

BANCROFTIANA

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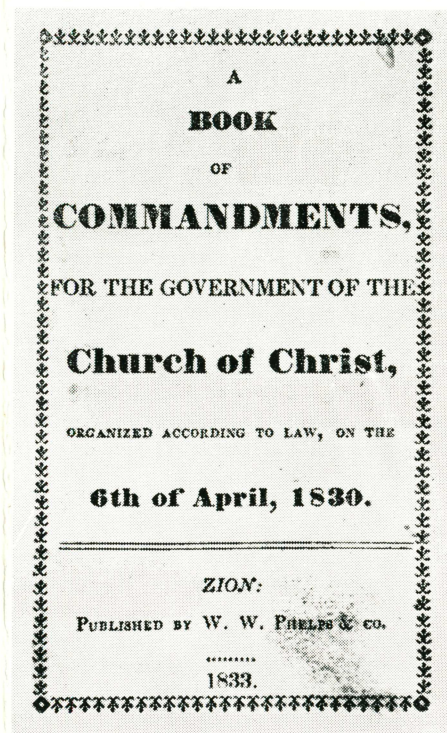
Golden Anniversary

THE BANCROFT LIBRARY this holiday season is celebrating the Golden Anniversary of its acquisition by the University of California. On November 25, 1905, Hubert Howe Bancroft signed an agreement for the sale of his magnificent library to the Regents of the University for a quarter of a million dollars, at the same time making an outright gift of \$100,000 toward the purchase price. On November 25, 1955, the Friends of the Bancroft Library gave the Library a rare volume of basic importance, worthily marking a proud occasion.

This "new" book is one of the earliest of Mormon publications, as well as the scarcest. It is the *Book of Commandments*, containing the "revelations of God" to Joseph Smith, founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. It was small, could almost be carried in a vest pocket, and was of such a nature that it would be used continually. It was printed on the frontier, at the town called Zion by the Mormons, in 1833. This town, better known as Independence, was the point of departure for western travelers in subsequent years.

Our copy of the *Book of Commandments* is the one that originally belonged to John Whitmer, one of the eight special witnesses to the Book of Mormon. The priceless volume will be on display in the Bancroft Library, and we hope that many of you will be able to drop in to see it.

In the fifty years that have elapsed since the purchase of this collection—a bold and imaginative step in 1905, when California was more concerned with future expansion than the preservation of its history—the hopes of the men who conceived the plan to acquire



the Bancroft Library and saw it become a reality have been abundantly realized. Such leaders as Regent Rudolph J. Taussig, President Benjamin Ide Wheeler, and Professor Henry Morse Stephens believed that at the University this Western Americana Collection would become the fountain-head of a strong program of graduate studies in history and a magnet that would draw scholars from all over the world to consult its resources.

Both predictions came true in the succeeding half century, especially under the leader-

ship of the late Herbert E. Bolton, who made the Bancroft Library a dynamic center of investigation and writing for hundreds of scholars, not only from the United States but from Latin America and elsewhere.

The presentation of the *Book of Commandments* in 1955 marks an appropriate step as the Library begins its second half century of growth, with the faith of its founder and the University in its richness fully confirmed. We wish to thank the Friends for commemorating the occasion by this memorable gift.

British Intesest in Texas

BRITISH INTEREST in Texas over a century ago was intense. There was diplomatic scheming, during the controversy over slavery, to make Texas a part of the British Empire. As a producer of cotton and other raw products, Texas would keep the factories of England humming, and Texas, in turn, would consume manufactured goods, according to the economic theory of the day.

The records of this diplomatic campaign, consisting of 23 large volumes (Foreign Office-Texas records—F.O. 75), contain the correspondence between the British Foreign Office and its representatives in Texas and have been filmed for the Bancroft Library. A brief description of the series is given in Charles O. Paullin and Frederic L. Paxson, *Guide to the Materials in London Archives for the History of the United States since 1783* (Washington, 1914), pp. 190-192.

This is another product of Bancroft's continuing research program in England. Other British Foreign Office Series filmed in full to date include those for the Hawaiian Islands, Mexico, and the Central American area.

