while we saw it out with electric light. They had begun it with hand tools and home industries but it had ended with process machinery and mass production. They had drawn their water supply from the old oaken bucket—we opened a tap which gave us rain collected on the slopes of mountains a hundred miles away. These changes were certainly revolutionary but, in these United States at least, the nineteenth century was first and foremost the century of railroads and railroading. The American nation was spreading over a continent and, just behind the Conestoga wagon and the prairie schooner, came the railroad and the locomotive. Transportation was the keynote of progress.

In the early years of the century, like France and England, America had taken a fling at canal building. The great success of the Erie had stimulated this movement. As early as 1812, however, Colonel John Stevens of Hoboken (King's College 1768), had pointed out that the engine which had already been successfully applied to the steamboat, could and would be applied to rail transport, and that the railroad would supersede the canal as a means of transportation. Although this was some fourteen years before Stephenson's *Rocket* demonstrated the possibilities of "locomotion" at Rainhill, the Colonel's vision was prophetic. By 1840, the end of the Canal Era was certain. America then had more miles of railroads than Great Britain, the mother country of the loco-

NEW ARRANGEMENT!

Daily Accommodation Line of Stages from
North Castle
TO
PORT CHESTER.



IN CONNECTION WITH THE
New-York and New Haven R. R.



On and after Thursday, June 20th, 1850, a Stage will
LEAVE PORT CHESTER

On the arrival of the 4 o'clock Accommodation Afternoon Train from New-York, passing by the way of King Street, through to H. Finch's Store, North Castle.

LEAVE NORTH CASTLE

From H. Finch's Store at 3 o'clock in the Afternoon; Samuel P. Smith's Post Office, at 3, passing by the way of King Street; Glenville Corner, 4, in time to take the 6 Train to New-York.

Fare from Port Chester to North Castle, 37½ Cents.

HIRAM FINCH, Proprietor.

N. B.—Passengers wishing to go to places adjoining this route, viz: Glenville, Purchase, Round Hill, Quaker Ridge, Mile Square, and Middle Patent, will be conveyed at reasonable rates.

An 1850 poster advertising the convenience of a stage coach and train connecting service.
(Parsons' Print Collection)

motive. Even roads and highways were relatively unimportant—it took a modern Motor Age to “get the farmer out of the mud.” It was the railroad that opened up the continent and made possible a union of states which spreads across three thousand miles of valley, hill and plain from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

From the early days of the justly famous Baltimore and Ohio of 1828–1853, the American railroad university, to that memorable day in 1869, when, at Promontory Point, Utah, the locomotives of the Union and Central Pacific lines met, as Bret Harte wrote,

Pilots touching head to head,
Facing on the single track,
Half a world behind each back.

and on through the closing years of the century, with the battles of the railroad kings for railroad supremacy, it was the railroadman, the railroad bridge and railroad building which held the center of the engineering stage.

Today this has, of course, all changed. The railroads of the world have been built—in our own country, sad to relate, too many of them. We live today in the Era of Highway Transportation when public funds are being poured into highways and other millions into great highway bridges, which, because of the comparatively light loads, can eclipse in span their railroad forebears of the nineteenth century.

When William Barclay Parsons graduated from the civil engineering course at Columbia in 1882, however, the Railroad Age was in its heyday and the romance of railroad achievement had captured his interest and imagination. His entire life was devoted to transportation problems. His earliest work was on the Erie, “Lion of Railways.” His greatest adventure was his pioneer work in Chinese railroading, the survey for a line in what was then the closed province of Hu-nan. His outstanding achievement was the first New York subway, and his most notable military service was as chief of the transportation division with the American engineers in France. Canals, subways, tunnels claimed the attention of this

engineering leader, but railroads claimed first place in his life and work.

It was thus natural that General Parsons should be interested in the fascinating history of the development of rail transport. It is difficult, however, for those who did not know him intimately, to picture this engineering leader, this dignified and scholarly Chairman of our Board of Trustees, as an avid and relentless collector of books and prints. Naturally his bibliomania—the term by which Eugene Field always referred to the book-collecting habit—turned to books dealing with the history of his profession and particularly with transportation. His equally strong love of prints—perhaps properly termed iconomania—centered on and reflected his overwhelming interest in the great epic of railroad achievement.

General Parsons' collection of books has been added to the treasures of the New York Public Library. His collection of transportation prints, some two hundred and thirty-five in number and conservatively valued at close to fifteen thousand dollars, has been given to Columbia in his memory.

Any adequate description of this remarkable series of engravings, etchings, aquatints and lithographs would occupy many pages. It is possible here only to point out some of the most interesting groups in the collection.

Every engineer will recall that the Liverpool and Manchester, although not the first railroad built for general service, was the first great early railroad and was the scene, in 1829, of the famous Rainhill locomotive trials, won by Stephenson's *Rocket*, which established the locomotive as the best tractive power. To the print collector also, the Liverpool and Manchester has a special interest, for the British artist, T. T. Bury, made some drawings of this work, "on the spot," which were the basis for a series of interesting prints. These drawings included all the outstanding features of the line—the great tunnel at Liverpool, the deep rock cut at Edge Hill, the long and difficult construction across the fens of Chat Moss, the imposing stone arch viaduct over the Sankey Valley, as well as the stations and trains of this pioneer undertaking.

The first set of these drawings to be reproduced in colored aquatint, the series issued by H. Pyall in 1831, were small, rather poorly executed and rather crudely colored by hand. As illustrating the widespread interest in this undertaking, however, it should be noted that a Spanish set of these prints was also issued through the simple expedient of engraving new titles on the old plates. Several series of these early sets are in the collection.*

Later, R. Ackerman, the famous London printer who maintained a large staff of water colorists to color his publications, issued several large prints of this line, and there is also in the Parsons collection the interesting series of views published by Shaw. Ackerman was also responsible for another series in the Parsons group—the beautiful prints of the London and Birmingham Railroad—a series of colored aquatints which show this process at its best and reveal all the charm of the delicately drawn and beautifully colored British work of this type with its wonderful atmospheric effect and transparency.

The later British roads are also well represented, including the North Midland and the Dublin and Kingston, but the lithograph was replacing the aquatint as a means of book illustration in this period, and the later prints are usually lithographs. These include some beautifully drawn views of the spectacular Chester and Holyhead line, clinging to the cliffs of Wales, and also the several large prints showing the erection of the famous tubular bridge across the Menai Straits, built in 1848, by Robert Stephenson, and which, according to Lewis Carroll, was to be saved from rust “by boiling it in wine.”

The French were slow to take up the railroad, sticking to canal construction until almost half the century had passed. A large broadside, with vivid coloring, of which there are two copies in the Parsons group, was apparently designed to encourage railroad building in France—as railroad propaganda—and carries the words of a railroad song

* For check list, dates, etc., see *Centenary History of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway* by Dendy Marshall, 127.

Vive la ch'min d'fer
 C'est un éclair.
 Voyages, fillettes gentilles:
 Répétez gaiement en chemin:
 C'est beau, c'est charmant, c'est divin!

When railroading in France did get under way, however, it gave opportunity for some of the precise, wonderfully delicate technique of the French colored aquatints. This is well illustrated in the portfolios of large views of the *Chemin de Fer de Rouen, Havre et Dieppe*, drawn by A. Maugendre and printed by Auguste Bry in 1851. In this series are views of the great stone arch viaducts at Mirville and Barentin which eclipse the famous Sankey Viaduct on the Liverpool and Manchester and recall one of the most imposing types of railroad bridge structures used on these earlier lines.



The train wreck which occurred on the Paris to Versailles railway in May, 1842.
(Parsons' Print Collection)

The French prints also include two series of views, each on three large plates, of the Paris and Orleans line and of the Paris-Rouen route. These lithographs were drawn by Delarme, and furnish a graphic record of these early French works.

Railroad accidents have frequently been the subject of the print

maker's art and the terrible catastrophe on the line between Paris and Versailles, which occurred 8 May, 1842, is shown in three of the Parsons prints. Two of these are French, but the third is a very crude and wildly colored German production showing this "grosse Unglück auf der Eisenbahn." There are few German prints in the collection, but a series of plates, dated 1831, showing the engineering features of cars, track and wheels used on English lines, shows the care, precision and attention to details characteristic of the German mind.

Unfortunately, pictorial records of our early American railroads are seldom available, and there are none artistically comparable with these British and French productions. There is, however, a large group of "locomotive prints" which, while including a few British engines, is particularly rich in American examples. The American locomotive underwent, of course, certain changes and developments which were never reflected in the work of the British builders. There were several pioneer American locomotives, such as the experimental engine run by Colonel Stevens at Hoboken in 1825 and Peter Cooper's famous *Tom Thumb*, which was tested on the B. & O. in 1829. The first full-size locomotive to run on American track was, however, imported from England. Horatio Allen, Columbia 1823, brought over the *Stourbridge Lion* and ran it on the Delaware and Hudson in August, 1829.

The British imports could not operate on the sharp curves of American track. To meet this difficulty John Bloomfield Jervis, in 1831, introduced the front, or so-called "bogie," truck, and, in 1832, another typical American device, the "cow-catcher," was added to the imported *John Bull* of the Camden and Amboy Railroad. At this point, Matthias W. Baldwin, jeweller and successful builder of stationary engines, stepped into the picture. Baldwin's *Old Ironsides* of 1832 was followed by many other developments until, by 1842, the typical American locomotive of pre-Civil War days was created.

Through the late forties and early fifties, several American firms were turning out these American masterpieces. Their huge, funnel-

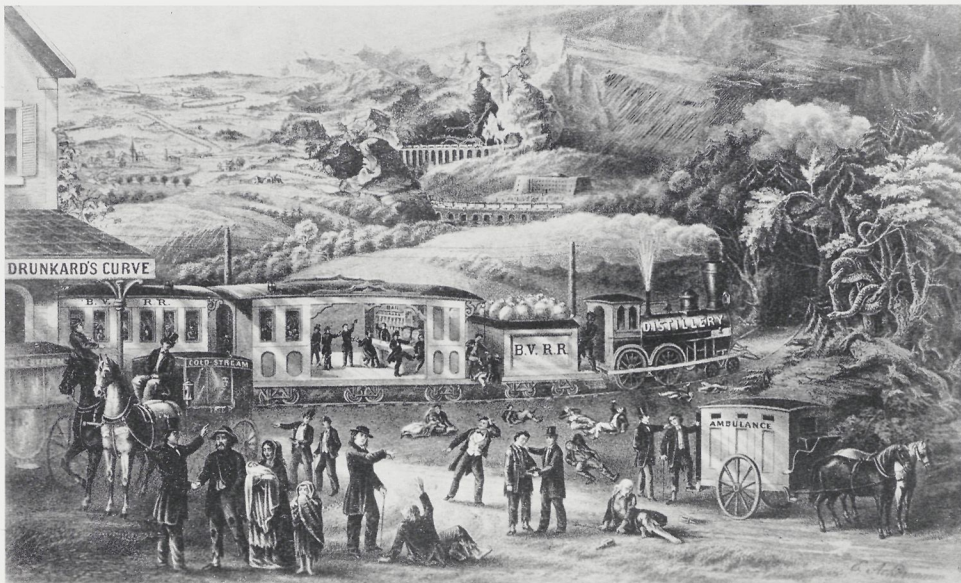
shaped stacks, their ample cow-catchers, their shining brass bells, rails and whistles, and especially the wonderful work of the machine shop painter, made them a showy and resplendent product. Some twenty or more large lithographs, colored in gold, red, black, green and yellow, advertise the beauties of these kings of the rails and are among the most rare and interesting prints of the Parsons Collection.

It was in this period also that Currier and Ives, and their followers, "Printmakers to the American People," began to publish their often crude and garish colored lithographs. These are sought by collectors today not for their artistic merit but because they record an important period of American life in a form and spirit which portrays the atmosphere of these earlier days, far more effectively, perhaps, than any finer prints could have done. It may be truly said that here we have "America on Stone,"* and in these works the river steamer, the railroad, early bridges and particularly the American Express Train and the spanning of the continent by railroad, are portrayed.

The prints of the Currier and Ives period in the Parsons Collection are in exceptionally fine condition and include several of the larger series. Here is the stirring moonlight race of the Mississippi steamers with showers of sparks rising from their tall stacks. Here also is the railroad leading through fertile valleys to the Great West with titles both in English and German—perhaps a bit of propaganda to encourage emigration.

Finally there should be noted that fearful and wonderful product of the print makers' art, the "Black Valley Railroad." Here in vivid form and color another type of railroad is shown, a road which carries its passengers behind the locomotive *Distillery* around the Drunkards Curve, through the Black Valley straight to the terminus of the line, arriving at "Destruction," we are assured, without any danger of accident for "there are no up-trains." This masterpiece of the prohibition movement was published for the

* The title of the monumental catalogue of American lithographs by Harry T. Peters, Columbia 1901 (New York, 1931).



A prohibition print (1863), showing a “Black Valley Railroad” train pausing at Drunkard’s Curve while in the central distance a skeleton and Satan above await with glee those who continue on their way.
(Parsons’ Print Collection)

American Seaman's Friend Society in 1863, in Boston, by Brother R. Ackerman, who, perhaps, was a distant relative of the famous Ackerman of the earlier Liverpool and Manchester series.

The prints as a whole have still another interest than that of mere technical history of transportation—they are full, as well, of the entire pageant of vivid life of the period they cover. In a way, these prints are more enlightening as historical documents than photographs, for the artist's selectivity, reflecting only those things that interested him, and thus picturing him as well as the scene he is drawing, as it were, doubles the intensity of the effect. Thus in the Ackerman Liverpool and Manchester prints, there lies all that quiet serenity—that simple harmony of man and nature—which was the ideal of the later classic revival, as though all unconscious of the break the railroad and all it stood for was about to make in that harmony. Something of the same quiet loveliness surrounds the Maugendre drawings of the French railroads like an atmosphere. In the American prints, later of course, it was the dramatic and dynamic spirit of pioneering, of the winning of a continent which speeds the express train clanging through the wilds, that sends the sparks into the night sky from the tall stacks of the Mississippi steamers. It is that love of action, of deeds done no matter how, of land exploitation and reckless, ruthless pioneering, that seems to dictate the colors and the drawings themselves, giving to one a brilliance, dynamic if crude, and to the other a directness of statement often exaggerated, but always strong.

For the architect, as for the engineer, the prints have much to say, for in railway architecture the times can be read with uncanny clarity. The railway brought a thousand new problems; their solution gives an insight into many things. The great stone-arched viaducts that marched—proudly and beautifully as Roman aqueducts—across many valleys in England and on the continent of Europe, and, to a less extent, alas, along the line of some of our early railroads—these engineering and architectural monuments of which any culture may be proud show not only a sense of engineering strength, of functional adequacy, but also that satisfactory ar-

rangement of pure line and shape that is beauty. The later spidery wrought iron and steel viaducts are there, too, bringing in a new quality expressive of nervous, tense speed and power.

The prints showing railroad stations are another interesting feature of these early records. We see the solid, Greek revival dignity of the early English stations, the quiet classicism of the French town stations, like that of Rouen, all solidly designed, eloquent of countries where railroads bound together many towns close to each other that were already mature and rich. In the very absence of stations from the greater number of American prints one immediately sees the striking fact that in America on the most important railroads—certainly the most dramatic—the new-laid rails piercing wilderness, stations were mere shacks and residences for “hands,” and towns only followed later.

One last striking thing can be seen in the prints as a whole—the change of a culture from something settled, harmonious, proficient in its limited way, to one perplexed, bewildered, with standards changing and often lost, and ideals switched to new and tentative aims. This change the railroad itself, as one of the chief symptoms (and important parts as well), of the industrialization of the western world, helped largely to bring about between 1830 and 1870. It can be seen in the lowering of the quality of the prints themselves from the delicate and lovely aquatints of Ackerman through the romantic lithographs of Maugendre, down to the last crude lithographs of the seventies. It can be seen in the buildings that the railroad produced, from the first dignified classic of early England and France, through the era of iron-and-glass train sheds (whose beginnings are well shown here) down to the ugly congeries of cheap and upstart construction of our own early west. It can be seen in the growth from the ordered neatness of early train yards and shop buildings into the vast acreages of the great junctions of the end of the nineteenth century.

