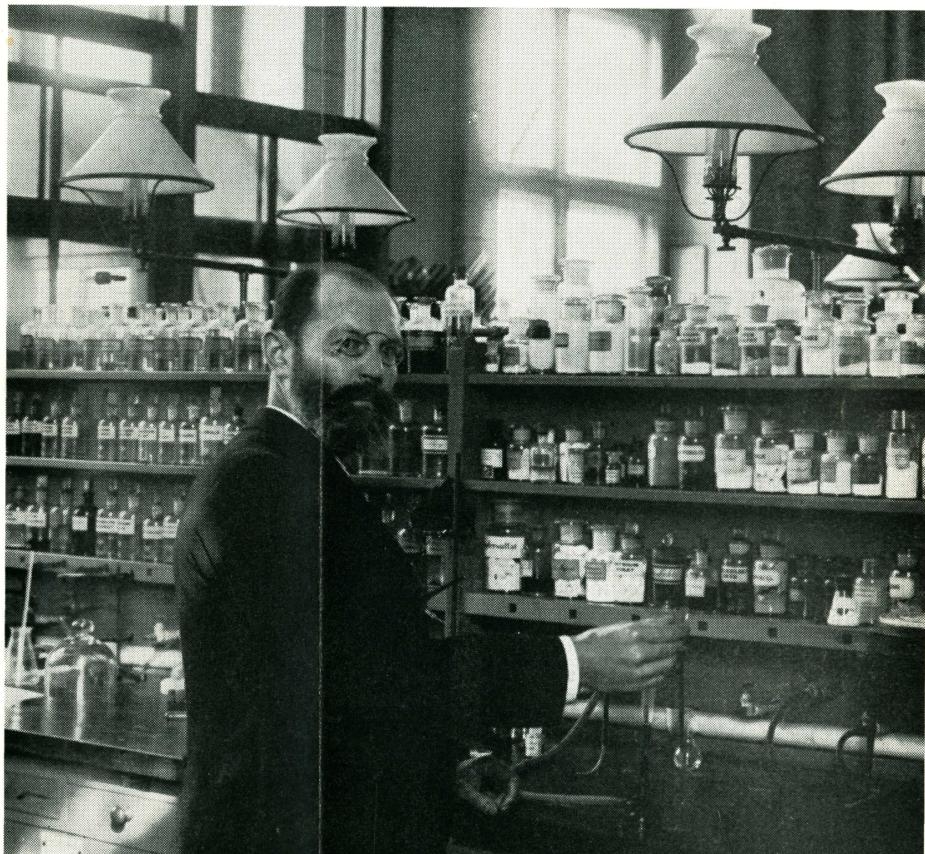


BANCROFTIANA

PUBLISHED OCCASIONALLY BY THE FRIENDS OF THE BANCROFT LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

No. 50

September 1971



Emil Fischer, Nobel Laureate. The personal and professional papers of Emil Fischer, the second recipient of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry (1902), have been presented to The Bancroft Library by his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Hermann O. L. Fischer, whose late husband was for many years professor of biochemistry on the Berkeley campus. This splendid and significant gift to the Library includes correspondence with leading scientists and industrialists during the period 1876 to 1919, as well as notes, manuscripts of publications, photographs, and honorary degrees. Now being arranged for use by the Manuscripts Division, the Emil Fischer Papers form an important part of the newly established History of Science Collection.

A modern man of science whose grasp of the relationship of chemistry to biology opened vast new fields of research and led to the recognized discipline of biochemistry, Emil Fischer was born at Euskirchen, near Cologne, on October 9th, 1852. Irresistibly drawn to the study of physics and chemistry, he attended Bonn University where he worked under the renowned chemist, Kekulé, and others, and later completed his doctoral degree at the University of Strasbourg with the famed Adolf von Baeyer. In the following year, 1875, while an assistant at the Strasbourg laboratory, he isolated the chemical compound phenyl-hydrazine, a discovery which was to form a cornerstone for much of his later research.

During the next three years in Munich, where Fischer had followed his master, Baeyer, he and his cousin, Otto Fischer, analyzed the composition of rosaniline bases, a work which gave new impetus to the dye industry. Appointed Privat Dozent at the University of Munich in 1878, Fischer was named professor in 1879, in charge of the analytical division of Baeyer's laboratory. Here he worked on caffeine and theobromine and their derivatives, which in turn eventually led him to the classification of purine derivatives.

