Streeter No. 4

The fourth Streeter auction in April dealt with his western books. The executive committee of the Board of Governors scrutinized the catalogue carefully and decided finally to bid on only twenty books. At the sale we failed to get six of them and brought home fourteen, which is actually a good percentage of success.

Six of the titles dealt with western travel before the Civil War. The other eight books were concerned with the Mormons before they migrated to the Great Salt Lake. They are described in other columns. As a result of this discrimination, a small balance remains in the Associates' funds toward the fifth sale next fall. As a matter of fact, we do not anticipate there will be much of anything appealing to us in the fifth or sixth sales, but we hope to come back strong in the seventh and last sale in the fall of 1969.

Pike's Peak in Kansas

It's a little confusing today to realize that in the middle of the last century modern Colorado was part of Kansas Territory. Therefore the "gold fields of Kansas" actually refer to the discovery of gold in the Colorado Rockies. Three books we acquired at the Streeter sale. Byers and Kellom's Hand Book to the Gold Fields of Nebraska and Kansas (Chicago 1859) is one of the best and rarest Pike's Peak guides. It contains a map and an explanation and description of the route across Nebraska and into Colorado.

J. W. Reed described his own trips to Pike's Peak, with advice on what to take and how to deal with Indians one might meet. His pamphlet and map, Guide to the Kansas Gold Region, was published in New York also in 1859.

Finally, in 1864 we get a survey of Colorado: its Mineral and Agricultural Resources by William S. Rockwell. By this time Colorado had formed a Territorial government and had furnished troops to the Union side of the Civil War.

Mormon Source Material

Two of the Mormon items we purchased at the Streeter sale were the first two hymn books of this church. One was compiled by Emma Smith, wife of the founder, and printed in Kirtland, Ohio, where the early Mormons sojourned after leaving New York. It is extremely scarce.

A second Collection of Sacred Hymns was made by David W. Rogers just a few years later and printed at New York in 1838.

Criticism

Four of the books were "exposures" or "refutations" of Mormon doctrine in the early period of the sect's growth, 1830 to 1842. La Roy Sunderland called his book Mormonism Exposed and Refuted, published in New York, 1838. Sabin locates only two other copies, but a few others must exist. William Swartzell was a convert to Mormonism but became disillusioned while living in Missouri. He returned to Ohio and published Mormonism Exposed in the little town of Pekin, 1840, although the printing was done in Pittsburgh. An unknown writer, who signed himself "One Who Hates Imposture," heard a debate on Mormonism and put together an attack which he entitled Mormonism Dissected, Bethania, Pennsylvania, 1841. The Rev. John A. Clark of Philadelphia in a book of personal reminiscences called Gleanings by the
Jerusalem, and Americans should recognize the Indians as a remnant of Israel and the Mormons as holding the keys of the Kingdom.

The Speech of Elder Orson Hyde delivered at Nauvoo in April 1845 objected to the claims of Sydney Rigdon to the presidency of the Mormon Church and supported those of Brigham Young. The latter won, and this argument was published in Liverpool, England probably to reassure potential converts there.

Oregon and California
The Rev. Cyrus Shepard went to Oregon in 1834 as a missionary and died there in 1849. The only account of his overland journey as well as of his missionary labors is found in a biography written by Z. A. Mudge and published in New York, 1848: The Missionary Teacher: A Memoir of Cyrus Shepard. It is listed in the Wagner-Camp bibliography, and we were glad to get it at the last Streeter sale.

The other far western title we obtained was Thomas J. Farnham, Travels in the Californias, New York 1844. Farnham reached Monterey in 1840 and lived through the turbulent times of Mexican rule.

Founder's Day
The Founder's Day tea was held on Sunday afternoon, March 31, instead of April 1, Mr. Clements' birthday, to encourage a larger attendance of friends from out of town. Nearly 200 attended, and by way of recalling Mr. Clements' three terms as a Regent of the University the new president of the University was welcomed as new chairman of the Library's Committee of Management.

Following his appearance in a reception line with his wife, President Robben W. Fleming spoke appreciatively to the guests of Mr. Clements' splendid gift and of their support to the Library now. We regret only that heavy rain to the north of us prevented Mrs. Clements from attending.

What's Going On Here?
Visitors frequently ask who uses our library, and even readers wonder what other topics besides their own, are investigated here. We looked over the admittance cards of recent readers and find a variety of subjects being pursued:

Biographies, of course, including Gen. Russell Alger, Capt. Robert Barrie, Commodore Edward Preble, Harriet Beecher Stowe. Riots in England 1760-70, religious movements in New York, the early slave trade, juvenile delinquency in the colonies, the whiskey rebellion of 1794. Plants indicated on early maps, Jefferson and higher education, the American Revolution in British newspapers, Revolutionary broadsides, domestic servants in early America, family relationships between English and American merchants. First travelers across Kansas and Nebraska, forts at Pensacola, the fort at Louisbourg, Parliamentary debates in the early 19th century, naval architecture of 1850, the Ohio-Michigan line.

And so it goes. Young scholars are constantly looking for something different that has not been researched, or a new approach to a familiar problem. We can't anticipate what the subjects will be, but by selecting acquisitions that seem important we hope to have significant and relevant material for a variety of interests.
In Memoriam

The sudden death in April of Hubert Frisinger removed from the Board of Governors a man of concerned interest and ready enthusiasm for the Library. He was a native of Ann Arbor who had earned his doctor's degree here, before going to the University of Toledo's School of Business Administration to teach. He was also a book collector who had participated in the loan exhibition of last fall. The loss to the Library is serious.