Yet all this time—and this the prints themselves bear witness to—the means of transportation themselves were growing more finished, more efficient, more comfortable and more beautiful. The

innate absurdity of the old cars like joined coaches gave way to the modern passenger car; the old engine with its inclined cylinders and its open cab to the modern locomotive with its tightly composed length so expressive of its speed and power.

With its incidental prints, such as the exceptionally fine example of Robert Mills and Louis Wernwag's famous Colossus arch over the Schuylkill at Philadelphia, "the greatest known span by nearly 100 ft.," the Parsons Collection thus affords an unusually complete pictorial review of the history of modern transportation. It is a notable addition to the University's records and a fitting memorial to its collector—a loyal alumnus who generously devoted a large part of his life to the service of his Alma Mater.*

* This article originally appeared in the *Columbia University Quarterly*, June, 1935.

Railway Material in the Columbia Libraries

ERNEST W. WILLIAMS, JR.

NO adequate history of American railroads has ever been written, notwithstanding the publication of an enormous literature dealing with various phases of their history. Several regional histories exist, some of excellent quality, yet the task of capturing the broad sweeps of railway development in the United States in a comprehensive work remains to be achieved. And this is so despite the fact that nothing exerted a more significant influence upon the character and rate of our economic development than did the rapid expansion of our railroad net. Nor was that expansion paralleled in rate or in character anywhere else in the world.

The romance of the steam locomotive and the attraction of seemingly endless bands of steel extending to far places were well known to several generations of Americans. But while the railroad was clearly indispensable and service in the railroad ranks was a frequent objective of young men, railroad corporations achieved an odious reputation and were acceptable objects of political attack. The economic aspects of railroad transportation were never well understood by the public at large even while the railroad was the pre-eminent form of transportation, both of freight and of passengers. Armchair strategists were legion, yet the nation continued to face, year after year, a railroad problem. The system reached its greatest extent before the first World War and has been looked upon as a mature, if not a declining, industry since. The growth of other forms of transport has tended to remove railroads and their problems from the public consciousness. Yet the daily press, partic-

ularly in recent months, attests both to the continuing importance of the railroad industry in our national life and to the persistence of major unsolved problems in an industry whose financial performance, taken as a whole, has been less than satisfactory throughout most of its history.

Not only is a work of synthesis in railway history still to be desired, but important aspects in the story of the industry are yet to be explored from the source materials. Although histories of individual railroads are numerous, many are of indifferent quality and few achieve a penetrating appraisal of the strategy of railway development or of the quality of managerial performance. The history of many important roads awaits scholarly treatment and such gaps must be filled as a prerequisite to a definitive chronicle of railway development as a whole.

The Columbia Libraries are rich in railroad materials, many still awaiting the attention of the scholar. The Marvin Scudder Financial Collection in the library of the Graduate School of Business is one of the most complete of its kind and embraces not only the annual reports, but a variety of financial instruments, clippings from the contemporary press and from the financial journals, and much fugitive material concerning controversial matters. These materials are by no means limited to the financial aspects of railway history. Mergers, new construction, equipment additions, rate controversies, safety questions and many other issues are touched upon. Thus the first engineers' report of the Pennsylvania Railroad, issued in 1848, is not only an analysis of the locating decisions made by the company's engineers, but also a most interesting study of the physical and economic geography of the state of Pennsylvania. When supplemented by the later reports, it provides a picture of the adjustment of railway location to the economic potential which has not been captured in any of the published histories of this or any other railroad company.

Early reports of railway companies are studded with material concerning traffic, equipment, and operating practice which seems to have escaped the notice of most writers of corporate histories,

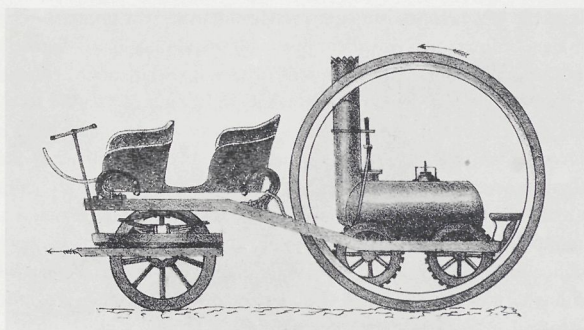
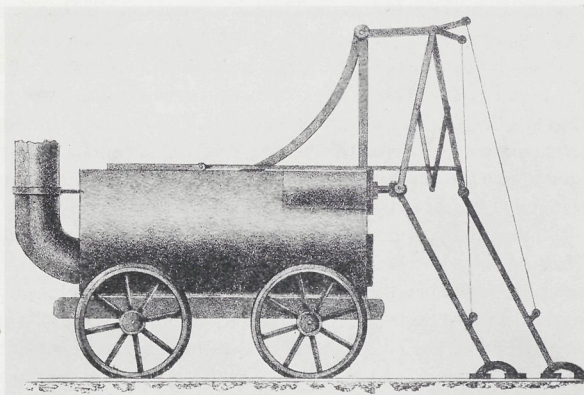


A proposed elevated railway for Broadway (1850), with passenger coach beneath the locomotive.
(Parsons' Print Collection)

or to have failed to interest them. Here one learns how early railroads were staffed, where traffic came from and how it was developed, how operating problems were approached and gradually solved and how thinking about the economic nature of the railroad as a business institution altered with experience. Some of the earlier reports list the employees by name, others show what engineers, conductors, and other classes were paid when the art of railroading was still in a primitive state. Locomotive rosters in which the engines were listed by name are not uncommon in the earlier reports—and what ingenuity went into the choice of names as rosters lengthened! Rates were high and many a small, strategically located property enjoyed at times a rate of profit which would arouse envy today.

The Business and Engineering Libraries together are well equipped with files of the principal railroad periodicals covering a great part of the railway era and conveying the flavor of the time. He who desires may trace the development of track, bridges and other structures, motive power and equipment, in exhaustive fashion. What is more important, he may relate that development to the growing transportation tasks which the railroads performed. Pamphlet and catalogue material, as well as house organs of the equipment manufacturers, preserve much concerning the technical side of railroading which would otherwise have been lost, and lend color to any reconstruction of the expansion phase of the age of steam.

Few railroad men were of literary bent and, beyond the necessary official pronouncements, little of railway literature is the product of railwaymen themselves. One of the few who, in later life, turned to scholarly endeavor was Col. William J. Wilgers, one time chief engineer of the New York Central. Not only did he write an interesting history of the railways of Vermont, but he turned his attention to a study of the interrelations of the railways of the United States and Canada, a unique chapter in international railroad affairs which, because eminently successful on the level of cooperation among private corporations, has left little record in



UPPER PICTURE: In Mr. Brunton's invention of 1813 two feet, which were activated by the toothed wheel above the boiler, propelled the engine forward.

LOWER PICTURE: In 1882 David Gordon devised a locomotive engine which worked in a large cylinder, so that as the engine climbed up, the machine rolled forward and advanced the carriage. *(Parsons' Print Collection)*

the archives of the government. The extensive correspondence and working papers from which he prepared *The Railway Interrelations of the United States and Canada* (Yale University Press, 1937) are preserved in Special Collections, and contain much of interest to the student who would seek further light on this distinctly American experience—gathered by one who was internationally known in the railroad world, and who had the best of access to information relative to his field of inquiry.

The name of James Stillman moves in and out of the pages of railway history in the several decades bracketing the turn of the century. Particularly does he appear in the literature of railway finance, but most often as one more name in a list of trustees or in the roster of a protective committee. Little appears regarding the significant role which he played in railway finance, and even the official biography of E. H. Harriman alludes to rather than explains the close relationship between Stillman and the great railway builder. Stillman was president of the National City Bank, bankers for the Rockefeller interests, among others. It was through Stillman that a close tie was developed between the Rockefellers and Harriman, and the backing of Stillman was clearly important in many a Harriman enterprise. He was a major agent of Harriman in the effort to secure control of the Burlington Road for the Harriman system against the opposition of James J. Hill and his associates. But this is only the most spectacular of the episodes in railway finance in which Stillman and Harriman were allied. Papers of Stillman, concerning railroad finance and investment over the period 1851–1918, are preserved in Special Collections.

The remarkable Seligman library was put together, in considerable part, during the period when public regulation of the railroad industry was an absorbing issue to economists and politicians alike. The regulatory scheme, as we now know it, grew by stages from 1887 to 1920 when it attained essential completeness. Sharp controversy preceded the first Federal Statutes and recurred at each subsequent stage. Much of the literature of this period, ranging from scholarly treatises to partisan arguments from all points of

view, found its way into the collection. Attention has been freshly focussed upon the regulatory structure in recent years because of the growth of competition among the various forms of transport. Some of the old issues have been forgotten while others assume a different aspect in the search for solutions of present regulatory quandaries. Hence there is a tendency to look back into the formative stages—for which few libraries afford more abundant material.

So extensive are the collections relating to railroads that no brief account can do more than touch upon a few gems. The student of railway history or of railway economics will find in the Columbia Libraries much virgin material as well as a comprehensive working library covering all aspects of the railway conquest of the continent.

Columbia's Dynamic Archive of Russian History and Culture

PHILIP E. MOSELY

Editor's Note: Although the other articles in this issue are related to railways, for diversity of interest we are including this article in which Professor Mosely brings up to date the description of the riches of the Russian Archive, which he first portrayed in the February, 1953, issue of this periodical.

HOW was the great humanist, Maxim Gorky, transformed into a political partisan of the totalitarian wing of the Russian revolutionary movement? Fascinating new light will be thrown on his spiritual and literary evolution by the forthcoming publication of *Letters of Gorky and Andreev, 1899-1912* (Columbia University Press, 1958). Of the 101 letters published here, 89 are being published for the first time, thanks to a Columbia initiative. A talented young writer, Leonid Andreev, whom Gorky assisted in many ways and with whom he finally broke because of their increasingly divergent political and literary sympathies, was the frequent recipient of Gorky's frank and often passionate comments on the Russian scene. Because the Columbia University Libraries were enabled in 1951 to acquire this unique collection and to safeguard it in Columbia's Archive of Russian and East European History and Culture, students of Russian literature are now awaiting eagerly the publication of this important addition to our understanding of Maxim Gorky.*

Our understanding of another great Russian writer and thinker,

* The difficult task of identifying the largely undated letters and preparing commentaries was carried out by Professor Peter Yershov at the initiative of Professor Ernest J. Simmons; the translation was made by Miss Lydia Weston (Mrs. Veselin Kesich), with assistance from the Research Program on the U.S.S.R. (East European Fund, Inc.); a grant from the Committee for the Promotion of Advanced Slavic Cultural Studies, Incorporated, made possible their publication.

Alexander Herzen, has been similarly enriched through the services of the Russian Archive. A rebel against absolutism and serfdom, Herzen inspired the liberal and peasantophile struggles of the Russian intelligentsia during several decades of the mid-nineteenth century. Several years ago a large collection of his unpublished letters was donated by his great-granddaughter, Madame Charles Rist, to the Archive, and has now been published. The letters, rich in Herzen's comments on Russia's own problems and prospects, also throw much new light on his alternating feelings of attraction and repulsion for the freer countries of the West.*

Among the Archive's unique collections are also the letters of Count Leo Tolstoy to his principal English translator and literary interpreter, Aylmer Maude. Throwing light, as they do, on Tolstoy's wide-ranging thought and his methods of creative work, this correspondence, when deciphered, annotated and published, will be a valuable contribution by Columbia to the study of Russia's greatest novelist.

The Theatre in Soviet Russia (Columbia University Press, 1957) by Nikolai A. Gorchakov, has been hailed by Brooks Atkinson and others as the most important study of the rise and decline of the Russian theatre over the last sixty years. Until his flight from the Soviet Union Mr. Gorchakov was a direct participant in the struggle for a free theater, and he speaks with unequalled authority as its leading chronicler today. The complete manuscript of his study, which is twice as long as the published book, has been deposited with the Columbia Archive, for the benefit of later scholars.†

* To be published in 1958 as a single volume, following serial publication in *The New Review*. Herzen's difficult handwriting and multilingual style were deciphered by Professor L. L. Domherr, who also prepared careful commentaries. The editing and publication of *Unpublished Letters of A. I. Herzen to N. I. and T. A. Astrakov* (in Russian) were made possible by the assistance of the Research Program on the U.S.S.R. (East European Fund, Inc.).

† The preparation, translation and publication of this book, translated by Edgar Lehrman, were assisted by grants from the Rockefeller Foundation to Columbia's Department of Slavic Languages and to the Russian Institute, by the Committee for the Promotion of Advanced Slavic Cultural Studies, Inc., and by the Institute for the Study of the U.S.S.R., Munich. The project was initiated and supervised by Professor Ernest J. Simmons.

At any given time, from ten to fifteen research projects are being carried on in the comfortable workroom provided by the Columbia University Libraries on the top floor of Butler Library, in close proximity to the locked cage which houses the Archive's rapidly growing collections. In the preface to *The Challenge of Soviet Education* (1957), Professor George S. Counts, emeritus, of Teacher's College, acknowledges the valuable assistance which he received from the Archive. Columbia's large Alexinsky collection of unpublished materials on the Russian revolutionary movement from the 1890's to 1922 is now being studied intensively by Boris I. Nicolaevsky, noted historian of the Russian revolution. Under the auspices of the Research Program on the History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Mr. Nicolaevsky is clarifying a wide range of disputed points in the development of the Social Democratic movement, and particularly of Lenin's Bolshevik wing. His painstaking searchings and scrutiny of the unpublished sources provide an indispensable corrective to the repeated Soviet rewritings of the history of the Bolshevik Party.

The Columbia Archive has been especially fortunate in receiving a wide range of memoirs by leaders of the *Zemstvos*, the remarkable system of provincial self-government established by Alexander II, as well as by well informed officials of the imperial administration. *The Truth About Stolypin* (New York, 1957, in Russian), by Professor Alexander V. Zenkovsky, based in part on the collections of the Archive, throws much new light on the actions and plans of Peter Stolypin, who, until his assassination in 1911, was doing so much to modernize the administrative, agrarian and industrial life of imperial Russia. Iraklii G. Tseretelli, a leading participant in the revolution of 1917, has published several excerpts from his detailed analysis of these events; the complete text is deposited at Harvard and at the Columbia Archive.

Other important studies which are based in substantial measure on the collections of the Columbia Archive deal with the development of Soviet-American relations since 1917, the evolution of Russia's semi-constitutional regime from 1906 to 1914, the efforts

and failures of the Provisional Government of 1917, the foreign policy of General Denikin's regime in South Russia, 1918-19, the development of the Soviet political police, and the establishment of Soviet rule in the Caucasus region.

The Columbia Archive is especially rich for the study of the House of Romanov in its last decades, the political and revolutionary movements of the last eighty years, the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05 and the World War of 1914-17, and the development of Russian industry and banking. It has unique materials on the history of the Civil War in Russia, and on the political life of the emigration after 1920. It is very rich in the history of Russian literary and philosophical thought in exile and has important materials provided by the newer exiles of World War II. The Archive is also the repository of the unpublished memoirs and studies assembled by the Research Program on the U.S.S.R. (East European Fund, Inc.), 1951-55, and the Research Program on the History of the C.P.S.U. (since 1955).

The Archive is under the highly competent and devoted day-to-day management of its Curator, Mr. Lev F. Magerovsky, who also served for many years as Assistant Director of the Russian Archive Abroad, in Prague. Professor Michael M. Karpovich, emeritus, of Harvard University, serves as chairman of a Sponsoring Committee, made up of outstanding Russian leaders and thinkers, and Philip E. Mosely, Director of the Russian Institute, 1951-55, is chairman of the Administrative Committee.

Through the constant cooperation of Dr. Richard H. Logsdon, Director of the Libraries, Mr. Roland Baughman, Head of Special Collections, and other officers of the Libraries, the Archive has been equipped with excellent facilities for its work and its administrative needs are well taken care of. Apart from these facilities and services, the Archive's modest budget is provided by Columbia's Russian Institute, through a generous research grant made by the Rockefeller Foundation. For the most part its collections have been donated or deposited by their owners or authors, to whom future generations of scholars will owe an immense debt of gratitude.