From Munich, Fischer went on to Erlangen in 1882, to Würzburg in 1885, and in the fall of 1892 to Berlin, where, as successor to A. W. von Hofmann, he superintended the construction of a new laboratory, and continued work on the synthesis of natural sugars and on fermentation. At the beginning of the twentieth century, Fischer began his study of protein, developing the so-called ester method, a process which facilitated qualitative and quantitative analysis of proteins. This study, in turn, branched out into work on the polypeptides and peptones and their endless possible synthetic variants.

While much of Fischer's work was of a theoretical nature, many facets proved applicable to industry. For one, his research into the composition of the tannin used in the tanning industry led to the production of synthetic tanning compounds. He also was much interested in pharmaceutics and in their production—Veronal, Sajodin (a tasteless, non-in-

jurious iodine compound), caffeine, and various bromide preparations. At the outbreak of World War I Fischer was working on anti-cancer drugs.

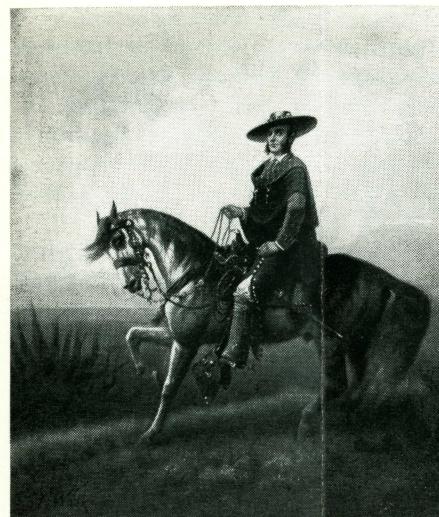
During the war years, preoccupied by the lack of vital foodstuffs available in Germany, Fischer turned his efforts to the utilization and transformation of raw materials into products suitable for human and animal consumption, such as the conversion of straw into digestible fodder for horses and cattle, and the preservation of vegetables, as well as the production of synthetic substitutes for coffee and for butter. He was also instrumental in producing nitric acid as a replacement for the Chilean saltpeter used in making munitions.

The fame of Fischer's teaching and the extensive publication of his experiments attracted many promising young scientists; his laboratory turned out proficient and capable chemists, in great demand by industry. And the honors he won were numerous—aside from the Nobel Prize awarded for his work in the purine and sugar groups, he received the Iron Cross for his services to Germany during the war. His memberships in honorary and scientific organizations numbered sixty-eight, according to Fischer himself.

Never in good health, poisoned by the fumes of mercury and phenyl-hydrazine, saddened by the death of his wife in 1895, and by the deaths of two of his sons in World War I, and worn by constant effort, Emil Fischer died of cancer in Berlin on July 15th, 1919. His papers, so carefully preserved by his family for more than half a century, illuminate graphically the trends of scientific thought during the latter nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

James Walker Oils

DURING THE PAST FEW MONTHS the Library's picture collections were enriched by the acquisition of four oil paintings depicting early California ranch life by the noted artist James Walker. The paintings, *Adobe*, *Corral*, *Vaquero*, and the here-reproduced *Patrone*, come as a gift from the Friends, with substantial donations from Mr. and Mrs. Norman H. Strouse and Mr. Tomas S. Vanasek; additional funds



were provided by the Chancellor's Opportunity Fund.

Born in England on June 3d, 1819, Walker emigrated to the United States with his family and lived for many years in New York City. At the outbreak of the Mexican War he was a resident of Mexico City, which he left to join the American Army, serving under General Winfield Scott as interpreter and at the same time sketching many of the campaigns in which he took part. His oil rendering of *The Battle of Chapultepec* hangs in the United States Capitol.

Following the Civil War, during which he served as staff artist for the Union Army, Walker came to California and opened a studio in San Francisco. His sketching tours led him throughout the state, and in 1876-77 he visited General Beale at his Tejon Ranch, where he completed a series of paintings dealing with ranch life.

Walker died in Watsonville on September 2d, 1889; a portion of his legacy, the pictorial record of pastoral California, is now a valued part of The Bancroft Library.

24th Annual Meeting

ONCE AGAIN The Friends of The Bancroft Library were fortunate in having a pleasant, sunny afternoon for their 24th annual meeting,

held in The Playhouse, Zellerbach Hall on May 16th. Gathered for the talk by Professor Wallace Stegner and for the business meeting, the Friends and their friends heard Chairman J. S. Holliday pay a moving tribute to the late Dale L. Morgan, whose death was reported in the last issue of *Bancroftiana*.

Treasurer Theodore Meyer reported the financial condition of the organization to be a healthy one, owing to three factors: the vigorous and successful campaign for new members under the leadership of Mrs. Gerald H. Hagar, the increase in membership contributions from ten to fifteen dollars, and a special drive, under the direction of Mr. Charles de Bretteville, to recruit institutional memberships with contributions of \$1,000 each. The added income has enabled the Friends to present several valuable acquisitions to the Library.

At the business meeting three new members and two incumbents were elected to the Friends' Council for four-year terms: William P. Barlow, Jr., Mrs. John E. Cahill, Mrs. Gerald H. Hagar, Mrs. Edward H. Heller, and Warren R. Howell. Retiring Council members De-Witt Alexander, Joseph M. Bransten, and George R. Stewart, who had each completed two terms, were thanked by the Chairman for their years of faithful and constructive service.

Chancellor Roger W. Heyns spoke briefly, emphasizing the great assets of the University Library system and its vast resources, among which he included The Bancroft Library and its Friends' organization.

Your presence reaffirms this judgment. You have an able director; and The Bancroft Library is . . . acknowledged as the greatest resource in Western history, the pivotal point in investigations in this field. Other institutions look to Bancroft as model.

University Librarian James E. Skipper introduced the Director, Professor James D. Hart, who reported on the important acquisitions of the past year, complimented the staff on its diligent and friendly service, and outlined the Bancroft's remodeling program, now completely financed, which will begin this autumn. Individual donations, noted in *Bancroftiana*, gave evidence of a most successful year.

Professor Stegner of Stanford University, editor of the Bernard DeVoto Papers, spoke

with passion and wit of the career of DeVoto as teacher and literary critic, editor and columnist, and, finally, historian of the Westward Movement. DeVoto's writings, increasingly more influential during the quarter century preceding his death in 1955, ranged from a revisionary work on Mark Twain to his pioneering look at the world *Across the Wide Missouri*. Stegner's tribute was to the man without traditional academic credentials who, in spite of his desire to become a successful writer of fiction, achieved a distinguished place in the world of scholarship.

Following the meeting the Friends adjourned to The Bancroft Library to view the exhibition highlighting the fields of specialization in Western history made famous by Bernard DeVoto, Dale L. Morgan, and Wallace Stegner, and to enjoy refreshments with members of the staff.

"My Dear Sarah"

BEGINS AN INTERESTING SERIES of letters written by Robert E. Lee and by his wife, the former Mary Randolph Custis, to Mrs. Sarah Beaumont Irwin of St. Louis, Missouri. The letters, seven of Lee and twenty-six of Mrs. Lee, are a gift to The Bancroft Library from Mr. John C. Cummings of Kentfield and from his sisters and brothers, descendants of the Beaumonts, and span the period 1839 to 1855, with one last letter dated 1870.

A member of the Army Corps of Engineers, Lee had been assigned, in 1837, to build a pier in the Mississippi River at St. Louis, thus deflecting the course of the river and preventing the build-up of sandbars, ruinous to the river commerce of that city. When he returned to St. Louis in 1838, Mrs. Lee and their children accompanied him, and the family took its meals at the home of Dr. William Beaumont, whose daughter, Sarah, was to be the recipient of this series of letters.

As one might expect from the circumstances, these letters are full of family news and of questions concerning mutual acquaintances in St. Louis. The letters of Mrs. Lee, written from Arlington, Virginia, chronicle the growth of the still-young family, noting the absences of

her husband while he worked on various engineering projects. That children have presented problems, even in the most genteel of families, may be noted by the following:

Rooney [William Henry Fitzhugh] generally goes barefooted—I cannot get him to wear his shoes and Custis has thrown his off entirely and Mary would gladly follow their example if she was permitted.

Apparently the hellion of the family, Rooney is referred to as "a monstrous noisy boy and very unruly.... He teases Agnes to death and I am constantly called upon to mediate between them."



Mrs. Robert E. Lee

Lee's letters are, in general, not unlike those of his wife. He is obviously not pleased at being separated from Mrs. Lee so much of the time, and seems quite content when she is with him. It is interesting to learn that Lee did not encourage his sons to follow in his footsteps. In 1852, shortly before his appointment to the superintendency at West Point, where Custis (the oldest son) was already enrolled, Lee commented:

Rooney is very anxious to be a soldier too—[he] thinks indeed it is impossible for him to lead any other life. I have done my best, as I did with Custis, to discourage this predilection, but without effect.

