

GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

In our issue of December last, some attention was given to the *Rural Visiter*, a rare Burlington (N.J.) periodical of which Volume 1 (1820) had been acquired. The Library now possesses Volume 2 (1821) and a second copy of the first volume. By a comparison of the two Volume 1's, it appears that there were two printings of the preliminary leaves and first number. In one of the Library's copies (which evidently belonged once to printer Allinson himself), those portions have numerous manuscript corrections—so numerous, in fact, that the two initial gatherings were reprinted entirely. In the new version, another preface has been substituted.

Mr. John Fleming has presented a group of books, chiefly 19th and 20th century American first editions: eight volumes of George Ade, 1899-1914; four of William Dean Howells, 1873-88; three of E. C. Stedman, 1860-77; two each of Longfellow and Whittier, 1849-72; others of H. B. Stowe and F. P. Dunne (Mr. Dooley). The gift included English publications: Samuel Garth, *Claremont* (1715?); Edward Manwaring, *Of Harmony and Numbers* (1744); J. Swift, *Satire on Dr. D——ny* (1730); an anonymous *Essay Upon Milton's Imitation of the Ancients* (1741); and *The Scribleriad* (1742).

A gift of Mr. E. H. Brill, '14, includes several American slavery pamphlets: Samuel Hopkins, *Dialogue Concerning the Slavery of the Africans* (New York, 1785); *A Poetical Epistle to the Enslaved Africans* (Philadelphia, 1795), and others; also seven almanacs, 1820-27, three compiled by David Young of Morristown, N.J.

Among books received from the estate of Miss Helen A. Hardenbergh may be noted especially the three-volume *Quadrupeds of North America* (1851-54), by John J. Audubon and John Bachman, with the well-known plates in excellent condition. The Library's copy of this work in its original folio edition (*Viviparous Quadrupeds of North America*, 3 vols., 1845-48), incidentally, has been bound recently. Three leaves and one plate are lacking.

A copy of Thomas Hobbes' *Leviathan; or, The Matter, Form, and Power of a Commonwealth, Ecclesiastical and Civil* (London, 1651) has been purchased. This is the first edition.

MANUSCRIPTS

The William Lisle Bowles papers (1792-97), by all odds the most interesting accession of the past six months, reveal the tragic background of the poetry of Bowles which had so great an influence in the late eighteenth century. Since an article based upon this correspondence will be found elsewhere in the present issue, it must suffice here to acknowledge as donor Mr. Alfred N. Kellogg, of Cleveland, Ohio.

Twelve letters (1899-1906) written by Walter Theodore Watts-Dunton to the London publisher, William Heinemann, have been received. They are generally of a friendly character, somewhat literary in content. In one, the writer discusses at length the proposed translation of his novel *Aylwin* into German. It will be recalled that the Library's Symington Collection includes a number of Watts-Dunton letter books.

Of other manuscripts acquired, only a few need be listed here. In a letter of November 14, 1794, Elias Boudinot, one-time president of the Continental Congress, writing to an acquaintance in London, solicits the latter's good offices for a young American tourist who, in a moment of wanton exuberance, had joined the British army and was currently repenting of his haste. In another letter, September 5, 1833, one Samuel Farwell wrote from New Brunswick of the Delaware and Raritan Canal locks which he was engaged in building. Mr. Josef Grossman, '50, has presented a letter from Erkuries Beatty to James Ewing, April 23, 1789.

The Misses Elizabeth R. and Margaret B. Baldwin have added to their numerous past gifts seven documents (1899-1901) of Henry R. Baldwin, Jr., associated with the Alaska gold rush. The many manuscripts which they have kindly presented to the Library on various occasions form several groups: the Henry Rutgers Baldwin papers, 1798-1907; the Gerard Rutgers papers, 1750-1850; the Abraham Rynier Van Nest papers, 1829-1905; and the Nicholas Bayard papers, 1707-1825. Largest by far is the last group, totaling 802 items. The several Nicholas Bayards, whose successive generations wrote and preserved these papers, were prominent merchants and citizens of New York from the days of the Dutch settlement.

