

BANCROFTIANA

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Robert Allerton Parker Papers

"DO YOU KNOW ROBERT ALLERTON PARKER? I am told that he is the most erudite man in America." So exclaimed an Irish gentleman to a friend of the Parker family, both guests at tea in the Dublin home of Prime Minister De Valera. Undoubtedly the native Californian laughed when the incident was reported back to him; his own self-portrait is to be found in a letter written early in 1941 to Dr. Margaret Wade, for whose biography of Thomas Traherne Parker wrote the introduction.

I was brought up in the school of journalism; associate editor of *Current Opinion* (1914-1920). I next turned to editing and writing for magazines of art—*Arts & Decoration*, *The Arts*, the *International Studio*. My introduction to mysticism was due to research for a biography of John Humphrey Noyes, founder of the Oneida Community of Perfectionists . . . not unlike the Families of Love and the Familists. This was published under the title of *A Yankee Saint*. My next book was a study of the Negro Messiah Father Divine, *The Incredible Messiah*. I might describe myself as an anthropologist of the contemporary scene. I am married, past 50, and my wife is Jessica Daves, managing editor of *Vogue*. This sounds rather fantastic to a scholar like you, I am sure.

The literary career of the late biographer, editor and journalist, who died in 1970, is well documented in the large collection of his personal papers recently presented to The Bancroft Library by his widow, Mrs. Robert



Robert Allerton Parker

Allerton Parker of New York. Aside from the working manuscripts of his several biographies, there are the various revisions of his unpublished novel interpreting the American West, *Ox Train*, and notes relating to a variety of possible publications on subjects ranging from Eadweard Muybridge to Henry James, from Las Vegas to shadow plays. In addition, there is correspondence with Louis-Ferdinand Céline, Marcel Duchamp, A. K. Coomeraswamy, for whose book *Am I My Brother's Keeper?* Parker supplied the introduction, and with Richard Aldington, whose letters are filled with literary gossip of the choicest variety. From Aldous Huxley, then living at San Cristóbal, New Mexico, Parker received, in July,

1937, a warm, complimentary letter in which Huxley commented on the Noyes and Father Divine biographies: "It would have been easy to spoil those fascinating subjects; but you have treated them with such skill, tact and intelligence that one gets everything that is to be got out of them."

"Rob" Parker grew up in Alameda, and graduated from the University of California in 1909. His love for his boyhood surroundings continued even while his residence became almost exclusively the environs of New York. Toward the end of his life he became interested in the subject of the American theater of the turn-of-the-century, and began gathering the theatrical materials which form a substantial part of this collection. Writing in 1960 to the San Francisco Public Library, he identified himself as having just published *The Transatlantic Smiths*, a biography of the Philadelphia and London family which included Logan Pearsall Smith and his sisters, Mrs. Bernard Berenson and Mrs. Bertrand Russell, and said: "I am exploring the idea of following this book with a volume of the old variety shows of San Francisco beginning with the notorious Bella Union and the Tivoli of my childhood." More than one thousand pages of unpublished material provide unique and valuable documentation to scholars of the American theater.

Having been arranged by Miss Marie Byrne of the Manuscripts Division, the Robert Allerton Parker Papers are now available for use in the Bancroft's Reading Room.

Bancroftiana Index

WE ARE PLEASED to forward, with this issue of *Bancroftiana*, the Index to the first fifty numbers of our publication, covering the period March 1950–September 1971. This may be considered an extra keepsake, since the regular Friends' "book" will be published later in the spring.

Bancroftiana Reprint

WITH THE PUBLICATION of the Index being distributed with this issue of *Bancroftiana*, the Council has decided it will reprint a limited number of sets of the first fifty issues, if enough Friends who do not now have a complete run

wish to acquire one. To break even on this projected publication we must receive 175 orders; if these are received, the cost of the reprint, bound in a paper cover and including the Index, will be \$30. Those of the Friends who wish to place an order are urged to return the enclosed post card promptly so that we may know whether or not to proceed.

Hiram Johnson's "Diary"

THE BANCROFT LIBRARY's publications program has been given a boost by a recent grant from the William G. Irwin Charity Foundation of San Francisco which will support the publication of Hiram Johnson's "Diary," actually a series of letters written during the years 1917–1945 to his two sons, Archibald and Hiram, Jr. The nearly 4,000 pages of typescript material, covering Johnson's incumbency as United States Senator from California, was purchased, along with other Hiram Johnson Papers, in 1956, but has been available for use only during the past five years.

