**Founder's Day**

We are trying something different this year. To coincide with the opening battle of the Revolution, at Lexington and Concord, on April 19, 1775, our Associates will gather on Friday afternoon, April 18. We are opening a major exhibition of source materials on this engagement and Bunker Hill, and we are scheduling a talk on the road to war by Prof. John Shy. Unfortunately we cannot accommodate the two events in the same room, as we have to push aside the exhibit cases to accommodate an audience seated for a lecture. Mrs. Kleeb is writing a bulletin.

To get around this difficulty, Prof. Shy will address our guests in the lounge of the Lawyers Club. Immediately afterward, they will cross the street to this Library to view the exhibition and enjoy a social hour. The invitations should make this movement clear. Think of it as a "progressive" program!

**Yorktown**

Lt. Louis Bouan was a young French engineer who arrived in America in May 1781, just before the French army began its march from Newport, Rhode Island, to Virginia. It is of some interest to note that almost all the engineers in the American army, as well as in the French army, were Frenchmen. The American engineers were commanded by Gen. Louis Duportail, while the French corps of engineers was divided into three divisions. Bouan was in the third division.

Through the generosity of the Associates, we were able to bid for Bouan's journal and map of the siege of Yorktown at auction in London, and we got them! The journal is of particular interest because it describes the day-to-day operations of an engineer on a siege, principally the work of digging trenches toward the enemy and the meticulous construction of field fortifications. About twenty other manuscripts document the military career of Bouan, still on active duty in 1814.

The map is a manuscript and hand-colored, measuring eighteen inches square. It shows the position of the French army and the American army in relation to the British defenses around Yorktown and the French naval ships in the Bay. Gloucester, Virginia, is also shown. Apparently the map is derived from the basic French engineer plan of Yorktown. Several copies were made for the French war department and various officers, and most of them remain in France. If Bouan drew some of those maps, he retained this copy among his personal possessions. A recent bibliography of Yorktown maps by Frenchmen does not mention this hitherto unknown map.

**Politica Indiana**

The classic work on the Spanish conquest and government of Latin America is Juan de Solorzano Pereira's *Politica Indiana*. It was first printed in Latin in 1629. A Spanish edition appeared at Madrid in 1647 with additional material.

It is a natural history as well as a digest of laws and an account of the first settlements. Solorzano was a member of the Council of the Indies and died in 1655. A fat source book for anyone interested in Spanish exploration of the New World, we have just acquired a copy by means of our Mellon fund.

**Travel, Economics, and Aesthetics**

An Alumnus in Grosse Pointe, John W. Mceachren, has given to the Library three valuable works we are glad to have. One is a Philadelphia 1789 edition of Carver's *Travels in North America*, a book we have in several editions, but lacked in this one.

The other two titles were ones we have long wanted because of their importance and influence here, even though they are somewhat on the
periphery of our collecting interest and very expensive to buy. One is Adam Smith’s *Wealth of Nations* in first edition, London, 1776, two volumes. This is the bible of the classical economists of the English-speaking world. The other is a venture into aesthetics by that sturdy political friend of the colonies, Edmund Burke: his *Inquiry into the Sublime and Beautiful*, London, 1757. We feel that such a figure should be represented here by all his writings.

**Food for Research**

**The Thesis Of** a recent book on the West Indies by the colonial historian Richard Dunn depends upon early maps to show changes in settlements and the migration of certain families to South Carolina and other colonies. In this way, maps serve as a census when other records of land ownership have been lost. Maps of the West Indies are particularly important when the survival rate of other documents is so low. Moreover, the scales are large enough to distinguish property holders—which is frequently not the case with the mainland colonies.

Over the past three years, we have sought early maps which show property divisions. In all, we obtained five for the West Indies—three of Jamaica, one of St. Vincent, and one of Barbados, in addition to land ownership maps of the Dutch colony of Berbice in South America and Lea’s 1690 map of South Carolina. Three of the West Indian maps were purchased from the Upton fund.

Jamaica should be of particular interest to demographers, because of its status as the largest and richest of the English colonies in the Caribbean. We managed to obtain two 1755 surveys of the island printed in London—one by a colonial surveyor named Sheffield, and a larger scale map by Patrick Browne. Even here there is some variation in plantation names. Now we have added a 1678 survey by Edward Slaney which shows Jamaica twenty-three years after the English acquired possession. It is the most detailed map of the island before the eighteenth century. Altogether, the series will make an exciting study of land development and population change.

