NATIONAL SOCIETY OF AUTOGRAPH COLLECTORS

First Annual Meeting

May 17-18, 1948

THE CLEMENTS LIBRARY

Ann Arbor

Program

Monday, May 17
Morning
Registration at the Michigan Union
Exhibit, Clements Library—“American History”

Noon
Luncheon, 12:15 P.M., Michigan Union
Address of Welcome for the University by President Alexander G. Ruthven
Address of Welcome for the Clements Library by Dr Randolph G. Adams
Response for NSAC by President Joseph E. Fields

Afternoon
Informal visits to University Exhibits
General Library—“Theatrical and Literary Autographs”
Law Library—“Signers of the Constitution of the United States”
Michigan Historical Collections (Rackham Building)—“Michigan History”

Transportation Library (East Engineering Building)—“Transportation in the United States”

Evening
Banquet, 6:30 P.M., Michigan Union
Address—Colton Storm, “The Care and Feeding of a Manuscript Collection”
Address—Dr Victor H. Paltsits, “The Role of the Collector”
Discussion

Tuesday, May 18
Morning, 9:00 to 12:00 A.M.
Joint Loan Exhibit by NSAC members, Clements Library

Noon
Luncheon, 12:15 P.M., Michigan Union
Business Meeting

Afternoon
Tea and Reception for NSAC and The Clements Library Associates, 3:00 to 6:00 P.M., Clements Library
CATALOGUE OF AN EXHIBITION IN HONOR OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF AUTOGRAPH COLLECTORS

BARCELONA, AUGUST 22, 1493


PHILADELPHIA, JULY 4, 1776

SIR HENRY CLINTON. Autograph Draft, signed with initials. To Thomas Gage. One page, 8 1/4 by 7 1/4 inches. Clinton Papers

NEW YORK, AUGUST, 1777

BENEDICT ARNOLD. Autograph Letter, signed; in code. To John André. One page, 9 1/2 by 7 3/4 inches. Clinton Papers

WEST POINT, JULY 15, 1780


TAPAAN, SEPTEMBER 29, 1780

SIR HENRY CLINTON. Autograph Draft, signed. To Sir Henry Clinton. One page, 9 1/2 by 7 3/4 inches. Clinton Papers

Contemporary copy of the Declaration of Independence was found among the papers of Lord George Germain. In 1776, Germain was Secretary of State for America. He was thus the British cabinet officer to whom the American Congress announced its intentions. It was through this copy, in the hands of Germain, that George III learned his colonies wanted their freedom.
NEW WINDSOR, MAY 29, 1781


* Washington's letter to his dentist requesting "a pair of * Pincers to fasten the wires of my teeth" was intercepted by the British. Clinton sent out several copies to friends. Perhaps he thought it was a letter in code.

NEW WINDSOR, MAY 31, 1781


* The result of the "Weathersfield Conference" between the American and French commanders is reported by Washington in this letter. The conference was called to plan the campaign for 1781 and in the letter Washington describes the plans for a final attack on New York. The letter was intercepted by the British (or allowed to fall into British hands). It may have been a decisive factor in Sir Henry Clinton's reluctance to leave New York and attempt the rescue of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown.

NEW WINDSOR, MAY, 1781

MARTHA WASHINGTON. Autograph Note in the third person. To her housekeeper at Mount Vernon. One page, 4 3/4 by 8 3/4 inches.

* Obviously, Martha Washington's heart lay in Mount Vernon. This letter was intercepted by the British, probably at the same time they captured George Washington's letter to Dr. Baker.

YORKTOWN, OCTOBER 20, 1781


* The packet of mail, to which this was the covering letter, was intended to inform Sir Henry Clinton that Lord Cornwallis had been obliged to surrender to the American and French armies at Yorktown. Lord Cornwallis' letter is, in effect, an apology for a great disaster. Accompanying the letter are copies of the correspondence between Cornwallis and Washington which culminated in the Articles of Capitulation signed by George Washington for the Americans, le Comte de Rochambeau and le Comte de Barras for the French, and Lord Cornwallis and Thomas Symonds for the British.

PASSY, JUNE 17, 1784


* Josiah Harmar was selected by Congress to carry the ratified Treaty of Peace to Franklin at Paris. This is the passport issued by Franklin to Harmar. It was printed at Franklin's private Passy press.

PARIS, 1784

DAVID HARTLEY. Autograph Manuscript Sketch Map of the United States east of the Mississippi River. One page, 7 by 9 1/4 inches.

* David Hartley was the British commissioner charged with winding up the Treaty of Paris. Thomas Jefferson was one of the three American commissioners. The information regarding plans for dividing up the Old Northwest Territory could have come from no other commissioner than Jefferson. As far as we can determine, this is the first appearance on a map of Jefferson's proposal for new states west of the Alleghenies.

PHILADELPHIA, NOVEMBER 9, 1796


* President Washington delivered this address to a group of visiting Indian chiefs in Philadelphia. It is his advice about how the Indians ought to conduct themselves in conformity with the Treaty of Greenville.

