

NOTES FROM THE LIBRARY

Gifts from Dr. Gabriel Wells

Gabriel Wells, Litt. D., Rutgers, one of the leading bookmen of our day, has recently presented to the Rutgers Library several books and sets which are particularly interesting for their associations. The first of these gifts is an eight-volume set, which includes two titles: (a) *The History of the Rebellion and Civil Wars in England, to which is added an historical view of the affairs of Ireland* by Edward, Earl of Clarendon, 3 vols. in 6, Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1816; (b) *The Life of Edward, Earl of Clarendon, Lord High Chancellor of England, and in which is included a continuation of his history of the grand rebellion*, written by himself, 2 vols., Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1817.

This set is a large paper copy in red crushed levant, the covers lined with pale blue silk, beautifully handtooled, done by Edwards, famous London binder of the nineteenth century. The seal of Oxford University is set in the center of each cover, and the bookplate of the Grand Duke Alexander of Russia appears on the inside of each front cover. The unique value of the set lies in the fact that it was "presented in the name of the University of Oxford to his Imperial Highness, the Grand Duke Alexander [afterwards Alexander II, Emperor of

Russia, 1818-1881, grandfather of the late Czar Nicholas], hereditary Prince of Russia, by the delegates of the University Press, May 21, 1839." On the fly-leaf appear the personal signatures of the following distinguished delegates: A. J. Gilbert, D.D., Principal of Brasenose College, Vice-Chancellor of the University; Thomas Gaisford, D.D., Dean of Christ Church; Bulkeley Bandinel, D.D., Bodley's Librarian; John David MacBride, D.C.L., Principal of Magdalen Hall; Edward Cardwell, D.D., Principal of St. Alban Hall; Richard Jenkyns, D.D., Master of Balliol College; William Jacobson, M.A., Vice-Principal of Magdalen Hall; Jacob Ley, M.A., Student of Christ Church, Senior Proctor; Ambrose Lettebridge, M.A., Fellow of All Souls College, Senior Proctor.

Besides the set of Clarendon, Dr. Wells has given the Library *Gutenberg and the Catholicon of 1460*, a Biographical Essay, by Margaret Bingham Stillwell, 1936. Included with Miss Stillwell's essay is an actual page of the *Catholicon* printed by Gutenberg in 1460.

A third item from Dr. Wells is a large paper copy of the first edition of *The Miscellaneous Works of Lord Chesterfield*, printed for Edward and Charles Dilly, London, 1777.

All of these books have been on display in the Library.

CHARLES H. WHITMAN

Dr. Lipman Purchases Books

Appointed by President Roosevelt as an official delegate to represent the United States at the Fifth International Technical Congress of Agricultural Industries, which met in Holland, Dr. Jacob G. Lipman spent part of his trip abroad in London, where he bought a number of rare English books for the Library. As is proper for one so deeply concerned with agriculture, several of the most choice of his purchases were old books on botany and farming. The prize of this group was the *Theatrum Botanicum. The Theater of Plantes, Or An Vniversall and Compleate Herball*. This splendid folio, with exquisitely fine drawings of plants and details of their various parts on nearly every page was published in 1640 by John Parkinson, "Apothecarye of London and the Kings Herbalist," and dedicated by the author "To the Kings Most Excellent Maiestie." It ranks as one of the great botanical works of the seventeenth century.

Four other early English printed books, with titles which will please our historical and literary friends, were added to the Rutgers collection by Dr. Lipman. These are *Honor Military, and Ciuill, contained in foure books*, by W. Segar, 1602, with a dedication to Queen Elizabeth; *The Historie of the Most Renowned and Victorious Princesse Elizabeth, Late Queene of England*, written in Latin by William Camden and translated into English by R[obert] N[orton], 1630;

The Mirrour of Mindes, by John Barclay, Englished by T[homas] M[ay], 1631; and the beautiful and quaint *Collection of Emblemes Ancient and Moderne*, by George Wither, 1635.