**Contributions**

**Contributions** from Associates for 1974-75 are still coming in, and this note is a reminder to those who have forgotten. There are now three classes of membership: Associates at $10 to $25, Favorers at $25 to $100, and Fellows at $100 or more. We welcome any amount.

As of this date, we count 80 Fellows, 55 Favorers, and 311 Associates. We realize that the uncertainty of the times is against organizations like ours, but historical knowledge reinforces our faith in the American future. We hope we will not lose anyone.

**New Sweden**

**We Have A Small** but choice collection of books relating to the early Swedish settlements in America which began in 1638 with the landing of 25 Swedish soldiers on the banks of the Delaware River. Recently, we added a Swedish book on the affairs of their official church, the Lutheran, by Rev. Andreas Hesselius, commissioned by the Swedish government to preach in New
Sweden, where he was a pastor from 1713 to 1723. After his return to Sweden he wrote Kort Beret­
ting att Svenska Krykius (Norköping, 1728).

In this detailed analysis, he draws up an im­
pressive summary of the various Swedish settle­
ments and religious beliefs in Pennsylvania, New
Jersey and Delaware. He is concerned with pros­
pects for the extension of the Swedish Lutheran
church in America.

Church leaders in most immigrant groups faced
a struggle to maintain the national religion in
frontier conditions and against counter influences
of rival nationalities and tongues. And in this
case, the neighboring Dutch in New York and
the English submerged and more or less integ­
rated the Swedish enclave. While some church
communicants remained loyal, many joined the
Anglican, Moravian, and other denominations.

More Newspapers

Long runs of newspapers are always more
desirable than short runs, but are much more
difficult to find. We have been able to extend our
holdings of Massachusetts papers by 2850 issues.
They are concentrated in Salem. Thus we ex­
panded our run of the Gazette by 25 years to
1850; the Observer by 19 years to 1848, and the
Register by 11 years to 1844. These additions add
greatly to our research material, as we have the
early years of all three of these papers.

Many libraries, objecting to the space that
newspapers take, are microfilming their runs and
getting rid of the originals. There is something
to be said for this procedure for twentieth-cen­
tury papers, which are not only large and thick
but printed on the worst kind of paper which
won't last. But neither of these conditions char­
acterize newspapers before 1860. We much prefer
to hold originals, and our readers uniformly prefer them for use.

New Year's Gifts

From time to time we receive gifts of a book
or two from staff members. However, we have
just been given an extraordinary gift of 122 old
titles from John Dann, our Curator of Manu­
scripts. Many of them were owned by his family
and have passed into John's possession, and he
has generously added some books he had col­
lected in the past.

A dozen of them date in the eighteenth cen­
tury, but most of them fall into the first half of
the nineteenth. Thirty-five are sermons or denom­
inational discourses, reflecting the temper of the
times. A similar number are antislavery and
Negro colonization arguments. The remainder
deal with education, military matters, and even
belles lettres.

We were especially pleased to find a sermon
of 1758 by Francis Alison, and another of 1741
by Samuel Finley, both printed in Philadelphia.
Both ministers were eminent. Then there is a
work of fiction known in but one other copy: The
Adventure of the Inn (Danbury 1792). It was
"calculated to amuse, entertain, and instruct
the youth of both sexes." Perhaps wisely, the
author is unknown.

Two unique titles turned up. One was The
Quacks' Dialogue, author, place of publication,
and date unknown. However, it was printed in
this country, probably in the late eighteenth
century. It is bad poetry, poking fun at futile
nostroths. The other is A Present to the Unpre­
judiced (Newfield, Conn. 1795), which is a reply
to Richard Baxter's Twenty Arguments Against
the Mortality and Sleeping of the Soul, published
in the same town the same year and also among
our gifts. The introduction is signed by one
Ebenezer Cee, Layman.

Interesting is the Rev. John O'Harlon's Irish
Emigrant's Guide for the United States, printed
in Boston, 1851, for the waves of Irish landing
there to escape famine conditions at home. We
are also intrigued by Letters from the Rev.
Samuel Davies (London 1757) on religion among
Virginia's Negroes, and The Conduct of the Pres­
sbyterian Ministers (Philadelphia 1761), written
by an elder in defense of a critical letter those
ministers had sent to the Archbishop of Canter­
bury.

