

# BANCROFTIANA

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**The Library's new Edward Hellman Heller Reading Room** was dedicated by University of California President Charles J. Hitch during the 26th Annual Meeting of The Friends of The Bancroft Library on Sunday afternoon, May 6th. The remodeling and enlarging of the Bancroft has been completed after fifteen months of reconstruction at a cost of approximately \$700,000, made possible by a gift from University Regent Elinor R. Heller, a member of the Friends' Council, and her family, and supplemented by a gift from Council member Doreen Townsend and her husband Calvin K. Townsend.

Along with its new Heller Reading Room, the Library now contains a separate Exhibition Gallery, with both wall and floor exhibition cases and ample space to display paintings from the Robert B. Honeyman Collection. New administrative offices, to the left of the entrance, include a reception and exhibition area as well as a conference room, and also afford an opportunity to hang more of the items from the

Honeyman Collection than was possible in the Library's old quarters. In addition, built into the Bancroft's west wall and facing the Loan Hall of the University Library, the Joseph Cummings Rowell Exhibition Case, honoring the memory of the University's first Librarian and Archivist, has been provided, through the

generosity of Miss May Dornin, University Archivist from 1946 until her retirement in 1964, for display of materials from the University Archives and from the faculty collections held by the Manuscripts Division.

The dedication ceremony, along with the annual business meeting, was held on the lawn just east of the Library's entrance, under sunny skies, accompanied by a strong breeze. Mrs. Gerald H. Hagar, Acting Chairman of the Friends, presided over the meeting, which was attended by almost 500 persons who heard remarks by Chancellor Albert H. Bowker and by University Librarian Richard M. Dougherty, both of the Berkeley campus. Professor James D. Hart, Director of the Bancroft, gave his annual report, summarized in the succeeding article, while President Hitch delivered the major address, "Research and the Library."

Quoting from a report on the organization, maintenance, and regulation of The Bancroft Library which was adopted by the University's Board of Regents in September, 1906, just four months after the Library had been transferred from San Francisco to the Berkeley campus, President Hitch said:

The Bancroft Library is a great deal more than a department of the library of the University of California, it is a great deal more than a historical laboratory of the history department of the University, it is the indispensable nucleus of a great research library, upon which must be built the one great collection of materials for the ethnology, geography and the political, commercial and industrial history of the whole Pacific coast.

He went on to note that "Except that the Bancroft has gone far beyond the Pacific Coast, this quote stands as a remarkably prescient prediction."

The President read the text of the plaque, here illustrated, and concluded his remarks by dedicating "on behalf of The Regents and for the students, faculties, and staff of all nine campuses . . . these new facilities" and proclaiming "that the reading room of The Bancroft Library shall henceforth and forever be known as the Edward Hellman Heller Reading Room."

## 26th Annual Meeting

The 26TH ANNUAL MEETING, as recorded in the preceding article, was held on Sunday afternoon, May 6th, with the dedication of the Library's new quarters as the central event. Due to the untimely death of Theodore R. Meyer, Chairman of the Council, noted elsewhere in this issue of *Bancroftiana*, Mrs. Gerald H. Hagar, Vice Chairman of the Council, presided. Following her own tribute to Ted Meyer, in which she recalled "his clear legal mind, and quiet way, his dry wit and endearing personality," Mrs. Hagar announced that the current membership drive, under the direction of Council members Mrs. John E. Cahill, Preston Hotchkis, Warren R. Howell, and Albert Shumate, had already yielded for the Friends 147 new members.

In the absence of Mr. William P. Barlow, Jr., the Treasurer's Report was read by Mr. Norman H. Strouse, a member of the Finance Committee, and it was good to hear that the organization continues in a healthy financial state. Dr. J. S. Holliday placed in nomination the names of four persons for Council seats, three being vacated by Mrs. John G. Hatfield, Dr. Holliday, and Dr. Albert Shumate, each of whom had served two consecutive terms on the Council, and one vacated by the death of Mr. Meyer. The nominees, Mrs. Vernon L. Goodin, Regent Joseph A. Moore, Jr., Mr. William H. Orrick, Jr., and Mr. Atherton Phleger, were all duly elected by the members present, and were welcomed to the Council by Mrs. Hagar, "for what they will contribute, and knowing the joy and satisfaction they will have being a part of this distinguished Library."