Another purchase which Dr. Lipman made was of a number of religious tracts of the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, a dozen of them having to do with the Quakers. Particularly interesting among the Quaker books are two first editions of pamphlets by George Fox, *The Devil Was and Is the Old Informer against the Righteous*, 1682/3, and *To All Kings, Princes, Rulers, Governours, Bishops and Clergy, That Profess Christianity in Christendom*, 1685. Then, too, the Library received the first collected edition of the *Works* of William Penn, in two folio volumes, 1726. The Library's collection of early Quaker books and pamphlets is thus strengthened by these additions, and others, which we leave to the curious to explore for themselves.

Students of American history will find that Dr. Lipman did not forget them, either, when he was foraging for the Library, for he brought home with him *The British Empire in America*, by Herman Moll, 1708, Hutchinson's *History of the Colony of Massachusetts*, 1765, and several other volumes of great interest to the specialist in our colonial period. Indeed, Dr. Lipman's visits to the London bookshops have been of great value to several groups of students in the Rutgers Library.

The Constitution

As a part of the celebration of the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, in which so many of the libraries of the country are participating, the Rutgers University Library has placed on exhibit *The Pennsylvania Packet, and Daily Advertiser* for September 19, 1787, in which the Constitution was for the first time printed. The paper appeared two days after the Constitutional Convention had completed its work. The Constitution itself occupies the first three and a third pages of the four-page newspaper, and the remainder of the fourth page is crowded to include also the two letters sent by the Convention to the Congress of the United States when forwarding the document on which it had labored for so many weeks. These letters are signed, as is the Constitution, by George Washington, who was the President of the Convention. The particular number in which the Constitution appeared is said to be one of twelve copies known to exist in this country. A thirteenth is in the British Museum.

In the same case with the *Packet* are displayed other papers which bear on the Constitution and on its signers. Letters from three of the New Jersey members of the Convention, William Livingston, Jonathan Dayton, and William Paterson, are on exhibit. In addition to these native sons, four other signers are represented: Pierce Butler, of South Carolina, James Madison, Jr., of Virginia,

and Gouverneur Morris and Robert Morris, of Pennsylvania. Probably the most interesting papers, however, are included in the large manuscript volume in the handwriting of William Paterson, who was the deviser of the "New Jersey Plan." This "Plan," which was adopted, provided for representation in the Senate by two members from each state, no matter how large the population of the state, and in the House for representation in proportion to the number of the inhabitants of each state. The Library owns a great many of Paterson's papers, and some of them bear on this important matter.

Franklin's Gazette

While we are speaking of eighteenth century American newspapers, we should mention three additions to the Library's file of the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, established in Philadelphia in 1728 by Samuel Keimer. With the issue of October 2, 1729, Keimer sold out to Benjamin Franklin and Hugh Meredith, who conducted the paper in partnership until Franklin bought out Meredith, May 11, 1732. Later, January 12, 1748, Franklin formed a partnership with David Hall. It is to this last period that the recent acquisitions belong, for they are dated November 24, December 8 and 27, 1748. Franklin sold his interest in the *Gazette* in February 1761, and nearly five years later the paper was suspended by the Stamp Act.

Gift from Bankers

The whole Class of 1937—the first graduating class—of the Graduate School of Banking ought to be elected to membership in the Associated Friends of the Rutgers Library if payment of dues is a consideration. Their gift of one thousand dollars for the purchase of books on money and banking was a generous evidence of their appreciation of the services of the Library. And, indeed, if they have enjoyed their stay at Rutgers, what finer memorial could they leave behind them than a collection of books, each of which will bear their own bookplate?

