

GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

Books

AN impressive body of printed materials, chiefly books, dealing with a wide range of interests and representing several collections of private persons has been presented to the Library in recent months. Especially noteworthy among these is a fine collection of over four thousand books, pamphlets, periodicals and exhibit catalogues dealing with art and art history, from the estate of the late Louis E. Stern of New York City. The materials which represent the personal reference library of Mr. Stern will be of great benefit to the expanding program of art history study at the University. From Donald Young the Library has received a gift of books on sociology, with particular emphasis on the Negro and the institution of slavery. A gift consisting chiefly of World War I studies has come from past donor Carl Haverlin. Finally, the library of the late Rabbi Dr. Max Raisin of Paterson, N.J., primarily Hebraic books and pamphlets, was presented by a daughter, Dr. Beatrice C. Raisin.

Among the rare imprints acquired recently by the Library is the folio incunabulum, *Mariale* of Saint Albertus Magnus (1193?-1280), printed at Basel on or before 1475 (Stillwell, A245). The volume, which is in a remarkable state of preservation, is one of five known copies in America. The Charles A. Philhower Collection continues to be the source for new and valuable imprint discoveries. A recent find is *Emblemata Politica* by Justus Reifenberg, an Amsterdam imprint of 1632. An outstanding accession and one made possible by the C. N. Wilhelm book fund, is a 1664 folio edition of Shakespeare's plays. It is described elsewhere in this issue. Through the P. Vanderbilt Spader Fund the Library has acquired an unusual Mexico City imprint of 1673, entitled *Arte de Lengua Mexicana* (Sabin 99385). Written by Augustus Vetancurt, the *Arte* is perhaps the earliest of Indian-Spanish grammars. Several select items from a host of other early imprints received are: Giovanni Pico della Mirandola, *Opera Omnia*, 2 vols., Basel, 1572-73; John Spotswood, *The History of the Church and State of Scotland*, London, 1677 (Wing, S5021); William Winstanley, *England's Worthies*, London, 1684 (Wing, W3059); George Mackenzie, *Observa-*

tions on Acts of Parliament, Edinburgh, 1686 (Wing, M184); Jacques Basnage, *Le grand tableau de l'univers*, Amsterdam, 1714, presented by the Newark Public Library.

Manuscripts

With another year still remaining in the Civil War centennial celebration, interest in Civil War history continues unabated in New Jersey. Over the past three years this interest has been reflected in a substantial increase in the Library's holdings of Civil War manuscripts. Letters, diaries, organizational records of military units and other documents, relating chiefly to New Jersey's part in the struggle, have come into the Special Collections Department from a wide number of sources. In recent months the flow of such materials has included the receipt of several valuable gifts. Among these are the papers of Robert Aitken, sutler with the Seventh New Jersey Infantry Regt. fighting in Virginia. The Aitken papers consist of letters, bills, receipts and accounts, 1861-63, dealing with the wholesale side of the sutler's operations, and purchase orders and accounts reflecting transactions with the troops of the Seventh Regt. in 1862. The Aitken papers were presented to the Library by the Hiram E. Deats Estate through Norman C. Wittwer.

From Mr. Ellwood Horner, through the efforts of Mr. Harry Rothman, has come a gift of Civil War letters, 1861-65, of Enoch Brooks of Bridgeton, N.J. Brooks served with the Third New Jersey Cavalry in Virginia during the last two years of the war (1864-65). His letters and those received from his wife Elizabeth cover these years. Several letters received, 1861-63, from a brother Reuben H. Brooks, serving with the New Jersey Fifteenth Infantry Regt. are included. The Civil War letters form part of a larger acquisition of Brooks family papers which include a diary, 1869, relating to farming (near Bridgeton) and keg-making; letters received, 1869-1924, of Elizabeth S. Brooks from relatives in Nebraska, and letters received, 1888-1918, of Matilda E. (Brooks) Horner and Albert R. Horner (Bridgeton).