A few references touch the reader with a sense of our own times: in 1841 when she had accompanied her husband to Fort Hamilton, in Brooklyn, Mrs. Lee complains that "the people are very unsocial," and at a time when Congress was not appropriating funds which directly affected Lee's work, she declares that "there seems to be no prospect of Congress rising or of their [sic] doing anything."

These letters, which were received in poor physical condition, have been excellently restored by Mr. Harry B. Roberts, Jr. of the Bancroft staff, and are now ready for consultation in the Reading Room. For those interested in the Lee family, they afford a charming insight into their daily lives before the tragedy of the Civil War.

Fifth Dakin Lecture

PROFESSOR NATALIE ZEMON DAVIS of the University of Toronto will be the guest speaker in the fifth and final Susanna Bryant Dakin lecture to be delivered on Wednesday evening, November 3d. Her topic will be women as historians. As The Bancroft Library's Reading Room may be undergoing remodeling at that date, the location and hour for the lecture will be announced later.

This annual series, endowed by Mr. and Mrs. Jake Zeitlin of Los Angeles, honors the memory of Mrs. Dakin, a long-time member of The Friends of The Bancroft Library and of its Council, who, with seven of her family, was killed in an airplane crash in Mexico in 1966. Past speakers have included W. W. Robinson, who delivered the initial lecture in December, 1967, Director-Emeritus George P. Hammond, William S. Stewart, and last year's panel consisting of Joseph Armstrong Baird, Jr., Alfred V. Frankenstein, and John W. Reps.

Mission Documents

A SMALL BUT IMPORTANT GROUP of documents relating primarily to the missions in Sonora in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries was recently purchased by The Bancroft

Library. Included are letters discussing various situations troubling the mission system in the late colonial period—for example the protests of Colegio de San Fernando missionaries over the founding of San Gabriel Mission in Alta California and the payment due missionary priests serving the presidios—as well as valuable census records providing information not only about the missions but about the adjoining communities as well. In addition, there are materials relating to missions located in both Baja and Alta California.

Records of 1796 for the mission of Santa Marfa Bacerac and the neighboring towns of San Miguel de Parispe and San Ignacio de Guachinera include information on the Opata Indians. The census record for the mission of San Pedro and San Pablo of Tubutama and the adjacent town of Santa Teresa enumerates the many Indian nations represented there. Another report describes the region of the Yaqui River in the diocese of Sonora, including its missions and villages, the Indians, and the general conditions at that time.

For the Alta California missions of San Luis Rey, Santa Barbara, San Miguel and San Gabriel Arcangel there are census reports beginning in the year 1813. Two additional sets of records dated December 31st, 1813 are relative to the missions San Vicente Ferrer and Todos Santos; these are the first original Baja California mission records acquired by the Bancroft.

Presently being catalogued by the Manuscripts Division, these significant items will soon be available for consultation.

Mark Twain Papers

AFTER NEARLY FIVE YEARS of makeshift working arrangements during which members of the editorial staff of the Mark Twain Papers were housed in widely separated temporary areas, early in June this division of the Bancroft was moved to the north-east corner of the fourth floor of the Library Annex, adjacent to the Regional Oral History Office and two floors directly above the administrative offices of The Bancroft Library. Separate but contiguous

rooms, each with a pleasant prospect of foliage and red-tile roofs, now provide for such diverse functions as the preparation of copy for the printer from Mark Twain's rough manuscripts, research for annotation, composition of editorial material, proof-reading, and use of the collection by visiting scholars. The Friends are welcome to stop by and see this completed first step in the Bancroft's remodeling program.

As an aid to its publication program, the Mark Twain Papers would welcome gifts of materials related to the author's life and literary career. Manuscripts and photographic copy of manuscripts, letters, pages from lectures (which Mark Twain is known to have given away), however trivial their content, are of primary importance in the editing of Mark Twain's writings. Our extensive collection of documents would be further enriched by first and lifetime editions, both American and foreign, of Mark Twain's books; most immediately needed are copies of the various first editions of *A Tramp Abroad*.

Volume I from the "Edition De Luxe" of *The Writings of Mark Twain* (Hartford, American Publishing Company, 1899) contains tipped-in leaves from the manuscript of *The Gilded Age*, and we seek information about the location of these sets. Prospectuses used by subscription salesmen for Mark Twain's books are important for textual study since the specimen pages precede the printing of the first edition.

