

BANCROFTIANA

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The Dakin Memorial Lecture

THE ANNUAL LECTURE established by Mr. and Mrs. Jake Zeitlin of Los Angeles in memory of Susanna Bryant Dakin will be given on December 11, 1968, at Alumni House, on the Berkeley Campus of the University of California at 8 p.m. The speaker will be Dr. George P. Hammond, well known to The Friends as Bancroft's former Director. His topic, "Mexican California in Transition; American Entrepreneurs vs. Decaying Mexican Mercantilism," will be devoted to the period Mrs. Dakin made famous in her books *Hugo Reid*, *A Scotch Paisano* and *The Lives of William Hartnell*, and other writings. The lecture is open to the public.

The Streeter Auction

THE FIFTH PORTION of Thomas W. Streeter's famed library of Western Americana was sold at the Parke-Bernet Galleries in New York October 22-23, 1968. As in the previous sales, the auction attracted nationwide attention among librarians and collectors. More than 700 items were offered. The total sale price was just under \$250,000, an indication of the prestigious nature of those materials.

The TWS sale featured categories that have long been of central interest to The Bancroft Library, including post-1849 Californiana and Overland items, and consequently shed a welcome light on the ever-increasing value of The Bancroft collections. The top price paid in the sale was \$19,000 for a portfolio of what was described as thirty Kuchel & Dresel lithographs of California cities, 1855-1858 (though one of these seems not to have emanated from that firm). Through the acquisition of the Honeyman Collection, Bancroft obtained a very large group of Kuchel & Dresel views, including all but two of those making up the group of

thirty. A unique seven-page edition of the Charter of San Francisco, printed at the *Alta California* office in 1850, sold for \$500; Bancroft has, not this, but a prior four-page edition. Two other old friends were Nelson Slater's *Fruits of Mormonism* (Coloma, 1851), bid in for \$1,300, and James H. Carson's *Early Recollections of the Mines* (Stockton, 1852), which topped out at \$1,500. Similarly, by the criteria of this sale, Bancroft's copy of Zenas Leonard's *Narrative* (Clearfield, Pa., 1839), would be valued at \$6,250, and Lansford Hastings' *Emigrants' Guide* (Cincinnati, 1845), at \$4,000. Many other interesting books, maps, newspapers, and pamphlets enlivened both the Streeter sale catalogue and the bidding—and some of these, alas, were beyond the reach of our purse, satisfying as we would have found it to enhance The Bancroft collections further. May we make the point again? Endowment funds at The Bancroft would be put to very good use; benefactors please note!

GEORGE P. HAMMOND.

Everyone Knows The Bancroft Library!

RECENTLY I wrote The Bancroft Library that I wished to examine a certain file of very old newspapers which it possesses. On arriving in San Francisco with my wife, she kindly undertook to confirm the appointment I had made for the following day.

She asked the long distance operator for a person-to-person call to the gentleman at The Bancroft who had answered my letter, written from Los Angeles. He had signed himself, Head of Public Services.

Soon a voice from Berkeley questioned, "In what department is Mr. X?"

"In The Bancroft Library."

"Thank you. Mr. X will answer in a moment."

A pleasant voice spoke, "This is the Agricultural Department, what can I do for you?"

"Sorry, I called for a Mr. X of The Bancroft Library," she said, "a separate department of the University Library."

"Oh, just a moment."

It was almost twenty minutes later that she talked with my elusive correspondent who gave me the green light for the next day.

I was surprised at my wife's account of her difficulty. Why hadn't she made her meaning more clear?

"Everyone knows The Bancroft Library." I am sure I sounded quite pontifical.

Having been there many times before I easily guided the friend who drove me the next morning and, upon my arrival, the bound volumes of the *California Daily Chronicle* of the 1850's were delivered to me with courteous promptness. When the library closed at five o'clock I strolled down to central Berkeley for a snack before returning for an evening session. When ready, I called for a taxi and asked the driver to take me to The Bancroft Library.

"You mean the Law Library."

"No, The Bancroft."

"Is it on the campus?"

I suppressed my sarcastic impulse to say it had been there up to late afternoon—"Yes, it is in a wing of the main University Library on the side nearest the Campanile."

"Oh sure, now I know."

That proved to be the exaggeration of the year! We wound around campus roads and finally stopped alongside a huge structure not faintly resembling The Bancroft, the Doe, or any other library.

My driver alighted and opened the door.

"But," I demurred, "this isn't the library I wanted."

He pointed. "Go along this walk, it's right around the far corner, I can't drive any closer."

I paid the fare and let him depart. (I hope he knew his way back.) I went with hesitation along this wholly unfamiliar path to the corner and turned into stygian blackness, relieved only by a light far overhead, which I recognized as the beacon atop the Campanile—but it was at least a quarter of a mile to the northwest. I recalled that the base of the Campanile is only about a hundred yards east of the entrance to The Bancroft.

Fortunately, the Reagan-Regents' ruckus has not yet reduced the excellent illumina-

tion of the campus, so walking was easy enough until I was suddenly confronted by building walls to my north and west. Two students passed close to me.

"Please," I hailed them, "which way should I take to get to The Bancroft?" (That close to my goal, I did not add, "Library.")

"The what?" one student asked in amazement.

"The Bancroft Library."

They shook their heads. "Never heard of it," the first one said.

"You don't mean the Law Library?" Number Two was trying to be helpful.

"No," I patiently explained, "The Bancroft is an historical collection. It's in a large wing of the Main Library. The entrance is just a little west of the Campanile."

"Oh! Then you should go that way." He pointed behind me to our east.

"Excuse me." I wondered if my sanity would hold out, "The Bancroft is to the west of the Campanile."

"Sure, the hills are west of the campus, Mister."

"Now, my friend," I struggled to be polite, "I was born here in Berkeley, the hills rise to the east and the bay and the Golden Gate lie downhill to the west."

The young men looked earnestly at each other; maybe the old curmudgeon might not be crazy, after all.

"Yes," muttered Number One, "that is right." Number Two nodded. Just then a taller, better dressed collegian in a turtle neck sweater came down some steps. I am certain he was an upper classman for the other two looked up respectfully when he asked, "What's the difficulty?"

"I'm trying to find my way to The Bancroft Library."

"What library?"

"The Bancroft."

"I never heard of it," he announced incredulously. The other two showed they felt vindicated.

"It's a large historical collection," I drew a long breath, "gathered by the great California historian, Hubert Howe Bancroft. The University purchased it about forty years ago. Scholars visit it from all over the world for research."

All three listened in respectful silence.

"The entrance," I persisted, "is just across the driveway to the west of the Campanile. I was there this afternoon but my taxi driver

dropped me at the wrong building tonight."

"The Campanile is just beyond this building," Turtle Neck directed me, "go through that archway and you'll see it."

"Thanks," I nodded and walked on.

Although not a member of the faculty, I cherish the thought that perhaps at least three U. C. students now know what and where The Bancroft is! As for two of them, I believe I added one bit of learning not in the curriculum—how to tell the points of the compass on the Berkeley campus.

I duly finished my research and sought a public telephone to call a taxi to return me to San Francisco. Giving my name, I said I would be waiting at the entrance to The Bancroft Library.

"What's the street address?" a gravel-voiced lady interrupted, "we must have the street and number."

"I'm sure there's no street number; it's right in the middle of the campus!"

"What campus?"

"The University of California campus," I persisted.

"What town are you phoning from?" Her patience was being sorely tried.

"Berkeley!" My own tone was now clarion clear but I manfully resisted the impulse to spell the name.

"O. K.," she snapped and hung up.

Despite my doubts that I would ever see a taxi, in about twenty minutes one slowed down at the corner of the building, as if the driver were lost.

I whistled and frantically waved my arms and, *mirabile dictu*, he drove up to the entrance and took me aboard. From him I learned that the dispatcher's office was located in central Berkeley, near the City Hall.

