Founder's Day

Founder's Day will be observed on Tuesday afternoon, April 13, with a lively address by Prof. Shaw Livermore of our History Department on "The Delays, Revolution," followed by tea and talk. The Board of Governors will meet at luncheon. Save the date. It does seem that by that time winter should have loosened its grip on Ann Arbor. Invitations will go out later.

The Current Bind

Like every other department of the University, we are called on to prepare a reduced budget for 1976-77. Like ancient Gaul, our budget is made up of three parts: salaries, operations, and acquisitions. The amount we spend on office operations has been pared, and with supplies, telephones, postage, and printing still on the rise there is no way of reducing that figure further. Similarly, we are down to the minimum amount for acquisitions as specified in the contract between Mr. Clements and the Regents. That leaves salaries as the only area we can reduce. Teaching departments are similarly threatened, as salaries represent most of their budgets. At least we can define the problem. The solution is something else.

American Books of Religion

Inspired by the Towsley grant for acquisition of religious books, we have moved quickly into this field. Three dealers have been notified of our interest, and one of them had a shed full of such items. We have been highly selective in our choices, of course, taking nothing after 1860, eliminating funeral sermons and ordination sermons, local church quarrels, etc.

What we have sought and are finding are sermons and discourses that reveal the moral tone of the times: political hopes on election days, educational goals in a Christian society, what people were thankful for on Thanksgiving Day, recommendations for punishment of crimes and vices, thoughts on revivalism, reforms, benevolence, foreign missions, and temperance, the meaning of baptism, prophecy, and perfectionism, keeping the Sabbath Day holy, the nature of Christian liberty, etc. In addition, there are the resolutions of church governing bodies, and the reports of theological seminaries. We are particularly delighted with the large percentage of eighteenth-century imprints we are getting, in relation to those of the first half of the nineteenth century.

In the past four months we have picked up more than 750 titles, and by the end of our fiscal year we expect to have 1,000. This contrasts with the 30 to 40 religious titles we ordinarily add in a single year. One thing is certain: ten years from now, most of the eighteenth-century items will not be available, and the others will carry double or triple the prices we are paying now.

Hammond Gazette

One of the Scarcest publications of the Civil War was a hospital weekly newspaper issued at Point Lookout, Maryland, "for the benefit of the sick and wounded in Hammond General Hospital." This was a large military hospital for Union soldiers. The paper was called the Hammond Gazette.

James Schoff of New York, donor of our large Civil War collection and enthusiastic supporter of the Library, spotted the first year's issues in a dealer's catalogue, bought the volume, and shipped it out to us. It began in November 1862 and ran into November 1863. The last issue was volume II, number 1. Mr. Schoff suspected it expired then. He was in for a surprise, because it turned out that we had 14 issues of the second
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volume in 1864! It did not finish out the second year of publication, but died after 41 weeks. We are not far from having a complete run.

The paper has real research value for the health of the army, the rise and fall of wounded, reports of battles, lists of patients, the local PX, poetry, and such observations as "the red cheeks, the white teeth, and the blue eyes of a lovely girl are as good a flag for a young soldier, in the battle of life, need fight under."

Black Codes

Britain and America were not the only countries who tackled the problem of slavery. It also existed in the French colonies, especially in the West Indies. Starting in 1671 the French king issued some decrees to protect the Negroes and also to impose obligations on their masters. These were published in 1685. Thereafter as they were revised they were printed again. Such published regulations became known as Le Code Noir, to be used in colonial courts to fix the legal status of Negroes, slave and freed, and define prohibitions on their white masters. We have the codes printed in 1728 and 1743, and we have just acquired the one of 1767, the last of royal origin. It prohibited the slaves from learning to read or write, from bearing arms or serving as court witnesses, from drinking liquor, etc. It said that only the Roman Catholic creed could be taught or practiced.

This code remained in force until 1803, when we acquired Louisiana. Thereafter the French decrees were taken over and embodied in American jurisprudence in the South until our Civil War.

Two Publications to Note

At the moment of writing, two books which this Library is sponsoring have not appeared, but by the time you read this they will be officially published and possibly visible in your bookstore.

