

# BANCROFTIANA

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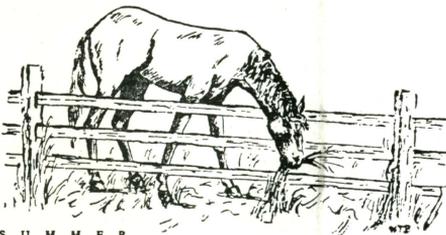
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## *Thomas Press and Printing Collection*

MRS. FREDERICK FOLGER THOMAS, JR. of Berkeley has presented to The Bancroft Library the entire print shop and printing collection of her late husband in the hope that his accomplishments as an amateur printer, as well as the materials he assembled from similar printers across the country, will serve to inspire and educate generations of students of typography.

Mr. Thomas, an attorney, was a member of The Fossils, a group that fostered amateur printing throughout the United States. Over the years he and his colleagues exchanged examples of their work, work which was more often than not characterized by short press runs which were quickly exhausted. The Thomas Collection includes some 1,750 pieces of work, produced by almost 300 printers.



S U M M E R  
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*An Experiment in Amateur Journalism*

## FAR AFIELD

The Pilot hand-press which Mr. Thomas used for many years and on which he printed the seventeen issues of his journal *Far Afield*, the cover of whose first issue is reproduced here, will make a most welcome addition to the Press Room now being designed for in-

clusion in the remodeled Bancroft. With the press are the entire contents of what was, during Mr. Thomas' lifetime, a thoroughly-equipped though compact press shop—chases, forms, timesticks, types, press tools, type furniture of all descriptions, plus the myriad paraphernalia that all old-time printers assemble to fit their requirements.

The gift also includes a significant number of examples of fine printing from some of the best presses in the country, among which are both Grabhorn and L. & D. Allen publications, as well as many works issued by The Book Club of California. All of the printed materials will bear a book-label honoring Mr. Thomas.

It is rare that such a collection becomes available for teaching purposes, and The Bancroft Library is honored to have been designated the beneficiary of such a body of research material. It is our hope that this valued gift will, in a measure, carry forward the abiding interest in their alma mater which both Mr. and Mrs. Thomas displayed in their own activities for many years.

## *Annual Meeting, May 16th*

WALLACE STEGNER, novelist, critic and professor of English at Stanford University, will be the principal speaker at the twenty-fourth annual meeting of The Friends of The Bancroft Library to be held in The Playhouse, Zellerbach Hall on Sunday afternoon, May 16th at 2:30 p.m.

The author of many novels, which include *Remembering Laughter*, *The Big Rock Candy Mountain*, *A Shooting Star*, and the newly-issued *Angle of Repose*, as well as historical works such as *Beyond the Hundredth Meridian*:

*John Wesley Powell and the Second Opening of the West*, Professor Stegner has chosen as his topic, "Bernard De Voto: The Historian and the Marketplace." Following the meeting, the Friends and their friends are invited to a reception in the Bancroft's Reading Room, where the staff will have prepared a special exhibition.

## San Diegan Rarity

THROUGH THE GENEROSITY of Mr. Hubert B. Price of San Diego, The Bancroft Library has recently acquired a copy of Timoteo R. de Esparza's *Alegato de Buena Prueba contra la Compania Internacional Colonizadora*. This rare imprint, a sixty-one page pamphlet cited by Ellen Barrett in her *Baja California 1535-1956* as not located, was issued by Gould & Hutton of San Diego in 1888, with texts in both Spanish and English.

The *Alegato* is a defense of the claim by the Saenz family of lands at Punta Banda, Baja California, which had been granted to the International Company of Mexico. Following the Mexican government's Colonization Act of December 15th, 1883, Baja California had become the scene for a number of grandiose foreign speculative enterprises; the International Company, with grants of nearly sixteen million acres in the northern half of the peninsula, was one of the largest. Beset by difficulties, including problems caused by mismanagement, fraudulent advertising and false land titles, and with increasing demands from dissatisfied creditors, the Company was dissolved in the summer of 1888 and its stock transferred to a British organization, the Mexican Land and Colonization Company.

In presenting this pamphlet to the library, Mr. Price termed it "a very minute symbol of my appreciation for the use of The Bancroft Library over thirty-five years ago when I was pursuing graduate studies under Professors F. L. Paxson and H. I. Priestley."

## Correction: Uraga

Due to an editorial error, the collection of the papers of Jose Lopez *Uraga*, described in the last issue of *Bancroftiana*, was misnamed *Ugara*. Kindly correct your copies accordingly.

## Dale Lowell Morgan, 1914-1971



WHILE HIS LOSS TO THE world of scholarship in general is a great one, The Bancroft Library expresses its personal sorrow in the death on March 30th, in Accokeek, Maryland, of Dale Morgan, whose career during the past seventeen years has been so closely aligned with the activities of this organization.

Coming to the Bancroft in 1954, specifically as editor of a projected multi-volume *Guide* to its manuscript collections, of which the first volume was published in 1963, Morgan served in several capacities—as editor of *Mexico: Ancient and Modern*, the catalogue of an exhibition prepared for the annual meeting of the Friends in 1961, and as co-author, with George P. Hammond, of *Captain Charles M. Weber: Pioneer of the San Joaquin and founder of Stockton, California*, published by the Friends in 1966. He assisted in many ways in the acquisition of rare books and manuscripts, notably in the field of Mormon history, where his own background and interest made him particularly knowledgeable. And it was his movie camera which recorded those moments of delight, when a busy staff relaxed at occasional parties.

Prior to his arrival at Berkeley, Morgan had published his monumental biography of Jedediah Smith, entitled *Jedediah Smith and the Opening of the West* (1953), a work which re-

sulted from more than a decade of research which extended from coast to coast of the United States and from the archives of Mexico to those of the Hudson's Bay Company in London. His contribution to the Rivers of America series, *The Humboldt, Highroad of the West* appeared in 1943, while *The Great Salt Lake*, in the American Lakes series, appeared in 1947.

During the years which followed, Dale Morgan's entries in library card catalogues increased at a furious pace. Among his many works are *Pioneer Atlas of the American West* (1956), *Overland in 1846: Diaries and Letters of the California-Oregon Trail* (1963), *The West of William H. Ashley* (1964), and editions of *Three Years in the Klondike* by Jeremiah Lynch (1967) and *In Pursuit of the Golden Dream: Reminiscences of San Francisco and the Northern and Southern Mines, 1849-1857* by Howard C. Gardiner (1970).

In 1961, the California Historical Society awarded Dale Morgan its Henry R. Wagner Memorial Award in recognition of his editions of *The Overland Diary of James A. Pritchard* (1959) and *California as I Saw It* by William McCollum (1961). Speaking at the banquet at which the award was made, Professor James D. Hart, then Acting-Director of the Bancroft, said of him:

"Dale Morgan has considerably enriched our understanding of various facets of the Western United States and of that entire frontier itself through his diverse kinds of research and publication which include basic bibliographies, scrupulously and intelligently compiled; carefully annotated editions of primary documents; knowing cartographic studies of important early maps; and his own firmly based historical studies marked both by breadth of treatment and depth of interpretation."

Twice awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, in 1945 and again in 1970—and such double honor has not been common—Morgan was to have spent this year completing research on what he hoped would be his *magnum opus*, a study of the relationships between the Canadian and American fur trade companies in the Rocky Mountains. His initial visits to eastern libraries last Fall were interrupted by the early

stages of the illness which proved fatal so soon thereafter.

Shortly after receiving the news of his death, Dr. J. S. Holliday, chairman of the Friends' Council, wrote as follows:

"Dale Morgan was a man of strength in all his work and in every dimension of his life. What he wrote in his books and articles and in his many hundreds of letters to scholars and students, printers and publishers will reflect for many decades his indefatigable energy and his creativity as a great scholar. But more than that, there will always be the memories of the man—his humor and wit, his unfailing and wise optimism. And too, his astonishing memory: he could recall the name or title or date or footnote needed for publication or conversation, and, as well, recall a dinner table comment or a shared experience of many years ago. We have lost a scholar and a writer of remarkable ability and productivity—but most of all, we have lost a great and giving man."

## Warren R. Howell Gifts

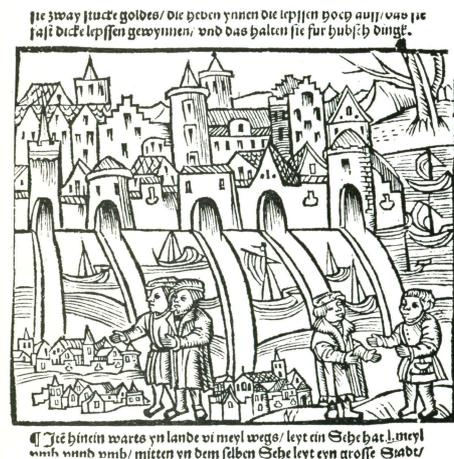
"AS IS COLD WATER in thirst so is good news from a far country. I felt very lonely here in this big raging tearing city till I got your note and then the sky brightened. I read it in the street and on the spot took the cable-car—a contraption of the devil." So wrote Rudyard Kipling, a visitor in San Francisco in May, 1889, to his aunt, Georgianna, Lady Burne-Jones. The Kipling letter is but one of a number of gifts which came to The Bancroft Library in January from our good Friend, Warren R. Howell, proprietor of John Howell-Books.

Included in Mr. Howell's generosity is a hitherto unrecorded edition of the Constitution of the State of California, dated November 13th, 1849, probably the first issued after ratification. As additions to Bancroft's growing collection of pictorial works are two panel paintings by Thomas Hill, depicting the Wawona Tunnel Tree, felled in 1969 after severe winter storms, and the Grizzly Giant, as well as a handsome watercolor still-life of California fruit by Charles C. Nahl.

In the area of voyage and travel literature the library has been enriched by Georges Colloz's *Voyage dan l'Amérique Septentrionale*, a descrip-

tion of the journey undertaken in 1796 to explore the Ohio and Mississippi Valleys with the objective of ascertaining the strength of secessionist sentiment among the Westerners. The work was published in Paris in 1826, and all but 300 copies were destroyed; this copy, from the library of the late Thomas W. Streeter, includes the engraved plates and maps of Tardieu.

Europe's first view of Mexico City was afforded by the publication of *Neue zeitung, von dem lande, das die Sponier funden haben ym 1521*, the translation, into German, of the first newsletter written by one of Cortés' men who was with him during the landing on the coast of Mexico in 1519. This exceedingly rare imprint, of which only one complete copy including all the newsletters is known (in the Augsburg Library), contains the woodcut, reproduced here, depicting a city with five bridges, referred to in the text as "das gross Venedig."



We are deeply appreciative of these gifts which, in their variety, contribute to those many areas in which The Bancroft Library engages in support of scholarship.

### Regents' Professor Strouse

UNDER THE JOINT SPONSORSHIP of The Bancroft Library and the School of Librarianship, Mr. Norman H. Strouse, who recently joined the Friends' Council, has been appointed Regents' Professor for the Spring quarter on the Berkeley campus, and will offer a seminar entitled

"The Collecting of Books and Manuscripts." The program of Regents' Professorships was established in 1963 to enhance the educational opportunities of the University by attracting to it distinguished and dynamic persons whose careers have been primarily devoted to the practice of business, the arts, sciences, or professions outside the academic world.

We are pleased to have this extended opportunity to bring the teaching function of the University directly into the library, for Mr. Strouse will utilize the Bancroft's resources as well as his own outstanding personal collections. It is hoped that this appointment will be the first of many, bringing to the library outstanding scholars and collectors who will share their knowledge and experience with our students.

### Clemens' Combe

IT HAD LONG BEEN KNOWN that Samuel Clemens owned and annotated a copy of George Combe's *Notes on the United States of North America During a Phrenological Visit in 1838-9-40*, for he had mentioned the two-volume work favorably in chapters which were omitted from the final version of *Life on the Mississippi*, and volume one was listed in the 1911 auction catalogue which posthumously disposed of much of Clemens' personal library. But the whereabouts of the book had been a mystery since the sale.

