

# BANCROFTIANA

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*Vista de San Francisco—1850. Oil on canvas by Augusto Ferran. Photograph by Mary-Ellen Jones.*

## *An Early View of California*

Young John James Hamilton, a native of Scotland, witnessed while a clerk in Liverpool the grim economic conditions there caused by massive unemployment. Had the financial climate been more promising he fancied he might have continued his studies at Oxford or Cambridge, or perhaps have entered the clergy. Instead, in November 1850, when barely twenty-one years old, he sailed on the *Trent*, with a thousand pounds in pocket, to seek his fortune in California.

The voyage was a stormy one, and he was pleased to have an inner cabin which, though dark, was dry in contrast with the outer ones

which were "pretty well washed into by the waves much to the discomfort of the occupants who were praying and swearing in all manner of tongues."

Shipboard distractions included morning and evening walks around the deck, games, amateur theatricals, and, after tea, singing and dancing. Provisions and coal began to be in short supply, however, even before arrival on December 13 at the West Indian port of Saint Thomas, and Hamilton was delighted to see land: "All the hills above the town are planted with vines and pineapples so that it was exactly as if we had been suddenly transferred to a hothouse. . . . Most of the houses are of wood and as they are painted all manner of colours the

scene from the deck is very picturesque, especially when contrasted with the bright green of the hills above the town."

By the end of the year, Hamiton had arrived in Panama, and from there he traveled north on the steamship *Republic*. This trip was less than pleasant. Three persons were crowded into a stateroom far smaller than that of the *Trent*, "two are Americans who smoke all day and it was only by the most energetic remonstrance that I could prevent them doing so all night in their berths. . . ." The weather, after a day of storms, turned hot, the fresh water soon became undrinkable, food was cooked in salt water, and steam condensed from the engine provided drinking water "which did well enough when diluted with wine or brandy." Meals were a scramble, card playing and gambling went on at all times, even Sundays. Hamilton characterized his fellow passengers as uncivilized and he quickly formed an adverse impression of Americans, deeming them conceited, intolerant, and the greatest swearers ever.

When Hamilton reached San Francisco on January 29, he was elated by the vision before him: "This is the most extraordinary place I ever was in and far surpasses in extent and beauty of its buildings anything I had imagined. There are miles of quays and wharfs and there are more ships lying in the bay than I ever remember seeing in Liverpool at any one time. . . . I can scarcely credit that three years ago there were but a few huts, where now they have got between seven and eight miles of paved streets lined on either side by handsome two, three and four storied houses. . . . The worst buildings in the whole place are its churches. They are principally wooden and painted neither inside nor out. They are well filled however and it is in contemplation to erect several larger and better."

Hamilton soon discovered that life was far from easy in the great city—the market overstocked, shiploads of new merchandise arriving daily; labor was dear, and the services of mechanics and laundresses much in demand. He arranged to share quarters in a one-story

iron house that served as shop and residence. "In this we have our office, bedrooms, kitchen (as we cook all our own meals) and besides have a large space for storing goods part of which we talk of making into a smith's shop. There is a small yard behind . . . and the ground rent which we have to pay for this immense property (about the size of the court at home) is 135 dollars a month. . . ."

The furnishings were sparse and the cookware consisted of one tin pan in which tea was made and potatoes boiled, though later a teapot was acquired. His friend Cheshire described the California manner of living as having "one plate and spoon amongst ½ dozen, and in case of having soup for dinner, passing them around to each, and helping yourself to more substantial dishes with your fingers." Hamilton stated that even the well-to-do lived in such a "huggerty-muggerty way," attributing it to the lack of the gentling influence of women.

In June 1851 Hamilton went back to England for a brief visit, and at the very beginning of his return voyage to California later that month, fell dangerously ill with smallpox. He once again traveled via the Isthmus and Acapulco, putting into San Diego for coal. Here he marveled at the almost desert-like quality of the region, the yellow sandstone soil covered with shrubs of thyme, all else parched.

"There are 3 distinct towns about 2 miles between each. The principal of these the new American town which from a distance looks exceedingly well but is exceedingly dirty when you get into it. The next is the native town inhabited exclusively by Mexicans which is clean inside but looks dirty from a distance on account of the sandstone and thatch used in the buildings. The third town belongs to the company who have charge of the mails on this side and is inhabited exclusively by their dependents and filled with their stores and provisions."

The fires, on the average one every three months, that had occurred during Hamilton's absence, much changed San Francisco. The splendid buildings were in many instances replaced by shacks, and formerly prosperous businesses such as Starky Brothers had been reduced to only small wooden shanties.

Hamilton reported that even though the fire

companies had become expert in confining conflagrations to a small area, he personally experienced two fires too close for comfort.