I hope they won't move The Bancroft before the next time I visit the institution! I wouldn't want to have any trouble locating it.

DWIGHT L. CLARKE

(Reprinted from *Hoja Volante*, published for its members by the Zamorano Club of Los Angeles.)

A Christmas Gift for Friends

THE BANCROFT LIBRARY and The California Arboretum Foundation of Arcadia, California, have collaborated in publishing the lecture delivered by W. W. Robinson of Los Angeles, first in the series endowed by Mr. and Mrs. Jake Zeitlin of Los Angeles, in

memory of Susanna Bryant Dakin. Friends of the two institutions will soon be sent the publication, handsomely printed by Lawton and Alfred Kennedy.

The Council of The Friends

AMONG THE FRIENDS of The Bancroft Library who work hardest in its behalf are those who undertake to serve on the Council of that body. New members of the current Council have never been formally introduced in these pages, and although they are people "who need no introduction," in the toastmaster's phrase, we should like to exercise the toastmaster's traditional prerogative of introducing them anyway.

William Bronson's ancestors have been Californians for four generations, and his four children are the fourth generation actually to be born in this State. After taking a bachelor's degree at the University of California in 1952, and a master's degree at Stanford, in journalism, Mr. Bronson was for several years a free-lance writer and an editor. It was during this period that he published *The Earth Shook, the Sky Burned*, a pictorial history of the San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906, and *Still Flying and Nailed to the Mast*, a history of the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company in which words and pictures have been molded into such a unified whole that it may be said to constitute a new narrative form. His most recently published book, *How to Kill A Golden State*, is a development of his interest in the work of the California Tomorrow group, of whose magazine, *Cry California*, Mr. Bronson is the founding editor.

Henry S. Dakin, after taking a B.A. degree from Harvard College in 1958, was associated with the University of California's Lawrence Radiation Laboratory from 1959 to 1967. The son of Susanna Bryant and Richard Y. Dakin, he continues his parents' tradition of generous and inspiring service to The Bancroft Library, as well as to many other organizations. He has published numerous scientific papers, and is currently a director of R. Dakin and Company, a member of the University Club, the Health Physics Society, the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, and the Foundation for Nutrition and Stress Research.

Charles de Bretteville is a native San Franciscan, educated at Stanford and the Harvard Business School, whose family connections by

both birth and marriage are a roll call of the history of California. Currently the president of the Bank of California, he is also a director of Safeway Stores, P. G. & E., various Spreckels enterprises, and others. His broad experience and interests should be of great value in the deliberations of the Council of the Friends.

Ella Hagar has been associated with the University of California for many years, first through her father, David Prescott Barrows, who was a professor on this campus, and the ninth president of the University; then in her own right, as an alumna of the class of 1919; and finally through her late husband, Gerald Hagar, who graduated from the Law School here in 1920, served as a Regent of the University from 1951 to 1964, and was also a member of the Council of the Friends. Her term on the Council will be the most recent of her many and generous services to this University.

Warren Howell, the proprietor of John Howell, Books, is a native of Berkeley, and was both one of the founding members of The Friends of The Bancroft Library, and a member of the Council during an earlier term. His friendship for this Library has been frequently demonstrated, as when he played a major part in securing the Honeyman Collection for the Bancroft Library a few years ago. Any library would be fortunate indeed to have his counsel to depend upon, and we have long been aware of our good fortune in having this particular Friend.

Theodore Meyer, a partner in the San Francisco law firm of Brobeck, Phleger and Harrison, is a native Californian, born in San Diego, who took both his A.B. and J.D. degrees at the University of California at Berkeley. As president of the Mechanics Institute of San Francisco, he served with distinction as an Ex Officio Regent of the University, until his resignation last June. A Friend of many years standing, Mr. Meyer will continue to lend his strong support to The Bancroft Library during his service on the Council of the Friends.

