

BANCROFTIANA

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The President's Corner

ACCORDING to Carl I. Wheat's wish to retire as Chairman after two years of devoted service, the Council of the Friends of the Bancroft Library, on May 21, 1956, elected as its new chairman Mrs. Guy Gilchrist of Dutch Flat and San Francisco, a descendant of the Howard family of California pioneers of Punta de los Reyes in Marin County.

Previously, at the annual meeting, Malcolm W. Moss was named to fill the unexpired term of Joseph Henry Jackson; and Joseph Bransten, George P. Hammond, Mrs. Gerald D. Kennedy, and V. Aubrey Neasham were elected as members of the Council for the term ending June 30, 1960.

Mrs. Gilchrist entertained the Council at luncheon on October 18, at which time she announced appointment of three committees to advance the purposes of the Friends.

The Executive Committee, with Mrs. Gilchrist as chairman, has as other members Michael Harrison, Joseph Bransten, Malcolm Moss, George L. Harding, Adele Ogden, and George P. Hammond.

The Membership and Finance Committee, with Joseph Bransten as chairman, has as members Mrs. Harold Boucher, Glen Dawson, Joel Ferris, George L. Harding, Michael Harrison, and Mrs. Lawton Kennedy.

The Publications Committee, of which Michael Harrison is chairman, will otherwise be made up of Francis P. Farquhar and Dale L. Morgan.

Western Authors

ONE OF THE newest of Bancroft's collecting fields has already become a major preoccupation of the Library, the assemblage and pres-

ervation of the papers of California writers. The value of primary source materials for the historian has long been recognized, but Bancroft feels that it is just as important to preserve the manuscripts of novelists and poets—not only the notes, drafts, and revisions of works prepared for publication, but correspondence, diaries, and other papers which reflect the personal and social life of the writer, his interaction with and place in the culture of his time.

Valuable collections recently built up, chiefly through the efforts and enthusiasm of Professor James D. Hart, Chairman of the University's English Department, include the papers of Gertrude Atherton, Frank Norris, Ina Coolbrith, Charles Warren Stoddard, George Sterling, Jack London, and other writers. Just arranged and in process of being catalogued for public use are the papers of Gelett Burgess, including his notebooks and diaries, correspondence, manuscripts, and a few drawings of his famous "Goops."

Interesting acquisitions this past year, not previously mentioned in *Bancroftiana*, include a list in Frank Norris' handwriting of manuscripts he read as a professional reader, 1901-02, a gift from Frank C. Preston, Jr.; a Bret Harte letter, August 31, 1881, concerning his contract with Houghton Mifflin & Company of Boston, a gift from Joseph M. Bransten; additions to her archive of poetry and correspondence from Miss Josephine Miles; George Sterling's inscribed copy for Mary Austin of his *Wine of Wizardry*, and his own copy of Keats's *Poems* inscribed as a gift to Nora May French, Christmas, 1906, gifts of Miss Nellie Barnes. Miss Barnes also gave us a copy of Mary Austin's *Lovely Lady*, inscribed by Mrs. Austin to Catherine

Hittell. Dorothy Baker contributed the manuscript of her novel, *Trio*. Doubleday and Company added a contract of Gelett Burgess and Will Irwin with McClure, Phillips & Co., to some correspondence and contracts of Upton Sinclair, Gertrude Atherton, and Mary Austin with this firm and its predecessors.

The papers of the late Joseph Henry Jackson are being placed in the Library by Mrs. Jackson, including some correspondence and a complete file of his "Bookman" columns in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. The celebrated duo, Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas, are represented with five postcards sent to Lawrence Strauss, given by Mrs. Strauss. In addition, we have acquired several manuscripts (with pictures for illustration) of stories about California, Idaho, and the Klondike gold rush, ca. 1885-1900, written by Alan Owen, an Englishman who sometimes used the pseudonym Robert Campbell.

Diaz Regime Papers

THROUGH the medium of microfilm the Bancroft Library has acquired a large part of the correspondence directed to Matías Romero, a Mexican diplomat and financier of exceptional ability who lent his talents to the famous administrations of both Benito Juárez and Porfirio Díaz.

In 1859 Juárez sent his loyal adherent, Matías Romero, to Washington as secretary of the Mexican Legation. Although only twenty-two at the time of his appointment, Romero pursued his duties with such zeal and imagination that he was soon promoted to chargé d'affaires and remained as the able representative of the Juárez government during its initial trying years and throughout the whole unfortunate era of French intervention in Mexico. In 1868 he returned to Mexico as secretary of finance to assist Juárez in the difficult job of reestablishing the government of a shattered republic. That Juárez was able to avert financial disaster and bring some unity out of the chaos left by the French was in no small measure due to Romero's honest and efficient administration of the treasury.