"At the first house I was in (a wooden one) caught three times but was saved, and last night the fire was within 4 doors of my office with naught but wood between. I have luckily however escaped all loss with the exception of spoiling a couple of good suits of clothes which however is no trifle in California. . . . It is amusing to see the perfect indifference displayed by all parties ten minutes after the fire is out. You will see the sufferers laughing, talking, joking, and drinking with those about them. . . ."

The streets, many of them still unplanked, suffered greatly from the last fire, and, in fact, in the spring of 1853, Hamilton recorded a number of large holes: "Scarcely a day passes that some one is not found drowned through having fallen through into the water. It teaches one to be cautious where they put their feet, and many to forswear going out in the dark at all."

But as the city continued to grow, water works were being installed, expected to be completed in 1853, to supply some three million gallons per day. And there were now four new newspapers, making a total of eight daily and five weekly papers—poor affairs according to Hamilton.

With the growth of the city came growth of crime, and as a consequence the emergence of the Vigilance Committee. Hamilton commented at length on this new Committee, concluding that "the only parties who have been punished . . . are men who in any society where law was properly administered would have been hung. . . ."

Hamilton also marveled at the California election process for governor. Both candidates, John Bigler and William Waldo, he felt were incompetent, and "more bareface bribery and wholesale corruption could not be witnessed in any country."

Hamilton noted that living had become cheaper: "We can live very comfortably for about 2\$ per day and have all the luxuries of the seasons. Some days ago so many salmon were caught in the Sacramento River that they were sold at 1 cent ½ per lb. . . . Eggs are high, about 2½ to 3\$ per doz. Chickens about 2\$

each. Beef 25 cts per lb. . . . Milk sells at 2\$ a gallon but there are many cows now on their way from the Eastern States so we will soon have it cheaper. House rent and taxes are the heaviest items in expenses in California, many people paying \$500 per month for a store of no very large extent in the business portions of the town and licenses for doing any sort of business varying from 30 to 200\$ per quarter."

Hamilton's letters through the rest of the 1850s comment on his exploration of the Bay Area and other regions. As the 1850s progressed, he pursued various mining ventures in the Sierra foothills and later in Eureka.

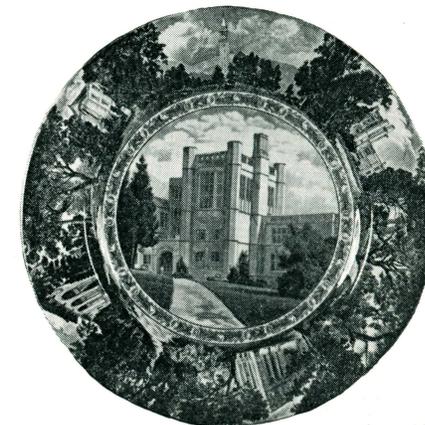
Between 1859 and 1875, Hamilton continued his mining ventures in Chile. There he married and raised a family. His last letters were written from Johannesburg, South Africa where from 1887 to 1893 he continued his pursuit of prospecting.

This fine collection of 123 letters, written to Hamilton's family in Scotland, fifty of them relating to his journey to and life in California were purchased in part as the gift of The Friends of The Bancroft Library, and in part from the Peter and Rosell Harvey Memorial Fund.

Marie Byrne

## University of California Wedgwood Ware

Mrs. Gardner C. Goldthwaite of Kissimmee, Florida, has recently presented to the Univer-



Wedgwood plate showing Stephens Memorial Union  
Photograph by Mary-Ellen Jones.

sity Archives a complete set of Wedgwood Staffordshire dinnerware commissioned by the California Alumni Association. It was donated in memory of her husband, a graduate in the class of 1920. Through the good offices of her friends, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Phair of Berkeley, the dinnerware was packed, insured, and shipped to The Bancroft Library where it will be exhibited from time to time in the Rowell Case of the University Archives in keeping with Mrs. Goldthwaite's desire to have the set preserved for and displayed to the campus community.

The twelve dinner plates in the set were first offered for sale in 1931. Two show scenes, Faculty Glade and the Golden Gate (without the bridge), two depict nineteenth-century campus buildings, South Hall and Bacon Hall, four show buildings that were erected prior to 1928, The Greek Theatre, Doe Library, Wheeler Hall, and Stephens Union (now Stephens Hall), and the last four picture buildings erected after 1928, Bowles Hall, the Life Sciences Building, Giannini Hall, and International House. The borders of the dinner plates feature a frieze of campus buildings, paths, and trees.

In the fall of 1935, two new pieces were made available. A fifteen-inch chop platter shows an aerial view of the campus with a border of California poppies. An eleven-and-a-half inch salad bowl shows on one side a vignette of campus buildings in 1888, and on the other side the same view as of 1935. These two pieces bear a legend commemorating the 75th anniversary of the date on which the trustees of the College of California stood upon Founder's Rock to dedicate the newly-purchased land for the Berkeley campus.

