

GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

Books

Eighteenth century New Jersey session laws (i.e. laws passed during separate sittings or sessions of the assembly and published together generally soon after adjournments under the title "Acts of the General Assembly . . .") have for a long time been considered high priority items among public and private collectors of New Jerseyana. The result has been that they are very difficult to come by. It is for this reason that the Library is especially fortunate in the recent acquisition of a bound volume of New Jersey laws for various sittings of the Sixth through the Tenth sessions of the general assembly, 1781-1786. The printing was done from 1782 through 1786 at Trenton on the press of Isaac Collins, printer of the State of New Jersey. The volume, which was purchased by means of the Lemuel W. Famulener Fund, contains the following session laws:

Sixth session, 1st-3rd sitting, October 23, 1781-October 5, 1782.

Seventh session, 1st & 2nd sittings, October 22, 1782-June 19, 1783.

Eighth session, 1st & 2nd sittings, October 28, 1783-September 2, 1784.

Ninth session, 1st sitting, October 26, 1784-December 24, 1784.

Tenth session, 1st-3rd sitting, October 25, 1785-June 2, 1786.

Other early imprints received by the Library in recent months include: Antonio Bonfini (1427-1502), *Des Aller Mechtigsten Königreichs inn Unger wahrhaftige Chronick*, Basel, 1545; Antonius Corvinus (1501-1553), *Bericht, Wie sich eyn gegen seine Oberkeyt* [etc.] . . . *halte[n] sol*, Erfurt, 1539; and Jacob Andreae (1528-1590), *Clare unnd helle Antworte*, Tübingen, 1561. Mrs. Ruth F. Myers and Kenneth G. Myers, R'59 presented Marcus Minucius Felix, *G. Elmenhorstius Recensuit et Librum Commentarium Adject*, [Hamburg], 1612. It is from the Library of Walter Neidig Myers (1899-1964). A facsimile edition (Cambridge, 1968) of the 1480 manuscript translation by William Caxton of *The Metamorphoses* by Publius Ovidius Naso, in the Magdalene College Library, Cambridge, was acquired by means of the George V. N. Baldwin Bequest Fund.

Significant book gifts were also received from Dr. Morris Solorovskyy, Remigio U. Pane, Dr. Richard Schlatter, Noel Crechmer, Sahl Swarz, Hugo Manning, Morris Siegel, W. D. Nelson, Jr.,

Dr. G. Reginald Bishop, Jr., Albert W. Dowling, William L. Lodding, Dr. William H. Lamont, Harrop A. Freeman, Charles C. Herod, Gary Lande, Bharat L. Bhatt, and Harry Gilroy.

Manuscripts

A rare and historically significant letter signed by George Washington was presented to the University by Sebastian Gaeta, Rutgers '28, in commemoration of the fortieth reunion of the Class of 1928. The letter, dated October 22, 1777, is addressed to John Hancock, president of the Continental Congress, and is in the handwriting of Alexander Hamilton, secretary and aide to the Commander-in-Chief. It was written on the occasion of Hancock's resignation and is especially noteworthy in that it demonstrates the General's high regard for the person and the capabilities of the retiring president. Hardly the one to throw bouquets, Washington was nonetheless ready to acclaim meritorious service and past personal kindnesses. An unusually high commendation is evidenced by his remarks:

Motives as well of personal as of a general concern make me to regret the necessity that forces you to retire, and to wish your absence from office may be of as short a duration as possible. In the progress of that intercourse which has necessarily subsisted between us, the manner in which you have always conducted it on your part, accompanied with every expression of politeness and regard to me, gives you a claim to my warmest acknowledgements.

The letter was presented to University President Mason W. Gross and was on exhibit in the Library during the month of June.

The creation of a social welfare archives in the University Library has begun with the recent acquisition of the records of the Jewish Counseling and Service Agency of Essex County, New Jersey, the antecedents of which date back to 1861. The materials actually relate chiefly to the Jewish Family Service and the Jewish Child Care Association, the two organizations which merged in 1961 to form the Counseling and Service Agency. The period covered is 1936-1960. Small lots of earlier records (ca. 1920-1940) of other Jewish welfare organizations may also be found.

The Agency records, which were acquired through Professor Hans Tischler of the School of Social Work, now rank as the Library's largest single manuscript collection, consisting in all of eighty-five separate archival cartons. A preliminary processing has indicated that

the records include correspondence, case files, sociological surveys and studies, statistical reports, expense accounts, bills, receipts, contribution receipts and printed literature, chiefly books, pamphlets, and periodicals relating to social welfare interests.