At Juárez' death in 1872 Romero retired

to private life and local politics, but returned during the long administration of Porfirio Díaz to serve at various times as minister of finance and as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Washington. In 1898 he was named Mexican ambassador to the United States but died before he could assume the duties of his post.

Romero diligently preserved his correspondence, leaving in the hands of his descendants an archive rich in materials for the history of the critical period in which he lived. In recent years this collection has become the property of the Banco de México, which has acted as custodian of the papers and now has micro-filmed most of them. These are of especial value to scholars because the source materials for this period of Mexican history are both scant and widely scattered. As a consequence, these 72 reels of film of the correspondence and papers of one of Mexico's most distinguished public servants in the late 19th century are a rich source of information.

Eureka—The Nerve!

ONE OF the Bancroft Library's newest acquisitions is an extremely rare set of the *Nerve*, a weekly periodical published in Eureka from 1892 to 1895, bound in three volumes.

Nerve began on a high note. According to its first editorial, "... to the material interests of the realm in which it circulates, NERVE has come as a vital force to touch the inert masses of mind and matter, and, by the magic of the touch set them throbbing with the ecstasies of life. Its province is to invigorate and encourage. It seeks not so much to create or to mould—though it may undertake both—but to enliven, to connect, to unify. Such is the ideal which a literal rendering of the title might imply, and may Heaven grant us wisdom, strength, and courage to approach as near the ideal as the nerves of our readers will permit."

After such an expression of soaring ambition, almost anything would be an anticlimax. The last number of volume III, March 30, 1895, tells us that Supervisor Moore has recently returned from Paso Robles, where he was completely cured of rheumatism by taking hot mud baths.



Eleanor Ashby Bancroft

1903-1956

It is with a great sense of personal as well as professional loss that we record the death, on August 28, 1956, of Eleanor Ashby Bancroft. In the *thirty-six* years of her life in the Bancroft Library, she came to be regarded by many as the very heart and soul of the institution. Her long experience in bibliographical and reference work, inspired by interest and enthusiasm, and aided by an exceptionally good memory, had given her an intimate knowledge of the Library's collection perhaps unequalled since the days of the Library's founder. This wealth she shared with visitors and colleagues, giving it as generously as she gave her friendliness and warm humor.

The outline of her career is easily set down. Born in Nebraska, August 16, 1903, she came to California with her family at an early age. After attending schools in Sacramento, she entered the University of California in 1920 as a freshman. Working part-time in the Bancroft Library and majoring in history, she graduated in 1926. Continuing as a full-time

employee in the Library, she later took formal training in the University's School of Librarianship, receiving her Certificate in 1938. Since 1940 she served as Assistant to the Director of the Bancroft Library, and at the time of her death she was Acting Director during Dr. Hammond's absence in England.

Eleanor Bancroft performed most of the labor in preparing the book known as the Cebrian Catalogue, or *Spain and Spanish America in the Libraries of the University of California, Volume II, the Bancroft Library*, published in 1930. With Miss Edith M. Coulter she edited two works, *Thirteen California Towns, from the Original Drawings*, and *An Account of a Tour of the California Missions, 1856—The Journal and Drawings of Henry Miller*, both published in San Francisco by the Book Club of California, in 1947 and 1952. She also did a large share of the work on *California Local History, a Centennial Bibliography*, compiled by the California Library Association Committee on Local History and published in 1950. Besides being a scholar herself, she was advisor and guide to countless other scholars. There must be hundreds of published works that acknowledge their authors' indebtedness to Mrs. Bancroft for her assistance.

The essence of her career cannot be better expressed than in her own words, written on her 52nd birthday as introduction to an unfinished paper: "The business of writing about the place in which I was raised and have spent all my adult years is a problem. I began 'my career' at the end of June of 1920, age 16. When I applied for a part time job, Dr. Priestley, Librarian, asked me 'What can you do?' I'm sure my answer was intended to mean 'I am willing to do anything,' but he interpreted it and always quoted me as answering 'I can do anything.' Well, I grew up there. We moved from the first floor of the Library building to the fourth floor in 1922. It was there that I gradually learned about the library; I mean the books and manuscripts, and what was in them and how to find out more."