For some of the donors, extremely hard-pressed by advancing years, illness or need, the Archive provides a very modest token compensation for the great services they have rendered in preserving, cataloguing and commenting on their collections. In some cases, of course, the Archive has failed to acquire very valuable collections because its slender budget did not permit it to offer a well deserved compensation of slightly more than token size.

The rapid growth of the Archive of Russian and East European History and Culture, since it was established in July, 1951, has been due primarily to the high reputation which it has won among all sections of Russians scattered throughout the free world. By its meticulous handling of each collection—whether it consists of a single brief memorandum or fragment, or of many thousands of pages of letters or memoirs—it has gained the confidence of all parts of the emigration, from convinced monarchists to disillusioned Communists.

Each day's mail brings both inquiries and materials from many countries of the free world, as people devoted to preserving for future generations the records of Russian life and culture decide to entrust their valued papers, often preserved at great sacrifice and through several catastrophes, to a reliable and well-run repository, free of all political pressures or biases and dedicated to the objective search for truth.

Our Growing Collections

ROLAND BAUGHMAN

Adimari gift. Mr. Ralph Adimari of Mount Vernon, New York, knowing of Columbia's "Brander Matthews Collection," has generously presented a letter which Professor Matthews wrote to him on October 9, 1920.

Austrian Ministry of Education gift. Columbia University Libraries were among 47 such institutions which have received sets of modern Austrian publications as the official gift of the Ministry of Education of Austria. In a ceremony at the Overseas Press Club on October 17, a collection of 198 volumes, chiefly in the fields of Austrian history, art and literature, was presented to the representative of each of three university libraries in New York City, including Columbia. The Cultural Attaché in making the presentation stressed Austria's appreciation for the material, academic and spiritual assistance which American libraries had given to Austrian libraries immediately following World War II, and for the co-operation that has been maintained ever since.

Backus gift. Mrs. Louise Laidlaw Backus (A.B., 1929 B) has presented a remarkable collection of more than 2,000 volumes, chiefly American poetry published in the period between the two World Wars. The collection was originally formed by Miss Anita Browne, who has been connected with fostering and publishing American poetry for many years. It is rich in regional poetry anthologies, private printings, and productions of obscure, "avant-garde" presses; and with few exceptions the items are first editions and in fine condition. Many of them bear autograph presentation inscriptions from their authors to Miss Browne or to other recipients.

Bancroft gift. Professor Margaret Bancroft (A.M., 1913) presented a fine copy of Charles-Constant Le Tellier's *Instruction sur l'histoire ancienne*, Paris, 1816.

Bentley gift. Professor Eric Bentley presented four rare scripts of recent French plays, to wit: Henry Becque's *La Parisienne* (1957); Bertolt Brecht's *Galileo* (1952); Andre Obey's *Noah* (1957); and Marcel Pagnol's *Marius* (1955).

Berol gift. In May, 1956, we recorded the generous gift by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred C. Berol of an unparalleled collection of the published illustrative work of the noted book artist, Arthur Rackham. Now we are able to report a further benefaction of the same donors. The present gift consists of fifty-three original sketches and watercolor paintings by Rackham, some of which have never been published. Included are such notable items as: an unfinished needlepoint showing Punch on horseback, made by Rackham when he was a boy; a large watercolor, apparently unpublished, showing a child fishing in a stream as four elfin-like children look on, with gnarled trees and fields and rolling hills in the background; and a virtually complete set of the original pen-and-ink and wash drawings for A. F. Brown's *The Lonesomest Doll*, 1928. Not less noteworthy are the numerous watercolor drawings for plates that were published in black-and-white, as well as a half dozen originals of Rackham's earliest published sketches.

Mr. and Mrs. Berol are thus establishing at Columbia a unique collection—one that will serve as a research keystone for anyone who shall undertake to study the development of Arthur Rackham as a book artist.

Cartwright gift. Avery Library was the recipient of a group of seven contemporary publications dealing with notable examples of medieval architecture and sculpture in France. This gift comes to us as a result of the generous action of Mr. W. Aubrey Cartwright. The series is notable for the excellent quality and artistic merit of the large scale photographs.

Courts Martial Proceedings. A 142-volume set of the decisions of the Boards of Review in courts martial proceedings, complete for the period 1929-1951, has been deposited in the Law Library by the Judge Advocate General of the Army. This is a most important addition, for although the procedural content has been largely superseded by the recent adoption of a uniform Code of Military Justice, the compilation contains matter that is indispensable as a source for research in substantive military law, but which is not ordinarily—if at all—to be found except in Army libraries. This set was formerly a surplus set at Governor's Island and was about to be returned to Washington. The Law Librarian, Mr. Miles Price, requested that the set remain in the New York area for research purposes, and accordingly the Judge Advocate General has allowed it to be deposited with the Navy R.O.T.C. at Columbia, which in turn has deposited it in the Law Library.

Dodge gift. Within a few days of each other, but from opposite sides of the continent, two original letters written by Alexander Hamilton were presented to Columbia. On November 21 Mr. A. Winslow Dodge of Wenham, Massachusetts, presented a letter from Hamilton to Judge David Sewall of Maine, dated November 13, 1790. Professor Syrett of Columbia's Alexander Hamilton project was especially delighted with it, because the text was unknown to him.

The other Hamilton letter is noted below under *Hepburn gift*.

Donovan gift. General William J. Donovan (A.B., 1905, LL.B., 1908) has presented his large collection (3,236 items) in the fields of intelligence and espionage, the history of warfare, biography and autobiography, the social sciences, communism, and related subjects.

Engel gift. Of recent years Mr. and Mrs. Solton Engel (1916 c.) have made many magnificent gifts to the Columbia Libraries. Some of their gifts have been acknowledged in these pages as having been made "by a member of the Class of 1916," in accordance with the

wishes of the donors, while others have been freely identified with Mr. and Mrs. Engel. A resumé of their benefactions is truly impressive, including as it does manuscripts and rare printed works by Kipling; a fabulous association copy of the first issue of Stevenson's *A Child's Garden of Verses* (1885); Poe's *Al Aaraaf* (1829) inscribed by his sister, Rosalie MacKenzie Poe; Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, first edition and in the finest possible condition; the first printing (1477) of Marco Polo's account of his travels (one of only eleven recorded copies, of which only three are in America); Isaac Roosevelt's annotated copy of *The Federalist* (1788), uncut and in the original boards; an unpublished manuscript satire by Stevenson and a copy in mint first state of *Treasure Island*; and a host of other notable collectors' items. Not the least of the benefactions of Mr. and Mrs. Engel were the complete redecoration and refitting of the library exhibit cases, and the provision of funds to make possible the appointment of a special exhibitions assistant for a year.

More recently Mr. and Mrs. Engel have shown their great generosity in a very special way. They have selected from their personal library 343 items of prime importance and interest, and these they have presented to the Columbia University Libraries. It would be impossible to give here a complete listing of this latest presentation; mention of a few of the items must serve to indicate the quality of the collection.

Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*, two volumes, 1868-69, in the extremely rare first state; L. Frank Baum's *Wizard of Oz*, 1900, with all the points of the first issue, inscribed by Baum "To my dear sister Mary Louise Brewster"; William Cullen Bryant's *Poems*, 1821, in the original boards; Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, 1866, in two variant states of the first American issue; ten fine letters by Rudyard Kipling to various people, his *The Day's Work*, 1898, in a presentation copy to Ambrose M. Poynter, and a presentation copy of *Departmental Ditties*, 1891, to G. Gore-Gillon, with an unpublished autograph poem, signed; *A Plain System of Elocution*, 1845, which contains the first appearance in a book of

Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven"; Mark Twain's *Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, 1876, in the very first issue and in the finest possible condition; Richard Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, 1873, presented by Wagner to Karl Hill; the Moncure Daniel Conway copy of Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*, 1855, in the first state, autographed by the author and containing Whitman's autograph transcription of Emerson's famous "Leaves of Grass" letter as well as Whitman's letter to Conway regarding Emerson's comments.

Although some of the highlights of the Engel gift are revealed by the above listing, this does not begin to show the true depth of the collection—which contains, for example, ninety first and rare editions of Kipling, twenty-five of Edna St. Vincent Millay, and twenty of Mark Twain. Columbia is indeed indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Engel—two loyal and generous Friends, whose gifts are bringing superb rarities that could never have been acquired in any other way.

Ernst gift. Mr. Richard C. Ernst continued in his very welcome and useful practice of presenting a selection of the works issued currently by his favorite publisher Alfred A. Knopf (A.B., 1912). This year the gift consists of 47 outstanding publications of 1957.

Goldstone gift. Through the kind generosity of Mrs. Lafayette A. Goldstone and Mr. Harmon H. Goldstone (B.ARCH., 1936), complete sets of the original drawings for three important New York buildings designed by the late Mr. Goldstone have been presented to Avery Library. These include drawings for 1107 Fifth Avenue, one of the great luxury apartment houses in New York, containing among others an apartment of fifty rooms. The Montana Apartment House and the Ogden Mills Reid residence are also included. In addition to this, the donors have had microfilmed a large number of other drawings covering the main projects executed by Mr. Goldstone. The film is likewise deposited in Avery Library in furtherance of a national project now being sponsored by the American Institute of Architects, the Society of Architectural

Historians, and other interested institutions, to insure the preservation of a more than representative selection of the nation's architecture on a continuing basis.

Henderson gift. Professor Harold G. Henderson (A.B., 1910, A.M., 1915, CHEM.E., 1915) has presented to the East Asiatic Library 665 volumes and 850 slides (partly colored) from his personal library of Japanese and western-language books. The entire scope of Japanese art is represented by heavily illustrated publications, and there are as well numerous works on the Japanese language and literature. The art books, many of which are out of print and no longer available through dealers, include the collected works of Japanese artists and descriptive catalogues of the contents of private collections in Japan.

Hepburn gift. As noted above, two Alexander Hamilton letters were presented to the University within a few days of each other. On November 25 Mrs. George Hepburn of Los Angeles, California, together with her sisters, Mrs. John C. Wood and Mrs. Chester Doubleday, presented in remembrance of the late Professor John Angus Burrell a letter written by Hamilton to Governor Arthur St. Clair, dated New York, 19 May 1790. In view of Columbia's current project of editing the complete writings of Hamilton, gifts such as this one have a very special significance and timeliness.

Hume estate. The Union Theological Seminary's Missionary Research Library has passed on to Columbia's East Asiatic Library 214 books and pamphlets originally received from the estate of the late Dr. Edward H. Hume. The majority are on Chinese medicine and medical history. The fields of Christian missionary work and the promotion of literature in China are also represented. Included in the gift, and now destined for Special Collections, are Dr. Hume's notes for lectures and substantial files of data which he extracted for use in the preparation of articles and books.

Lanford gift. Mrs. Caroline S. Lanford presented a collection of more than 22,000 reprinted copies of over 300 scientific papers by her father, the late Professor Henry C. Sherman, on various aspects of the subject of nutrition. They were presented as a memorial to Mrs. Lanford's father, with the intention that duplicates are to be distributed on an exchange basis to other libraries throughout the world. By this means it is expected that similar materials not otherwise available will be acquired.

Longwell gift. Mr. Daniel Longwell (1922 c.) has signified his intention of presenting to Columbia University his distinguished collection of first editions of the writings of Sir Winston Churchill and related works. One-half of the collection has in fact already been formally presented to the University and will be delivered into our care after the closing of an exhibition of Mr. Longwell's collection which is to be held later this spring at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, commemorating the occasion of Churchill's delivery there, on March 5, 1946, of his famous "Iron Curtain" speech.

Mr. Longwell's gift is of paramount importance to all investigators into the political and social developments of our century. The understanding by which the collection comes to Columbia is significant and forward-looking, for it stipulates the continued interest of all concerned in developing the collection to embody the fullest possible coverage of the subject, utilizing the combined efforts of the donor, the University staff, and the Friends of the Columbia Libraries.

The collection is to be known as "The Works and Records of Sir Winston Churchill," or, in shortened form, "The Winston Churchill Collection."

Marquis gift. Through the kind generosity of Mrs. Elvira Trabert Marquis, the important publication by F. Ehrle, *Piante e vedute di Roma e del Vaticano dal 1300 al 1676* (Studi e documenti per la storia del palazzo apostolico Vaticano) has been added to the rich resources in this field at Avery Library.

Mead gift. Doctor Margaret Mead (A.B., 1923, A.M., 1924, PH.D., 1929) presented a most unusual item. It is Anatole France's *Thaïs*, Paris, 1924, with illustrations by Raphaël Freida, accompanied by (1) a full set of proofs of Freida's illustrations in black on handmade paper, (2) a nearly complete set in sepia on japan vellum, (3) another nearly complete set in sepia on handmade paper, (4) a set of four proofs on satin, and (5) a similar set of four proofs on vellum.

Included with this is another collection of illustrations for *Thaïs* by the artist Serge Czerefkow which were made in 1927 for the Paris publisher René Kieffer. This group consists of twenty-eight original drawings and preliminary sketches, a full set of twenty etchings in the first state printed in sepia on satin, a similar set on vellum, a full set in the second state on satin, and a similar set on vellum.

Pratt gift. Through the kindness of Dr. Dallas Pratt (M.D., 1941), a fine lot of twenty-eight letters from Jules Champfleury has been acquired. The letters, dating in the 1860's and '70's, are chiefly to the editor Charpentier, and relate to literary and personal matters. Dr. Pratt noticed the letters in a Paris dealer's catalogue and, remembering that Columbia owns a seven-volume set of the manuscript journals of Champfleury, generously offered to purchase this additional material for us.

Salzer bequest. Through the good offices of Mr. Donald L. Newborg (A.M., 1931) a most extraordinary collection formed by the late Dr. Benjamin Salzer has been presented to Columbia University. The "Mayor's Court Papers," as the collection is styled, comprise about 2,000 pieces extending in date from 1681 to 1819. Included are records of cases argued before the Mayor's Court of New York City, which by statute became in 1821 the Court of Common Pleas. Numerous writs of enquiry are present in the collection, especially for the critical period 1770-1775, as well as many legal opinions by government officials. These papers overlap and supplement the official papers on file in the office of the Commissioner of Records

of New York County. Originally established by the Dutch in 1650, the Court was renamed the "Mayor's Court" when New Amsterdam became New York in 1664. As developed by the English conquerors, its primary concern was with civil litigation, having in this respect a close relationship with the ancient Lord Mayor's court of London, which was established in the middle ages to provide justice for businessmen speedily and at lowest cost, in contrast to the tedious and expensive processes of the central courts.

Shackleton bequest. For nearly three decades Miss Clara Everett Shackleton (A.B., 1914 B, A.M., 1915) worked diligently toward compiling a bibliography of children's literature, traveling widely to interview librarians and collectors in this and other countries. Miss Shackleton's interests included not merely literary works for juveniles, but textbooks and works for moral training as well. She amassed a tremendous amount of data, much of which she carefully transcribed to finished typescript with ultimate publication as her objective. At the time of her death in December this work remained unfinished.

Through the generous thoughtfulness of her niece, Mrs. Floyd H. Cronk of Ithaca, New York, Miss Shackleton's notes and typescripts have been given to the Columbia Libraries. Whether the work which was so lovingly carried on can ever be completed is doubtful, but nevertheless the great wealth of data will be of immense value to future scholars who share Miss Shackleton's interests.

Warren gift. In 1912, as a bequest of Professor George N. Olcott, Columbia University received an extensive collection of epigraphical specimens, including a remarkable assortment of classical coins. The Olcott Collection is the special responsibility of the Department of Greek and Latin.

Very recently Mrs. Emma Brescia Warren, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Italian who is currently lecturing at Hunter College, presented a set of plaster-of-paris squeezes, obverse and

reverse, of eighty coins of Syracuse, representing the complete known issue of that city during its most interesting period, 530–212 B.C. Included in the gift are squeezes of sixty-five representative coins of thirteen other Sicilian cities of the classical period.

Wessells gift. Miss Bessie Wessells of Newburgh, N. Y., on learning that Columbia University had acquired the John Jay Papers, presented an autograph letter from Jay to one of her ancestors, Major John Lyon, dated 8 July 1787. Included in her gift is a handsome copy of *The Life of John Jay*, written by his son, William Jay, and published in two volumes in 1833. Volume two of this copy bears the autograph of Jay's grandson, the second John Jay, dated May 12th 1833, and the pencilled signature of A. A. Lyon.

