Sesquicentennial Exhibition

Associates have received invitations to the annual Founder's Day tea on Sunday afternoon, April 2. Although Mr. Clements' birthday actually is April 1, to attempt to draw a crowd on a Saturday afternoon seemed impossible. The occasion will be marked by the opening of a new exhibition entitled "Education in Early America." This is the Library's first contribution to the University's Sesquicentennial observance.

The exhibition covers the colonial background of private education, public schools, colleges, and textbooks up to the organization of constitutional government in 1788. Included are proposals for education, reports, college charters, laws, children's literature, and early texts.

Accompanying the exhibition will be an illustrated bulletin descriptive of the display. The cost of this publication is being defrayed largely by the University Sesquicentennial Commission.

Education in the early days of settlement has an uncertain history, and the later accounts of it seldom agree. More research work remains to be done, and the Clements Library is one place where source materials may be found.

Beat to Quarters

As the bicentennial celebration of the American Revolution is now less than a decade away, we anticipate the tempo of research on the war to increase sharply in the next few years. Besides the famous manuscript collections which we have had for some time, we have also gathered a number of significant small collections and individual letters which we hope may be of use in the forthcoming research explosion.

Typical of some significant single items which have come our way are two Revolutionary War letters presented to the Library by Mr. Morrison T. Wallace of Hinsdale, Illinois. A forebear of Mr. Wallace was a Scot by the name of George Morrison who served in the British Navy. Evidently Morrison spent nearly the whole war in American waters. The first letter, dated September 7, 1776, to his wife reports the number of killed and wounded for both sides in the Battle of Long Island and provides one of the precious few views of the war from the vantage of a common seaman. He gave the British loss at 300 killed and wounded, and the American at 4,000 killed, wounded, and captured (!), whereas the generally accepted figures are 400 and 1,400. He was not optimistic about an early end to the war, even so.

Morrison's second letter, also to his wife, was written toward the end of the war, May 22, 1782. Dated from Port Royal in Jamaica, the letter informed her of his well-being following a recent engagement with the French fleet, probably Admiral de Grasse in the Battle of the Saints, April 12, 1782. He reports that his ship, the Yarmouth, had 14 men killed and 53 wounded.

A. Wayne Once More

Associates will recall the Library's two considerable purchases made in 1958 and 1959 of Anthony Wayne papers which dealt with his post-Revolutionary career in the Old Northwest. It was the Associates, in fact, who made possible that acquisition. We were aware that a private collector was also picking up Wayne letters in this same period.

Following his death last year, his collection has been auctioned. It contained many things besides Wayne, but we stepped in and did what we could to pick up additional letters by Wayne and to Wayne. We were successful in securing 78 additional pieces, bringing our total to 1,017 manuscripts, a respectable and significant collection.
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Second Streeter Sale

The next sale of the Americana collection of the late Thomas W. Streeter is scheduled for April 19 and 20 in New York. The auction will include books on the colonial period, the American Revolution, and the War of 1812—all grist for our mill.

Yes, we will be there, bidding selectively but spending our resources probably to the limit. Hanging over us will be the specter of the third sale next fall. A reminder, dear readers, that we need all the help we can find.

Committee of Management

The Library's Committee of Management met in February. It took appreciative notice of the success of the Associates in raising money for the Streeter sales and voted to add certain Library funds to the total available for the second sale, coming in April.

It discussed the whole matter of making its rare books (not manuscripts) available for photographic reproduction or reprinting. The conclusion was to exercise careful safeguards for the originals which might prevent their being subjected to photography. Where conditions were permissible, the Committee did not want to grant blanket permission and approve proposals in advance. Each proposal must be examined on its own merits. In general, the reproduction of a series of related titles was preferred as an educational service over that of a single title. Compensation is also expected.

The Committee also considered some matters relating to the building and its care.

Advice to Settlers

One of the rarest of books relating to western New York has been added to the library's collection on land companies. Written by a Swiss pastor, Louis Bridel, this guide was published in Paris in 1803. The author's painstaking treatise lives up to its descriptive title: Le Pour et le Contre ou Avis à ceux qui se proposent de passer dans les États-Unis d'Amérique. Suivi d'une description du Kentucky et du Genesey.

He draws not only upon his twenty years' experience in the U.S. but from the experiences of others, one of whom was Jefferson. To enlighten ignorant emigrants who often imagine the U.S. to be no larger than Switzerland, he goes beyond a mere directory. He discusses the soil, climate, crops, wild animals, Indian tribes, government, churches and land speculators. He incorporates an extended essay on the several kinds of planters or settlers, ranging from the very poor to men of some fortune, always emphasizing opportunities for all.

Following the general descriptions, the author focuses on Kentucky and the Genesee tract in western New York. One statement makes the modern reader long for a vanished wilderness—"the salubrity of the air, the purity of the water, the abundance of game and fish, the fertility of the soil, and the small amount of labor required . . . " The would-be emigrant, however, probably appreciated more fully the explicit details on how to get there.

Many guides of this nature are in reality promotion tracts for particular firms. We should not be surprised to find the operations of the Holland Land Company, a Dutch firm controlling the Genesee area, explained and praised. But if propaganda, the sell is an exceedingly soft one, for Bridel frankly outlines both the pros and cons of migration. Furthermore, he gives equal billing to Kentucky as well as the Genesee region.

An unusual feature of the book is a large map of the holdings of the Holland Land Company ingeniously printed from movable type rather than engraved as was the usual practice. This new method originated in Basel where the book was actually printed.