During her subsequent years in the Library, Mrs. Bancroft did much to add to its store of resources. She was responsible for the work of book selection, a huge task which was

possible only because of her wide and personal knowledge of the Library. This knowledge, and later the coincidence of her married name, combined to make her the personification of the Library. It was our good fortune.

In trying to write of the Mrs. Bancroft we all loved, we turned to her friend and collaborator, Miss Coulter, whose words make a fitting conclusion to this tribute: "My acquaintance with Eleanor Bancroft dates back to her student days when she became an assistant in the Bancroft Library, but a much closer association developed during the last ten years. She possessed a remarkably retentive memory of incidents relative to the growth and acquisitions of the Bancroft Library, but more than that she had a friendly interest in the students and scholars who used the collection over the years. But above all these valuable characteristics she had a gracious, animated and blithe personality. Eleanor Bancroft will be long remembered."

Hammond's Trip to Europe

IN ORDER to reactivate our microfilm program in England and Holland, I visited both of those countries during the summer of 1956, accompanied by Mrs. Hammond. On July 8th, after visiting bookstores and libraries in New York, we took wing for London, where we arrived on the morning of the 9th.

The flaming sunrise that morning over the North Atlantic was most spectacular, and was to provide practically our last view of the sun for many weeks. As we came over England and Ireland the clear sky gave way to fog, mist, and smoke, and throughout our stay the British Isles huddled, cold and miserable, through one of the wettest summers in the last hundred years. Only rarely during our two months in London did the temperature reach 60°, and one English friend quipped that if it ever reached 70° all activities would cease because of the heat wave. Our hearts went out to the British farmers, whose crops were not only retarded but irreparably damaged.

We were soon settled in a London hotel, studying maps of subways and bus lines, London's magnificent system of public transportation. We made the usual calls—the

American Embassy, the British Museum, the Public Record Office (the official government depository, corresponding to our own National Archives), and other libraries and museums. We gazed at St. Paul's Cathedral, visited the Parliament Buildings, watched the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace, walked along the Victoria embankment of the Thames, and wandered among the Courts of Inn, where the English lawyers have their offices. We were soon reminded to call them solicitors and barristers, and we observed that they alone, apparently, wore the little black derbies as a mark of their profession. On the long summer evenings and the quiet week-ends, when all of London seemed to have closed up shop and left town, we "hoofed" it from monument to monument, from church to cathedral, from palace to museum and gallery, taking in the sights and getting thoroughly wet.

My chief purpose in England was to investigate, in the Public Record Office, the British documentary sources relating to Mexico during the nineteenth century. Great Britain was one of the first nations to recognize the independence of Mexico, in 1825, and agents were sent to Mexico City to represent his Britannic Majesty. A consulate general was established in the City of Mexico, and vice-consulates in several coastal towns. This was the period of great English commercial expansion. There was enormous interest in British mines, in developing British trade, in British migration to these new parts of the world. And since the British had centuries of experience in keeping elaborate records, it followed that there was extensive correspondence between the British officials in Mexico and the mother country, as well as between the British vice-consuls and the consulate general in Mexico City. Virtually all of this vast accumulation of correspondence, extending to the end of the nineteenth century, was later transferred to the government archives in London, and there it remains. Since these records throw light on a multitude of subjects in Mexican history, many are being microfilmed for the Bancroft Library, where they will soon be available to scholars who may wish to consult them.

The search for documents took me also to

the British Museum, which corresponds in some measure to our own Library of Congress. Both a library and a museum, this ancient institution has a rich and magnificent accumulation of maps, manuscripts, and museum objects, gathered from all parts of the world. Here, too, British officials extended every courtesy to facilitate my search for documents and maps of interest to scholars of the Pacific Coast.

Since the University of California for many years has been gathering material on colonial Latin American history, I spent a week in the Dutch Royal archives at The Hague, investigating records relating to Dutch activities in the Caribbean area. During my first visit to these archives, in 1949, when the Dutch lacked both equipment and dollars, we had supplied them with a top-quality American Recordak camera, in exchange for thousands of documents on microfilm which we had selected for our use. This happy arrangement greatly pleased the Dutch officials, and the camera bears a brass plate, acknowledging their gratefulness to the University of California.

My second visit to these archives was as agreeable as the first. On my return to The Hague this summer I was given free access to the stacks and the assistance of a young archivist. Such advantages enabled me to make a survey of materials of major interest to American scholars in the Latin American field, and to make plans for microfilming them in years to come.

