Fall Meeting

Professor Ira Gruber of Rice University delivered the third Randolph G. Adams Lecture to a small but enthusiastic audience on the evening of October 25. Describing the chain of events which led up to Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga on October 17, 1777, he examined the purpose and the failure of the British expedition within the context of contemporary British military theory. It was a highly original approach to a much studied historical event. Professor Gruber fielded a number of questions at the conclusion of his talk.

The Burgoyne Exhibition

A STRATEGIC BLUNDER so monumental that two centuries later, it still strains credulity is the subject of “The Burgoyne Campaign, 1777,” the exhibition which opened in time for the fall meeting of the Library Associates. A three-way failure to agree on what they were trying to do, and mutual miscalculation of the obstacles facing them, brought Colonial Secretary Lord George Germain, Commander in Chief Sir William Howe, and General John Burgoyne to military disaster in October, 1777, at Saratoga, New York.

Burgoyne's exuberance upon being chosen to carry out his own plan for an invasion from Canada fairly bubbles out of a March letter from our Clinton Papers. But six months later, his army beaten by rebels, unsupported by Howe (who had spent the summer capturing Philadelphia), and perhaps demoralized by the American wilderness, our Burgoyne letters make pathetic reading. If Saratoga did not lose the war for Britain, it insured open French intervention and thereby made a British victory very unlikely.

The exhibition contains choice items from every division of the library, including one of Burgoyne's plays (he may have been a better playwright than a general) and the first edition of his published apologia, some especially beautiful manuscript maps of the Champlain-Hudson theater of operations, and several bizarre top secret dispatches between Burgoyne and the commanders in New York City.

Civil War Prints

Mrs. Julia Gimbel of Philadelphia has presented the library three Currier and Ives views of naval action during the Civil War. Executed contemporaneously, “The Monitor and the Merrimac” (1862), “Island Number 10” (1862), and “The Attack on Ft. Fisher” (1865) are some of the best examples of color lithography extant. They are fine, large copies, as sharp in coloring as the day they were printed, and without any of the foxing common to prints of the period.

Mrs. Gimbel is the widow of Col. Richard Gimbel (1898-1970), an eminent collector of Poe and Dickens, honorary curator of the aeronautical collections at Yale, and noted bibliographer of Thomas Paine. He was a longtime Clements Library Associate, and he visited the library in the course of his Paine research.

Prints of this quality are rarely met with at any price. We convey our warmest thanks to Mrs. Gimbel, and to David Kirschenbaum, valued friend of the Clements for so many years, who helped to direct the gift our way.

Volunteers Appreciated

IN A LIBRARY like the Clements, where rare and often fragile material must be given special care, there are many extra tasks involved in preparing and maintaining our collections. We have been very fortunate over the years to have the services of a group of dedicated volunteer workers. An outstanding member of this special band, Mrs. Ralph Muncy, has announced her retirement. Her meticulous work with the newspaper collection was matched by a keen interest in all aspects of early American history.

This fall we welcomed a new group of volunteers. Mrs. Robert Palmer has begun working in the manuscript division, cataloging our Berdan Papers. Three students from the archive program, offered jointly by the History Department and the American Historical Association of the University of Pennsylvania, will assist in the cataloging of the manuscript division.
in the morning, I was started off in the cold and snow, without shoes, to my work and used to think it a luxury to warm my frozen feet on the spot just before occupied by the animal I had roused. It taught me to reflect, and to consider the possibility of bettering my condition."

*Associates Purchases*

**THE CLEMENTS LIBRARY ASSOCIATES Board, meeting in the afternoon of October 25, purchased six important books.**

Malmaduke Stalkeartt’s *Naval Architecture* (London, 1781), 2 vols., and Beauvais-Raseau’s *L’Arte de L’Indigozier* (Paris, 1770) are handsomely illustrated folios. The first set, one volume of text and one of engraved plates, minutely portrays the vessels of every class in the British navy of the American Revolution, from the long boat to the 74. The latter is a detailed description of indigo production by a retired planter from the West Indies, the finest piece of literature on the subject.