One is Campaigns of the American Revolution: An Atlas of Manuscript Maps, prepared in the main by Douglas Marshall, our curator, as noted in the last Quarto. It contains reproductions of 58 maps of 43 battles, accompanied by appropriate text. The maps are largely British in origin and were selected principally from our own holdings. Half are in color. The Atlas is published jointly by our University Press and the Hammond Atlas Company, with a generous grant from the Michigan Bicentennial Commission. The book has been chosen by the Military History Book Club for distribution to his membership! A presentation ceremony has been arranged for Gov. Milliken by Lt. Gov. Damon, who now serves as chairman of the Bicentennial Commission. Our Press is announcing publication of the book with a reception at Borders Book Shop, Ann Arbor, on Friday afternoon, March 12, to which Associates are invited. Your local library should order a copy.

The other publication is The Sinews of Independence: Monthly Strength Reports of the Continental Army, compiled here by Dr. Charles Lesser under a grant from Lilly Endowment. The tables show the numbers of privates and officers in each regiment, the commanders, and the location of the units. The information is taken in large part from a huge record book of
the adjutant general found in our Library. It is published by the University of Chicago Press at $12.50. We believe it to be a solid contribution to the Bicentennial of enduring value.

**Sick Man's Friend**

"Must we cross the Atlantic to procure an emetic? Shall we trace the deserts of Africa for a perspective, and bend to a Turk for a little Rhubarb? No, let us trace the fields and forests of a prolific America, and we shall soon find abundant cause to exult that she is laden with every article of medicine equally salutary, and much better suited to the constitutions of her inhabitants than foreign drugs."

With this ringing declaration of American medical independence, John C. Merwin introduced his *Botanic Preceptor, or Sick Man's Friend* (Lyons, N.Y., 1827). He was hoping, undoubtedly, to capture a market among the thousands of western settlers passing annually through Lyons on the Erie Canal. To a nation which had turned its back on Europe to exploit its own natural riches and which prided itself on solving any problem with common sense and native ingenuity, botanic medicine had an immense appeal. The title page emphasized that the "American remedies" were specifically "adapted to the capacity of the farmer and mechanic."

Whether it can be attributed to its steep price of $6 (the author assured the reader it was "worth more than twenty"), to the obscurity of its printer, or to its being "used to pieces" by satisfied purchasers, the book is indeed a rarity. It was generously presented to us by Clements Library Fellow John D. Wheeler of Essexville.

**Revolutionary War Manuscript Map**

The most important manuscript map to come to our attention in the last five years was briefly noted in the last *Quarto* as purchased by the Associates. The map was made during the British occupation of Charleston, South Carolina, in 1781. It has been carefully drawn and colored to show the British defenses and those which the Americans had abandoned in 1780 upon defeat.

Of particular interest is the cartographer, Capt. George Taylor of the loyalist Corps of Guides and Pioneers. Taylor had been trained in Scotland and with Andrew Skinner he had published a series of road books of Britain before embarking to America in 1779. Taylor was appointed an assistant engineer on the expedition to Charleston, but until now, no maps from this region had been attributed to him. Recently, a letter from Taylor's brother in Scotland has been published which indicates that the survey of Charleston was finished by June, 1780, and that George Taylor's map had received the approval of the famous British engineer in charge of the attack, Maj. James Moncrief. Our new map is a finished copy in Captain Taylor's own hand, probably redrawn from the 1780 survey.

The Guides and Pioneers made important contributions to the British mapping of America during the Revolution, and at least 3 of the 34 officers who served in this corps had some training in cartography. Taylor's detailed map of Manhattan, Staten Island, and Long Island was surveyed with Skinner in 1781 under orders from Sir Henry Clinton. This magnificent manuscript map has been reproduced in color in the forthcoming, *Campaigns of the American Revolution: An Atlas of Manuscript Maps.*

After the war, Taylor continued his talented surveying career in Scotland and in 1785 produced a handsome manuscript, *Sketches of the roads in Scotland,* now in the University Library, Cambridge, England.

**Neighbor Tories and Spies**

We were delightfully reminded recently that the donor of our magnificent Civil War collection, James S. Schoff, has always been equally adept at spotting first-rate Revolutionary War manuscripts. Beginning in 1956, he presented to the library a collection of priceless letters, diaries, and letter books dealing with the War for Independence. Now he has added a remarkable group of depositions and letters of the Barnstable County (Mass.) Committee of Safety, over one hundred items in all.