Under the editorship of Robert E. Burke, formerly head of the Bancroft's Manuscripts Division and presently Professor of History at the University of Washington, the "Diary" will be published by the University of California Press in 500 sets of microfiche, transparent plastic cards on which will be reproduced, in sharply reduced format, many pages of the photographed and annotated text. The cards may be read with the use of a microfiche reader, a far less costly mechanism than the well-known microfilm reader, which magnifies the material to eye-readable form. Thanks to the Irwin grant the cost of the published work can be very reasonable.

Hiram Johnson's frequent, sometimes daily letters to his sons were a primary method of commenting, in a vivid and forthright manner, upon events and personalities of the day. Writing to "My Dear Boys" on March 5th, 1929, the Senator refers to events of the day before.

I pass over the inauguration with you, simply saying that almost directly in front of me sat yesterday in the senate chamber the outgoing and the incoming presidents. I

would have given much to have been able to sketch their countenances. Two more dour, forbidding, and disagreeable faces it would be hard to conceive. Every lineament was sour and disgruntled, and no human expression once illumined these stony faces. The little man who left at once for Northampton is eating his heart out; the other man, who, despite his enormous publicity and the advertising of his modest and shrinking ways, feels himself practically a dictator, and will pursue his ruthless and relentless course in the next few years.

The Senator's personal involvement in so many major national, as well as state issues, give to the series a significance far beyond ordinary family correspondence, for Johnson was one of the principal backers of the Hoover Dam Project, was one of the outstanding isolationists in Congress, opposed to the United States entry into both World Wars, and was generally at odds with the Roosevelt administrations. Although the Hiram Johnson Papers have been very heavily used by scholars and students in the Bancroft's Reading Room, publication will allow the "Diary" to be more widely read by students unable to make the journey to Berkeley.

GPH: 75



GPH, Carrie Hammond, James D. Hart

TWO DAYS PRIOR to his seventy-fifth birthday, on Friday, September 17th, his colleagues in the Library surprised Director Emeritus George P. Hammond with a "birthday coffee and cake." Joining the Director, the staff, and her husband, Mrs. Hammond arrived in time to share in the festivities.

Although he officially retired in 1965, GPH has not been idle, and since his return from Spain in 1967 has occupied an office in the now-demolished quarters of The Bancroft Library. So, it was only a few steps from his desk, where he was putting the finishing touches on the second volume of *A Guide to the Manuscript Collections of The Bancroft Library*—this one recording the Mexican and Central American manuscripts—to the Director's office, where his pleasure was recorded by the accompanying photograph.

Eadweard Muybridge Collection

SIX YEARS BEFORE SHE PUBLISHED her famous novel, *Ramona*, Helen Hunt Jackson wrote, in *Bits of Travel at Home*, "I am not sure, after all, that there is any thing so good to do in San Francisco as to spend a forenoon in Mr. Muybridge's little upper chamber, looking over these marvellous [sic] pictures." Many of these "marvellous pictures" have now been added to The Bancroft Library through the purchase of the Eadweard Muybridge Photographic Collection, assembled by Monsignor Joseph M. Gleason and later acquired with his library by the San Francisco College for Women. Funds for the purchase of this substantial collection were provided, in large part, by the Friends.

Muybridge, born Edward James Muggeridge at Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey in 1830, first came to San Francisco in the late 1850's and operated an antiquarian bookshop. Rapidly successful, he left the venture in the hands of his brother, Thomas, and during the course of an overland journey, on his way back to England, he was thrown from a stagecoach. His injuries required medical treatment of several years duration in England, during which period he mastered the art of stereophotography. As "Eadweard Muybridge," photographer, he returned to San Francisco in 1867.

During the next seven years, Muybridge completed his famed Yosemite photographs, followed by series on Mammoth Trees, San Francisco Views, Alaska, the Pacific Coast, and many other subjects. In 1875 he traveled in



Church of Santa Ana, Panama

Central America, photographing for the Pacific Mail Steamship Company; among the many views completed is the interior of the Church of Santa Ana, Panama, reproduced here. The scientific study of human and animal locomotion occupied much of his remaining career, until his death in 1904; among the studies from this period are the "moving" pictures of Leland Stanford's trotting horses. The full story of Muybridge's life is yet to be told; fortunately, two Californians, Mary V. Jessup Hood and Robert Bartlett Haas have been engaged in such a study for some time, and we look forward to the publication of their findings.

In addition to examples of his published work, the recently acquired Muybridge Collection includes about 1,700 stereophotographs, 100 larger single photographs, and five albums of prime prints from the original glass plates. When added to those Muybridge photographs

already held by The Bancroft Library, they form what is probably the finest collection of this artist's work in the country.

