

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES:

Rare Book Acquisitions 1990–1991

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A valuable source of information about the Mid-Atlantic Region during the eighteenth century is Pehr Kalm's *En Resa til Norra America* (Stockholm, 1753–1761) of which only the Dutch edition (Utrecht, 1772) was previously held in the rare book collection. Added this year were the original Swedish edition (William Allen Chapman, Joseph S. Frelinghuysen, Montagu Hankin and Proprietors Funds), a German translation, 1754–1764, issued at Göttingen (Charles H. and Mary Elizabeth Brower Fund) and English editions of 1770–1771 and 1772, issued at Warrington and London. A naturalist and student of Linnaeus, Kalm traveled to America at the behest of the Swedish Academy of Sciences, seeking plants, not native to Sweden which might be profitably introduced there. His extensive narrative, published originally in three volumes, explores all aspects of the physical and cultural geography of the land he visited, as suggested by the title of its two English editions: *Travels into North America; containing its Natural History, and A circumstantial Account of its Plantations and Agriculture in general, with the Civil, Ecclesiastical and Commercial State of the Country, The Manners of the Inhabitants, and several curious and important Remarks on various Subjects*. During his seventeen-month stay in America (September 1748–February 1751), Kalm spent much time in the Delaware River Valley areas, including southwestern New Jersey, which had been first settled by the Swedish, but he also traveled in western Pennsylvania, New York and Canada. Illustrations are included in all editions of Kalm's travels; the English and Dutch editions also include a large folding map of the Mid-Atlantic Region.

A summary history of the Swedish churches in America is the focus of *Dissertatio Gradualis, de Plantatione Ecclesiae in America* which has also been acquired (Charles H. and Mary Elizabeth Brower Fund). Written in Latin, the work is the Upsala college graduation dissertation of Tobias Eric Björck. Published in Sweden in 1731, this pamphlet of 21 leaves traces conditions which led the Swedish King to sponsor the journey to America undertaken

by the author's father and two other ministers in 1697. Björck describes the founding and rebuilding of the several churches in the Delaware Valley where these men and their successors preached and presents a brief outline of the Lutheran worship service which they followed. In addition, Björck provides an overview of the history of the area, of other denominations in the region (including a description of Quaker beliefs and worship) and of the religious practices and beliefs of the native Americans (including obstacles to their conversion). Completing the pamphlet is a map, engraved by Jonas Silfverling, which depicts East and West Jersey, eastern Pennsylvania (including the Lower Counties, later to become Delaware) and portions of adjacent colonies. Shown on the map are the various Swedish settlements, including Pumpenhukén and Raccoon (now Swedesboro) in West Jersey. Of the ten New Jersey Counties extant by 1731, only five are named. Curiously, both an ostrich and a palm tree appear among the decorative elements in the New Jersey portion of the map.

Complementing the maps of the Mid-Atlantic Region contained in the works of Pehr Kalm and Tobias Eric Björck is the newly acquired *A Map of New England and New York* (Charles H. and Mary Elizabeth Brower Fund) which was issued in 1676. Originally part of *An Epitome of Mr. John Speed's Theatre of the Empire of Great Britain, and of his Prospect of the Most Famous Parts of the World*, the map (without detailing boundary lines) includes all or parts of New England, New York, "New Jarsey" and Maryland, as well as territory which would later be incorporated into Pennsylvania. Most of the names in the New Jersey portion of the map are of Indian origin; indeed, most of southern New Jersey is labeled "Inhabited by Indians." Although issued in 1676, the map is essentially a re-engraving—reduced in area, but not in scale—of an earlier map first issued in the 1650s by Dutch cartographer Jan Jansson. Despite introducing some English names and other limited changes, *A Map of New England and New York* perpetuates numerous inaccuracies, especially in depicting the courses of rivers. Illustrations of bears, foxes, rabbits and other animals provide a decorative element to the map, but are also derivative, appearing on other editions, including the undated Dutch version, already held by Special Collections and Archives, which was issued by the younger Nicolaas Visscher during the 1680s.

At the time of the American Revolution, a century after *A Map of New England and New York* appeared, the most detailed separate map of New Jersey was William Faden's *The Province of New Jersey, Divided into East and West, commonly Called the Jerseys* of which both the 1777 and 1778 London editions have been held by Special Collections and Archives for many years.

Recently, three significant maps of New Jersey which derive in large part from the Faden map have been added. What is probably the earliest of the three is an unrecorded, undated French edition of Faden's map, retaining the English title and text (the latter present also in translation), which was published at Paris by Perrier & Verrie (Lemuel W. Famulener, Joseph S. Frelinghuysen and Special Collections Endowment Funds). This map, which is sectioned and mounted on cloth, was perhaps occasioned by the entry of the French into the American Revolution in 1778 on behalf of the rebelling Colonials. It differs most visibly from its chief source (the December 1777 version of the Faden map) through the addition of detail in Pennsylvania and New York, but also adds the locations of two forts in New Jersey (on the Delaware River) and the sites of two Revolutionary War battles (on Long Island). The second map acquired is another French version of the 1777 Faden map. It was issued at Paris, with a French title, by G.L. Le Rouge in 1782 and apparently was included originally in an unidentified edition of Le Rouge's *Atlas American Septentrional*. The third map acquired (William Allen Chapman and Charles H. and Mary Elizabeth Brower Funds) was compiled by D.F. Sotzman and published at Hamburg in 1797. Sotzmann's map retains the approximate scale, distinctive shading and many other features of the Faden map, but includes corrections, additions and updated information from unidentified sources. This copy of the 1797 map has a notable provenance, having been for many years in the celebrated collection of Americana formed by the late Thomas W. Streeter of Morristown.

A Short Account of the Trial of Cyrus Emlay . . . Who was convicted of Robbery, Arson and Murder . . . is a welcome addition to Special Collections and Archives' holdings of pamphlets pertaining to New Jersey murder trials. The gift of Fred Sisser III, the copy acquired is an unrecorded edition of 20 pages which was printed in 1801 for traveling bookseller Robert Stewart. Emlay, a Black resident of Burlington County, was accused of murdering Humphrey Wall, a former employer. As reported by witnesses whose testimony is summarized, Emlay, apprehended March 15, 1801, had arrived at the home of his wife's employer the preceding evening with possessions later identified as property of the deceased. In addition, he admitted to knowledge of Wall's death in a fire which also destroyed Wall's house. Other witnesses quoted describe the manner of death (broken skull and slit throat) and the remains of the decedent's axe (found adjacent to the body). After deliberating for three hours, the jury found Emlay guilty. Also included in the pamphlet are the judge's sentencing speech (exhorting Emlay

to confess and seek the counsel of a minister), Emlay's confession (detailing earlier misdeeds as well) and copies of Emlay's correspondence with family members following his conviction (including his admonition to "Leave off drinking"). Finally, an account of Emlay's public hanging, held a scant two weeks after his conviction, is reported, including a summary of a minister's remarks to the assembled crowd made while the body, soon to be delivered to a surgeon for dissection, was yet hanging from the gallows.