Rarities from Jenkins-Eberstadt

"The largest rare book transaction in history" is how John H. Jenkins of Austin, Texas grandly described his recent purchase of the entire stock of Edward Eberstadt and Sons of Montclair, New Jersey, for many years a major bookseller of New York City. Comprising some forty-one thousand items, including many manuscripts written in the American West and Southwest and Mexico, the Jenkins Collection has brought to light many rarities heretofore unattainable. With the assistance of The Friends of The Bancroft Library, a group of correspondence relating to the missions of Alta and Baja California has been purchased, significantly complementing documentation already in the Library.

Ten rare holograph letters provide a first hand account of the activities of Father Juan Maria de Salvatierra, instrumental in establishing the missions of Baja California. They date from 1693 when his dream of populating the Californias with missions was already manifest, to 1703, by which time, with the moral and financial support of Fathers Eusebio Kino and Juan de Ugarte, he had firmly established the first mission in Baja California at Loreto. Father Salvatierra recounts the hardships of life at the mission where provisions were often in short supply and communication with the mainland perilous; he tells of explorations into the interior and reports on the work of Father Piccolo and other Jesuit missionaries; and he decries the continual lack of funds rendering it impossible to pay for the military safeguarding of the missions.

A second group of documents comprise the official correspondence of Captain Fernando Javier de Rivera y Moncada, then military governor of California, with Antonio Maria Bucareli, the Viceroy of Mexico. Consisting of nineteen items from 1775 to 1777, these letters supplement and enhance a substantial collection of Rivera y Moncada documents already in the Library. He was a leader of the Sacred Expedition of 1769, along with Portolá and Serra, which established the first missions in Alta California, and his letters, written from San Diego, and later from Loreto, report on the activities of Anza, record the arrival of twenty-five ill-equipped men, and make note of Indian depredations as well as of shipping operations. The Viceroy's letters concern financial matters, suggest the establishment of regular mail service between Mexico and California, and proffer sage advice in dealing with soldiers and deserters. He also stresses the importance of building up San Diego and founding San Juan Capistrano, and is concerned with questions of carpenters, blacksmiths, and masons needed for the construction of the new presidios.

In addition, the Library has secured four padrones (census records) for the San Buenaventura, San Carlos, Santa Ynes, and San José Missions for the year 1813, providing important statistical information. Other important documents include a handsome plan of the presidio at Santa Barbara, filled with minute detail, dated September 16th, 1788 and signed by Governor Pedro Fages. All of these splendid new acquisitions, together with other items not herein described, are now available for scholarly research in the Heller Reading Room.
Annual Meeting, May 30th

The twenty-ninth Annual Meeting of The Friends of The Bancroft Library will be held in Wheeler Auditorium on Sunday afternoon, May 30th, at 3:30 p.m. Senator Alan Cranston will be the principal speaker; his talk is entitled "California: Representing a Nation in the United States Senate." Following the meeting there will be a reception in the Library's Gallery to open an exhibition highlighting papers from the Bancroft Collection of senators representing California in Congress since 1850.

This year's Keepsake now being prepared for the Friends will be the first publication of Mabel Dodge Luhan's memoir of Robinson and Una Jeffers, the manuscript of which was written in Carmel in 1933 and purchased by the Library in 1946 as part of a collection of Una Jeffers' correspondence and papers. Mark Schorer, distinguished biographer of Sinclair Lewis and Professor Emeritus in the Department of English, has written a foreword to the text, which will be illustrated by both studio and candid photographs.

Mark Twain
"Newly" Photographed

It's been a gay day, Captain Dow is a charmer. He played billiards with the King...Then we made photographs—one of them of Captain Dow standing on his head.

So reads the entry written in her diary for October 11th, 1908 by Mark Twain's secretary, Isabel V. Lyon. Captain Dow commanded the Carris in which Clemens had earlier in the year travelled to Bermuda; now he was visiting "the King," as Clemens was fondly called, at "Stormfield," his home in Redding, Connecticut. And the photographs are part of a hitherto unknown collection of some three hundred nitrate negatives recently purchased for the Mark Twain Papers with funds made available by The Friends of The Bancroft Library.

Because nitrate negatives are quite unstable and need to be stored away from other valued materials, the Library has had acetate positives and contact prints made from the originals, so that these previously unknown pictures of Clemens and his associates are now available for scholarly research. Included in the collection are snapshots made at "Stormfield" in 1908 and 1909; in Bermuda in 1908, with many photographs taken on shipboard; and at other locations, including Tuxedo Park in 1907, posing with a variety of friends, young and old. These views provide a fuller and more intimate sense of the last three years of Clemens' life than heretofore available.

The collection is now open for inspection in the Mark Twain Papers' quarters on the fourth floor of The Bancroft Library.

