Notice

With this number of *The Quarto* we beg to introduce The Clements Library Associates to one another. (See page 6)

It is the University's desire that our riches shall be more effectively shared with those who are concerned about American history and tradition. Therefore, the Regents of the University of Michigan, at their meeting of October 24, 1947, established The Clements Library Associates by the following resolution:

The Regents hereby establish The Clements Library Associates for the purposes of increasing the collections and resources of the Clements Library and of broadening the scope, services, and usefulness of the Library.

The Associates shall be governed by the following regulations:

MEMBERSHIP. Membership in The Clements Library Associates shall be extended to persons who indicate their interest in the purposes of the organization by making such annual contribution as shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The direction of The Clements Library Associates shall be entrusted to an Executive Committee consisting of the Director of the Clements Library, *ex officio*, or his designated representative; two members of the Committee of Management; and three members of the Associates. The appointed members of the Executive Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Regents of the University of Michigan for one year on recommendation of the President. The Executive Committee shall elect a chairman from its membership annually.

FUNDS. Funds contributed to the University of Michigan through The Clements Library Associates for the purposes of the Associates shall, unless otherwise specified by the donor, be placed in a trust fund to be designated The Clements Library Associates Trust Fund. The Clements Library Associates Trust Fund shall be expended at the direction of the Executive Committee.

The *Quarto* now becomes the liaison between the Clements Library and The Clements Library Associates. It will be sent only to Associates. If you are not an Associate and wish to receive *The Quarto*, please use the enclosed form.

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Nach Annarbour

Thomas W. Streeter, of Morris-town, New Jersey, in compiling his Texas bibliography, ran across this one in his own library: Karl Neidhard, *Amerikanischer Magazin*, Altona u. Leipzig, 1839. There is a bit about Texas in it, but what struck Mr Streeter was the 55 pages headed "Reise nach Michigan und Besuch bei der dort kürzlich angelegten Colonie der Schwaben, Rheinländer und Sachsen, im Sommer 1834." The author apparently took the stage coach "von Detroit nach Annarbour" to look over the growing settlement of émigré Germans who began coming to our village as early as 1820. "By 1855 more than 5,000 Swabians had settled in and around Ann Arbor," says Orlando W. Stephenson, our city historian. We are grateful to Mr Streeter who gave us the volume. We had no previous record of the book. Now will someone please translate those 55 pages for us?

James May's Five Dollars

Although they are unwilling to state who was the first University benefactor, we like to plague the University's historians with a receipt clearly marked "No. 1" made out to a well-to-do Detroit merchant and ship owner. Below is a reduced facsimile of the evidence.

Annual dues of The Associates are set at the same figure contributed by James May. We hope Associates will remember that $5 bought more turnips (and books) in 1817 than in 1948.

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The Executive Committee

The Regents, at their November meeting, appointed to the Executive Committee of The Clements Library Associates, Mr John W. Watling and Dr Lawrence Reynolds as the two members from the Library's Committee of Management and Mrs Benjamin S. Warren, Mr Henry L. Newman, and Mr Renville Wheat as the three members from the membership of The Associates. The Director of the Library is a member *ex officio*. The Committee elected Mr Watling chairman and appointed Colton Storm secretary. Correspondence should be addressed to Mr Storm at the Clements Library.

Netherlands Centennial

On November 19, 1947, the hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Dutch settlements in western Michigan was formally observed at the Library. We set up an exhibition of the rare books which tell the story of the first Dutch settlements in America, especially those on Manhattan Island and on the Hudson River in the seventeenth century. An exhibition bulletin describing this rare source material was published and copies have been sent to each Clements Library Associate. The bulletin comprises bibliographical and critical descriptions of a selection from the chief books in the Library relating to the Dutch in America. For the occasion, Dr Marten ten Hoor, A.B.'13, A.M.'14, Ph.D.'21, now Dean at the University of Alabama, returned to Michigan and gave an address appropriate to the occasion to The Associates and other friends. His remarks will shortly be published in the *Michigan History Magazine*.
The Autograph Collector

The intelligent autograph collector can be of the greatest assistance to the historian. We say "intelligent" because we must exclude those who collect "clipped autographs," i.e., cut from a letter or the fly-leaf of a book. Dr. J. E. Fields, of Joliet, Illinois, has been making several collections, members of the Continental Congress, members of the Congress under the Constitution, signers of the Declaration of Independence, signers of the Constitution, and the like.