Some Observations on Extracts taken out of the Report from the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations (London, 1708) was published by the Royal African Company. In arguing for Parliamentary protection of their monopoly of trade with Africa, they present revealing detail on the slave trade with America at a period when few source materials are available.

William Tans’ur’s *The American Harmony* (Newburport, Mass., 1774), a unique variant edition with songs present in no other copies, and Abraham Wood’s *Divine Songs* (Boston, 1789) are noteworthy additions to our increasingly important tunebook collection.

Cotton Mathers *Thirty Important Cases* (Boston, 1699) provided ministers and laymen with a guide to moral conduct and religious thought agreed upon by the clergy of New England. Seventeenth-century American imprints are becoming almost unobtainable. Every volume purchased is of exceptional scarcity, and they are worthy additions to the collection. Thank you all for making possible their purchase!

*Appeal for Support*

The **Annual Dues Notices** were sent out at the end of October, and much needed contributions have been coming in. Membership in the Clements Library Associates has dropped slightly in the past two years.

If you know of persons who would enjoy the activities of the library and appreciate its treas-
ures, bring them by. The main room of the
library is open Monday through Friday, 9 to 12
and 1 to 5. The exhibits are changed every two
months. The staff will gladly show items of par-
ticular interest to Clements Library Associate
members and friends. We need your help to pre-
serve the Associates as a vigorous organization,
so vital to furthering the noble purposes of the
Clements Library.

Manuscript Map Treasures
The Clements has acquired the most exciting
manuscript maps since the estate of Sir Jeffery
Amherst went on the market in 1967. The two
new acquisitions depict Spanish attacks on the
North American mainland in the eighteenth
century.

The earliest was drawn in 1742 by Alexandro
Zathalin to show the Spanish incursion against
Georgia in July of that year. The expedition con-
sisted of 3,000 Cuban and Floridan troops in
comparison to 650 defenders (including Indians
and militia) organized under Governor James
Oglethorpe. The Spanish landed on St. Simon's
Island and proceeded to send out reconnaissance
patrols against the British position at Fort
Fredericka. Those forces were intercepted and
decimated, resulting in 357 Spanish and Indians
killed or captured. Oglethorpe then attempted a
surprise on the bivouacked Spanish which was
spoiled by the desertion of a Frenchman to the
enemy. Actually the information the Frenchman
passed on was countered when Oglethorpe re-
leased a prisoner with a concealed letter designed
to contradict the initial plan. Confused and
panicked by the sighting of ships they believed
were to reinforce Oglethorpe, the Spanish dis-
embarked in haste, leaving cannon, supplies, and
unburied dead. Georgia was saved, and Ogle-

operation was the responsibility of Field Marshal
Don Bernardo de Galvez who sailed transports
into the harbor under fire from British batteries
in mid-March. Siege operations were initiated
immediately, but it was not until the end of
April, when a large reinforcement arrived to bring
Spanish troop strength to 7,000, that an all-out
assault was made. British forces numbered 2500
regulars, sailors, and civilians plus numerous
Indians. The defenders came to terms after a shell
rolled through the door of a bomb proof powder
magazine and opened a breach. Terms were
reached on the night of May 9, and the entire
province of West Florida was surrendered to the
Spanish.
The map was drawn on July 10, 1781, to com-
memorate the victory. It is the work of Luis Huet,
of whom one other map of the Pensacola battle
is known, although different from the one we
acquired. Most significant are the Spanish en-
campments and parallels which differ markedly
from their location on the British maps of the
area.

Together, these maps provide exciting new
sources of information about Spanish activities
in America and are handsome additions to our
holdings of Spanish manuscript cartography.

Willard's Covenant
Members Of The Mather family constituted
such a "sermon factory" that they seemed to
dominate New England churches. Not quite,
however. They had a formidable rival in the
Rev. Samuel Willard (1640-1707), both in volume
and depth. He was a Harvard graduate, who
preached at Groton until the village was de-
stroyed by Indians in King Philip's War. Then
he was called to Boston's Old South Church in
1678 and remained until his death.

