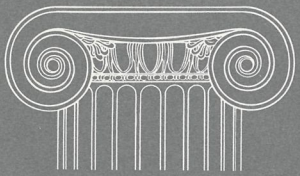

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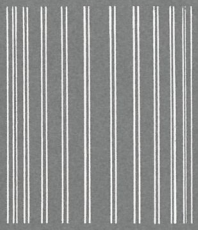

NOVEMBER 1961 · VOLUME XI, NUMBER 1

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Columbia Library Columns

VOLUME XI NOVEMBER, 1961 NUMBER 1

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Published by THE FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA LIBRARIES, Butler Library, Columbia University, New York 27, New York.
Three issues a year, one dollar each.

MISS FANNY KEMBLE

Portrait by Sir Thomas Lawrence which was originally published in 1829, three years before her first theater tour in the United States.

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Miss Kemble's Keys

ANDREW B. MYERS

IS anything more intriguing about a diary in print than names left blank? And when the writer is a brilliant actress, and a reigning beauty, surely these touches of mystery become even more exciting. Whom did she mean here – and there? Why did she hide this – or that?

The discovery of keys to these locked doors of memory can be quite exciting. And when the keys actually were made by the diarist, and then only for the use of a trusted friend, interest is intensified. Special Collections has uncovered, in the transfer to Butler Library of rarities from the old Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum, just such an unusual volume, an annotated journal of the famous Fanny Kemble (1809-1893). It is discussed here for the first time.[1]

By any odds the most gifted and exciting Englishwoman to visit the United States in the Age of Jackson was the young Frances Anne Kemble, truly a fairy princess of the realm of theatre. Born into the royal family of the London stage, daughter of the great tragedian Charles Kemble, and niece of "Glorious John" Kemble and the immortal Mrs. Sarah Siddons, Fanny was an exceptional combination of brains and beauty. Her arrival in New York in

[1] A further teaser is the reported existence of a second annotated copy of this same book. It has not proved possible to trace this, even through Mrs. Walter Stokes, a great granddaughter of Fanny Kemble, who is an acknowledged authority on the famed actress.

1832 with her father, to play an extended tour, made headlines in every major American paper. Within months she was a toast of the nation, and thereafter, Fanny Kemble, on stage and off, continued to be front page news for another quarter century and more.

In 1834 she dismayed her applauding public by abruptly retiring from the stage on marriage to debonair Pierce Mease Butler, son of a late U. S. Senator, and scion of a wealthy Philadelphia family. Fifteen years later in 1849, after bitter quarrels, long separation in Europe, and a fiercely independent return to the footlights, Frances Anne Butler was divorced in this country by her husband, for desertion, after court proceedings that were a sensation. This Victorian legal decision stood on *non criminis* grounds, but intimates knew well that Mrs. Butler could with very good reasons have played the role of injured wife.

Before and after this personal tragedy – she lived on, here and abroad, as "Mrs. Kemble", for more than forty years – she won modest honors as a writer, publishing numerous books of poetry, and prose, including five works of autobiography. One of these, *Journal Of A Residence On A Georgia Plantation, 1838-1839*, an anti-slavery manifesto that first appeared in 1863, was several months ago republished for Civil War buffs, and well received by reviewers. In the *New York Times Book Review*, Willard Thorp said of her pen, "Fanny Kemble was a practiced writer with a natural gift for vivid description and psychological portraiture."

Something of these talents was visible earlier in one of her first books, *Journal by Frances Anne Butler*, the two volumes of which came out in Philadelphia and London in 1835. It was an enthusiastic and sprightly account of her introduction to America. Published despite her domineering bridegroom's distaste for authorship, it was intended to defray the expenses of her beloved Aunt Adelaide's fatal illness, a Kemble tragedy that is described later in this article. To keep peace in her new home she permitted the deletion of most proper names, leaving frustrating dashes instead, but she stubbornly retained her own honest opinions on aspects of Yankee life Innocuous though these may seem today, at that thin-

skinned time the candor of her "Inside U. S. A." caused a minor furor. And even her blanks exploded like fireworks. Margaret Armstrong writes in *Fanny Kemble, A Passionate Victorian* (1938), ". . . the omission of proper names that Fanny had imagined would rob her remarks of their sting only increased their excitement, and the 'Journal' became the cross-word puzzle-book of its day."

It was a copy of this *Journal* that she took in hand years later to annotate, as a gift to her devoted young friend Charles Baldwin Sedgwick — a New York member of an old Massachusetts family for which Fanny Kemble had a life-long affection. Thereafter it remained a Sedgwick heirloom. Its presence at Columbia is explained by a note on a flyleaf in Volume I, written by Miss Jean E. Spaulding, longtime Brander Matthews curatrix.

Given to the Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum 306 Philosophy Hall in the spring of 1926 by Mrs. Frederick R. Hazard of Syracuse, New York, daughter of Charles B. Sedgwick to whom Fanny Kemble had given this copy.

Over the pencilled signature "C. B. Sedgwick" at the beginning of Volume II Miss Spaulding has written "The Honorable Charles B. Sedgwick, Syracuse, N. Y." At no place is Fanny Kemble's signature affixed, although her handwriting is unmistakable.[2]

The two volumes of the *Journal* are not in their original cloth binding, with paper labels, but at some time were solidly rebound, in half calf and marbled boards, with red and black leather labels on which are stamped in gold "Butler's Journal" and the volume number. This may or may not have been done at Miss Kemble's instructions, but almost certainly it was she who had each volume interleaved, somewhat haphazardly, with blank pages.

Once this preparation was complete her keys were quite simply fashioned. In most instances only two steps were necessary to add

[2] At seven scattered places there are brief unimportant notes added in pencil by Mr. or Mrs. Sedgwick.

what she wished to the printed page. As her script indicates, she first leafed through jotting down in pencil, in the text itself or on the convenient blank pages, whatever names or additional comments occurred to her. Then she settled down to a more determined annotation. Using ink, she shifted many names to the margins or interleaves, tying them to the text by numbers like footnotes. In the process she added more names and fuller autobiographical marginalia, correcting in passing a few earlier errors. Her conscientious desire for accuracy is further attested to by a caveat written in Volume I:

> The names I do not insert I have forgotten after so many years it is almost impossible to remember who is indicated by every dash.

However much these inked names and notes meant to the privileged few contemporaries who saw them, one must admit that many now seem unimportant. The very nature of her travels made her account often repetitious – chance fellow passengers, first citizens who left cards, Charles Kemble's new friends, etc. It is only when she pauses to reflect, often ruefully, on more intimate things that the lady and her story-between-the-lines take on richer color. The most extraordinary passages are those revealing unknown facts about her broken marriage. "Mr. Pierce Butler", as she archly refers to him, is the villain of genuinely melodramatic passages.

Much of her first volume is the story of initial triumphs in New York City, before she met the charming and deceptive Butler. As a hardworking actress, often in classic Shakespearean roles, she kept up the proud Kemble tradition, on occasion playing opposite her own father. Their combined impact, now and later touring North and South, is thus summed up by George C. D. Odell, Columbia's master historian of the New York stage, "The Kembles had borne themselves here, as everywhere, with such dignity and grace that not only had they elevated the tone of the theatre but vastly increased public respect for it."

And out of the Green Room, the Kembles were from the start splendidly entertained. Pages are filled with descriptions of dinner invitations, Episcopal services attended, and holiday excursions up the Hudson. All in all, father and daughter seem happiest among "New Yorkians". Fanny paid high compliment in print to the town and its hosts – all of course anonymous. Now her pen and pencil bring these shadowy figures into bright light. Almost like masqueraders at a costume ball, they step forward to doff masks and bow or curtsey to us.

Curiously, "H's" abound – Hallacks, Hoffmans, Hosacks, and Hones. One of her smitten young admirers, Ogden Hoffman, years later Attorney General of the state, was fondly remembered with this annotated accolade, ". . . one of the very few shy people I have ever met with in America, a quality which from its rarity here has to me assumed almost the proportion of a virtue." Philip Hone, ex-Mayor of the city, was secretly paying her the compliment of praises written in his own diary, a classic journal not fully published until our own day. One happy coincidence was Miss Kemble's meeting, as she expressed it in 1835, with "a gentleman bearing our name and distantly connected with us." How good is your Knickerbocker history? Can you fill in that dash correctly yourself? Her key reads "Gouverneur Kemble".

Everything however was not the fun of Park Theatre curtain calls, or gay canters in the Jersey countryside. For example, she frankly printed this parody, written after some sleepless nights in her Manhattan hotel room:

— To bed — to sleep —
To sleep! – perchance to be bitten! aye – there's the scratch:
And in that sleep of ours what bugs may come,
Must give us pause.

Years afterwards no annotation seemed necessary!

The series of painful recollections of Pierce Butler begins on a blank page early in Volume I, in a description of Mr. William Hodgkinson, a handsome and congenial Englishman married to a Boston lady:

Mr. Hodgkinson was I think very fond of me & showed his regard by endeavouring to make my Aunt & father aware of Mr Butler's character when first that gentleman paid his addresses to me – but of course Mr Hodgkinson spoke guardedly & generally – tho' I suppose he knew much of Mr Butler's early career of profligacy but I was "in love & pleased with ruin" & paid little heed to his cautions which reached me at second hand through my Aunt – Very soon after my marriage I saw him & remember his saying to me with great earnestness – "Since you have married that man there must be something good in him" I have once or twice since that in the course of many years met William Hodgkinson in England & on the continent & have always had a feeling of affectionate gratitude for the interest he took in my fate & his vain endeavour to warn me from it –

And midway in the same volume Miss Kemble found it impossible to pass beyond the key "Henry Berkeley" without a sorry reflection on the Mephistophelian role he played in Pierce Butler's life. This Englishman was Francis Henry Fitzhardinge Berkeley, fourth son of the fifth Earl of Berkeley. Her comment, hitherto unpublished, reads in part:

– this Henry Berkeley who was then travelling in America with Mrs Austin an english singer of some ability was one of the most profligate & unprincipled men I have ever known – he was also one of the most agreeable & accomplished – He was the most intimate friend of Mr Pierce Butler who when first he made his acquaintance was a mere youth not yet of age – To this englishman's example & precepts I attribute much of Mr Butler's subsequent profligacy & want of principle – Henry Berkeley was the person who when we were going to Philadelphia gave my father a letter of introduction to Mr Butler & so was the means of my first acquaintance with that gentleman – many years after – in England – in speaking to my sister of Mr Butler's ill usage of me Mr Berkeley said – "but he is mad – I do not use the word in any but its literal sense – I have known him ever since he was eighteen intimately & I know he is mad."

Skipping ahead to Volume II, which found the Kembles playing to standing-room-only audiences in Philadelphia, Washington, and Boston, the key "Mr. Pierce Butler" appears constantly. He calls, he sends flowers, he rides out with Fanny, besieging her heart as he follows the troupe from city to city. But an interleaf reveals

a shocking background to his courtship, prefaced by the warning note, "Tear this note out when you have read it – it ought to be destroyed." (Mr. Sedgwick ignored this, but one wonders if other pages *were* removed without trace and destroyed.) Below this admonition, Miss Kemble writes feelingly about the fate of a rival, "Miss Emily Chapman", a Philadelphia gentlewoman whose family was long intimate with the Butlers:

> Mr Pierce Butler's dealings with this lady which have since come to my knowledge were the most cruel & dishonourable of which a man can be guilty toward a woman . . . The whole history of that lady's relations with Mr Butler is one of the saddest tragedies imaginable & proves him to have been at three & twenty one of the coldest hearted profligates imaginable – Of all this I knew nothing till years after I married nor did any body I suppose then – But I was a stranger among strangers & did not even know their superficial relations with each other.

The tone of these entries, gruelling though such returning thoughts must have been, suggests that she writes long enough after the destruction of love and marriage to allow her to put them down more in sorrow than in anger. Other things in Volume II pale by comparison, but mention must be made of her introduction in the capital to President Jackson, whose name was printed in the first edition, and in Boston to prominent men like John Quincy Adams and Noah Webster, whose names were several times written in.

There is no striking annotation about her life as an actress, and this is not too surprising, for the theatre was never a consuming passion. As the *Dictionary of American Biography* puts it, "Perhaps no one ever attained such eminence on the stage with less liking for it." Much more notable during her long life was her affinity for men and women of letters. Her friendships among American authors, in a sense, span our first literary century, from Washington Irving, our first professional success, to Henry James, our first great expatriate. Among the others she came to know were Hawthorne, when they both resided in her beloved Berkshires, and

Longfellow, who wrote a sonnet on her dramatic readings which lilted, "How our hearts glowed and trembled as she read."

Closest to her was the minor novelist and courageous feminist Catherine Maria Sedgwick (1789-1867), an older kinswoman of C. B. Sedgwick.[3] Miss Sedgwick, whom she first met on this American tour, is named in ink twice in Volume II. In Manhattan earlier she had met and here identifies John Howard Payne and William Cullen Bryant. But the writer she showed most interest in, as both text and annotations demonstrate, was Washington Irving. This family friend, met again in the unfamiliar New World, was a welcome link to the Old. On an interleaf in Volume II she writes:

> Washington Irving I knew intimately in England – & his acquaintance with my Mother dated from his first visit to the country when he went thither an obscure & very young man & she (as he told me) was very kind to him – Before he had become a Diplomatist or one of the most agreeable writers of our common language

Irving, a veteran firstnighter, in his turn sincerely admired Miss Kemble, but in 1836 he paid her an incredibly left-handed compliment. To tease his nieces who were wild over the actress, Irving, now a gentleman farmer of sorts at Sunnyside in Tarrytown, bestowed her name on a pet pig. He wrote in a family letter, "As it is of the fair sex, and in the opinion of the best judges, a pig of peerless beauty, I have named it 'Fanny'." A pity the spirited Miss Kemble did not hear of it – what a footnote we missed!

The second volume closes with the history of a coach trip through upstate New York to see Niagara Falls. On the road out of Rochester, the heavy vehicle overturned with tragic results. Four of the party, the two Kembles, Butler, now her fiancé, and Edward John Trelawney, swashbuckling companion of the late Lord Byron, were shaken up but otherwise unharmed. The fifth, her aunt Adelaide De Camp, her mother's sister and Fanny's faithful chaperone, was seriously injured. She receives on one of the

[3] Her nephew, Theodore Sedgwick, was a Columbia College A.B. in 1829.

last blank pages a long and moving tribute from the niece in whose arms she later died. It reads in part:

My Aunt died in consequence of a concussion of the spine which she received in this overturn a tumour was produced on one of the spinal vertebrae & she died some months after in Boston undoubtedly from this cause — She was the most amiable human being I have ever known – I should have said the most excellent but that her goodness was so unintermitting spontaneous . . . easy & absolutely unconsious that she more than any person I have ever seen was one of those "Blessed ones who do God's will & know it not" —

No description of this autobiographical answer-book would be complete without the facts of when and why she made it. Unfortunately neither question is easy to answer. Dating is still a puzzle. No specific date is used anywhere by Fanny and internal evidence is not clear. Several promising leads fizzled out. For example, the note on "Henry Berkeley", from which a quotation was made above, included mention of his present career as M.P. for Bristol. But a check of House of Commons records reveals that he had uninterrupted service in Parliament from 1837 until his death in 1870. Another time she identified George Pope Morris as being the editor of the *Home Journal*. This was founded in New York in 1846 and General Morris served as editor almost until his death in 1864. At least this supplies the earliest and latest possible years. There is still a gap of nearly twenty years to be narrowed.

None of the Kemble-Sedgwick letters at Columbia, or other Kembleiana in the large holding at the Berg Collection of the N.Y. Public Library, offers explicit reference to a freshly edited *Journal*. Incidentally, Miss Kemble had the habit, maddening to a researcher, of almost never dating a letter with the year. The several twentieth century biographies, none of them finally definitive, do little to clear up this particular question. In the end, an educated guess must suffice until better evidence is uncovered.

I think it safe to say, nevertheless, that the annotations postdate the scandal of 1849 by some years, and closely coincide with the

presenting of the *Journal* to Sedgwick. Since Miss Kemble was abroad from 1850 to 1856, I suggest that both were made in the last years of that decade or the very beginning of the next, a period of special intimacy with the Syracuse Sedgwicks. The character of her handwriting in middle years fits the same interval.

Precisely why, in the first place, she chose to annotate her *Journal* is another open question. The social-calendar notes cost her comparatively little effort, but the more intimate confessions must have been painful indeed. It is significant that not one of her five autobiographical books touched on the final disintegration of her union with the treacherous Butler. In this, of course, a mother's natural desire to shield her two debutante daughters from further embarrassment plays its part.[4] And as Dorothie Bobbé wrote in *Fanny Kemble* (1931), "Only one period is blank in that extended story – the period of unbearable stress and strife that was her marriage. That was locked in her heart . . ." Why, then, did she willingly say in private what she discreetly refused to say in public? I do not know. But the answer may well be catharsis – as a tragic actress would understand the word.

The primary value of this unique literary document, written assuredly between laughter and tears, is its autobiographical revelations. No truly authoritative life of Frances Anne Kemble can be written without reference to them. In addition, with the answers now supplied to this old-fashioned puzzle of dashes, her picture of Jacksonian America becomes more vivid and historically accurate. And the reader who turns these pages shares with very, very few others the excitement of stepping behind the scenes in a dramatic life, through hidden doors opened by the gift of Miss Kemble's keys.

[4] Her daughter, Sarah, became the mother of the novelist Owen Wister (1860-1938).

Fanny Kemble in New York

In September, 1832, Fanny Kemble and her actor-father arrived in New York. She was the first really great actress that New York had ever seen and the city took her to its heart. A glimpse into the actress's own feelings is given by the page from her journal we reproduce overleaf. Thirty-six years later Fanny was again charming New York, this time with readings from Shakespeare. The second excerpt we print here is from the diary of a perceptive New Yorker, George Templeton Strong.

Select specimens of American pronunciation:

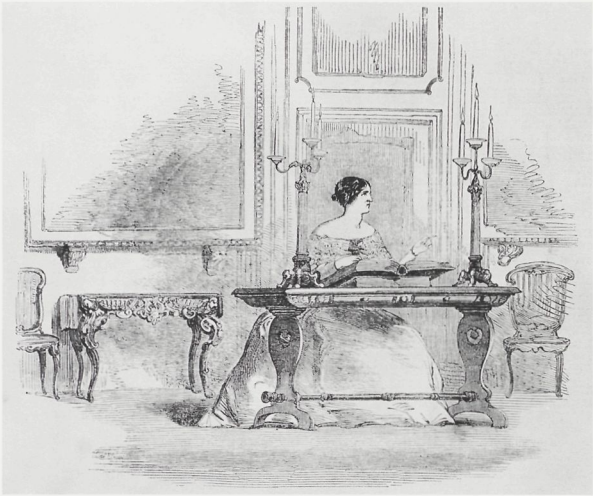
vaggaries,	vagaries.
ad inf ínnitum,	ad infinitem.
vitúpperate,	vituperate.

Monday, October 1st.

While I was out, Captain —— called for our letters. Saw Mr. ——, and bade him good-by; they are going away to day to Havre, to Europe; I wish I was a nail in one of their trunks. After breakfast went to rehearse King John; what a lovely mess they will make of it, to be sure. When my sorrows were ended, my father brought me home: found a most lovely nosegay from Mr. —— awaiting me. Bless it! how sweet it smelt, and how pretty it looked. Spent an hour delightfully in putting it into water. Got things ready for to-night, practised till dinner, and wrote journal. My father received a letter to-day, informing him that a cabal was forming by the friends of Miss Vincent and Miss Clifton, (native talent!) to hiss us off the New York stage, if possible; if not, to send people in every night to create a disturbance during our best scenes: the letter is anonymous, and therefore little deserving of attention. After dinner, practised till time to go to the theatre. The house was very full, but what a cast! what a play! what botchers! what butchers! In his very first scene, the most christian King stuck fast; and there he stood, shifting his truncheon from hand to hand, rolling his eyes, gasping for breath, and struggling for words, like a man in the nightmare. I thought of Hamlet, "Leave thy damnable faces;" and was obliged to turn away. In the scene before Angiers, when the French and English heralds summon the citizens to

New York Public Library Theater Collection

A reproduction of the first part of the October 1, 1832, entry. She refers to a performance at the Park Theater in New York (*Journal* by Frances Anne Butler. Philadelphia, Carey, Lea & Blanchard, 1835. Vol. I).



Fanny Kemble giving a dramatic reading from Shakespeare.

A CONTEMPORARY OPINION

April 29 [1868] Last night with Ellie to the theatre appurtenant to the Union League Clubhouse, whilom "Jerome's Theatre," and hear Mrs. Fanny Kemble read *Cymbeline*. It was an admirable reading, but perhaps a little stagey and overdone, here and there. I am specially fond of that play, for Imogen has always seemed to me the most lovable and the very noblest of all Shakespeare's portraits of noble and lovely women. And while Mrs. Kemble read, I was obliged to fix my thoughts, sometimes, as firmly as I could, on the fooleries and buffooneries of *La Belle Hélène*, to keep myself from snivelling. Her great talent and her careful study of the text make her reading an instructive commentary upon it. She brought out many points that were new to me; for example, Imogen's

question in the last scene, "Why did you throw your wedded lady from you?" — delightfully appropriate to her loving, generous, and loyal wifely nature. I have always understood this as a cry of passionate joy uttered as she throws herself into her husband's arms. But there is far more delicacy and truth in Mrs. Kemble's rendering. She gives it in a faint, broken whisper — as the instinctive utterance of one hardly yet half conscious and only just beginning to recover from the blow that has stricken her down — without the least trace of complaint or resentment and without intensity of expression.

Pity Mrs. Kemble is such a Tartar. The ladies (Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Barlow, and others) at whose request she read last night, for the benefit of some charity which they administer, addressed her a very civil note, proposing to send a carriage for her, and to meet her at the door, and introduce her into the house. Mr. Tighe tells me he saw her answer. "She would be happy to read for the benefit of the (whatever it was); she needed no introduction, and she could pay her own hack-hire. Yours resp'y."

In the same key was her reply to one of the Fields, at Stockbridge, who remarked by way of civility, "Madam, you ride that horse better than I can." The reply was, "Of course. You are afraid of the horse, and the horse is afraid of me."

Poor Pierce Butler! I fear his married life was stormy. — G.T.S.

George Templeton Strong: *Diary;* edited by Allan Nevins and Milton Halsey Thomas (New York, Macmillan, 1952).

New-York Historical Society

In this contemporary cartoon, President Andrew Jackson's removal of government funds from the Bank of the United States causes the latter to fall on the Bank-subsidized editors and politicians.

The Olcott Papers, a New Source on New York State Banking History

NEIL NEWTON GOLD

THE University Libraries have recently been enriched by the gift of an impressive collection of personal papers — an addition to their already strong holdings on the early history of New York State. The collection consists of the business, financial and legal papers of Thomas Worth Olcott (1795-1880), President of the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank of Albany and a prominent figure in Jacksonian politics and finance. Mr. Olcott's great-grandson (and successor in office), Douglas W. Olcott, joined by other members of the Olcott family and by the Directors of the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank, made the gift in honor of the Bank's 150th anniversary.

Thomas W. Olcott was born in 1795, in the tiny North River town of Hudson, 28 miles South of Albany, the son of New England folk who had joined the great Yankee invasion that descended upon New York State after the Revolution. Little is known of Thomas' childhood, except that it was a hard one. But life in Hudson had its adventures even for a poor boy. Founded in 1783 by hard-pressed Nantucket Quakers, Hudson had grown into a great whaling and sealing port whose tonnage, some said, rivalled New York's. To its shores came European traders, New York factors, West India merchantmen and on one occasion, a Spanish galleon.

In 1808 the dimensions of the city's trade forced a reluctant legislature to charter a bank, to be known as the Bank of Hudson. When the Bank opened its doors the following year, young Thomas Olcott, all of fourteen years, was one of its clerks. Undoubtedly the shrewd and resourceful lad would have made a name for himself in Hudson, but fate, in the form of his uncle, Gorham A. Worth, had other plans. In 1811 Olcott was asked to

come to Albany as a clerk in a new bank, The Mechanics and Farmer's Bank of Albany, in which Worth was to be cashier. Against the wishes of his sweetheart, the ambitious young man left Hudson to begin an association that continued until his death 69 years later. (The lady, Caroline Dwight Pepoon, eventually capitulated, and the two were married on August 17, 1818.)

The Mechanics and Farmers' Bank, in which Olcott was soon installed, was chartered to assist the tradesmen and farmers of Albany County, its charter providing that only men of these callings be permitted to sit on the Board of Directors. Although this restriction was eventually removed, the Bank's early presidents included a master hatter, Benjamin Knower; a silversmith whose work is on display in numerous American museums, Isaac Hutton; and a famous portraitist, Ezra Ames. (The Board Room of the present Bank contains several notable portraits by Ames.)

In staunchly Federalist Albany, the Mechanics and Farmers' was the only bank that catered to the business needs of the opposition. Quite naturally, the city's Democratic leaders established accounts there. And Thomas, first as clerk, and later as cashier, came to know and respect them. In a short time he became their personal banker and a member of their political hierarchy, the Albany Regency. The Regency – so dubbed by its arch foe Thurlow Weed – was organized in the early 1820's to wrest power from the followers of De Witt Clinton (many of whose papers are also in the Columbia University Libraries). Its creator and general was the "little magician", Martin Van Buren, and its membership included Azariah C. Flagg, Benjamin F. Butler, Edwin Croswell, Silas Wright, Jr., Benjamin Knower and William L. Marcy, Knower's son-in-law – all of whom held important state office or positions on the Board of the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank. Through its control over the disposition of the several State Funds, e.g., the Canal Fund and the Common School Fund, the Regency deposited the lion's share of the state's revenues in Olcott's bank. This arrangement worked so well that the bank was

able to pay dividends of up to 50%. Indeed, so close was the relationship between the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank and the Albany Regency that the opposition charged it with being a "gigantic political machine" that influenced every executive and legislative decision in the state.