Wood gift. Professor Horace Elmer Wood II (A.M., 1923, PH.D., 1928) of Rutgers University has presented a most unusual item in a specially-bound copy of six lectures relating to mineralogy and crystallography by Thomas Egleston, Jr. The lectures were published from 1866 to 1871 for use by students in the Columbia College School of Mines, and these copies were formerly the property of Samuel Anthony Goldschmidt (E.M., 1871). The volume contains Goldschmidt's autograph and bookplate, and thus combines the interests of two great Columbia personages.

Activities of the Friends

Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries was held in the Main Reading Room of Butler Library on the evening of Tuesday, January 28, with Mr. C. Waller Barrett, Chairman of our Association, presiding.

During the short business session with which the meeting opened, Mr. Barrett said that the terms on the Council of Mr. Benjamin, Mr. Berol, Mr. Cousins, Mrs. Holden, and himself expired at that meeting. He called upon Mr. Lada-Mocarski, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, who reported that the committee wished to nominate Messrs. Barrett, Benjamin, and Berol, Mrs. Holden, and Mr. Francis T. P. Plimpton for the three-year term which ends in January, 1961. Upon motion and second from the floor, the nominees were unanimously elected.

The Libraries' Two Hundredth Anniversary. At the beginning of the meeting, Dr. Logsdon, the Director of Libraries, welcomed the large number of Friends, full-time members of the Library staff, faculty members, and students for this celebration of the Bicentennial anniversary of the founding of the Libraries. He said he was happy that the Friends had wished to sponsor this event and spoke with appreciation of the very substantial contribution which this association had made to the Libraries since the group came into existence in May, 1951. The Libraries took pleasure in coupling with this event the first public showing of the John Jay Collection, the acquisition of which had been made possible during the past year largely through the active support of the Friends. President Kirk, who spoke next, commented on the major role which the Libraries play as the nerve center for the educational and research work of the University. He referred to the growth of the book collections over the past 200 years from a small number of volumes to holdings of approximately 3,000,000 books and said that today

a university such as this must depend to a considerable extent upon the support which is given by a dedicated group like the Friends.

The principal address was given by Judge Harold R. Medina of the United States Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, who is an alumnus of the Columbia School of Law, a former faculty member of that school, and a judge who won nationwide attention in 1949 when he presided over the trial of eleven leaders of the American Communist Party. He took as his theme the inter-relationship of letters and liberty and spoke with exhilarating eloquence.

Bancroft Award Dinner. For the benefit of our members who may wish to record the date on their calendar, this year's Bancroft Dinner is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, April 22. Although further details will be mailed to our members later, it can be announced now that Mr. F. B. Adams, Jr., Director of the Pierpont Morgan Library, will be the speaker.

THE FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA LIBRARIES

PRIVILEGES

INVITATIONS to exhibitions, lectures and other special events.

USE OF BOOKS in the reading rooms of the libraries.

OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT LIBRARIANS, including those in charge of the specialized collections, about material of interest to a member. (Each Division Head has our members' names on file.)

OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE most Columbia University Press books at 20 per cent discount (through the Secretary-Treasurer of the Friends).

FREE SUBSCRIPTIONS TO COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS.

* * *

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ANNUAL. Any person contributing not less than \$10.00 per year (dues may be waived for officers of the University).

CONTRIBUTING. Any person contributing not less than \$25.00 a year.

SUSTAINING. Any person contributing not less than \$50.00 a year.

BENEFACTOR. Any person contributing not less than \$100.00 and up a year.

Checks should be made payable to Columbia University. All donations are deductible for income tax purposes.

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JUDGE HAROLD R. MEDINA, U. S. Court of Appeals, 2nd Circuit, won nationwide attention in 1949 when he presided over the trial of eleven leaders of the American Communist party. He graduated from the Columbia Law School in 1912 and has been the recipient of twenty-two honorary degrees.

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Columbia Library Columns

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COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS



In Litteris Libertas*

JUDGE HAROLD R. MEDINA

PRESIDENT KIRK, Mr. Barrett, each and every one of that devoted band of administrators on the staff of the Columbia Libraries from the top down, Friends of the Columbia Libraries, and all others gathered together here this evening to assist in making this Bicentennial Anniversary a memorable one:

It is fitting that Columbia should not permit this significant occasion to pass without appropriate ceremonies to mark the passage of the first two hundred years of the existence of what is now without a doubt the nerve center of the principal activities of this great university—education and research. It is fitting not only because in a country so young as the United States of America the passage of so long a time betokens a certain permanence, giving assurance of solid accomplishment, but also because we are now in a world of turmoil and unrest, intolerance and subversion, where tyranny rules supreme over vast reaches of the earth and institutions such as the Columbia Libraries stand out as beacons to light the way to freedom for generations in the time to come. I would emphasize at the outset that freedom and the Liberal Arts go hand and hand. And so I have chosen as the title of this

* Address given in Butler Library on January 28, 1958, at a meeting celebrating the Bicentennial Anniversary of the founding of the Columbia University Libraries.

address, "In Litteris Libertas." However I may seem to wander here and there, I hope you may feel the play of this melody throughout—the Libraries as beacons of freedom, leading us on to the pursuit of knowledge through the inviting highways and bypaths of the Liberal Arts. And I would also sound a note to remind us of Columbia as a treasure house of things peculiarly representative of the American scene and of our beloved City of New York.

One of the favorite rhetorical devices of our old friend Marcus Tullius Cicero was the "praeteritio." He would say, in effect, "I pass by this or that," but in doing so he brought pleasure to those who heard him, by the interesting matter in his seeming digressions, while at the same time driving his main theme home, on the bias, as it were. So we turn to digression number one.

With fire, floods and hurricanes, to say nothing of the carelessness and destructiveness of mankind in general, it seems almost a miracle that any of the priceless original books of centuries ago should still survive, with their artistic embellishments of illustration, illumination, bindings and exquisite papyrus, vellum, paper and miscellaneous fittings. I need not refer to the effect of the bombing of Cassino and of London and a host of other places in the recent war or of the atom bombs and intercontinental missiles of the future that we hear so much about. I remember once reading in Hazlitt's *History of the Venetian Republic* how Petrarch, who had a marvelous collection of medieval books and manuscripts, "was in perpetual dread of losing his treasures by some unlucky fire, by damp, or by dry-out." So he gave the collection to the Republic. But after a hundred years or so all were gone, except a half dozen items, including a Twelfth Century French missal. Think of the wilful, criminal destruction of the archives of the churches and monasteries and of many civil establishments in Cromwell's time. I had a taste of this sort of thing myself when my library at Westhampton, Long Island, with all my notes and memoranda, and even a few incunabula, was washed away in the hurricane of September 21, 1938.

On the other hand, there has always been a sturdy and sizeable band of preservers, who quietly hide and protect all sorts of things for posterity: books, diaries, letters, and everything else under the sun. Only the other day Elizabeth Trotter, my wife's cousin, sent several boxes full of letters, genealogical data and newspapers, including contemporary descriptions of the Burr-Hamilton affair, all connected in some way with a certain Standish Forde of Philadelphia. My wife's middle name is Forde, one of our sons is Standish Forde and one of our grandsons bears the same name. A summer or two ago we were invited to dine at Sylvester Manor on Shelter Island by "the Lord of the Manor" Andrew Fiske and his lovely wife. Before I knew it, he had taken me aside, opened a huge wall safe as large as a good-sized room, and we were soon poring over some of the most interesting original letters I have ever read, all written, as I recall, during or shortly after the Revolution. This is the stuff out of which true history is distilled. The quantity still in private hands and subject to all sorts of risks of mutilation or destruction is incalculable, but undoubtedly very large. The point I would make in passing is that each and every such item belongs in some great public institution such as the Columbia Libraries, where the letters or journals or whatnot else can be preserved intact, catalogued and, on appropriate occasions and under proper safeguards, displayed.

Now for digression number two. I often wonder how many ordinarily well-informed and intelligent people have any conception of the current day-to-day problems with which the Columbia Libraries are faced. Let us assume for the moment, as I hinted a moment ago, that our principal duties are, to gather together and make available to faculty and students and perhaps to scholars generally, the books and allied materials indispensable to the processes and procedures of education and research. Forget the Rare Books and Special Collections, to which I shall return. I hope a few statistics will not bore you. Here they are.

The Columbia Libraries serve the needs of some 27,000 students and over 4,000 faculty members. It is anticipated that by

1970 the enrollment will have increased by from 2,700 to 5,400 additional students. At Columbia it is possible to take courses in forty-one different languages; the undergraduate programs, the professional schools and the Graduate Faculties offer opportunities leading to forty-nine different degrees, and almost 5,000 different courses.

By 1870 there were in the Columbia Libraries 14,100 volumes; by 1897, 75,000 volumes; by 1931, 1,250,000 volumes; and by 1957, 2,900,000 volumes, with an insurance value of \$20,000,000.

The current annual expense to Columbia University for the acquisition and preservation of library materials, for the staff members to provide circulation and reference services and to perform the operations connected with book orders, cataloguing and binding, has mounted to the incredible figure of \$1,500,000.

Here is a partial but fairly complete list of the Columbia Libraries:

Library of Columbia College	Music Library
Barnard College Library	Ware Collection
Teachers College Library	Avery Library of Architecture
Burgess Library (Social Sciences)	Library of Fine Arts
Carpenter Library (English and Modern Languages)	Rare Books and Special Collections
Greek and Latin Classics Library	East Asiatic Library
Paterno Library	Library of Business and Economics
Engineering Library	Library of Law and International Law
Mathematics Library	Medical Library
Philosophy Library	Library of Plastic Surgery
Psychology Library	School of Journalism Library
Library of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering	School of Pharmacy Library
Library of Physics	Library of the School of Library Service
Library of Zoology and Botany	
Geology Library	

How is it possible to keep this huge congeries of libraries up to date, to ascertain and fill gaps in the collections of books in this field or that? The modern output of scientific books and

periodicals all over the world presents a special problem. In the central clearinghouse section which receives, checks in, and distributes to the various university libraries the periodicals received from day to day, it hardly seems possible, but the fact is that during the past year 110,000 items were processed. Government and foundation grants and projects present a very pressing library problem.

Nor does any department of this great university stand still. There are plans for a new Engineering Center, a proposed Fine Arts Center, a new Law Center, perhaps a branch library of the Geology Library to be established at or near the Lamont Geological Observatory at Palisades, New York, and so on. Some of these plans are soon to be put into effect, others are nebulous and in the early stages; and they all have to do in one way or another with books and library facilities.

Now, what is digression number two put in for? Well, I want you to see the problems for one thing. The modern demands for service seem impossible of fulfilment, the complexity of the task is baffling; but Columbia accepts the challenge and I have no fear of the outcome. For the goal toward which we eagerly press is worth all the effort and all the sacrifice. We must maintain free access to ideas, to new creative thought and the unfettered functioning of the mind. Here in these hallowed walls we do not walk the chalk-line of conformity; we do not think what we are told to think and stop there; fostered by the spirit of the Liberal Arts we reach out and probe to solve the secrets of the nature of man and of the cosmos. These Columbia Libraries are meant for the use of a free and independent people.

So much for the "praeteritio." Now we turn directly to the task in hand.

Why are we gathered here in the year of our Lord 1958 to celebrate the founding of the Columbia Libraries? Beginnings are always interesting and significant. The earliest acquisition was a bequest by the Honorable Joseph Murray, Esquire, of the Middle Temple, according to his bookplate; one of the Governors

of the College, a member of his Majesty's Council for the Province of New York and "the most considerable Lawyer here in his time." He died in April, 1757, and left his residuary estate "including a fine library" to "the Governors of the College of the Province of New York, by whatever name they are called." It is not known exactly when the books were handed over, but this gift was supplemented by another bequest from the Reverend Duncombe Bristowe, D.D., a graduate of Brasenose College, Oxford, and Rector of Allhallows, Staining within Aldgate, London, who died in June, 1758. The Reverend Dr. Bristowe made the bequest to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel "to be sent to the College of New York, of which Dr. Johnson is President, or to such Place or Places as the Society should direct." Some of these books "are adorned with the bookplate of the Rev. Dr. Duncombe Bristowe, as also with the ancient emblem of the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts." And so the Columbia Libraries were born. These precious volumes were used to good purpose by the little band of educators who then made up the College, but storms were brewing, and in April and May of 1776 the College building was given up to the patriot troops and the books and apparatus removed to the City Hall, where the British and Hessian soldiers played havoc with them soon after General Howe's entry into New York in September, 1776. Some of them were deposited in a closet near the organ loft in St. Paul's and rumor had it that many were protected in a stoned-up doorway where they were found in 1802 by some workmen employed in preparing a place for the organ. An interesting item in the *Morning Chronicle* on December 18, 1802, branded this as a hoax "invented by some wag," and added: "The report had gained so much by travelling that it was said a librarian was discovered with the library, who, on coming out into the city, was quite surprised with the changes that had taken place."

President Butler once reported that the minutes of the Trustees disclosed the following library expenditures: for 1825,



New York Times

On September 6, 1950, Enos M. Johnston of Brooklyn returned to Dr. Richard H. Logsdon, then Associate Director of Libraries, a copy of *A System of Natural Philosophy* which Robert Harpur, the King's College Librarian, took home in 1772 possibly for preservation during the troubled years shortly before the outbreak of the American Revolution. Mr. Johnston had found the book in the attic at the home of a 90-year-old aunt in Binghamton, New York. If the present student fine rate of five cents a day had been charged for this book, overdue for 178 years, the descendants of the borrower would have owed \$3,280!

\$177.44; 1827, \$44.57; 1832, \$51.75; 1843, \$100; 1851, \$400; 1862, \$500.

From this brief historical recital I turn to a subject that will bring us back to our original theme. Most of us here tonight have probably been bitten by the book-bug from early childhood. Even today it is only with a supreme effort that I pass one of the old-book stalls; they simply fascinate me. What pure delight it must be to spend one's days as Mr. Baughman does, examining the special gifts as they come in, plotting and scheming to get them and then arranging them for study by historical or other

scholars or for exhibition. He has the best job in the Libraries, I think.

Some of the recent acquisitions by the Columbia Libraries fit in exactly with what I am trying to say this evening. And, really, part of the celebration centers around the famous John Jay Collection, which a group of generous members of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries and their collaborators brought in last year. I am saving that for the end.

Also last year the Columbia Libraries received the Dr. Benjamin Salzer Collection of Mayor's Court Papers, about 2000 pieces in all, extending in date from 1681 to 1819. [The history of this court goes back to 1650, when the States General ordered the establishment in New Amsterdam of a court similar to that in existence in the mother city. When the English conquered New Netherland in 1664, the name of this court of Burgomasters and Schepens was changed to the Mayor's Court and its development followed that of the English Mayor's Courts, notably that of the Lord Mayor of London.] The Salzer Collection also contains a large amount of material of the Court of General Sessions, relating to criminal matters. . . .

Then, in browsing around, I came across two of George Washington's Manuscript Diaries for the year 1795, his last year but one as the first President of the United States, and 1798, the year before he died. These were presented to the University in 1951 by Charles Moran, Jr., a Columbia alumnus, by whose family they had been preserved and passed on from generation to generation since 1827.

One of the entries is on February 12, 1798, when he went "with the family" to a Ball in Alexandria "given by the Citizens of it & its vicinity in commemoration of the anniversary of my birthday." This came as quite a surprise, as most of us think of Washington's birthday as February 22. But it turned out that Alexandria was still using the old Style Calendar in 1798, which accounts for the difference of ten days. And, incidentally, those of us who love Alexandria and the people who live there, rec-

ognize in this lack of the customary zeal to keep with the times, this unwillingness to be hurried into new-fangled notions under the guise of progress, one of the reasons Alexandria is so attractive and alluring.

But by far the most important acquisition by the Columbia Libraries for many a year is the John Jay Collection, which includes nearly 2000 pieces to and from more than 250 individuals, including John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, John Paul Jones, Rufus King, the Marquis de Lafayette, Gouverneur Morris, General Schuyler and George Washington. It is a veritable treasure house. Many of the most interesting items are on display here in Butler Library this evening, as you have doubtless already noticed.