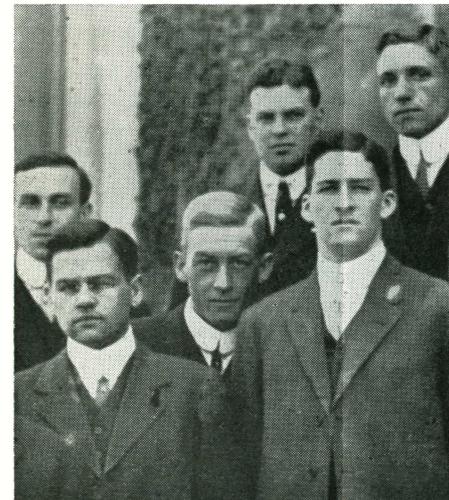
Recently an editorial assistant in the Mark Twain Papers needed to check Combe's text and since it was not available at Berkeley he routinely ordered a copy of the work through the University Library's Interlibrary Borrowing Service (IBS). Upon receipt of the book from a cooperating library, he was astonished to discover Clemens' own handwriting in the margins of the first volume; turning to the inside cover he found the unmistakable signature of "S. L. Clemens." Clearly, this was the long-missing book from the 1911 auction.

By happenstance, IBS had requested the title from the UCLA Library, which had purchased Clemens' book from a dealer in 1926, but had not noted its special status and increasing value during the subsequent years. When informed by the Bancroft's Director about the

provenance and scholarly interest of the volumes, UCLA Librarian Robert Vosper generously consented to transfer Combe's *Notes* to the Mark Twain Papers, where it will be conveniently available to the students and scholars who make use of the manuscripts and books in that distinguished collection.

### Robert Gordon Sproul at Eighty

IN THE 103-YEAR HISTORY of the University of California but one alumnus of the institution has served as its President, and for a record term of twenty-eight years. Robert Gordon Sproul, Class of 1913, citizen of Berkeley, and one of the first Friends of The Bancroft Library, will celebrate his 80th birthday on May 22d, and to honor the occasion the University Archives prepared a special Charter Day exhibition in March. Aside from the photographic record of his career, an excerpt of which is shown here, the exhibition included correspondence and speeches, tributes and honorary degrees, undergraduate class notes, and, lovingly preserved, his Junior "plug."



R. G. S. (Center)  
 Stiles Hall Councilman

The youngest man ever chosen to head the University, Sproul was inaugurated in the Greek Theatre on October 22d, 1930, succeeding the astronomer, William Wallace Camp-

bell. He had already served for a decade and a half, as Comptroller, Secretary and Land Agent of The Regents, as well as Vice President, and was widely-known and well-liked throughout the state. The beginning of his term nearly coincided with the opening of the new Los Angeles campus at Westwood; when he left office in 1958, the University had grown to five major campuses, including Davis, Riverside and Santa Barbara, along with the enlarged Medical Center at San Francisco, and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in La Jolla.

During his long incumbency, RGS carefully balanced the needs of public education with the needs of scholarship, nurturing the development of new teaching departments alongside the support of new research facilities, a primary example of which was the Radiation Laboratory. He won the hearts of his students who twice publicly rallied to keep him at Berkeley—in 1939 when he was offered the presidency of a major San Francisco bank at more than three times his University salary, and in 1947 when it was rumored that he would succeed Nicholas Murray Butler as President of Columbia University. And he was both admired and respected by his faculty, one of whom, the late Dixon Wecter, said in 1948: "God doubtless could have made a better president of the University of California, but doubtless God never did."

The Bancroft Library is pleased that all of President Emeritus Sproul's papers will be deposited in its University Archives division, where the record of his loyalty and devotion to the University of California will be available to students and scholars.

### History of Science Collection

BUILDING UPON ITS outstanding collections of the personal and professional papers of prominent University of California faculty in the disciplines of the natural and social sciences, The Bancroft Library is now engaged in the beginnings of a History of Science Collection, to include as well the papers of physical scientists and technologists who have done their

work in this area of northern California. Initially it is hoped to gather together the records, in the form of personal files and oral history interviews, of those scientists and administrators who worked closely with the late Ernest Orlando Lawrence in the creation and development of the Radiation Laboratory.