When Martin Van Buren took the oath of office as Governor of New York in January, 1829, the banking situation of the state was critical. The charters of 31 of New York's 40 banks, including the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank, were to expire in a few years, with little hope seen for their renewal. A legislative coalition, needing only one-third plus one of the membership, was determined to block action on any recharter bills until the entire banking structure could be brought under state control. In the confusion, Governor Van Buren was presented with a plan for a unified banking system which would obviate the legislature's objections.

The plan, as finally adopted, was the joint work of Joshua Forman and Thomas Olcott, the former having conceived it and the latter having refined it for legislative approval. Known as the Safety Fund System, the Act required each bank to pay an annual levy of its capital into a state fund, the Safety Fund, whose maximum strength would be 3% of the entire state banking capital. In the event of the failure of a member institution, a Board of Commissioners was empowered to draw on the Fund to reimburse creditors, particularly noteholders, much as the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation does today. This Board, which was the first of its kind in America, was also given supervisory and reportorial functions over the entire system.

Olcott and Van Buren doubtless perceived the plan's larger possibilities. Since control of the banking system lay with the Commissioners, two of whom were to be selected by the banks and the third by the legislature, the Regency's legislative majority refused to renew the charter of any bank that did not support its candidates for the Commission. In this way the entire depository resources of the state became subservient to the Regency, and, by

extension, to the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank. Through agreement with the legislature, the friends and directors were permitted to purchase controlling interest in each of the forty-odd banks

The building occupied by the Mechanics and Farmers Bank in Albany from 1814 to 1875.

chartered between 1829 and 1835. Soon the Mechanics and Farmers', with capital less than $500,000, became the "Mother Bank" for a chain of upstate institutions that stretched from Plattsburg to Buffalo. Under the circumstances, Thomas Olcott, as de facto president of the Mechanics and Farmers', became the state's central banker, with responsibility for a financial empire second only to

that of Nicholas Biddle, the President of the Bank of the United States.

Thomas Olcott's special role in the fight against Biddle's "Monster Bank," as the Jacksonians termed it, has hitherto escaped historical notice, though one of Biddle's correspondents described him as "the head and fount of the opposition" in New York. Olcott always expressed reservations about the wisdom of a national bank, and had opposed the creation of an Albany branch as "draining off the funds of the State institutions". Charged, as it was, with maintaining the currency, Biddle's bank regularly forced state institutions to redeem their notes in specie, thus limiting their lending capacity and reducing their profits. One consequence of this policy was an artificially retarded rate of growth, at odds with the expansionist temper of the time. If the "Monster Bank" and the "monied aristocracy" it represented were destroyed, the Jacksonians reasoned, then the state banks could regain control over local business affairs and indulge the public's confidence in the future. They could also make more money. Olcott's position as unofficial ruler of New York's Safety Fund System, with its numerous banks spread out over miles of rich, underdeveloped land, made his opposition to the Bank of the United States even more direct. If the New York Banks should have the privilege of using the federal deposits that were collected in the state but placed in the coffers of the Philadelphia "Monster" – a privilege which, in all fairness, was rightly theirs – then the Empire State could become a reality. This attitude was shared by most New York City bankers, who were eager to escape the restraints imposed on their operations by the federal branch bank in that city. In Olcott's eyes, the Bank war was primarily an attempt to put an end to an ever expanding centralism that was, in Andrew Jackson's words, "subversive of the rights of the states, and dangerous to the liberties of the people."

For his management of a series of legislative resolutions denouncing the Bank of the United States and opposing its recharter,

Olcott's bank was made military pension agent for upstate New York. This was a lucrative position that was formerly held by the Bank of Utica, a branch of the "Monster Bank." Also, the Mechanics and Farmers' was made a depository for federal revenues and enjoyed considerable influence on the determination of banking policy during Jackson's second administration. One might note that the actions of Olcott and of others like him in destroying the Federal Bank insured forever the dominance of New York State's financial community over the business life of the nation.

Thomas W. Olcott's effect on the financial policies of the United States government is only one aspect of his papers that will be of interest to scholars. There is considerable material here about his career in opening new lands to the expanding nation, as mining operator, and as railroad builder, all subjects that will attract the specialist. And another, more human side of the man is plentifully represented – his many philanthropies benefitting his fellow citizens of Albany. These include strong personal support of hospitals, academies for boys and girls, scientific observatories, and the like, and his efforts in behalf of Union College, the Medical School, and the Cemetery Association. In one sense, the climax of his career came in 1863, when President Lincoln offered him the newly-created post of Controller of the Currency, an offer which he deemed a great honor, but which he declined with humility, in line with his unvarying policy of never accepting public office except, in the words of one historian, "such as related to the promotion of education or other local interests."

The manuscripts – to be augmented with whatever additional materials Mr. Douglas W. Olcott can gather from the Bank's vaults, and from his own residence – are the raw materials for research into one of the most crucial periods in the financial and expansionist development of our country.

The Columbia Manuscript of *The School for Scandal*

CECIL PRICE

WHEN the great authority on Sheridan's work, the late George H. Nettleton of Yale, produced with A. E. Case *British Dramatists from Dryden to Sheridan* (Harrap, 1939), he noted that *The School for Scandal* presented "more formidable textual and biographical problems than any other drama" in the volume.

The reason for this set of difficulties is to be found in the character of Sheridan himself. It is typical of him that he should declare "what I write in a hurry I always feel not to be worth reading, and what I try to take pains with, I am sure never to finish". The early drafts of *The School for Scandal* have all the appearance of hurried work; and even when Sheridan took pains to fill out the play, the numerous alterations, deletions and improvements gave the manuscript a strangely unfinished look. Then it was copied out by the prompter's office at Drury Lane Theatre, submitted to the Lord Chamberlain, and given its first performance on 8 May, 1777.

Sheridan liked to go on tinkering with a text. The most obvious improvement he ever made was to *The Rivals*, and one has only to compare the Larpent version with the standard text to see how much the play gained when the dramatist recast it in the light of its first performance and the attendant criticism. He never altered *The School for Scandal* in such drastic fashion, but extant manuscripts show that he did make minor emendations to its text. Late in the eighteenth century, he told Ridgway, the publisher, that he had been nineteen years trying to satisfy his own taste in the play, and still had not succeeded. Ridgway declared that after hearing this reply, he teased Sheridan no more for a corrected copy.

Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum

THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL

A performance in New York, showing in the foreground E. H. Sothern on the ladder, Charles Harbury, and Grace Kimball.

The version accepted as basic text by Nettleton is the one that Sheridan presented to Mrs. Crewe. The manuscript is in the Riggs Memorial Library of Georgetown University, and it certainly contains several author's corrections not to be found elsewhere. Yet there may be reasons for doubting if this is the last version that Sheridan authorised. His connection with the Crewes was strongest in the period before the death of his first wife in June, 1792, and it seems to me likely that the gift of the play to Mrs. Crewe had been made well before that date. If this hypothesis is accepted, it then becomes obvious that he did not look upon the Crewe version as definitive or he would not have put off Ridgway (clearly after 1796) as he did.

We are left wondering if Sheridan ever completed a definitive text. The project recurred to him on occasions between 1809 and 1815, and he may have overcome his own dilatoriness and set to work. There is no certain information available on the point. In default of concrete evidence, we must study every late manuscript of the play in the hope that it may prove to contain the author's final version.

A manuscript has recently been found in the Columbia University Libraries (possibly associated with another great Sheridanian, Brander Matthews). Unfortunately not one of the five hands used in copying the text is that of Sheridan himself. The first hand, however, is not unlike that of John Palmer (1742?-1798), the original performer of Joseph Surface, but some of the capitals are so differently formed as to prevent any definite identification with him. The remaining four hands are unknown to me.

This manuscript belongs, without doubt, to the later part of Sheridan's life. This notion is supported by several facts. This is one of the few manuscripts to omit the slightly risqué jest in Act IV: 'Has her ladyship discovered that she has an old husband?' (Nettleton and Case numbering : IV. iii. 353-5). Surely it was deleted because, as the century came to a close, new feelings of delicacy made the line offensive? Again, the omission of the sen-

tence referring to the Annuity Bill of 1777 (III. ii. 58) is an indication that the text was written at a time when this allusion had lost its topicality. How late that may be is suggested by the fact that a Yale MS. of the play, on paper watermarked 1795, still includes this reference to the "d—d register" connected with the Bill. Finally, two of the watermarks of the paper used in the Columbia MS. suggest that the sheets comprising it belonged to the late eighteenth century, while the third watermark suggests a date early in the nineteenth century.

All this looks very promising, and the student's next task is to collate the MS. with others of the play. It shows a number of insignificant variations and some significant ones. By the insignificant, I mean slight changes in wording or word-order. The significant ones are far more interesting because they suggest the manner of the copying and the character of the copyists. In I. ii. 43, the Columbia MS. reads "the set she visits", where the usual reading is "the set she meets". The transcriber obviously misread the word "meets", something that it would be quite easy to do if the word were written by Sheridan. It is more difficult to account for the change in III. i. 161, "my tutor appears so apt", in place of the usual "so able". This is also true of IV. i. 226, "for the life of me" in place of "for the soul of me"; and in V. 2. 333, "to last me", for "to serve me". Certainly the most fascinating of the changes is the slight interpolation which is to be found in IV. iii. 264:

Joseph: I beg you will not mention it.
Sir Peter: For Lady Teazle, Lady Teazle I say . . .
Joseph: What are my disappointments . . .

I have not been able to find Sir Peter's line in any other version, but that it had a basis in some earlier text is certain from the fact that the same words are given to Joseph but then crossed out, in a manuscript of the period now at Yale University Library.

In two places, there are possibilities of an Irish hand in the compilation: to be seen in IV. 3. 554, "respect meself", and in V. ii. 95, "by a trust in seconde."

The copyists of the Columbia text occasionally appear rather unintelligent and somewhat illiterate. Apart from spellings like "crewelest" and "compliscance", there are some lines that make little sense. In V. iii. 241, Lady Teazle describes herself as a "Licentiant" (instead of "Licentiate"); and in V. ii. 292, we find the stupid rendering, "I assure you must desire", for "I am sure."

The worst fault of the MS. is that it is incomplete. It comprises I. i. 1-240; 332-475; ii. 1-114; II. i. 100-40; ii. 1-50; III. i. 21-204; iii. 266-301; IV. i. 1-231; ii. 1-41; iii. 1-88; 173-562; and the whole of the fifth act. It is a great pity that there are so many gaps in the text, if only because it is impossible to come to adequate conclusions without the evidence the missing lines would present.

The fact that there is no trace of Sheridan's handwriting in the Columbia MS. does not invalidate it completely. In the eighteenth century theater, acting versions were usually copied out by the prompter's department. Having accepted the variety of hands employed, we must ask ourselves the crucial question: was the manuscript copied from a text authorised by Sheridan? I cannot answer this with any certainty, but what I think worth stressing is a *general* resemblance between it and the important Crewe text, together with some variations that may well come from an authorised text now lost.

Notable Purchases, 1960-61

ROLAND BAUGHMAN

In all, the Columbia University Libraries placed more than 30,000 purchase orders for books, manuscripts, pamphlets, and periodicals during the year 1960-61. To select for discussion in this limited space those items that add particular prestige and unusual depth to our collections is by no means an easy task – personal judgment and taste are bound to bias the selections. The effort here, therefore, will be to include only such items as are above question.

Book manuscripts

Among nearly a dozen book manuscripts that were purchased during the year, ranging in date from the early 15th century to the 20th, perhaps the following are of the greatest note:

A fine unpublished and apparently unnoticed popular history, in Italian, of Rome and the Empire, which was compiled from ancient and medieval sources by an unidentified 14th-century author. On 125 vellum leaves, this handsome manuscript was written in southern Italy about 1400. From the collection of Sir Thomas Phillipps, no. 239.

An Italian translation by Andrea Cambini of Cicero's *De senectute, De amicitia*, etc. Manuscript on paper (105 leaves), written possibly in Florence about 1530.

An apparently unpublished volume of poetry by the Ferrarese poet, Lorenzo Pisa, dated May 29, 1627. In a fine contemporary binding of russet morocco, richly gilt.

A substantial corpus of materials connected with Washington Irving's *The Chronicle of the Ommiades*, including notes, transcripts, drafts, and the like. The materials dovetail nicely with manuscripts already at Columbia (see the article by Andrew B. Myers in *Columbia Library Columns*, November, 1958).

A remarkable typescript of Ezra Pound's *The Pisan Cantos*, with the author's corrections, additions, and emendations.

Manuscript collections

Nearly a dozen manuscript "collections" were purchased during the year, ranging in size from a few related pieces to groups numbering literally thousands of items. Among the collections the following deserve special mention:

Coptic ostraca. A collection of some 1,600 Coptic ostraca was obtained from the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Our readers will recall Professor A. Arthur Schiller's article on Columbia's earlier acquisition of a similar collection, in the May, 1959, issue of *Columbia Library Columns*. The present group of inscribed potsherds is of the same vintage and provenance, coming mainly from sites at or near the Egyptian monastery of Epiphanius in Thebes, and representing the normal, workaday written communications of ordinary people in upper Egypt during the 7th and 8th centuries of the Christian era. With the new additions, the Columbia archive numbers well over 3,000 pieces, and is perhaps the largest study-collection of such documents in this area.

Sanscrit manuscripts. A remarkable collection of 31 Sanscrit manuscripts, ranging in date from the 16th to the 19th century, was recently purchased from a graduate student who was working at Columbia in the field of Indian culture. The collection contains a number of Indic texts for which there are as yet no critical published editions. It avoids such common subjects as popular astrology, which would be of little value here, and stresses such useful matters as philosophy, the ceremonial calendar, ritual, singing, and poetry.

Willard Bartlett papers. A major purchase was the correspondence and papers of Willard Bartlett (A.B., 1869; LL.D., 1904 Hon.). Bartlett was a prominent legal figure in New York, having been associated with Elihu Root for many years. The collection contains more than 2500 letters, including a fine group of 150 from

Root. In addition, there are hundreds of legal briefs and documents, orders, messages, genealogical records, poetry, passports, and the like. Not the least interesting are Bartlett's class notes for his course in psychology under Professor C. M. Nairne at Columbia, 1868-9.

Gay papers. A voluminous collection of letters and papers relating to the noted Gay and Otis families (both of which are already well represented in the Columbia manuscript collections) was acquired from the estate of W. Allan Gay. The Otis papers in the present lot fall mainly in the period 1800-1830, although there are several of earlier date. The Gay portion may be divided into three groups: (1) letters to Winckworth Allan Gay (1821-1910), noted painter; (2) letters of Arthur Gay, who was active in the South Seas trade and in that of San Francisco after the gold rush; and (3) letters of Mary and Fanny Gay, 1820-50, throwing much light on manners and social activities of the time. Of particular interest are several letters to and from Mercy Otis Warren (1728-1814).

Individual letters and documents

Among the more than a score of letters and documents that have been purchased as individual items because of their special pertinence to our existing holdings are two letters by John Jay, three by Willa Cather, two by Marianne Moore, and one each by Alexander Hamilton, Samuel Johnson (first president of King's College), and Edward MacDowell.

Printed books

Incunabula. During the year we were able to add seven 15th-century books, all classical works destined for inclusion in the Gonzalez Lodge collection. In each instance the purchases represent works of which no copies are recorded as being available to scholars in the immediate area. They include: Aristotle, *Ethica ad Nichomachum*, Florence, ca. 1480; Boethius, *De consolatione*

philosophiae, Venice, 1498; Juvenal, *Satyrae*, Venice, 1486; Pliny the Younger, *Epistolae*, Venice, ca. 1492; Quintilian, *Declamationes*, Treviso, 1482; Seneca, *Epistolae ad Lucillium* (in Italian), Venice, 1494; and his *Tragoediae*, Lyons, 1491.

Sixteenth Century. Of the very large number of 16th-century books purchased during the year, only a handful can be singled out for discussion. Most of these are scientific in nature, and were obtained by the use of the D. E. Smith fund and the Thorndike gift. Mention should be made of the *Almanach* for the period 1507-31, prepared by Johann Stoeffler and Jacob Pflaum and published in Venice in 1507; Delfino's *Epistolae*, in the only known edition – that published at Venice in 1524 (the letters cover the period of 1480-1524, and comprise a little-studied source for the history of that time); Bianchini's *Tabulae* in the second edition, Venice, 1526 (there is no recorded copy of the first edition, 1495, in America); Fracastoro's *Homocentrica*, Venice, 1538, a treatise which opposed the then-current epicyclic view of planetary motion, in some respects anticipating the work of Copernicus which was published five years later; Taisnier's *Opus mathematicum*, Cologne, 1583, which is – besides its importance to the history of mathematics – one of the most comprehensive works of the 16th century on astrology, physiognomy and chiromancy; and the first and only edition of Lauret's *La doctrine des temps et de l'astronomie universelle*, Paris, 1598, an extremely rare and little known treatise.

Avery Library reports the acquisition of Vitruvius, *De architectura*, 1550, one of the few editions heretofore lacking in that collection. The recently acquired copy contains contemporary annotation, probably in the hand of the famous Renaissance architect, Vicenzo Scamozzi.

Seventeenth Century. For this period, too, most of the more notable acquisitions have fallen into the area of scientific thought. Campanella's *Astrologicorum*, Lyons, 1629, is an important treatise by one who strove to emancipate contemporary thought

A

PROGNOSTICATION

for Ever,

Made by *ERRA PATER*,

a *Jew*, born in *Jewry*,

Doctor in Aſtronomy and Phyſick:

Very profitable to keep the Body in health.

And alſo *Ptolomeus* ſaith the ſame.

TOGETHER

With the FAIRS and HIGH-WAYS,

and ſeveral new Additions.

LONDON,

Printed for *Thomas Baſſet*, *Richard Chiſwel*, *Samuel Smith*, *Benjamin Walford* and *George Conyers*. 1694.

4

from rigid Aristotelianism. Bobynet's *L'Horographie ingénieuse*, Paris, 1647, is a rare work on horology, particularly interesting for its early use of logarithms. Photius' *Myriobiblion*, Rouen, 1653, though scarcely a "scientific" book, presents all that survives of the works of Ctesias, Memnon, Conon, and the lost writings of Diodorus Siculus and Arrian. *A prognostication for ever, made by Erra Pater, a Jew . . . very profitable to keep the body in health . . .*, London, 1694, was acquired in what appears to be a unique copy of this edition. (First published in the 16th century, the work was of great popularity, but very few copies of any of its many editions survive.) George Brown's *Account of the Rotula Arithmetica*, Edinburgh, 1700, is a rare work describing an instrument invented by the author for the teaching of arithmetic.

Avery Library acquired two important 17th-century editions: an authoritative work on Roman archaeology by Johann Rosinus, *Antiquitatum Romanarum*, Cologne, 1632; and the first edition of Antonio Bosio, *Roma sotteranea*, Rome, 1650 – one of the basic works of the sort of that period.

Eighteenth Century. By far the majority of the more notable 18th-century works were acquired for Avery. Of these *Oeuvres de Gilles Marie Oppenord*, Paris, 1745-48, the so-called "Grand Oppenord", should be mentioned as being a monumental corpus of French baroque design. Steingruber's *Architectonisches alphabet*, 1773, is an architectural curiosity: its plates present plans in the shapes of letters. Maillier's *L'Architecture*, Paris, 1781, a rare poetical work, supplements a manuscript by the same author which is also an Avery Library item. *Ouvrage d'architecture des sieurs Desprez et Panseron*, Paris, 1781, contains a remarkable collection of fine engravings of rococo and early romantic flavor.

Nineteenth Century. A superb copy of Longfellow's *Poems*, Boston, 1850, in sheets, uncut, has been acquired, as well as the very rare Baltimore, 1825, edition of Edward C. Pinckney's *Poems*. For Avery, the most notable single acquisition was Antonio Nibby's *Roma nell' anno MDCCCXXXVIII*, published

in 4 volumes in Rome, 1838-41, and comprising a most extensive study of contemporary Rome.

Twentieth Century. Two prized additions have been made to the Arthur Rackham Collection. One is an original watercolor drawing by Rackham, used on page 58 of the 1921 edition of Eden Phillpotts' *A Dish of Apples*. The other is a heretofore unknown work of Rackham's, *Pictures of East Coast Health Resorts*, London, ca. 1901.The volume contains 14 pen-and-ink sketches, all signed. No mention of this work is to be found in any of the several bibliographies of Rackham.

Avery purchases representing this period were numerous, among which three are paramount. Rohault de Fleury's *Gallia Dominicana*, Paris, 1903, is an extremely rare source work for the study of monastic design in France. The scarce records of the Wagner-Schule (1902-3, 1903-4, 1910), published in Leipzig, 1905-10, make available the teachings of the great Austrian pioneer of modernism in architecture, Otto Wagner. Finally, the very rare second edition of the famous portfolio of Frank Lloyd Wright (Berlin, 1911), long a desideratum in Avery, has at last been obtained.

East Asiatic acquisitions. Recent purchases by the Chinese unit have provided complete holdings of all the Chinese dynastic encyclopedias in their best editions. Such publications began in the T'ang Dynasty with the *I wên lei chū* (624 A.D.); the Library has a modern facsimile of the printed edition of 1131-62. During the Sung, the *T'ai p'ing yu lan* was produced in 984; the Library has acquired the 1960 reproduction of it. The Ming Dynasty's *Yung-lo ta-tien*, in 22,937 sections in 11,905 fascicules, was made in two copies completed in 1408. One copy was destroyed by fire and the other partly destroyed and partly scattered inside and outside China when Peking was ravaged by war. The current Mainland China Government collected and photolithographed the 728 extant sections. The Library bought a set, in 202 fascicules, during the last year. This acquisition, together with three editions of the *T'u shu chi ch'eng*, compiled in the Ch'ing Dynasty and com-

HULLING RICE

In the woodcut above, farmers are removing husks from rice with clay grinding-stones. The text at the top of the page reads in translation: "Farmers, big or small, all enjoy their harvest, hulling their new rice in great earnest. Some started a little rustic song and the chorus is swelling, for they are happy, realizing happiness comes after all their sweating."

(See reference to "Sung-to-Ch'ing works" on page 38)

pleted in 1725, rounds out the Library's holdings of these important encyclopedias which, besides their value as reference works, contain extensive quotations from titles of separate works which are no longer extant in other forms.

The Chinese unit also acquired the *Shuo wên chieh tzu lui shu su cheng*, a version of the Han Dynasty dictionary Shuo-wen rearranged and annotated by the famous philogist Professor Ma Hsū-lun. Still another important purchase is the *Chung-kuo ku-tai pan-hua ts'ung-k'an*, a reproduction of Sung-to-Ch'ing works, all with extensive woodcut illustrations. (See picture on page 37.)

The Japanese unit purchased three especially important titles during this period. *Nihon shikisai bunkashi* [Colors in Japanese cultural history], by Yukichika Maeda (Tokyo, Iwanami Shoten, 1960), published in an edition of 500 copies, contains 42 samples of dyed silk and an additional 55 plates, 12 of which are in color. This title, an essential reference work for the study of Japanese history and literature, also includes a chronological table covering the period B.C. 89 – 1164 A.D.

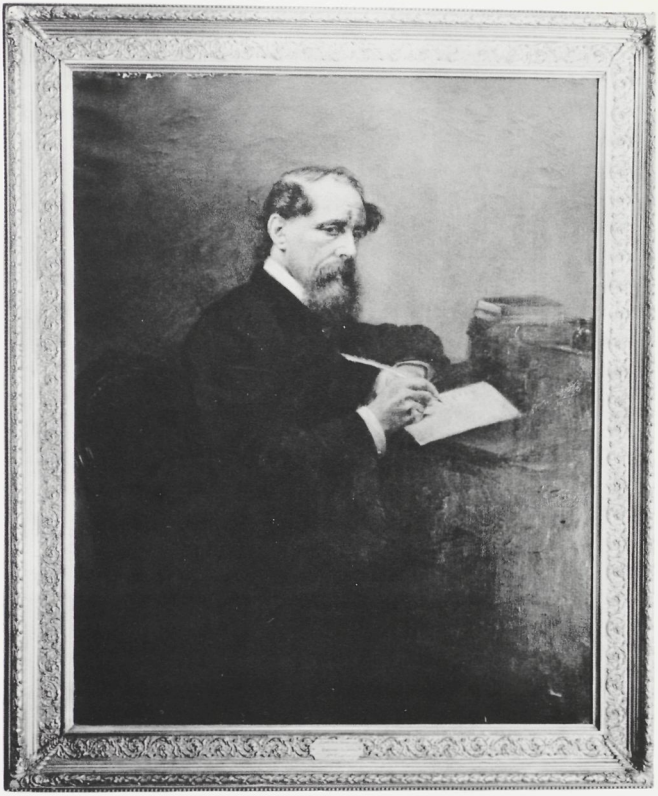
Nihon shûcho Shina kodô seika [Selected relics of ancient Chinese bronzes from collections in Japan], by Sueji Umehara (Osaka, Yamanaka Shokai, 1959-) will appear (in an edition of 300 copies) in 6 volumes, of which three have so far been acquired. It contains some 500 examples of Chinese bronze vessels in various Japanese collections, both public and private. The main part was compiled during the years 1929-1939; it is supplemented by relics located after World War II. The dates of the antiquities range from B.C. 1766 to 24 A.D.