Thanks to The Bancroft

"I WAS FOR MANY MONTHS almost a fulltime boarder at The Bancroft Library. The enthusiastic assistance of the staff of that Library proved inexhaustible." So writes Alexander Saxton, author of *The Indispensable Enemy; Labor and the Anti-Chinese Movement in California* (University of California Press) in one of the many recently published acknowledgements indicating that the Bancroft is not only a treasure house of rare books and manuscripts, pictures and maps, but is, as well, a center for scholarly research.

Professor Saxton, a member of the Department of History at UCLA, utilized the extensive collection of documents, letters, pamphlets, notes, clippings and newspapers about California labor movements which comprise the Ira B. Cross Papers. Max Heirich of the University of Michigan, whose *The Spiral of Conflict. Berkeley, 1964* was published by Columbia University Press, used pictures and documents recording a more recent phenomenon of our social history, the Free Speech Movement, preserved in the University Archives and made available by J. R. K. Kantor, whom Mr. Heirich remembers as "a constant source of information."

Having examined materials from both the Mark Twain Papers and the Bancroft Collection, Miami University's Professor Edgar M. Branch, in his *Clemens of the Call, Mark Twain in San Francisco* (University of California Press), graciously offers thanks to

the staff of The Bancroft Library and especially Mr. John Barr Tompkins, the late Mrs. Helen Bretmor, Mr. Cecil Chase, Mr. J. R. K. Kantor, Mrs. Alma Compton, and Mr. Robert H. Becker, the Assistant Director, for their professional and courteous help during portions of three summers. Also, I wish to thank Mr. Frederick Anderson, Editor of the Mark Twain Papers . . . [to whom] I am deeply grateful for his early reading of most of the *Call* pieces here re-

printed and for his subsequent encouragement. Both Mr. Anderson and Mr. Tompkins generously answered my written appeals for help with difficult points. My thanks also go to Professor James D. Hart for his helpful suggestions.

The Mark Twain Papers provided source materials for several recent publications, among them *Mark Twain and John Bull* by Howard G. Baetzhold (Indiana University Press), *The Trouble Begins at Eight, Mark Twain's Lecture Tours* by Fred W. Lorch (Iowa State University Press), and *Mark Twain's Correspondence with Henry Huttleston Rogers, 1893-1909*, edited by Lewis Leary (University of California Press). In the latter volume, Mr. Leary, Professor of English at the University of North Carolina, refers to the "companionable and selfless labors of Michael Frank, George P. Germany, Alan D. Gribben, Robert Hirst and Bernard L. Stein . . . in running down hints and allusions until they became documented facts, checking and rechecking, and pulling their sometimes erring elders up short, [providing] heartening evidence that the future of literary scholarship among us is in good hands."

Lithographs, paintings, drawings and photographs from the Bancroft's expansive collections have provided illustrations for several recent works, including A. Bray Dickinson's *Narrow Gauge to the Redwoods* (Trans-Anglo Books) which acknowledges the Roy D. Graves photographs. The Graves Collection, whose acquisition was reported in *Bancroftiana* for March, 1965, also was the source for pictures used to illustrate *The San Francisco Earthquake* (Stein and Day), written by Gordon Thomas and Max Morgan Witts; the authors give special thanks to Dr. John Barr Tompkins, Head, Public Services, and Curator (extra-ordinaire) of the pictorial collections.

Pictorial material of yet another sort illustrates *The First Spanish Entry into San Francisco Bay, 1775*, an original narrative by Father Vicente Maria, edited by John Galvin and published by John Howell-Books. Two of the Louis Choris paintings which appear in this volume, one showing the San Francisco mission church and one of two Indians in war dance costume, are from Bancroft's famed

Honeyman Collection of Early Californian and Western Pictorial Material.

The extensive manuscript holdings of The Bancroft Library have attracted scholars from both far and near. Philip Ross May, a former Bancroft desk-holder whose good humor enlivened the atmosphere of the Reading Room during his recent sabbatical leave from the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand, has just published *On the Mother Lode* (the Press of his University), in which he acknowledges the help of Dr. Tompkins, Dale L. Morgan, and the staff of the Library. M. E. Grenander, a member of the faculty of the State University of New York at Albany and author of *Ambrose Bierce* (Twayne Publishers), used the Bancroft's California literary manuscripts in the course of her research for this volume. And Robert D. Harlan of Berkeley's School of Librarianship, whose *John Henry Nash, the Biography of a Career* (University of California Press) is the result of his careful review of the Bancroft's Nash Archives, cites "the staffs of the Regional Oral History Office and Rare Books Collection" as having provided valued assistance.

The aforementioned publications represent but a small sampling of recent works in which The Bancroft Library is mentioned; limitations of space and professions of modesty preclude a complete listing of all the thank-yous.