Teacups and saucers were added to the Alumni offering in 1938. The cups show Sather Gate and the University Seal, and the saucers are decorated with a reduced version of the frieze previously used on the dinner plates. The saucers bear a legend commemorating the Golden Gate International Exposition.

Sets of a dozen after-dinner coffee cups were offered by subscription in 1940, each cup showing traditional Berkeley subjects such as the sophomore brawl, on one side, and a campus view or building on the other. They also incorporate a text to commemorate the Dia-

mond Jubilee of the University in 1943. The saucer is similar to the teacup saucers offered earlier, only slightly reduced.

In 1943, small plates measuring seven and three-quarters inches were produced. In the center is the seal of the California Alumni Association. Evenly spaced around the border are portraits of four "California immortals" (founders, alumni, faculty, Regents) set in a design of the trees of the campus. Twelve designs were made for this set of plates. A text commemorates the Diamond Jubilee of the University.

In 1949, a graceful teapot with covered sugar bowl and cream pitcher were produced. These show an aerial view of the campus.

Wedgwood Blue Staffordshire ware is hand made and decorated with hand-engraved copper plates by a process developed in the latter half of the eighteenth century. The University Archives congratulates Mrs. Goldthwaite for keeping her set intact through many household moves and thanks her for giving us the opportunity to show it to the campus community.

Marie Thornton

## *Eighteenth-Century Science in California*

The promise of a dramatic and unusual astronomical event—the transit of Venus in 1769—excited and intrigued scientists all over Europe and provided the occasion for a full expression of the international spirit of science. The Royal Society of London planned an elaborate expedition to California and Mexico combining the objectives of astronomical observation and cataloguing the flora and fauna of the region. The Society invited the Serbo-Croat Jesuit Rudjer Josif Bošković (also spelled Bosovich), one of the leading astronomers of Europe, to join the expedition. At that time Bošković held the position of professor of mathematics at the University of Pavia. He had enthusiastically supported an earlier Society expedition, and the Society hoped to benefit from his expertise in observational astronomy and scientific instrumentation.

The plans for the expedition and Bošković's close ties with astronomers throughout Europe

are detailed in a set of eight autograph letters recently acquired by the History of Science and Technology Program through the generosity of the Council of The Friends of The Bancroft Library. Bošković wrote these letters to his Italian friend and colleague F. G. Goretti



Rudjer Josif Boskovic. Reproduced from Spomenica Rugiera Josipa Boskovicica, 1911.

during the late 1760s. In conjunction with other Bošković correspondence held by Bancroft, including Goretti's letters to Bošković for the same period, these letters provide an intimate view of the rewards and frustrations of the life of science in the eighteenth century. As he explained to Goretti, Bošković was eager to make the trip to California for personal as well as professional reasons—he was sure that his health, which suffered in the Italian winters, would improve in California, where the weather was bound to be milder.

In fact, Bošković ultimately found himself unable to participate in the expedition, primarily as a consequence of the suppression of the Jesuit order in Spain. This turn of events indirectly preserved his health, for the participants in the Royal Society succumbed to a virulent epidemic in Baja California. The abbé Chappe d'Auteroche, who took Bošković's

place on the expedition, left an account of the journey (and the unfortunate medical remedies to which he resorted) published posthumously as *Voyage en Californie pour l'Observation du Passage de Vénus sur le disque du soleil, le 3 juin 1769*. Chappe d'Auteroche's book is also held at Bancroft.

In addition to the Bošković-Goretti letters, the Bošković collection at Bancroft includes lively correspondence with many of the leading scientific and cultural figures of eighteenth-century Europe, together with research notes, drafts of scientific papers, journals and diaries, poetry, and philosophical writings covering the broad range of Bošković's intellectual concerns. This important collection, acquired by the Library two decades ago, is complemented by extensive holdings of Bošković's published works. The History of Science and Technology Program has gradually acquired, for example, numerous professorial dissertations delivered by Bošković at the College of Rome and published in a limited tirage. The Library's holdings of Bošković's works are just part of the large and carefully assembled collection of eighteenth-century books on science and natural philosophy at Bancroft. Together the books and manuscript materials constitute a unique and valuable scholarly resource depicting the complex interplay of science, politics, and philosophy of the Enlightenment.

Robin Rider

## *“Master Teacher of Cellists and Humble Student of Nature” —and Everything Else*

So many themes run through the oral history memoir of Margaret Avery Rowell that it was difficult to settle on a title for her reminiscences. “Master Teacher of Cellists and Humble Student of Nature” only hints at the breadth and depth. While this Grande Dame du Violoncelle was interviewed by the Regional Oral History Office for her importance as a teacher of cellists, issues of peace and justice and the subjects of heaven and earth and mountains and sea assert themselves throughout the memoir.

Margaret Avery was born in 1900 in Red-

lands, California, and came to Oakland in 1912 when her father accepted a principalship in the Oakland schools.