Mrs. Frisinger suggested to friends that they might make memorial contributions to the Library. The number of responses attests to the wide regard in which Prof. Frisinger was held, and the considerable total makes possible the acquisition of several important books which will carry bookplates stating their origin in his memory.

Russell A. Alger

About 45 years ago, the family of Russell A. Alger, Secretary of War during the Spanish-American War, gave his papers to the University. They numbered about 2300 letters and were eventually turned over to this Library. Inquiries about whether have any old letters is a question that can be answered only by the asking.

Gift Book

Associates will receive their annual gift book from the Library this month. It is something special, thicker than usual. We wished to offer a more ambitious publication than ordinary to express the Library's deep gratitude to the Associates for their generous help during 1967 toward our fund raising for the Streeter auctions. Secondly, we were happy to be able to print a manuscript journal given to us by James S. Schoff, chairman of the Board of Governors. We believe you will find the Revolutionary War experiences of John Adlum fascinating to read. With the cooperation of the Caxton Club of Chicago, we can offer you a handsome printing.

The Seventy

Just as the early Christian church began its missionary activity with the appointment of 70 baptized envoys, the American Antislavery Society commissioned 70 agents in 1833 to go forth and organize or assist anti-slavery groups in every locality. They pursued their work with evangelical fervor, which not only irritated the South but defied their understanding.

Some of the agents were well known or became fairly famous, but the majority are little known figures. The Clements Library is now pursuing the latter group in an effort to find descendents, in the hope that correspondence of these courageous and high minded reformers may be located. Some of them lived to 1890. There ought to be grandchildren or great-grandchildren alive today, but whether they

and suggested that if we found it of historical interest, we could keep the material as a gift!

To our delighted surprise, the material turned out to be 26 letterbooks, 4 volumes of newspaper clippings, and about 400 loose letters to Alger. The letterbooks are the old-fashioned kind containing carbon copies of outgoing letters on tissue paper. They have no autograph value, but immense historical interest. Altogether we received almost 18,000 letters and orders to add to our 2300. Suddenly we have a major collection on the Spanish-American War and on Alger as commander of the G.A.R. Such a windfall inspires our warmest gratitude.

The Pennsylvania Gazette

Back in the 1920's this library joined with a few other research institutions to pool their holdings in colonial newspapers in order to form as complete a file as possible, which was then photostated and each library obtained a full run of one newspaper in each of the original 13 colonies. For some reason Pennsylvania was not included, but two newspapers in New York were reproduced.

Only this year did a photofacsimile run of The Pennsylvania Gazette, 1728 through 1789, become available. It was Benjamin Franklin's newspaper and an influential one, and is bound in 25 volumes. We have scattered years of original issues and although we do not ordinarily buy reproductions, we ordered this run to enrich our substantial holdings of colonial newspapers. We could not reasonably hope to acquire a full run of originals at any price.

Like all early newspapers, the advertisements are as interesting
as the news items—which often relayed stale European happenings and ignored local incidents which, to the editor, were well known. We notice an early interest in crimes, the arrival and departure of ships, marriages of young women of fortune, curiosities of nature, etc.

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**Louis B. Wright**

This month we bid farewell to a distinguished colleague, Louis B. Wright, Director of the Folger Library, Washington, D.C. A lively scholar of wit and penetration, he has in his twenty-year administration broadened a Shakespeare library into a center for the study of Tudor and Stuart literature and history. We shall miss his extraordinarily readable newsletters, where he took a long view of so many current practices.

Speaking of delayed mail, he reminded readers that Ben Franklin managed to have letters posted in New York on Tuesday delivered in Philadelphia on Wednesday. He ran across a 1654 book from which he quoted apropos of hippies:

> Go Gallants to the barbers, go Bid them your hairy bushes mow

> God in a Bush did once appear,

> But there is nothing of him here.

He commented on thick modern novels in contrast to the briefer and more precise Renaissance books. He found a predecessor to President de Gaulle denouncing England in 1659. He deplored those “dim-witted” faculty members who support student demonstrations which deny the rights of others. With a sigh he besought to his successor “all of those earnest, humorless, evangelistic souls who want to convert others to the belief that somebody else, almost anybody else, wrote Shakespeare’s plays.”

The scholarly world cannot spare men like Louis Wright.

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**Whose Land Was It?**

When the Illinois country came up for grabs, the inevitable conflicts were those of land companies versus the governments, rather than between rival companies. Just before the American Revolution, a group of Philadelphians formed the Illinois Land Company, pur- chasing land along the east side of the Mississippi from the Indians. When that company was unable to come to terms with Virginia, which still claimed jurisdiction of the area, some influential stockholders from Maryland, Virginia, and London formed another company, the Wabash Land Company. The new outfit immediately bought more land from the Indians, this time along the Wabash River. Then in 1779–80 the two interlocking companies merged as the United Illinois and Wabash Land Companies.

The new organization, declaring that their deals with the Indians were legal under British law, tried to get recognition of their titles from the Continental Congress through a *Memorial* presented in 1781. But this plea remained unanswered in the larger problem of cession of state-claimed lands to the national government so that it could assume the state war debts and pay them off.

The company did not give up, even after the Constitution was adopted. Its hopes were revived by a favorable report of a House Committee on April 3, 1792, although the Senate rejected the claim. Subsequent House committees reaffirmed the stand of

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**Honors**

As classes came to a close in April we had a busy week of special events at the Library. The Ann Arbor Cantata Singers under Prof. Richard Crawford gave a public concert, featuring some of the early American music we collect. Then the English department honored retiring Prof. Austin Warren by asking him to deliver a lecture in the Library setting. Finally, the History department held its annual honors convocation at the Library. Regent Alvin Bentley gave out the prizes to the students, and President Fleming spoke.