How strange it is that so many of us here at Columbia know so little of the true stature and the outstanding accomplishments of this great American patriot, one of Columbia's most illustrious sons. We pass by John Jay Hall, some of us almost every day of our lives, and probably even those familiar with the works of his early biographers think of him as cold and austere, more mind than man. And he *was* reserved, one of New York's aristocrats. But there were few who rendered such conspicuous, continuous, and unselfish services to America during the period of the Revolution, and before and after. Frank Monahan's *John Jay, Defender of Liberty* gives us a true measure of his greatness, and the title page displays this interesting summary: "Defender of Liberty against Kings & Peoples; Author of the Constitution & Governor of New York; President of the Continental Congress; Co-author of the Federalist; Negotiator of the Peace of 1783 & the Jay Treaty of 1794; First Chief Justice of the United States." He loved Columbia too, taking his B.A. degree in the then King's College in 1764 and his M.A. degree in 1767. His son Peter Augustus Jay also received a B.A. degree in 1794, a M.A. in 1797 in what by that time had become Columbia College, and an honorary LL.D. in 1835.

But the man who smiles out to us from this fine collection is

no austere and forbidding intellectual machine, but rather a hearty human being, full of the zest of life, who was not only trusted and consulted on matters of the highest consequence in the affairs of government but was truly loved by such men as Washington, John Adams and Hamilton, and a host of others. He had courage and he had that most rare of qualities, a serene outlook on men and events which made it possible for him to weather in silence and peace of mind many an unfounded personal attack upon his integrity, and many an unexpected and disappointing turn of events. In all this his absolute and unwavering faith in Christ as our Redeemer and our Saviour was a supreme resource. History has done him something less than justice.

It is not always easy to prove a point by reference to two or three out of 2000 pieces of a Collection such as the John Jay papers, but I shall try.

What first caught my eye was a letter from John Adams, dated at Amsterdam, November 28, 1781. He is gloating over the capture of Cornwallis at Yorktown and is riding high, having been visited by a number of persons of consequence to offer congratulations. But he adds:

* * * but there are invisible FAIRIES who disconcert in the NIGHT all the operations of the patriot in the Day.

Who of us has not been visited by these same FAIRIES!

There is a precious holographic letter written to Jay also by John Adams. John Adams is bowing out as the Second President of the United States, to be succeeded, as it turned out, by Thomas Jefferson. Jay is serving his second term as Governor of New York.

Washington November 24, 1800

Dear Sir

I received last week your friendly private Letter of the tenth. The assurance of the continuance of your friendship was unnecessary for me, because I have never had a doubt of it. But others invent and report as they please.

They have presumed hitherto however more delicacy towards the friendship between you and me than any other.

The last Mission to France, and the consequent dismissal of the twelve Regiments, although an essential branch of my System of Policy, has been to those who have been intriguing and laboring for an Army of fifty thousand Men, an unpardonable fault. If by their folly they have thrown themselves on their backs and Jacobins should walk over their bellies, as military Gentlemen express promotions over their heads, who should they blame but themselves?

Among the very few Truths in a late Pamphlet there is one that I shall ever acknowledge with pleasure, viz. that the principal Merit of the negotiations for Peace was Mr. Jays. I wish you would permit our Historical Society to print the Papers you drew up on that Occasion.

I often say that when my Confidence in Mr. Jay shall cease, I must give up the cause of Confidence and renounce it with all Men.

With great Truth and regard I am now and ever shall be your friend and humble servant.

JOHN ADAMS

I have saved for the last the piece that I like best. Jay and his wife Sally Livingston Jay sailed from the neighborhood of Philadelphia for Spain on October 20, 1779. This turned out to be one of his most unhappy and frustrating experiences. Mrs. Jay had requested General St. Clair to ask Washington for a lock of his hair so that she might take it with her as a keepsake. The lock of hair arrived with the following, entirely in Washington's own hand:

General Washington presents his most respectful compliments to Mrs. Jay—Honoured in her request by General St. Clair, he takes pleasure in presenting the inclosed, with

thanks for so polite a testimony of her approbation & esteem—He wishes most fervently, that prosperous gales—an unruffled sea—and everything pleasing & desirable, may smooth the path she is about to walk in—

WEST-POINT *October 7th 1779*

Yes, the Columbia Libraries and those of her sister universities and colleges are beacons of freedom beckoning to all who toil in the quest for truth and knowledge. Every branch of learning is solidly represented, and all, including those who seek some special proficiency, as in medicine or the law or journalism or music, are enriched by the culture of the Liberal Arts, so indispensable to the development of creative thought, and what we call, for lack of a better word, imagination. All who enter here may seek solace and refreshment in the delights of literature and the manifold allurements of the humanities. Here the sciences and the humanities walk together *pari passu*. Here no tyrant tells us what to learn or what to teach. And we pay a proper tribute to our forbears and to those who fought for freedom and made all these things possible. These are the thoughts I would have you associate with the celebration, on this 28th day of January in the year of our Lord 1958, of the Bicentennial Anniversary of the Founding of the Columbia Libraries. As John Jay would have said: for all these blessings we thank Almighty God, the creator and preserver of all mankind.

The Salzer Collection of Mayor's Court Papers

RICHARD B. MORRIS

OF PRIME importance to students of American legal and social history is the recent acquisition by Special Collections of the papers of the old Mayor's Court of New York City and of other state courts. Acquired as a gift from the estate of the late Dr. Benjamin Salzer, a neurologist of New York City, and through the good offices of the attorney of that estate, Mr. Donald Newborg, this collection comprises some two-thousand items ranging in date from 1681 to 1819.

This collection, not available to students and researchers hitherto, is, first of all, of special interest to lawyers. The papers supplement the minutes of the Mayor's Court on file in the office of the Commissioner of Records of New York County, which were selected and printed in part in *Select Cases of the Mayor's Court of New York City, 1674-1784*, published by the American Historical Association in 1935 and edited by the present writer. That volume demonstrated the relationship, first, between the Mayor's Court as it was organized following the English conquest of New Netherland and the previous Dutch court of Burgomasters and Schepens of New Amsterdam. The former continued the jurisdiction of the Dutch court and then, when English influences became paramount, adapted much from the practice and procedure of the Mayor's Court of London. While for a time the Mayor's Court exercised some criminal jurisdiction, it soon became largely a court of civil matters and as such the chief tribunal in New York City for handling business litigation.

The abundance of these file papers reveals how active the Mayor's Court really was. Yet only a limited number of attorneys are represented in the litigation covered by the papers. The rea-

son is that the privilege of practicing in that court was so highly prized that it was closely restricted. Under the Montgomerie Charter of 1731 seven attorneys, all of whose papers are available in considerable quantities in the Columbia collection, were given a monopoly of practice in the court during good behavior. Even though later legislation liberalized admission to practice, a select coterie of attorneys kept the lion's share of the practice down to the Revolution. The Salzer Papers tell us something about the manner in which the very earliest attorneys conducted their lawsuits. They tell us about the legal pioneers, like Samuel Winder who practiced between 1685 and 1688, and John Tuder, Barne Cosens, James Emott, and Edward Antill, making court appearances at the end of the 17th century. They reveal that in the first decade of the 18th century the practice was fairly evenly split between Jacob Regnier and that salty character, David Jamison, who had previously been condemned to be hanged in Scotland as a blasphemous Bible-burner. The papers further reveal that on the eve of the Revolution the practice was chiefly in the hands of James Duane, Benjamin Kissam, and Thomas Smith. But those famous pre-Revolutionary leaders of the bar, John Morin Scott and William Smith, are also represented in this collection. With the reopening of the court in February, 1784, all vestiges of legal monopoly vanished. The names of the leading federal lawyers appear among the Salzer papers for the years 1784 to 1819, including Alexander Hamilton, Aaron Burr, Egbert Benson, and Robert Troup.

In theory the Mayor's Court was restricted in jurisdiction to actions which arose within the city of New York, but actually in certain transitory suits it was the common practice, just as in the Mayor's Court of London, to allege an act having taken place outside the realm and then to assert that the foreign place was located "in the out ward of the City of New York." The Salzer Papers contain suits brought for money received "att Port Royall in Jamaica (to Witt) at the Dock Ward of the City of New York," for freight received "in the River Thames (to Witt) att

the Dock Ward of the City of New York," and an assault and battery was alleged to have taken place "at Brookland . . . att the Citty of New York."

Like the borough courts in England, the mayor's court exercised maritime and admiralty jurisdiction in the colonial period. Suits involving mariner's wages, customs collections, and many other marine matters were more frequently brought before the Mayor's Court than before the court of vice-admiralty which also sat in New York. In the former, of course, jury trials were permitted, whereas they were barred from admiralty procedure. Early marine insurance claims occasionally appear among these papers, forming a valuable supplement to the scattered items for the 18th century to be found at the Insurance Society of New York, the library of the New York Chamber of Commerce, and at the New York Public Library and the New-York Historical Society. One interesting case arose in 1798 on a policy of insurance which made a concession to the strong sentiment among New York merchants in favor of arbitration. The policy had provided that any dispute over loss be referred to two persons, one to be chosen by the assured out of three to be named by the assurer, the other by the assurer from three to be named by the assured. Perhaps the most important maritime case found in this collection is the prosecution brought in 1762 against Waddell Cunningham, a prominent New York businessman, for illegal correspondence with the French during the French and Indian War, shipping provisions out of the colony to the enemy without posting bond. Cunningham's difficulties did not deter other New York merchants from holding on to their share of the valuable enemy markets and from using other devices to carry on this profitable though illicit trade. In one odd maritime case before the court a pilot of the port of New York, who was unable to get off a vessel at Sandy Hook owing to tempestuous weather, was forced to make the long voyage to London. The court reimbursed him at the rate of £6 per month for his absence from New York.

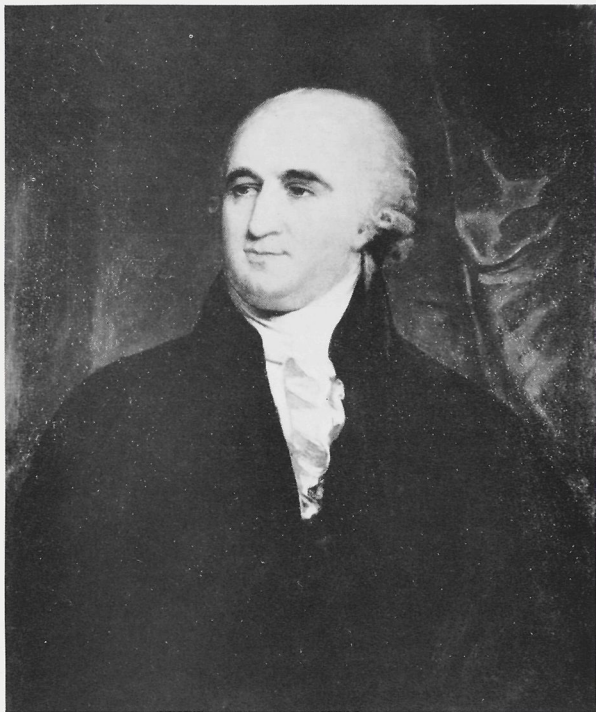
Over the long run everybody came into the Mayor's Court. Apprentices sued masters for breach of articles of indenture, employers sued other masters for detaining or enticing their workmen, teachers sued for board and tuition, lawyers frequently had to go to law to collect their fees, and surgeons tried to have their bills paid for operations performed. Such operations might very well delay the business of the court. One Patrick Walsh deposed in 1770 that one of his material witnesses would be unable to attend the trial on the next day as he "hath lately been cut for a fistula or the piles and is confined to his bed, so that he is utterly unable to go abroad, and cannot attend the trial of the above cause tomorrow."

No historian can leaf through these papers without picking up exciting pieces of historical information. The first papers written in their cramped Gothic script depict the affairs of litigants living at a time when Wall Street was close to the northernmost limits of the town, which in the 1680's boasted 350 houses and some 1,500 inhabitants. The last papers depict a period when New York had become a metropolis and the first city of the land. Some of the documents starkly describe the ravages of the British occupation of New York during the Revolution. When Cornelius Bogert took over Elizabeth Waldron's estate in Harlem, he cleared away standing timber in what must have been a picturesque virgin woodland. According to these papers, he and his associates felled 2,500 chestnut trees, 3,000 hickory trees, 2,200 white oak, 2,100 black oak, 1,500 red cedar, 1,800 maple, 1,900 ash, 2,000 birch, and 5,000 apple trees. They are charged with carrying away 400 cartloads of timber to a total damage of over £6,000. Truly the face of New York was drastically altered as a result of the Revolution.

Fire, plunder, and the ravages of fighting in and around the city left their scars upon the city's face, but the severest scars of all were emotional, the result of the civil war waged between Whigs and Tories, even between members of the same families. Tories, backed by the British army, were quick to take over

Patriot properties when the Whigs quit the city after the British troop landings in '76. In turn, through the machinery of the up-state Revolutionary legislature, the Patriots passed laws providing for the confiscation of Tory property. The evacuation of the British army at the end of the war, accompanied by a vast civilian army of Tories, gave rise to a flood of litigation brought by injured Patriots, and abundantly documented in this collection.

It all started in 1784, when the widow Rutgers, who had abandoned her brewery and fled the city on the eve of the British occupation, brought suit under the Trespass Act of 1783 against one Benjamin Waddington, a Tory, who had occupied the premises during the war under an order of the British authorities. The Trespass Act enabled those who had fled from the enemy to sue for trespass to their real or personal property during their absence, deprived the defendants of the right to plead in justification any military order or command of the enemy for the occupation or destruction of the property, and held that, if suits were brought in any inferior court, they were to be therein finally determined. This was a test case. For Mrs. Rutgers appeared John Lawrence and Colonel Robert Troup. For the unpopular defendant the courageous Alexander Hamilton risked his political neck by opposing further reprisals against the Tories. The court handed down a political decision, allowing damages for the period 1778–80, when the defendant occupied the property by license of a person who had acted beyond his powers, but denying recovery for the period 1780–83, when the defendant had acted under license of the British commander-in-chief. The opinion, handed down by Mayor James Duane, declared in effect that a state law contrary to the treaty of 1783 with Great Britain was illegal. Thus *Rutgers v. Waddington* has often been cited as an early precedent for the doctrine of judicial review. A flood of protests from the more violent anti-Tory faction, aimed at Duane and more especially at Hamilton, came in the wake of this decision, along with a torrent of lawsuits brought by aggrieved Patriots. Many of these suits were compromised. The



Mayor James Duane of New York who sat as magistrate in the Mayor's Court during the trial of *Rutgers v. Waddington* in 1784, one of the most famous cases to come before that court.

Duane was a governor of King's College from 1762-1781, one of the *ex officio* regents of the new University of the State of New York from 1784-1787, a Trustee of Columbia College from 1787-1797, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees from 1787-1795.

The original portrait, which now hangs in the lounge of Hartley Hall at Columbia, is a copy by James Francis Brown of a portrait painted by John Trumbull in 1805.

Salzer Collection has probably the largest number of such suits to be found anywhere. It should be added that as a result of Hamilton's indefatigable efforts the legislature at long last repealed the Trespass Act.

The whole range of the city's crafts and craftsmen is exposed to the researcher among the Salzer Papers. Carpenters, coopers, and turners sued in the Mayor's Court to recover for their services. For example, as early as 1710 New York appears to have had an armourer named William Brown, involved here as a litigant. Everardus Bogardus, the silversmith, manages to get in and out of court as a litigant on several occasions. Silks and spices, beer, rum and London porter, wines and Cheshire cheese, Holland duck and canvas, oil paints, window glass, and sealing wax, castor hats, leather and skins and "fat oxen and fat lambs," and countless other items, lean as well as fat, are the subject of litigation in these papers. Of special interest and utility to students of the household arts and crafts are the inventories and lists of household furnishings included among these papers. In 1711 Roger Brett placed in the safekeeping of Gyles Shelley an interesting collection of gold, silver, and pewter items. When in 1785 Mason Wattles found difficulty meeting his rent, Edward Agar attached all his house furnishings to the value of £100 current money of New York and including a chest of drawers, eight mahogany chairs, and two mahogany bedsteads. It goes without saying that these articles would bring a lot fancier prices in today's market—if the Winterthur Museum has not already acquired them!