On her 14th birthday, Margaret was presented with a cello, and three years later, with two other young lady musicians, also students at Oakland Technical High School, she became part of the Arion Trio. The parent-chauffeured trio's early audiences included soldiers stationed at Yerba Buena Island during World War One, guests at local hotels, and church congregations. The trio rapidly became Bay Area favorites, performing for twenty years with a fine repertoire arranged by pianist Joyce Bartheleson. They were the backbone of KGO's early radio broadcasts, and the General Electric Standard School Broadcasts on NBC in the late 1920s and early 1930s.

In 1927 tuberculosis caused a traumatic three-year musical hiatus from which Margaret emerged physically unable to play the



The Arion Trio in 1930. Left to right, Margaret Avery, Joyce Holloway, Josephine Holub. Photograph by W. Seely.

cello, and for a long time unable to imagine how she had ever played it. Her Arion Trio substitute, until a permanent replacement was found, was her teacher, San Francisco Symphony's renowned Stanislaus Bem. In 1930

Margaret regained her health and her ability through a process of self-teaching that enabled her to focus on her own methodology of playing. That development was the basis for her more than a half century of teaching cello players.

Margaret Avery met Edward Z. Rowell, professor of speech at the University of California, in 1933, when she wandered, cello in arm, into his class to request help with a speech intended to convince the musicians Union that the non-union pianist the Arion Trio wanted to hire should be allowed into the union immediately. When Margaret married in 1936, the Arion Trio was dissolved and a career in teaching and a life as the professor's wife took its place for Mrs. Rowell.

Margaret herself was always as much student as teacher. The fascination with life and people led her to Sinchi Suzuki's violin teachings, F. M. Alexander's body work, and to her devotion to mentors like Carl Rhodehamel, founder of the Unemployed Exchange Association. She was influenced by the thinking of her friends in the Unitarian Fellowship and the Faculty Wives Peace Section Club. Now in 1984 students at all levels—including Bonnie Bell Hampton and Irene Sharp, both of whom wrote introductions to the oral history, and others, like Paul Tobias—continue to take lessons or coaching from her, and she is scheduled into the future with workshops all over the country. Thus the "Master Teacher of Cellists."

As to the "Humble Student of Nature," Margaret traces her interest to her father's influence. Thinking back to the 1906 earthquake, Margaret says, "Of course it was a great tragedy and a disaster, but I think my father naturally viewed all of those things from the geological viewpoint, being so fascinated by it."

Many years later, Ed and Margaret Rowell's only son, Galen, photographer, writer, and mountaineer, grew up to live out the Avery interest in geology. "By the time he was twelve he was so interested in rocks that it was an obsession with him. Grizzly Peak Boulevard—I can't drive it without thinking 'That's where I stopped the car and he would climb up that hill to get such and such a rock.' I think that's where his climbing actually started, from

letting himself down those cliffs on the side of Grizzly Peak." When Galen graduated from high school, Margaret and he drove east, collecting rocks. They broke an axle with the load, and the rocks are still in the basement of the family home on Miller Avenue in Berkeley.

Margaret's pursuit of adventure and exploration of nature started in Yosemite in 1916, just the year after the park opened to automobiles. (She recalled that returning exhausted from that trip, she nevertheless ran right for her cello. "I got it out and played and played, just for myself. How I had missed it, even on the trails!") Another summer Margaret, her sister Marion Avery, and some friends made a trip featured in a newspaper report as "U.C. Coeds Among Group of First Women to Reach Top of Hermit Mountain, Altitude of 12,500 feet." The whole trip was in snow, and the first night out "the boys got up and dug a grave and buried my corset." Margaret still feels "all wrong" if she hasn't gotten her old sleeping bag up to the mountains by the end of summer.

Galen Rowell, in his introduction to the oral history, recalls his mother, absorbed in her world of music in the city, ". . . lead[ing] me by the hand into fields of wildflowers (identifying every one). We would be free once again, experiencing a world that she knew and loved as much as her music." And she says, of the periods when Galen's travels make his whereabouts uncertain, "I know how to worry—really worry. But it's very seldom, because, as I say, there's nothing in the world I would rather do than to be able to do what he's doing."

The Margaret Avery Rowell Oral History was sponsored by the Society of California Pioneers. Margaret fitted well within their interest in "men and women whose achievements, knowledge, and expertise form a significant contribution to the history and progress of California." California Cello Club, the Master Classes with Pablo Casals, radio broadcasting, social issues of the 1930s, music teaching in institutions around the Bay Area, and the actual hands-on how-to-do-it of teaching cello students are all discussed in the 341-page memoir.

Suzanne Riess

## Undergraduate History Students and The Bancroft Library

So many individuals use The Bancroft Library that frequently staff members have only a fleeting connection with an individual scholar's work. But for many months now the students of Virginia Herman, herself a graduate student and acting instructor in Berkeley's History Department, have been so much a presence that the editor of *Bancroftiana* asked Ms. Herman if she would describe the nature of the work being done by her students and the assistance they have received at Bancroft.

