Smith Gift Completed

Since 1953 the Library has been receiving parts of the Hubert S. Smith Collection on Naval Affairs from Mrs. Hubert S. Smith of Bay City. Articles have appeared in The Quarto about the manuscripts, which included a number of Lord Nelson letters, a twelfth-century Latin manuscript, and the naval tracts written by William Monson in the seventeenth century. Last month Mrs. Smith turned over to us approximately three hundred printed books, including atlases, voyages, naval battles, naval biography, ship construction, seamen's journals, pirates' trials, etc. These constitute the final portion of her husband's remarkable collection.

Each part of the gift has been appraised, and the valuation of the whole is more than $35,000, making it the largest gift the Library has received in seventeen years. Since we cannot do justice to the collection in these columns, an exhibition of selected items is planned for next fall, at which time a special descriptive bulletin in pamphlet form will be issued.

The Smiths were neighbors of Mr. Clements in Bay City, and it seems particularly appropriate that the fruit of one discriminating collector should be added to that of his friend at their state's university.

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Civil War Scenes

An unexpected gift came our way early in the spring. Back in 1886 the lithographing firm of Kurz and Allison in Chicago undertook to publish a series of colored pictures on famous battles of the Civil War. Historical research presumably was done, but what the pictures lacked in accuracy they made up in color and action. In

Adams Lecturer

We are proud to announce that Dr. John H. Powell, of Philadelphia, will deliver the fourth annual Randolph G. Adams Lecture next October. Dr. Powell has been both a professor of history at the University of Delaware and a librarian at the Philadelphia Free Library. Now he is a free lance writer on historical topics, with an extraordinary talent for lively and colorful accounts of past events and characters. He has published a biography of Richard Rush, a book on the yellow fever epidemic of 1793, and many articles in scholarly and popular magazines. You can be sure of a stimulating and entertaining evening.

Two Alumni Clubs

Two clubs of alumni, in Albany and Philadelphia, made gifts of money to the Library years ago to help with the program of acquisitions. Both clubs, naturally, were interested in seeing that the Library obtained early items pertaining to their regions. For several years the gifts were allowed to build up interest, but in the past year we have been encouraged to make purchases. As a result the generosity of these two groups has permitted us to acquire some extraordinary items.

From the Albany Club fund we secured the rare report, or letter, from Sir William Johnson at Lake George in 1755, describing his battle with and defeat of the French under Baron Dieskau. As militia from several colonies constituted his troops, Johnson addressed his printed letter to the governors. We also bought a broadside announcement of Perry's victory on Lake Erie in 1813. It presaged the recovery of captured Detroit and the resumption of water communication between Michigan and New York. Finally we obtained three pamphlets and a map relating to the building of the Erie Canal, early nineteenth century pieces.

Two purchases made from the Philadelphia Club fund have been reported in these columns earlier. This spring we made another acquisition: the Report of the United States Commissioners for arranging an exchange of prisoners (1779). This was the deal involving the release of Burgoyne's surrendered troops in exchange for an equal number of captured Americans. Equal did we say? Gen. Burgoyne himself was slated to be worth 5,000 American privates.

Freedom, genius of our clime!
Here erect thy placid sway;
As he flies, shall rapid time,
Bow obsequious to this day.
Fame her pinions shall expand,
O'er each distant realm shall fly;
Then high-vaulting from the land,
Sound thy glories through the sky.
Ev'ry system, ev'ry sphere,
Ev'ry planet as it runs,
Shall thy sacred name revere.
—Fabric of Columbia's sons.

Associates' Purchases
Coincident with the Founder's Day tea, members of the Executive Committee met at luncheon to consider a second lot of purchases in the current fiscal year. Several rarities of great significance had been gathered for their inspection and evaluation. The following four books and one manuscript were purchased, adding richly to the resources of the Library:

Father Kino
Called the great civilizer and apostle of California, Father Kino is almost the patron saint of that state. His interests were not confined to his missionary labors, however; he was an explorer, map maker, and cattle raiser. An Italian by birth, Kino arrived in Mexico City in 1681. Almost at once he wrote and published a treatise about the comet of 1680, which he had observed in Spain. His contentions was that comets presaged catastrophes. Another Jesuit scholar, Siguenza, knew that comets were only natural phenomena, but he withheld his reply until 1690. Anyway, Kino's attempt to be a scientist, Exposicion astronomico, is a rare piece of Americana, and it contains a map of the heavens and on the title page a drawing of the virgin of Guadalupe. Our copy is in wonderful condition, vellum bound.