Amateur Journalism

In his paper, Boy's Folio, Finlay Grant has given an apt definition of amateur journalism: "An institution of youth who edit, publish, print, or contribute to miniature journals as a means of self-improvement, as a pleasing pastime, and for the advancement of their own peculiar institutions." The fruits of this hobby are generally from four to eight pages in length, and range from the mimeographed format of Cheringa, an Australian title edited by James Guineane, to the nicely-printed and illustrated The Fossil. The latter journal records the activities of those who have formally left the field usually because of professional obligations but whose continuing interest is expressed through membership in the organization known as The Fossils. Most of these miniature magazines contain poetry, fiction, essays, and news of the hobby.

Particularly strong in the area of California amateur journalism, Bancroft's collection was recently augmented by over 150 titles published in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, and Australia. These form part of the Thomas Press and Printing Collection, described in Bancroftiana of April, 1971. An attorney, amateur journalist, and resident of Berkeley, the late Frederick Folger Thomas, Jr. gathered an extensive printing collection which, together with equipment from his printing shop, Arundo Press, is now housed in the Gallery. In addition to his journalistic work, Mr. Thomas, with William Gray Purcell, brought out Keweenaw in 1905, considered by some to be the finest example of small press bookmaking.

Amateur journalism's early history included several noteworthy figures. At the age of sixteen, Nathaniel Hawthorne issued the first of six numbers of the Spectator (1820), named after the famous paper of Joseph Addison and Sir Richard Steele. Likewise at sixteen, Robert Louis Stevenson issued the Sunbeam Magazine (1866), printed by hand, and later, in California, his stepson, Samuel Lloyd Osborne, at the age of twelve, brought out The Surprise (1886) with his aid. Perhaps the most famous of these journalists, Thomas Alva Edison, printed the Grand Trunk Herald on his own press in 1862.

The National Amateur Press Association, known more familiarly as the NAPA, was founded on February 19th, 1876, and many of the papers in the Thomas Collection were published under its auspices, including its own official organ, The National Amateur, begun in 1878. Of more recent vintage, particularly interesting are The Amateur Scribe, published by Charles A. Shattuck, President of the NAPA in 1946, and its "younger brother" The Junior Amateur. Both were vehicles for amateur writers, but Junior was aimed especially at teen-agers. Others deserving mention are Alf's Cat and Kitten, both the work of Alfred Penn Babcock in the 1940's.

Most of these publishers produced for simple pleasure and some kept at it for many years. Of particular note is the career of Charles W. Smith, known as "Tryout Smith" from the name of his paper, The Tryout. By the time of his death in 1948, Smith had printed nearly 300 issues, something of a record. A rather different magazine was A Staffed Club for Everybody, begun in 1900 by John Henry Tilden, a Denver doctor; this contained not only popular medical advice, but also comments on social and political issues of the day. A more literary work, The Aonian (1943-45), was edited by Ernest Arthur Edkins, called the most accomplished of the poets to appear in these journals.

In 1900 at the age of seventeen, Timothy Burr Thrift brought out the first issue of The Lucky Pup. Although he left the field in 1910 to join the Sherwin-Williams Company in Cleveland, he resumed publication of his journal in 1940 with an interesting and beautifully printed issue giving his thoughts on the activities and quality of amateur journalism during the early years of this century. Four more issues followed, the last in 1944. The paper achieved the distinction of being satirized by The Lucky Pup, a single issue of which appeared in Cleveland in 1905 from an unknown source. Thrift also published The Black Book (1902-09), and
Amateur journalism has had many practitioners in California, with a heavy concentration of printers, writers, and journalists in the San Francisco Bay Area. The Bancroft Library holds in the 1920's and 30's from Southern California in 1949 came President Ack Ack, also for the NAPA. In 1951, Rowena's sister, Katherine Autry, issued "The Kitty-Diary," and in its first "jump" tells the inside story of the genesis of an amateur paper.

Amateur journalism has had many practitioners in California, with a heavy concentration of printers, writers, and journalists in the San Francisco Bay Area. The Bancroft Library holds a California title in its collections. The Californian, official organ of the San Francisco Amateur Press Club, first appeared in 1908; two years earlier the first issue of Robert Pitman Reid's The Irishman was published in Alameda. John Walter Held's long-lived The Spectator first appeared in Oakland in 1914, and was still flourishing in the 1920's. From Southern California in 1899 came Presidential Ack Ack, edited by Harold D. Ellis and printed by Alf Babcock in Arcadia. And Muggins Ink was brought out in Montrose by the Preston Williamson family in 1948.