Professor Hart, mentioning that this was his fourth report as Director, spoke of the great loss, to the Library and to the University, through the death of Ted Meyer—"but with the aid he gave us we continue to move forward." He noted: "The most evident example of our progress is the building you are now looking at," but went on to point out that

Not everything has gone so well for the Bancroft as has this construction for I must again report that the state budget does not



Mrs. Edward H. Heller and memorial plaque



Mrs. Gerald H. Hagar at the rostrum, with Professor Hart, President Hitch, Chancellor Bowker, and University Librarian Dougherty seated.



James D. Hart with the Townsends



Professor Hart and Mrs. Hagar with the bust of Hubert Howe Bancroft.

nearly keep pace with the generosity of private donors. Because of insufficient funds, The Bancroft Library is still closed evenings and all day Sunday, a great hindrance to students and visiting scholars. . . . And although our rate of acquisition by gifts of materials and money has been greatly augmented, our state funds for processing these materials have not only failed to keep pace but they have shown an absolute decline.

The Director recited a partial listing of major gifts received during the past year, a few of them publicized in the pages of *Bancroftiana*, and concluded by noting that it was a "propitious day" on which to dedicate the new Library for the day before, May 5th, marked the birth date in 1832 of Hubert Howe Bancroft.

Following the business meeting and the dedicatory address by President Hitch, the Friends

and their guests were welcomed into the Library; they viewed the special exhibition, "Some Treasures of The Bancroft Library," created under the supervision of Irene Moran, Head, Public Services, and which included manuscripts, books and pictorial materials from all five of the Library's divisions, and toured the new facilities. Sherry was served on the plaza outside the Library's entrance.

This year's Keepsake, which the Friends will be receiving shortly in the mail, is the catalogue for the exhibition mentioned above, an eighty-five-page illustrated volume, edited by J. R. K. Kantor and handsomely printed by Lawton and Alfred Kennedy. The exhibition itself may be seen through July 6th, so that those of the Friends who were unable to attend the Annual Meeting may have a chance to view it.



Ernest Jaudin

## *The Jaudin Family Letters*

ERNEST JAUDIN, a young French lad of barely sixteen years, left his family in Bordeaux on November 2d, 1854 on board the cargo ship *Espérance* to seek his fortune in the golden west of California. In his first letter home, written

while at sea later that month, he described his voyage as unexciting and very hot. Upon his arrival in San Francisco on March 12th, 1855, he immediately reported to a Monsieur Sabatié, a businessman from Bordeaux, who promptly found him a position with a concern that sold groceries, liquors, meat and bread all in one establishment.

The young Frenchman found the still new town of San Francisco charming, with its plank streets illuminated by gas lamps, with its magnificent brick residences, its luxurious stores, numerous gaming houses and theaters. He marveled at the moving of houses from one site to another by means of hydraulic machinery, and commented on the frequency of fires in the city, and on the efficiency of the fire fighters with their superb copper pumps and clanging bells. But for the serious young man, as yet not too well versed in either English or Spanish, relegated to a poorly paid situation, working steadily and living frugally, regularly setting aside savings from his modest salary, distractions were few, save for an occasional Sunday afternoon at the French theater.

By September, Ernest left his French grocers to become a baker, the wages being ten dollars a month more and the night work leaving the days free. Ambitious and thrifty, cautious and shrewd, he used his leisure to advantage, learning about the fluctuating market value of merchandise, noting specifically, for instance, the great rise in price of Pernod, up from eighteen dollars a case to forty dollars in a short period. He began making small investments in supplies such as sugar, which he could store and sell for a profit at a later date, and also ventured little by little into the wholesale business, importing wine from Bordeaux for San Francisco merchants.

By the fall of 1857 Ernest went into business himself as a flour broker, but decided by January, 1858 to work in a flour store so as to acquire more experience as well as more capital. In August of that year, in partnership with George Kennedy, he opened a flour store under the name Kennedy and Jaudin, combining Kennedy's financial support with his own business experience.

At this juncture, in October, 1859, when Ernest was beginning to feel established, his younger brother, Ulysse arrived in San Francisco. Then came the long search for a suitable position for the newcomer, charming, pleasant, and hard working, but lacking Ernest's ambition and business acumen. His first job was with a grocer, then as a clerk to a lawyer who refused to pay him, and later in a flour mill for which Ernest was agent.

Ernest's own business flourished; he added salt to his flour enterprise, later general provisions and spirits. He became an agent for a company of southern California vintners, and later bottled California wine for distribution. On April 22d, 1861 he married Mary Elenor Derman, and settled down in a comfortable seven-room house. Ulysse, having found new work as a bookkeeper at the Société Française de Bienfaisance Mutuelle, rented a room at Ernest's home and took his meals there. He soon went over to the Caisse d'Épargne Française, a banking establishment, where he was to remain and prosper over a period of years.

News of their father's serious illness from which he remained paralyzed saddened the far distant children, and when the father died in the summer of 1863, Ulysse himself was very ill with what finally proved to be a tapeworm five meters long. Ernest, now head of the family, attempted to bring his mother and the younger children to California, but only after the sudden death of Marie Jaudin in 1864 were the two younger brothers, Georges and Raoul, sent to San Francisco to learn English and a trade.

In 1869 Raoul was very ill with smallpox, and it is supposed that Ernest succumbed to this disease at the age of thirty-two, leaving his wife and four small children. Ulysse, who remained in San Francisco after his brother's death, continued corresponding with the family, particularly with his little sister Berthe, until 1873, except for a period of eighteen months when he returned to France on a visit.

The 124 letters written by the two brothers encompass a wealth of detail on the business world of San Francisco, reflect the excitement of new mining ventures that periodically emp-

tyed the town, and portray the French community in the growing city. Ulysse also kept a good day-by-day account of his long voyage on *Le Bon Père* from Bordeaux around the Horn to San Francisco, pausing on the way at Lima, Peru. Accompanying the letters is a typescript of extracts of the correspondence, to which have been added details concerning the family background, compiled by the donor, Mrs. Suzanne B. Kriz of Princeton, New Jersey, whose grandmother was Catherine-Berthe Jaudin Réveillaud. Mrs. Kriz made the gift at the suggestion of our former Council member Donald McLaughlin, who brought her and her husband to the Bancroft during her first visit to California.

## *The Bancroft Fellows*

THE COMPETITION among graduate students for two Bancroft Fellowships for 1973-1974 has resulted in awards to Peter Joseph Carlson and Robert Timothy Chasson, each of whom is engaged in research on subjects whose source materials are in The Bancroft Library.

Mr. Carlson, who earned his Bachelor's degree from Yale University, is a doctoral candidate in the Department of English whose thesis topic is the Stuart masque. He plans to utilize the seventeenth century dramatic and political materials in the Rare Books Collection in dealing with the theme of "fictions of state" created deliberately by the monarchy under Charles I.

A graduate of Washington University, St. Louis with a Master's degree from the University of Minnesota, Mr. Chasson is now working toward a doctorate in the History of Art. He projects a complete and full study of the Psalter, Canticles and Liturgy (Diocese of Trier), a twelfth century German manuscript (UCB 94), including a close analysis of the text, script, and decorated initials, and expects to arrive at a reasonable reconstruction of several miniatures missing from the manuscript.

We welcome them to The Bancroft Library.

## *"Mr. Santa Barbara"*

THE PERSONAL PAPERS of the late Thomas More Storke, prize-winning editor of the Santa Bar-



Thomas More Storke

bara *News-Press*, have been presented to The Bancroft Library by the Storke Estate. Comprising more than thirty-five cartons of correspondence and records detailing his colorful career, and including as well the papers of his father, Charles Albert Storke, first mayor of Santa Barbara and founder of the Los Angeles *Herald* in 1873, the Storke Collection is a valued addition to the Library's manuscript holdings illuminating the political and social history of modern California.