The California Grizzly

THE CALIFORNIA GRIZZLY BEAR, which was the subject of Mr. Frank F. Latta's address to the Friends a year or two ago, has now become the subject of a learned publication. Authors of the book are two faculty members from the Davis campus of the University of California—Tracy I. Storer, professor of zoölogy, and Lloyd P. Tevis, Jr., assistant specialist in the department of zoölogy.

Officers for 1955-'56

AT A MEETING of the Council of the Friends held at the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco on May 23, 1955, the Council elected officers for the coming year and transacted other business. Reëlected chairman was Carl I. Wheat, of Menlo Park, and secretary, Miss Adele Ogden, of Berkeley. George L. Harding, of Palo Alto, was chosen vice chairman, and Michael Harrison, of Sacramento, became the new treasurer.

The Council considered publication of a keepsake volume, and purchase of the Mormon *Book of Commandments*, of which there is further notice in this issue of *Bancroftiana*. Publication of an annual volume presents financial difficulties that have not yet been resolved.

Pity the Tyrant

HANS OTTO STORM, one of California's talented writers of the 1930's, will be remembered through two collections of papers and correspondence, relating to him, recently given to the Bancroft Library. David Greenwood, graduate of the Class of 1922 at the Berkeley campus, presented to the Library an extensive accumulation of Storm's correspondence with publishers and agents; manuscripts of his books, stories, and articles; diaries, notes, and clippings; and all of his writings published in the "little magazines" of twenty years ago. Greenwood, now associated with a New York publishing firm, is literary executor of Storm's estate.

The second group of Storm papers is the gift of his sister, Mrs. Clarence Schubert, of Berkeley. They consist of 63 personal letters written by Storm to his sister. Together, these papers form an impressive collection of the literary and personal effects of a man who, till his accidental death in 1931, was considered one of the most promising novelists of the time. His book, *Pity the Tyrant*, a political satire based on experiences while working in Peru, led to his being ousted from that country. The book received a Commonwealth Club gold medal award as the best work of a California author in 1937.

Joseph Henry Jackson



JOSEPH HENRY JACKSON's career as a bookman, scholar, and literary critic gave him a natural love for the Bancroft Library, with its many treasures of California's olden days. It also led him to become one of the staunch supporters of the Friends of the Bancroft Library. At the first meeting of the Council July 1, 1948, of which Jackson had been chosen a member, he was selected as Vice-Chairman. It was typical of his modest and unassuming ways that he preferred to remain in the background, to support a worthy cause with encouragement and help, but more than once he refused to be considered a candidate for Chairman.

"Joe" Jackson not only became a charter member of the Council and took the time to take an active part in its deliberations, but was made Honorary Curator of the Library's California Fiction Collection in 1954. In this new activity he took especial satisfaction in gathering this type of material, helped to devise a set of rules for a future collecting policy, tapped unsuspected sources for gifts of important documents, and thus made it, by his vision and untiring efforts, an outstanding part of this Library. Joe was ever a "working"

patron of the Library, both in his use of its resources and in his zeal to augment them.

Much has been written of Joe Jackson's tremendous record as literary critic of the San Francisco *Chronicle*. His column, "A Bookman's Notebook," was one of the sparkling features of its pages. His earlier weekly NBC radio broadcasts on books, and his own books, especially *Anybody's Gold* and *Bad Company*, hit a high note of excellence and public appeal. At the time of his passing, he was devoting himself without reserve to one of his favorite diversions, true crime stories, by writing a book-length study on the Theodore Durrant-Blanche Lamont murder that mystified San Francisco and the whole country in 1895. He was ever ready to encourage or assist another writer, striving for higher achievement, and he gave freely of his unparalleled knowledge of California and the West to those who sought his counsel.

We Miss Them

IT HAS BEEN with sorrow, too, that we have learned of the passing of several of our valued friends of long standing.