Warren Olney, III, is the third of his family to serve the State of California and the legal profession with distinction. His grandfather, Warren Olney, Sr., came to California after the Civil War and was, to mention only some of his activities, president of the California Bar Association, Mayor of Oakland, and editor of the California Code of

Civil Procedure. His father, Warren Olney, Jr., was a member of the California Supreme Court. Warren Olney, III received both his baccalaureate and law degrees from the University of California where he subsequently served as professor of Law and Criminology. His distinguished career of private practice and public services to this State was followed by fifteen years of service in Washington, his last position being that of Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.

Make a Friend for Christmas

AS THE SEASON of jingled bells and jangled nerves draws close remember that there is no nicer nor unusual gift to give than a membership in the Friends of the Bancroft Library. A call to the Office of The Friends at The Bancroft Library—642-3781—is all that is required. And if you have manuscripts or books, or paintings, or maps, or whatever, which you would like to give to The Bancroft, remember that they will be formally appraised, and will thus become income tax deductible.

Antoinette Naglee Spruyt 1892-1968

MRS. SPRUYT, granddaughter of General Henry M. Naglee, died in Greenfield, Mass., June 19, 1968. A frequent visitor at The Bancroft Library, she had made her home in the beautiful Berkshire Mountains in Deerfield and Greenfield for 30 years.

General Henry M. Naglee, her illustrious grandfather, had played a leading role in California history. In March, 1847, he arrived in San Francisco aboard the *Susan Drew*, which came around the Horn with Stevenson's regiment of New York Volunteers, in which Naglee was captain. From his base of operations in Monterey, he led expeditions against various groups of Indians, and in 1848 made a victorious campaign into La Paz, Lower California, then besieged by Mexican troops.

After Stevenson's regiment was mustered out of the Army in 1848, Naglee went into business in San Francisco. In company with Richard H. Sinton, a former Army paymaster, he organized the first bank in the



city under the name of Naglee & Sinton, on January 9, 1849. Their place of business was the Parker House on Portsmouth Square. Though the bank closed in 1850, Naglee continued in business as gold-dust broker, merchant, and real estate dealer. With the vast influx of immigrants and the stream of gold flowing in from the placers, there were unlimited opportunities for the bold and resourceful. Naglee did well. In 1855, he was receiver for Adams & Co., and soon owner of the American Theatre in San Francisco, and purchaser of property in San Jose and elsewhere.

On the outbreak of the Civil War, Naglee, a graduate of West Point in 1835, volunteered, and served as a brigadier general until 1864, when he was mustered out. Returning to California, Naglee devoted himself to his extensive land interests, pioneered in the cultivation of vines, production of Naglee's brandy, and development of his lands near modern Tracy, where he built levees and dams to control flood waters of the San Joaquin River.

Naglee was married to Marie Antoinette Ringgold in 1865. They had two daughters, Marie, born in 1866, who still lives in Pennsylvania, and Antoinette, born in 1869, the mother of Mrs. Spruyt.

During the last 20 years of her life, Mrs. Spruyt had devoted her energies to gathering together from family sources the records relating to General Naglee, organizing them,

and compiling the story of those eventful years in California history. Many of the documents came from her aunt, Mrs. Marie R. Robins. To assist in this labor, Mrs. Spruyt had the assistance of a New England writer, William T. Arms, whose books have won much distinction.

Mrs. Spruyt, her brother, the late John N. Burk, and Mrs. Robins gave their extraordinary collection of Naglee papers to The Bancroft Library in 1960. They are a superb addition to the Library's famed resources on early California history.

Mrs. Spruyt leaves two sons: Dr. Dirk J. Spruyt of the School of Public Health, University of North Carolina, and Harry Spruyt, industrial designer with his own firm in New York City; one daughter, Mrs. Stephen P. Learnard of Concord, Mass., and six grandchildren.