Intellectually he was above his parishioners and
a curious blend of narrow and liberal thought.
He delivered lectures as well as sermons, and said
that the Puritans never intended to establish
tolerance in New England. Therefore he wished
the Baptists, with their 'regre ttable enthusiasm,'
would get out. Yet he didn't require public con-

What he advocated was "covenant theology,"
the belief that men did not suffer from inherent
original sin, for they had been redeemed by
Christ's sacrifice, but from a rejection of faith
in Christ. This was the new covenant, or agree-
ment, between God and man. He placed less
emphasis on good works. His writings were so voluminous that when they were gathered for publication in 1726, they made one of the fattest volumes to issue from a colonial press. (The Library has it.)

His key sermon, The Duty of a People that Have Renewed Their Covenant with God (Boston 1680) has been acquired with the Harper Fund. It appeared just before the Reforming Synod met in May 1680, and it joins several other Willard sermons on our shelves.

Holiday Dinner

... Since I have been here I have seen upwards of thirty thousand Turks cross over the Ohio from Kentucky side, and my manner of catching them, is to go opposite the flock, and with one of their wing Bones, fix’d for that purpose, When I hear them call I answer them on this side, and they Don’t want much Invitation before they will Fly over to me and light some on the saplings, and some on the Ground. Numbers of which we catch with Dogs, others being so amazing fat not being able to fly over, fall into the River, and we having Canoes run out and pick up as Many as we Want. . . .

North Bend, Ohio, 1791, James Lyon, ALS., Howell Papers.

U.S. Grant Letters

Through the Generosity of Associate James S. Scholl, the Library has acquired 15 letters written by Ulysses S. Grant to Henry W. Halleck. This is the most important group of Grant’s wartime correspondence to have surfaced in recent years.

Grant’s victory at Vicksburg in the summer of 1863 began the successful Union advance in the West which culminated in the Battle of Chattanooga, November 23-25. In a letter of October 26, Grant outlined his preparations for the coming confrontation with the Confederate force under General Bragg.

“After a ride on horseback of fifty miles from Bridgeport, over the worst roads it is possible to conceive of and through a continuous drenching rain,” Grant arrived at Chattanooga. He found the Union army nearly besieged, their food and supplies short, and the Confederates commanding two heights facing the city, Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain. Grant calculated precisely what must be done to open supply lines and regroup his scattered army, then assured Halleck, “I will endeavor to study up my position well and post the troops to the best of my judgment to meet all contingencies.” By December 7 Grant could report, “It may now safely be assumed that the enemy are driven from this front, or at least that they no longer threaten it in any formidable numbers.”

As 1863 ended, Union victories in the West and at Gettysburg had cut deeply into the Confederacy’s military strength. Forshadowing his final grand strategy of the war, Grant, in a series of letters written in January, 1864, proposed a campaign through East Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia that “will go far towards breaking down the rebellion before Spring.”

This group of fine letters shows why Grant became synonymous with aggressive strategy and Union victory.

Dutiful Wife

In Scanning a recently acquired copy of Weiman’s The New York Gazette for February 15, 1762, we came across a curious advertisement, reprinted from another paper. It has the appearance of seriousness:

“STOLEN out of the house of LAWRENCE SWEENY, near the College, on Friday Night the 5th of February Inst., One Pair of Silver Knee-buckles, marked L.S., one new Camblet Cloak, one Chintz Wrapper, one white Holland Apron, one shirt marked L.S., together with a small Quantity of Money, taken out of his Chest. Whoever can apprehend the Thief of Thieves, so that they can be brought to Justice, shall have Twenty Shillings Reward, paid by LAWRENCE SWEENY, Penny-Post.

N.B. Having beat my Wife that Night, in order to make her know her Duty, she absconded, and I had at first accused her with the Theft, but since have had Reason to suspect some other Person of the Robbery.”

Invitation to a Ball

Make A Note on your calendar for April 11 at 8:30 P.M. The spring meeting, scheduled in the evening rather than the usual afternoon, will be an exhibition of nineteenth-century ballroom dancing. A select group of musicians from the University of Michigan Band, aided by an expert on early American instrumental music from the Henry Ford Museum, and dancers from Eastern Michigan University promise to provide a memorable evening of entertainment, based upon our rich holdings in the Corning Sheet Music Collection. More details will be provided in the March Quarto.