Elizabeth Keith Pond, member of a California family of much distinction and unusual achievement, and whose gifts to the Bancroft Library have been numerous and notable, died on September 6, 1955. Her father was Rear Admiral Charles Frémont Pond, commandant of the Twelfth Naval District, San Francisco, from 1914 to 1917. Her uncle was William Keith, world-famous California landscape painter, whose portrait of George Davidson, the geographer and historian, is in the Bancroft Library. Her aunt, Mary McHenry Keith, was an active feminist and suffragette. Her grandfather was Judge John McHenry, who came to California during the Gold Rush. Miss Pond herself was founder of the Keith Art Association and an enthusiastic member of the Friends of the Bancroft Library.

Reuben L. Underhill, author of *Cowbides to Golden Fleece* (1939), the story of Thomas O. Larkin, American consul in California, passed away after a long illness on January 7, 1955, at the age of 85. Mr. Underhill, with singular devotion, organized the Herbert I.

Priestley Fund as a memorial to Dr. Priestley, Librarian of the Bancroft Library for many years and its Director from 1942 to 1944.

Peter Van Valkenburgh, the well-known Bay Area artist, died on August 25, 1955, at the age of eighty-five. A native of Greenbush, Wisconsin, Mr. Van Valkenburgh came to the West Coast in 1908. Many of his original portraits are in the Bancroft Library, which also has an extensive file of photographs of his work.

Griffing Bancroft, son of Hubert Howe Bancroft, founder of the Bancroft Library, and himself author of the book, *Lower California: A Cruise; the Flight of the Least Petrel* (1932), died in San Diego on May 3, 1955. He took great pleasure in his work on Lower California and gave the Bancroft Library an inscribed copy of *The Least Petrel*.

James K. Moffitt, a Regent of the University of California for 36 years, leader in numerous business enterprises of the San Francisco Bay community and generous benefactor of the University, died on August 16, 1955, aged 86. Mr. Moffitt's collection of incunables was willed to the General Library of the University.

Diary of San Francisco's Birth

SAN FRANCISCO was founded in 1776 by Juan Bautista de Anza, as is known to most Californians. Anza, a tough frontier captain who had kept order among Indians and Spanish colonists on the Sonora-Pimería Alta frontier for many years, not only had opened a trail overland to California from Sonora in 1774, but also, in 1776, brought to the new province the colonists—men, women, and children—who were to become the first settlers of the new city of San Francisco. The trail, over the Yuma desert, had been hard, but Anza comforted the sick and weary and encouraged the entire colony by his able leadership.

The diarists of the expedition were Anza himself and Fray Pedro Font, the chaplain. Both kept excellent diaries. Dr. F. J. Teggart published the first English translation of Font's Diary in Volume III of the Academy

of Pacific Coast History Publications in 1913. When Professor Herbert E. Bolton was doing his famous work on the "Spanish Borderlands," he translated and edited all of the Anza and Font diaries known to him. These were published by the University of California Press in 1930 as *Anza's California Expeditions*, in five large volumes. One of these was republished by Knopf in 1931, with the title, *Outpost of Empire*.

The Font Diary appears in several versions, some more complete than the others. The copy translated and published by both Bolton and Teggart was finished at the Mission of Ures on June 23, 1776. A beautifully drawn contemporary copy, one of the finest examples of such work that we have seen, was given to the Bancroft Library by Mr. Edmond D. "Cobbie" Coblenz, distinguished San Francisco journalist. The copy was made by Antonio Martínez Velasco at Querétaro, November 23, 1776.

Still another Font Diary came to light after Bolton had published his great work. This copy, a variant of the others, is in the Franciscan Archives in Rome. There is a photocopy of it in the Bancroft Library.

Humor 'round the Horn

AMONG the liveliest and most original diaries of the voyage from New England to California around the Horn are two written by Isaac W. Baker, the one entitled, "Journal of the Proceedings on board the Barque San Francisco, . . . 1849," and the other, "Journal of Some of the Sayings & Doings on board the Ship John Q. Adams, . . . 1852." Interspersed among the descriptions of daily events, usually humdrum in nature but which Baker makes humorous and witty, are numerous clever illustrations, good doggerel, and even water color sketches of events on board ship as well as in California.