San Francisco Bay Maritime History

THOMAS CROWLEY, dean of west coast tugboatmen and a potent influence on Pacific coastal shipping in this century, was interviewed by the Bancroft's Regional Oral History Office (ROHO) in 1965, thus beginning a valuable series of transcripts dealing with maritime life on San Francisco Bay. The first of the tugboatmen who went "uptown," Tom Crowley in effect led the Bay's tugboat industry from small, scattered operations to unified organization.

Beginning his career in 1890 as a Whitehall boatman, water-taxiing men and goods to and from deep-water ships, Crowley ended it as president of Crowley Launch & Tugboat

Company and Red Stack Tugboat Company, only four years before his death in 1970 at the age of 94. His interview, conducted by ROHO's head, Mrs. Willa K. Baum, with the assistance of Karl Kortum of the San Francisco Maritime Museum, is titled *Recollections of the San Francisco Waterfront*. It preserves much of the personality as well as the recollected lore of the colorful and often controversial Tom Crowley; among its photographic illustrations is the one here reproduced.

Following that interview, a group of individuals, interested in further preserving twentieth-century San Francisco Bay history, came forward with funds for additional interviews. Captain William Figari, whose oral history is titled *San Francisco Bay and Waterfront, 1900-1965*, grew up on Telegraph Hill and as a boy went to work for Crowley, whom he credited with keeping him out of San Quentin, where many of his school friends landed. He recalled vividly the life of a tow-



Crowley Launch & Tugboat Company, Howard St. Wharf, 1910

boatman along the Embarcadero, on the Bay, and up the inland waterways.

Captain William McGillivray met Tom Crowley a few days after the 1906 earthquake and fire when he offered to help carry fleeing San Franciscans across to Oakland. Shortly thereafter, instead of returning to school, he went to work for Crowley, beginning a career that ended with his retirement, in 1969, as head of the San Pedro affiliate of the Crowley com-

pany. Part of his interview was given with Captain Figari in a "Do you remember, . . . ?" and "How about the time, Willie . . ." session.

Something of the flavor of these two men's interviews is reflected in a letter Captain McGillivray wrote to Mrs. Baum after he had received his copy of the transcript: "Received bound copy of *Towboats and Boatmen of California* and thanks for same . . . I guess that there is nothing that we can do about the poor waterfront language put out by Figari and myself but we had most of our schooling down on the docks and we understood each other and that was about all that mattered." To which Mrs. Baum replied: "I wouldn't change a word of it. That is part of the documentation we are seeking."

Now being completed, as the fourth interview in the series, is one with Captain Ernest M. Winther, whose knowledge of the Bay, going back to the '90's, is based principally on different kinds of experiences. His father was a

lighthouse keeper and his boyhood was spent at Lime Point, Point Bonita, the Farallones, and the Southampton Shoals light. Later he worked on the Sausalito ferry as well as aboard private yachts, and from 1930 to 1960 he was pilot of an Army Engineers' boat, taking soundings and doing rescue and clean-up work and other odd jobs. A keen observer, his interest in ecology colors much of his narration.

The Bancroft Library, which has had in its

collections few photographs of the Farallones, has made copies of Captain Winther's pictures of the islands, dating between 1893 and 1904. They form, according to Dr. John Barr Tompkins, "an interesting small group of photographs, particularly valuable because they are identified by someone who was there."

Fifth Dakin Lecture

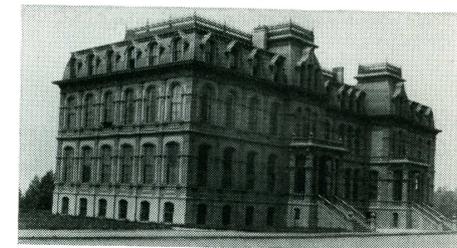
"ROYAL DEEDS AND COMMONERS' WORKS: Some Women Write History" was Professor Natalie Zemon Davis's topic for the final Susanna Bryant Dakin Lecture, delivered before 120 guests in the Bancroft's Reading Room on Wednesday evening, November 3d. Supported by a gift of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Zeitlin, the series, of which this was the last lecture, honored the memory of Mrs. Dakin, longtime member of the Council of the Friends.