Mozart's Librettist—First Professor of Italian at Columbia University

ALDO CASELLI

LORENZO DA PONTE, the "libertine librettist," arrived in the United States in the port of Philadelphia on the 4th of June, 1805. As librettist of Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*, and *Così fan Tutte*, he had already staked his claim to immortality. I am not sure whether the title of libertine is appropriate to this lively Venetian, who was born on March 10, 1749, in the ghetto of Ceneda, "a small, but not unknown city of the Venetian state," as Da Ponte describes it in his memoirs. Gallantry is found in letters and diaries of this time in Venice, as the true Venetian temperament was cool, ebullient and sensuous. For a short but very efficient study of the Venetian character the reader can see Mary McCarthy's recent *Venice Observed*.* Miss McCarthy's book leads us to believe that Da Ponte was rather a good Venetian, representative of the time and the society in which he was born.

Da Ponte's crossing from London to Philadelphia lasted 86 days, and his first contact with somebody from the United States was far from auspicious. The ship's captain was a Nantucketer named Hayden, whose primary business was the hunting of whales. His dealings with the passengers were not very different from the way he dealt with those mammals. The food was impossible and conditions on board were not any better. The crossing was, as Da Ponte says, "a double Lent." This crossing was probably a portent of the librettist's American experience, as he was more in contact with the sheriff than with anybody else. This is unfortunate because, as J. Russo says: "Seldom if ever, indeed, had a man of a more interesting personality come to these shores from Eu-

* New York, Reynal and Company, 1956.

rope. In the course of his long life, the term of which embraced the birth and death of Byron, Scott, Foscolo, Monti, Leopardi, Mozart, Beethoven and Napoleon, he had been by turns priest, poet and professor of rhetoric in Italy; poet to the Imperial Theatre and gallant abbé in Austria; librettist and bookseller in England; in America, tradesman, distiller, poet, man of letters, teacher, bookseller and impressario. He it was who, dreaming of founding a permanent seat for Italian opera in America, and to this dream devoting all his enthusiasm and unbounded energy as well as the feeble resources of his purse, opened the first Italian Opera House in the United States."

Da Ponte's *Memoirs* have left us a very accurate picture of his experiences. Upon his landing he proceeded to New York and started his new life. His business ventures soon terminating in bankruptcy, he sold everything he owned in order to pay his debts and tried to start again. This time he looked at teaching as a living. He was fortunate in getting the help of a bookseller named Riley who owned a store on Broadway, as he intended to start in New York a school of the Italian language which, to quote from his memoirs, was not better known in America than Turkish or Chinese. Through this bookseller Da Ponte met Professor Clement Clarke Moore¹ who, fascinated by the personality of the poet, decided to help him in establishing a class of Italian and to present him to his father, Bishop Moore,² in whose house the first school was established. The students were Clement Moore, his

¹ Clement Clarke Moore (1779-1863), son of Bishop Benjamin Moore who was President of Columbia College from 1801 to 1811, was born and educated in New York City. He graduated from Columbia in 1798 and was trained for the ministry, but devoted himself mainly to oriental and classical literature. He was a professor of biblical literature and later of Oriental and Greek literatures in the General Theological Seminary.

² Bishop Benjamin Moore (1748-1816) was born in Newtown, Long Island. After completing his studies in King's College (now Columbia University) he started to teach Greek and Latin, while preparing to enter the ministry. After spending a few years in England, he was ordained in London and, on his return to New York (1800), was made rector of Trinity parish. He was later appointed President of Columbia College, in which capacity he remained up to 1811 when, attacked by paralysis, he retired from further active service.

cousin Nathaniel Moore,³ Professor of Latin at Columbia, John McVickar, and E. Pendleton. But as soon as Da Ponte earned some money at teaching, he could not resist the attraction of business speculations (this time in Sunbury, Pa.). With them came new disappointments. These contributed to his return to Philadelphia, in 1818, where he hoped for a fresh start.

He wanted to teach Italian language and literature as he had previously done in New York, but the project failed. A letter which, in translation, describes some of the events of this period, has recently been discovered in the office of an autograph dealer in New York. It is addressed to Nathaniel Moore. The salutation is a diminutive form which indicates the close friendship between the two men.

Philadelphia

March 27, 1819

My dear Nathaniel,

These blessed Italian classics have put me in a very difficult position. Thanks to you, to Mr. Derham and other friends of mine in New York, I have good hope of pulling out of it. But I want to tell you the full story in order to make you laugh. As I had heard people say so many beautiful things about Philadelphia and being displeased at Sunbury where I only experienced losses and troubles, I finally decided to establish myself there. I immediately began to look for students of Italian language and literature and from the nice manner I was received by several people and from their words, I got hope of succeeding. The only thing which was scaring me was the very high price which a local bookseller (or it would be better to call him tyrant) was asking for

³ Nathaniel F. Moore (1782-1872) was a nephew of Bishop B. Moore. He graduated from Columbia in 1802, studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1805 and practiced for a few years. In 1817 he was appointed adjunct professor of Greek and Latin in his Alma Mater, and three years later promoted to a full professorship. From 1835 to 1837 he was in Europe, on his return assumed the duties of librarian in Columbia, continuing in this position till 1842 when he became President of the college, an office which he held up to 1849.

Italian books, of which he did not have either a large quantity. By accident I discovered that an Italian traveler had in his hands the collections of all our classics in the Milano edition, a real treasure of literature as you certainly have seen; I went to him and without difficulties I convinced him to sell them. I tried right away to see the directors of the public library, and, convinced that I was rendering a real service to the city, I used all my ability in persuading them to purchase them. They granted me the honor of accepting four volumes, which I donated to their library, i.e.: *Le Stanze e l'Orfeo* of Angelo Poliziano, as a sample of the ancient literature; *In Morti di Ugo Bassville* of our contemporary Monti, as a sample of contemporary literature; another volume by another poet (I believe Rosini), as a sample of the Bodoni books, and the volume by J. Mathias⁴ which you have seen several times and in which the author so often speaks of the Italian writers and a little about myself. These gentlemen for over two-and-a-half months gave me encouraging words and they assured me they would buy, if not all, at least a great part of the collection. So I myself bought it from this Italian traveler who was on the eve of leaving the city and who wanted to take the books with him to Havana; and as I had not enough cash for making the purchase, I gave him a promissory note due within three months, guaranteed by two Frenchmen I had in those days met, and one of whom was a poet. A few days before this promissory note was due, the directors of the Library let me know, through somebody else, in a very rude way "We do not buy the books." I don't make any comment, *Intelligenti pauca*. I will tell you the end when I will have the pleasure of seeing you and, as I hope this to

⁴ He refers here to the book by Thomas J. Mathias: *Canzoni e Prose Toscane*, London, 1808. Thomas James Mathias (1754?–1835) belonged to a distinguished English family. He studied at Eton and Cambridge where he became a close friend of Spencer and Perceval. He became sub-treasurer of the Queen and later, in 1812, Librarian at Buckingham Palace. Five years later, on account of ill health, he settled in Naples "in love with the climate and the language" and there he entertained his friend Sir Walter Scott. Mathias is still remembered as the best known English scholar in Italian since Milton.

be soon, I beg you, my very esteemed friend, to help as much as you can Clement's very generous project about my return to New York. O, if this would only happen I would say happily, quoting from Virgil, *mutatis mutandis*:

Post varios casus, post discrimina rerum
Tendimus in Latium, sedes ubi fata quietas
Ostendunt.'

Of this quiet I have a great need. With seventy years of my bent shoulders you shouldn't be surprised if, having a thousand troubles in my body and in my spirit and after a sea of miseries and troubles, I go seeking peace, peace, peace. So please take an interest in my return to New York with your usual good will. I fully realize that I have some nerve in asking new favors from you, but of whom is it the fault? Of the one who is making me the object of his attentions and encouraged me and almost gave me the right of asking and hope for everything. And what shall I give you in return for all this?—I will tell you some strange stories, some curious facts, some unusual happenings—I will make you laugh but not that kind of laugh which is in ore stultorum but that kind which our Horace presented in the vague verse:

Lacrimoso non sine risu

And I go back, for a moment, to the matter of the books. I am very pleased by the choice you and Mr. Derman have made. Please give him best regards (without forgetting his beautiful wife and the remaining part of the lovely family). I only would that either you or Clement won't lose the opportunity of buying the books by Caro, Casa, Fiorenzuola and the very witty life of Benvenuto Cellini, as these works can be found but no more in the Milano edition which I think is all sold out.

Please honor me with your answer, and believe me your obliged servant and friend,

L. DA PONTE

So goes the letter, which is very alive and full of dignified humor. The library to which he referred is the Library Company of Philadelphia, and the four books, I have been advised by the Librarian, are still on the shelves of the library and they all have inscriptions by Da Ponte on the fly leaves. In quoting the four titles by heart, Da Ponte did not exactly remember the name of the Bodoni item he gave to the library and he thinks this to be a book of Rosini. Actually it is not a work of Rosini but is a copy of the *Odi* of Amacreonte translated in Italian verses by Eritisco Pilenejo, published in Parma, 1793.

His lack of success in Philadelphia and the expensive fiasco of the rejected books must have decided him to return to New York. There the books would be useful, since his protector, Clement Moore, had found students from the best New York families anxious to learn Italian. Lorenzo Da Ponte worked hard in New York in the teaching of the language.

In 1825 Harvard and Columbia established the first two chairs of Italian in American institutions of learning. Harvard's choice fell on an obscure teacher. Columbia instead, by choosing Da Ponte, made room in its faculty, at the foot of Park Place where the institution was then located, for an enthusiast of the Italian culture. The following are extracts from the minutes of the Trustees of Columbia College.

May 2, 1825. A letter from Mr. Da Ponte was received, asking permission to instruct the alumni of the College in the Italian language and to make use of some part of the building for that purpose. The above letter was referred to the Standing Committee.

September 5, 1825. Resolved, That a Professorship of Italian Literature be established in this College, but that the Professor be not considered one of the Board of the College, nor subject to the provisions of the second chapter of the statutes.

Resolved, That the attendance of the students upon said Professor be voluntary, and that the hours of attendance be appointed by the Professor, under the direction of the President.

Resolved, That Signore Da Ponte be and is hereby appointed to the said professorship, and that he be allowed to receive from the stu-

dents who shall attend his lectures a reasonable compensation; but that no salary be allowed him from the College.

December 5, 1825. Da Ponte offers to sell two hundred and sixty-three volumes of Italian works to the college for \$364.05. Referred to a committee, C. C. Moore, chairman.

January 2, 1826. Favorable report; the books are bought for the library.

January 5, 1829. Ordered that \$50 be paid to Signore Da Ponte in addition to what he has already been paid for making the catalogue of the College.

November 3, 1829. Da Ponte offers more books.

November 12, 1829. Thirty-three volumes bought of Da Ponte for \$140.

November 30, 1829. A proposition was received through the President from Signore Da Ponte, offering to add a number of Italian books to the College Library upon condition of his having a certain number of pupils provided him to instruct in the Italian language. Whereupon—

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to accept the proposition of Signore Da Ponte.

This proposition is related in the *Memoirs*. As Da Ponte was unable to enroll students, few taking languages and French and Spanish being the preference of the few, he proposed to Clement Moore that the Trustees compel one hundred students to take Italian at a tuition fee of \$15—and Da Ponte would have contributed books to the Columbia Library to the value of the total tuition collected.

Professor Moore wrote him a polite letter advising him to release his pressure on Columbia's Trustees which would have called for a major change in the College rules, and ends by saying: "For what you have done for Italy and the cause of letters, so long as there remains a spark of taste among us for the belles-lettres, the name of Da Ponte, *clarum et venerabile nomen*, will be held in veneration; and his scholars of our, as well as of the gentler sex, will remember in the decline of life, the hours passed by them in pleasing conversation with their elegant and cultivated tutor, as among the sweetest moments of their existence; and it is there-

fore, my dear sir, that I pray you to let this suffice, and not aspire to acquire for yourself alone, like Bonaparte, the whole glory of the universe."

His efforts having failed once more, he makes in his *Memoirs* some sad observations about the diffusion of Italian in America. It is true that Da Ponte's narrative may have been pessimistic and that he enjoyed posing as a victim of human perfidy. But, he cannot accept the fact that although there were several progressive merchants in Italy willing to ship wine and olive oil and silk and marble and Venetian jewelry and Parma cheese, there was not a single bookseller who ventured to send books to America. At the time of Da Ponte there was no bookstore owned or managed by an Italian. All the books to be found in New York were either brought in accidentally by travelers or were in somebody's library and were sold at auction upon his death. Americans were fascinated by the oracles of Germany, England and France, but very little they knew of Italian culture.

After Da Ponte's death in 1838, the instruction of Italian lapsed at Columbia for nearly half a century. It was revived in 1882 with the appointment of Carlo Leonardo Speranza as instructor in Italian and Spanish. Since then, the development of the Italian Department under such men as Arthur Livingston, Giuseppe Prezzolini and Dino Bigongiari, and the founding in 1927 of the Casa Italiana, with its Paterno Library, have at last made Da Ponte's dream come true.

A Sad Farewell to my Books

Anacreontic

LORENZO DA PONTE

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Luciano Rebay, Instructor in Italian at Columbia, has made the following prose translation of an original poem by Da Ponte which was recently purchased by the Libraries. At the end of the poem Da Ponte wrote a note which alluded to the personal financial crisis which necessitated the sale of the books. (See bottom of page 32.)

Farewell, faithful friends, companions of both my
happy and sorrowful days, farewell.

The ominous wrath of an adverse fate takes you
from me, a misfortune much bitterer than death.

The nightingale, mourning his lost mate, does not
fill the countryside with more desperate grief,

Nor does a father suffer more when from the shore
he sees his sons take to the sea,

Than I, my heart rent, feel in giving you away; for
in one moment I lose with you all I cherish.

It was only through you that in the changing course
of life I was able to give respite to my sorrows
and to turn them to joys;

And only you could have given birth to my fame,
had your light remained whole and united.

(5) Un doloroso Addio (4)
a' miei libri.
Anacreontica

Addio fedeli Amici,
Delizie del cor mio,
De' giorni miei felici,
De' tuoi compagni, addio.
Vi toglie a me funesta
Sua d'avverse sorte,
Una sventura e' questa
Più amara assai che morte.
S' querulo usignuolo
Cui titta è la compagna
S' un disperato duole
Non empie la campagna,
Se l'adone mai si duole
Quando dal patrio lido
Vede ir sul mar sua prole
Mentr' ei riman sul lido
Com'io straziar mi sento
Il cor nel darvi altrui,
Ch'io perdo in un momento
Ogni mio bene in voi.
Che per voi sol poter
No' varr' umani eventi
Dar tregua a' mali miei
Cangiandoli in contenti
E solo a voi dat' era
al nome mio dar vita,
Se rimaneasi intera
La vostra luce unita. (11)

The manuscript of Da Ponte's poem "A Sad Farewell to My Books" is reproduced here and continued on page 33. A translation is given on the facing pages. (Original manuscript in the Columbia University Libraries)

Having you, I did not expect greater gifts from
heaven; having you, I did not envy kings their
riches and their thrones.

When the sun scorched the fields I would find in
you, in a cool meadow, sweet comfort and
charm.

When the evil wrath of winter had killed the grass
and the flowers, through you Favonius¹ would
smile in my cell.

From you my soul learnt Piety and Charity, through
you how to forget the insults of ingratitude.

Reading through the night I drank the nectar of the
gods; often dreaming of you my dreams were
joys.

Alas, fate takes from me my only treasure! Death
would have been less bitter than this last fare-
well.

"In the year 1831 I had on the shelves of my private library 3000 selected volumes [—] which contained the most beautiful pages of our literature. I sold 2000 of them [at] auction to procure the funds necess[ary] to settle the drama, of which the [pains] and expenses were left to me with volumes of nebulous pr[omises] and merchant-like generosity."

¹ The west wind.

Indi maggiori doni
 Dal Cielio non sperai
 Indi ricchezze e troni
 A' Nonon invitorai.
 Se il sole i campi ardea
 Io sull'erbetta fresca
 In voi trovar solea
 Dolce ristoro e fresca.
 Se l'erbe e i fiori uccise
 L'ira del verno ria,
 Per voi Favonio rise
 Nella celsa mia.
 Pietà, Beneficenza
 Da voi quest'alma apprese
 Per voi di sconoscenza
 Seppa obbliar le offese.
 Per voi per voi vegliando
 Il nettar degli Dei,
 Spesso di voi sognando
 Fur gioje i sogni miei.
 Mi toglie ahimè la sorte
 Il sol tesoro mio!
 Aen apra fia la morte
 Di questo estremo addio.