We will not, at this point, try to explain why Dr. Fields is doing that. Perhaps, as a physician, he has often said, and heard other doctors say, "Get a hobby!" But Dr. Fields' autograph collecting consists of acquiring entire letters of the man whose autograph fits into his scheme. One is apt to begin such a collection by getting what he can, and then, by replacement, substitution, and trading he refines his collection.

Take George Washington as an example. The autograph collector evolves thus: (1) he gets a scrap of paper which contains a horse dealer's offer of a stallion for sale. On it, Washington has written: "Lund: See me on Monday about this. G.W." That would be a fine beginning because horse breeding was something in which Washington was deeply concerned. But the autograph collector wants a whole letter. So (2) he acquires a letter written in the handwriting of a secretary (Alexander Hamilton, for example), but signed by Washington. That is what the collector calls a L[etter] S[igned]. It is like a modern letter typed on a machine, and only signed by the "great man."

But the intelligent autograph collector does not stop there. He wants a letter (3) written entirely in Washington's hand, and also signed by him. That is what we call an A[utograph] L[etter] S[igned]. With patience and zeal, he finally gets a Washington ALS. But he is not entirely satisfied. His ALS is a one-page affair in which Washington says merely that he will attend a meeting of the vestry of the Pohick Church on Tuesday. The intelligent autograph collector still watches for a more important letter. What is a more important letter? Suppose the collector has a chance to acquire a letter from Washington to Martha Washington, in which he tells her in detail that Lord Cornwallis has surrendered the British Army to him at Yorktown on October 19, 1781? Which is the more desirable of those two letters, that relating to the meeting of the vestry of the Pohick Church or that telling of the surrender at Yorktown?

After a collector of autographs has been doing this for some years he has a body of documentary source material which, besides being a hobby, is raw material for the historian. Some of the greatest collections of historical manuscripts begin and are built in this fashion. Among them is the Simon Gratz collection at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Mr. Gratz died twenty odd years ago. But the game goes on. Another Philadelphian, Frederic R. Kirkland, a banker, is doing the same thing today. But to get back to Dr. Fields of Joliet. He has his collection of the members of Congress from 1789 to 1815 in pretty satisfactory shape. He wants to spend more time on his other collections. So he has just presented his collection of the members of the early Congresses to the Clements Library, for its Division of Manuscripts. Thus he has enriched the University's collection.

Now, we hear someone protest, "But this makes it impossible to get all the letters of one man in one place!" To this we reply "The scholar who expects to find all his material in one place isn't a scholar."

The most ambitious publication of the works of one American is the John C. Fitzpatrick edition of The Writings of George Washington, in 37 volumes. Those texts had to be assembled from all over the world. A member of the staff of the Clements Library was one of the editorial assistants in Fitzpatrick's great work. He found one unpublished, unrecorded and therefore unknown Washington letter in a richly bound autograph album lying on the parlor table of a sporting squire in Fyffeshire, Scotland—about a stone's throw from the "Royal and Ancient (golf) Club." He found another framed and hanging on the wall of the library in the Bohemian Club of San Francisco. But for the solicitude of the autograph collector it is likely that neither would have survived to be included in Fitzpatrick's work.

Economic History

"Why, I didn't know you had anything besides the American Revolution!" We have to grin and bear that one at least once a day. In a sense, the Library's emphasis on the Revolution was a distinct afterthought of Mr. Clements. His first collecting was of the seventeenth century, whence he moved back to the fifteenth. Then came his friendship with the late Claude H. Van Tyne, whose specialty was the Revolution and who was also head of the University's history department. Years ago the historian Worthington C. Ford remarked to us, "Some day, when you come to write the history of the Library, you will say that Van Tyne had a profound influence on the paths of collecting Mr. Clements followed." Our materials in the period of the Revolution are, in fact, the work of only the last twelve years of Mr. Clements' long collecting career. We mention this because it seems less well known in Michigan than elsewhere. We welcome our colleagues on the campus who take the trouble to make clear these facts, and at the moment think of Zenas C. Dickinson, of our department of economics. Recently he brought to the Library his class in the history of economics, and showed them our collections of classics in that field. Thomas Mun, England's Treasure by Forraign Trade, London, 1664, Edward Miserelden, Circle of Commerce, London, 1659, etc. But such a visit as that of Professor Dickinson and his class always shows us up—by pointing out something we ought to have. In this case, we lack the first American edition of The Wealth of Nations.
Adam Smith
The Wealth of Nations

Economists are wont to suggest that the year 1776 is celebrated not so much by the independence of these United States as by the publication in that year of Adam Smith's Wealth of Nations, in London. We lacked the first American edition. Between the time Professor Dickinson arranged to have his class visit the Library and the time we received them, we were able to secure a straignt third volume of the first American edition, Philadelphia, 1789. No, we don't collect "cripples," but with this fragment, we also acquired a story. The volume bears the eighteenth century signature of George Washington. No, 'tis not the General and President. It is the signature of that other George Washington, George S., and the autograph is genuine. It has misled many an enthusiast. Mary Benjamin in her book Autographs: a Key to Collecting, New York, 1946, makes clear who he was and why he still bedevils collectors.