The Library's holdings of city directories for New York City, Elmira and Hartford for the period 1870-1910 are negligible, and copies would be of great research value, as would copies of books owned by Mark Twain. Should any items be available for the Mark Twain Papers, please communicate with Mr. Frederick Anderson, Editor, by letter or by telephone (642-6480).

Dale L. Morgan Prize

ESTABLISHED IN MEMORY of the distinguished historian of the American West and a research specialist on the staff of The Bancroft Library, by his friends and admirers, the Prize is to be offered annually to encourage the field of studies in which Dale L. Morgan was an authority.

It is to be awarded to that graduate student who is judged to have submitted for a course on the Berkeley campus the best paper dealing with some subject of the American West. The judgment is to be made by the Committee on Prizes in consultation with the Director of The Bancroft Library or his designated representative.

Both the capital and the income of the fund created for this purpose are to be used so that awards of significant magnitude may be granted over a period of time that will probably extend for twenty or twenty-five years, if sufficient funds are received. Contributions may be sent to The Friends of The Bancroft Library, with notation that they are for the Dale L. Morgan Prize fund.

"A Particular Friend of Mine"

SO SHERWOOD ANDERSON described Ralph Church in a letter of introduction written for him in 1926, when Church was on his way to England for graduate study at Oxford. Church made frequent trips to the continent and, utilizing Anderson's letter, met Gertrude Stein in Paris; the resulting Stein-Church correspondence has been described in the January, 1971 issue of *Bancroftiana*. Included in the Church Collection are a notable group of thirty-two Anderson letters, written between the years 1926 and 1938, most of them in his notoriously illegible scrawl.

Having first gained recognition with the publication, in 1919, of *Winesburg, Ohio*, by 1926 Anderson's reputation as a writer was well-established. In the spring of that year he purchased Ripshin Farm, near Grant, Virginia, which, despite intervals of absence, remained his home for the rest of his life. Anderson's career had been a restless one, but the move away from people brought him, temporarily at least, a sense of peace; his letters extol the beauty of the country, and he urged Church and his mother to buy the neighboring farm.

His chronic restlessness asserted itself, however, and, suffering a period of creative inactivity, he decided he could no longer make

his living by writing. Complaining that he could not produce a new book each year, asserting that he wanted writing to be an incidental part of his life and not a profession, in 1927 Anderson purchased two newspapers in the nearby town of Marion, Virginia. These he published for two years, doing most of the writing himself since he could not afford a reporter.

The newspapers were successful, but again the restlessness and wanderlust set in, and Anderson turned the papers over to his son. The letters of the 1930's find him traveling, always returning, though, to Virginia. The mood of these letters is sometimes pessimistic, as he contemplated the effects of the economic depression. His attention focused increasingly on politics, on the labor movement, and on the dehumanizing effects of the machine, a theme which occurs so often in his writings.

After Church had returned to the United States and accepted a teaching position at Cornell University, the letters grew shorter, less informative, and less frequent, but they saw each other from time to time, meeting occasionally in New York. Although some of these letters have been published in Howard Mumford Jones' edition of *Letters of Sherwood Anderson*, all of them are now available for review in The Bancroft Library.

New to the Staff

WE SHOULD LIKE to introduce to the Friends three new members of the professional staff.

Mrs. Suzanne Holliday Gallup, a graduate of the Anna Head School and of the Berkeley campus of the University of California, with degrees in both sociology and librarianship, holds a joint appointment as a member of the Public Services staff and of the Catalog Division. To both she brings a love of Californiana in general and of 19th-century San Francisco printing in particular.

Mr. Peter Edward Hanff, a member of the Public Services staff and Assistant to the Director in matters concerning rare books, also shares with colleagues his knowledge of rare books and fine printing gained through experience as a holder of a Lilly Library Fellow-

ship at Indiana University and as an employee of the distinguished Los Angeles bookdealer, Zeitlin & Ver Brugge. Mr. Hanff holds degrees from both the Santa Barbara and Los Angeles campuses of the University of California, and has served in the Special Recruit Program of the Library of Congress.

Mrs. Marie Condon Thornton, a native Berkeleyan, is also a graduate of the Berkeley campus, with degrees in history and librarianship. She has been appointed to a half-time position as Assistant to the University Archivist, and is currently compiling an index to the first fifty issues of *Bancroftiana*, to be published early next year.