Among the women discussed perceptively and with great wit by Professor Davis, a member of the Department of History, University of Toronto, were Christine de Pisan, Catherine Macauley, Emma Willard, Eileen Power, and Mary Beard. A special exhibition, arranged by Miss Irene Moran, included both works by Susanna Bryant Dakin, among them her three biographies, *A Scotch Paisano*; *Hugo Reid's Life in California, 1832-1852*, *The Lives of William Hartnell*, and *Rose, or Rose Thorn? Three Women of Spanish California*, as well as works by other women historians who have used the resources of The Bancroft Library. Among the latter were *The Intendant System in Spanish America* by Lillian E. Fisher, *James W. Marshall, The Discoverer of California Gold* by Theresa Gay, and *The California Sea Otter Trade, 1784-1848* by Adele Ogden.

Bradley Diaries

THROUGH THE GENEROSITY of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bradley of Berkeley, the Library has received a packet of eight small diaries kept during the years 1883-1893 by Mr. Bradley's father, Cornelius Beach Bradley, late Professor of English in the University of California. The diaries were transferred from the home on Durant Avenue built in 1895 ("grand total cost: \$7,315.61") and still occupied by the family.

Born in Siam in 1843 to American missionary parents, Bradley came to the University in 1882 as Instructor in English and retired as full Professor in 1911. At Berkeley his classes were held in Room 23 of North Hall (upper left corner in the illustration), which stood on the



present site of The Bancroft Library. While teaching courses which reflected his own wide range of interest in English grammar, rhetoric, criticism and literature, he pursued his earlier studies in the Siamese language, publishing articles on its alphabet, phonetics and vocabulary. In recognition of this latter achievement he was granted honorary membership in the Siam Society, as well as in the Royal Asiatic Society of London. The University of California awarded him the LL.D. in 1926.

For their chronology of University and Berkeley events during this decade, the diaries are rich indeed; the reader is allowed a fresh glimpse of the quiet life of an academic community, of its family dinners and its club meetings, and he is also proffered candid opinions on now-forgotten campus political battles. There are also comments on the condition of the streets, and on the strange manifestations of climate—the first entry, for January 1st, 1883, includes: "Yesterday snow in Oakland 1 1/2 in. deep."

A lover of the mountains of California, Bradley was a charter member of the Sierra Club, and from 1895 to 1898 served as editor of its *Bulletin*. Though he was to live on to his ninety-third year, 1936, Bradley's last entry, written during the summer of 1893 while on a tour of the Yosemite, reads in part: "The whole was for me a farewell survey and review of a noble region I never expect to visit again. For Harold it was an introduction to mountaineering, and the opening up of a new world of interest and delight."

New Year, New Look



Moving Day

IN MID-JANUARY the dislocation occurred, and on Saturday the 15th The Bancroft Library opened for public service in its temporary quarters, Room 150 of the Doe Library Annex (one floor below the old Reading Room). With good humor and determined effort the staff made the long-anticipated move and although conditions are somewhat cramped, the Library is functioning in a normal way.

It is hoped that the Friends will continue to visit and make use of the collections during this interim period while the remodeling is being completed; they will find themselves in familiar surroundings, since it has been possible to keep on display the Drake Plate, the *Codex Fernández Leal*, as well as many of the Honeyman Collection paintings.

Bancroft Fellowships

FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR commencing in July, two fellowships in the Graduate Division at Berkeley have been opened to candidates engaged in research on a subject whose source materials are available in The Bancroft Library. Students from any of the University's nine campuses may apply, provided that they are residents of California and beyond the first year of graduate study. Each fellowship will yield \$2,000, plus the required University fees.

The Library is delighted that it will once again, as it did during the 1962-63 academic year, be able officially to welcome its own fellows. The names of those so honored will be announced in a future issue of *Bancroftiana*.

Mexican Inquisition

Documents

WITH THE ASSISTANCE of a substantial gift both from the Friends and from the Law Library's R. D. and S. M. Robbins Fund, The Bancroft Library has acquired a significant collection of documents of the Mexican Inquisition, ranging in time from 1600 to 1799. Consisting of forty-five dossiers, relating for the most part to trial proceedings, these records afford the scholar a detailed knowledge of this aspect of canon law as it existed, officially, in Mexico from 1571 until the Inquisition was finally abolished in 1834.

Included in the files of the individual cases are copies of the original accusation, depositions by numerous witnesses, often testimony by the accused, genealogical records, sentence passed, and occasionally an account of expenditures incurred during the trial. As some of the proceedings continued over a period of years, at times the accused died during the trial and the case then included matters related to the settlement of the defendant's estate. It is interesting to note that Indians were exempt from these trials, though mulattoes do appear in the records.

Among the cases are four trials of witchcraft, two of apostasy, four of heresy, eight of blasphemy, seven of bigamy, three of polygamy, two of supernatural visions, one of clarification of genealogy, and one of fraud (the defendant having posed as an Inquisition official!). Also of particular interest are seven trials for practice of the Jewish faith.

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