The Thomas Collection, together with related items in The Bancroft Library, constitutes a group of rare and in some ways unique material. Few of the titles appear in the Union List of Serials, nor are many found in the printed catalogues of the Library of Congress. Quite a few older titles are not noted in Thomas J. Spencer's A History of Amateur Journalism. The collection illustrates not only the fine craftsmanship possible in a hobby, but also the attractions of printing done simply but well, and provides a valuable resource for students of typography as well as for those interested in the annals of printing.

Recent Exhibitions

"Harriet Martineau, Radical Victorian Lady, from the Collection of Dr. R. S. Speck" was opened with a reception for The Friends of The Bancroft Library on January 15th in the Library's Gallery. Dr. Speck delivered a short talk about the prominent nineteenth-century author whose pen championed economic and social reform in England, and also told of how he had come to collect both her own works and works about her.

On March 21st the Library's retrospective exhibition of works produced by The Allen Press of Kentfield was shown for the first time to a large gathering of the Friends and their friends. The printers, who are also alumni, Lewis and Dorothy Allen, were honored guests, and William P. Barlow, Jr., Chairman of the Friends, gave a brief talk about their handsomely produced volumes, the products of the only press in the United States to do all of its work by hand. This exhibition, created at Bancroft, will begin its travels in mid-May to Stanford, Huntington, and the San Francisco Public libraries.

Sotomayor Collection

A substantial collection of Antonio Sotomayor's work, including thirty-six pastel cartoon portraits, eighteen pen-and-ink caricatures, and ninety-three designs for various publications, parties, and receptions held over the last twenty-five years, mostly at the Palace Hotel, has been deposited in The Bancroft Library by the noted San Francisco artist. In addition to this deposit, which will become a gift at a later date, the Library has, with the assistance of the Heller Charitable and Educational Fund, been able to acquire his fine pastel caricature portrait of Earl Warren as a central piece.

Born in the Indian village of Chiluman La Paz in Bolivia, Sotomayor first demonstrated his gift for political cartoons while still a student at the School of Fine Arts at La Paz. In 1927, at the age of nineteen, he came to San Francisco and secured a job at the Palace Hotel, later attending classes at the California School of Fine Arts, now the San Francisco Art Institute. At the hotel he drew so many cartoons of the staff that the management gave him a studio where he might caricature many of the notables who came to the Palace. This led to his becoming cartoonist on the staff of the San Francisco Call-Bulletin.

This collection which has come to the Bancroft is virtually a Who's Who of Bay area artists, politicians, and business and professional men, including Roger Lapham, here pictured, William Saroyan, Ralph Stackpole, Lucien Labaudt, Angelo Rossi, Benigno Bufano, Timothy Pfueger, George Christo-pher, Ansel Adams, and J. D. Zellerbach. National and international figures such as Herbert Hoover, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Ezio Pinza, Haile Selassie, and Sergei Rach- maninoff are also represented.

In her unpublished memoir, "The Bridge Between Then and Now," which is also in the Library's collections, Beatrice Ryan, former proprietor of the Galerie Beaux Arts in San Francisco, states that "Sotomayor is one of the best of the North American caricaturists," and further:

He has an impish genius for what is essential in a cartoon, but he is never grotesque for the sake of grotesquerie. To him caricature is another way of examining people, finding out what they think and how they act, what they really are. Through Sotomayor's exhibitions at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor and the de Young Museum, his work as a serious artist has also been recognized.

Mr. Sotomayor continues to live and work in San Francisco and is an active participant in the cultural life of the Bay area. This collection documents his contributions as an illustrator, set designer, and cartoonist, and it is anticipated that it will be much used by students of the artistic and social history of this region.

Franchère's Relation, and others

To the already rich historical collection that Hubert Howe Bancroft gathered together and then partly sold, partly gave to the University of California seventy years ago, the Library's Friends are constantly adding new treasures. Most recently a donor who prefers to remain anonymous has presented a group of volumes dealing with early voyages and travels in our geographical area of the world, and three of these titles are remarkably noteworthy because they have not been included in our collections up till now.

Gabriel Franchère's Relation d'un Voyage à la Côte du Nord-Ouest de l'Amérique Septentrionale, dans les Années 1810, 1811, 1812, 1813 et 14 is a vivid account of a young French Canadian's activities in the employ of John Jacob Astor. Franchère traveled to the Pacific Coast on the Tongue and participated in the founding of the trading post at Astoria at the mouth of the Columbia River. He remained there until the spring of 1814 when he journeyed up the Columbia, across the Athabasca Pass to Saskatchewan, and thence
The Library has received from one of its Friends, Mr. Louis L. Stein of Kensington, this unidentified group photograph, seemingly representing an outing of amateur cameramen, perhaps in the San Francisco Bay region. With the increasing proliferation of pictorial histories, the need to know what particular people looked like at a specific time and in a specific place has been intensified. Acknowledgements and credit lines in a multitude of recent publications attest to the richness of Bancroft's resources. We should like to be able to document this item further, and information, specific or suggestive, will be welcomed.