Roswell Gray Ham Collection

SCHOLARS OF THE HISTORY of 17th-century English literature will be indebted to the generosity of Dr. Roswell Gray Ham who has presented to The Bancroft Library his manuscripts and papers relating to the poets John Dryden and Edmund Waller. Of prime importance are Dr. Ham's seven "commonplace books" into which he and his wife copied items found in hitherto little-used collections

in the British Museum, the Bodleian Library and the Folger Library. The gift also includes editions of Waller's poems, ranging in publication date from 1668 to 1944, as well as the draft for a new edition, as yet unpublished.

Grandson of a California pioneer, Dr. Ham was born at Lemoore (Kings County) in 1891, and entered the University of California in the fall of 1909. At Berkeley he was active in many of the dramatic productions sponsored by The English Club, and served as editor of



The Occident. The accompanying photograph was taken during the Senior Pilgrimage on May 11th, 1914, and shows a portion of the uncompleted Doe Library.

Following his graduation he was a member of the Departments of English at both Berkeley and the University of Washington, before joining the faculty of Yale University, where he served for sixteen years. In 1937 Dr. Ham was named President of Mt. Holyoke College, which position he held until retirement in 1957. Returning to California, Dr. and Mrs. Ham currently live in Walnut Creek.

Gifts for Remodeling

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, the Director announced with pleasure that the funding for the remodeling of The Bancroft Library was now assured by the very substantial gift received from Mr. and Mrs. Calvin K. Townsend and by the additional generosity of members of the Heller family, whose initial gift had been announced in *Bancroftiana* for October, 1970.

It is hoped that the work of reconstruction will commence early this fall, under the capable direction of Mr. Wallace Costa of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill. Future issues of this newsletter will keep the Friends informed of our progress.

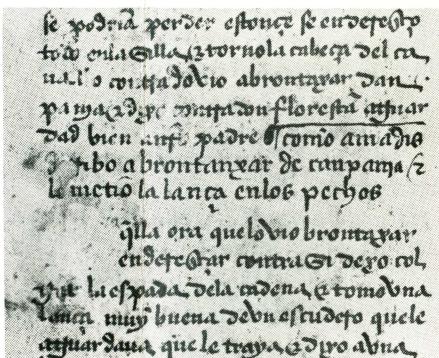
Amadís de Gaula Manuscript

SEÑORA MARÍA BREY DE RODRIGUEZ-MOÑINO of Madrid has presented to the Rare Books Collection of The Bancroft Library the only known manuscript of the most famous Spanish chivalric romance, *Amadís de Gaula*. The gift has been made in memory of her husband, Professor Antonio Rodriguez-Moñino, whose distinguished career was spent in part on the Berkeley campus.

Until the discovery of Professor Moñino's manuscript fragments, believed to date from 1420, the earliest known printed version of the *Amadís* was that of Garci Rodriguez de Montalvo (Zaragoza, 1508). Despite much speculation concerning an earlier version by the same author in 1496, its existence has never been verified. Knowledge of such earlier versions is

important for establishing just how much of the work is attributable to Montalvo, and also to shed light on the controversy over a Spanish versus a Portuguese original.

The discovery of the manuscript in July, 1955 was made in the Moñino home, to which a friend, D. Antonio Moreno Martin, had brought a few manuscript fragments which he had saved while rebinding some old books. Upon careful examination of the fragments, which had been used to make cardboard for the original bindings by gluing them in layers, there were found the four pieces of the *Amadís* manuscript. They subsequently proved to be from four separate leaves of the third book of the *Amadís de Gaula*, and while they are but a tiny portion of the work, they comprise the oldest known text, a section of which is reproduced here.



The four manuscript fragments have been inlaid in sheets of handmade paper and bound in leather, with slip case, by the firm of Brugalla in Barcelona. We are pleased to have this significant addition to our collections, both as a great resource for scholarship as well as a handsome item for exhibition.

Council of The Friends

Theodore R. Meyer, <i>Chairman</i>	Mrs. Edward H. Heller
William P. Barlow, Jr.	J. S. Holliday
William Bronson	Warren R. Howell
Mrs. John E. Cahill	Mrs. David Potter
Henry Dakin	Harold G. Schutt
Charles de Bretteville	Albert Shumate, M.D.
Peter E. Haas	Norman H. Strouse
Mrs. Gerald H. Hagar	Mrs. Calvin K. Townsend
James D. Hart	Mrs. Dixon Wecter
Mrs. John G. Hatfield	George P. Hammond, <i>Honorary</i>

Editor, *Bancroftiana*: J. R. K. Kantor