To assist those staff members who will be directly involved in the project, the Bancroft has been fortunate indeed to have secured the services of Professor Roger Hahn of the Department of History on the Berkeley campus. Himself an authority and teacher in the field of the history of science, Professor Hahn will join the library for the summer months. We welcome him to our midst, and look forward to a period of successful endeavor in this expanded area of the Bancroft's collections.

## "Melodious Prose

AND A VOCABULARY surpassed by no modern writer." These were Gertrude Atherton's words, chosen to describe the work of the Welsh-born Californian, Idwal Jones, whose literary and personal papers The Bancroft Library purchased in 1965 from his widow, Olive V. Jones. Consisting of correspondence, manuscripts of books and stories, notebooks, and awards, the collection was superbly complemented in 1969 by the gift from the Wine Institute of its Idwal Jones files.

Born in 1890, Jones came to the United States with his family in 1902, and arrived in California in 1911 where he joined his brother Will, a gold-miner in Tuolumne County, who appears at the right in the accompanying illustration. Though his formal education was brief, his self-education was illimitable; he not only absorbed the rich language and customs of his native Wales, but also the folklore and traditions of his adopted state. Teaching himself Greek, Latin, French and Italian, and reading widely in California history, viticulture, mining, and gastronomy, Jones began his career as a journalist with the *Mother Lode Magnet* in Jamestown.

Following a World War I sojourn in the shipyards of San Francisco, he entered the newspaper field in that city, eventually becoming drama editor of the *Daily News*. In 1925 he



My brother Will and myself at our "claim" in Quartz

transferred to the *Examiner* as columnist, special writer, and then drama critic; his two regular columns were "Rediscovering San Francisco" and "Passing By." At this time Jones began writing fiction, much of which was published in the *American Mercury* during the years 1925 to 1933. Of his short story "China Boy," which appeared in 1927, the editor H. L. Mencken wrote: "It took the humblest thing in creation, an old Chinaman in a dead mining camp, and made him a symbol of the spirit triumphant against the world."

Encouraged by the success of his first novel, *The Splendid Shilling*, Jones took his family to Europe, for a few years of leisure in which to continue his writing. Returning to the United States in 1929, he became editorial writer and book reviewer for the *New York American*, but in 1932 settled again in California, as publicity writer for Paramount Pictures in Hollywood. Beginning with the February, 1935 issue of *Westways*, he was a regular contributor, his subjects ranging from ragout to Charley Parkhurst, the legendary stage driver who "drove like a bolt out of Hell." His stories and articles appeared in *Gourmet*, *Sunset*, and the *Saturday Review of Literature*.

*Black Bayou*, a novel about Cajun trappers, appeared in 1941; originally set in the Sacramento delta country, Jones reluctantly changed the locale to Louisiana after his publisher announced that no novel about California could possibly succeed if it wasn't about the Gold Rush or Hollywood! His next book was *The*

*Vineyard*, a novel as well as a complete course in viticulture, followed by his non-fictional *Vines in the Sun*. *Vermillion*, published in 1947, is a three-generation novel concerning a California quicksilver mine, patterned on the famed New Almaden Mine in Santa Clara county. Possibly his best known book is *Ark of Empire*, a history of San Francisco's Montgomery Block before the 1906 earthquake.

Idwal Jones was a member of the Wine and Food Society, and of numerous other associations devoted to the causes of good food, good wine, good company and good living in general. This devotion is reflected in many of his writings, including his last book, *Chef's Holiday*. When he died in 1964 he left an unfinished manuscript of a novel, with a Mexican setting, which is now part of the Idwal Jones Collection in The Bancroft Library.