The 1849 Journal has an excellent pencil sketch of San Francisco Bay, another of the entrance to the Golden Gate, a water color of Telegraph Hill, then called "Prospect Hill," charming water color views of Sutter's Fort and the Hospital near Sutter's Fort, and numerous other scenes that appealed to the artist-diarist.

The 1852 Journal has several water color sketches of the Big Trees and other natural wonders of the woods, together with a delightful sketch of Alviso, on San Francisco Bay.

Both journals have numerous verses and doggerel, of which an "Ode to My Old Stocking" is characteristic:

*Heeless and toeless work of art
Alas! thou'rt getting old,
So worn and torn I scarcely know
The relics I behold!
Thy foot, sore scratch'd by many a nail
In many a place worn thin,
Indeed 'twould be a darned hard task
To make you whole again!*

The sketch of the said sock suggests it would, indeed, take a lot of darning "To make you whole again!"

These journals are the gift of the grandson of the diarist, Frederick S. Baker, Dean of the School of Forestry at the University of California, Berkeley.

Bancroft's Director Honored

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Utah State Historical Society in Salt Lake City on October 22, 1955, Bancroft's director, George P. Hammond, gave the featured address, entitled "The Search for the Fabulous in the History of the Southwest—Quest for the Seven Cities of Cibola, Quivira, and Teguayo." The article will be published in the *Utah Historical Quarterly* for January, 1956.

Wine Collection

RESEARCH MATERIALS on the California wine industry, gathered in the course of writing his *Guide to California Wines*, have been presented to the Library by John Melville of Carmel, in compliance with a promise made to Joseph Henry Jackson before his death.

Included in the collection are several drafts of the manuscript, full notes, pamphlets, brochures, labels, and extensive correspondence with the principal figures in the industry, as well as with the publisher. Melville's *Guide* was published, with an introduction by the late Joseph Henry Jackson, by Doubleday and Company in the summer of 1955.

First Yosemite Tourist

MRS. IRENE D. PADEN, noted writer on the West, has reached an interesting conclusion in studying the diary of William Penn Abrams. This diary was given to the Bancroft Library recently by Mrs. Ruth A. Frazier of Los Angeles.

On a page written in pencil and almost obliterated is this passage:

October 18th. Returned to S.F. after visit to Savage property on Merced River prospects are none too good for a mill. Savage is a blaspheming fellow who has five squaws for wives for which he takes his authority from the Scriptures. While at Savage's Reamer and I saw grizzly bear tracks and went out to hunt him down getting lost in the mountains and not returning until the following evening. Found our way to camp over an Indian trail that lead past a valley enclosed by stupendous cliffs rising perhaps 3000 feet from their base and which gave us cause for wonder. Not far off a waterfall dropped from a cliff below three jagged peaks into the valley while farther beyond a rounded mountain stood, the valley side of which looked as though it had been sliced with a knife as one would slice a loaf of bread and which Reamer and I called the Rock of Ages.

Mrs. Paden recognized this passage for what it is—an unmistakable word-picture of Yosemite Valley, as seen from the old Indian Trail on the south cliffs. Mr. Weldon F. Heald wrote a brief account of this same incident in the *Sierra Club Bulletin* for May, 1947. Mr. Heald summed up his short article with the sentence, "The importance of the Abrams Diary is that hitherto there had been no evidence that any white man visited the valley or knew of its existence between 1833 and 1851."

Mrs. Paden takes issue with Mr. Heald's statement. She is convinced that, on the basis of recent research, Joseph Reddeford Walker did not see the Yosemite Valley in 1833, as has been concluded from Zenas Leonard's *Narrative*, published in 1839, but that Abrams, who was there in 1849, was the first American actually to look into the Valley. Mrs. Paden bases her judgment on the description quoted above and on her own intimate knowledge of the Yosemite.

This year Mrs. Paden holds a Guggenheim Fellowship and is engaged in preparing an annotated bibliography of the manuscripts relating to the exploration and colonization of California and Oregon.

Friends in Print

KEEPING UP with our Friends in Print is not always easy, but we are reminded, as we go to press, of some recent literary and historical contributions by various members. If we have missed a good book, let us know, so we can make amends.