(1) l'anno 1831 io aveva nelle scanza della
 privata biblioteca 3000 volumi di scelte op-
 ere, contenean quanto ha di più bello la ri-
 stro letteratura. Ne vendei 2000 volumi.
 L'incanto per procurarmi i fondi necessari
 allo stabilimento del dramma di cui la fat-
 e la 1832 furono con volumi di fumanti op-
 e con generosità mercantile, lasciata a me.

Concerning the Italian Collection

LOUIS PAOLUCCI

LAST YEAR, the Thirtieth Anniversary of Casa Italiana was celebrated and an Endowment Fund drive was inaugurated to secure support for the Casa's cultural activities. One of the after-effects of this anniversary was the suggestion that an article about the Italian Collection might be timely.

If we are to believe the words of Lorenzo Da Ponte in his *Memoirs*, the Italian Collection in 1825 consisted of "an old, worm-eaten Boccaccio with a broken binding." Further, we learn that this "collection" was expanded within a few years, mainly by his efforts, to more than seven hundred selected volumes. Yet Da Ponte, Columbia's first noteworthy Professor of Italian, though he had a library, had no pupils!

Now why, in Da Ponte's time, was student interest in Italian studies practically non-existent, whereas today it is thriving fairly well in numerous high schools and colleges throughout the nation? One answer is that Italian-Americans were few, if any, at that time, whereas today they are numerous. This answer is not enough, however, for it might imply that Italian culture offers fruits of provincial rather than of universal interest; actually the reverse is true. Recent experience indicates that interest in Italian studies is spreading steadily beyond the ranks of Italian-Americans.

In his day, Da Ponte expressed the opinion that students preferred to study French and Spanish because these languages were useful in business while Italian was not. However, records of the time indicate that interest in the study of those languages was also weak. Actually, the main interest in language study was centered on Latin and Greek, which could scarcely be said to have had much value in commerce. No doubt, their accepted value,

aesthetic and practical, lay in their time-tested greatness. Who could deny in the time of Da Ponte, or today,

“the glory that was Greece,
and the grandeur that was Rome”?

This lack of interest in Italian studies continued throughout the 19th Century. America was still too young physically and mentally to take more than a casual, dilettante interest in any outside culture. An Italian literature in the all-pervading shadow of the Roman Catholic Church could hardly be expected to attract serious attention in a country whose youthful, basically Protestant spirit was struggling for maturity in a jungle of Calvinism, Arminianism, Antinomianism, Unitarianism, and personal transcendentalism; whose prophets were Channing, Emerson, Thoreau, Longfellow, Hawthorne, Melville, Whitman, and Mark Twain.

The event which was to prepare the way for the eventual revival of Italian studies in America was the arrival from Italy between 1880 and 1910 of some three million unskilled and semi-skilled laborers. In spite of difficulties rising out of language and cultural barriers which made their settling into ethnological neighborhoods inevitable, the children and grandchildren of these immigrants began gradually to absorb American customs and ideas. However, they had to face, and to a certain extent still are facing, the problem of racial prejudice. One of the commendable reactions to this prejudice has been an examination by many second and third generation Italians of their ancestral heritage. They were amazed to find it quite fit to stand beside the glory of Greece and the grandeur of Rome. For some time now they have been trying to focus American attention on this great culture, pointing to Petrarch for an unsurpassed poetic encyclopedia of passion, to Boccaccio for a Shakespearean comedy of life, to St. Francis for a beguiling, child-like Christian way of life, to Leopardi for an exquisitely bitter-sweet, pessimistic view

of life, to Machiavelli for a startlingly realistic view of power politics, to Manzoni for a comic, tragic, providential view of life, to Goldoni for light comedy, to Alfieri for poetic tragedy, to Verga for a realistic glimpse of Sicily, to Pirandello for a statement of modern intellectual confusion, and, above all, to Dante, whose *Divine Comedy* is the supreme philosophical poem of all time, the Odyssey of Christian salvation, second only to the Bible in terms of ethical significance to the Western world.

One of the outstanding results of the efforts of the Italian-Americans, and of other lovers of Italian culture, is embodied in the Italian Collection in the Columbia Libraries, with its more than 32,000 books, pamphlets and periodicals. Of these, approximately 12,000 are in the General Library as direct descendants of the "worm-eaten Boccaccio," while the other 20,000, with an entirely separate history, are in Paterno Library which is located on the fourth floor of Casa Italiana. Several hundred other Italian books are in the collections of various departmental libraries.

The growth of the General Library collection has been gradual and more or less uneventful. It is scholarly, covering all periods of Italian history, though special emphasis is laid on the Renaissance period, Italy's Golden Age.

On the other hand, the Paterno Collection, although reasonably well-stocked with Renaissance material, lays special emphasis on modern times—that is, the era of the Risorgimento up to the present. Into Paterno every year flows a steady stream of carefully selected current works of fiction, non-fiction and poetry, along with a wide selection of well-known periodicals plus the two most important daily newspapers, *Corriere Della Sera* and *L'Unità*. These resources make Paterno a high-ranking center of information about contemporary Italian culture.

And the value of keeping up such a collection? . . . Surely if we desire to maintain peaceful relations with our neighbors it is imperative that we know as much as possible about their ideas, beliefs and deeds.



A late afternoon view of Casa Italiana in which Italian studies at Columbia are centered and where the Paterno Library is located.

The name, Paterno, honors the memory of Dr. Charles V. Paterno,¹ whose generous donations were mainly responsible both for the birth of the library in 1927 and for much of its subsequent growth. As a crowning gift, in 1938, he (with Carlo M. Paterno) endowed it with a \$30,000 fund, the income from which has been serving for the yearly purchase of books.

Credit for much of the first few years of the library's development goes to the first librarians, Professor Rinetti and his successor Mr. Henry Furst. The later librarians—Miss Bernero, Miss Pescé, and Mrs. Picone as well as Miss Savini, long-time secretary of the Casa—have continued this development.

Through the years, aside from purchased books, the collection has been increased by many valuable gift books whose donors are too numerous to mention. Particularly notable, however, are Mrs. Fiorello La Guardia, Mr. Herbert L. Matthews, *N.Y. Times* correspondent to Italy during the Mussolini era, and Professor Giuseppe Prezzolini. Professor Prezzolini, an internationally known author, journalist, and literary critic, was Director of the Casa from 1930 to 1940 and is now Emeritus—though still extraordinarily active in the Italian literary scene as well as in his concern for the continued development of the library. He ranks unquestionably as the greatest single donor of books. During the past twenty-seven years he has given hundreds of review-copy books sent to him by Italian and American publishers, as well as a steady stream of periodicals and pamphlets. Also, his frequent recommendations for the purchase of new books have proved invaluable to recent librarians.

Other faculty members whose efforts, recommendations, and

¹ Dr. Charles V. Paterno, who was a graduate of the Cornell Medical School in 1899, lived in the famous Paterno Castle at 182nd Street and Riverside Drive. When his father, who was a builder, died with a construction job underway, Charles completed the project and then continued in the construction business himself, building the Castle Village and Hudson View apartment developments on Washington Heights. These were noted for their modernity. A spectacular cooperative apartment colony centering around a ninety-story tower, which he planned to build atop the Palisades, was never undertaken because of the Depression. He died in 1946.

gifts have given strong impetus to the growth of the Paterno Collection are Professors Riccio, Marraro, Livingston, Gerig, Ragusa, and Dino Bigongiari. Professor Riccio's efforts deserve special mention because he ranks high among those who were mainly responsible for the founding of the Casa and, therefore, Paterno Library—but that is another story.

In brief, then, the history of the Italian Collection runs from one book (we assume) in 1825 to more than 32,000 in 1958. And in regard to students, while there were none in 1825, the enrollment in Italian studies today is more than 350, a figure which shows promise of steady increase as Italo-American relations (which suffered a great setback during the last war) improve and stimulate interest in Italian culture.

The Francis Henry Lenygon Memorial Room

JAMES GROTE VAN DERPOOL

ON OCTOBER 28, 1955, President Kirk formally accepted the Francis Henry Lenygon Memorial Room to serve as a reserve study in Avery Library where scholars could work with rare books, original drawings, and manuscript materials from that library's collections. Subsequent to that acceptance ceremony, the donor has generously transferred to University ownership virtually all of the furnishings. I am happy to have this opportunity therefore to refer to them, to describe briefly the room itself, and to tell you something of the man whom the Room so suitably memorializes.

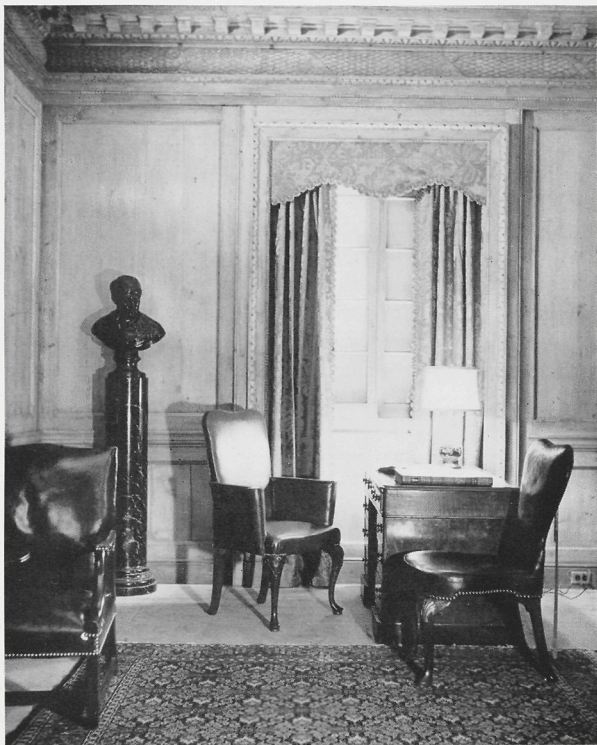
Francis Henry Lenygon (1877-1943) occupies a special niche in the annals of the profession of interior architecture in this country. If he had a choice in the matter, I believe he would have elected to have been born at the end of the 17th century in his native England and to have practiced his profession well into the eighteenth century. Spiritually that was his milieu. Instead, he added grace and lustre to the first third of the present century, working with the skill and taste of his professional forebearers, but never as an antiquario. Rather he worked as Inigo Jones or the third Earl of Burlington would have worked if living in the 20th century.

The history of art is replete with architects, painters and sculptors, whose genius failed of full expression for want of great commissions. Happily that is not the case of Francis Lenygon. His first client was Edward VII, King of England, who honored him not only with commissions but with his friendship as well. He was subsequently appointed as consultant for alterations at both Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle. Many of England's

great houses likewise bear his mark as he removed Victorian embellishments and restored them to their original stately quality. Early in this century he opened the New York offices as a branch of his premises at 31 Old Burlington Street, London, and in the process furthered what we sometimes think of as our "age of elegance in the Georgian tradition." Americans of cultivated taste promptly recognized his special gifts, and more than 1000 of the greatest rooms in America bore testimony to his skill, as do, in another direction, the splendid public rooms of the fleet of Cunard transatlantic liners that many of us remember with a certain nostalgia. But he could also turn his mind to designing a special body for a Rolls Royce so that it might conveniently and beautifully accommodate its owner in a wheel chair, and in other instances—it now seems much longer ago than the actual numbers of years involved—he could design a private railroad car so that its owner while travelling might not be totally deprived of the beauty of his own home. The original drawings for many of these projects are a part of the Lenygon collection in Avery Library.

It adds greatly to Mr. Lenygon's stature that while great commissions came to him he did not think solely of individual success. He was deeply concerned with the quality of the profession as a whole and with its future. Accordingly, he lent the weight of his influence to both the British Institute of Decorators and the American Institute of Decorators to encourage tenable professional standards and to promote and guide the training of future members of the profession. He served the American Institute three terms as president, and subsequently as Honorary Member of the Board of Governors.

Throughout his life he consistently sought to heighten esthetic standards in both practitioner and client. He authored several magnificent volumes on English furnishings, including *Decoration and Furniture of English Mansions*, 1910; *Furniture in England*, 1914; *Decoration in England*, 1914;—they are required holdings in present day libraries. He encouraged young writers such



West view of the Francis Henry Lenygon Memorial Room showing the desk, Mr. Lenygon's personal desk chair, and the notable basalt portrait bust of Palladio.



The mantel wall of the Lenygon Memorial Room showing the recently donated armorial plaque, the oil portrait of Lord Burlington by Van der Banck, and one of Mrs. Lenygon's pair of important English Chippendale console tables.

as Margaret Jourdain, Christopher Hussey and Percy Macquoid, who have faithfully carried forward the standards of his own connoisseurship.

In this country, in spite of the pressing demands on him, he found time to serve as lecturer at the Metropolitan Museum and also at New York University. The range of his interests may be gauged by his association with the Beaux Arts Institute of Design, the Royal Society of Arts, of which he was a Fellow, the Metropolitan Club in New York, where he served as Chairman of the House Committee, and the Devonshire and the Constitutional Clubs in London.

Still his greatest satisfaction lay, as an artist, in creating a distinguished piece of interior architecture replete with beautiful objects in it—sometimes more beautiful than the budget would permit. I recall situations where a client would explain to him that he wished to do over his drawing-room but the year had proven a very poor one and the cost must not exceed a certain figure. As the project developed, it might happen that the budget was used up, and still an important piece, the perfect piece, was lacking for its completion. Then that piece without explanation would quietly be added to the room but not to the bill. I surmise he did this more for himself than for the client. In his mind, without that piece the room as a creative work of art would be unfinished. He could no more allow it that way than a musician would leave a composition hanging in mid-air—or a painter exhibit a picture obviously unfinished.

As one goes through life, it is recurrently brought home how often pleasant and right things do happen. Among these must certainly be included the donation of the Lenygon Room. What could be pleasanter than to have the donor elect to memorialize her distinguished husband by erecting in Avery Library a notable original Georgian interior that had been a treasured possession of his and a part of their daily life—and then to furnish it with certain objects that had long been in their own home?

In this room, with its early 18th Century paneling from the

town house of the Earls of Warwick, are several objects which have worthy associations. There is the great standing architectural book case whose design, according to tradition, was controlled by Samuel Pepys at the request of a close friend, and the superbly simple Queen Anne chair from the Dining Hall at "Chatsworth," the main seat of the Dukes of Devonshire. Of special interest to us is the fine basalt bust of the sixteenth century Italian architect Andrea Palladio, and the Van Der Banck portrait of Richard Boyle, third Earl of Burlington, who was both architect and patron and indeed the prime force in English architecture in the first half of the 18th century. The pair of carved pine Chippendale console tables with their sea-green marble tops superbly illustrate the canons of taste upheld by Francis Lenygon. In the center of the overmantel is a carved lime wood memorial plaque bearing the arms of Bristol executed circa the year 1700. The quality of the sculpture and the character of the design place it at the level of excellence reflected by the work of Grinling Gibbons. The window is hung with antique olive green brocade draperies. Eighteenth century crystal sconces and a fine Feraghan rug lend further warmth and beauty to this stately interior.

It is the fond hope of the donor that the whole room will, in a quiet way, promote a sympathetic awareness of quality in interior architecture.

As I watched this noble room slowly take form and then develop into completeness, the words of that remarkably sensitive English critic, Lawrence Binyon, at the time he gave the Charles Eliot Norton Lectures at Harvard, in 1933, seemed to apply in principle to the results achieved in our Francis Henry Lenygon Memorial Room. "Some years ago I chanced to visit the house of a collector in London, and without preparation, after admiring the pictures, stepped from the modern house into a room designed and built by Inigo Jones, which the owner had bought entire and set up afresh as an adjunct to his house. It was not a large room, but it seemed spacious, partly because of its loftiness . . . [and its being] . . . handsomely panelled in wood throughout.