Shôsôin hômotsu [Treasures of the Shosoin] (Tokyo, Asahi Shimbun Sha, 1960-1962.) 3 volumes in an edition of 4,000 copies, with a large number of plates (all in color) and with descriptive texts in Japanese and English. This work, of which two volumes have been acquired, illustrates national treasures preserved in the repository established in 756 A.D. which has remained intact to this day. The book is of primary importance for the study of Japanese history and culture.

As we have indicated in these pages in the past, by far the greatest proportion of the book funds available to the Libraries must be used to keep pace with the everyday needs of our students and faculty. But occasionally opportunities are presented for us to acquire unusual materials that would strengthen our collections in a notable way. It is at this point that the great value of our many gift and endowment funds reveals itself, for by their use we are enabled to provide exceptional strength in specified areas — precisely as the donors of the funds intended. To a substantial degree the purchases listed above fall in that class, and the scholars who now find the materials at Columbia have good reason to join us in our gratitude to our benefactors.

The 3,000,000th Book

Among the year's acquisitions is one which has a special significance, for it is the 3,000,000th book to be added to the Columbia Libraries. Actually library records are not so precise that we can name the volume which has that special distinction. We believe, however, that the milestone has been passed and that somewhere in the stacks, or in the reserve rooms, or in Special Collections, one volume reposes which deserves to be labeled no. 3,000,000!



CHARLES DICKENS

The original portrait, painted by Sol Eytinge, has been presented by Mr. Henry Rogers Benjamin.

Our Growing Collections

ROLAND BAUGHMAN

The decade just completed (July, 1951-June, 1961) has been marked by extraordinary growth of Columbia's Department of Special Collections through gifts of printed books, manuscripts, and research collections. In that ten-year span donations and bequests of such materials totalled in value over a half million dollars – which is more than two and a half times the record of the preceding decade. In 1960-61 alone, there were 59 individual gifts of rare books and manuscripts, totalling $77,704.90 in value.

The reasons for this increased donor activity are not hard to find. There is more than coincidence in the fact that a distinct upward trend became apparent from the moment the University began to encourage re-activation of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries in 1950-51. This trend gathered force consistently, abetted not a little by the publicity attending the Graphic Arts development program of 1952-53, and by the Columbia-centered activities of the Bicentennial Year, 1954. When, in 1956-57, the University was given a "take-it-or-leave it" chance to purchase the Iselin collection of John Jay papers, outside assistance was sought and obtained; nearly $60,000 of the needed amount came from donors, both private and corporate. Concurrently there was a new spurt in gifts – in no way allied with the Jay project, but undoubtedly affected positively by it – and this has been sustained at a high level ever since.

The widespread donor interest which is now evident has been fostered to a substantial degree by the devoted generosity of a few who have made repeated newsworthy donations. During the past decade, one such donor has given us materials valued at more than $100,000; another is nearing the $65,000 mark. Still another, whose gifts are individually modest, is in our records for every year of the past ten, in amounts ranging from $200 to $2500.

Apparently our well-wishers have only needed assurance that Columbia University is truly serious in its desire to add rare books and manuscripts to its scholarly resources, that it realizes that such materials form an indispensable part of a research library, that it is sincerely grateful to those who assist us in acquiring them, and – above all – that it is willing to expend some of its own funds to that end. The result has been a widespread sympathy with and support of those objectives, tangibly demonstrated, and extending beyond the membership of the Friends; it should be noted in this regard that many of our most important recent gifts have come from non-members of that group. (Of eleven gifts valued at $1000 or more, made in the year just ended, four were from Friends and seven were from non-members.) In large measure we are indebted to the Friends for these gifts, too, because it is the formal organization which serves as the *continuing* force, the spear-head, the means of dramatizing (through special functions and its publication, *Columbia Library Columns*) the appropriateness and value of building strength into our research collections.

Finally, it must be noted that much of what has come by gift could never have come in any other way – treasured family heirlooms that are not for the market place. Their arrival here is a declaration of faith in Columbia's ability to preserve, coordinate, and put to scholarly use materials that are too precious to sell. Among the current gifts described hereafter will be found many such items.

A. I. G. A. gift. Two important gifts have been received recently from the American Institute of Graphic Arts. First to be mentioned is the assemblage of the "Fifty Books of 1959", to be added to the earlier series that have been placed at Columbia by the Institute, making the documentary file complete from 1923 through 1959. Secondly, the Institute has presented a collection of 131 paperback books that had been displayed in the recent special exhibition, "Paperbacks U.S.A."

Ausubel gift. Professor Herman Ausubel (A.M., 1942; Ph.D.,

1948) has presented the manuscript of his *In Hard Times; Reformers among the Late Victorians*, published by the Columbia University Press in 1960. His study surveys the social reform movements in Great Britain from the 1860's to the opening years of the present century.

Barzun gift. Dean Jacques Barzun (A.B., 1927; Ph.D., 1932) has made notable additions to the collection he has established at Columbia in honor of his father, H. M. Barzun. The present gift comprises 144 items, principally French works relating to modernism in art and letters.

Benjamin gift. Mr. Henry Rogers Benjamin has added a number of distinguished items, including books, manuscripts, and miscellanea from his personal library. Included are certain extremely useful materials collected by his father, the late William Evarts Benjamin.

Of very special note is the famous portrait in oils of Charles Dickens by Sol Eytinge, which will make a particularly gratifying addition to the decor of the projected Special Collections Reading Room.

Blau gift. Professor and Mrs. Joseph L. Blau (A.B., 1931; Ph.D., 1944) have presented a very desirable autograph letter from F.C.S. Schiller to John Dewey, dated 16 May 1910.

Douglas bequest. By the bequest of the late Chrystie L. Douglas (1923 C), Avery Library has received nine volumes of first editions of Ruskin's works, handsomely bound in morocco.

Dusenbury gift. Mr. Arthur N. Dusenbury (C.C. 1900) has placed in Columbiana four reels of motion-picture film taken at various reunions of his class.

Friedman (Harry G.) gifts. On many separate occasions recently we have received valuable gifts from Harry G. Friedman (Ph.D., 1908). Among these are five manuscripts, of which a late 14th-

century "Office of the Virgin for Italian Use" and a 13th-century religious text are especially notable. An extremely interesting English manuscript of the 17th century contains recipes and antidotes against the evil effects of witchcraft. Mr. Friedman has also presented more than 75 portrait prints of important historical and literary personages.

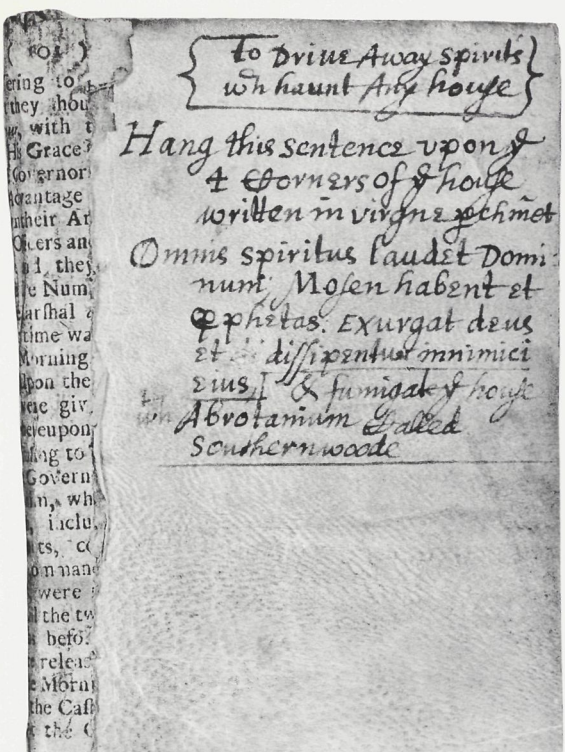
Friedman (William H.) gift. By gift from the late William H. Friedman (E.E., 1907; A.M., 1909), the Engineering Library has received a fine collection of original specifications, drawings, and archival materials pertaining to the Queens Tunnel and the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel. Both were constructed by the New York City Tunnel Authority, of which Mr. Friedman was Commissioner.

Gilkes gift. Miss Lillian B. Gilkes has presented a number of interesting items for inclusion in our collection of the manuscripts and papers of Millen Brand (A.B., 1929; B.Lit., 1929). The gift includes a typescript of Brand's "The Wrestling Bear", and a dozen letters and postcards written by Brand to the donor from 1946 to 1953.

Ikeda gift. On June 23rd His Excellency Hayato Ikeda, Prime Minister of Japan, at the close of a ceremony at which he was made honorary Columbia University Doctor of Laws, announced a gift to the East Asiatic Library of 324 volumes of Japanese-language publications. Titles in the gift were selected from desiderata lists compiled by the Library and transmitted to Japan by Masahide Kanayama, Consul General of Japan in New York.

Kehl gift. Professor George L. Kehl has presented to the Columbiana Collection eight scrapbooks formed by Henry Marion Howe, Professor of Metallurgy at Columbia from 1897 to 1913.

Kôdansha gift. Kôdansha, a Tokyo publishing company established in 1909, has announced that it will present to the East Asiatic Library the entire *Nihon gendai bungaku zenshû* [Collected



ANTI-WITCHCRAFT MANUSCRIPT

Reproduced above is the first page of the 17th Century anti-witchcraft manuscript, which was presented by Mr. Harry G. Friedman. The "sentence," which the author said should be hung upon the four corners of the house, is made up of three quotations from the Scriptures. The King James version gives these as follows: *Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord* (Psalms 150:6); *they have Moses and the prophets* (Luke 16:29); *let God arise, let his enemies be scattered* (Psalms 68:1). The "Abrotanum," which was to be used for fumigating, was an aromatic wood.

works of modern Japanese literature], scheduled for publication in 109 volumes. The gift, eight volumes of which have already been received, was initiated by the eminent Japanese novelist Sei Ito, who spent the year 1960-1961 at Columbia University as a visiting scholar.

Lada-Mocarski gift. Mr. and Mrs. Valerien Lada-Mocarski have presented a beautiful copy of the rare Basle, 1543, edition of Solinus' *Polyhistor* and Mela's *De Situ Orbis.* Of special interest are the maps that accompany this edition, of which one contains the earliest tolerably accurate delineation of the river system of Russia. On another map occurs an early representation of the extreme northwestern coast of America.

Longwell gift. Mr. Daniel Longwell (1922 C) has added four recent publications to the collection of the works of Winston S. Churchill which he has established at Columbia – a collection which, by the way, will be the basis for a major Butler Library exhibition this fall.

Maldarelli gift. The Columbiana Collection has received from Oronzio Maldarelli, Professor of Sculpture at Columbia from 1934 to 1961, a beautiful bust in terra cotta made of him by Ann Martin (M.F.A., 1961). The bust had won the coveted Helen Foster Barnett Prize, National Academy of Design.

Merton gift. The Reverend Thomas Merton has presented his translation of "The Ox Mountain Parable of Meng Tzu", printed beautifully by Victor Hammer at his Stamperia del Santuccio in Lexington, Kentucky, 1960.

Meyers gift. The Law Library reports the gift by Professor Charles Meyers (LL.M., 1953) of more than 135 volumes of proceedings, exhibits, and related documents in the important recent litigation, *Arizona* v. *California,* involving states' relations and water rights.

The Law Library also reports the receipt from the law firm of Milbank, Tweed, Hope & Hadley (several of whose partners are Columbia alumni), of 91 volumes of trial records, exhibits, etc., in the recent antitrust case, *U.S.A.* v. *Alcoa.*

Moffat gift. Mr. Abbot Low Moffat (LL.B., 1926) has presented a collection of 185 letters, documents, and printed pamphlets pertaining to the family of John Jay. Included in the gift is a manuscript notebook kept by Peter A. Jay, relating mainly to his trip to Europe in 1803-4, but continued thereafter into 1805.

Phillips Exeter Academy gift. Through the good offices of Mr. Rodney Armstrong, Davis Librarian at the Phillips Exeter Academy, we have received a collection of twenty-four letters from various librarians to William J. Hollis, in response to the latter's request for reports on holdings in Napoleonic studies. Communications from most of the prominent librarians of the time (i.e., 1893) are present in the group.

Rockefeller Foundation gift. The Rockefeller Foundation, among its numerous gifts to the East Asiatic Library, has presented important titles published by the Academia Sinica of the Republic of China. They include two volumes of studies on oracle-bone inscriptions and another on Han Dynasty wooden-strip inscriptions, both with facsimile reproductions in full size. The Library also received as gifts two important titles by the Academy's Institute of Modern History, one a collection of documents on the development of industries and communications in China during the Ch'ing Dynasty, and the other a collection of documents on Sino-Russian relations.

Rodakiewicz gift. Dr. Erla Rodakiewicz has presented a distinguished collection of her notebooks and memoranda relating to her investigations into various illuminated manuscripts both here and abroad, and on other bibliographical and artistic subjects.

Schiller gift. Mr. Justin G. Schiller has presented the octavo edition (1712-1715) of *The Spectator*, in eight volumes.

Tanzer gift. Mr. Lawrence Tanzer (LL.B., 1897) has presented to the Law Library a major collection of state and municipal documents on taxation, home rule, governmental problems and reform politics. This collection also includes valuable runs of periodicals in international law and taxation.

Virginia Historical Society gift. We have received, for addition to our collection of the correspondence of F.A.P. Barnard, a letter written by him to J. E. Hilgard, dated 6 April 1872. The letter was presented by the Virginia Historical Society.

Wells gift. Professor Henry Wells has added to his earlier gift (The *Columns*, May, 1961) a fine group of items relating to the poet, William Carlos Williams. Among the pieces are eight letters and postcards, principally to Professor Wells.

GENERAL BUELL'S LETTER ABOUT THE BATTLE OF SHILOH

As our readers will recall, the Columbia Libraries' manuscript letter by General Don Carlos Buell on "The Battle of Shiloh, or Pittsburg Landing" was printed in the February 1961 issue of *Columbia Library Columns*. The original was addressed to the Editor of the *United States Service Magazine*, which ceased publication shortly thereafter. It was believed that the manuscript had remained unpublished.

In July a letter was received from Mr. J. F. Waring of the Western Reserve Academy in Hudson, Ohio, in which he said that he had recently been examining the family papers of Mrs. Neal Gray of Hudson, a great-niece of General Buell, and among them found an 11-page pamphlet, undated, which contained the Buell letter and which bore indication that it was reprinted from the *New York World* of February 18, 1865. A search of that issue of the newspaper revealed that the letter had been printed there. A comparison of the text with that in the Columbia manuscript shows that the wording is virtually identical, with one major exception: the entire third paragraph of the Columbia manuscript which commences "If General Sherman really desired to vindicate General Grant . . ." was deleted from the newspaper printing.

We appreciate the information which Mr. Waring gave us and we are passing it on to our readers.

— EDITOR

Merle Hoover teaching at Columbia.

In Memoriam: Merle M. Hoover

Merle M. Hoover (Columbia M.A., 1911), who was active in his association with the Friends from its start in 1951, died on June 2. He was a member of the Organizing Committee, and on the Publications Committee of *Library Columns* during the same formative period. He was, more than any other single individual, responsible for suggesting and building the "Park Benjamin Collection" which the late William Evarts Benjamin first established at Columbia University in 1937 in honor of his father. He was a beloved teacher and counsellor of students until his retirement in 1949. At the memorial service, Dean Clifford L. Lord of the School of General Studies quoted a former student of Mr. Hoover's, who said, "As a teacher he demanded the utmost; as a friend he asked nothing." We shall miss him.

Activities of the Friends

FINANCES

In the November issue we publish the annual statement of the amount which has been contributed by the Friends during the twelve-month period ending on March 31. During the year $7,642.31 in unrestricted funds and $1,120.50 for specified purposes were received, making a total of $8,762.81. Such gifts from the Friends over the past ten years now amount to $169,573.62.

In addition to the monetary gifts, the Friends have during the year augmented the Libraries' resources for research by presenting rare books, manuscripts, and other items having an estimated value of $71,832.84—an all time high for a single year. This brings the ten-year total of such gifts to $345,283.08. (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			*Book and*	*Total*
	Unrestricted	*For special purposes*	*Total*	*manuscript gifts*	*value of gifts*
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	40,828.30
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
1958–59	5,516.20	8,811.00	14,327.20	13,299.25	27,626.45
1959–60	7,407.67	5,280.38	12,688.05	36,980.25	49,668.30
1960–61	7,642.31	1,120.50	8,762.81	71,832.84	80,595.65
	$48,605.18	$120,968.44	$169,573.62	$345,283.08	$514,856.70

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

As of October 1 our association had 492 members, which is an increase of 118 since the report of March 31, 1960.

MEETINGS

Fall Meeting on November 6. As we go to press, plans are being completed for the first meeting of the new academic year, which will be held in the new Law School building on the above-indicated date. The principal speaker for the occasion is Mr. Whitney North Seymour, Sr., a prominent attorney and public speaker who is a member of our association. He has entitled his address "The Jealous Mistress Visits the Library".

Dean William C. Warren will extend greetings to the Friends and their guests. Following the program, members of the library staff will conduct tours of the public areas of the handsome new Law Library.

PICTURE CREDITS

The frontispiece portrait of Fanny Kemble is from Joseph N. Ireland's *Records of the New York Stage from 1750 to 1860* (N.Y., T. H. Morrell, 1866. vol. VIII); the picture of the bank building is from *Span of a Century, 1811-1911*, a booklet issued by the Mechanics and Farmers Bank of Albany, N.Y.; the "Hulling Rice" woodcut is from *Pien min t'u tsuan*, originally printed in China in 1593, and reprinted in Peking in 1958 in a collection entitled *Chung kuo pan hua shih t'u lu.*

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.

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 a year.

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

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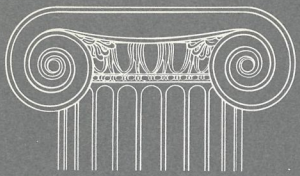
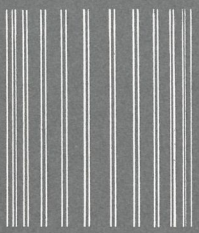


COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS



FEBRUARY 1962 · VOLUME XI, NUMBER 2

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JAMES D. RAMER is Librarian of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Libraries of Columbia University.

EDITH H. QUIMBY is Professor Emeritus of Radiology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons.

HELEN ROGERS REID (MRS. OGDEN REID) was active in newspaper work with the *New York Herald Tribune* from 1918 to 1958 and was successively Vice President, President, and Chairman of the Board of New York Herald Tribune, Incorporated, between 1922 and 1955.

* * *

Articles printed in COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS *are selectively indexed in* LIBRARY LITERATURE.

Columbia Library Columns

VOLUME XI FEBRUARY, 1962 NUMBER 2

CONTENTS

Published by THE FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA LIBRARIES, Butler Library, Columbia University, New York 27, New York.

Three issues a year, one dollar each.

JOHN JAY

The original painting, attributed to Robert Edge Pine, has been presented by Mr. Edmund Astley Prentis.

COLUMBIA
LIBRARY
COLUMNS

Foreword: in Appreciation of the Friends

GRAYSON KIRK

One of the happy developments in publishing under the auspices of the University during the past decade has been the birth and the thriving growth of *Columbia Library Columns*. Dr. Dallas Pratt, the Editor from the beginning, set high standards both as to format and as to variety of content, and I want to take this opportunity to salute him for the place of distinction which the journal has attained.

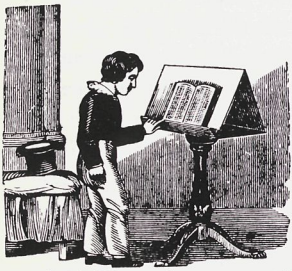
The creation of the journal was one of the first activities of the *Friends of the Columbia Libraries*, which, as we know, was reactivated at a meeting held in Low Memorial Library on May 1, 1951. The assistance and support given by the members since that time have been most meaningful to all of us at Columbia. The private university has always been dependent upon its alumni and friends for the moral and material support necessary to maintain excellence in education and research. At Columbia, the Deans of the several schools work directly with their graduates and their associates to these ends. Officers of the Libraries, however, have been handicapped in this respect by the fact that while students

rely on library resources for much of their education, they receive no degrees from the Libraries. It was with pleasure and anticipation, therefore, that the University welcomed the organization of the *Friends of the Columbia Libraries*. We had every reason to believe that with the assistance of those who comprised the organizing group, which was headed by Mr. Henry Rogers Benjamin, success was assured. Now, as we look back on the years of accomplishment under the chairmanship of Dr. Dallas Pratt, Mr. Valerien Lada-Mocarski, Mr. August Heckscher, Mr. C. Waller Barrett, and Dr. John A. Krout, we realize that our early confidence was fully justified. Your organization has grown from just over one hundred in late 1951 to more than five hundred members. You have sponsored *Columbia Library Columns*, which has twice won an award for excellence in typography and which has consistently contained articles of interest to all readers. Your program meetings each year have enriched the cultural life of the University, and have been notable for reaching across subject and departmental lines.

I want particularly to express our pride, however, in the contributions of your organization which have been of such direct benefit to the University Libraries. You have helped us enormously in the past, as I know you will in the future.

Personalities in the *Columns:* The First Decade

DALLAS PRATT



I.

Columbia Library Columns was ten years old in the fall of 1961 and I, too, completed my tenth anniversary as Editor. Some personal impressions of this first decade are, perhaps, in order. But first our readers might like to know how we put the magazine together! Three times a year, Roland Baughman, Charles Mixer and I lunch together at the Faculty Club and plan the next issue. Sometimes a coming exhibition gives us an idea, sometimes a recent gift to the Libraries. Rarely does an author come with an article on a silver plate: we usually have to conceive the idea and then think whom we can persuade to write about it. I am surprised at how rarely we are refused, even though we sometimes leave things too late and have to name an importunate deadline. In this issue, for instance, our busy and distinguished authors have had to complete their assignments between Thanksgiving and Christmas, but they have done so uncomplainingly.

When the articles are at last in our hands, we have another conference to choose the illustrations. We feel these make an important contribution to the readability of the magazine. On the day of the conference, piles of books with possibly usable pictures clutter Mr. Mixer's office. Many are called but few are chosen,

and the meeting often ends with a visit to another institution to find the just-right picture, or in a call to one of the library's photographers.

I was curious to see what distribution of subjects had resulted from our free-wheeling approach to topic selection during these ten years. The headings under which the articles arranged themselves were more numerous than I had expected; unashamedly miscellaneous, they reflect the universality of a university and the variety of a great library. Here is the breakdown:

Archaeology	1	Government and International Relations	5
Architecture	4	History	10
Art	3	Journalism	1
Astronomy	1	Libraries	14
Book-binding	1	Law	1
Book-collecting and Rare Books	5	Literature	25
Book Design (including Typography)	4	Medicine	4
Book Forgeries	1	Memorial and Honor Books	2
Book Illustrations	1	Music	2
Book-plates	1	Philosophy	3
Cartography	2	Science-Fiction	1
Classics	3	Theatre	3
Columbia Authors	1	Transportation	2
		Travel	2
		Universities	2

In addition, every issue has contained Roland Baughman's "Our Growing Collections," and there have been nine "Visits" by the Editor to as many different collections.

II.

Spending the week-end with friends is an uncertain form of entertainment. The wise guest, however, takes his mind off the

deficiencies of bed and board by quickly locating his host's bookshelves. A few hours spent with books which he would probably not have acquired himself but which are wished upon him, so to speak, by the vicissitudes of hospitality, often prove unexpectedly interesting. Just so, the readers of the *Columns* may sometimes feel like guests in another man's house, as they sample a miscellany of articles which reflect another's choice. As guests on the campus, we Friends of the Libraries who are not faculty members are at times a little out of our element. This is just where the *Columns* can be useful—as a kind of versatile middle-man, interpreting and humanizing the intellectual life of the university, both as it is crystallized in the collections of the Library and as it dynamically appears in the achievements of scholars, past and present.

Frankly, we have fashioned the *Columns* for lay readers, and have frequently hinted to our authors that their audience might shy away from scholastic prose. There is no need to apologize for this, since Jacques Barzun has reminded us that even the classics were "for the most part addressed not to experts. They are books written in the idiom of the streets rather than in the jargon of the schools . . . Their authors were sublime journalists". We do congratulate our authors on the way they have entered into the spirit of the periodical. Some of the articles, like Helen McAleer's piece about her uncle, David Eugene Smith,[1] and Richard Logsdon's account of his Afghanistan adventure,[2] have been journalism in the best sense, and (without aspiring to become classics!) have achieved a good-humored distillation of their subjects which anyone can enjoy.

A few of our articles have had specialized appeal, of course, and with the printing of the ten years' Index readers may readily look up subjects relating to their particular interest. But articles which

[1] Helen E. McAleer, "A Family Portrait of 'U.D.' ", May, 1961, pp. 19–35.

[2] Richard H. Logsdon, "A Librarian in Afghanistan," Nov., 1959, pp. 3–8.

are less likely to be referred to are those about personalities; for this reason I want to recall here some of the interesting persons who have made their appearance in our pages.