A German edition, also printed in Basel, appeared the next year with the same typometric map, and in 1820 much of the mate-
Biennial History Prize

At the annual meeting of the American Historical Association in December, John Shy's book, *Toward Lexington*, published in 1965, was awarded the Dunning Prize, given every two years for the best work published on American history.

This distinction is brought to the attention of our Associates for three reasons: (1) the book is a good one, dealing with the effect of the British Army in America on political control; (2) the book is based largely on the author's research in our General Gage papers; and (3) Professor Shy of Princeton has just been appointed to Michigan's history department.

We welcome Professor Shy back to his home state and to a close and productive association with the Clements Library.

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University History—TV

Detroit and other Michigan TV stations are currently running a series of nine shows made at the University Television Center on the history of the University. They are based on Mr. Peckham's new book, *The Making of the University of Michigan 1817-1967*.

Associates living outside of Michigan should watch the schedules of their nearest educational TV station, as the series will circulate outside the state this spring. A picture of the Clements Library shows up in one of the credit lines at the end of each film.

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Sometimes We Click

From time to time in *The Quarto* we have explained the Library's philosophy of collecting. Since it always involves selection, there have to be criteria and guide lines. One point we have made is that we cannot be guided strictly by what kind of material or what kind of topic is in vogue at the moment (and there are fashions in research), because then we are always reaching for the items that are in wide demand and consequently paying the highest prices. Economically we take the long view and buy in areas not being heavily exploited so that we may obtain source materials at less than premium prices.

It is the old story of whether demand should stimulate supply or supply should stimulate demand. We adhere to the latter point of view. It is an act of faith, and accordingly we are always pleased when it is justified by "works." We have just had such a demonstration.

Several years ago we began picking up architectural books published in England before the American Revolution. Why? Because we had reliable evidence that they were owned and used in the American colonies and powerfully influenced not only American building but American taste. O.K. But was anyone here at U-M interested in that fact or in such books? We had to say no, but that did not deter us. We went on buying the books just the same.

Last summer the University appointed a new professor to the History of Art department. He came over to the Library and to his enthusiastic delight discovered our architectural holdings. These books have aroused to fever pitch his research interest in early American buildings and their artistic origins. He is making use of them, of course, and we feel happily rewarded. The acquisition of such books continues, too.

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Loan Exhibition

The Clements Library will join with a few other libraries in helping provide an exhibition at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, during National Book Week in April, devoted to the source books used in the March of America facsimiles.
In the last Quarto we reported on our selection of one hundred basic books from the Library depicting the settlement of the continent from east to west, 1492 to 1892. The set of facsimile reproductions is published by University Microfilms, Inc., of Ann Arbor. It is advertised for student use. The Smithsonian thought this a sufficiently significant publishing venture to commend by an exhibition of how it was done graphically and bibliographically. A bulletin will be published.

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High Rises

The term “record prices” has almost become a worn phrase in the rare book field, but new statistics lend credibility. Small comfort to book collectors that we have company in our misery. Perhaps we should collect snuffboxes!

We quote from the issue of January 23 of the Antiquarian Bookman:

According to the January issue of Pick’s World Currency Report auction prices in 1966 for rare books and manuscripts rose 40–50% over 1965 (which was a record year for increased values). Art works rose up to 80%; posters and lithographs 70–80%; sculpture 60%; tapestries 50%; drawings and prints 40%; snuffboxes 25%; silver items 20%; furniture 15%; old master paintings 15%; French impressionists, postimpressionists and moderns 10%; American paintings about the same or a little lower than last year.

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The Revolution Via Washtenaw County

As rare as a warm day in February (which we never had) is the finding of Revolutionary War manuscripts in Michigan. Our early settlers had to strip themselves of everything but necessities before making the trek out here, whether they came by covered wagon, by pack horse, or by Erie Canal and Lake boats. Much later, of course, it might be possible for a cousin back East to bequeath some old family letters to a Michigan resident, but our searches around the state have been singularly unrewarding.

Until last month. Out of a clear sky, but a cold one, appeared a graduate student, who told us that he had a grandmother in the vicinity who had some old family papers. Our ears went up like a pointer’s. The informant was a young man of action, and we were on our way to see granny, bless her. She not only had letters and documents, but old books too. A couple of hours later we emerged with two interesting books and a sheaf of letters, receipts, and orders pertaining to a company of Pennsylvania militiamen in 1775–77.

These letters and documents, which numbered some fifty pieces for the Revolutionary War period, belonged to Robert McCallon of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. In April of 1776 McCallon was appointed by the Pennsylvania Assembly as a Captain of the 3rd Battalion of Foot from Lancaster County, under the command of Colonel Bartram Galbraith. From the date of his appointment until the opening days of 1777, his papers provide important glimpses about how militia units were formed and were administered.

Neither “summer soldiers” nor “sunshine patriots,” McCallon’s company was one of those few militia units which did not flinch in the face of successive British victories in the summer and fall of 1776. Ordered to proceed to the Jersies in August, McCallon’s company took part in some of the late-season maneuvering around New York City and experienced the long retreat to the Delaware at the end of November.

Among those items in the papers which are instructive about militia are receipts and records of how such a company was armed and supplied. Particularly interesting are the descriptions of weapons contributed by Lancaster residents and the receipts signed by the soldiers which pledged the return of the arms in working condition at the end of the fighting. Also interesting are the pay records and general orders. A letter written before the Battle of White Plains and one after the Battle of Trenton add personal views and comments to this largely official collection. Other items, besides a list of subscribers to a fund for the relief of the inhabitants of Boston and a Continental Tax List for Lancaster County in the year 1778, run into the postwar period.

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My address, or send information about membership to: