

GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

Choice items from the extensive Symington Collection (described elsewhere in some detail by the editor of the *Journal*), without question the most significant and, within its scope, the most comprehensive single acquisition by the Library since the war, are now on display in the exhibition cases in the rotunda. The exhibit will continue for several weeks.

THE NEW JERSEY JOURNAL

The *Elizabeth Daily Journal* and its weekly predecessor, the *New Jersey Journal* (established in 1779), have had the longest continued existence of any newspaper in the state. Through the generosity of its publisher, Mr. Robert C. Crane, the Library has received not only the entire office file of the *Journal* but also a microfilm copy of the whole. This is a gift of no small proportions—there are 409 reels of microfilm alone—and of considerable research value. Including several volumes previously owned, the Library now has bound files of the weekly *Journal* for 1786-87, 1796-97, 1808-09, 1813-17, 1821-23, 1832-34, 1840-42, 1847-64, 1867, 1870-76; and of the *Daily Journal* from 1872.

CATALOGUES

The Library has recently brought up to date its set of the *Catalogue Général des Livres Imprimés de la Bibliothèque Nationale* (Paris), now in 171 volumes covering the letters A-S. The British Museum *Catalogue of Printed Books 1881-1900*, reprinted 1946 in fifty-eight volumes, has also been purchased. Of the later British Museum *General Catalogue of Printed Books*, forty-one volumes have been received, bringing the set, as published, up to the letter C.

WEST JERSEY, 1681

One of the rarest of the early tracts relating to New Jersey is *An Abstract, or Abbreviation of Some Few of the Many . . . Testimonys from the Inhabitants of New-Jersey, and Other Eminent Persons, Who Have Wrote Particularly Concerning That Place* (London, 1681). This 32-page pamphlet, setting forth the advantages of West Jersey for English settlers, was inspired in part by certain unfavorable criticism of the Jerseys currently afloat. It is interesting to note that

eight of the fifteen letters quoted in the *Abstract* were later copied (without reference to source) by Samuel Smith in his *History of the Colony of Nova-Cæsaria, or New-Jersey* (Burlington, 1765).

SERIALS

Files of several serials, outstanding in their respective fields of scholarship, have been added to the Library: The Scottish History Society *Publications*, 120 vols.; *Analecta Bollandiana* (Brussels), 67 vols., 1882 to date; *Byzantion* (Brussels), 17 vols., 1924-45; *Fundamenta Mathematicae* (Warsaw), vols. 1, 6-8, 10-18, 20-31, 1920-38.

MR. BOEL'S COMPLAINT

John Peter Zenger is best known as the editor of the *New-York Weekly Journal*, whose trial in 1735 represented a landmark in the history of American press freedom. A noteworthy addition to the Library is the first recorded book printed by him, and the only known publication bearing the joint imprint of Zenger and William Bradford: [Tobias Boel] *Klagte van Eenige Leeden der Nederduytse Hervormde Kerk, Woonende op Raretans, &c., in de Provincie van Nieu-Jersey . . . Over het Gedrag . . . van Do. Theodorus Jacobus Frilinghuisen, met Syn Kerken-Raaden* (1725). The *Klagte*, or "Complaint," resulted from an extended dispute between the Dominion and members of his Dutch congregations. A partial translation is published in the *Ecclesiastical Records, State of New York*.

A FRENCHMAN SKINNED

A curious pamphlet recently acquired is *S. P. Hull's Report of the Trial and Conviction of Antoine Le Blanc, for the Murder of the Sayre Family, at Morristown, N.J.* (New York, 1833). Attached to the front cover is a small triangle of leather, in excellent condition. A pen-and-ink note, dated 1881, identifies the relic: "A piece of the tanned skin of Le Blanc, taken from his right arm. . . ."

—D.A.S.