Several of these accounts have been autobiographical. Herman Wouk described his address to the Friends,[3] printed in the *Columns*, as a response to his feeling that he was "at an oral examination before the spirit of the University which gave me the intellectual orientation I have, and as though I have to render something of an account." Mark Van Doren revealed a whimsical aspect of himself as a writer in his address on a similar occasion, printed under the title "Why I am Presenting my Papers to Columbia;[4]" his friends added their tribute of laurels.[5,6]

Most of the colorful characters, however, who have been remembered in the *Columns* have been affectionately seen through the eyes of friends or relatives. Here is Dorothy Canfield Fisher on her librarian father, James Hulme Canfield,[7] quoting an anecdote told her by Harry Norris: "One afternoon he saw President Butler and the Librarian together, as they often were, walking slowly down the steps of the library, deep in talk. A sight-seeing bus lumbered around the corner of 116th Street and stopped. The guide stood up, put his megaphone to his lips and began to yell hoarsely into it, that they were now before Columbia University, and that 'Down the steps is coming Nich-o-las Murray But-ler, the Pres-i-dent of the ———.' Mr. Norris told me with laughter as fresh as though he had seen it only yesterday, that my father instantly swept off his hat and with a grandly theatrical gesture

[3] Herman Wouk, "On Being Put Under Glass," May, 1956, pp. 3–9.

[4] Mark Van Doren, "Why I Am Presenting my Papers to Columbia," Feb., 1960, pp. 3–6.

[5] Jacques Barzun, "The Significance of Literary Papers," Feb., 1960, pp. 13–17.

[6] Charles W. Everett, "Mark Van Doren at Work," Feb., 1960, pp. 18–21.

[7] Dorothy Canfield Fisher, "A Librarian's Creed: James Hulme Canfield," Nov., 1952, pp. 2–12.

bowed low to the people in the bus, while Dr. Butler, enchanted by the absurdity, collapsed in laughter against the statue of Alma Mater."

From time to time Dr. Butler inevitably makes an entrance. Isadore Mudge recalled how the staff of the Reference Department, obedient to the President's passion for accuracy, marched in a "their's not to reason why" mood through eleven volumes of the works of Burke to verify a quotation for him.[8]

President Barnard is another Columbia character whom we meet occasionally, first by way of his ear-trumpet, six feet long, which is preserved in Columbiana.[9] It conjures up an odd picture of the President sitting at a long table with the Trustees, while the trumpet end of this device, known as "Charles C. Currier's Conico-Cylindrical Conversation Coil," is solemnly passed around among those who desire to speak. But President Barnard by no means wished to spend all his time in the solemnity of Trustees' meetings, especially during the period when Melvil Dewey started to employ vivacious Wellesley graduates as library assistants.[10] "How we miss you, Mr. Dewey," wrote one of them in 1884, "and I am truly lonesome without you. Dr. Barnard came in on Monday just after you left and remained until after five o'clock telling me about the successful meeting. He was here again yesterday for more than two hours and became acquainted with Mattie and they had a regular Edgerton time of it, here in the office." Dr. Barnard liked to keep in touch with these agreeable young women after they left Columbia, and we find him writing to Mary De Veny in 1886:

[8] Isadore G. Mudge, " 'A Spot of Brightness'," May, 1960, pp. 14–20.

[9] [Dallas Pratt], "The Editor Visits Columbiana," May, 1952, pp. 26–29.

[10] Ray L. Trautman, "Melvil Dewey and the 'Wellesley Half-Dozen,' " Feb., 1954, pp. 9–13.
[Dallas Pratt], "More Reminiscences of the 'Wellesley Half-Dozen,' " Feb., 1954, pp. 14–17.

Dr. Dallas Pratt in the Trustees' Room trying out President Barnard's ear trumpet.

My dear Miss Mary:

I learned, yesterday, after you had gone away, how nearly I came to having the pleasure of seeing you. Why did you not send in your name? I would have choked off the Professor without ceremony, if I had known that you were at hand; and so would I have done with the whole Faculty, if they had been here.

When you come again, you must not be so unobtrusive. Rather than miss you I would send away even so important a person as a trustee of the College.

It is not often I see you now, but I miss you every time I go to the Library, and that is daily.

Sincerely yours,
F.A.P. BARNARD

Another who divided his time between weighty men of affairs and their granddaughters was Mark Twain. Although not a member of the Columbia family himself, he was nothing loath to be "adopted" by the girls of Barnard, and to come up to the campus to talk to them about. . . . morals.[11] "It is better to teach them than to practice them", he told the girls; "better to confer morals on others than to experiment too much with them one's self." This lecture at Barnard led to another, to Vassar alumnae, after which there was a reception on the stage for an hour or two. "I was hoping," Twain confessed, "somebody would want to kiss me for my mother, but didn't dare suggest it myself." But when one of the younger and more attractive girls did it, "I did then what I could to make it contagious and succeeded."

Interesting personalities emerge from Columbia's more remote past as one leafs through the *Columns*' first decade. There is Samuel Johnson, first President of King's College,[12] who endeavored, like his friend Bishop Berkeley, to "go to the bottom of things," and, laboring to emulate the philosopher-Bishop in his dying as he had in his living, "like him, expired sitting up in his chair, without a struggle or a groan." There is his son, William Samuel Johnson,[13] to whom the great English bearer of their name, Dr. Johnson the lexicographer, wrote: "Of all those whom the various accidents of life have brought upon my notice there is scarce any man whose acquaintance I have more desired to cultivate than yours," but who somehow did fail to cultivate the friend-

[11] Lewis Leary, "Mark Twain at Barnard College," May, 1961, pp. 12–17.

[12] John Murray Cuddihy, "Berkeley and Johnson: the Story of a Friendship," May, 1954, pp. 3–11.

[13] Mary C. Hyde, "Two Distinguished Dr. Johnsons," May, 1961, pp. 3–11.

ship of the sage, and whose memory now exists obscurely in American history and in Columbiana, rather than in sharply-etched Boswellian immortality.

Finally, rounding out this trio of 18th-Century Columbians, is the vignette of Myles Cooper, second President of King's College,[14] whose tory sympathies endear him rather less to us, and endeared him not at all to the patriotic mob who chased him over the back fence on May 10, 1776. Still, it was thoughtful of him to have his portrait so superlatively painted by John Singleton Copley. It now adorns the King's College Room in Low Library.

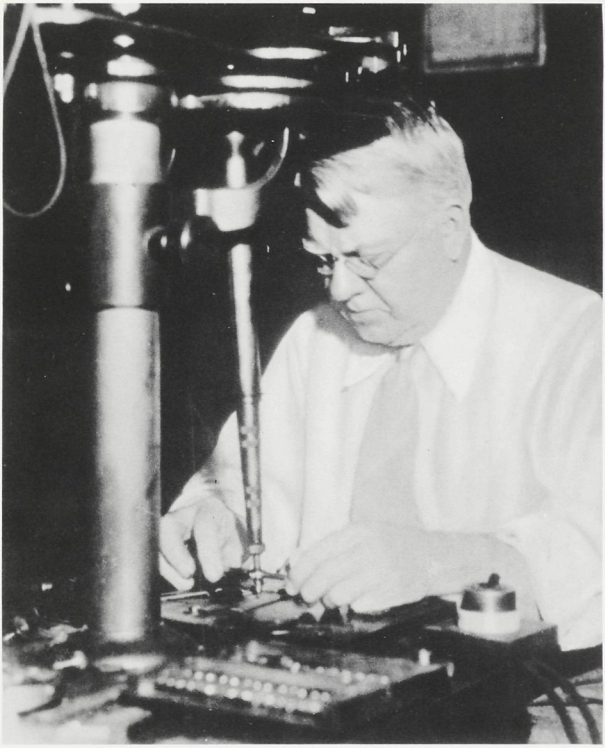
These articles run the gamut of mood. They are humorous, scholarly, analytical, nostalgic by turns. But, of all the biographical studies which have appeared in the *Columns*, my personal favorite is the one we published first: Alice Goudy Lochhead's account of her typographer-father-in-law, Frederic W. Goudy.[15] Mrs. Lochhead writes in an unpretentious, even homespun way, but she brings "Dad Goudy" vividly to the mind's eye. "He would bring a piece of printing or layout to me and ask me how I liked it. If I said, 'It doesn't look right, Goudy,' he would come back with, 'Well, what do you know about it? You don't know the first thing about type; it's the best thing I've ever done!' But he would go back to work on it, often accepting the changes suggested, and then bring it to me again with, 'Well, how do you like it now?' And I'd say, 'Why, Dad, it's wonderful!' "

One day Goudy's shop burned, with all his drawings, type patterns and equipment. He watched it calmly, and all he said was, "It's a hell of a blaze, isn't it?" The next day, someone asked, "What are you going to do now?" and he replied, "I still have my pencil."

"Dad Goudy was good," concludes Mrs. Lochhead, and her

[14] Dwight C. Miner, "Dr. Cooper Departs," May, 1952, pp. 4–11.

[15] Alice Goudy Lochhead, "My Life With Goudy," Feb., 1952, pp. 2–10.



Grolier Club Library

Frederic W. Goudy at his work bench.

verdict stands. We are glad to have his imprints and specimen sheets well represented in the Typographic Library at Columbia, and his portrait, drawn so skillfully from the life, in the *Columns*.

Wide World Photo

On October 31, 1929, Madame Curie (seated, right) was guest of honor at a dinner given by the American Cancer Society. Mrs. Meloney stands behind her (third from left).

The Marie Curie Correspondence with Marie Mattingly Meloney

EDITH H. QUIMBY

ONE DAY in May 1920, a well-known American woman journalist went to visit Marie Curie in her laboratory at the Radium Institute of the Sorbonne, in Paris; this was a visit which was to affect profoundly the lives of both women. Mrs. William Brown Meloney, editor of the *Delineator*, an important women's magazine, had venerated Mme. Curie for years; this interview was for her a long-hoped-for experience. She found a shy, retiring scientist in a small and under-equipped laboratory. The discoverer of radium had no radium of her own with which to carry on her researches, and little money for needed equipment. She had never patented any of her discoveries, nor in any other way realized financial gain from them. Now she needed and wanted, above everything else, a gram of radium for her studies.

Mrs. Meloney went away with the idea that in the wealthy United States she could interest women in collecting the money to buy a gram of radium for a gift to this outstanding (and needy) woman. In less than a year the Marie Curie Radium Fund had passed the hundred thousand dollar mark, and Mrs. Meloney wrote to Mme. Curie, "The money has been found. The radium is yours."

The 182 items in the Marie Mattingly Meloney papers in the Columbia University Libraries contain apparently every letter, card, or cable from Mme. Curie to Mrs. Meloney, a few to and

from other people, and only a few from Mrs. Meloney to Mme. Curie. This is unfortunate; too often the nature of Mrs. Meloney's letters must be inferred from Mme. Curie's replies. Even so, it is possible to learn a great deal about the relations of these two remarkable women, and to follow much of Mme. Curie's story during the last 13 years of her life. The first letters are quite formal, but it is evident that during Mme. Curie's first visit to America a warm friendship developed, which lasted until her death.

Her first letters express great appreciation for the proposed gift, coupled with anxiety about coming to America to accept it. She had not been really well for a long time, and had always spent all her energy on her work. She is terrified of crowds and big social functions such as Americans wish to honor her by. She wants to bring her daughters with her, both for her sake and for theirs. (Irene was then about 24 and Eve about 17.) It is arranged that she shall come to America in May and June of 1921. The presentation of the radium is to take place at the White House on May 20, and the radium is to be given to her personally, not to the University or any branch thereof.

She arrived in New York early in May, and her schedule for the next six weeks would have tried the strength of a vigorous young man; it was disastrous for a middle-aged woman. Dozens of colleges and universities wanted her to visit them and receive honorary degrees; all sorts of groups wanted to organize mass meetings in her honor. As the social load grew increasingly onerous some engagements had to be cancelled; in some cases one of her daughters could act as "stand-in". The presentation of a casket for the radium was made at the White House by President Harding as planned; the dangerous element itself was not there.

She left New York late in June, and a cable on July 2 announces her safe arrival in France with the radium. A few days later she sent a manuscript for publication in the *Delineator*, giving her impressions of America. Certain parts of this merit comment. She had visited several of the large women's colleges, and was very

much impressed by them. Nothing of the sort existed in Europe. The attention to the physical as well as the mental development of the girls, the considerable individual freedom allowed, the development of student self-government, the democracy, and the general joy of life seemed so important to her that she devoted several pages to discussing them. As she says: "I have been strongly impressed by the joy of life animating these young girls and expanding at every occasion like that one of my visit. If the ceremonies of the reception were performed in a nearly military order, a spontaneity of youth and happiness expressed itself in the songs of greeting composed by the students, in the smiling and excited faces and in the rushing over the lawns to meet my arrival. This was indeed a charming impression which I could not forget". This really appears to have been the part of her trip that she enjoyed most.

The dinners and receptions she acknowledges were to do her honor, but they frightened and tired her. Honorary degrees and memberships were heaped upon her. The high spot, of course, was the ceremony at the White House. Soon after that she almost collapsed, and had to cancel a number of formal ceremonies. Mrs. Meloney was very anxious that she should see something of the United States, and did, with the greatest possible comfort, get her to the Grand Canyon, and to Niagara Falls. But these wonders of Nature are only mentioned in passing, while the formality of academic ceremonies merits considerable description. While noting that the addresses at these ceremonies were generally "devoted to dignifying the ideals and the humanitarian purposes of education", she observes that "in certain cases it seems permitted to introduce a point of American humor".

The number and power of the women's organizations astonished her. In commenting on the great meetings organized in her honor by some of these groups, she is impressed by the fact that there seems to be no antagonism between the feminine aspirations and masculine opinion. It is cause for remark that the men in America

approve of and encourage group activities of women. She enjoyed visiting a radium factory and various hospital laboratories and radium clinics, but she feels keenly that although radium was discovered and first purified in France, both scientific and medical research have lagged there. She is most grateful for the gift that will now permit her laboratory to assume its rightful place in this field. (I remember her visit to the Radium Laboratory of the old Memorial Hospital, where I was at the time a very junior research assistant. Our laboratory was by no means bright and shining, and we considered it not too well equipped. And she was too tired to spend much time, or see much of our work. But it all looked good to her.)

Characteristically, her own explanation of the American enthusiasm over radium and for its discoverer is that it was a response to the scientific idealism which animated herself and her husband; it did not occur to her that it was also a tribute to Marie Curie as a personality in her own right: "The American nation is generous and always ready to appreciate an action inspired by considerations of general interest. If the discovery of radium has so much sympathy in America, it is not only because of its scientific value and of the importance of medical utilization;—it is also because the discovery has been given to humanity without reservation, or material benefit to the discoverers. My husband and I have considered our work from the standpoint of pure science. The publication of all details of our work has created very favorable conditions for the development of the Science of Radioactivity and for the establishment of the industry of radium. Our American friends wanted to honor this spirit animating the French science".

For the next few months there are few letters. She was apparently exhausted from the trip and had to recuperate. By winter she was back in her laboratory with Irene acting as her assistant. Eve was turning definitely toward a musical career.

There was money left in the Marie Curie Radium Fund after the purchase of the radium. She would have liked to have the

capital to spend at once for equipment, but after considerable correspondence the committee apparently concluded that they would buy some equipment for her, and then arrange the fund so that she would get a regular income from it. (This seems to have amounted to about $2500 annually.)

In 1922 she accepted appointment on the International Committee on Intellectual Cooperation of the League of Nations. This was the only extra-curricular activity she ever accepted and she served faithfully on this committee for as long as she lived, going to Geneva each summer for the meeting. In the ensuing years there are regular allusions to the work of this committee, which she considered very important.

Over the next few years there is a desultory exchange of friendly letters. She is tired most of the time, and having serious trouble with her eyes. (Actually she had three operations on them in 1923 and 1924. Cataracts, possibly radiation-induced, resulted in almost total blindness before she would agree to surgery. Her sight was restored, but she continued to have trouble with her eyes.)

She wrote her autobiography, and a brief biography of her husband, to be published in America as Mrs. Meloney saw fit, and there was some correspondence about the style and content, and about reading the proof. Eventually, autographed copies of the book were presented to the many people who had been particularly kind to her during her American visit.*

Various people gave her financial help,—she never asked for it for herself; it was either for her laboratory or for her students. Some time during these years Mr. Owen D. Young became interested in her work, and was to prove a real benefactor.

Irene got her doctor's degree, and announced her engagement

* Typescripts of these, with Mme. Curie's manuscript alterations and corrections were recently presented to Columbia by Mrs. Meloney's son, William B. Meloney, Jr. See "Our Growing Collections" in this issue.

to Frederic Joliot, a young physicist in their laboratory. Eve seemed really launched on her musical career.

Mme. Curie and Irene accepted an invitation to go to Brazil in the summer of 1926, and letters following this trip indicate that both of them enjoyed it very much; it was kept reasonably free from hullabaloo.

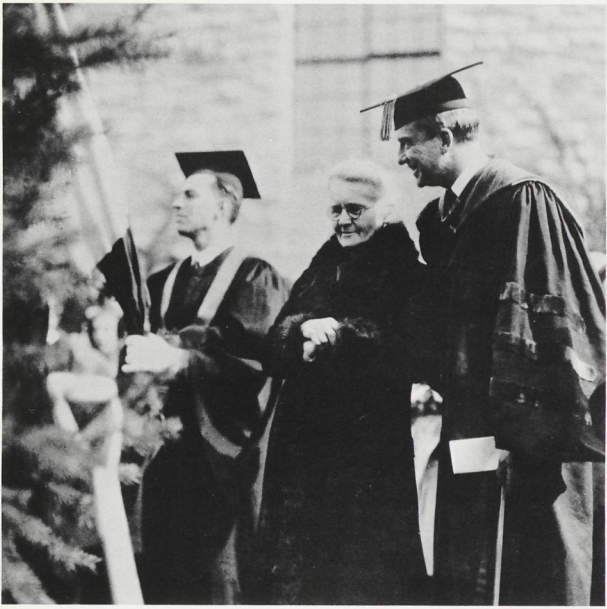
In July of 1926, a letter to Mme. Curie from Mrs. Meloney announces her severing her connection with the *Delineator*, and undertaking the editorship of the *Herald Tribune* Sunday magazine. She offers Mme. Curie $100 for a statement of what she has done with her radium. This report was apparently sent in February of 1927, but no copy is found among the papers.*

Throughout the preceding four years there had been considerable agitation about founding a Radium Institute in Poland, Mme. Curie's native country. She had been urged to ask her American benefactors to help raise money for it. She was reluctant to do so, but did tell Mrs. Meloney about it, and in the fall of 1927 it is suggested that something might be done if she would come to America for some personal appearances. She knows that Mrs. Meloney is not well, and does not want her to take on such a project. In Paris, Irene is ill; the birth of a daughter has left her far from strong. Mme. Curie herself is not well, and is frightened at the thought of coming alone. Nothing is decided.

During that winter of 1927–1928 she really begins to be concerned about what will happen to her radium after her death. Realizing that the Marie Curie Radium Fund Committee may have some rights in the matter, she sends them detailed information about Irene's scientific accomplishments, to convince them that custody should be transferred to her. (Later this transfer is made legally binding.)

Throughout the next year there are renewed invitations to come

* A typed "Note on the Institute of Radium and the Curie Foundation" is among the items recently presented by William B. Meloney, Jr. See "Our Growing Collections" in this issue.



Paris Studios, Ogdensburg, N. Y.

Madame Curie talking with Owen D. Young at the October 29, 1929, convocation at St. Lawrence University.

to the United States, and this time Mr. Young is also urging it. She finally agrees to come, but really is not well and must keep social events to a minimum. She is urged to see a great eye specialist at Johns Hopkins Hospital, and is told that this visit, with the conferring of an honorary degree, and one to St. Lawrence University, Mr. Young's Alma Mater, will be the only ones required. Money will be given her for the purchase of radium for the Warsaw Institute, and possibly some additional for endowment of either the Paris or Warsaw laboratory. By this time the cost of

radium has come to half what it was when her gram was bought,—but also the financial situation in the United States is not as easy as it was then.

She arrived on October 15, 1929, and departed three weeks later, with the promise of $50,000. For several months there was correspondence as to where the radium would be bought, and whether the money should all be used for that, or whether some should be withheld for needed laboratory equipment and a bit for running expenses. Eventually the radium was bought from the Belgian firm holding the Katanga monopoly.

During this period Edsel Ford gave her an automobile, and Mrs. Moses undertook to pay the salary of a chauffeur for her. This made her life very much easier. She was living in a rather inconveniently arranged house on the Ile de la Cité, and having to climb several flights of stairs daily, so being able to give up walking to the University was a real amelioration of her daily routine.

Early in 1930, invitations were sent her to spend time at Leland Stanford University and at California Institute of Technology. She wanted to accept, although she was aware of the precarious state of her health. Over the next three years tentative dates were repeatedly set and cancelled because she was not able to undertake the assignments.

In the spring of 1932 the Warsaw Radium Institute was dedicated. She attended the ceremonies and was very happy about them, but returned to Paris ill and exhausted. Now she became very anxious that the legal transfer to Irene of the responsibility for her radium should be arranged.

Again the next year she is trying to make plans to come to the United States, but now the difficulties pile up. Irene has two children and her academic career, and Eve her musical one. Mme. Curie does not feel that she can ask either of them to give up her own work to accompany her mother on such a trip, and the question of a companion is almost insuperable. She does not dare travel alone; in fact, her health is now so precarious that she has

to admit that extensive travel is really contra-indicated. By January 1934 she acknowledges that she has a generalized disease which has put her on a very strict diet, and also that she has real difficulties with her hands (which are suffering from years of over-exposure to radium.)

The last item in the collection, dated 25 March, 1934, is a testamentary document desiring to bequeath her gram of radium to the University of Paris, under the condition that her daughter Irene shall have entire control of it during her lifetime, and shall also be entitled to name her own successor in this custodianship.

One afternoon in May of that year she left her laboratory for the last time. She was put to bed with exhaustion, fever, general debility. Pernicious anemia was diagnosed; doubtless it was a consequence of radium exposure over a period of almost 40 years. On July 3 she died, a victim of her own discovery, but leaving a shining story behind her.

FOUR LETTERS FROM THE CURIE-MELONEY CORRESPONDENCE

Late in 1956, Mr. William Brown Meloney, Jr. (A.B., 1927) presented an unparalleled series of letters representing an extensive correspondence between his mother, the late Marie Mattingly Meloney, and Madame Marie Curie. This correspondence, which had begun in 1920, continued until Madame Curie's death in 1934. It illustrates in remarkable detail the depth of friendship between these two women, a friendship which originated during Mrs. Meloney's successful campaign to obtain financial contributions from American women sufficient to provide Madame Curie with a gram of radium for use in her scientific experiments in radiotherapy.

Mr. Meloney subsequently presented additional related materials: three magnificent items comprising the original draft in French of Madame Curie's address of acceptance of the radium, a draft in English of the address as delivered, and an eleven-page article in her autograph, giving her impressions of America on the occasion of the 1921 visit to receive the radium.

In "Our Growing Collections" in this issue of Library Columns, *we celebrate Mr. Meloney's further very recent gifts of still other Curie manuscripts. As we go to press, a display of these distinguished papers is being installed in the main exhibition area of the third floor of Butler Library.*

—Editor.

The first letter from Madame Curie to Mrs. Meloney in the papers at Columbia. (The letters are printed without alteration from the original manuscripts.)

FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES DE PARIS

INSTITUT DU RADIUM

LABORATOIRE CURIE

1, Rue Pierre-Curie, Paris (5^e^) Paris, le 7.Novembre 1920

My dear Mrs. Meloney,

I am sending you back your article. I am very much obliged to you for your kind purpose to get more Radium for my work. Nevertheless, I had to change several lines of the article, and I want to explain to you that this was necessary.

It is very good of you to ask people of Pittsburgh for money to purchase Radium. If you say so yourself in that article, no one may object. But the suggestion should be yours and not mine. I dont feel justified in asking unknown people in your country so far abroad, and I would not like to do it.

I have also suppressed several lines about me, speaking of my private situation. Your view of it would not appear entirely justified to the french opinion. It is true that I am not rich, but that is nearly always so for french scientists, and I live like other Professors of the University, so I dont complain or feel unhappy about it. My gift to the Radium Institute was not much in money, but rather in Radium made by me.

If you should be successfull in getting Radium for me, I would of course do all I could to arrange for coming to America to receive the gift.

I am collecting facts for the biography which I wish to write and I expect to be able to do it in a not very long time.

I am sincerely grateful to you for your kindness and send you all my good wishes.

Sincerely yours,

M. Curie

Letter from Mrs. Meloney to Madame Curie. The proofs referred to were of an autobiographical article by Madame Curie being published by Mrs. Meloney in the *Delineator;* the decision of the Committee which vexed Madame Curie was, apparently, their allocation of the extra funds to Madame Curie for personal needs, rather than for the purchase of instruments. (The letter is represented in the collection in the form of an unsigned retained carbon copy.)

October 12, 1921

Dear Madame Curie:

Thank you for your letter of September 29th and the proofs which have just come to us. I shall be so glad to receive the pictures, which have not yet arrived.

I am so unhappy at the thought that the decision of the Committee about the extra money raised does not entirely meet with your approval. This was not anything I could control. My part was to start the campaign and to keep it going; to get women in this country interested in you and your work and be sure that we did collect enough money to purchase a gramme of radium. Also, my happy responsibility was to make sure that America did not kill you with kindness. Please do not feel that this was a burden to me. It was my greatest happiness. I shall always be interested in you and your work and shall try to make it my job to persuade some of the foundations to support your great plan.

Bill is much better and his father is quite well and working hard as editorial director of the New York Tribune.

My best wishes to you always, and my love.

Your devoted friend,

MADAME MARIE CURIE
1 RUE PIERRE CURIE
PARIS, FRANCE

Letter from Madame Curie to Mrs. Meloney, written when the former was returning from her second American visit. She refers to the financier Owen D. Young, who proved to be a generous benefactor. Mrs. Meloney later assured her friend: "He finds great pleasure in thinking of you and planning for you. It is a relief from many of the tasks which are a duty."