Although the summer of 1956 in northern Europe was bleakly cold and wet, our welcome abroad was a warm one. Our trip was a rare opportunity, not only to learn more about the resources of archives and libraries, but to cement old friendships and form new ones on the other side of the Atlantic. G.P.H.

A New Overland Diary

A NEW MANUSCRIPT JOURNAL to enhance Bancroft's famous collection of overland narratives is the penciled diary of Timothy Judge, acquired earlier this year. The record begins with Judge's departure from Great Salt Lake City on September 6, 1849, and describes his further journey to California by

way of the Salt Lake Cutoff, north of Great Salt Lake, and the Carson River route to Weaverville, where he arrived October 15. Later entries in the diary describe mining experiences near Weaverville, Georgetown, Big Bar, Volcano Bar, and other diggings to January 26, 1850.

The diary is unusual in that Judge traveled the Humboldt route so late in the year, for by September Forty-niners still as far east as Utah were beginning to look to the southern route to California. Judge and his companions on the trail had much more trouble with the Indians in Nevada than had earlier travelers—perhaps being called upon to pay for the well-known sins of the more reckless members of the Golden Army. Another feature of the diary is a list of men who died along the trail at various times, from July 21 to October 3—sometimes with a record of where the unfortunate ones came from.

The State of Deseret

FOR THE second successive year, the Friends have given to the Bancroft Library an outstanding Mormon rarity, the *Constitution of the State of Deseret*, 1849, a work important both historically and bibliographically. Last year the Friends presented the *Book of Commandments* (1833), the first publication in book form of the revelations of Joseph Smith, the Mormon prophet, which may be regarded as the doctrinal foundation of the Mormon church, a precursor of the *Doctrine and Covenants* under which the church still functions today.

A fitting companion-piece is the *Constitution of the State of Deseret*, published by Orson Hyde at Kanessville, Iowa, in 1849, a copy of which was purchased by the Friends at a New York auction last spring for presentation to the Library. Rarer even than the *Book of Commandments*—only seven copies are known to exist—this *Constitution* reflects the initial political organization of the commonwealth that has become Utah.

The "Provisional State of Deseret" was founded by the Mormons in 1849, with claimed boundaries that included not only present Utah but parts of all neighboring states and as much of California as lies east

of the Sierra and south of 118° 31', including most of the Southern California seacoast. The Territory of Utah, created in place of Deseret at the time California came into being as a state, on September 9, 1850, was, however, much reduced in size, and the frank Mormon effort to gain an outlet to the sea at California's expense was abortive.

Though Congress did not recognize the State of Deseret, the Mormon people were governed by it from 1849 to 1851, and the laws passed by its legislature, readopted by the first Territorial legislature, became the basis of written law in Utah. "Deseret," a *Book of Mormon* word declared to mean "honey bee" and implying industry, was preferred by the Mormons to "Utah," and various constitutional conventions, as late as 1872, sought statehood under that name.

The *Constitution of the State of Deseret* was sent east to be published at Kanesville because there was no press in Deseret at the time. The manuscript was entrusted to Almon W. Babbitt, whom the Mormons had elected Delegate, and in December, 1849, he presented to Congress both his credentials and printed copies of the *Constitution*. The copy now given to Bancroft by the Friends has this added feature of interest, that on the title page is penciled "W. Tappan. From Mr. Babbitt. Jan'y 2, 1850." Obviously, Babbitt handed out this copy in the course of his lobbying activities.

In the spirit of the decisive initiative taken by the Friends to maintain the primacy of Bancroft's Mormon collection, the Library in recent months has acquired other scarce and noteworthy Mormon titles. Only two or three copies of most of these are known to exist.

Bancroft's collection of early editions of the *Book of Mormon* has been made complete for the lifetime of Joseph Smith by the acquisition of the second (Kirtland, 1837) and fourth (Nauvoo, 1842) printings. The Kirtland work is actually more rare than the first edition of 1830 (of which the Library has two copies), and is prized accordingly. In all, four American and one English edition of the *Book of Mormon* were published down to 1844. A later *Book of Mormon* of unusual

interest is one translated into Hawaiian by George Q. Cannon and published by him at San Francisco in 1855.