What Source Material Is

It was some months after the dramatic "opening" of the Robert Todd Lincoln Papers at the Library of Congress before James G. Randall of Illinois said very much about them. His article in the "Magazine Section" of The New York Times, December 14, 1947, is a little masterpiece. This selection haunts us:

What we have in the Lincoln papers is the essence of historical data. It is source material—the stuff out of which history is built. It is original, not second-hand or retrospective... Working with the papers week after week is like going back and living with Abraham Lincoln. Handling the letters and envelopes that he handled, one has the feeling of sitting with the man himself, sharing his irritation at a petulant missive, noting how complaint is patiently borne, hearing now and then a presidential chuckle or hearty laugh, sensing more often the weariness of long-deferred hope and feeling a welcome uplift, if only for a moment, when the incoming mail is friendly or favorable.

Retort and Response

An Associate, who wishes to remain anonymous, reminds us that the autograph seeker did not begin with Frank Sinatra and his hobbysketches, nor yet with Babe Ruth and his fans. Therefore the following methods of handling admirers who want a signature are to be found in our collections. The author of Little Women had an especially printed card, thus:

Miss Alcott does not send autographs.

But upon one occasion she must have relented, for we also have this card:

A. Bronson Alcott.

Concord Mass.

On the back of Bronson's card appears this:

L. M. Alcott.

Miss Alcott's contemporary, the historian William Hickling Prescott, was either less coy, or else decided that the following was a more gracious manner of responding to the requests of those who demanded his autograph:

Dear Sir:

I send you with pleasure the autograph you request.

Your obedient servant, 

W. H. Prescott.

MLA Meeting

Two centuries and a half of American Drama—that was an exhibition the Library prepared for the recent annual meeting of the Modern Language Association. The University has long had noteworthy resources in the field of the theatre. But it was not until 1944 that we turned our attention to our deficiencies in the field of early and rare American drama. Mrs Herbert C. Ely, of Detroit, has been largely responsible for enabling us to present for the MLA plays extending from Marc Lescarbot, Le Théâtre de Neptune en la Nouvelle France, published in Paris in 1609 to George Aitken's playing version of Mrs Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin published in New York in 1852. The "Theatre of Neptune" was the first drama written and staged in America north of the Rio Grande. It is a masque celebrating the return of Sieur Poutrincourt's expedition from Cape Cod, and played at "Port Royal," near modern Annapolis, Nova Scotia. R. W. G. Vail, in Sabin's Dictionary, has worked out the early editions of Uncle Tom's Cabin. It will probably never be possible to ascertain how many times and in how many places Uncle Tom's Cabin was played between 1852 and the present day. But there is plenty of evidence for suggesting that such favorites as Abie's Irish Rose and Life with Father are simply not in the running. Just to show that no such collection is ever "complete," we remember that Dr A. S. W. Rosenbach has contributed to the Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society, a paper showing that there was a theatrical company in Lima, Peru, in the 1500's. No one knows what they played. Moreover, Paul McPharlin has ascertained that Cortez took a puppeteer with him to Mexico in 1519.

A check list of the fifty plays exhibited has been distributed to The Associates.
Private and Individual Initiative

The Clements Library contains many books which are veritable historical monuments. We are happy to have on the Executive Committee of The Associates a member who also represents a remarkable American association for the preservation of an American historical monument. She is Mrs. Benjamin S. Warren of Grosse Pointe Farms, a vice-regent of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association. When, half a century after his death, President Washington's home and plantation had to be sold, Miss Ann Pamela Cunningham, of South Carolina, "learned that the property had been offered in turn to the Governments of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia, but that purchase had been refused by each." Miss Cunningham was one of those people who would not take "No" for an answer, and who believed that the word "impossible" meant simply that the job would require a little more time. She founded "The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association" which, in 1858, bought Mount Vernon for $200,000. The Association has restored the home, plantation and tomb with an antiquarian zeal and historical accuracy which makes them models for all who essay similar tasks. The Association continues to maintain Mount Vernon admirably. If anyone were so witless as to suggest that "The Government take it over," (and there have been such people) the Association might reply with a negative that would be shorter and swifter than the refusal they got from the governments nearly a century ago. Today the various "governments" in the United States are doing a better job of conservation than they once did—but still, the intelligence with which Mount Vernon has been cared for remains an example for all.