S. S. ILE DE FRANCE

November 12, 1929

My dear friend,

This letter will be probably posted at Plymouth and it will perhaps reach you next week.

I felt very lonely indeed when you went away from the ship and I realized that I was leaving your friendly country, your friendly home, all those who had been kind to me, and, most of all, you, my dear. I could not go to bed, but went to the hall and looked at the going in and out of the last hour. This gave me the pleasure of seeing Mr. Young who came in for a short while, after the departure of the Homeric and brought me the last good bye of America in his kind way. Afterwards, I went on the top deck and looked at the harbour and the lights, and then it was all over, and I returned to my cabin.

The weather became pretty bad next day, the sea rough, and I did not feel well and stayed three days in the cabin living mostly on fruit and tisane and reading the american books. Today, the weather has improved, so I dressed and went on the top deck to get some more air. As for the promenade deck, I still dislike it and can't think of sitting in a chair, all wrapped up in a rug. I am glad that I am able to write today and after this letter to you, I shall try to do some of my work.

I am somehow overwhelmed by the generous appreciation of me in your country. It is very comforting. but it makes me feel the responsibility ahead of me. You know that I mostly think of what has to be done and not of what has been done, and it is because I

am afraid that my strength could fail me, that I do not enjoy remembering my birthday.

I surely need several years of efficient work to take care of the Institution created by me and Dr. Regaud[1] *and to make it safe in the future,—as well as to carry on scientific work on various lines and to write so many things that I have in mind. And there is also the Polish Institute and the international work in the Committee of the League of Nations.—Well, I will do my best and hope for the best.—and try to keep in good condition.*

My dear friend, I am still in the dark about what I ought to do in the matter of purchase of radium. I will talk it over with Dr. Regaud and write to you what he will think. And I shall not take any step before having your advice and Mr. Young's.

I ask you also to be so kind and to inquire about the radiothorium that did not come in time for me to take it to Europe. It is desirable to have it forwarded as soon and as carefully as possible, without breaking the glass tube containing it, as might occur if the package is not satisfactory or if it is some trouble with the customs. Could not Mr. Failla[2] *or the President of the Radium company find some way of bringing the tube to Paris safe?*

It seems to rain again, and it is dark. A bad crossing altogether.

Your radio has arrived with the information on the statement. Thank you very much for your thoughtfulness. I did not send news by radio because they weren't very satisfactory, but I shall send a cable or a radio on arriving. The ship comes in at Havre friday morning and I am afraid that it will not be easy for Eve to come because it would mean for her to be in Havre over night.

My very dear friend, give my love to Mrs. Mead, Theo, Mrs. Moses and Bill and you,—and remember me to all my friends.

M. Curie

[1] Claudius Regaud, Director of Biological and Medical Services of the Institut du Radium.

[2] Gioacchino Failla, Columbia, EE '51, AM '16, was Physicist at Memorial Hospital.

Last letter in the Columbia collection from Madame Curie to Mrs. Meloney. Marie Curie died five months later; Marie Meloney died in 1943.

FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES DE PARIS

INSTITUT DU RADIUM
LABORATOIRE CURIE

1, Rue Pierre-Curie, Paris (5e) *Paris, le january 22, 1934*

My very dear friend,

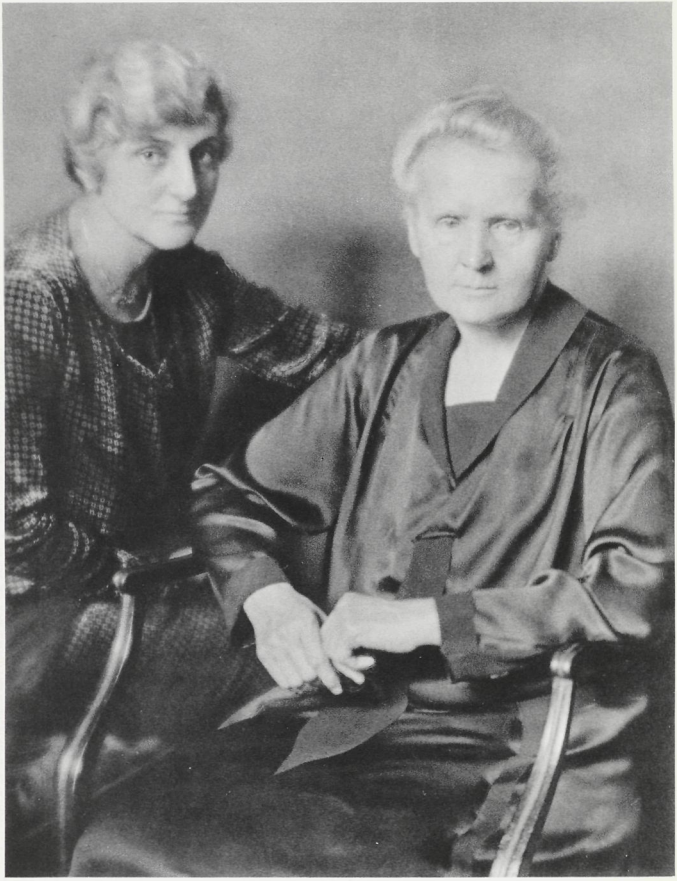
Your letter of december 28th has distressed me. I did not know that you had a bad accident. I beg you to explain me all about it and about the consequences.

I did not write at once, because I too had troubles. First, a kind of general disease which obliged me to a very strict diet, probably to last for the future,—second, an injury to my wrist, which had to be fixed in plaster for weeks, and is still under observance. These things have seriously hampered my work. At least, I have the pleasure of real success in the work of Irene and her husband. They have just published a new discovery, most remarkable and promising.

My coming to America next spring seems very doubtful, on account of the condition of my health. Besides, I would feel very lonely if I were deprived of your society, which I have enjoyed on my previous visits. Of course, I am very grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Hoover for their kind offer to take me to the mountains, but even in that case I would not know how to miss you. And I am sure that you must be quiet and free of the cares which my coming would bring very likely. So I must perhaps wait a little more before I have the chance of seeing my american friends and their beautiful national parks.

My love to you and my best wishes of recovery in a quick way.

M. Curie



MARIE MATTINGLY MELONEY AND
MARIE SKLODOWSKA CURIE

"Missy" Meloney

HELEN ROGERS REID

THE publication of articles about the correspondence between Madame Marie Curie and Mrs. Marie Mattingly Meloney in *Columbia Library Columns*, has brought back to life one great achievement in the record of a remarkable human being—"Missy" Meloney. (This first name by which she was known to all her friends had been given by her Kentucky mammy and it endured to the end.)

The friends who called her "Missy" included statesmen, scientists, and leading figures in every field throughout the world. Outstanding literary people and artists created for her some of their most original work. She was a great editor and on the *Delineator* she was one of the first to break the million mark in circulation among magazines.

After that, she did such brilliant work for the *Herald Tribune* Sunday Magazine that she was drafted and reluctantly persuaded to become editor of the extraordinarily successful *This Week*. Under her leadership its circulation reached six million and it is now over fourteen million, thanks in large part to her inspiring legacy to fellow workers: "Never stop learning—Never stop growing". President Theodore Roosevelt once said of her, "Mrs. Meloney knows how to think, but what's more important she's thinking in terms of the future."

The basis of her talented editorial success was her experience as a newspaperwoman. She started early. At 15 she did music criticism for the *Washington Post*. At 17 she was head of the Washington Bureau of the *Denver Post* and the first woman to sit in the

Senate Press Gallery. Later she was the first woman on the staff of *The New York Sun.*

Among other records was her own assignment as a magazine editor in France during World War I, where she came to know all the leaders. After the armistice, she rescued almost single handed a devastated French village where she slept on the ground under an overturned cart rather than take any space from people who had lost their homes.

By the end of the war she had discovered the pitiful conditions under which Madame Curie was trying to carry on her scientific research. Mrs. Meloney immediately went into action among the women of America. The result was that she raised enough money, in less than a year, to purchase a gram of radium for Madame Curie's own research, and additional funds to provide her with a well-equipped laboratory administered through the Curie Foundation. Eight years later Mrs. Meloney made possible another gram of radium that was given to the Marie-Sklodowska Curie Institute in Warsaw. All Poland joined in buying bricks for the building in response to the statement of the scientist, "My most ardent desire is the creation of an institute of radium in Warsaw."

She was a welcome guest in all the capitals of Europe as well as in our own White House, regardless of who was president. In fact, she knew every one. Four times she interviewed Mussolini—the last time shortly before he invaded Ethiopia. An appointment with Hitler was broken by him and, when he later tried to make another, she declined the invitation.

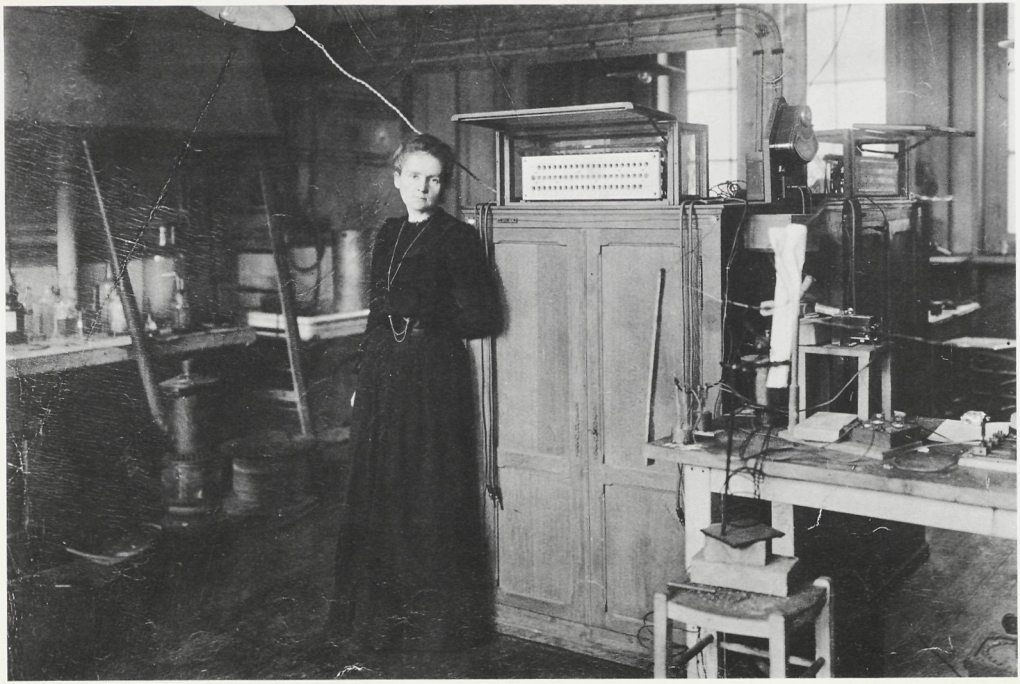
As a result of her constructive service in Europe she received many decorations—three from France, three from Belgium and one from Poland. Honors offered her in the United States were never made known. One unusual tribute paid her was from the editor of a newspaper in a Federal Correctional Institution on the West Coast. In a full page article about her as an "Editor Extraordinary", the author ended with the words, "She knows how to do her job so well that she has no contemporaries."

A keystone of her editorial formula was linking both fiction and articles close to the world news and signing up as contributing writers a vast number of men and women—cabinet members, public officials, educators, labor leaders, scientists—who were in the forefront of new developments. Among those who wrote for her in the fiction field were Pearl Buck, Sinclair Lewis, James Hilton, Channing Pollock, Booth Tarkington, John Galsworthy, Sir James Barrie, and P. G. Wodehouse. Groucho Marx, W. C. Fields, Gracie Allen and Walt Disney were among the humorists. In whatever she did she kept the image of journalism at its highest and best and those who worked closely with her emerged with the knowledge that they had touched someone unique. Perhaps her top capacity lay in being able to give ideas to others as well as to receive them.

In 1930 she organized the Herald Tribune Forum—an annual event for 25 years that stands as a special monument to her memory. The program grew into national and international importance with leading personalities from many parts of the world presenting their views on current problems. In 1936 all campaign candidates for the presidency, including Earl Browder, spoke at one of the sessions.

In addition to her unlimited hours as an editor, "Missy" Meloney seemed literally to manufacture time for worth-while activities and give them the necessary drive for going ahead. She originated the idea of the Junior Red Cross. She helped organize the American Child Health Association. During the First World War, she spearheaded a drive for a ship-load of food, clothing and medical supplies for the people of Belgium, and in 1921 she organized the Better Homes in America movement which spread to 5,000 cities. In this project she contributed to new thinking in architecture and better designs for living on every front. Three years later the Better Homes movement was incorporated as a public service organization with Herbert Hoover as president and Mrs. Meloney as vice-president.

Although a small, slender person, who was lame from an early age when a knee was crushed by a horse in a riding accident, she had energy far beyond any normal power-house of her day. Hers was energy of the atom before the power of the atom had been discovered. The editor who succeeded her on *This Week*, in a recent address before the Newcomen Society, said that she possessed "a radar-like sensitivity and intuition". Certainly she anticipated history while it was in the making, both politically at home and in world-wide changes. A famous columnist long ago described her as one of the most civilized people in New York City, and an important Southern newspaper stated on page one, "Writing about her is like trying to put *Gone With the Wind* on a post card". This is the way I feel in an attempt to shrink a wealth of colorful material. I had the challenge of working with "Missy" Meloney for many years (an association spiced with lively arguments!), and I can only conclude an inadequate article by saying she was ageless, and objective in her approach to everything she undertook. She was rare, she was great, and she was my very dear friend.



Marie Curie in her Paris laboratory in 1912, the year following the award of her second Nobel Prize.

"To Madame Curie: One Gram of Radium"

JOHN HOHENBERG

IN PARIS, in the spring of 1920, everything seemed possible. The war to end all war had been won. The League of Nations was meeting for the first time in Geneva. A conference on the limitation of armaments was but a year off in Washington, D. C., and a bold figure in science, Albert Einstein, was being talked of for a Nobel Prize. It was a time for great dreams, great achievements, seemingly a turning point in mankind's long struggle for a better world.

In such an atmosphere of hope that spring a gentle American visitor came to see Mme. Curie at her cluttered office in the Radium Institute in Paris and asked her impulsively: "If you had the whole world to choose from, what would you take?"

The world-famous scientist, a frail little woman in a black cotton dress, replied without hesitation, "I need a gram of radium to continue my researches but I cannot buy it. Radium is too dear for me."

The American visitor, Mrs. William Brown Meloney, was thunder-struck. The discoverer of radium, who had been honored with a Nobel Prize for her achievements, owned none of it and there was but a gram in her entire laboratory. She had no patents, no revenue. She had given her remarkable discovery to the world.

Then and there, Mrs. Meloney decided that Mme. Curie would

AUTHOR'S NOTE: For this account, I am indebted to Eve Curie's biography of her mother, Mme. Curie, and to contemporary periodicals.

have the radium she needed. The cost, $100,000, would be met by the women of America. And Mme. Curie herself would come to America and receive her princely gift from the President of the United States at a White House reception.

It was an ambitious plan. But that spring in Paris, nothing seemed too difficult for Marie Mattingly Meloney, daughter of a Kentucky physician and for two decades a devoted admirer of the Polish-born chemist who had transformed the world of science. Mrs. Meloney had been trained as a concert pianist, but, after an accident while riding on a horse, she had turned instead to journalism. Now, she was one of the foremost editors in the United States and was soon to become the dominant figure behind *This Week*, the Sunday magazine that went into millions of American homes.

Within a year, Mrs. Meloney accomplished what she set out to do. The women of America gave generously to purchase Mme. Curie's gram of radium. And the great scientist, amid a fanfare of publicity worthy of a queen, set out for what she called "this distant frolic, so little suited to my taste and habits." At 4 p.m. on May 20, 1921, she was escorted by President Warren Gamaliel Harding into the East Room of the White House for the presentation of a symbolic lead-lined casket. The precious radium itself had been left safely in the factory.

Insensibly, during the year that had passed between Mrs. Meloney's promise and her performance, the world atmosphere had changed. America, under Harding, had slipped comfortably into what was thought to be normalcy, a pitiful state of isolation from the world coupled with unrestrained speculation at home. Two humble Italian immigrants, Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, arrested and accused of a payroll holdup killing, almost overnight had become symbols of a campaign against radicalism. The spirit of Woodrow Wilson and his League of Nations was as good as dead.

None of this, of course, showed in President Harding's eulogy

of Marie Curie in the timeworn tradition of American officialdom saluting triumphant womanhood. She was, to him, that "noble creature, the devoted wife and loving mother who, aside from her crushing toil, had fulfilled all the duties of womanhood." Before a distinguished gathering there in the East Room, with Mrs. Meloney looking on, Mme. Curie then was presented with a deed of gift, a parchment roll tied with a tricolor ribbon, and a tiny gold key on a silk cord, the key to the radium chest.

Briefly, Mme. Curie responded. All America knew that she was grateful, but here in the White House she formally thanked President and Mrs. Harding, Mrs. Meloney, and the ladies of the Marie Curie Committee who had raised the money to buy the radium, M. Jules Jusserand, the French ambassador to the United States, and finally her own vivacious daughters, Irene and Eve. A rustle of applause saluted her.

Then President Harding escorted Mme. Curie to the Blue Room where she was seated in a chair. The assemblage filed past her, with Mrs. Harding presenting each one and Mme. Curie's daughters doing the handshaking for her and politely addressing the notables in English, Polish or French, as their nationality dictated.

Next came the familiar American rite of photography with the President of the United States dutifully obeying the commands of the impatient camermen. Mr. Harding again escorted Mme. Curie, this time out on the White House porch, where they were photographed "in action," descending the stairs together to the resplendent lawn.

The pictures showed Mme. Curie in a long dark dress, her parchment scroll held up in her black-gloved hand, her left hand resting on the President's arm. She wore a black hat that slightly resembled an inverted flower pot and shadowed her face, giving it a somewhat grim look. The President, large and white-haired and handsome, the public image of an American politician, was smiling broadly and seemed to be thoroughly enjoying himself. Mrs. Meloney, who could not move as briskly as her guest, was

somewhat back in the procession, content that she had stage-managed a White House spectacle and at the same time performed a distinguished public service.

It is perhaps typical of the two women that they had already taken care of the practical details without flowery speeches and crushed lavender sentiments. Mme. Curie had read the deed of gift the night before and told her friend:

"This paper must be modified. The radium offered me by America must belong to science. So long as I am alive, it goes without saying that I shall use it only for scientific work. But if we leave things in this state, the radium would become the patrimony of private persons after my death—of my daughters. This is impossible. I want to make it a gift to my laboratory. Can we call in a lawyer?"

"Of course," Mrs. Meloney said. "If you like, we can take care of these formalities next week."

"Not next week. Not tomorrow. Tonight. The act of gift will soon be valid and I may die in a few hours."

The paper was drawn up by a lawyer, as Mme. Curie had directed. And that night, she signed. The White House ceremony therefore was mere glamor. Mrs. Meloney had accomplished everything she had set out to do and from then on maintained a friendly and continuous correspondence with her illustrious associate. In the long midnight of America's isolation from the world, the tiny but steady glow shed by this communion of interest between two brilliant and generous women was a welcome sign that international relations were not entirely the business of dry-as-dust chancellories. The Curie-Meloney letters, which have been given to the Columbia University Libraries by Mrs. Meloney's son, are therefore something more than a mere footnote to the history of their time. They are human documents that testify to the bravery and courage of that impossible springtime of 1920 in Paris, when their story began.

The New Engineering Library: A Picture Section

JAMES D. RAMER

In September, 1961, the Engineering library moved from Mines Building to its new quarters in the recently completed Seeley Wintersmith Mudd Building at 120th Street and Amsterdam Avenue. The reading room, staff and service areas are on the fourth floor, supplemented by periodical stacks on the third floor which are reached by an interior stairway.

The library has been named the Monell Library in honor of Ambrose Monell, EE '96, who was the first president of the International Nickel Company. The Monell Foundation made a gift to the Engineering School which included funds for new furniture and decorations in the library. As a result, the latter has become one of Columbia's most attractive and colorful departmental libraries.

James D. Ramer, Librarian of the Engineering and Physical Science Libraries (left), and staff members at the Circulation desk, which is located adjacent to the entrance. The Reference Librarian's desk is in the foreground.

At the left in the background is a glass door which opens out on to a terrace that extends along the north side of the building.

This view of part of the Reading Room shows the modern design of the furniture, the generous four-foot width of the tables, and, in the background, a few of the many individual study carrels. The tables are oiled walnut and the chairs are upholstered in turquoise Naugahyde. With 125 seats for readers on this floor, the seating capacity is ample for all normal needs.

Not shown in this photograph are open bookstacks with a capacity of 20,000 volumes.

This picture shows part of the library area on the third floor. On both sides of the central corridor, which is shown above, are filing cabinets which contain the depository collection of Atomic Energy Commission reports. The adjoining stacks have a capacity of 65,000 volumes.

Also located on this floor are photocopying facilities, individual and group study rooms, and additional carrels. In all, 36 readers can be accommodated here in more private, if less colorful, quarters than on the main floor above.

To the east of the circulation desk are shelves for current periodicals on which are located 750 of the more popular journals. Lounge chairs nearby accommodate those who are browsing. The tall tropical plants flank the stairway which leads to the periodical stacks on the floor below.

The light gray, vinyl tile floor-covering contributes to the effect of airy spaciousness in the reading room beyond.

Our Growing Collections

ROLAND BAUGHMAN

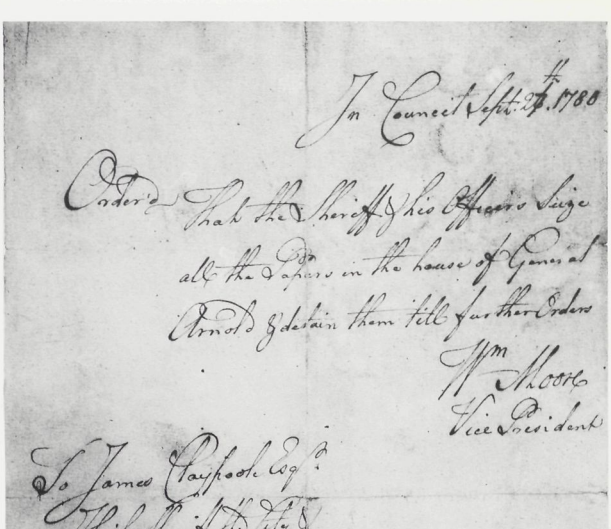
Auerbach gift. Mrs. Irwin Elkins Auerbach has presented to Avery Library an autograph letter written to her by Frank Lloyd Wright, January 18, 1949.

Berol gift. A year ago we noted the important gift by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred C. Berol of some fifteen letters and documents relating to the American Revolution, or to personages who figured in it. This year Mr. and Mrs. Berol join in adding to their gift forty-two other letters and documents, all of prime historical significance. Since, unhappily, there is not space to list all of the items, the following selections must serve to show the superb quality and distinction of this extraordinary gift.

1. The official order issued by the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania on September 27, 1780, authorizing the confiscation of all papers in the house of Benedict Arnold. The order was addressed to James Claypoole, Sheriff of Philadelphia, and was signed by the Vice-President of the Council, William Moore.

2. An autograph letter, signed, from General Cornwallis to Major James Wemyss, October 7, 1780. The letter is partly in cipher, and it orders Wemyss to proceed with his regiment into North Carolina in order to recruit men from among the British sympathizers presumed to be there.

3. A long and detailed report from Captain Drury Ragsdale to General Nathaniel Greene, February 4, 1782. Captain Ragsdale had been involved in General Greene's efforts to gather additional forces for the projected attack on Charleston, S. C.


In Council Sept. 25th 1780

Ordered That the Sheriff of this County Seize all the Papers in the house of General Arnold & detain them till further Orders

Wm Moore
Vice President

To James Claypoole Esq.
High Sheriff of the City &
County of Philad.a

Reproduced above is the order of William Moore, Vice President of the Council, to seize the papers of Benedict Arnold. The treason of Arnold, who had accepted command of West Point with the intent of betraying it to the British, became known to General Washington when he arrived at the Point on September 26, 1780. He dispatched word immediately to the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania. (Berol gift)

4. An autograph letter, signed, from George Lux to General Greene, April 28, 1778. Lux apparently kept Greene informed about conditions and persons in the southern colonies. A large part of the letter discusses the officers of the Maryland Division, and outspoken comments are made in reference to Generals Arnold, Gates, Wayne, Schuyler, and Putnam.

5. An autograph letter, signed, from George Washington to Rev. Jonathan Boucher, December 16, 1770. Rev. Boucher was the tutor of Washington's stepson, John Parke Custis, and he is being cautioned to see that the young Custis pays strict attention to his studies and deportment.

6. A fine autograph letter, signed, from Nathaniel Greene to General James M. Varnum, August 17, 1777, reporting the military situation of the American and English forces in the northern colonies.

7. An autograph letter, signed, from Dr. Benjamin Rush to Lewis Morris, July 22, 1776. A fine letter from one Signer of the Declaration of Independence to another.

8. Autograph letter, signed, from Philemon Dickinson to John Hancock, September 29, 1777. Dickinson, the commanding officer of the New Jersey militia, explains that his lack of troops lays New Jersey open to great peril, which would be increased if he is asked to join Washington's force.

9. Autograph letter, signed, from Thomas Jefferson to William Burwell, May 9, 1804, in which Burwell is offered the position of personal secretary. (Burwell accepted, and remained in that capacity throughout Jefferson's administration.)

10. Autograph letter, signed, from General Anthony Wayne to Major John Habersham, August 30, 1782, in which Habersham is notified that a British fleet is operating off the coast, and that in a skirmish with one of its landing parties Lt. Col. Laurens was killed.