- Burke, Robert E.
 "Die Demokratie der Weststaaten," in *Der Wähler*, published in Frankfurt, Germany, 1955.
- Bynum, Lindley
California Wines and How to Enjoy Them. Los Angeles, Homer H. Boelter, Lithography.
- Corle, Edwin
Glances into California, by Walter Colton. Introduction by Edwin Corle. Los Angeles, Glen Dawson, 1955.
- Cross, Ralph Herbert
The Early Inns of California, 1844-1869. San Francisco, Lawton Kennedy, 1954.
- Dunne, Peter Masten
Jacobo Sedelmayer, Missionary, Frontiersman, Explorer in Arizona and Sonora. Phoenix, Ariz., Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society, 1955.
- Evans, Henry Herman
Bohemian San Francisco. San Francisco, The Porpoise Bookshop, 1954.
- Fisher, Lillian Estelle
Champion of Reform, Manuel Abad y Queipo. New York, Library Publishers, 1955.
- Giffen, Helen Smith
California Mining Town Newspapers, 1850-1880, A Bibliography. Van Nuys, Calif., J. E. Reynolds, 1954.
- Casas & Courtyards; Historic Adobe Houses of California*. Foreword by W. W. Robinson, Photographs by Guy J. Giffen. Oakland, Biobooks, 1955.
- Graff, Everett D., Ed.
Sketch of a Trip from Omaha to Salmon River, by Daniel McLaughlin. Chicago, 1954.
- Hammond, George Peter
On the Ambitious Projects of Russia in regard to North West America. San Francisco, Book Club of California, 1955.
- Howell, John
The Friendship of Books; A California Bookman. San Francisco, 1954. (Book Club of California, quarterly newsletter.)
- Jackson, Joseph Henry
The Life and Adventures of Joaquín Murieta, the Celebrated California Bandit, by Yellow Bird (John Rollin Ridge) with an introduction by Joseph Henry Jackson. Norman, University of Oklahoma Press, 1955.
- Lewis, Oscar
George Davidson, Pioneer West Coast Scientist. Berkeley, University of California Press, 1954.
- Town That Died Laughing: The Story of Austin, Nevada . . .* New York, Little, Brown, 1955.

- Morgan, Dale L., and Wheat, Carl I.
Jedediah Smith and His Maps of the American West, by Dale L. Morgan and Carl I. Wheat. San Francisco, California Historical Society, 1954.
- Rudkin, Charles N.
Camille de Roquefeuil in San Francisco, 1817-1818, translated and edited by Charles N. Rudkin. Los Angeles, Glen Dawson, 1954.
- Stuart, Reginald R.
A History of the Fred Finch Children's Home . . . by Reginald R. Stuart and Grace D. Stuart. Oakland, Fred Finch Children's Home, 1955.
- Sullivan, Joseph A., Ed.
The First California Troubadour, by Stephen C. Massett. Prologue by Joseph A. Sullivan. Oakland, Biobooks, 1954.
- Wagner, Henry Raup
The First American Vessel in California. Monterey in 1796. Los Angeles, Glen Dawson, 1954.
- Wheat, Carl I.
Mapping the American West, 1540-1857: a preliminary study. Worcester, Mass., American Antiquarian Society, 1954.
- Woodward, Arthur, Ed.
The Russians on the Pacific Ocean (California, 1845), by Alexander Markoff; the Ivan Petroff translation with a foreword by Arthur Woodward. Los Angeles, Glen Dawson, 1955.

A Benefactor

OUR GOOD FRIEND, Joseph M. Bransten, has helped us so much and so often in recent years that we would like to make public note of his benefactions.

He launched our Frank Norris Collection with his gift of two leaves of the manuscript of *McTeague*. Single-handedly he very nearly filled several of the want lists published in *Bancroftiana*, notably those of Mary Austin and Gelett Burgess. Among his recent gifts are four inscribed first-edition books of George Sterling and a highly interesting letter of John Muir.

To "Joe" Bransten go our hearty thanks—and the firm assurance that our wants are, properly enough, quite insatiable.