Orson Pratt's *An Interesting Account of Several Remarkable Visions, and of the Late Discovery of Ancient American Records* (Edinburgh, 1840) is a first edition of the first Mormon work to describe Joseph Smith's "First Vision," now a cardinal tenet in Mormon belief. As welcome is a first edition (New York, 1837) of Parley P. Pratt's *Voice of Warning*, the earliest, and perhaps still the most influential, polemic book published by a Mormon. The same author's *Letter to the Queen* (Manchester, 1841) is one of the earliest and scarcest of his English tracts. Benjamin Winchester's *Synopsis of the Holy Scriptures* (Philadelphia, 1842) is another title as well known as it is hard to come by. Of special bibliographical interest are two unique issues of Lorenzo D. Barnes's *References to Prove the Gospel in Its Fulness*, the first of which may have been published at Nauvoo as early as 1841; the other is an English edition of 1848.

Examples of anti-Mormon tracts provoked by such publications are Adrian Orr's *Mormonism Dissected* (Bethania, Pa., 1841), Samuel Haining's *Mormonism Weighed in the Balances of the Sanctuary, and Found Wanting* (Douglas, Isle of Man, 1840), John Simons' *A Few More Facts Relating to the Self-Styled "Latter-Day Saints"* (Clitheroe, 1840), and Walter B. Mant's *Mormonism, a Heresy* (Belfast, 1843). A later anti-Mormon book is William Cook's *The Mormons, The Dream and the Reality* (London, 1857), which describes in hostile vein a visit to Utah in 1853-54. Of yet later date is one of the early imprints of the Reorganized Church, published after it began to contend with the Utah Church for the British mission field, Jason W. Briggs' *A Word of Consolation to the Saints Scattered Abroad in the British Isles* (n.p., 1863).

"On the Trail to California . . ."

GOING TO CALIFORNIA in 1850, described in many overland journals and letters, is vividly

brought to life in the letters of Finley McDiarmid to his wife written on the trail between St. Joseph, Missouri, and California. Early on the trip, in May, he wrote to his wife: "It is too much labour for two of us to take proper care of the horses and get anything to eat in any proper season after we camp at night. As an average I have not slept more than three hours in twenty-four since I have left home . . . The Indians are numerous here—we have to watch them during the day as well as the night . . . if I were to go to California every month I would never take this route again . . ."

McDiarmid was the maternal grandfather of Mrs. Bamie Sargent Reynolds, who has given these letters to the Bancroft Library, where they were received with more than the usual jubilation. The reason? Miraculously, these precious century-old records escaped the devastating flood waters in Santa Cruz in December, 1955. And no one concerned wants to take another chance on their being lost.

Lumbering

CALIFORNIA'S lumbering industry, a natural resource even more important than its gold, has for the most part escaped the attention of the historian and collector, a most deplorable situation, for now most of the early records have disappeared. To remedy this lack, Emanuel Fritz, professor of forestry for many years at the University of California and a man who knows the industry as no one else, is focusing his interest on gathering such source materials as can still be found. The most recent cache he has discovered are 74 volumes of the records of the Elk River Mill and Lumber Company at Falk, Humboldt County, which have been given to the Bancroft Library through the generosity of Winfield Wrigley, the Company's representative at Eureka. The gift is especially significant because this lumber mill was one of the first in California, founded in the 1860's, and because the records are so complete. It includes letterbooks, timebooks kept both in the woods and at the mill, accounts of employees at the company store, journals, ledgers, price lists, and other records of economic significance.

Friends in Print

- Blake, Anson S.
"History of Las Posadas Forest," compiled by Edith Gregory, foreword by Anson S. Blake, in *California Historical Society Quarterly*, March, 1956.
- Boyd, W. Harland, editor
San Joaquin Vignettes; The Reminiscences of Captain John Barker, edited by William Harland Boyd and Glendon J. Rodgers. Bakersfield, Calif., Kern County Historical Society, 1955.
- Coblentz, Edmond D.
The Tale of Temelec Hall. c. 1953.
- Dawson, Glen, publisher
"Early California Travels Series"—six new titles published during 1955 and 1956.
- Goodman, John B. III, editor
Personal Recollections of Harvey Wood, with an introduction and notes by John B. Goodman III. Pasadena, California, private printing, 1955.
- Hammond, George Peter
"The Search for the Fabulous in the Settlement of the Southwest," in *Utah Historical Quarterly*, January, 1956.
- Hanke, Lewis
"Materials for Research on Texas History in European Archives and Libraries," in *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, January, 1956.
- Hart, James D., editor
The Vine in Early California. Edited by Joseph Henry Jackson and James D. Hart. San Francisco, Book Club of California, 1955.
- Jackson, Joseph Henry
See Hart, James D.
- Lewis, Oscar
High Sierra Country. New York, Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1955.
—*Bay Window Bobemia*. New York, Doubleday, 1956.
- Paden, Irene D.
The Big Oak Flat Road; An Account of Freight-travel from Stockton to Yosemite Valley [by] Irene D. Paden and Margaret E. Schlichtmann. San Francisco, 1955.
- Robinson, William Wilcox
"The Story of Rancho San Pascual," in *Historical Society of Southern California Quarterly*, December, 1955.
—*The Story of Ventura County*. Los Angeles, Title Insurance & Trust Company, 1955.
- Schlichtmann, Margaret E.
See Paden, Irene D.
- Streeter, Thomas W.
Bibliography of Texas, 1795-1845. Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1955. 2 vols.
- Stephens, W. Barclay
"A Watch and Its Owners," in *California Historical Society Quarterly*, December, 1955.
- Sullivan, Joseph A., publisher
"California Relations"—three new titles issued during 1955.