We are proud of the State of Michigan for its attention to the Clements Library. However, the State of Michigan would not have a Clements Library if left to itself. The Clements Library, like the Mount Vernon Ladies Association was launched by individual initiative. In America, we still need and cherish and act upon the good ideas of citizens who understand that the state exists for them and not they for the state. We are very, very grateful to the State of Michigan for its support. We are also thankful that we have The Clements Library Associates which are, like the Mount Vernon Ladies Association, a supporting organization resulting from individuals who take pride in the aims of the Clements Library.

Michigan's Copper

Lord Inverchapel, his Britannic Majesty's ambassador to Washington inquired whether the Library would accept the original copper plates of the Admiralty's charts of the Siege of Yorktown. The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty had found the copper plates of J. F. S. Des Barres' Atlantic Neptune, and wanted to give them to appropriate American libraries and historical societies "along the Eastern Seaboard from Boston to New Orleans, according to the territories they show." The prize of the lot was the pair of plates "A Plan of the Posts of York and Gloucester in Virginia ... London, 1782." They depict the final and decisive action of the American Revolution, the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown. Of course we accepted, and on January 24, 1948, the British Consul General at Detroit, Mr. D. F. H. Brickell, was scheduled to come to Ann Arbor and make the presentation. Meantime, came rumblings of protest from newspapers in Virginia. Ann Arbor, it was contended, was hardly an "Eastern Seaboard city." Nevertheless, the Consul General appeared on schedule, made some graceful remarks in the presence of The Associates and other friends and turned the plates over to the University of Michigan. President Ruthven accepted them with equally gracious words—and a twinkle in his eye. The Clements Library, he stated, was a peculiarly appropriate place to deposit these plates, because in our exhibition cases for the occasion were no less than thirteen of the original manuscript sketches and maps of the action at Yorktown. They were done at the time by the British, American, French, and German engineer-officers present at the siege. As to the copper plates themselves, the President pointed out we were glad to accept them, since we already had the "proof copy" drawn from these same copper plates and previously owned by the British commander-in-chief, Sir Henry Clinton. The President expressed genuine regret that these plates could not be given to the State of Virginia, but explained the following little known fact. The Lower Peninsula of Michigan, including the site of Ann Arbor, was, according to old maps in the Library, once part of Augusta County, Virginia (John and Ann Allen, founders of Ann Arbor, came from Staunton, Virginia). As the result of negotiations made in 1781-1783, Virginia gave up her claims to her "western lands." This was explained by the American Commissioner at Paris to the British Commissioner, David Hartley. Among the Hartley Papers (which the Library acquired in 1933) the new territories and states projected west of the Appalachians were laid out on a map. (We also have that manuscript map.) So Virginia lost Michigan by the plans and acts of the American Commissioner. (NB: his name was Thomas Jefferson, founder of the University of Virginia.)

Americana

The Clements Library collects Americana. What is Americana? Our founder, William L. Clements, tried to answer that question in 1914—"rare, scarce, and uncommon books relating to American history." But even before he gave his collection to the University of Michigan, he had added manuscripts and maps to it. At the Clements Library we define Americana as a selection of the documentary evidences of American history chosen on the basis of rarity, priority, and importance.
A Copy of
A Sentimental Journey

The eye of the curator of Books had a twinkle, or was it a glint? Silently he presented a dealer's catalogue offering A Sentimental Journey, Philadelphia 1770—by "the not too Reverend Laurence Sterne." How to fit this classic of English literature into a library of rare Americana—and how to find the whirlpool with which to acquire the book?

We know that among the most appreciative critics of the book are the late Wilbur Cross (ex-professor of English at Yale and ex-Governor of Connecticut) and the late A. Edward Newton, a Philadelphia manufacturer of electrical apparatus.

Wrote Newton:

Much ink has been shed in an effort to solve the Mystery of Edwin Drood, but I never heard of anyone attempting to guess how A Sentimental Journey would have ended... As it is, it ends—where it begins—"the middle; indeed in the middle of a paragraph."

