

The Quarto

ISSUED QUARTERLY FOR THE CLEMENTS LIBRARY ASSOCIATES

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Schoff Civil War Collection

THE LIBRARY HAS taken some kidding about terminating its interests at 1860. Did we think history stopped then? Had we ever heard of the Civil War? And so on.

Of course, the 1860 date was never absolute. Back in 1942 we were given a collection of books by and about Abraham Lincoln, and another of Theodore Roosevelt. We have long held some Civil War letters, and our newspapers run through the war. One of our largest manuscript collections deals with the Spanish-American War. Our sheet music collection runs down to 1900, and so does our collection on the Shakers. Rather, what was meant was that we gave our attention to finding source materials before the Civil War and generally did not spend money on the later period.

Meanwhile, a group of professors in our History Department has developed an interest in war as a social phenomenon and in comparative military history. They have prevailed on the University Library to buy the histories of military units in England, France, Germany, and Italy. The weakness in the scheme was the lack of regimental histories of the United States. Therefore, when James S. Schoff, '22, a member of the Library's Committee of Management, offered his collection of unit and campaign histories on the Civil War, the Committee quickly accepted his generous gift.

The books are here, affording the Library a respectable resource of over 800 titles on the military side of the Civil War. Over half of them are regimental histories. With them came a large number of engravings and photographs of the war. It was our first war to be photographically recorded, giving us a true eye-witness view. Moreover, the Schoff collection will be supplemented by manuscript letters.

The Schoff collection has been placed in the

same room with the Lincoln books, since they interlock and some of the latter deal with the war as well. Mr. Schoff has asked that his contribution to the 50th Anniversary fund be utilized for additions to the Civil War collection, and that generous sum has been marked for this purpose.

Clements Biography

THE LONG AWAITED biography of Mr. Clements as a collector has appeared at last. Under the title of *Shaping a Library, William L. Clements as Collector*, it was meticulously researched and agreeably written by Margaret Maxwell while she obtained her doctor's degree in the School of Library Science here. She made use, of course, of the Clements correspondence and the Regents' *Proceedings* as well as business papers and bibliographical sources to reveal our founder's activities, interests, methods, attitudes, etc. as his cautious beginnings grew into his major concern.

Book collecting as he practiced it outgrew the limits of a hobby and became a cultural responsibility which he thought a university could best administer. He was a man of vision as well as of great taste and scholarly interests. Mr. Clements contradicted the popular image of the well-to-do business man.

The work was published by Nico Israel, Keizersgracht 526, Amsterdam 1002, The Netherlands, at \$12.50. Associates were circulated about ordering it more than a year ago. Perhaps some of those who did not act then may wish to order now.

Porter Family Papers

WE ARE PLEASED to announce a sizable addition to our Porter Collection through the generous gift of a descendant, Mrs. Carroll Van Ness of Owings Mills, Maryland.



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of The University of Michigan

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The Porters, very much like the Perry family, were a virtual naval dynasty. The son of a Revolutionary naval officer, David Porter (1780-1843) was father of David Dixon Porter (1813-1891) and step-father of David Farragut. All of his grandsons entered the navy, one, Theodoric Porter, rising to the rank of admiral before retirement.

Forty-four items relating to David Porter provide an intimate personal glimpse of the impulsive, outspoken hero of Tripoli and the War of 1812. Some seventy-five letters and a variety of essays, speeches, and literary manuscripts constitute an important record of the career of David D. Porter which future biographers will wish to consult.

Already an area of strength with the Perry, Chew, Evans, Smith, and Morris Papers, our naval collections are taking on the scholarly depth which only years of acquisition can create.

Revolutionary Romance

NOVELS WRITTEN BY AMERICANS and published in the United States before 1800 are pretty scarce. Altogether there are only 38 titles, of which we have 25. We have just acquired at auction one more.

Author unknown, it is entitled *The Fortunate Discovery, or the History of Henry Villars. By a Young Lady of the State of New York.* (N.Y., 1796). Set in New York in 1782, it is a tale of wartime romance and the discovery of blood relationship tying two British soldiers and their American hosts. All participants return to wealth and title in England at the conclusion without 'as much as a tear shed at leaving the United States! The Harper fund has enabled us to add this one of a dozen surviving copies to our shelves.