The Berol gift also includes Habersham's reply, mis-dated August 7 (a postscript is correctly dated September).

Bonom gift. Mr. Paul J. Bonom's name occurs with frequency in these pages. Recently he has presented a number of most useful items, chief among which is the 40-volume set of the Yale Shakespeare, 1956.

Brewer gift. More than a year ago we received a cash gift from Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Brewer, members of the Friends who now reside in Sevenoaks, Kent, England. The only restriction on the gift was that it was to be used to acquire some particularly desirable item for Special Collections. We knew almost at once what that was to be–Don Cleveland Norman's *Pictorial Census of the Gutenberg Bible,* which was scheduled for publication in the spring of 1961. Mr. and Mrs. Brewer's gift was earmarked for its purchase, but release was delayed for several months. Our copy did not reach us until the final week of December, but it was well worth waiting for. Handsomely printed in monumental format, it contains full and authoritative descriptions of each of the 47 extant copies of the Gutenberg Bible, and is replete with plates, reproductions, and facsimiles, some in full color.

Brown (Perc S.) gift. A year ago we noted the gift by Mr. Perc S. Brown of a unique Benjamin Franklin document, a promissory note announcing the indebtedness of the United States to France in the amount of 750,000 livres. Printed by Franklin at his press in Passy, and bearing his signature in two places, it represents the indentured left-hand half of a double form that was executed on August 15, 1781.

Recently Mr. Brown presented a most remarkable companion piece. It is the right-hand half of a similar but earlier promissory note, dated February 15, 1781, also for 750,000 livres, and signed by Franklin in three places. Together the two pieces, though representing different transactions, form an exhibit of unusual completeness and rarity.

Brown (Robert U.) gift. Mr. Robert U. Brown has presented a collection of unique materials relating to the history of journalism. The gift includes: a typescript of "Park Row" by Samuel Williams; a typescript of "Talcott Williams, Gentleman of the Fourth Estate", compiled by Elisabeth Dunbar; a typescript (car-

bon) by Charles Lincoln on Joseph Pulitzer, Adolf Ochs, the two Gordon Bennetts, and others; original manuscript cables from James Gordon Bennett; and eleven correspondence-books, being the files of Don C. Seitz of *The World* from ca. 1897 to 1911.

Crouse gift. Mrs. Russell Crouse, daughter of John Erskine, has presented an unparalleled collection of her distinguished father's manuscripts, typescripts, correspondence, and printed items. This gift fully bears out what has been so often said—that through the generosity of its donors Columbia University frequently acquires materials that could come in no other way, for such treasured family heirlooms as these are not to be purchased.

Mrs. Crouse's gift comprises nine bound manuscripts of complete books (holograph and typed), including the first and second versions of *Galahad;* fourteen manuscripts and typescripts of individual works, including musical scores, poems, dramatic sketches, and lecture notes; 143 letters to members of his family; 21 holograph poems (valentines) written to his wife; and 18 printed works, including many inscribed copies. One of the last-named items, *The Governor's Vrouw* (New York, 1900), contains in the autograph of one of the co-authors, Melville H. Cane (A. B. 1900; LL.B. 1903), verses that were sung as encores of the various songs, but which were not printed with the regular text.

de Lima gift. Miss Agnes de Lima (A.M., 1909) has added to her earlier gifts of the books and manuscripts of Randolph S. Bourne (A.B., 1912; A.M., 1913) by presenting twenty-seven volumes formerly in Bourne's library (see also *Library Columns*, May, 1955, and February, 1961). Included with the present gift are two typed letters signed by Vachel Lindsay and dated December 3, 1916. One of the letters is addressed to Bourne, the other to Harold Stearns, both of whom were at that time on the staff of the *Dial.*

Demuth gift. Mr. Frank W. Demuth (B.S., 1914 C; LL.B., 1916) has presented to the Law Library a most interesting and useful

legal manuscript. It comprises proceedings in a law suit in Savoy, A.D. 1330—"In causa que volvitur coram nobis Johanne de Montaug. . ." It is complete in six paper leaves, mounted in larger leaves which bear transcriptions and annotations by Richard H. Thornton, formerly the distinguished Dean of the University of Oregon Law School.

de Vegh gift. It is not often that we have the opportunity of announcing so distinguished a gift as that made recently by the late Mr. Imrie de Vegh. The gift includes four printed works in eight volumes, and three manuscripts, all related to Mr. de Vegh's special interest, Spanish America, and all in the most superb condition.

1. *Reglamento y Aranceles Reales. . .* Madrid: Pedro Marin [1778]. A most important volume, containing the decree and tariff schedules of Charles III that freed trade with Spanish America and the Philippines; concessions to Louisiana are also included. This copy is initialed on p. 262 by Joseph de Galvez, certifying it to be a true copy of the original. The binding bears the arms of Charles III of Spain.

2. *Real Ordenanza para el Establecimiento e Instrucción de Intendentes de Exercito y Provincia en el Virreinato de Buenos Aires.* Madrid: Imprenta Real, 1782. The first codification of administrative law for the Viceroyalty of Buenos Aires. An official copy, on large paper, with the arms of Charles III of Spain on the binding.

3. Fernandez de Navarrete, Martin. *Colleción de los viages y descubrimientos. . . desde fines del siglo XV. . .* Madrid: Imprenta Real, 1825–37. Five volumes, first edition. The standard compilation of Spanish voyages, containing texts of many historical and hitherto unpublished documents concerning the discovery of America. A matchless copy on large paper, formerly in the library of Sir William Stirling Maxwell, with his arms on the bindings.

4. Humboldt, Alexander von, and Aime Bonpland. *Vue des*

Cordillères, et Monumens des Peuples Indigènes de l'Amérique. Paris: F. Schoell, 1813. Large paper copy, in the finest possible condition. The volume contains 367 pages and all 69 plates (pages 272–350 and plates 50–69 are lacking in most copies). The plates reproduce inscriptions, costumes, views, etc., many in full color.

MEXICAN MANUSCRIPT

Ornamental capital letter and portrait of King Philip IV of Spain in the manuscript which confirms the title of Don Ioan de Albares Serrano. The original is in colors and gold. (DeVegh gift)

5. Calligraphic manuscript. "Carta Executoria" on behalf of Don Ioan de Albares Serrano and his family, confirming title, etc. Dated at Mexico City, Dec. 7, 1635, and bearing the name of the scribe, Joan Perez de Ribera. On 78 vellum leaves, including two with full-page miniatures. The text is richly decorated with numerous illuminations, including a portrait of Philip IV on leaf 21.

6. Spanish manuscript, beginning: "En el nombre de la santissima trinidad. . .", dated at Madrid, July 11, 1612. On 18 vellum leaves. It is the original of a decree confirming that Pedro de Maranón has a lien for 20,827 maravedis on the tolls and rents of

the city of Carmona, based on a claim against a certain convoy from the Indies in 1597.

7. Spanish manuscript, beginning: "La cofradia y Hospital de nuestra Señora S^ta^ Maria del Camino de la Villa de Carrion", dated at Madrid, April 6, 1623. On 22 vellum leaves. It is the original of a decision in proceedings instituted by the Hospital to establish its rights to certain payments from the custom house in Seville, secured by a lien on trade with the Indies.

Donovan gift. Last year we reported the generous gift by Mrs. William J. Donovan of part of the results of the remarkable study of the Intelligence Service of the American Revolution, carried on by her husband, the late General Donovan (A.B., 1905; LL.B., 1908). Recently Mrs. Donovan has added substantially to her earlier gifts by presenting further materials, specifically a report on the documentary files contained in the Vatican, relating to military intelligence during the Revolution; a report of the Haldeman Papers in the Canadian Archives; and the valuable Wainright Report of British intelligence.

Dorn gift. Mrs. Ellen Dorn Warburton has presented the manuscripts and professional papers of her father, the late Professor Walter Louis Dorn, long a beloved and respected member of Columbia's Department of History. Professor Dorn's special area of interest was the European scene from medieval times to the industrial revolution; his *Competition for Empire, 1740–1763*, published in 1940, remains a classic in its field. Present in this collection are many of his unpublished manuscripts, drafts, and lecture notes, which will be of incalculable usefulness to other scholars, as well as a voluminous correspondence with his colleagues.

Fletcher gift. Mr. Walter D. Fletcher (A.B., 1921; A.M., 1922; LL.B., 1922) has presented three valuable sets to be added to the

Student Activities Library in the new Law School Building. They are: McKinney's *Consolidated Laws of New York;* Abbot's *New York Digest;* and a full set of the *New York Reports.*

Franken gift. Mr. Paul L. Franken (LL.B., 1948) has presented a magnificent collection of letters written to Marie Mattingly Meloney by Theodore Roosevelt and Sir James M. Barrie. Among the seven letters from Roosevelt are two of surpassing importance: one of August 5, 1916, in which Roosevelt outlines the four gifts he would bring to America if he were Santa Claus; and one of February 6, 1917, in which the high character and accomplishments of General Leonard Wood are specified. Much of the latter, which begins as a typed note, is drafted in Roosevelt's autograph.

The Barrie correspondence consists of eighteen letters and notes; a copy of his Rectorial Address, *Courage,* inscribed to Mrs. Meloney, November, 1924; an autographed copy of a program for *Peter Pan* ("Mr. Charles Frohman presents Scenes from Peter Pan. . .to be played in Michael's Nursery at Egerton House. . .on Feb. 20th, 1906. . ."); and a program for *The Wheel* ("a play for Eight Children and their Grandpapa as presented by the Nine at Stanway, Christmas Time, 1926"), inscribed by Barrie to Mrs. Meloney.

Frick gift. Professor Bertha M. Frick has added to her earlier gifts by presenting two useful volumes: John Pomfret's *Poems upon several occasions. . . .*, London, 1727, and the second edition of the bibliography by Edwin A. R. Rumball-Petre, *Rare Bibles. . .* New York, 1954.

Friedman gift. Mr. Harry G. Friedman (Ph.D., 1908) has presented materials in wide variety, ranging from a leaf from a 14th-century manuscript written in beautiful "Round Gothic" script, to an edition of Milton's *Comus* printed in 1902 by Clarke Conwell at his Elston Press in New Rochelle. Meriting special mention is

a group of more than 75 engraved portraits of literary and historical personages, a collection of specimens of foreign paper currency, much of it representing the German inflationary period following World War I, and a 4-volume set in the original bindings of James Cook's *Voyage to the Pacific Ocean*, 1784.

Frost gift. Mr. A. Corwin Frost has presented to Avery Library a splendid collection of 37 original architectural drawings, mostly by his father, Frederick G. Frost, the noted New York architect.

Hammond gift. Mrs. Paul Hammond has presented two letters written by early sons of Columbia. One is a fine four-page letter from Gouverneur Morris to Miss Susan Livingston, 17 April [i.e., May], 1772; the other is from Alexander Hamilton to the same recipient, 29 December 1792, two pages.

Hill gift. In the November, 1958, issue of *Library Columns* we noted the gift by Mr. Frank Ernest Hill of a collection of more than fifty letters written by his great-great aunt, Mary Sumner Chapman. Now Mr. Hill has added to his earlier gift nearly a hundred letters centering about his pioneer great-grandmother, Sarah Sumner Broughton (Mary Chapman's sister). The letters document the later period of her life, and reveal the urge that was moving whole families from the east in search of new lands. Sarah Broughton never reached California—although other branches of the family did, including that of Mr. Hill (his grandfather, Franklin Watkins, had been with the ill-fated Donner party, but had fortunately left it to take the Oregon Trail). She and her husband, Shebuel, settled in Michigan; after her death in 1853 Shebuel went on to an unsuccessful career in the gold fields of California.

Irving gift. Mr. Harold Irving has presented a notebook kept by R. B. Davis of his course under Dr. John Kemp at Columbia College in 1791. The volume is entitled: "Notes on Natural and Experimental Philosophy taken from the Lectures of Dr.

John Kemp. . .". Items of this kind are eagerly sought for the Columbiana collection.

Jay gift. Miss Frances Jay (A.M., 1953) has added significantly to her earlier presentations of memorabilia of her distinguished ancestors. The present gift includes 90 items, of which thirty-seven are letters to or from Elizabeth C. Jay; eighteen are letters and documents pertaining to Peter Jay, the father of John Jay; twenty-nine are letters from or to various important personages; five are early deeds and leases of lands; and one is an early printed map of New York City, prepared by Thomas H. Poppleton, City Surveyor, and published in 1817.

Among the items are seven letters from Peter A. Jay, the son of John Jay; five from William Jay to his brother, Peter A. Jay; one from John Jay; and one each from Fanny Kemble, Rufus King, Brander Mathews, F. Hopkinson Smith, and F. Marion Crawford.

Kehl gift. Professor George H. Kehl has presented to the Columbiana collection a group of eight notebooks and scrapbooks kept by Henry Marion Howe, who was Professor of Metallurgy at Columbia from 1897 to 1913.

Kelly gift. Through the generosity of Mr. Rob Roy Kelly of the Minneapolis School of Art we have received two fine specimen books of American wooden types for inclusion in our growing file of such books. The volumes are: *Specimens of Wood Type,* issued by the Wm. H. Page Co. at Greenville, Conn., 1870; and *Specimens of New Process Wood Type,* also issued by the Page Co., at Norwich, Conn., in 1890.

King gift. Mr. James Gore King has presented an extremely interesting and important document associated with Alexander Hamilton. It is a four-page manuscript in Hamilton's autograph, containing notes written in preparation for a law case.

Kumm gift. Dr. Henry William Kumm has presented nearly 200 books, mainly relating to African exploration and description through the 19th century. Included in the gift are: the complete works in Latin of Melancthon, published in four volumes in Wittemberg, 1526–64, and in the original stamped pigskin binding; and W. G. Browne's *Travels in Africa*, London, 1799. The gift represents selections from the library of Dr. Kumm's father, the late Dr. H. Karl W. Kumm.

Lada-Mocarski gifts. Mr. and Mrs. Valerien Lada-Mocarski have presented a number of important items to the Avery Library, including: *Brenta Villas: Engravings of V. Coronelli and G. Costa*, 1960; Japanese color prints by Hiroshige Tokaido; and a fine portfolio of color reproductions of Rubens' most famous paintings.

Lamont gift. Dr. Corliss Lamont (Ph.D., 1932) has added to his earlier presentations of books and manuscripts of George Santayana. Dr. Lamont's latest gift comprises twelve unpublished letters from Santayana to Mr. David Page of Brown Shipley & Co. of London. The letters are dated from May 3, 1935, to July 10, 1946.

Luquer Family gift. Mr. Evelyn P. Luquer (LL.B., 1926), Mr. Lea S. Luquer (A.B., 1921; A.M., 1922), and Mr. Thatcher P. Luquer have joined with their sister, Mrs. T. L. Purdy, in presenting a magnificent addition to their earlier gift of the papers of John Howard Payne. The present gift comprises an extraordinary group of materials, including the largest known corpus of Payne's original letterbooks (21 volumes); autograph manuscripts of five of Payne's plays, mostly unpublished; a collection of 124 letters written by Payne; and a collection of nearly 200 letters to him, among which are to be found many important autographs.

Macy gift. As in the past, Mrs. George Macy has continued to place the current publications of the Limited Editions Club, Inc., in the complete collection which she has established at Columbia in memory of her husband, the late George Macy (1921 C). In

1961 twelve notable additions have joined their distinguished fellows on our shelves. It is difficult—and certainly unfair—to mark any one of the books for special mention, but the impulse to turn again and again to *The Oresteian Trilogy* of Aeschylus, with its compelling illustrations after the oil paintings of Michael Ayrton, is, for this writer, not to be resisted.

Maltz gift. Mr. Albert Maltz (A.B., 1930) has presented the drafts and notes for several of his novels to be added to his earlier gift made in July, 1952. The present gift comprises manuscripts of *The Cross and the Arrow*, *The Journey of Simon McKeever*, and *A Long Day In A Short Life*.

Meloney gift. Mr. William Brown Meloney (A.B., 1927) has established at Columbia University the collection known as "The Marie Mattingly Meloney Papers", in honor of his mother (cf., *Library Columns*, February and November, 1957). To his earlier gifts he has now added a remarkable series of original writings of Madame Marie Curie, many of them typed by the author, and most of them bearing her manuscript corrections and additions, which had been presented by her to Mrs. Meloney. Chief among the new materials is the original version, in French, of her biography of her husband, Pierre Curie, comprising 102 pages with copious manuscript alterations throughout; four early versions of the beginning chapters of her autobiography, one of which is in French and all being heavily corrected by the author, totaling some 150 pages; a most important untitled professional article on radium, comprising 53 typed pages of which the first is missing, heavily corrected by Madame Curie; a typescript of her address delivered at Vassar College on May 14, 1921; a transcript of her "Note on the Institute of Radium and the Curie Foundation", five pages; and "Memo to Madame Curie for the Press", two closely typed pages with her corrections in manuscript.

Meyer gift. Mr. Charles H. Meyer (A.B., 1912; A.M., 1913;

LL.B., 1914) has presented three valuable collector's items: Agnes Berry's *Extracts from the Journals and Correspondence. . ,* London, 1866, in 3 volumes, extra-illustrated by the insertion of 173 portraits and plates, and finely bound in full blue polished calf by Morrell; Victor Hugo's *Works. . ,* being no. 1 of an edition of 25 copies ("Edition des Amateurs"), in 30 volumes bound in full tree calf; and Oscar Wilde's *Writings. . .* New York, 1925, no. 81 of 575 copies, in 12 large-paper volumes, original boards.

Neff gift. Professor Emery Neff (A.M., 1914; Ph.D., 1924) has presented his "author's copy" of his *Edwin Arlington Robinson,* New York, 1948. The copy is handsomely bound in full leather, and contains added photographic material.

Oko gift. Mrs. Dorothy Kuhn Oko has presented a fine collection of some 230 items, mostly in the German language, and including 31 items by the German philosopher, Fritz Mauthner.

Paschal gift. Mrs. Dorothy Iselin Paschal has presented a magnificent collection of John Jay Family Papers, comprising several thousand pieces. Included are letters from many notable figures such as John Jay (5), John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Noah Webster (on his dictionary), Benjamin Silliman, George Bancroft (20), Wm. C. Bryant, Grover Cleveland (2), Peter Cooper (3), R. H. Dana Jr. (2), R. W. Emerson (2), Cyrus Field (4), U. S. Grant (2), Washington Irving (2), H. W. Longfellow (3), James R. Lowell (2), Theodore Roosevelt (12), E. M. Stanton (2), J. G. Whittier, W. T. Sherman (7), and Whitelaw Reid (18). This is by no means a full roster of the important items—that must wait until the collection can be fully cataloged.

Plimpton gift. Included in the great library of the "tools of learning", formed by the late George A. Plimpton and presented to Columbia University in 1936, is one of the most notable collections of early writing books now extant. The Honorable Francis

T. P. Plimpton has recently added to his father's library an exceptionally fine and scarce work in this unusual field, Aznar de Polanco's *Arte neuvo de escribir*, printed at Madrid in 1719.

Pratt gift. Dr. Dallas Pratt (M.D., 1941) has presented a beautiful copy of Grynaeus' *Novus orbis regionum*, printed at Basle in 1532. This is the first edition of the collection of voyages compiled by J. Huttichius but more generally known under the name of Grynaeus of Basle, who wrote the preface. The voyages included are those of Columbus, Vespucci, and Pinzon, with excerpts from Peter Martyr, Marco Polo, Cadamosto, and the Armenian prince Haython. In a fine old monastic binding of blind-stamped calf.

Prentis gift. Mr. Edmund Astley Prentis (E.M., 1906) and his sister, Mrs. Katherine Murphy, have joined in presenting to Columbiana, for the King's College Room, a unique series of framed silhouette portraits of five early presidents of Columbia: William Samuel Johnson, who was president from 1787 to 1800; Charles Henry Wharton, whose term was short, May to December, 1801; Benjamin Moore, 1801 to 1811; William Harris, 1811 to 1829; and William Alexander Duer, 1829 to 1842.

More recently Mr. Prentis has been instrumental in obtaining for the King's College Room an even more extraordinary acquisition. When the Room was first planned it was hoped that someday an original portrait of John Jay would be found to hang with those of other famous Columbia sons of the King's College period. Such a portrait has at last been found, and it now hangs proudly in the Room.

The painting is a pastel, 23″ by 17″, attributed to the English portrait painter, Robert Edge Pine. It is a three-quarter view, half length. Jay appears to be standing against a background of grey-blue sky. He wears a plain brown jacket with yellow embroidered lapels, and a delicate white lace cravat. His wig is grey. The face is painted strongly but sensitively. Clear blue eyes look directly

at the viewer, and a faint smile plays at the corners of his lips. (The painting is reproduced as the frontispiece of this issue of *Columns*.)

As if this were not enough, Mr. Prentis and Mrs. Murphy have, with the gracious cooperation of the New Haven Colony Historical Society, placed on display in the King's College Room the family Bible of William Samuel Johnson, with his manuscript genealogical annotations.

Raditsa gift. Mrs. Nina Ferrero Raditsa has presented a collection of incalculable research value, the original manuscripts of published and unpublished writings of her father, the late Guglielmo Ferrero. Ferrero, during his entire professional life, was active as historian, novelist, and social scientist, and his writings have had the greatest impact on socio-economic thought of our time. During his later years he was a member of the faculty of the University of Geneva, and included in Mrs. Raditsa's gift are Ferrero's lecture notes used there and elsewhere.

In her letter of gift of this extraordinarily rich collection, Mrs. Raditsa states: "Part of the material. . .has never been published, and it is my hope that by placing it at Columbia University I will open the way for students and scholars to make worthy use of the vast fund of knowledge which my father possessed."

Randal gift. Mrs. Judith Randal has presented a most important collection of works by or used by her late husband, Nicolai T. Berezowsky. Included are nine Berezowsky manuscript compositions and more than 1150 letters to the great composer from musicians, publishers, organizations, and the like. The collection also includes 146 recordings, mostly of Berezowsky compositions.

Samuels gift. Mr. Jack Harris Samuels (A.M., 1940) has presented his remarkable collection of the first and other important editions of the works of Theodore Dreiser. The gift comprises

nearly a hundred items, including ten letters by Dreiser, the original autograph manuscript of his "Fulfillment" in 88 pages, seventy-five editions and variants of his published works, including twenty-five volumes to which he contributed prefatory or editorial matter, and eleven bibliographies and other works about Dreiser.

Among the items is the copy of the first edition of *Sister Carrie* which Dreiser inscribed to his brother.

As a further gift, Mr. Samuels has presented a volume containing 21 original sketches, some being in water-color, by George Cruickshank.

Tanzer gift. Mr. Lawrence E. Tanzer (LL.B., 1897) has presented to the Law Library a large collection of extremely useful materials. The gift comprises runs of serials in law, international law, municipal government, and the like; hundreds of pamphlets and official documents of the past forty years; and a wealth of materials devoted to New York municipal charter revision, state taxation, and urban reorganization.

Turkel gift. Miss Pauline H. Turkel has presented three works that were formerly in the library of the late poet, Hart Crane, as evidenced by his inscriptions in each. They are: Henry James, *Daisy Miller*, London, [1919]; *The Sonnets of Michael Angelo Buonarroti.* . . Portland, Mosher, 1919; and Sigmund Freud, *Group psychology*. . . New York [no date].

Van Doren gift. Professor Mark Van Doren (Ph.D., 1921) has added significantly to his earlier gift of his manuscripts and correspondence. The present gift comprises the corrected typescript and page proofs of *Morning Worship;* the corrected typescripts of twelve short stories; the manuscripts (first drafts) of forty-seven poems written between December, 1958, and September, 1959; the corrected typescript of *Don Quixote's Profession;* the cor-

rected typescript of *The Mayfield Deer;* and the corrected typescript of *Windless Cabins.*

Westervelt gift. Mrs. Leonidas Westervelt, whose earlier gift was noticed in the February, 1960, issue of *Library Columns,* has recently presented a very valuable collection of books, correspondence, and memorabilia in the field of the theater and related subjects, numbering several hundred volumes. The collection was originally gathered by Mrs. Westervelt's late husband (1903 C).

Wilbur gift. Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Wilbur have presented a number of scarce items over the past months, including letters from prominent persons, association books, bindings, photographs, and bookplates.

Woytinsky gift. Those who have read the recently published memoirs of the late Wladimir S. Woytinsky, *Stormy Passage,* will have a special appreciation of the gift which Mrs. Woytinsky has made. The gift comprises as nearly complete a collection of her husband's writings as can now be gathered, much of it in photocopy from unique or nearly unique originals. Mrs. Woytinsky has had four sets brought together—exclusive of her own archival file—and these have been placed in four institutional libraries for the convenience of scholars: the London School of Economics; the Library of Congress; the University of Michigan; and Columbia University. The sets are to be freely available, and it is part of the arrangement that other libraries may have photocopy prepared for the use of their particular clientele upon request.

Woytinsky, one of the world's great scholars and workers in the field of social legislation, is internationally known, and his writings will be much studied in the future. This gift, to be preserved as a unit, will be a prime resource for such research at Columbia.

Activities of the Friends

FRIENDS BOOK ACCOUNT ESTABLISHED

DURING a report which Mr. Roland Baughman gave about Special Collections at the September 25 meeting of the Council, he mentioned the desirability of having a book fund established which could be used, upon authorization of the Director of Libraries, for the purchase of rare books or manuscripts which come on the market from time to time and which cannot normally be purchased from funds in the Libraries' budget. If such items are not purchased at the time that they are offered, the opportunity for acquiring them is lost. The Council members unanimously approved in principle the setting up of such an account by the Friends and an account has been opened. Three members of the Council shortly thereafter made contributions totaling $450 for deposit in it and, at the December 5 meeting of the Council, transfer of $2,000 from the operating account of the Friends to the new book account was voted. When the annual dues appeal is sent to the members in March, the dues form will contain a line on which a separate contribution may be indicated for deposit to the book account.