G. Washington
The rarest biography of Washington is the pamphlet written by Parson Weems and published in Baltimore in 1800. It became our first national best seller and a fixture of school rooms. Frankly eulogistic, it yet had narrative interest and the kind of anecdotes that stuck in the mind. It was both timely and suited to the times. The Library has owned several editions, but the third was its earliest. Finding a second edition, Philadelphia, 1800, in original wrappers, we asked the Associates to secure it for us. We're still looking for a first, of course. Why is it so hard to find? Simply because it was read to pieces. The current Davy Crockett rage is nothing compared to the reception given this hero's story, from 1800 onward.

Yazoo-who
Real estate speculations come and go, but most of them have been small scale since the bubble of the 1790's broke. After the Revolution most of the colonies signed over their western lands (which they claimed by charter but had never settled and rarely seen) to the struggling central government, thereby giving it a means of raising money to pay off the war debt. Georgia was less prompt than the others because she was tempted to sell her land around the Yazoo River to three big speculating companies that made golden promises. The companies, in turn, intended to sell off parcels of their zillion acres to smaller speculators or to settlers. However, almost nobody in this chain of sales had any cash, and the transactions were made on credit. The most active company was the South-Carolina Yazoo Company, which contracted for ten million acres, in 1789. Two years later it issued An Extract from the proceedings, setting forth its history, description of the territory, and future plans. In other words, the "come-on." By 1795 Georgia grew uneasy and asked for cash payments. All three companies immediately dissolved, "gone with the wind." Still unlearned, Georgia offered the same lands to four other companies, repudiated the sales in 1796, and finally handed over the area to the federal government in 1802. It was an astonishing bit of Bim-Flampery while it lasted and illustrates the shuffling disaster with which the Middle West might have developed without federal direction.

Western Reserve, Ho!
In contrast to the above, The Connecticut Land Company was organized at Hartford in 1795 to purchase three million acres along Lake Erie from Connecticut. That state had given its western lands to the federal government, reserving only a strip along the lake to be sold for benefit of the schools. The proprietors of the Western Reserve interested settlers in going out and taking up the lands they bought. Thus Cleveland and other towns began. The company was allowed five years to pay for the tract. In 1800 the area was organized as part of the Northwest Territory and came into the Union as part of Ohio in 1803. The initial deal turned out successfully all the way around. The Articles of association and agreement (Hartford, 1795) describes minutely the organization of the company. We were glad to obtain a copy, so fundamental in the opening of the West.

Loyalists' Retreat
Men without a country are pitiful wanderers on the face of the earth. The Loyalists in the American Revolution found it expedient to remove from the American colonies to the former French colony that had remained faithful to England: Canada. It was a sad, unwelcome step for many of them, a starting over in a strange region. John Brittan prepared a "Description of the Settlements in the Provinces of Nova Scotia & New Brunswick" in 1784-85 that assesses the several new settlements of Loyalists, their opportunities, the
natural resources, discrimination against the newcomers, administrative failures, etc. Reports by several leading citizens are included in the 101 pages. The manuscript notebook may have been intended for publication, but it was not printed. A few pages were published when the papers of Surrogate General Edward Winslow were printed, but the full notebook is a gem for historical research. We are glad to say that one of our professors is working on it now.

25 Reasons

Associates should know that despite our splendid acquisitions in any one year, we do not obtain everything we set out to get. Recently a copy of George Washington's Journal (Williamsburg, 1754) was offered at auction. Only seven other copies are known. This may have been the last opportunity to obtain a copy, since the others are in libraries, and we were convinced that Mr. Clements would have mortgaged his house in order to bid. Together the Executive Committee and the Library pooled resources and made a strong bid. But the title sold for $25,000 to Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., for Colonial Williamsburg, Inc. Our figuring and planning were in vain in one sense, yet we are all glad that we made the effort; as successors to Mr. Clements and Mr. Adams, we would not have had easy consciences if we had allowed the occasion to pass without a determined attempt to acquire such a monumental piece of Americana.

Point Counterpoint

Georgia, established in 1732 as the last of the thirteen original colonies, did not get off to a prosperous start, and trouble soon developed both for the Trustees in England and Governor Oglesethope in Georgia. Bitter criticism arose over the restrictions of the charter pertaining to slaves, liquor, and land, and there were diatribes directed personally against the governor and lesser officials.