Not least is Gordon Johnson's Introduction to
Arithmetic (Springfield 1793), as only one other
copy is noted in Karpinski's bibliography.

Poor Emily

Following the first American publication of
Mrs. Rowson's Charlotte Temple at Philadelphia
in 1794, tales of feminine virtue betrayed became
extremely popular in American fiction. A few
months ago we added a brief tale of this genre
with a title which pretty much tells the whole
story: The Affecting History of Emily Hammond,
an American Lady, Who in the Full Bloom of
Youth and Beauty, Fell a Victim to the Arts of
the Seducer. It was printed in 1813, and while the title-page gives no place of publication, it has a Boston setting and is almost certainly an American production. It is apparently unknown to bibliographers, for it is not listed in any of the standard sources for American fiction of that period. In the story, the demands of justice are met through the death of both the unfortunate lady and her innocent babe, as well as the sorrowing parents of her seducer. As for the man who did the bastardly deed, he is now "a wanderer in foreign climes, friendless and destitute, and tortured by the gnawings of that worm which never dies."

Singing the Right Way

"So is not he worthy of the Name of a Singer, who has gotten eight or ten Tunes in his Head, and sing them like a Parrot by Rote ... their tunes are miserably tortured, and twisted, and quavered, in some Churches, into an horrid Medley of confused and disorderly Noises." So wrote Cotton Mather's nephew, Thomas Walter, in an important tunebook recently purchased by the Library: The Grounds and Rules of Musick (Boston, 4th edition, 1746). Walter lived only twenty-eight years, but the Harvard-educated minister exerted a strong influence against traditional singing in New England churches. His little book was widely circulated in many editions for over forty years, and helped banish folk-style congregational singing in favor of more formal music. It was also the first music book published in America which used bar lines. Our copy of this edition is of particular value in that forty leaves of manuscript music are bound with Walter's volume. It is signed by an early owner and shows the wear of regular Sunday use, but it has survived intact, fortunately for us.

Greene Again

With our bicentennial publications in mind, we have purchased a previously unknown manuscript letter from Nathanael Greene and Chevalier Duportail to General Washington. The two-page letter, dated December 31, 1779, provided the Commander in Chief with a systematic analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the American position at Morristown, New Jersey. Basing their advice on topographical observation, these two American officers recommended a variety of troop movements in case of British attack. The report provides a rare glimpse at the nature and development of strategic policy in the Continental Army. In light of his skill as an engineer, Duportail undoubtedly prepared a map of the Morristown area which, if it should survive, we will attempt to obtain.

Unpublished Washington correspondence is scarce in any form, particularly of this historical importance. The letter will add significantly to the scholarly value and excitement of our Greene Papers, the first volume of which is scheduled for publication before the end of the year.

Technical Anthology

During the past couple of years we have been able to add over twenty significant works in early American science and technology through the Frederick Upton Fund. Our most recent acquisition is John Penington's Chemical and Economical Essays (Philadelphia, 1790). The author, a young student at the University of Pennsylvania, dedicated the collection of 17 essays to his professor, the distinguished Caspar Wistar.

Most of the topics are of a practical nature: the uses of various types of earths in pottery, the analysis of metallic ores, and the manufacture of soap. The final essay, on fermentation, was also published separately as his inaugural dissertation for the M.D. degree from Pennsylvania, and we also have that title in the library. Three years after the publication of these two works, the author died at the age of 25 in the yellow fever epidemic, putting an end to a promising career.

Early American Newspaper Resources

Three years ago, at the suggestion of history professor John Shy, the library embarked on a program to make the newspaper collection easier to use for our researchers. We developed a chronological file with a card for each newspaper for each year. This superseded our earlier system of a listing by decades.

The tedious work of creating the revised catalog fell to Mrs. Isabel Haight, a volunteer and member of the Associates. She diligently typed off three thousand cards, after evaluating the extent of our holdings of each newspaper.

Recently we obtained a list of all microfilms of newspapers to 1870 in the graduate library. Now it is possible to come to the Clements and consult our new catalog to determine the existence of an early newspaper at any location on campus.