The Annual Meeting

FEATURED SPEAKER at the Annual Meeting of The Friends, May 19, 1968, was Senator Thomas H. Kuchel, native Californian, whose family, under the firm name of Kuchel & Dresel, pioneered in the field of lithography in San Francisco soon after the Gold Rush. Recognizing that the frontier, characterized by vast cattle ranches, endless fields of waving grain, or undeveloped desert, had long since been replaced by a new kind of frontier, that of "the laser beam and outer space," Kuchel devoted his talk to California's place in the growth of the nation. An appreciative audience of some 600 met in Wheeler Auditorium for the occasion. It was followed by a social hour in The Bancroft Library, where the staff had prepared a notable exhibit of pictorial and historical sources—and coffee and refreshments.

Dr. J. S. Holliday, chairman of The Friends, presided. At a short business session, the membership elected six members to the Council, as noted elsewhere in this issue. Dr. Holliday then introduced Chancellor Roger W. Heyns, who presented University Centennial Awards on behalf of The Bancroft Library to Dr. Jacob N. Bowman, for his research and writing in California history; to Dr. and Mrs. Erwin G. Gudde, for their services to the University, not only as members of the University staff, but as contributors to its world of scholarship; to Professor Lesley Byrd Simpson, for his teaching and

writing in Latin American literature and history; and to Senator Kuchel, for his leadership on behalf of California in the United States Senate.

Jacob N. Bowman

1875-1968

WHEN A SCHOLAR reaches the age of four score and thirteen years, people are apt to think of a retired gentleman who enjoys the fruits of his life's work in quiet solitude. Jacob N. Bowman was not such a man. He was alert and active almost to the end of his life, and hence the staff, the clients, and The Friends of the Bancroft Library were shocked when he left us, even though he had reached the age of ninety-three. It seems only yesterday that we sang lustily, "Happy birthday, dear Jacob" when we celebrated his ninetieth birthday. A few months ago, at the annual meeting of The Friends, he stood in the auditorium of Wheeler Hall to receive the University Centennial Award "for distinguished achievements and notable service to the University." Until a few weeks before his death, he walked the mile from his home to the campus, and for hours bent over maps and manuscripts in The Bancroft Library.

Bowman was born May 4, 1875, in a log cabin near Greenville, Ohio. He graduated from Heidelberg College at Tiffin and completed his studies in Germany—around 1900 the mecca of most of the ambitious students of his generation. He sat at the feet of famous historians at the universities of Heidelberg, Leipzig, and Berlin. When his doctoral dissertation, "The Protestant Interest in Cromwell's Foreign Policy" was finished, he received an unexpected honor—he was made a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society of Great Britain.

Since 1901 Bowman was connected with the Pacific Coast as professor of European and Medieval history; first at Western Washington College in Bellingham, then at the University of California, and finally at the University of Washington. With him passes the last eyewitness to the group of scholars who were originally responsible for the acquisition and development of our Bancroft Library. Whether he was in Berkeley or elsewhere, as a professor or a free-lance writer, or as the historian of the state archives in Sacramento, throughout his long active life,

he was in some way connected with The Bancroft Library. Leafing through the bulk of the Bowman items in the library catalogue, one finds a rich harvest of scholarly endeavor—printed, typed, or in manuscript form. His most notable contribution, the "Index to California Private Land Grants," is unfortunately not yet printed but the manuscript is complete and deposited in the Library.

Jacob Bowman was a singular type of scholar and author. He never wrote for an honorarium nor for recognition. Whenever he felt that he could contribute something to California history, he devoted himself to it regardless of time or labor. Another pleasant phase in his personality was his readiness to assist young scholars and let them share the fruits of his wide knowledge. This made him beloved and appreciated by the many people who came in contact with him. Jacob N. Bowman will remain with us as a symbol of diligence, steadfastness, and devotion to a field in which he was a master.