She generously responded and we share some of her comments with readers at *Bancroftiana* because we believe the experiences of her students are typical of some major uses of Bancroft. Ms. Herman's students have been upper division majors in American history. They have used Bancroft to support work on their senior and honors theses on the history of the American West.

Ms. Herman pointed out that while Bancroft is renowned as a major repository of books, manuscripts, pictorial material, and other research materials dealing with the American West, those resources require considerable understanding to be made accessible. She felt that the vast quantity of material in Bancroft might be overwhelming for an undergraduate, and many of her students approached their Bancroft assignments with considerable trepidation. To reduce such concern, Ms. Herman developed a program aimed at making the use of Bancroft as constructive as possible.

She arranged for a preliminary meeting between a Bancroft reference librarian and members of the class. Prior to the Bancroft meeting, Ms. Herman informed the librarian of possible topics being considered by her students. The result was a useful dialogue between students and the Bancroft reference librarian about sources pertinent to the proposed topics of research.

To prepare for such a meeting, the librarian assembled examples of relevant books, unpublished diaries, letters, and other archival materials. The students were thus given the opportunity to discover first hand the types of collections they would explore. Ms. Herman

explained that this direct experience had the advantage of prompting increasingly confident questions from the students.

She was particularly pleased with the easy affability of the reference librarians in handling even the most elementary or convoluted questions. She also believed that the readiness on the part of the consulting librarian to refer certain questions to other librarians who are more knowing in special areas was a valuable lesson to the students. It helped them realize that it is perfectly acceptable to admit ignorance and to seek counsel from someone with greater expertise.

Still another contribution made by librarians, Ms. Herman believed, was the response they have to queries by students. She often watched with admiration when the curiosity of a staff member was piqued by a question or problem that had stumped the student. The enthusiastic pursuit of an answer by the staff member tended to reinvigorate the student's own concern with the problem.

Ms. Herman mentioned several papers that made good use of resources at Bancroft. One paper explored the social history of nineteenth-century wine-making in California. Another dealt with the impact of Frémont's account of his expedition in California as a major force in sharply increased westward migration. In that paper the student showed how Frémont's account of his expedition was used in the writing of a major overland guide. Still another paper was concerned with the influence of the western landscape in the development of scenic photography in America. The last paper cited by Ms. Herman used unpublished diaries and journals kept by early men in California. This paper explored the situation of early women in northern California and particularly focused on life in the bordellos, some of which enjoyed considerable social acceptance in early San Francisco.

Ms. Herman believes that the papers submitted by her students reflect not only the richness of the resources at Bancroft, but also the excellent reference service provided by the staff to her students. Many of the sources she feels would have been difficult for her students to locate without good assistance from the reference librarians. Without the helpfulness of the librarians, some of the students would have

stopped too soon in their research, and their papers would have been less well founded.

### *Medieval Manuscript of Garin le Loherain Acquired by Bancroft*

The Bancroft Library acquired early this year an unusually important medieval manuscript version of *Garin le Loherain*, one of the finest French epic poems of the middle ages. The opportunity to obtain such a significant work is unusual under any circumstances, but it is particularly desirable for Bancroft, since the Library already holds another medieval manuscript version of the same poem. To bring the two together in one institution provides a major resource for scholarship.

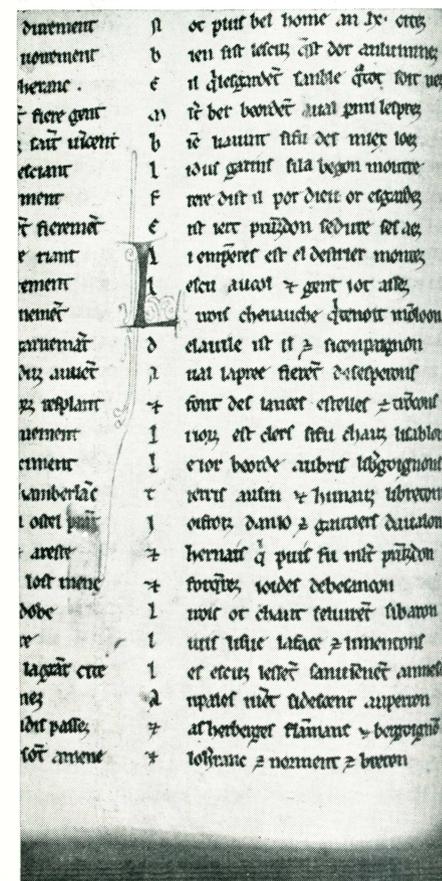
The purchase involved cooperation between The Friends of The Bancroft Library, the General Library at Berkeley, and the Shared Acquisitions program of the University of California system. Ultimately, a microfilm copy of the manuscript will be prepared so that the text may be made available for consultation at the libraries of other campuses of the University.