Cape Cod was never the scene of armed conflict, but the war affected this area, as all communities, deeply. British agents, among them a mysterious "one-legged man," appeared in order to pass counterfeit money and recruit Tories. British sympathizers met secretly at night and smuggled provisions to the King's army in Newport, while the vigilant Committee spied on, interrogated, confined, and coaxed confessions and statements of conversion from them. The collection is a rich resource for the growing number of scholars turning their attention to the social aspects of the American Revolution.
Another Captivity

JAMES TAYLOR of New York was thirty years old and married when he took his family west in 1810. They settled in a small community in northern Missouri, where they were plagued by hostile Indians as the War of 1812 came on. Finally a posse of 200 men took the offensive, chased the savages and attacked them three separate times. Twice they were victorious, but in the third clash were badly defeated, with the loss of 85 men killed and captured. Troops were sent to the village, and another expedition was organized which burned the principal Indian town and its crops.

After the war's end in 1815, the Indians agreed to terms of peace. Taylor moved farther into the wilderness. Sometime later, the year is vague, a party of Indians set fire to his cabin and forced Taylor, his wife, and eight children into the open. The wife and two sons were killed on the spot, the rest of the family taken prisoner. Next day a daughter was burned at the stake, in view of her father. Taylor managed to make his escape and aroused fifteen men to accompany him back to the site of his habitation, where he buried his dead. Later he learned that his other children had been put to death. Left alone, he built a new log hut and remained a hermit, sustained by his rifle and his Bible.

He was interviewed in 1839, and his story published in a pamphlet we have just acquired. It is entitled A Narrative of the Horrid Massacre by the Indians, of the Wife and Children of the Christian Hermit, a Resident of Missouri, St. Louis, 1840. We have collected a good many "captivity narratives," and rarely do we find titles we lack. We were glad to get this one.

Pre-Civil War Letters

The First Months of Lincoln's presidency, from his inauguration in March, 1861, until the encounter at Bull Run in July, is one of fascinating historical importance. Washington seethed with intrigue, uncertainty, and tragic excitement. Volunteer units were being raised, lines of fortification established in nearby Virginia. Direct armed conflict was inevitable.

With the proceeds of the Schoff Fund, we have purchased a superb run of daily letters, May to July, 1861, of James H. Campbell, Pennsylvania congressman and enthusiastic Union volunteer. He joined Cassius Clay's Capitol Guard, then a short-lived Pennsylvania regiment. His letters to an adored, lonely wife, because of their regularity and literary excellence, are historical documents of real importance.

G. Washington

MR. CLEMENTS had almost as much admiration for George Washington as we have. He collected not only his published writings, but editions of his letters, biographies, descriptions of Mt. Vernon, eulogies, and funeral sermons. We have continued to add to this store of source material about our first citizen and President. Therefore we were somewhat astonished to find a biography we lacked, published while Washington was still in office.

It was written by Jedidiah Morse, prolific author of geography textbooks, compiler of American histories, and preacher of a score of published sermons. The little book is obviously for children and is entitled The Life of Gen. Washington . . . Philadelphia, 1794.

Our Man in Marcellus, Milford, Manistee . . .

Our Curator of Maps, Douglas W. Marshall, has scheduled 22 lectures throughout the state of Michigan during this Bicentennial year. His program is entitled, "On the trail of Revolutionary heroes and Benedict Arnold" and concerns the expedition to re-trace the 1775 American invasion of Canada. The historic route was popularized in Kenneth Roberts' best-selling novel of the 1930's, Arundel. Marshall and a Clements Library Favorer, J. Parker Huber, organized a field survey course at the University of Michigan in the summer of 1973 to follow the 320-mile trek by canoe.

Marshall's lecture has been delivered to enthusiastic audiences in schools, colleges, Bicentennial groups, and service organizations, including one presentation to the inmates of Jackson state penitentiary—undeniably a captive audience. The tours are subsidized and co-sponsored by the University of Michigan. Additional information and scheduling can be arranged through Mr. August Mueller of the Extension Service, 350 S. Thayer, Ann Arbor 48109.

In January, Marshall was invited east to address the Society of Colonial Dames in the State of New York, and stayed on to deliver another paper, "Counter-Insurgency and the Connecticut shore," sponsored by the Center for Connecticut Studies at Eastern Connecticut State College, in cooperation with the Windham Bicentennial Commission.