DETOUR, DECEMBER, 1796

PATRICK McNIFF. Autograph Manuscript Map, signed. "A Plan of the settlements at Detroit and its vicinity from River Rouge upwards to Point au Gingle on Lake St. Clair . . ." Six sheets, each 18 3/4 by 14 3/4 inches; originally attached to form a continuous strip, but now separated. Map Division

* McNiff's map, which lists all the property holders on the American side of the Detroit River, was made at the request of Anthony Wayne. It was not ready by the time Wayne left Detroit and was sent on to him at Presqu'ile, but it arrived after Wayne's untimely death. The map was then sent on among Wayne's military gear to James McHenry, the Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 31, 1809


* Jefferson's message is in answer to a complaint by the Wyandote Indians that certain provisions of the Treaty of Greenville (which were not recorded in the signed treaty but which appeared in their wampum) had not been carried out by the United States. Apparently, our government was in the wrong for Jefferson acknowledged it. In the present message, Jefferson agrees to conclude a supplementary treaty and to pay the Wyandotes a thousand dollars for their trouble.

GHENT, DECEMBER 24, 1814


* The Treaty of Ghent concluded the War of 1812. Our copy, from the Goulburn Papers, is in the hand of Henry Clay. The text of the treaty states that the document was signed and sealed in triplicate.

ST. MARY'S, OHIO, SEPTEMBER 17, 1818

TREATY OF ST. MARY'S. Manuscript of "Articles of a treaty made and concluded at St. Mary's in the State of Ohio . . ." signed by Lewis Cass, Duncan McArthur, Cat-te-we-ka-sa, Do-o-ou-quod, Me-tesh-ewa, and others. Two pages, 26 by 19 inches; vellum

* Thirty-eight Indian chiefs of the Shawnees, Wyandotes, Seneacs, and Ottawas made their marks on this copy of the treaty. It is also signed by the two American commissioners and eighteen governors, Indian agents, secretaries, and interpreters. The treaty was supplementary to one made with the same tribes a year earlier.

RICHMOND, DECEMBER 30, 1827


* Although it is in the form of a letter, this manuscript is an autobiography written by Marshall at Story's request. The recipient used the information in three articles about Marshall, but Albert J. Beveridge, not knowing that this manuscript exists, questioned several particulars in the Story accounts.
SOME FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION IN THE CLEMENTS LIBRARY

"Librarians no longer torture themselves with thoughts of an imaginary and impossible 'completeness' which no library ever has attained or ever will." (The Librarian of Congress in 1893)

1. Pre-Columbian discoveries of America.
2. Christopher Columbus.
3. Americus Vespuccius.
4. New World Spanish conquerors and chroniclers.
5. French discoverers, voyageurs and missionaries, including collections of editions of the "Jesuit Relations," Hennepin and La Hontan.
6. Dutch traders and settlers in the 17th century.
7. English explorers, colonizers and military and naval persons, 16th through the 18th century.
8. Collections of early voyages to America, including collections of editions of DeBry, Hakluyt, and Hulsius.
9. Mathematical and astronomical works of the period of the discoveries.
13. Religious works relating to America, especially
   a. Congregationalism, 17th and 18th centuries.
   b. Jesuits in North America, 17th century, and later Catholic Americanas.
   c. American sermons of 17th and 18th centuries.
   d. Church of England, including Anglican Episcopal controversy.
   e. Early American Bibles and liturgical books.
   f. Quakeriana, 17th and 18th centuries.
   g. Editions of The Book of Mormon.
14. Matheriana (see bibliographies by T. J. Holmes).
15. Economic history of British-America in 17th and 18th centuries.
16. Anglo-French rivalry for North America: commercial and strategic conflicts culminating in
   b. "Queen Anne's War," 1701-1713.
17. American Revolution
   a. Preliminaries from Stamp Act to 1775.
   b. The War years.
   d. Memoirs of participants printed before 1875.
   e. British Army Lists, 1755-1869.
18. Confederation and Constitution, 1783-1789, including the Bell collection of The Federalist.
21. American literature, 18th to mid-19th centuries.
22. American music, 18th to mid-19th centuries.
23. Early and rare state histories.
24. The American Indian, 16th to mid-19th centuries.
25. Slavery and anti-Slavery in America, 18th century through the Civil War.
26. War of 1812, military and commercial aspects.
27. Rare Michiganiana.
28. The Middle West, including the "Old Northwest," 1784 to mid-19th century.
29. Civil War rarities.
30. Confederate imprints, 1861-1865.
31. American sports, 18th to mid-19th centuries.
32. American periodicals, 18th to mid-19th centuries.
33. American newspapers, 18th to mid-19th centuries.
34. Individuals concerning whom the Library has noteworthy collections of printed books:
   g. Thomas Jefferson, including collections of editions of his Notes on the State of Virginia and his Manual.
   h. Abraham Lincoln. i. Theodore Roosevelt.
   j. W. H. Hudson (George M. Adams Collections).
   k. R. B. Cunningham Graham (George M. Adams Collection).
35. Individuals concerning whom the Library has noteworthy collections of manuscripts:
   g. Melville, 1st and 2nd Viscounts.
   h. George Brinley. i. James G. Birney.
   j. Lucius Lyon. k. Theodore D. Weld.
   l. Russell A. Alger.
38. Cartography: monographs and critical studies on early mapping of America.