Two Poems by Philip Freneau

Recently the Library acquired two small volumes containing first editions of poems by Philip Freneau. The first of these books is *A Voyage to Boston. A Poem . . .* By the Author of *American Liberty*, a Poem: *General Gage's Soliloquy*, &c, NEW-YORK: Printed by *John Anderson*, at Beekman's Slip. No date appears in this volume, but it is known to have come out in 1775. Though the poem itself is extremely rare, the present copy is of particular interest because of four manuscript corrections which were made in the text. A comparison of the handwriting in the margins of *A Voyage to Boston* with authentic manuscripts by Freneau in the Rutgers Library leads one to believe that the alterations were made by Freneau himself. Since none of these changes appears in the standard edition of *The Poems*

of Philip Freneau, edited by Fred Lewis Pattee (Princeton, 1902, Vol. I, pp. 158-81), it seems worth while to record them here. In the line "You bind his arms and bind the dragon down" (p. 19), the second "bind" has been crossed out and "hold" written in the margin; in the line "And deeply griev'd with their departing laws" (p. 20), the "with" is crossed out and "for" placed in the margin; in the line "No crimes of our this vengeful doom require" (p. 21), an "s" has been inserted above "our" and a caret after this word—which appears in Pattee's text as "our's," but on what authority is not stated; and in the line "St. Stephen's breeches, and St. Stephen's shirt" (p. 22), the first "Stephen's" is scratched out and a word which is unquestionably "Andrew's," though the leaf is trimmed so as to cut off the "A," has been written in the margin. Not only does the handwriting so closely resemble that of Freneau as to leave little doubt in one's mind as to the authority for these changes in the text, but the nature of the first two and of the last alterations is of a sort that an author would be likely to make in his own work.

The second Freneau volume is *General Gage's Confession, Being the Substance of His Excellency's last Conference, With his Ghostly Father, Friar FRANCIS . . .*, By the Author of the *Voyage to BOSTON. A POEM*, &c. Printed in the Year, 1775. The only other known copy of this poem belongs to the Library Company of Philadelphia. Below the imprint,

"Printed in the Year, 1775." someone has printed with a pen, "By H. Gaine: N. York." Since these letters look very much like some printed work by Freneau among the Rutgers manuscripts and since the copy of this poem owned by the Library Company also contains a manuscript note, "By Gaine. Published October 25, 1775." in what Pattee says is "unquestionably" the hand of the poet, it seems likely that the author himself added the name of the printer to the Rutgers copy. If so, he is probably also responsible for two slight corrections of misprints on page 7. One could only prove this point beyond reasonable doubt, however, by comparing the Rutgers copy with that of the Library Company.

R. K.

Finlay Newspaper Collection

What may prove to be a valuable addition to the Rutgers Library was acquired in the spring of 1937 through the acquisition of the James M. Finlay Newspaper and Periodical Collection.

Mr. Finlay, the son of James Watson Finlay, founder in 1853 of the first British penny paper, the *Edinburgh War Telegraph*, began his collection sixty-two years ago. He was then an engineer working at Laramie, Wyoming. Realizing as a young man the value of the

newspaper as a record of current history, he arranged with several friends to subscribe to the leading New York papers. Charles A. Dana was then editor of the *New York Sun*. Finlay, struck by Dana's style and editorial leadership, began a special collection of clippings from the *Sun*. Today his collection of newspapers, periodicals, and clippings mirrors the pattern of public mind since 1875.

The collection embraces fairly complete files of British newspapers such as the *London Times*, the *London Morning Post*, the *London Daily Telegraph*, the *Manchester Guardian*, during the important World War and postwar years. There is also a good file of the *London Observer* and the *London Times Weekly* with supplements.

Two van loads of the collection have already been delivered to the Rutgers Library. The tremendous task of sorting and cataloguing this material is being carried forward by the Library staff under the direction of Russell Van Horn, Assistant Librarian. Already there have come to light scattered files of the *Belfast Weekly Telegraph*, the *Birmingham Weekly Post*, the *Cork Weekly Examiner*, the *Weekly Scotsman*, as well as many outstanding Canadian and American papers.

KENNETH E. OLSON