The existence of the manuscript has been known since the nineteenth century when it was registered among the books of the famous bibliophile, Sir Thomas Phillipps. However, according to Joseph J. Duggan, Professor of French and Comparative Literature at Berkeley, scholars had lost track of it in the twentieth century. That is not surprising since Sir Thomas Phillipps owned an enormous number of manuscripts that were dispersed in many auctions, from the late nineteenth century to the present.

Last summer, Professor Duggan approached Anthony Bliss, Bancroft's Rare Books Librarian, and asked him if he could help investigate the whereabouts of the missing manuscript. Knowing that the remainder of the Phillipps collection is now in the hands of H. P. Kraus & Co. in New York, Mr. Bliss wrote to the firm to seek information about the lost manuscript. The Kraus company did not only know the location, it had the manuscript for sale. Kraus sent it to Berkeley for close inspection so that Professor Duggan was able to glean considerable information about its composition.

*Garin* was written toward the end of the

twelfth century, but only survives in thirteenth- and fourteenth-century manuscript versions. As Professor Duggan had suspected, the copy from Kraus contains not only *Garin le Loherain*, but also its sequel, *Gerbert de Metz*.



Detail from the manuscript of *Garin le Loherain*. Photograph by Mary-ellen Jones.

His analysis of the handwriting in the Kraus manuscript revealed that the text was copied in the third quarter of the thirteenth century. *Gerbert* was composed around the middle of the thirteenth century, so the Kraus manuscript dates from within twenty-five years of the original, a very small gap for a medieval text.

Professor Duggan's course in medieval paleography and textual criticism had long used as a central subject the manuscript version

of the poems acquired by Bancroft in 1966, observing that it was written toward the end of the thirteenth century, about thirty or forty years later than the Kraus manuscript.

In evaluating whether the Kraus copy should be acquired, Professor Duggan found that just 21 manuscript versions of the *Garin* text survive; of these only three have been published complete, and one in part. Twenty manuscript versions of *Gerbert* survive, of which only one has been published. Professor Duggan pointed out that the best editorial practice has not been used in preparing the publications of either text, and both poems are in need of new editions, not just because of the rediscovery of these two manuscripts, but because the previous editions are poor.

Readers of *Bancroftiana* may be interested in knowing how such important manuscripts are used, and why this acquisition is of great significance to Bancroft's support of research. Professor Duggan has succinctly explained:

*I have taught a number of courses in which the Bancroft Garin has been used, including two graduate seminars in which it was the central topic. Those were on medieval paleography and textual criticism, and in them parts of the Garin manuscript were edited by graduate students. The manuscript has provided the students with unique insight into the ways in which medieval texts were preserved and disseminated. Such work must normally be carried out on the basis of microfilms here in California, at six thousand miles distance from the great manuscript libraries of Europe, but microfilm work is extremely awkward and unrewarding: the text must always be checked against the original, one cannot discern differences in the color of inks or the color of illustrations, one cannot examine the text under ultraviolet light to assemble information related to the manuscript's provenience, and without direct access to the manuscript it is quite simply impossible to carry out research on the level of completeness and competency that is necessary in a graduate institution of this caliber.*

*The Bancroft Garin has enabled me to train students in ways that simply would be impossible without it. Two of those students are working on the Bancroft Garin for their doctoral dissertations, one comparing it (and the texts of variant manuscripts) to the textual tradition of the mediaeval Japanese epic, the Heike Monoga-*

tari, and the other preparing an edition based on the Bancroft Garin.

The purchase of the second manuscript of Garin de Loherain and Gerbert de Metz would place the University of California in a unique position. Garin was, to judge by the surviving textual tradition, the most popular of all medieval French epics, and the very abundance of textual witnesses has discouraged scholars from working out its stemmatic relationships, although my students have now begun to do so. The text of the present Bancroft manuscript is composed in rhyme; the Kraus manuscript just acquired by Bancroft is in assonance, a more venerable technique.

The Bancroft Library, which also owns one of three extant manuscripts of the epic Theseus of Cologne, is now the only library in the Western hemisphere to possess as many as five copies of chansons de geste.

## The Uninvited Host

During the Friends' early years The Bancroft Library was so intent upon collecting other aspects of Californiana that it neglected to document its own history. Now we regretfully find that we even lack copies of some of the invitations to our Annual Meetings. We have none prior to 1963 (the 16th meeting). We are also missing the one for 1964 and those for 1967 and 1968.

Any Friend who can supply some of these invitations or any other ephemera up to 1969 will help us to recollect our own history.