During the period 1740-1744, both sides—governmental and non-governmental—issued propaganda tracts to influence public opinion in England and Georgia. Vernon W. Crane, member of the Library's Committee of Management, ably discusses these in his Promotion Literature of Georgia. Some of the items he describes are to be found in Clements Library.

Two pro-administration efforts written by Benjamin Martyn were published under the sponsorship of the Trustees early in the controversy: An Impartial Enquiry into the State and Utility of the Province of Georgia, and An Account Shewing the Progress of the Colony of Georgia in America from its First Establishment. An engraved map of the coastline was ordered also by the Trustees for distribution.

The dissidents, Patrick Tailfer and others, opened their campaign in Charleston, South Carolina whence they had fled from Savannah. From South Carolina they sent forth in 1741 their satirical True and Historical Narrative of the Colony of Georgia, in America, condemned by many, and commented by others. Moses Coit Tyler describes it as one of the most expert pieces of writing in our early literature.

Their opponents in the government, apprehensive over this unfavorable publicity when they were seeking to secure an annual financial grant from Parliament, brought out a rebuttal. Under the editorship of William Stephens, secretary of the colony and later governor, they presented a glowing picture of achievement in the colony in a work entitled A State of the Province of Georgia (London, 1742).

Recently, the Clements Library acquired still another one of the series from the pen of the critics: A Brief Account of the Causes That Have Retarded the Progress of the Colony of Georgia, in America (London, 1743) written by their London agent, Thomas Stephens, none other than the son of the loyal William whose book he was attacking.

Gradually, the flow of pamphlets lessened as the Trustees were forced to relax or abandon their well-intended limitations and finally in 1752 to give up their control in favor of royal administration.
**Founder's Day**

The annual Founder's Day program brought out about 140 Associates and friends to hear Lloyd A. Brown speak, inspect the Associates' purchases made during the year, and enjoy tea. Mr. Brown discussed the significance of maps in our history and related some anecdotes about them. The occasion was as pleasant as always, and we were honored to have Mrs. Clements and Mrs. Harry Finckenstaedt, Mr. Clements' daughter, with us.

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**The Canadian West**

Once in a while we discover that the Library has in its collections a document of unrealized historical value. Such an item is an old, faded manuscript map, prepared in two sections, showing part of Manitoba, Canada. On it are detailed the torturous shores of the region's many lakes, its rivers stretching away to the west and north to Hudson Bay, and, significantly enough, the location of several of the earliest of the Hudson's Bay Company posts. On it, too, is found the camp of its now identified maker, Alexander Henry, in which that famous fur trader and explorer spent the winter of 1775-76.

This map, drawn during that winter, is now identified as the earliest known English map of the Canadian West, and a landmark in Canadian fur trade history.

One of the strange things about the map is that it came to us in the papers of Gen. Josiah Harmar, Revolutionary Officer and first commander of the first United States Army. Full details are not yet known, but the story seems to be this:

In 1775 a trading license was issued to one Richard McCarty to accompany Benjamin Forbishar (a partner of Alexander Henry) to the West. In 1778 there lived in Cahokia, Illinois country, a recently arrived Canadian trader who as Capt. Richard McCarty assisted George Rogers Clark in the capture of Vincennes. Shortly after this event, McCarty was killed by Indians who carried his scalp and papers to Detroit. On the verso of our map is a note: "Map taken out of Capt. McCarty's chest." According to McCarty's will, he did leave a chest of personal papers in Cahokia, so it is entirely possible that Gen. Harmar, who visited that town during his tour of duty in the West, or one of his officers, carried off the map for study. Further work is being done on the map and its peregrinations, and the story it has to tell will be published in a scholarly journal.

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**Movie Film Available**

The Library has available for lending a thirty-minute movie film, with sound, that relates the story of Alexander Henry's capture by Indians at Mackinaw in 1769. The story is one of those contained in Captured by Indians by Howard H. Peckham, published last year. Mr. Peckham carries the narration, but pictures and maps are extensively used. The film was made by the University TV studio and serves to demonstrate how source materials in the Clements Library are used in research. At the same time it tells a story in Michigan history. The Library acquired a copy of the film to make it available to organizations and schools that may want a historical program. It is 16 mm. in size.

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**Summer Session**

As part of the University's Summer School theme on Michigan, the Library will have two exhibitions. In July we are planning a show of our materials on Indians of Michigan and the Great Lakes. It will be opened on the night of July 5, with a dance on our front steps by Chippewas from northern Michigan! The audience will be seated in chairs and bleachers on the front lawn. In August we will offer an exhibition on Michigan's beginnings, as revealed in books, manuscripts, and maps.