Meanwhile, the funds already provided have been useful in helping the Libraries to purchase a collection of letters of Nikola Tesla, the famous American scientist-inventor, which recently was offered for sale.

MEETINGS

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries was held in Wollman Auditorium of Ferris Booth Hall at 8:30 P.M.

on Wednesday, January 24, 1962. In the absence of the Vice Chairman, the Honorable Francis T. P. Plimpton, the program was conducted by Dr. Richard H. Logsdon, the Director of Libraries.

During the short business session, the presiding officer called upon Mr. Hugh J. Kelly, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, who nominated for re-election the following members of the Council whose terms expired at the meeting: Professor Lewis Leary, Mrs. Francis H. Lenygon, Dr. Dallas Pratt, and Mrs. Franz T. Stone. They were reelected for new three-year terms.

The program part of the meeting was designed to honor the publication by the Columbia University Press of the first two volumes of *The Papers of Alexander Hamilton.* The principal address was given by Dr. John A. Krout, who, although eminent as an American historian and popular as a teacher, is best known to our membership as Vice President of the University and as Chairman of the Friends. Speaking from the vantage point of an historian, he extolled Dr. Harold C. Syrett and the editorial staff, and the Columbia University Press for their combined accomplishments on this project. It is anticipated that when publication has been completed, the set will comprise 20 volumes.

During the social-hour of the evening, the Friends and their guests had the pleasure of examining a special exhibit arranged by Mr. Roland Baughman, Head of Special Collections, which contained a selection from the books and manuscripts that were presented by our members during 1961.

Bancroft Awards Dinner

Members may wish to note on their calendar that the Bancroft Awards Dinner will be held this year on Wednesday, April 18. Invitations will be mailed in March.

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.

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 a year.

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

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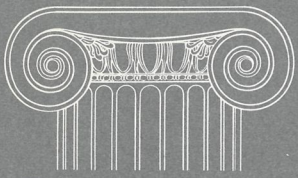

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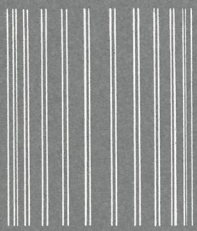

MAY 1962 • VOLUME XI, NUMBER 3

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Articles printed in COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS *are selectively indexed in* LIBRARY LITERATURE.

Columbia Library Columns

VOLUME XI MAY, 1962 NUMBER 3

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Published by THE FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA LIBRARIES, Butler Library, Columbia University, New York 27, New York.

Three issues a year, one dollar each.

Courtesy of Kenneth M. Swezey

NIKOLA TESLA

He holds one of his inventions: a filament-less, gas-filled light bulb, which was coated with phosphorous.

COLUMBIA
LIBRARY
COLUMNS

Nikola Tesla at Columbia: Tesla-Johnson Correspondence Revives a Famous Association

KENNETH M. SWEZEY

IN acquiring, last December, a collection of letters from the famous scientist-inventor Nikola Tesla to Robert Underwood Johnson, poet and editor of *The Century Magazine*, the Special Collections Department revived a unique association of Tesla with Columbia University. It also made available to the researcher a correspondence that reveals the warmth, wit, loyalty in friendship, and wide-ranging interests of this enigmatic genius better than any other known. The collection was obtained from Mrs. Agnes Holden, daughter of Dr. Johnson, with assistance of funds from the Friends of the Columbia Libraries, and part of it formed the nucleus of the exhibition of Tesla memorabilia held recently in Butler Library.

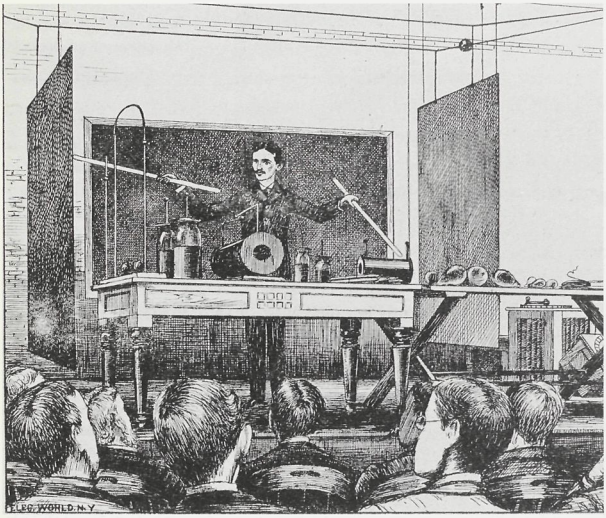
To understand better the strange blend of poetry and science, fervor and intellect, in Tesla's character, as shown in his work and particularly in these letters, it may help to consider his extraordinarily cosmopolitan background. Born in 1856 in Smiljan,

Croatia (then ruled by Austria-Hungary, but now part of Yugoslavia), of Serbian parents, he received his technical education in Graz, Styria, and Prague, Bohemia. His first jobs were with the new telephone company in Budapest and then with the Continental Edison Company in Paris. Coming to America in 1884, he worked for nearly a year at the Edison Machine Works, in New York City. Soon after, establishing there a laboratory of his own, and becoming an American citizen, he began the meteoric career of discovery and invention that was, within a few decades, to change the life and history of the whole world.

Greatest of these discovery-inventions was his induction motor and its associated polyphase system for the generation, transmission, and utilization of electric current, on which he was granted basic patents in 1888, and which later became the foundation of the vast light and power industry we know today. However, it was Tesla's lecture-demonstration, "Experiments With Alternate Currents of Very High Frequency and Their Application to Methods of Artificial Illumination," given at Columbia College on May 20, 1891, that started him on the road to popular fame.

At this lecture–presented before the American Institute of Electrical Engineers on the invitation of Professors Michael Pupin and Francis Crocker–Tesla first demonstrated his high-frequency, high-voltage transformer, soon to become world-famous as the "Tesla coil," and his filamentless tubular gas-filled lights (some bent to form names and others coated with phosphors) that presaged the neon and fluorescent lights of today. In one demonstration he lit lamps, held in his hands "like flaming swords," by several hundreds of thousands of volts passing through his own body! Provided the frequency were high enough, alternating current of enormous voltage could be completely harmless–a discovery in physiology that led to diathermy and other forms of high-frequency electrotherapeutics.

In attendance were some of the leading electrical men of the country, and others who were subsequently to distinguish them-



Tesla giving the first demonstration of his "coil" at the lecture at Columbia College on May 20, 1891.

selves. Among the latter was Gano Dunn—then a 20-year-old student of electrical engineering—who acted as Tesla's assistant. Later to become president of the J. G. White Engineering Corporation, trustee of Barnard College, and president of Cooper Union, Dunn wrote to Tesla in 1931: "My contact [on that occasion] left an indelible impression and an inspiration which has influenced my life."

The lecture created such a stir in scientific circles that Tesla was urged to repeat and amplify it the next year before the Institution of Electrical Engineers and the Royal Institution in London, and then the Société Internationale Française des Electriciens and the Société Française de Physique in Paris. In 1893 he was pressed into giving it again before the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia and the National Electric Light Association in St. Louis.

As a result of this acclaim, Tesla was invited once more to Columbia College, in June 1894, to receive an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. In recommending the award, Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn had written to President Seth Low: ". . .there seems to be little doubt that Mr. Tesla is the leading Electrician. . . .Poulton (Professor of Biology at Oxford) tells me that Tesla was covered with honors while in England and France. We certainly must not allow any other University to anticipate us in honoring a man who lives under our very walls."

The friendship between Tesla and R. U. Johnson had already been sparked by the same acclaim. The men first met when Thomas Commerford Martin, editor of *The Electrical Engineer*, brought Tesla to the Johnson home on Lexington Avenue, late in 1893. Martin had just finished his book, *The Inventions, Researches and Writings of Nikola Tesla*, and was preparing an article about Tesla for the February, 1894, issue of *The Century Magazine*.

Appearing at precisely the right time, this article and this friendship lent a hand in helping Tesla win the degree. Having read the article, Professor Osborn wrote to Dr. Johnson for his personal opinion of Tesla. On May 17, 1894, Johnson wrote a glowing reply (now in Columbia's "Honors" file). He was "deeply impressed" with Tesla's "*scientific* and *scholarly*" temperament. Regarding Tesla's general culture: ". . .he knows the language and is widely read in the best literature of Italy, Germany and France as well as much of the Slavic countries to say nothing of Greek and Latin. He is particularly fond of poetry and is always quoting Leopardi or Dante or Goethe or the Hungarians or the Russians." Tesla's character was one of "distinguished sweetness, sincerity, modesty, refinement, generosity and force, as you yourself have seen enough of him to know."

The letters in the Tesla-Johnson collection (which also includes a few photographs, magazine articles, and newspaper clippings)

give Tesla's side of the story. They number about 165, and date from early 1894 to 1937, the year in which Dr. Johnson died. Some are addressed to Mrs. Johnson, for whom Tesla also had a great affection and admiration, and several, including one in French, to Miss Agnes.

Written on stationery either of "The Gerlach—Strictly Fire Proof Family Hotel," 49 West 27th Street, or of his laboratory, 35 South Fifth Avenue, the earliest letters were respectfully formal, beginning "Dear Johnson," or "My dear Mr. Johnson," and signed always, "N. Tesla"—his customary signature. Most were delivered by messenger, rather than by post.

An interchange of interests between Tesla and Johnson (and often Mrs. Johnson) is suggested from the beginning. On January 8, 1894, he asked his friend to thank Mrs. Johnson for the flowers she had sent him the day before (Orthodox Christmas). In appreciation he sent her an article by Professor Crookes, and a Crookes' "radiometer" (a little heat-powered "windmill" that spins in an evacuated bulb), which he considered "the most beautiful invention made."

By April, Tesla had Johnson, along with such fellow-celebrities as Joseph Jefferson, Mark Twain, and Marion Crawford, visit his laboratory to take high-voltage sparks through their bodies or to pose for the first photographs ever taken by gaseous-tube light. At the same time, he was making literal translations from works of the Serbian poet, Zmai Iovan Iovanovich, which Johnson would paraphrase in English verse.

A year later, Tesla wrote boldly, "My Dear—Mr. Johnson, Luka! friend! brother! Answered them all! All! . . . If it were not for the typewriter I would have never done it . . . It seems sad to make so many friends by having a misfortune and then to lose them all by replying in type!" Two weeks earlier, Tesla's laboratory had been destroyed by fire. Thereafter he broke with formality, called Johnson "Luka", Mrs. Johnson "Mrs. Filipov", and

often even signed his letters "Nikola." The nicknames came from "Luka Filipov," Montenegrin hero of a poem Johnson had helped him translate into English.

When Tesla referred in these letters to "millionaires", he was continuing a private joke between himself and the Johnsons, who tried to keep him supplied with wealthy friends in the hope they might finance his inventions. In March, 1899, because of one who did, he moved from the Gerlach to the old Waldorf-Astoria.

Tesla's hypersensitivity to the distress of others is evident in a letter concerning an illness of Kipling: "I cannot tell you how anxious I am. . . . I have worked myself into a pitch of excitement and have not slept two nights, being unable to get him off my mind."

Matters discussed in the correspondence include personal and social affairs, wireless telegraphy, Tesla's radio-controlled boat of 1898 (forerunner of the guided missile), and transmission of power without wires. One series of letters concerns Tesla's long article, "The Problem of Increasing Human Energy," which appeared in the June, 1900, issue of *The Century Magazine*.

Letters came farther apart as the men grew older, but Tesla's affection never wavered. His last message was a telegram:

YOU ARE ALWAYS IN MY THOUGHTS LUKA MY DEAR FRIEND. MAY THE LORD PRESERVE YOU AND IN THE NEW YEAR BESTOW UPON YOU HIS MOST DESIRED BLESSINGS—YOUR NIKOLA.

New Light on Byron, Trelawny, and Lady Hester Stanhope

CARL R. WOODRING

Among the papers of John Howard Payne which are being presented to Columbia University by the heirs of the late Colonel Thatcher Taylor Payne Luquer (C.E. 1889, E.E., 1892) is a manuscript diary of singular fascination. Although it is in Payne's hand, it is not, as we first assumed, a record of his own experiences. Rather, Payne has copied entries from someone else's account which had come into his hands, and which contained material of great interest to him. Professor Woodring, who writes the following article, has established the identity of the original diarist, but the manner of Payne's coming into possession of the account remains a mystery.[1] EDITOR'S NOTE

JOHN HOWARD PAYNE, "America's first Hamlet," playwright, producer, poet, and twice consul to Tunis, often transcribed for admirers two or three stanzas from his best-loved poem, "Home, Sweet Home." Fortunately for us, he was in fact an avid transcriber of both his own writings and the writings of others. In 1825, when the widow of the poet Shelley declined Payne's proposal of marriage, he transcribed all his cor-

[1] The Payne manuscript comprises forty pages (on twenty-two leaves) of closely written text, and is entitled: "Reminiscencies [sic] of Cursory visits to various places in and round the shores of the Mediterranean." It is in two approximately equal parts, which may have been brought together at some later time. The first half of the manuscript is a fair copy on sheets with ruled lines and margins; the latter part is on unruled sheets, and though the script is clear and easily read, there is reason to suppose that this portion of the text may comprise a preliminary draft. Between the ruled and unruled sections (and elsewhere in the draft portion) stubs remain of leaves that have been torn out. The inference is that as Payne transcribed the text (and in some measure edited it), he removed the leaves that had been copied. One bit of circumstantial evidence is of great importance. The paper on which the account is written is watermarked 1823; Payne, therefore, must have had the original diary of 1823–1825—or excerpts from it—in his hands almost before the ink on it was dry.

respondence with her for Washington Irving. His theory on this occasion was that Mary Shelley had revealed in the letters her love—not for Payne, but for his friend Irving.

Payne may have proposed to Mary partly for the same reasons that prompted her to reject his proposal: reverence for great accomplishments and thrill at the romantic story of Shelley's intense life, ended in 1822 when his yacht sank in a storm near Leghorn. Perhaps it was some member of the Shelley circle who gave Payne his chance to copy several dozen entries from a notable diary recording events of 1823–1825 in the Mediterranean. As the background of the diary—but also very much in the foreground of it—the Greek war for independence from Turkey was coming to the end of its worst factional divisions among chieftains and was gathering inspirational force from the arrival of Lord Byron and his early death at Missolonghi, which was a major center of the Greek insurgents. Although unnamed in the transcription, the diarist was clearly James Forrester, surgeon in H.M.S. *Alacrity*, a sloop of war assigned to "the suppression of piracy, and watching the motions of the Turco-Egyptian forces."

The entries begin, prosaically enough, with descriptions of soil, buildings, faces, and costumes in Malta and in the seven Greek islands of the Ionian sea then under British protection. In the fair-copy journal of 1824, the entry for January 2 describes the weather and the new roads in Corfu. In the rough note for this date, however, Forrester tells of his visit with Teresa Macri, Byron's "Maid of Athens," exiled with her mother and sisters from war-disturbed Athens, where Forrester as well as Byron had first met them. In a lengthy digression on moral standards, Forrester concludes that it had taken great strength of character for the Macris in their straitened circumstances to resist the wealthy Byron's blandishments. He holds, nonetheless, that this was not entirely a question of virtue, inasmuch as in these "oriental" regions,

LORD BYRON IN GREECE
The helmet is in Newstead Abbey

a man is only dangerous in proportion to his piastres or public situation, not from his accomplishments, so that if the bark freighted with female chastity can but keep clear of Scylla, it has no Charybdis to fear. . . . Lord Byron was much more likely, had he tried, to make conquests among his own country-women than over the ladies of Greece. . .

From an English colonel at Corfu, Captain Yorke of the *Alacrity* took on an assignment that soon enabled the diarist to deliver news of Teresa to Byron himself. Property in the amount of four hundred dollars (Forrester, expansively, says five hundred) had been confiscated by a Greek of Missolonghi from a commercial vessel out of Zante (Zakynthos) in which the colonel had financial interest. On January 23 the *Alacrity* anchored at Missolonghi, where Byron was sharing the station and the military authority with "Prince" Mavrocordatos, who, though no Prince, was to become Prime Minister of liberated Greece. Restitution was demanded of Mavrocordatos for the Zantiote property.

Of this meeting, and the meeting with Byron three days later, we have several incomplete and biased accounts. The captain, Charles Philip Yorke, later the fourth Earl of Hardwicke, wrote at once to his father, an admiral, with scarcely any reference to Byron. Yorke was wittier and possibly more observant than Forrester, but he does not tell us what interests us most today. Of one event during the visit, Byron's quarrel with Colonel Leicester Stanhope over the question of restitution and over the possibilities

ALEXANDER MAVROCORDATOS AT MISSOLONGHI (1822)

for a free press in Greece, we have an aggrieved account in a letter from Stanhope. We have details more favorable to Byron from Count Pietro Gamba, the brother of Byron's last mistress. But Forrester's version has the value of comparative disinterest, and it has enjoyed two previously known reincarnations. Of the whole visit, we have a version altered from Forrester in *The Angler in Wales,* 1834, by Thomas Medwin, cousin and notoriously dishonest biographer of Shelley. Part of Medwin's account, which he attributes to two letters written by Forrester to a friend whom we can identify as Captain Daniel Roberts, closely resembles "an extract from a private letter" published in John Hunt's *Examiner* about six months after Byron's death.

From clues in these different accounts, we can see that Forrester must have copied from his journal in writing to friends in 1824. We can also see that both Hunt and Medwin made editorial changes, and that a further description of Byron, with an account of target-shooting by Byron and Yorke, once occupied three leaves now missing from Payne's transcription. Except for the missing leaves, Payne gives us a more accurate version than we have previously had of one important day near the end of Byron's life.

In a sentence omitted from Medwin's account, Payne gives Forrester's account of the meeting with Byron:

> His lordship sprung to his feet on our entrance and advancing some paces towards us, received us with a warm and unequivocal welcome,—his countenance enlivened by smiles, and his whole manner the reverse of any thing like abstraction, not to say misanthropy.

Forrester several times makes the point that the witty military man he met had little in common with the melancholy outlaw of *Childe Harold* or *The Corsair*. Despite the lack of a tape recorder, he claims to quote directly Byron's answer when Captain Yorke explained the business on which they had come.

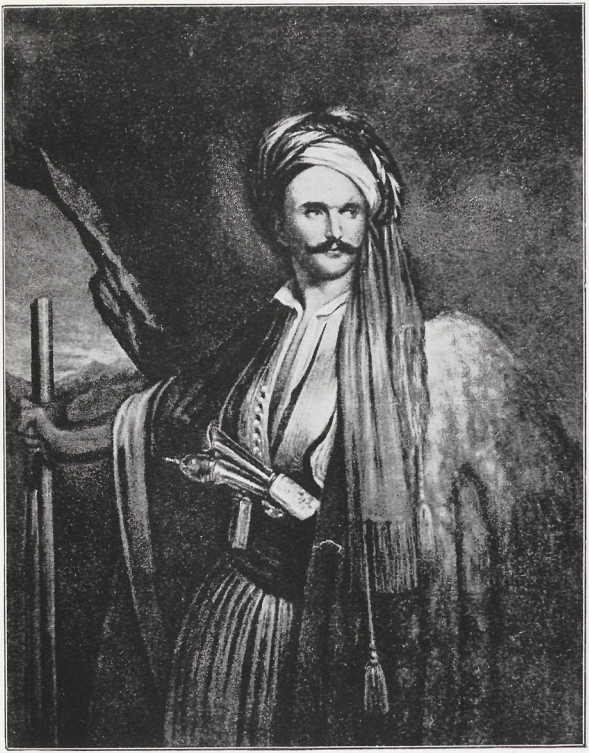
> . . .Lord Byron instantly exclaimed "I am very glad of it. I have been

often at Mavrocordato on that very subject and have told him that some one or other of their meddlings with vessels under the english flag would make the English nation their enemy, at least, if the case was not an evident breach of neutrality. The best way to befriend the cause of Greece would be to enforce restitution in every instance of depredation. I will send for Mavrocordato to come to my house to talk the matter over." Mavrocordato he sent for accordingly, but the answer was that his highness was rather indisposed, an evasion just as often resorted to in these climates, as "not at home" in the more polished.

Despite Forrester's generosity with details in his description of Byron and the Missolonghi establishment, the account breaks off without telling us how the negotiations with Mavrocordatos finally turned out.

In July, 1824, after sailing through the Gulf of Corinth to Napoli di Romania, the diarist encountered "a strangely eccentric person, an englishman in the Greek service," the adventurer Edward John Trelawny. In later years Trelawny published accounts, even less reliable than Medwin's, of himself, of Shelley, and of Byron. Forrester illustrates his eccentricities, whether natural or affected: "Trelawny remained on board all night, but declined the accommodation of a cabin or a bed. He wrapt his capote round his head & reposed on the deck of the gunroom until morning." Trelawny had joined the Greek faction of the chieftain Odysseus, a bitter rival of Mavrocordatos, after sailing from Italy to Greece with Byron. To Forrester's delight, Trelawny told such anecdotes of that voyage as Byron's having all the livestock thrown overboard for a swim and then sending the crew over after them.

The diary gives full details of one of the most fantastic episodes in Trelawny's whole unlikely life. In a cave on Mount Parnassus, where he had earlier lived with Odysseus, Trelawny had been shot in the back and through the neck by companions whom Mavrocordatos had directed to assassinate him. Vague rumors of the attempt had reached Athens, where it was believed that Trelawny had died of his wounds. Almost exactly a year after the



From a portrait by Kirkup

TRELAWNY IN GREEK DRESS

event, however, Forrester gained a first-hand account of the affair when he met Trelawny and his wife at Napoli di Romania on August 29, 1825. In his diary, Forrester was particular on two points often argued about, Trelawny's wounds and the age of his Greek wife. Of the rifle balls he wrote (in the language of a practicing surgeon):

> One passed upwards over the scapula to the clavicle which it fractured in the middle & then lodged. The other passed also over the scapula, but afterwards took a turn round the neck, and knocking out three of the upper grinder teeth of the right side, passed out at the mouth.

Of the wife he was equally circumstantial, if somewhat less clinical:

> Mrs Trelawney (Odysseus' sister) has compleated her 13th year a month ago, and is at present 4 months' pregnant; she is a slight little girlish creature, but very pretty;—her eyes are full, hazel or rather a dark grey and have exactly what I understand by Byron's simile of the gazelle, namely an innocently wild expression.

In explanation of the attack on Trelawny, it should be noted that Odysseus and he had left the Greek cause in disgust and joined the Turks. Forrester tells how Odysseus, whom a Greek force had captured, was tricked into dropping to his death from imprisonment on the Acropolis.

Meanwhile, in December, 1824, at the eastern edge of the Mediterranean, the diarist had met still another famous eccentric, Lady Hester Lucy Stanhope.* After the death of her uncle, William

* Webster's *Biographical Dictionary*, which we quote with permission, contains the following lively summary of the life of Lady Hester, who was the daughter of Charles, the 3rd Earl of Stanhope:

"Charles's eldest daughter by his first wife, Lady Hester Lucy (1776–1839); housekeeper and secretary of her uncle William Pitt (1803–06); left England forever (1810); made pilgrimage to Jerusalem; camped with Bedouins, Palmyra (1813); settled among Druses on Mt. Lebanon (1814); adopted eastern manners, practiced astrology, held imperious ascendancy over rude tribes as a prophetess, coming to believe herself possessed of gift of divination; incited Druses against

LADY HESTER LUCY STANHOPE
at her home on Mt. Lebanon.

Pitt, over whose household she had presided, Lady Hester had established and administered a small satrapy at Djoun, in the Lebanon mountains. She asked Captain Yorke to bring his surgeon to see her, because order needed to be restored to her stock of medicines. If Forrester learned anything of Lady Hester's past or present love affairs, he kept his knowledge from the diary, but he described her large decaying house, her conversation, and her dress:

She is attired as a man, in an Arab turban, and beneech [burnoose?], wide riding trowsers of cloth embroidered in the usual way & red morocco boots.

This eccentric costume she adopted many years ago, when shipwrecked on a rock near Rhodes, she lost the whole of her clothes & jewels, it occurred to her that a suit or two of male apparel would correspond better with her active mode of life than the multifarious & perishable items of a fashionable lady's wardrobe & toilette & in case of accident, a less serious loss.—

Ibrahim Pasha; intrigued against British consuls; visited by Lamartine, Kinglake, and others; recklessly liberal, deserted by followers and robbed, finished life in wretchedness." (Copyright 1961 by G. & C. Merriam Company, publishers of the Merriam-Webster Dictionaries.)

Although Yorke became Lady Hester's truest friend, and tried to convince the British ministers that she deserved their aid, she died in something like destitution at Djoun. Even so, she outlived Forrester, who would have recorded with fascination the irony of his final bad luck. After both he and Yorke returned from the *Alacrity* (which had further adventures without them), Forrester was assigned to the *Amphitrite*, which encountered a storm in the English Channel, in late August, 1833, on the way to Australia with 108 female convicts. When the ship struck on the sands near Boulogne, the captain retained all the officers on board to keep the convicts from landing. Forrester, with most of the crew, perished with the ship. He might have been totally unremembered, had he not written the notes on Byron, Trelawny, and Lady Hester that Payne copied.