Fellows

AFTER ALL THE exertions and generosity that went into the Associates' campaign of a year ago and more to raise extra funds for the Library's 50th anniversary, we half feared that this year there might be a precipitous let down in contributions. Of course, a return to normal giving was expected, but we are pleased to report that most of our Fellows have continued their \$100 gifts. So far we can count 81.

Regular Associates have responded well, despite inflation and a falling stock market. We are much gratified by their loyalty. Other research libraries envy us our Associates' support.

The Era of Discovery

THE LIBRARY HAS received a grant of \$180,000 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to underwrite a program in the history of discovery at the University, to begin next fall. Details were worked out with the departments of history, geography, and Renaissance literature.

A seminar in the field will be offered by Prof. Charles Gibson. Three fellowships for graduate students interested in the subject have been made available. A conference on the history of discovery will be held here late in October, bringing together for lectures and discussion a half dozen of the most distinguished scholars here and abroad, who work in this era on particular countries. Overlapping this conference will be the annual meeting of the Society for the History of Discoveries, for which the Library will be host.

In future years we expect to attract a senior research scholar here to use our source material on discoveries, and perhaps to aid in publishing certain studies in the field. An occasional acquisition will be possible. The seminar and the fellowships will continue.

The Library also made a bid to the Society to move its annual periodical here, by offering Douglas Marshall as editor and a subsidy. Mr. Marshall is also working as coordinator of the discovery program with the director and an advisory committee from the three departments concerned.

Museum Piece

SOMETHING NEW (actually old) has been added to our Main Hall. A Sheraton style, mahogany secretary, dating about 1800, and once belonging to Mr. Clements, was given to the Library by Mrs. E. P. Botsford of California. She inherited it from her aunt, Mrs. Clements, and generously decided it would look handsome in the Library. It does, indeed, and we are delighted with it. According to the family tradition, the secretary once belonged to the Boston poet, Amy Lowell.

Winfield Scott Collection

WINFIELD SCOTT, the rotund "Fuss and Feathers" most clearly remembered from the Brady photographs taken late in his career, possessed a military record of long and distinguished service unequalled in American history.

A Virginian and a lawyer by training, Scott embarked upon military service by raising a company of volunteers in the heated atmosphere following the *Chesapeake* Incident of 1807. He served and was closely associated with every President from Jefferson to Lincoln!

One of the few real heroes of both the War of 1812 and the Mexican War, the nation's foremost authority on infantry tactics and drill regulations, he participated in the Black Hawk and the Florida Indian Wars of 1835, supervised the removal of the Cherokee, and effectively defused military crises over Nullification and the country's Canadian border. Scott maneuvered for the Whig nomination every four years beginning in 1839 and was the unsuccessful candidate in 1852.

Seven years ago we had the good fortune to acquire thirty-six Scott letters of the highest quality. These have become the nucleus of, what

is to our knowledge, the only Winfield Scott collection in existence. It now numbers 62 letters; our Scott correspondence from all collections has reached a total of 154.

One recently acquired letter documents the meticulous attention Scott paid to details of training and supply during his command at Buffalo in 1814. Such careful preparation helps to explain his success on the battlefield. A private letter of 1839 exposes the active role he played in trying to get the Presidential nomination. Winfield Scott letters are appearing on the market periodically and we are making every effort to build the collection into one of real strength.

Mapping in America

OUR CURATOR OF MAPS, Douglas Marshall, returned from London with new information about the British map effort during the American Revolution. It is now possible to determine the cartographer on many of the 170 unsigned manuscript maps in the Clinton collection here. He has also returned with much original information on the methods which surveyors used in the eighteenth century.

All of this information will be useful in our projected Atlas of the American Revolution, in which we will tell the story by the aid of manuscript maps of battles. Many of these maps were drawn on the spot by the best available American, British, and French engineers in the army. Most of the maps by British draftsmen will be selected from our own large holdings. Facing each map in the atlas will be a descriptive narrative of the battle depicted.