ERWIN G. GUDDE

Letters from Robinson Jeffers

ALTHOUGH CRITICS may argue vehemently on the merit of his poetry, all agree that Robinson Jeffers is one of the most fascinating figures in American literature. His reputation as a poet fluctuated, in his lifetime, from one extreme to the other. Hailed as one of the greatest American poets in the '20s, he fell into almost complete critical disfavor by the '40s. He has, however, remained an almost legendary figure, remote and baffling, and perhaps no other poet has become so completely identified, in his person and in his writing with a landscape—the lonely, sombre stretch of Pacific Coast he made his home. He came to Carmel in 1914 with his bride, designed and helped build Tor House, his house of stone, overlooking the ocean, and lived there until his death in 1962. One of Carmel's most famous inhabitants, he nonetheless lived a life of solitude, with his wife, Una, acting as buffer between him and the world.

Jeffers disliked talking about his poetry, and even more, writing about it, so an analysis by Jeffers of his own writing is a rare find indeed. Such a treasure, however, has been recently acquired by The Bancroft Library with the gift, from Frederic I. Carpenter, of

thirteen letters written to him by Robinson and Una Jeffers.

Carpenter, author of *Robinson Jeffers* (New York, 1962), a critical evaluation of the poet's work, initiated the correspondence in 1931 when he sent Jeffers a copy of his article, "The Radicalism of Jonathan Edwards" (*New England Quarterly*, October, 1931). In it he drew a parallel between Edwards and Jeffers and found in the poet, who appeared to many as irreligious and immoral, an echo of the Calvinism of Edwards.

The first letter was a brief one, Jeffers admitting he was a bad letter writer and noting that the references to his verses were "both kindly and discerning." Subsequent letters were of considerable length—rarities also—leading Una to comment that Carpenter had the collection of the longest Jeffers letters in existence. This inability to write letters she described as his form of insanity, but she noted at a later date that Jeffers enjoyed writing him, ". . . that is if he can ever be said to really enjoy letter-writing."

The letters are rich with references to his poetry and philosophy, and, as he responded to Carpenter's writings on American literature, on American culture. Jeffers admired Carpenter's qualities as a philosophic critic and was obviously stimulated by the exchange of ideas.

Carpenter, in writing his article "The Value of Robinson Jeffers" (*American Literature*, 1940), utilized the letters to strengthen some of his statements. Jeffers, reading the article prior to publication, was pleased with it and with having been "the occasion of such intelligent writing," commenting also that the study did not diverge from his own thought, except, at times, in emphasis and selection.

Jeffers scholars will undoubtedly find this collection outstanding, and it is one which aids immeasurably in understanding the poet and his work.

ESTELLE REBEC

Council Officers and Committees

COUNCIL MEMBERS at the June 12, 1968, meeting approved the choice of officers for 1968-69, selected by the Nominating Committee headed by Dr. Donald McLaughlin. Dr. J. S. Holliday will continue as Chairman

and Mr. De Witt Alexander as Treasurer. Mr. Warren Olney will serve as Vice-Chairman and Dr. George P. Hammond as the Secretary.

The following committees of the Council and their Chairmen were established at the meeting held on October 1, 1968:

Acquisitions:

Mrs. David Potter, *Chairman*
George P. Hammond

Finance:

De Witt Alexander, *Chairman*
Theodore Meyer

Membership:

Warren Olney, *Chairman*
De Witt Alexander
George R. Stewart

Nominating:

Donald McLaughlin, *Chairman*
Mrs. Edward H. Heller
George P. Hammond
Francis P. Farquhar

Publications:

Mrs. Dixon Wecter, *Chairman*
William Bronson

Special Projects:

Warren Howell, *Chairman*
Warren Olney

University Relations:

George R. Stewart, *Chairman*
Donald McLaughlin

Maritime History

THE REGIONAL ORAL HISTORY OFFICE has begun a San Francisco Bay Maritime History Series to document the early days of tug, launch, barge, and other forms of coastal and intra-bay water transport. The first phase of the series will be interviews with retired Red Stack Tug captains. Ruth Teiser, ROHO interviewer in charge of the series, will be joined in the interviewing by Karl Kortum, director of the San Francisco Maritime Museum, and copies of the resulting manuscripts will be deposited in the Maritime Museum as well as in The Bancroft Library. This series is an outgrowth of an extensive interview with Tom Crowley, Sr., "Dean of the tugboat industry"; whose career in water transport from San Diego to Alaska goes back to the 1890's.