New Friends

Bruce, Robert W.
Christie, James B.
Coblentz, Edmond D.
Crawford, Stephen
Fatout, Paul
Fleming, Sandford
Gruening, Mary L.
Hindes, Stetson G.
Johnston, Marjorie Catherine
Kennedy, Mrs. Lawton R.
Kovach, Nicholas A.
Mannion Ed
Olmsted, Duncan H.
Ponsford, Keith
Price, Francis
Putnam, F. B.
Sacramento County Free Library
San Leandro Free Public Library
Simpson, John L.
Stern, Carl W.
Swingle, John

Sacramento
Altadena
Sonoma
Oakland
Lafayette, Ind.
Morgan Hill
Berkeley
San Francisco
Healdsburg
San Francisco
Los Angeles
Petaluma
Petaluma
Oakland
Santa Barbara
Los Angeles
Sacramento
San Leandro
San Francisco
San Francisco
Berkeley

Maps of the Overland

IRENE D. PADEN, so well known to students and enthusiasts of Western history for her numerous lively books about Western trails and trail-finding, and currently completing a project for which last year she was granted a Guggenheim fellowship, has given the Library an important collection of maps pertaining to the Overland Trails formed by her husband, the late William Guy Paden. Dr. Paden had tracings made of several hundred original township maps in the General Land Office cartographical archive in the Department of the Interior at Washington, D. C.—such township plats being in many instances the first local maps ever drawn. On these maps Dr. Paden plotted the routes of early trails and wagon roads, after which blueprint copies were made. It is these blueprint maps that have now been given to Bancroft.

Mrs. Paden's work-in-progress, which we have been happy to see shaping up in Bancroft's reading rooms, will in itself be a valuable reference tool, for she is preparing a bibliography of the major narratives of Overland Travel to Oregon and California, printed and in manuscript, located in the principal American libraries, with specific reference to the amount and kind of information provided by the writers on various segments of the Overland Trail.

The Mendocino Coast in Pictures

IN THE SPRING OF 1956 Mr. Eugene Compton, an associate of Professor J. W. Johnson of the Division of Mechanical Engineering, made a surprising discovery of a portfolio of pictures which at his suggestion the owner gave to the Bancroft Library. The pictures are the work of one of the most noted photographers in the United States in the period after the Gold Rush, Carleton Emmons Watkins, who in 1868 won the first prize at the Paris International Exposition awarded to the United States by the Committee on Photographic Landscapes.

The 53 photographs cover the very earliest lumbering activities on the Mendocino Coast, in which Mr. J. B. Ford, the grandfather of the donor, Mrs. Lewis Pierce, was an outstanding pioneer. Watkins' photographs, which measure approximately 16" x 20" in size, are magnificent specimens of the photographer's art. This portfolio, which is in almost mint condition, pictures the sites where the first lumber mills were erected, the rocky seacoast, Indian villages, and other early views of historic value. The picture of Little River before a mill was constructed there is of particular interest, because the cycle of this spot is now complete, from primitive forest through mill and mill pond, thriving lumbering community with wharf and shipping point, to the creation of the excellent and widely known Van Damme State Park, which preserves this as a forested area. Little evidence of this historic chain of events now remains except through the medium of photographs.

J. B. Ford, in partnership with Meiggs and Williams, built the first mill at Mendocino City in 1852 to furnish lumber for San Francisco, which was then expanding very rapidly, and thereby became the founder of Mendocino County's lumber industry, which has thrived for more than a hundred years. This portfolio of pictures is from a personal collection of Ford, to whose granddaughter, Mrs. Pierce, the Library expresses its appreciation for this gift, which makes the collection of Watkins photographs outstanding.