But hold it, Mr Newton! Someone did write and publish the ending of that story. Instead of the familiar two-volume set of London, 1768, there is a three-volume set, whose last volume is the guessing at how the story worked out. We knew of only one set in Ann Arbor. We reached for the phone and called Dr Frederick A. Coller, professor of surgery and chairman of the department of surgery at the University of Michigan, in whose private library is that unusual three-volume set.

But to get back to that Philadelphia edition of 1770; we wanted it and got possession of it "on approval." It turned out to be quite rare—not mentioned in Charles Evans' multi-volume list of books printed in America before 1800, nor in Governor Cross's bibliography of Laurence Sterne.

Bookplates indicated that it had been in the libraries of two American collectors, John Gribbel of Philadelphia and Frank Hogan of Washington. They, at least, esteemed it. It was published by a Philadelphian, who, six years later, produced one of the great books of all time, Tom Paine's Common Sense. Looking at a first edition of A Sentimental Journey we found the following among the "Subscribers," whose financial support enabled Sterne to publish the book at all.

"Mr. Baskerville," the 18th century printer, any of whose imprints are "collectors items"—and N.B., he taught Benjamin Franklin to improve his taste in typography.

"Lord Cornwallis:" the General, whose surrender at Yorktown, Virginia, to General George Washington, assured the independence of these United States.

"Mr. Dundas:" he can be no other than the Scottish merchant who got the rum contract for the British Army in the French and Indian War, who became Viscount Melville, and thousands of whose manuscripts are in the Clements Library.

"Mr. Garlick:" David, the Shakespearean actor.

"Mr. Heber:" Richard, omnivorous 18th century book collector, who said: "No gentlemen can be without three copies of a book: one for show, one for his own use, and one for borrowers." Many of Heber's books are now in Ann Arbor.

"Colonel Lee:" Ah, fat! None other than the late General Charles Lee who made so much trouble for his commander-in-chief, General Washington in 1776.

"Sir George Macartney:" British envoy to Russia, who wrote a comprehensive survey of that country, found in our Manuscripts Division, and presently being edited for publication by our Prof. Lobanov-Rostovsky, and Dr Samuel C. McCulloch.

"Hon. Mr. Ogilthorpe:" that is James Ogilthorpe, who founded the State of Georgia, and whose picture appeared on Georgia paper money and bonds as late as 1865.

"The Duke of Roxburghe:" the sale of his Library in 1818 was a landmark in the history of book collecting.

"Lord Shelburne:" who had the job of salvaging the British Empire in making the treaty of 1789 with Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and John Jay. Mr Clements bought "Shelburne Papers" in 1923. They are now at Ann Arbor.

With such interesting subscribers to the first English edition, is it any wonder that there was within two years an American edition of A Sentimental Journey? The marked rarity of this first American edition also illustrates what makes a "rare" book rare. Probably it was read and read to pieces by the eager American buyers at Robert Bell's book shop in Philadelphia—hence few copies survive. Does that early Philadelphia edition of 1770 belong in a Library of rare Americana? Dr Frederick Coller thought so, and has put the book on our shelves.

NSAC

NSAC stands for National Society of Autograph Collectors, an organization founded recently "to encourage the meeting of autograph collectors and stimulate and aid them in their various collecting specialties; to facilitate the exchange of information and knowledge among collectors and scholars." The first annual exhibition and meeting of NSAC will be held at this Library May 10-11. Application blanks for membership may be secured from Dr Joseph E. Fields, 108 Scott Street, Joliet, Ill. Dr Fields' recent gift of manuscripts to this Library is described elsewhere in The Quarto.

Renaissance Librarian

"He must be not only learned but of pleasing personality, accurate, and fluent in speech; and, in addition to these qualities, he must be neat and business-like, keeping an inventory of the books and having them so arranged that they can be reached easily and at the same time can be kept clean and dry. He must also be a person of discrimination, for he is to bring out the treasures willingly to exhibit to people of authority and to those who are truly interested in learning. To them he should explain the less obvious points about the manuscripts, at the same time watching to see that they do not abstract any folios. If the person making the request to see the codices is merely curious and not of scholarly interests, a cursory glance at the manuscript should be enough to satisfy him. As regards the lending of books, he must not let any volume go out without permission from the duke; and if that has been assured, he must get a receipt. When a number of people are visiting the library at the same time, he must be especially vigilant, so that none of the treasures will be stolen." (J. Dennistoun, Dukes of Urbino, I, 167 quoting Vat. Urb. MSS., no. 1248, f. 58)
THE CLEMENTS LIBRARY ASSOCIATES
(as of February 12, 1988)

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