Annual Report

EACH YEAR the Staff of the Bancroft Library takes stock of the year's events in an Annual Report, signaling the various phases of the Library's activities. Copies of this year's report, completed in November, may be had by sending the director a postal card with your request.

New Friends

It is always a pleasure to welcome new Friends, among whom we count the following:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Abel, Richard | Portland, Ore. |
| Bennett & Marshall, | Los Angeles |
| Antiquarian Booksellers | |
| Bosshard, R. E. | Berkeley |
| Boucher, Mrs. Beulah Blair | San Francisco |
| Brown, Mrs. Edmund N. | Sonoma |
| Chapman, Mrs. Christina A. | Oakland |
| Chensoff, Eugene V. | Berkeley |
| Coats, William R. | San Mateo |
| Davidson, Mrs. Charles S. | Berkeley |
| Day, Henry L. | Wallace, Idaho |
| Delareuelle, R. R. | Walnut Creek |
| Dolley, Dr. Frank Stephen | Los Angeles |
| Eccleston, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. | Oakland |
| Elkus, Mrs. Charles de Y. | San Francisco |
| Gollan, Gordon D. | San Francisco |
| Gould, Charles P. | San Marino |
| Harrison, Mrs. Michael | Sacramento |
| Heron, Alexander R. | Berkeley |
| Holden, Mrs. St. George | San Francisco |
| Ivancovich, Byron | Tucson, Ariz. |
| Kent, Arthur H. | San Francisco |
| LeBlanc, Bertrand | San Francisco |
| Lyon, Mrs. Hazel Knox | San Francisco |
| Moore, Mrs. Edna U. | Berkeley |
| Nutting, Franklin P. | San Francisco |
| Oakley, Judge James H. | Sacramento |
| Partmann, William B. | San Francisco |
| Pond, Mrs. Inez Henderson | Stockton |
| Rosekrans, John N. | San Francisco |
| Rudkin, Charles N. | San Marino |
| Sayre, Mrs. Edgar A., Jr. | Sacramento |
| Sinsheimer, Paul A. | San Francisco |
| Smith, Colonel Waddell F. | San Rafael |
| Southwest Museum, Inc. | Highland Park |
| | Los Angeles |
| Steinmetz, George E. | Danville |
| Stephens, W. Barclay, M.D. | Alameda |
| Tyler, S. Lyman | Provo, Utah |
| Vogt, Ernest A. | Piedmont |
| West, Herbert F. | Baker Library |
| | Dartmouth College |
| | Hanover, N. H. |
| Whitney, Miss Jean Marian | Santa Rosa |
| Wiseman, Miss Georgea A. | San Francisco |
| Wolf, Mr. and Mrs. William | Carmel Valley |

Best Wishes, Carl

CARL I. WHEAT, Chairman of the Friends, was taken ill during July while preparing to attend the annual Grove Encampment of the Bohemian Club of San Francisco with his guest, Conrad L. Wirth, director of the National Park Service. Carl is convalescing satisfactorily at his home in Menlo Park.

"Rip" Rubke Gift

THE NAME of Henry Morse Stephens was, a generation ago, one to conjure with on the campus of the University of California. Popular with students and townsfolk alike, he lectured to the largest classes on the campus and was in constant demand as a speaker at off-campus functions.

Stephens was, at that time, head of the University's History Department, and one of the most distinguished members of its faculty. About him he gathered a select group of graduate students, apprentices in the profession of history, who absorbed his enthusiasm for historical study, whether as a hobby or as teachers. One of these was Francis William Rubke, always known to his friends as "Rip" Rubke, student of history, captain of the baseball team, and above all a friend of his favorite professor, Henry Morse Stephens. "Rip" Rubke was detoured from the study of history as a professional, but, as a business man, he enjoyed more and more the leisure hours with the many fine books of his library. When he was suddenly stricken in May, 1955, his mother and sister presented his California and Western books to the Bancroft Library as a memorial to their son and brother.

Holderman Collection

THE CORRESPONDENCE and papers of Colonel Nelson Miles Holderman, much-decorated hero of the First World War and long-time Commandant of the Veterans Home of California, have been presented to the Bancroft Library by his widow, Mrs. Marguerite A. Holderman of St. Helena, California.