The atlas is an expensive undertaking, and was made possible only by a subsidy to the publisher of \$10,000 from the state's Bicentennial Commission. Mr. Marshall's research trip was also funded by an outside source—the Office of Research Administration.

Florida Souls in Danger

TWO LITTLE-KNOWN BUT HIGHLY important documents for the early history of Florida were added to the Library this past fall. The first was written by Juan Ferro Machado, a Franciscan priest from Havana who represented the bishop of Cuba on an ecclesiastical visit to Florida in 1687. It was the first such mission by a Spanish official in almost one hundred years. On the basis of what

he saw in his travels of over 500 leagues, Machado concluded that Florida urgently needed a separate bishop. This was true both because of its great distance from Havana, and because of the ill-treatment of the Florida Indians by the local Spanish regime, a condition which he hoped might be ameliorated if they had their own bishop.

Machado's account was strongly challenged by Francisco de Ayeta, a well-known Franciscan missionary who had worked among the Indians of Mexico. His answer is bound in the same volume with Machado's account.

Both titles were apparently issued without title-pages, and there are no colophons at the end of either, so that we do not know exactly where or when they were published. They are thought to have been issued somewhere in Spain in 1688 or 1689. They do not appear in any of the standard bibliographies, and the National Union Catalog locates only two or three copies of each in American libraries.

Founder's Day

MARK MONDAY AFTERNOON, April 1, the birthday of Mr. Clements, for a program and tea at the Library. Invitations will reach you later. We think we have an entertaining presentation to offer you, and we shall be delighted to greet our friends again. We hope for good weather and permission to park along South University Ave.

Urban History

THE LIBRARY HAS recently been able to add four titles to its growing collection of books on urban history. The first is the very rare *Rochester at the Close of 1827*. Published at Rochester in 1828, when its population was just over 10,000, the book includes a brief history of the city as well as a description of its chief institutions. There is also a map showing the principal landmarks. *A History of Philadelphia*, by Daniel Bowen (Philadelphia, 1839) is more than a standard urban history, for it also contains information on military operations on the Delaware during the War of 1812, and muster rolls of Pennsylvania troops. *Annual Review. History of St. Louis* (1854) is devoted largely to commercial and business statistics, together with some information on the history of the city and its government. A large folding map shows the prin-

cipal railroad and steamboat lines connecting with the city. Finally, there is Gorham A. Worth's *Random Recollections of Albany*. Although not published until 1866, it describes the city as it was during the first eight years of the nineteenth century and includes many portraits and illustrations from that earlier time.

Skeleton in the Closet

THE CONTROVERSY OVER Tom Paine reached beyond the grave, according to a story unearched by Mrs. Lydia Muncy, an Associate contributing volunteer effort in our newspaper collection.

Paine, of course, was the rebellious figure who advocated American independence from Britain in the widely read pamphlet, *Common Sense*. Later, he defended the French revolution, and sat in the French legislature, although imprisoned during the Terror. Yet the popularity of Paine's ideas in America and France encouraged him to advocate the overthrow of the British government in the second part of the *Rights of Man*—a point of view unwelcome to the supporters of the English parliament. In fact, Paine was exiled from Britain and not invited to return.

Ten years after Paine's death in 1809, the English reformer William Cobbett exhumed (some say stole) the remains from an American cemetery, and promised a colossal statue and funeral "twenty miles long" in London. Cobbett's problems began to be noted in the Dec. 29, 1819 issue of the *Essex Register* of Salem, Massachusetts. A letter from Liverpool read, "The collector of this port has refused to permit the landing of Paine's bones, being a contraband article." However, Cobbett managed to get off the boat with the bones, because the next issue of the newspaper reported that a crowd had congregated at the customs house, and that the duty officer, "having lifted up several of the bones, replaced the whole and passed them." Perhaps the official concluded that they could cause no more harm.

But Cobbett had other ideas. He wanted to exhibit them in London as an inspiration, "to as many persons as might choose to come to them." As it turned out, none of Cobbett's elaborate memorial plans could be effected and when he died in 1835, the Paine bones went to the receiver of his estate. They were last reported in possession of a London furniture dealer in 1844, and then lost to history.