NEWSPAPERS

The Library has acquired a complete file of the Newark (N.J.) *Daily Patriot*, a campaign paper, whose life span extended from September 11 through November 9, 1865. Published by a Municipal Reform Association, it endorsed the Union candidate for governor and belabored the Democrats with the unrestraint which characterized politics of that day. One other complete set of the *Patriot* is known to exist.

Another campaign paper, acquired previously but not yet noted in the *Journal*, is the semi-weekly *Newark Democrat*. It ran for twenty-seven issues, August 18 through November 24, 1860, supporting the Douglas-Johnson slate. The Library's file of this paper is complete. In the newspaper union list only one issue of the *Democrat* is recorded.

Scattered issues added to the Library's collection from time to time are seldom mentioned here. One item worthy of the exception is a single number of the *Mount Holly* (N.J.) *Advertiser*, Jan. 11, 1816. While the *Advertiser's* existence is noted in one or two of the local histories, this is the only issue known to have survived.

The Library has obtained a microfilm of the *Burlington Advertiser*, April 13, 1790-Dec. 13, 1791. Other microfilm projects now under consideration will be reported when completed.

EXHIBITIONS

The current (March-April) monthly exhibit, devoted to research materials in the Library, was inspired by the University's first "Research at Rutgers" day, March 17. We have chosen to emphasize the manuscript holdings, stressing in particular New Jersey materials.

The Library's manuscript resources have reached a volume little comprehended by the public and scarcely better known by the faculty and students. A careful estimate, in fact, places the size of the collection at about 250,000 items. Some habitués of the Library will be startled by this figure, because the materials, while controlled and organized centrally, are physically dispersed. Because of the extreme shortage of space which prevails in every corner of the building, it is chance rather than efficiency which dictates the location of cases or shelves in which the manuscripts are housed.

Although it is composed in large part of 18th and 19th century material, the collection is otherwise varied in character. Described

in general terms, it consists mainly of numerous personal and family papers, records of societies, businesses, and other corporate bodies, and also certain "collections" (in the proper sense of the word). In the last category, of course, falls the extensive Symington Collection, devoted chiefly to English writers and writings of the 19th and early 20th centuries. American materials for economic, social, and political history predominate, however.

Representative manuscript sources have been selected for the present exhibit. Among those of value for social history: the minutes, by-laws, etc., of a masonic lodge, 1824; of a literary society, 1816-17; of a scientific and literary society, 1828-30; of an early Negro society, 1817-24; the docket of a justice of the peace, 1813-17; records of a band, 1829; tuition and fee book of a private school, 1797-98; record book of a township school committee, 1829-47; a midshipman's journal, 1829-31; a set of diaries, 1861-1903; a commonplace book, 1825; minutes of a statewide church organization, 1831-72. For economic history: two general store daybooks, 1767-76 and 1768-88; a tavern ledger, 1755-99; a bridge company's receipt book, 1807-33; a turnpike company's accounts, 1808-23; a farm crop book, 1819-58; day book of a leather merchant, 1820-34; a physician's ledger, 1820-30; a newspaper subscription book, 1849-51; account book of a bank, 1812-73. A few items from the Symington Collection also are shown.

Chosen almost at random as good examples of manuscript research material, these are neither the oldest nor the most significant in the Library's collection.

The annual commencement display of class views, campus scenes, and student memorabilia associated with the anniversary classes, will follow. An exhibition of printing, to be prepared with the co-operation and able assistance of Mr. Joseph Ishill, is planned for the summer months, beginning June 15. Not only will specimens of his own finished work be shown, but also the press and paraphernalia of printing, together with sketches, proofs, and other materials illustrating the stages and techniques involved.

D.A.S.