It is strange how suddenly one can change one's mental climate. I seemed to have stepped straight into the seventeenth century; into England as it was when a plain majesty of style, the style of the Authorized Version of the Bible, came naturally to speech and pen, when also the glories of the Italian Renaissance were beginning to impress their forms upon art and architecture, as they had already colored with flame the poetry and drama of England. It was like, I thought, inhabiting the mind of Milton . . . those simple yet stately proportions, that austerity of ornament, that disdain of the trivial which yet communicates no sense of emptiness but rather of latent richness—these belonged to Milton's native air, to the time in which he lived . . ."

Like "that stately room of Inigo Jones" we hope that our Burlingtonian room will likewise prove "a fit place for the mind at home in the spacious circuits of her musing," and that here may function the historian's mind, "within its esthetic fortress."

Our Growing Collections

ROLAND BAUGHMAN

Corey gift. Mrs. Lewis Corey has presented the published and unpublished papers and correspondence of her late husband, who had been connected with political and economic movements in this country since the first World War. Under his original name, Louis C. Fraina, Lewis Corey (1892-1953) had been instrumental in the development of the American communist party during the period from 1919 to 1922. In the latter year he broke with the party, and in 1939, as the shadows of World War II began to gather, he became openly and articulately anti-Communist. His ingrained hatred of war had caused him to identify himself with the movement which had seemed to share his hatred; his disillusionment and outspoken criticisms now brought him under fire from extremists in both left and right wing groups. Corey was a fluent and prolific writer, and the collection of his papers which is now at Columbia will prove a mine of information for those whose researches take them into the area of political movements in this country during the period between the two world wars; but above and beyond this there is graphic data for the study of the evolution of the thinking and character of one who was concerned with social problems not only intellectually but as an active participant as well.

One of the more valuable parts of the collection is the unfinished biography of Fanny Wright, reformer and feminist of the early 19th century. Corey had completed the first nine chapters of his study at the time of his death, and the collection contains his notes, documentation, and the finished research for the remaining chapters.

In addition to her generous gift of this valuable collection, Mrs. Corey has worked tirelessly for several months to organize the papers into usable form. This work is nearly completed, and in

the early future the papers of Lewis Corey can be made available to interested scholars.

Drake gift. Colonel Marston E. Drake and Mr. James H. Drake have presented a three-page letter from Edmund Gosse to "My dear Uncle William," dated at Cambrian House, Tenby, September 18, 1856. The interesting circumstance connected with this letter is that it bears a later annotation by Gosse on the last page, "Dictated by me to my Mother aetat 7. E. G."

Eastern Colortype Corporation gift. Through the good offices of Mrs. Irene De Voogd, Secretary to the Production Manager of the Eastern Colortype Corporation of Clifton, New Jersey, we have received an unusual gift of 71 patent sheets representing patents obtained during the period 1904-1921 for stone lithographic designs for cigar box labels. Each patent sheet is accompanied by a specimen printing of the label concerned. Anyone familiar with this vanished phase of Americana will appreciate the interest that this collection has; those who have never given the matter much thought, but would like to be more knowledgeable in it, are referred to the illustrated article in *Fortune*, March, 1933, pages 66-70.

Eberstadt gift. Mr. Lindley Eberstadt (A.B., 1932) has presented a remarkable collection comprising 113 original folio printings of government proclamations containing the texts of treaties between the United States and various American Indian tribes. The treaties range in date from 1833 to 1870.

In the field of Americana few aspects of the subject exceed in interest and importance the relationship between the whites and the Indians, and the treaties are the written manifestation of that relationship. These original folio proclamations were printed in a few copies only, for official purposes, and they are not commonly available today.

The scope of Mr. Eberstadt's gift is country-wide, and in-

cludes the treaties made with the principal tribes. Many famous Indians and Americans were parties to the agreements.

Friedman gifts. Mr. Harry G. Friedman (PH.D., 1908) has presented nine rare and useful printed books, and a collection of 123 early French manuscript documents and volumes. The latter group comprises records, accounts, transactions, and the like, all being of a business or legal nature, and they range in date from 1504 to 1826. The printed works include three early editions of classical writings (Cicero, *De Philosophia*, 1523; Cicero, *Epistolarum ad T. Pomponium*, 1589; and Plato, *Opera*, 1590); three works by 15th and 16th century writers (Hieronymus Cagnolus, *Commentarium De Regulis Juris*, 1562; Pius II, *Epistole et Varii*, 1518; and Erasmus, *Adagiorum Chiliades*, 1559); and the useful *Lexicon Pentaglotton*, 1653. Most of the above works are in their original bindings, with decorative blind tooling of the period.

Mr. Friedman's gift includes two later works. One of these is Egede's *Reisebeskrivelse til Oster-Gronlands Opdagelse*, 1789, with a number of interesting folded plates. The other is Sir Walter Scott's rare pamphlet, *Religious Discourses*, 1828.

Gerig bequest. The late Professor John L. Gerig collected widely to form a personal library in the fields of his interest—romance literature, philology, languages, and general literature. By the terms of his will these materials, numbering more than 3700 books and serials, have come to the Columbia Libraries.

Frumson gift. Miss Ruth G. Frumson has generously presented a collection of books, periodicals, and manuscripts from the library of the late Louis Alexander Freedman. The manuscripts include prose and poetry by Mr. Freedman, as well as his correspondence with various well-known personages, including George Santayana and Bernard Berenson.

Haverlin gift. Original manuscripts, correspondence and related

documents in "The American Story," the prize-winning, continuing script series prepared and distributed to radio stations as a public service by Broadcast Music, Incorporated, in association with the Society of American Historians, were presented to the Columbia University Libraries by Carl Haverlin, president of BMI, at a ceremony held on Friday, April 18, at Butler Library. Designed to bring authoritative American history before wide audiences, and inaugurated in July, 1954, "The American Story" has won the enthusiastic approval and support of broadcasters, and of local schools, libraries, civic and educational organizations. The first sixty programs in the series, edited by Earl Schenck Miers, were published in book form by Channel Press in 1956.

Pulitzer Prize winners George Dangerfield, Marquis James, Oliver W. Larkin, Frank Luther Mott, Allan Nevins, Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., and Odell Shepard are a few of the many noted historians who have participated in "The American Story." Other contributors have been such eminent authorities as Bruce Catton, Howard Mumford Jones, Carl Bridenbaugh, Thomas J. Wertenbaker, Robert Selph Henry, Benjamin P. Thomas, Richard B. Morris and Carl Carmer. To date, 115 historians, among them faculty members of 48 universities and colleges as well as a number of distinguished private individuals, have contributed a total of 212 papers to the series.

Healy gift. Mrs. Charles Pratt Healy has presented a large and valuable gift comprising nearly 900 volumes from the library of her father, the late Ambassador John W. Davis. The books are mainly in the fields of history, political science, and literature, of which several were selected for inclusion among the rare books housed in Special Collections.

Hoblitzelle gift. Mr. Karl Hoblitzelle has presented a copy of the superbly printed catalogue of *The Esther Thomas Hoblitzelle Collection of English Silver*, written by Mary L. Kennedy. This

monumental publication has found a prominent place in the Avery Library collections on antique silver.

Kramer gift. Mrs. Ellen W. Kramer has presented for inclusion in Avery Library the three-volume manuscript of her recent study of the *Domestic Architecture of Detlef Lienau*, who was among the more notable architects who practiced in America around the middle of the 19th century.

Lada-Mocarski gift. Mr. and Mrs. Valerien Lada-Mocarski have generously given to Avery Library a handsome oil painting of the Port of Amsterdam, executed by a member of the Dutch School of painters, circa 1700. They have also presented a 16th-century example of verdure tapestry, which is to be hung in the Rare Book Room now being installed on the mezzanine level of Avery Library.

Lenygon gift. Additional donations to the Francis Henry Lenygon Memorial Room, from Mrs. Lenygon, are noted in the article beginning on page 40.

Melville gift. Mr. Ward Melville (A.B., 1909) has presented five beautiful oriental rugs for use in the Columbiana rooms. These are a most welcome gift, as they contribute gracefully to the decor of the quarters where visitors and alumni frequently convene.

Pratt gift. Dr. Dallas Pratt (M.D., 1941) has made a thoughtful gift by adding a little known work of Dr. Otto Rank, *Don Juan*. It will be recalled that the Otto Rank Papers were recently presented to Columbia by Dr. J. Jessie Taft (*Columbia Library Columns*, May, 1957, p. 50).

The present work was published in Paris in 1932 and is a translation from the original German into French of Rank's psychoanalytic study of literature. "One of the most astonishing

results of the study" says the introduction, "is the conviction that the creative artist is, from the psychological point of view, the continuation of the hero concept that has been a part of humanity since prehistoric times." The work consists of two separate studies here brought together: "The Double" had been written in 1914, and "The Don Juan Character" first appeared in 1922.

Ros gift. Mr. Jerzy Ros, Cultural Attaché at the Embassy of the Polish People's Republic in Washington, D. C., has presented to Avery Library several volumes dealing with museums and collections in Poland, and with the measures taken to protect such collections and historic monuments during wartime conditions.

Stillman gift. For some years Columbia has encouraged the acquisition by gift of collections that will contribute to the study of the history of American finance, particularly the New York centered aspects of that subject. The first papers to come as a result of this project were "The Frank A. Vanderlip Papers," presented by his widow, Narcissa Cox Vanderlip, on June 16, 1956. More recently we announced the gift of "The George Leslie Harrison Papers on the Federal Reserve System" (see *Columbia Library Columns*, November, 1957).

A third important addition to this sequence may now be reported. Mr. Calvin W. Stillman has presented the business correspondence and papers of his grandfather, the late James Stillman (1850-1918), American financier and president of the National City Bank during a critical stage in its development. The collection numbers some 500 pieces, documenting Stillman's activities in banking, railroad financing, and other of his business and industrial interests. Included in the correspondence are letters from many prominent financiers and industrialists, notably William Rockefeller with whom he had close business and personal relations. There are also twelve letters from Grover Cleveland. In addition, the collection contains letter books, journals, and bank books, as well as more than 100 items concerned with the business



President Grayson Kirk, Mr. Ryusaku Tsunoda (former Curator of the Japanese Collection at Columbia), and Mr. Mitsuo Tanaka (the Consul General of Japan in New York) at the presentation of the Shigeru Yoshida gift on April 2, 1958.

enterprises of James Stillman's father, Charles Stillman of Brownsville, Texas, who was engaged in shipping and trade, real estate, and railroad investment.

Yoshida gift. On April 2, 1958, Mitsuo Tanaka, Japanese Consul General of New York, presented a letter to President Kirk from Shigeru Yoshida, former Prime Minister of Japan, in which the latter offered a gift of 1,000 volumes of Japanese-language materials to the Libraries. Mr. Yoshida, who received an honorary LL.D. degree from Columbia University in 1954, thoughtfully suggested that the titles be selected by Columbia so that books specifically needed would become available and that duplication of materials already in the Libraries could be avoided. A selection of titles has already been forwarded by the East Asiatic Library, where the volumes will be housed.

Activities of the Friends

MEETINGS

Happy aftermath of the January 28 meeting. As a direct consequence of the Annual Meeting during which the Bicentennial anniversary of the founding of the Columbia Libraries was celebrated, the Libraries were the recipient of two spontaneous gifts. The first of these originated on the night of the meeting when six members of the Council decided to give funds for the purchase of books in honor of Judge Harold R. Medina whose stirring address had made the program such a success. The gifts totalled \$150.00. (Each volume purchased will contain one of the attractive bookplates which was designed for such testimonial purposes a few years ago by an artist commissioned by the Council.) The second gift came a few days later when one of the daughters of Harmon Hendricks wrote to the Director of Libraries that she and her two sisters had read in the newspaper about the Libraries' Bicentennial celebration and that they would like to present funds to the Libraries for the purchase of books in memory of their father, who had graduated from Columbia College in June, 1858. Their gift totalled \$1,200.00.

Bancroft Award dinner. The Friends' events for the present academic year came to a conclusion on Tuesday, April 22, when approximately 240 members of our organization and their guests attended the Bancroft Award dinner which was held in the Men's Faculty Club. During the program President Kirk announced the winners of the prizes for the two books judged by the Bancroft Prize Jury to be the best in the field of American history published during 1957: *A History of American Magazines*, Volume IV, by Frank Luther Mott, and *The Crisis of the Old Order*, by Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. He presented a \$3,000 check to each of the authors, who responded with much enjoyed short addresses. Mr. C. Waller Barrett, Chairman of the Friends, presented certifi-

cates to Mr. Thomas J. Wilson, Director of Belknap Press of Harvard University and to Mr. Henry A. Laughlin, Chairman of the Board of the Riverside Press of Houghton Mifflin Company, the publishers, respectively, of the two award-winning books. Mr. Frederick B. Adams, Jr., Director of the Pierpont Morgan Library, was the principal speaker.

Prior to making the announcement about the Bancroft Awards, President Kirk lauded the Friends for the constructive and successful activity which they have carried on to broaden interest in the Libraries and to make possible the enrichment of the collections with book and manuscript resources which do not come within the purview of the Libraries' regular budget. He said that all at Columbia are aware that this activity is a labor of love performed by the members of our association because of their interest in books and in the University.

FINANCES

In accordance with regular practice, we are publishing below a brief statement with regard to the amount which has been contributed by the Friends during the twelve-month period ending on March 31. During that year \$5,463.50 in unrestricted funds and \$15,477.12 for specified purposes were received, making a total of \$20,940.62. Five donors gave \$1,000 or more each. The total cash gifts from the Friends over the past seven years now amount to \$133,825.56.

In addition to the monetary gifts, the Friends have during the year augmented the Libraries' resources for research by presenting rare books, manuscript, and other items which have an estimated value of \$67,791.09. This brings the seven-year total of such gifts to \$223,170.74. (The principal items have been described in "Our Growing Collections.")

The comparative figures for contributions by our members during the past years is indicated in the following table:

Cash Gifts

	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>For special purposes</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Book and manuscript gifts</i>	<i>Total value of gifts</i>
1950-52 *	\$4,348.00	\$41.00	\$4,389.00	\$2,515.00	\$6,904.00
1952-53	4,423.00	4,132.98	8,555.98	43,653.00	52,208.98
1953-54	3,166.00	13,223.50	16,389.50	53,643.00	70,032.50
1954-55	2,413.00	29,930.00	32,343.00	15,251.00	47,594.00
1955-56	4,470.50	13,977.00	18,477.50	22,380.80	40,858.30
1956-57	3,755.00	28,974.96	32,729.96	17,936.85	50,666.81
1957-58	5,463.50	15,477.12	20,940.62	67,791.09	88,731.71
	<u>\$28,039.00</u>	<u>\$105,756.56</u>	<u>\$133,825.56</u>	<u>\$223,170.74</u>	<u>\$356,996.30</u>

* December 1950-March 31, 1952. Subsequent years begin April 1 and end March 31.

As of March 31, our association had 339 members.

ERRATA

We regret the following typographical errors: In the caption under the map on page 29 of the November, 1957, issue, the name of Père Du Halde was misspelled. In the February, 1958, issue, "Col. William J. Wilgers" on page 28 should have read "Col. William J. Wilgus." In the May, 1957, issue (p. 47) Mr. Friedman's gift copy of Langland's *The Vision of . . . Piers the Plowman* was published in 1901.

PICTURE CREDITS

The portrait of Lorenzo Da Ponte and the portion of the score of Mozart's *Così fan Tutte* on page 23 are reproduced from Robert Bory's *La Vie et l'Oeuvre de Wolfgang-Amadeus Mozart par l'Image* (Paris, Horizons de France [1947])

THE FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA LIBRARIES

PRIVILEGES

INVITATIONS to exhibitions, lectures and other special events.

USE OF BOOKS in the reading rooms of the libraries.

OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT LIBRARIANS, including those in charge of the specialized collections, about material of interest to a member. (Each Division Head has our members' names on file.)

OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE most Columbia University Press books at 20 per cent discount (through the Secretary-Treasurer of the Friends).

FREE SUBSCRIPTIONS TO COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS.

* * *

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

ANNUAL. Any person contributing not less than \$10.00 per year (dues may be waived for officers of the University).

CONTRIBUTING. Any person contributing not less than \$25.00 a year.

SUSTAINING. Any person contributing not less than \$50.00 a year.

BENEFACTOR. Any person contributing not less than \$100.00 and up a year. Checks should be made payable to Columbia University. All donations are deductible for income tax purposes.

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