Keeping a Research Library Up to Date

RICHARD H. LOGSDON

THE university research library as we know it today is the product of 20th century developments in research and education. When Low Memorial Library was first opened just before the beginning of the century, Columbia's collections numbered 300,000 volumes. With the present collections at 3,000,000 volumes, this means that nine of every ten books currently owned were acquired since 1900. Half of the collection has been acquired since the opening of Butler Library in 1934, while one out of every four books has come to us in the last dozen years. This growth is but a reflection of the continued expansion of the University's fields of interest and of the enormous increase in publication of books, journals, and documents of scholarly interest. The explosion of knowledge, characteristic of our time, coupled with the necessity to be better informed about other countries of the world, has brought new challenges to Columbia as to every university library that is determined to meet the literature needs of students and faculty.

Reference has been made to the library as the "Heart of the University." There is no record in the literature as to the origin of this reference, but regardless of the metaphor used, "books" in the broad sense continue to constitute the principal medium for the storage and communication of ideas. The faculty, of course, is the key influence, but a faculty is not likely to maintain its standing unless communication with colleagues is possible both directly and through books, journals and documents. While the student learns much in the classroom and the laboratory, he spends perhaps much less than a third of his normal working week in direct association with his teachers. He must go to his textbooks, and par-

ticularly to the library for the reservoir of information needed to master his field of specialization. It is no wonder, then, that the library moves more and more to the front as a principal educational force in the life of both student and teacher. This is reflected in the very intensive use made of Columbia collections. As many as 10,000 readers may use the thirty different libraries in a single day. Some 12,000 make direct use of the central stacks in Butler Library monthly. In a typical year, recorded use of books in the libraries exceeds 2,500,000 volumes. Thousands of additional instances of use of books in the libraries and consultation with library staff go unrecorded. We have mentioned our holdings of three million volumes, but the count in volumes is only a rough measure of size, because there is as yet no full agreement as to what constitutes "a volume." How shall we count manuscripts, for example, or individual newspapers, college catalogs, microfilms, microcards or microprint? Holdings in microform alone have reached the point that a special unit of the libraries is needed to handle them. To cite only two examples of dozens of categories of material, we are receiving microfilm copies of all of the books in the English language before 1640, and microprint copies of all of the books published in America before 1800.

Actually, we take in close to 500,000 separate pieces of material each year in order to maintain our strength in the many subject fields of interest on the Columbia campus. These materials come to us by purchase, gift and exchange from every country of the world and in virtually every language of significance. Piece by piece they must be identified, recorded, labeled, and sent to their proper locations within the more than thirty separate units which make up our library system. Many of these items are books in the typical sense, or will be made into volumes by binding separate issues of journals. These are carefully analyzed and recorded by author, title and subject in the central card catalog and in the catalogs of the separate departmental libraries. In recent years, additions to the cataloged collections have been exceeding 80,000 volumes annually.

If the Libraries served merely as a storage warehouse for this mass of material, handling of the yearly input would be a fairly manageable activity by modern concepts of size. But quite the contrary situation prevails. Each new item is in essence discrete from all others and must be placed in a definite relationship with every other item. The cumulation of the "bits" of information and individual bibliographical units thus "stored" in our more than 75 miles of shelves approaches infinity, yet each item must be easily findable by student or staff. Last week, for example, I needed a document which had been published by the American Library Association several years ago. It was designed for mass distribution to high schools and college guidance officers, giving general information about librarianship as a career. It was exactly the kind of document which would be treated by most recipients as ephemeral, to be kept for a few days or weeks and then discarded. The content, for my purposes, was not particularly important in that it contained nothing not known already by practicing librarians, but I wanted to see it for the clever wording of the title which could serve as the text for my part in a 1962 National Library Week symposium on librarianship. Did Columbia have the publication and if so, how could it be found quickly from among literally millions of items of more importance? No trouble at all! A librarian, who was knowledgeable as to our current and probable future needs, had seen to it that, even though a broadside, it was stapled into a pamphlet binding, given a proper classification number, and listed separately in the card catalog.

This kind of diverse and very specific need is generated in quantity by the faculty members, by the staff of research projects, and by Columbia's high proportion of graduate students. Careful and continuing work on the part of the entire library staff is required if we are to meet this need. It is these steps, through which materials finally reach the research collections of the University, that are portrayed in part in the picture section which concludes this article. The pictures show the process from initial selection through searching, ordering, receiving, cataloging, and processing.

The final picture shows the portrayed volume in use. It is through these activities over many years, applied to millions of items, that a university community is able to maintain contact with the past and the present and, by this means, continually extends the frontiers of knowledge for the future.

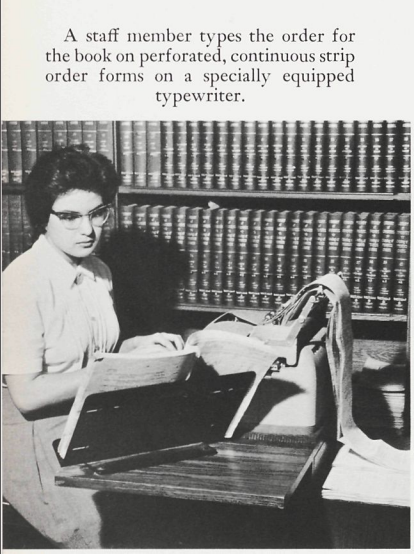
Travelogue of a Book:
from Dealer's Catalogue to Library Reading Room

If a student in the stacks happened to be at a section in which a library page was shelving a brand new book, he might, if he gave the matter thought, wonder how the volume had come from the publisher to this precise spot on the stack shelf.

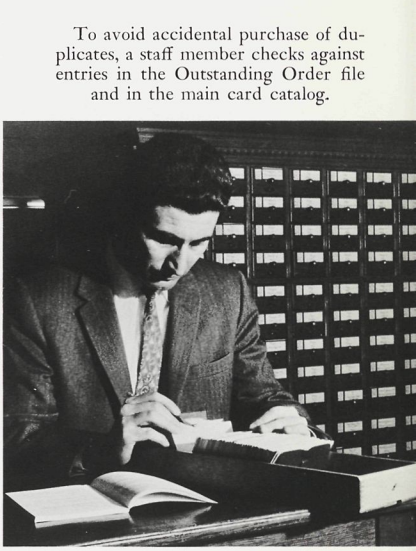
The pictures in the ensuing section follow one book, out of the approximately 80,000 which will be added this year, through the typical processing steps which each will undergo before it is ready for use.

The two principal sources for the selection of books are library staff and faculty. Shown above, Professor John H. Mundy (right) and Harry W. Hart, Jr., the Libraries' specialist in humanities and social sciences, decide to purchase a copy of *Liber Monasterii Carae Insulae*, advertised in the dealer's catalog at which they are looking.

A staff member types the order for the book on perforated, continuous strip order forms on a specially equipped typewriter.



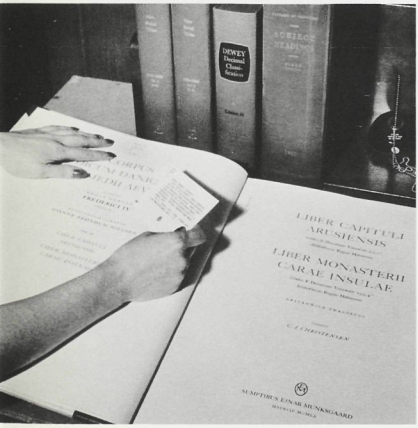
To avoid accidental purchase of duplicates, a staff member checks against entries in the Outstanding Order file and in the main card catalog.

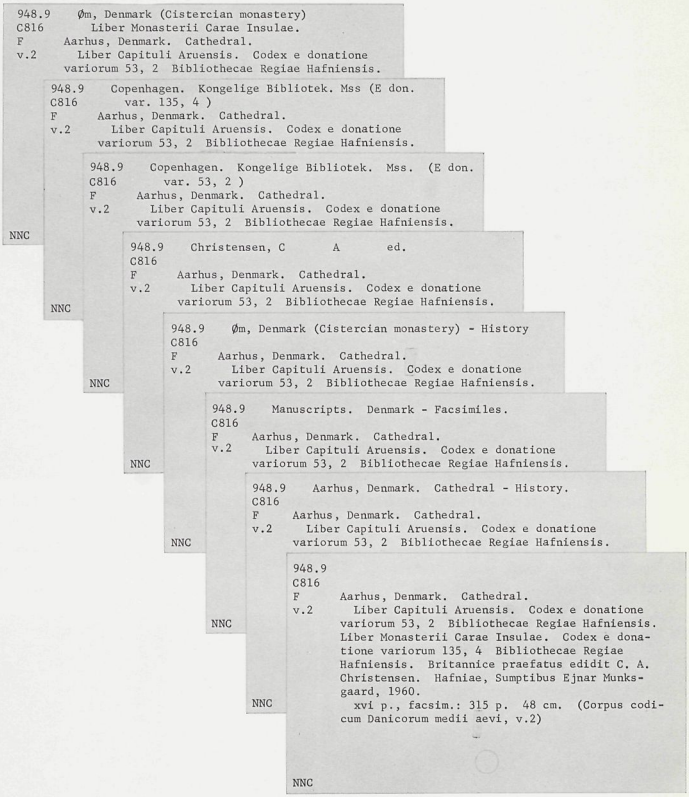


The shipping clerk unpacks the book from the package received from the dealer.

The book has been cataloged, subject entries indicated, and classification number assigned. The cataloger proofreads the data.

A set of the cards is placed in the appropriate one of the 30 trays for departmental catalogs.



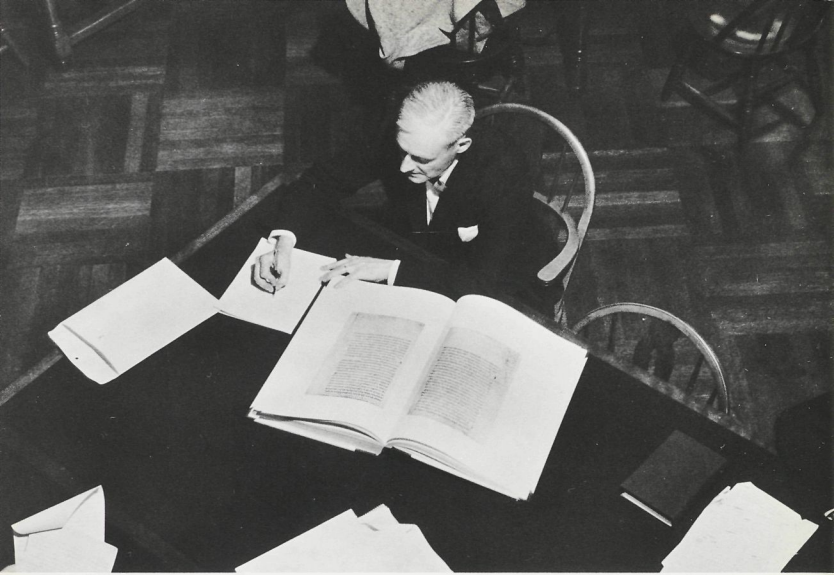


Shown above is the complete set of catalog cards for this book.

In the Binding Department, the classification number is written on the spine of the book.

The library bookplate is pasted inside the front cover.

The classification number indicates the book's assigned place among others on the same subject.



Professor Mundy uses the book in one of the reading rooms.

The photographs in this section were taken by Hubbard W. Ballou, Head of Photographic Services in the Libraries.

Our Growing Collections

ROLAND BAUGHMAN

A. I. G. A. gift. In 1953 the American Institute of Graphic Arts selected the Columbia University Libraries as the repository of the official file of the "Fifty Books of the Year" award winners. At that time we received the winners of the first thirty competitions, 1923 through 1952. Since then each year's winners have been added, and recently we were sent the books comprising "The Fifty Books of the Year 1960".

Bancroft gift. Professor Margaret Bancroft (A.M., 1913) has presented a beautiful copy of *Manuel des Amphitryons*, a culinary handbook published in 1808 by Alexandre Balthazar Laurent Grimod de la Reynière.

Barzun gift. Dean Jacques Barzun (A.B., 1927, Ph.D., 1932) has added generously to his earlier gifts. To be reported at this time are a number of desirable items for inclusion in his "Berlioz Collection", several volumes to be added to the collection on "Modern Art and Literature" which Dean Barzun has established in honor of his father, H. M. Barzun, and books and manuscripts of his own writing to be included in the "Jacques Barzun Papers".

Belmont gift. It has been our recent privilege to meet a great lady, Mrs. August Belmont, née Eleanor Robson (Hon. Litt.D., 1950). Those who have read her autobiography, *The Fabric of Memory* (Farrar, Straus and Cudahy, 1957), will have some inkling of the full and fruitful life she has led. It was a fortunate day for Columbia when she decided to present her correspondence and association books to Special Collections.

Not everything has yet been received, and what has come we have barely been able to glimpse. But already the collection of

ELEANOR ROBSON (MRS. AUGUST BELMONT)
IN THE TITLE ROLE IN *MERELY MARY ANN*

Photo by Bert and Richard Morgan

MRS. AUGUST BELMONT AND FRIENDS AFTER THE OPERA

(left to right) Margaret Truman, George Sloan, Mrs. Harry Truman, Edward Johnson, Mrs. Belmont, Cornelius N. Bliss, and Lucrezia Bori

correspondence numbers more than 2,000 pieces and the books some 250. Everything we glance at is a treasure—ten letters from Theodore Roosevelt, including six in his autograph; ten letters and notes from George Bernard Shaw, plus a typed manuscript of his "Democracy and *The Apple Cart*"; a fine letter from Anatole France concerning the rehabilitation of French villages after World War I, and an article by him "La Petite Ville de France", signed and titled in his autograph, but written in long-hand by someone else; a score of letters from the playwright, Israel Zangwill, in whose *Merely Mary Ann* Miss Robson had one of her greatest triumphs in the title role; and so on, and on. Among the Roosevelt letters is one introducing Mrs. Belmont to General Pershing as a Red Cross worker "assigned to the European area" in September, 1917. Roosevelt's words are ringing ones—"Mrs Belmont is one of the few really able people who are also gifted with the power of expression. She wishes to help in every way, and then, on her return home, to put before our people, as vividly

as only she can do, what the real needs of our troops are."

Bonnell gift. Miss Alice H. Bonnell (B.S., 1940), Curator of Columbiana and member of the Special Collections staff, has presented a fine collection of letters written by various personages in theatrical and literary circles to Mr. and Mrs. Ira A. Hards. Among the letters are seventeen from George W. Cable and nine from Mary Austin, both of whom collaborated with the Hards in certain dramatic compositions.

Cruikshank gift. Mrs. Russell V. Cruikshank has presented a number of items from her family papers. One of these is of special interest to Columbiana. It is a printed statement of the financial status of Columbia College as of March 28, 1814, prepared by a committee of the Senate to assist the State Legislature in reaching a decision in the matter of Columbia's petition for public assistance. It closes with the comment that Columbia's case "appears to be well founded. And when to these facts are added the damage sustained by the College, during the war of Independence, in her edifice—in the dilapidation of her library . . . your committee cannot resist the impression that her case is peculiarly hard, and her petition reasonable. . .".

Downing gift. Mr. Edgar J. Downing has presented a document of great interest that has been in his family for many generations. It is a grant for certain lands in Columbia County purchased by Mr. Downing's ancestor, Daniel Downing, from Philip Schuyler and Alexander Hamilton, dated May 23, 1804, and signed by all principals. The date, it will be noticed, is only a few weeks before Hamilton's fatal duel with Burr.

Draper gift. Mr. Theodore Draper has presented a collection of some sixty works and pamphlets mainly relating to the invasion of France by the Germans in World War II.

Fitzgibbon gift. Mr. Thomas O. Fitzgibbon (A.B., 1922, LL.B., 1924) has presented a number of items of Columbia memorabilia, among which are the class notes taken by Willard Bartlett (A.B., 1869, LL.D., 1904 Hon.) from the chemistry lectures of Professor Charles Joy.

Friedman gift. Mr. Harry G. Friedman (Ph.D., 1908) continues his generous gifts without diminution. On this occasion we can report the receipt of more than a hundred items, including a collection of engraved portraits of literary and historical figures. Of unusual interest is a group of nine scarce pamphlets, among which are: *The First Annual Report of the Female Society of the City of New-York for the Support of Schools in Africa*, January, 1835; and *Proceedings of the First Annual Meeting of the New Jersey Colonization Society held at Princeton, July 11, 1825...*, dealing, among other business, with problems relating to "colonizing the free people of colour on the coast of Africa". Mr. Friedman's gifts also include three Babylonian cuneiform tablets.

Gardiner gift. Mr. Robert D. L. Gardiner (A.B., 1934) has presented a document of remarkable interest to Columbiana. It is a manuscript, "Petition and Representation of the Trustees of Columbia College in the City of New York", addressed to the Senate and Assembly of the State, and "Stating the disadvantages of the Institution from the want of more opulent Finances." The manuscript is dated February 22, 1792, and was signed by James Duane.

Gottscho gift. Mr. Samuel H. Gottscho has added significantly to his earlier gifts to Avery Library (*Library Columns*, February and May, 1957) by presenting two volumes of photographs taken by him of American architecture of the 1920's, principally as represented in eastern seaboard residences.

Grauer gift. Mr. Ben Grauer has presented a substantial gift of

more than 200 volumes. The majority of these are early works in geology, but special notice should be taken of the Paris, 1614, edition of *Isa. Grangaei. . . . commentarii in Aur. Prudentii . . . aduersus Symmachum . . .* ; Charles F. Himes' *Leaf prints: or glimpses at photography. . .* Philadelphia, 1868; a good copy of Joseph Conrad's *Falk, Amy Foster, To-Morrow, three stories. . .* New York, 1903; and *Daniel 3 from the Holy Bible. . .* , beautifully printed by The World Publishing Company in Cleveland, 1954, with decorations by Ismar David.

Herrick gift. Mrs. Harold E. Herrick has presented the Columbia diploma which was awarded in 1840 to her grandfather, Jotham Post (A.B., 1840; M.D., 1845).

Hitzig gift. Dr. William M. Hitzig (A.B., 1926) has presented a rare edition of Plutarch's works in Greek, with commentary in Latin, published in three volumes by Henri Estienne, Paris, 1572.

Hoffman gift. Professor Daniel G. Hoffman (A.B., 1947; A.M., 1949; Ph.D., 1956) of Swarthmore College has presented a copy of Irwin Edman's *Richard Kane Looks at Life,* inscribed by Edman to Odillon Platon.

Holmes gift. Professor Henry Alfred Holmes (Ph.D., 1923) has presented his copy of "Knight's Shakespeare"—*The Works of Shakspere with notes by Charles Knight.* This is the "Imperial Edition," issued in New York by Virtue and Yorston in 1875–76. Professor Holmes included with his gift a collection of nearly 200 prints of English personages, published in London during the 1820's and early 1830's, of the sort so often used to extra-illustrate Knight's Shakespeare.

Hughes gift. Mrs. Arthur M. B. Hughes of Rochester has added some important Jay Family Papers to her earlier gifts (*Library*

Columns, November 1959). The present lot comprises nine items, including two letters of John Jay to George Clinton, four letters from William Jay (three to Peter A. Jay and one to John Clarkson Jay), and one letter from Mary Rutherfurd Jay to Elizabeth Jay. Also a part of the gift are a deed for certain lands to the children of Matthew Clarkson, August 1, 1703 (on vellum), and John Clarkson Jay's certificate of membership in the Medical Society of the City and County of New-York, October 2, 1871 (on vellum).

Hunt gift. Dr. Arthur Billings Hunt has presented three volumes: Ralcy H. Bell's *Songs of the Shawangunks* (1891), inscribed by Bell; Jacques H. B. de Saint-Pierre's *Paul and Virginia*, printed at Philadelphia in 1808; and *Tarrytown and the Tarrytown National Bank. . . .*, 1932.

Lee gift. Miss Mary V. Lee has presented a fine collection of 136 pieces of newly published piano music for inclusion in the Music Library.

Millar gift. Mrs. Hudson C. Millar, of East Orange, N. J., has presented to Columbiana a treasured family heirloom, a traveling medicine chest which had belonged to her great-uncle, Dr. John Torrey (M.D., 1818). Dr. Torrey, who was Professor of Chemistry at P. & S. from 1827 to 1855, served as Trustee of Columbia College from 1856 to 1873. The chest stands eleven inches high and has two leaves which fold away to disclose an efficient arrangement of phials, scales, mortar and pestle, and other medical equipment.

Moffat gift. Mr. Abbot Low Moffat (LL.B., 1926) of Washington, D. C., has added to his earlier gifts of Jay Family Papers (*Library Columns*, November 1961) three very useful items: a diary kept by Peter A. Jay during his stay in London in March,

1795; a notebook containing family records kept by William Augustus Pierrepont; and "Family Records" by John Jay Pierrepont, containing a brief account of the Jay family.

Neitz gift. Mrs. Cordelia Neitz of the Cataloging Department presented two pictures of the Columbia Libraries when the campus was at 49th Street. They have been added to the Columbiana archives.

Newman gift. Through the good offices of Mrs. Harold G. Henderson (Mary A. Benjamin, A.B., 1925, B.), we have received a gift of a letter written by Park Benjamin. The letter, which is undated and to an unknown correspondent, comes from Mrs. Julia Sweet Newman of Battle Creek, Michigan, and it is a welcome addition to our collection of the correspondence of Park Benjamin.

Prentis gift. Mr. Edmund A. Prentis (E.M., 1906) has presented a fine collection of the medals he has received from the University and from various Columbia organizations.

Samuels gift. Mr. Jack H. Samuels (A.M., 1940) has added significantly to his earlier gifts (*Library Columns*, February, 1962) by presenting a large collection of current literary works. Of special note are works by Howard Fast and Frederic Prokosch (including certain manuscripts and letters of the latter).

Schiller gift. Mr. Justin G. Schiller has presented a fine copy of Pierre Blanchet's *La Farce de Maistre Pierre Pathelin*, Paris, 1762.

Solomon gift. The family of the late Murray J. Solomon has presented to the School of Library Service Library, in his memory, a copy of the facsimile edition of the "Kelmscott Chaucer", published in 1958 by the World Publishing Company.

Thomas gift. Mr. Ralph Thomas has presented, for inclusion

among the books in the King's College Room, a fine copy of the sermon preached by Robert, Lord Bishop of Sarum, at the coronation of King George III and Queen Charlotte, on September 22, 1761. The copy presented is of the edition printed in Boston in 1762.

Waddell gift. Mr. John Waddell (B.S., 1947), Associate Reference Librarian of the Columbia University Libraries, has presented a fine letter from John W. Davis to Mr. Waddell's aunt, the late Janetta L. Waddell of Lexington, Virginia. Apparently Miss Waddell, who had known Mr. Davis during his college years at Washington and Lee, had sent her congratulations on his failure to win the Presidency in 1924, and this letter was his buoyant reply.

Waller gift. Through the good offices of Mr. Thomas O. Fitzgibbon we have received, for inclusion in Columbiana, a number of items among which are memorabilia relating to Mr. Gustavus Kirby (E.E., 1895, LL.B. 1898). The gift was made by Mr. Kirby's daughter, Mrs. Thomas M. Waller of Bedford Hills, New York.

Activities of the Friends

MEETINGS

Bancroft Awards Dinner

On Wednesday, April 18, approximately 300 members of our organization and their guests met for the culminating event of the academic year—the Bancroft Awards Dinner which was held in the Rotunda of Low Memorial Library. Ambassador Francis T. P. Plimpton, Vice Chairman of our association, presided.

During the program, Vice President Lawrence H. Chamberlain announced the winners of the prizes for the three books judged by the Bancroft Prize Jury to be the best published in 1961 in the fields of American History, American Diplomacy, and International Relations of the United States: *The Transformation of the School* by Lawrence A. Cremin, *Charles Francis Adams* by Martin Duberman, and *To the Farewell Address* by Felix Gilbert. He presented a $4,000 check to each of the authors, who responded with short addresses. Ambassador Plimpton presented certificates to Mr. Harding LeMay of Alfred A. Knopf, Incorporated, to Mr. Craig Wylie of Houghton Mifflin Company, and to Mr. Herbert S. Bailey, Jr., Director of Princeton University Press, the publishers, respectively, of the three award-winning books. The principal speaker for the occasion was Dr. Richard B. Morris, Gouverneur Morris Professor of History at Columbia University and Director of the John Jay Papers project, who took as his subject "John Jay Abroad".

The Bancroft Awards Dinner Committee was made up of Mrs. Francis Henry Lenygon, Chairman, and Mrs. Arthur C. Holden.

The prizes, which are provided by funds from the Bancroft Foundation, are among the richest available to historians. The Friends take pleasure in helping to enlarge public knowledge of their importance.

CREDITS

The picture of Trelawny is from Edward John Trelawny's *Adventures of a Younger Son*, London, T. Fisher Unwin, 1890. The sketch of Lady Hester Stanhope "at home" is from volume II of her *Memoirs of the Lady Hester Stanhope, as related by herself*... London, Henry Colburn, 1845. The portrait of Lord Byron is from Alphonse Seche and Jules Bertaut's *La Vie Anecdotique et Pittoresque des Grands Ecrivains: Lord Byron*, Paris, Louis-Michaud, 1909. The drawing of Alexander Mavrocordatos is from Alexander A. C. Stourdza's *L'Europe Orientale et le Rôle Historique des Maurocordato, 1660–1830*, Paris, Librairie Plon, 1913. The photograph of Eleanor Robson (Mrs. August Belmont) on stage is from I. Zangwill's *Merely Mary Ann*, New York, Macmillan, 1904.

The drawing which portrays Tesla giving the lecture-demonstration is from the July 11, 1891, issue of *Electrical World*.

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