Holderman was born in Hastings, Nebraska, in 1887. He was brought as a child to Orange County, California, where his father became a rancher. Joining the California National Guard, Holderman rose through the enlisted ranks and was commissioned. After serving under General Pershing on the Mexican border, Holderman went to France with the American Expeditionary Force as a captain of infantry. In France he was transferred from the 40th Division (California National Guard) to the 77th Division as a company commander. In the Battle of the Argonne For-

est, Captain Holderman's Company K, 307th Infantry, was the right flank of the "Lost Battalion." Holderman, severely wounded, was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic deeds in the Argonne, October 2-8, 1918.

After the war he served in the army of occupation in Germany, at the presidio of San Francisco, and in several other places. In 1926 he retired from the regular army on permanent disability and became Commandant of the Veterans Home of California at Yountville, Napa County, a position he held until his death in September, 1953. As Commandant, Holderman inspired, and saw through to virtual completion, an elaborate building program for the Home, involving the erection of modern fireproof buildings and a dam and reservoir to provide adequate water.

The Holderman collection includes correspondence, photographs, military decorations, clippings, and personal miscellany.

Mather and the National Parks

WHEN MR. DAN GUTLEBEN, one of Bancroft's devoted friends, learned that the Stephen T. Mather Papers, comprising so much of the history of this country's National Parks, had been given to the Bancroft Library, it reminded him of an experience, and he sat down and wrote Dr. J. B. Tompkins of the Bancroft Staff and the donor, Mrs. Edward R. McPherson, Mather's daughter, the following letter:

May 27, 1955

Dear Dr. Tompkins:

Mention of the Mather Memorial in the December 1954 "Bancroftiana" reminds me of a little experience in which Stephen Mather was implicated. Brother Phil and I, operating under the style of Gutleben Brothers, Contractors, were doing a good deal of work in Yosemite at the time Mr. Mather was active as Director of National Park Service about 40 years ago. He was, of course, interested in making the parks available and attractive to the greatest number of visitors but his heart also went out to the long-suffering rangers who sacrificed their comfort for the benefit of the guests. One day he presented a layout of a club house which he proposed to build for the rangers and he sat down with Phil and the head ranger to whip the plans into shape for construction. When their minds had met on the plans and an approximation of the cost, Mr. Mather said,

"Go ahead, Phil, and present the bills to me."

Under this "contract" we rendered monthly bills which Mr. Mather liquidated by personal checks. There was no bond or other complexity connected with the undertaking. It was a verbal agreement with a man of honorable purpose. His word was good enough.

Coronado Beach

THE DEVELOPMENT of Coronado Beach in San Diego and the early years of the operation of its famous Hotel Del Coronado is told in a collection of the records of several Spreckels family enterprises recently given to the Library.

Coronado Beach, described in its publicity brochures as "our New Italy without malaria," was the center of real estate activity during the decades around the turn of the century. The immense hotel, covering four and a half acres, the largest resort hotel in the world, advertised to tourists (in a way that must have sounded agreeable at the time) that it was a place "where sick people get well and well people get fat." This was obviously before the emergence of the ever-present non-fat milk of today!

Welcome

AGE DOES NOT WITHER nor custom stale the infinite variety and activity of Bancroft's Friends, if we may coin a phrase, and the living text for our theme is provided by the devoted couple, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar N. Carter. Octogenarians both, they were never more vigorous of mind or of interests, and we are happy to count them within the circle of Bancroft's intimate friends. Mr. Carter is the sole surviving son of W. A. Carter, pioneer sutler of Fort Bridger, and has taken the initiative in building up an imposing collection of Carter family papers at Bancroft. Long resident at South Pasadena, the Carters have now located at Burlingame, on the Peninsula, where fortunately they will be more immediately available to Bancroft for consultation.

For several years past Mr. Carter has been engaged in building a scale model of Fort Bridger as an Army post, which has now been completed and is hereafter to be a feature of the state museum display at his Wyoming birthplace.