## Bancroft Library Fellows

Once again this year we will have two new Bancroft Library Fellows, graduate students who are the winners of awards in competition on all nine campuses of the University. One is Allen Derickson who is writing his doctoral dissertation on the San Francisco campus of the University to deal with the hazards of hardrock mining and the health programs of the unions for western metal miners during the period from 1863 to 1934. The other Bancroft Fellow is Ms. Maresi Nerad who has come to Berkeley from the Technical University of Darmstadt to write a dissertation tentatively titled "Gender Stratification in Higher

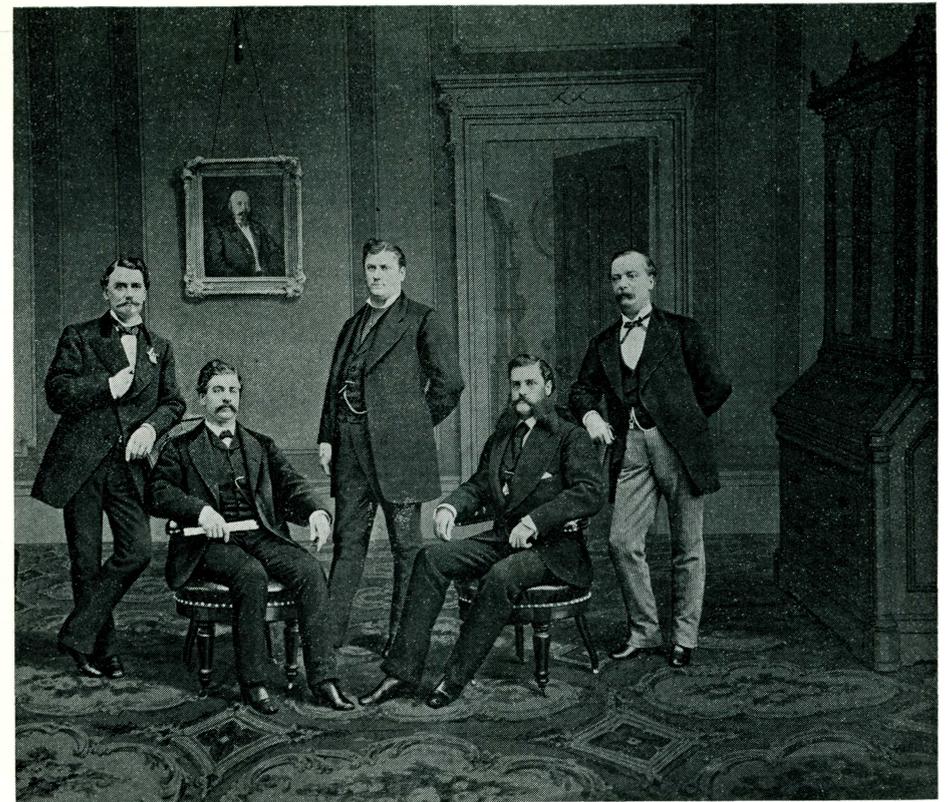
Education." In addition, we have a new fellowship created by one of the Council members of The Friends of The Bancroft Library and bearing his name and that of his wife. The first awardee of the Kenneth E. and Dorothy V. Hill fellowship is Alisa Schulweis. She is presently in France doing research on the flourishing of sciences in that country between 1760 and 1830 but she will be back in Berkeley during the coming academic year to continue her work in documents to be found in Bancroft. Each awardee will also share in the generous ongoing gift of Paul Ogden who once more is presenting, in memory of his wife, the Wilma Seavey Ogden Purse of \$1,000 to be donated to these Fellows and used in any ways they wish.

## New Council Members

At the recent Annual Meeting the assembled Friends elected five new members of the Council for three-year terms. They are: Sanford L. Berger, a prominent local architect who with his wife Helen has created a great collection of William Morris materials that will be displayed at the Library and the University Art Museum beginning in October; J. Dennis Bonney, an executive with Standard Oil Company of California, who, after graduation from Oxford, became a practicing barrister in England, and also spent a year studying international relations on the Berkeley campus; Roger W. Heyns, former Chancellor of the Berkeley campus, 1965-1971; Bernard M. Rosenthal, a member of a family of major rare book dealers in Europe, England, and the United States, whose own firm is located in San Francisco; and Thomas B. Worth, a San Francisco lawyer who has maintained a strong relationship with the Berkeley campus since his graduation in Engineering in 1972 and from Boalt Hall in 1976.

## A Mammoth Plate Photograph by I. W. Taber

The Bancroft Library has been fortunate in acquiring a mammoth plate photograph, on the original printed mount, depicting the officers of the San Francisco Stock and Exchange



Board. The Board, also known as the San Francisco Stock Exchange, was established in 1862 and continued in existence until December 8, 1927, when it sold its name and its building to the San Francisco Stock and Bond Exchange. It then became known as the San Francisco Mining Exchange.