Another Civil War item, one in which fact and fancy are not easily separated, is the Walter S. M. Fentress papers. Fentress, a

native of Wisconsin, served as an officer in the Union Navy in the Mississippi River theater of operations. He was captured at Rodney, Mississippi, late in 1863 and spent a little more than a year in a Confederate prison before his exchange in October, 1864. The small group of miscellaneous items that constitute his papers includes an interesting four volume holograph "Memoirs and Naval Life," with numerous colored drawings chiefly of ships and naval battles. The narrative, which covers the years 1849 to approximately 1885 is unquestionably fictional, but equally evident is the fact that it is based in parts on Fentress's actual experiences during the war and immediate post-war periods. The papers are a gift from Irvin Crane Garverick.

The projected "Bibliography of Diaries in the Special Collections Department of Rutgers University Library," has received several entries as a consequence of recent accessions. By far the most significant of these new items is the diary of Private Johannes Reuber (1759-?), a Hessian soldier in the American Revolution. Reuber, a native of Neider Völlmar, joined the grenadier Regt. of the ill-fated Johann Rall in the summer of 1776. In August of that year the Regt. arrived at the port of New York, and shortly thereafter entered the series of battles leading across New Jersey which took up the remainder of the year and ended with the American victories at Trenton and Princeton. It was at Trenton that Colonel Rall fell mortally wounded and Reuber was taken prisoner. His captivity lasted for nearly two years, until September, 1778, at which time he was exchanged and re-entered the conflict with the Hessian forces fighting in the Southern Colonies (Charleston and Savannah areas). With the end of hostilities in 1783, Reuber returned to Germany. He remained in the Army, though with extended periods of leave. The last entry in the diary is for the year 1806, but a brief summary of information appears for 1816, when still a soldier, he writes of garrison duty and maneuvers.

In addition to the chronicle of events, which appears in entries varying in fullness from several pages to a few lines, the single volume consists of numerous colored drawings of ships and fortifications in America, autobiographical information, a chronology of activities, 1776-1806, special lists of men in service from the Neider Völlmar area, and lists of German Regts. in America. All in all it

is a remarkable item and one of importance to the military history of the Revolutionary war. There are many extant military diaries, but these are mostly official or quasi-official journals kept by commissioned officers. The very readable diary of Private Johannes Reuber was obviously written for his personal pleasure. The diary was presented to the Library by Philip D. Sang.

The diaries of Daniel P. Kidder, Methodist minister, educator, author, and missionary to Brazil, and of Harriette Smith Kidder his wife, were presented as a gift by Stanley K. Wilson through Dr. William J. Chute. Rev. Mr. Kidder's diary for 1833-82, reflects a career involving extensive travel throughout the Midwest, New York State, New England and New Jersey. His Brazilian missionary experiences, 1837-40, which are treated fully, were published in 1845 as *Sketches of Residence and Travel in Brazil* (Philadelphia, London). Mrs. Kidder's diary, consisting of irregular but full entries, spans the years 1844-1902, and records a life devoted to theological, moral and social concerns (e.g., temperance). A New Jersey item is the forty-two volume diary of Cornelia Ett (Thompson) Connett of Brookside (Mendham Township, Morris County). A delightfully written chronicle, it provides a vivid picture of the housewife and mother in the small rural community at about the turn of the century (1888-1918). The Connett diaries were deposited with the Library by Helen M. Wright. Two additional New Jersey diaries are the already mentioned one of Enoch Brooks and that of Abbie Eliza Magee (Monmouth County), 1905, consisting of irregular brief entries and concerning domestic matters. The Magee diary is a gift from Mrs. Charles E. Wikoff.

Other Manuscripts

Among the other significant manuscripts received into the Special Collections Department are the following (donors' name in *italics*):

Amwell Township (Hunterdon County), N.J. Tax Rateable book, 1807. Gift of *Sara M. Fillips*.

Boudinot, Elias. Legal brief before the Middlesex County, N.J. Court of Common Pleas, 1769; N.J. miscellany including bonds, 1760-72, of John and Thomas Hendrickson, Trenton, N.J.; deed of 1775, of Jonathan Morrell to land in Elizabeth.