Additional papers (2 boxes and 1 scrapbook) of Mary T. Norton, Congresswoman from Jersey City, 1925-1951, were presented by a niece, Mrs. Edmund Burke, Jr. The Norton papers already in the Library (10 boxes and 11 scrapbooks), were also donated by Mrs. Burke. The new acquisition consists of correspondence, 1920-1957, speeches, 1927-1952, a draft of "Madam Congressman," Mrs. Norton's unpublished memoirs relating to her political career, and clippings, published articles, and memorabilia.

Records of the Socialist Party of Bergen County, New Jersey, 1916-1937, were presented by Professor Robert J. Alexander of the Department of Economics. Included in the lot are minutes of meetings, 1916-1918, 1928-1937; correspondence, reports, memoranda, state and national directives, 1933-1937; financial statements, operational expense accounts, etc., 1933-1936; membership rosters, addresses, etc.; clippings, circulars, serial publications, and other printed items, 1933-1937; and minutes of meetings of the Socialist Club of Ridgfield Park, New Jersey, 1913-1921.

Papers of Abraham G. Demarest of Cresskill, New Jersey and New York City, chiefly relating to the Civil War were presented by Stanley D. and Edwin E. Cattelle, grandsons. Demarest, a resident of New York until 1860, when he moved to New Jersey, was a commander of the "American Rifles," a well known nativist company of the New York militia. Soon after the Civil War began, he recruited a company in the Cresskill area for service in the Twenty-Second Regiment, New Jersey Volunteers, a nine-month regiment made up chiefly of Bergen County residents. It was mustered into the service of the United States in September, 1862. Demarest, originally appointed company commander with the rank of captain, served as regimental commander with the rank of colonel beginning January 26, 1863.

The Demarest papers consist of Civil War letters to members of the family, 1862-1863; Civil War letters received by Ellen Van Gieson (Demarest's wife) from brothers Henry Clay and Augustus, 1862-1865; Van Gieson family letters, 1853-1885, and papers relating to service in the New York militia, 1858-1860. Of particular

interest are the official records of the Twenty-Second Regiment, N.J.A., 1862-1863, composed of company monthly reports, morning reports, arms and accoutrement reports, data relating to absentees, deserters, deaths and discharges, post guard reports, court martials, general and special orders received, guard and fatigue details, muster rolls, picket guard details, speeches of commanding officers, miscellaneous correspondence received, and certificates, letters, and sick reports of the regimental surgeon.

Letters of Albert Payson Terhune, novelist, journalist, world traveler and Commissioner of New Jersey State Parks, were presented by Frederic F. Van de Water. Papers of another novelist, Laura J. Libbey (Mrs. Van Mater Stilwell) were presented by John Koring. Mrs. Libbey's papers consist of letters received, 1890-1925; property papers and wills, 1904-1924; financial accounts, bills and receipts, 1895-1925; installment payment receipts for book publications, 1892-1902; certificates of copyright and publication contracts and agreements, 1886-1924, and drafts and galleys of published works.

Papers of John Zimmerman of Warren County, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania were acquired by means of the Frelinghuysen Fund. Included in the papers are grist mill, sawmill, general store and farming accounts, 1804-1892; a travel journal, 1834; a medical recipe book, ca. 1840; receipt book for the estates of Isaac and John George Zimmerman, 1834-1849; general store accounts, 1888-1893; farm employees' work record, 1900-1906; Sheriff's public expense accounts, 1885-1886, of George M. Van Campen.

From Mrs. Lawrence H. Suydam have come genealogical compilations, notes and letters of inquiry of Charles B. Whittlesey relating to the Suydam and Sexton families. The records of the Middlebush Chapter, D.A.R., 1892-1965, were deposited by the society through Miss Esther F. Stryker. Additional papers of Julius Nelson relating to the Nelson family, research in oyster culture and the New Jersey Agricultural Experimental Research Station, came from Mrs. David A. Waller. Dr. Frank Sperduto presented the diary of Francis E. Wilbur, student of the Rutgers College Preparatory School, relating to school life, etc., 1899, 1901. Miscellaneous Civil War items of Phineas Mundy were a gift of Mrs. Melvin M. Hunt.