Because of the difficulties of making group portraits that would be sufficiently favorable to all the individuals included, photographers of the time frequently resorted to collage techniques. This example, here illustrated, is particularly interesting because the portrayal of the Board's offices with the elaborate carpet, rich furnishings, and tantalizing suggestion of an even more splendid inner office was painted by the San Francisco artist and illustrator, Arthur Nahl (1820-1881), younger brother and business partner of Charles Nahl. The Bancroft Library holds a good, representative collection of the elder Nahl's work, but Ar-

thur's work is much more difficult to find, and we were pleased to receive this signed example through the generosity of several donors to The Bancroft Library.

From left to right, the individuals portrayed are Henry Schmiedell, Treasurer; Edwin P. Peckham, President; B. Howard Coit, Caller; George W. Smiley, Vice President; and Franklin Lawton, Secretary. Although all were eminent financiers of the day, Howard Coit will probably best be remembered as the handsome and dashing husband of Lillie Hitchcock Coit. Mrs. Coit's own portrait taken this same year, 1872, was placed in the cornerstone of the new city hall as the outstanding woman of the day.

The firm of Isaiah West Taber, who published the photograph, continued to be a leading commercial studio in San Francisco for many years. The firm and its complete stock of historical negatives was destroyed in the 1906 earthquake and fire. For this reason, as

with so many early San Francisco photographs, no original negatives are available, and the occasional, well-preserved print is the nearest approach we can have to the appearance of nineteenth-century San Francisco, its buildings, and its people.

Lawrence Dinnean

## A Special Keepsake

Thanks to the unusual generosity of a Council member, the Friends some time ago received funds to design and purchase in quantity a paperweight with a square marble base on whose top is affixed a circular medallion of blue and green enamel and brass. As shown here, it depicts the Campanile across the way from the Library. Circling it are the words "The Friends of The Bancroft Library" written in the style of script that Hubert Howe Bancroft employed for the bookplate of the original volumes in our collections.

At the donor's request, for the past ten years a paperweight has been presented as a special Keepsake to each Friend who renewed membership for a second year.

To continue this happy tradition initiated by

our generous member, the Council has now ordered an additional stock of paperweights, one of which will be given to each Friend upon renewal of membership for a second year.

This gift will enable each Friend to have a permanent and impressive souvenir of The Bancroft Library to place on a desk as a useful Keepsake and as a symbol of support of book collecting and scholarship.



### COUNCIL OF THE FRIENDS

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A limited supply of the following publications is available to Friends for purchase. Simply remove this cover making a notation by each publication desired and return it with your check payable to The Friends of The Bancroft Library for the appropriate amount.

- KEEPSAKE 7 *Stockton Boyhood* edited by Clotilde Grunsky Taylor, \$20.00  
 KEEPSAKE 8 *American Images of Spanish California* by James D. Hart, \$5.00  
 KEEPSAKE 9 *The Ralston-Fry Wedding* edited by Francis P. Farquhar, \$10.00  
 KEEPSAKE 11 *Rose, or Rose Thorn?* by Susanna Bryant Dakin, \$7.50  
 KEEPSAKE 14 *Desert Rats* by Charles L. Camp, \$10.00  
 KEEPSAKE 15 *Valley of Salt, Memories of Wine* edited by George Koenig, \$12.00  
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 KEEPSAKE 21 *Some Treasures of The Bancroft Library* edited by J. R. K. Kantor, \$10.00  
 KEEPSAKE 23 *California Indian Characteristics* by Stephen Powers with a preface by N. Scott Momaday, \$20.00  
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 KEEPSAKE 30 *The Story of a Story & Three Stories* by Jessamyn West, \$35.00  
 KEEPSAKE 31 *The Show of Science* by Robin E. Rider, \$35.00  
 KEEPSAKE 32 *The Year of the Young Rebels Revisited* by Stephen Spender, \$35.00; a limited issue, hard-bound and signed by Stephen Spender is also available at \$75.00

### SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS:

- Bancroftiana, 1-50, March 1950-September 1971, with Index, \$50.00*  
*Catalogue of Original Paintings, Drawings and Watercolors in the Robert B. Honeyman, Jr. Collection* compiled by Joseph Armstrong Baird, Jr., \$5.00  
*Catalogue of the Regional Oral History Office 1954-1979* edited by Suzanne B. Riess and Willa K. Baum, \$6.50  
*Cow Hollow: Early Days of a San Francisco Neighborhood from 1776* by John L. Levinsohn, \$10.00  
*Goddard Map of California, 1857, \$5.00*  
*The Padre on Horseback* by Herbert Eugene Bolton, \$5.00  
*The Plate of Brass Reexamined, 1977, \$5.00*  
*The Plate of Brass Reexamined, A Supplement, 1979, \$2.00*  
*The Writing of My Uncle Dudley* by Wright Morris, \$5.00  
*Les Jeunes: An Account of Some Fin de Siècle San Francisco Authors and Artists* by Lawrence Dinnean, edited by J. R. K. Kantor, \$5.00  
*The Weber Era in Stockton History, by George P. Hammond, \$35.00*