- Gift of the *William L. Clements Library*, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- Crum, John. Correspondence, 1835-54, chiefly letters received from Henry L. Pierson relating to the establishment of a screw-making factory at Ramapo (Rockland County), N.Y.; also letters received and drafts of letters sent of Henry Crum (brother) relating to his invention of a screw-making machine; business agreements, 1838-51; machine specification drawings. Ramapo, N.Y.; Providence, R.I., etc., 1835-54.
- Fisher, Herbert. Original ink drawings (several folios) of historic New Jersey houses and Nineteenth Century New Jersey scenes.
- Freehold and Jamesburg Agricultural Railroad Company. Broad-sides, 1854. Gift of *Philip D. Sang*.
- Hoffman, Horace J. Scrapbook, biographical notes, family photographs; miscellaneous papers of Hugh and Dore Hoffman (sons); biographical sketch of Hoffman (inventor of a steel filing system at Jersey City, N.J.) by Helen M. Wright (1964); trade catalogues, etc., 1896, etc. Jersey City, etc., N.J., 1896-1964. Gift of *Helen M. Wright*.
- Morris, Robert. Letter received and draft of letters sent, 1781-82; letter of Morris to Nicholas Low, December 15, 1789. New York, N.Y.; Morristown, N.J., 1781-89. Gift of *Irving Halpern*.
- New Jersey Law. "An Act to prevent the Danger of Spreading the Small Pox in the County of Middlesex," November 4, 1760. Gift of *Philip D. Sang*.
- Osborn, Richard. Deeds, bonds, contracts, 1764-1819, of Richard, James, John and William Osborn of Orange and Rockland Counties, N.Y.; auction inventory of the John Osborn estate, 1771. Orange and Rockland Counties, N.Y., 1764-1819.
- Paterson, William. Letter received from Oliver Ellsworth, October 16, 1800, regarding the status of Franco-American diplomatic negotiations to settle outstanding disputes. Le Havre, France, 1800. Gift of *Philip D. Sang*.
- Perry, Belmont. Letter received from Admiral David D. Porter, June 22, 1889, relating to New Jersey's place in the history of

- the American Revolution. Washington, D.C., 1889. Gift of *Philip D. Sang*.
- Phillips, Ezekiel. Letters received by members of the Phillips family, 1799-1927; deeds, leases, estate inventory, bonds, bills, receipts, etc., 1787-1872, chiefly of Ezekiel and Asher Phillips (son); miscellaneous family items, 1789-1910. Amwell Township, Hunterdon County, N.J., 1787-1910. Gift of *Sara M. Fillips*.
- Potts, Charles A. Letters received and copies of letters sent, 1823-89; bills, receipts, surveyor's maps, 1852-60; papers relating to Trenton, N.J.: real estate and street plans, 1852-60, including surveyor's drawings, drafts of street regulations, 1856, 1859; broadside notices and prospectuses of public real estate sales, 1852-59. Trenton, N.J., etc., 1823-60. Gift of the *Hiram E. Deats Estate* through *Norman C. Wittwer*.
- Partisan Review, A Literary Monthly Magazine. Records, including general correspondence, 1938-62, consisting of letters received and copies of letters sent (represented are letters of such prominent figures as T. S. Eliot, Erich Fromm, Melvin J. Lasky, F. O. Matthiessen, George Orwell, Victor Serge, Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.); general subjects file including letters, legal documents, bills, receipts, inventories, typescript manuscripts of published and unpublished articles, etc., 1944-62. New York, N.Y., etc., 1938-62. Deposited by *William Phillips*.
- Scudder, Isaac. Deeds, 1810-21, to property in West Windsor Township (Mercer County), N.J. Gift of *Mary Onderdonk Gunning* through *Mrs. J. Bertram Howell*.
- Suffern, Edward. Draft of letter, November 11, 1844; letter received of George W. Suffern, October 26, 1844. Suffern (Rockland County), N.Y., 1844.
- Trenton, N.J. Good Will Steam Fire Company. Letters, official reports, resolutions, accounts, membership roster, 1868-90; miscellany, 1868-92. Trenton, etc., N.J., 1868-92. Gift of the *Hiram E. Deats Estate* through *Norman C. Wittwer*.
- Wells, Anna Mary. Manuscript copy (typescript) and galley proof of *The Life and Times of Thomas Wentworth Higginson* (Boston, 1963). Gift of *Anna Mary Wells*.

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