To Lake Superior and the St. Lawrence River, arriving in Montreal in September of that year. The journal of his travels was substantially edited and published in Montreal in 1820.

The book, of which the Library had only a film copy, is noted as the first printed account of the route from Oregon east to Montreal. Despite its importance, this narrative was not issued in an English-language edition for more than thirty years, when it appeared, in translation by J. V. Huntington, in 1854. A copy of this translation is also included as part of this recent gift.

Of the second of these three titles, Voyage autour du Monde, principalement a la Californie et aux Iles Sandwich, pendant les Annees 1826, 1827, 1828, et 1829, by Auguste Bernard du Hautcilly, Bancroft himself noted: "Of this original French edition I have only a fragment in my collection." This fragment, patched with photocopied pages from other collections, and the Italian edition of 1841 have had to suffice for the Library's patrons until now. Captain du Hautcilly's narrative of his visits to missions, presidios, and pueblos along the coast of Alta California as commander of the French trading ship Heros, drew praise from Bancroft who noted that "his opportunities for observation were more extensive than those of any foreign visitor who preceded him." Bancroft also wrote that "his narrative is one of the most interesting ever written on the subject..." The third title is one which evidently did not escape Bancroft's notice, since it was not included in the collection which came to the University in 1906, A Narrative of the Adventures and Sufferings of Captain Daniel D. Heustis and his Companions, in Canada and Van Diemen's Land, during a Long Captivity; with Travels in California, and Voyages at Sea. The first edition was published in Boston in 1847. Heustis, an American, had participated in an ill-starred rebellion in Canada and was sentenced to penal servitude in Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania). Eventually pardoned, Heustis crossed the Pacific in an American whaler to Hawaii, and from thence to California on the trading ship Fama, landing at Monterey on May 25th, 1849. After spending five months in Alta California, and traveling extensively through the northern part of the Territory, Heustis took ship for the Atlantic Coast. His account of California during the last year of Mexican rule is short, but lively and interesting.

José Montesinos Papers

Through the generosity of Mrs. Nora Montesinos of Berkeley the Library has received the research papers and notes of her late husband, Professor José F. Montesinos, an internationally renowned scholar in Hispanic literature. The author of some twenty-eight books dealing with the Valdés brothers, the new ballad, Lope de Vega, and the nineteenth-century novel, Montesinos was born in Granada in 1897 and came to Berkeley's Department of Spanish and Portuguese after the conclusion of the Second World War. He died in 1972.

Included in the Montesinos Papers are his boxes of notes on Spanish authors of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, arranged alphabetically from Acebal to Zorrilla, as well as bibliographical materials for his Introducción a una historia de la novela en España en el siglo XIX. There are also manuscripts and typescripts of several of his works, with interesting variants, such as the Spanish text for his introduction, published in French, to an edition of Peribáñez, as well as the manuscript for Pedro Antonio de Alarcón, to be issued posthumously.

Complementing the Bancroft's printed holdings of Hispanic literature, the Montesinos Papers represent an exciting and rich new resource for scholars in this field.

"Underground" Dutch Imprints

One hundred and ninety-eight titles issued by underground printers in the Netherlands during the German occupation of that country in World War II have been purchased for the Library's Rare Books Collection. While the number of volumes is small when compared to the five hundred and fifty-seven titles listed in the British Museum and to the important collections housed at the Universities of Amsterdam and Leiden, these books will nevertheless be of great value to American scholars, for the range of titles and subjects is indeed wide.

Included in the Library's new collection are several reprints of 'dangerous' works from earlier times, such as Der Sack der Cautelen, originally published in Antwerp in 1528, and André Gide's comments, of 1919, Over Duitsland. Most of the items, however, are original short stories and poems, nearly all of them finely printed and illustrated, a special feature of Dutch clandestine printing with its faith in the value of civilization, its hope for survival, and its defiance of an alien oppressor. Over and over again the Dutch poets speak of coldness, the dark winter, death, and night, and they dream of flowers, children, and of vrijheid (freedom). Some quote earlier British and French poets, but most cry out in their native Dutch, as does Garret Struijving:

O Hollands kinderen, stervend in uw trouw;
O Rotterdam; o graven aan de Grebbe;
O martelaarsbloed, eer dak ik U vergeet...

These voices of civilization are a welcome addition to Bancroft's Dutch documentation of so many diverse cultures.

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A recent gift to the University Archives is this till now unknown photograph of the Berkeley campus in 1897, with Berkeley residences in the foreground. All of the houses occupied what is now the southwestern corner of the campus, the present location of Harmon Gymnasium and Edwards Track Stadium. The large classroom building with its first-floor gallery, slightly to the left of center, was North Hall, occupying the site of The Bancroft Library.