Project plans have been completed for an Earl Warren Oral History Series of interviews with Warren and his colleagues, cover-

ing his California years, 1925-1953. Professors Arthur H. Sherry, School of Law, and Lawrence A. Harper, Department of History, will serve as faculty advisors; Warren Olney, III heads an advisory council of lay members who were close to Warren. Application for funds to carry out the project has been made to the National Endowment for the Humanities, and for matching funds from private sources.

A gift from W. B. Camp, Bakersfield farmer and pioneer of the California cotton industry, has spurred planning for a California Agricultural History Series. The first interviews will deal with the contribution of financial institutions to the development of California's highly specialized and scientific agriculture. Additional funds are also being sought to expand this series into the areas of food packing and processing, transportation, and scientific developments in agriculture.

Recognizing that the value of oral history lies in its use by scholars, ROHO has begun a program to distribute its interview transcripts to selected manuscript depositories. Notices of nearly completed interviews are being sent to professors, libraries, and museums known to have an interest in the material. The memoranda give details of the contents of the interview, arrangement for deposit, and the cost of having a copy duplicated. As of June 30, 1968, 145 manuscripts had been deposited in eighteen depositories, and many more deposits have been arranged for interviews now in process. While the interviews will still be noncirculating, and all requests for deposit must be agreed to by the interviewee, the transcripts are thus more accessible to researchers throughout the nation.

WILLA BAUM

Serendipity

ONE OF THE DELIGHTS of a bibliographer's life is the adventure of coming upon something that nobody seems to know about—serendipity—especially an item that has been around for lo these many years. Lately, in cataloguing some pamphlets and broadsides, we have turned up in The Bancroft Library just such a phenomenon, a broadside dating from 1789 which is *not* one of the 12,412 titles listed by José Toribio Medina in his monumental inventory of printing during the Viceregal era, *La Imprenta en México*.

H. H. Bancroft acquired this particular item from José María Andrade as far back as 1869, so it is scarcely to be classed as a recent acquisition.

The viceroy at this time was the second Count of Revilla Gigedo, a native of Havana, hence an American-born creole. For such a man to be appointed to the high office of the king's administrator of Mexico was great honor indeed. Nor was this confidence misplaced, for the Count proved a farsighted organizer and statesman. He served from 1789-1794.

One of the ageless problems facing him was the situation of the millers, the bakers' guild, and warehouse owners, who traditionally had contrived to inflate the price of wheat, an indispensable item in the diet of the average Mexican. On November 29, 1789, slightly more than a month after taking office, the viceroy issued a *bando*, or decree, attempting to regulate the sale of this grain, quoting in part also an ordinance of his predecessor on the same matter, pointing to the evils of current practices:

"La experiencia acredita que, á pesar de lo prevenido en ella, han continuado los Molineros un comercio tan abominable, nocivo y perjudicial á la causa pública, contraviniendo sus saludables disposiciones; cuyo mal exige la reagravacion de penas que contengan y escarmienten su codicia. . . ."

In spite of the viceroy's efforts, the problem (like the present over-production of corn or wheat in the U. S. A.) continued, and he emphasized it in the *Instrucción* he left for his successor.

The present decree of November 29, 1789, is a broadside measuring 42 x 30 cm. The viceroy's name is printed, and carries his rubric; the document is countersigned by Juan Jph. Mtnz. de Soria, one of his staff.

ELIZABETH TODD

Honeyman Catalogue

THE CATALOGUE of *Original Paintings, Drawings and Watercolors* of the Honeyman Collection, prepared by Dr. Joseph Armstrong Baird, Jr., has now been completed and multilithed. Copies are available to the Friends on a "first-come" basis for a donation of \$5.00. The edition consists of 300 copies; it is bound in heavy paper covers.