## Council of the Friends

J. S. Holliday, <i>Chairman</i>	Theodore Meyer
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Mrs. John G. Hatfield	George P. Hammond,
Warren R. Howell	<i>Honorary</i>

## George R. Stewart, Scholar

WE WISH TO SHARE with our readers this portion of John Seelye's review of Professor Stewart's recent *American Place Names* which appeared in *The New Republic* for February 13th:

"In a sense, Stewart's is the ideal role of the scholar in a democracy, which is to inform his fellow citizens of the nature and origins of their institutions, celebrating those institutions when possible, condemning them when necessary. Stewart has performed these services at length and well, informing, celebrating, and condemning, evincing a broad humanity and an equally broad range of knowledge which will not, I think, be found soon again in the academic community. He is a sort of naturalist of American life, and though regionally based in California, he must feel as most of us do who have spent (or done) time in that state, that as

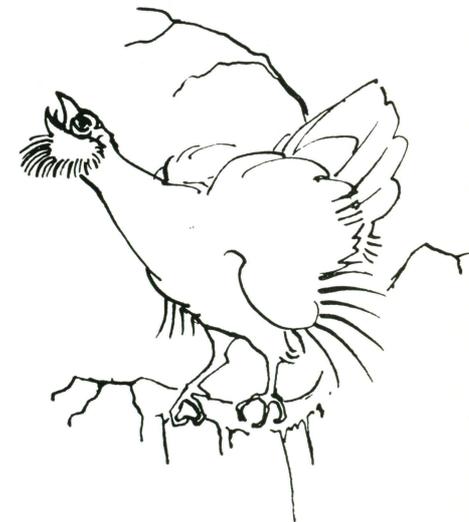
California goes—for better or worse—soon enough will go the nation."

Those who were fortunate to have heard Professor Stewart's address at the last meeting of the Friends, in May, 1970, will undoubtedly say aye to Mr. Seelye.

## Auerhahn Press Archive

OF THE BEGINNINGS OF THE Auerhahn Press in San Francisco, famed for its printing of the works of new young poets, David L. Haselwood in his *Deposition* says:

"During the summer of 1958 I drifted around San Francisco talking endlessly with painters such as Robert LaVigne and Jesse Sharpe and poets Lamantia, McClure, Wieners, and reading all the live poetry and prose I could get my hands on. It was at this time that it occurred to me that the press could mean a great many things. . . ."



From this intense exposure to the active literary scene in the Bay area grew the desire to see these writers published without the great delays imposed by the larger publishing establishment; shortly thereafter, the new Auerhahn Press (named "after a large game bird that lives in the Black Forest"), whose device is reproduced here, published its first book, John Wiener's *The Hotel Wentley Poems*.

After this initial experience, in which the actual printing was done by a commercial

printer, Haselwood was convinced that he should not only design all future books himself, but also print them.

“The first and final consideration in printing poetry is the poetry itself. If the poems are great they create their own space, the publisher is just a mid-wife during the final operation.” With this ideal in mind, he tackled the difficult publication of Philip Lamantia’s *Ekstasis*, and went on to the printing of Michael McClure’s *Hymns to St. Geryon*.

Since the limited financial resources of the Press were drained by the last publication, Lamantia and LaVigne decided to sponsor a spectacular poetry reading whose proceeds were donated to the Press. Even though hampered by lack of funds and beleaguered by the difficulties of distribution inherent to small

concerns, the Press, augmented by Andrew Hoyem, produced controversial and avant-garde books, such as Lamantia’s *Narcotica*, and acquired a reputation for quality of both printing and design.

The Auerhahn Press Archive, whose recent purchase was made possible partially through the Freda Kennedy Memorial Fund, contains correspondence with William Burroughs, Robert Duncan, William Everson, Allen Ginsberg, Philip Lamantia, Michael McClure, John Wieners and others; some manuscripts and illustrations; and corrected page proofs as well as examples of the finished printed product. The Bancroft Library is indeed fortunate in having acquired these records which present a graphic picture of the functions and workings of a vital printing venture.



THE LIBRARY RECENTLY received this unidentified photograph, an enlargement made from a daguerreotype, and wonders whether, by chance, any of our readers will find it familiar. Suggestions regarding time, place and persons will be welcomed by Dr. John Barr Tompkins, Head, Public Services.