A direct descendant of José Francisco de Ortega who came to California in 1769, Storke was a seventh-generation Californian and began his lifetime newspaper career on January 1st, 1901 with a firm dedication to the growth and best community interests of his beloved Santa Barbara. His first public office was that of Postmaster of his native city, to which he was appointed by President Woodrow Wilson in 1914. Following the resignation of Senator William Gibbs McAdoo, Storke was selected by Governor Frank Merriam, in November, 1938, to serve as United States Senator from California, along with Hiram W. Johnson.

As a crusader for civil liberties, Storke was

among the first publishers during the early 1960's to speak out forcefully and at length against the John Birch Society in a series of articles condemning both the Society and the tactics of character-assassination practiced by its founder. For these articles Storke was given the Lauterbach Award by the Nieman Foundation of Harvard University in November, 1961; he also won a Pulitzer Prize in May, 1962, and was named by Colby College an Elijah Lovejoy Fellow in August, 1962, "for courageous journalism."

A long-time Democrat, Storke was appointed by a Republican Governor—Goodwin J. Knight—to complete the remaining five-year term of John Francis Neylan as Regent of the University of California in 1955. During his term he was influential in the development of the expanded Santa Barbara campus, where Storke Plaza is named in his honor. T.M.S. was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree by the University of California in 1960, and a similar degree by Colby College in 1963.

In 1958 Storke published his memoirs under the title *California Editor*, and a shorter book-length version appeared in 1963 as *I Write For Freedom*. Storke finally sold his *News-Press* in 1964, while continuing as consulting editor and publisher emeritus until his death in October, 1971, at the age of ninety-four.

## History of Science and Technology

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Friends on May 6th, Professor James D. Hart announced the inception of a new \$300,000 five-year program to collect source materials in the History of Science and Technology of the San Francisco Bay area. Half of the funds for this program, the largest for any documentary project in the Bancroft's history, have been pledged by Mr. William B. Hewlett, founding partner and currently president of the Hewlett-Packard Company, and by Mr. David Packard, co-founder of Hewlett-Packard and former U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense, on condition that the Library acquire matching funds to support the activity.

The program, centered at first on developments in physics and electrical engineering, will begin operation on July 1st. Plans for its creation have been afoot for several years, under the immediate direction of Professor Roger Hahn of the Department of History who has also held appointment as advisor to the Library. Among the papers already received are those of the late Ernest O. Lawrence, described in the issue of *Bancroftiana* for September, 1972. The new project will systematically concentrate on two areas. One is the growth of physics centered on the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory (originally called the "Rad Lab") and interviews will be conducted with Lawrence's colleagues who opened the new era in high-energy physics. The other is the documentation of pioneer work in the electronics industry of this state, particularly that in the Palo Alto area. Historical information will be obtained both by acquisition of scientific papers and by tape recording of the recollections of leaders in these fields.

General direction of the program will come from Professor Edwin M. McMillan of the Department of Physics and for fifteen years Director of the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, and from Provost Emeritus Frederick Terman of Stanford University, each of whom played a key role in the developments to be chronicled. Professors Hahn, John L. Heilbron of the Department of History, and Charles Susskind of the Department of Electrical Engineering will also serve as advisors. Dr. Arthur L. Norberg has been appointed by the Library to take charge of the daily operations of the program.

The Bancroft's expansion into the history of science and technology is not a totally new departure, as the Library already possesses considerable materials in this field, especially since the incorporation of the University Archives, the Regional Oral History Office, and the Rare Books Department into the Library. The University Archives, when it was transferred from the University Library in 1962, contained the papers of prominent faculty scientists, including Joseph Le Conte, Eugene W. Hilgard, Alfred L. Kroeber, Armin O. Leuschner, and John C. Merriam. The Regional Oral History

Office had interviewed Ralph W. Chaney, Joel Hildebrand, and Victor Lenzen, among other leading figures on campus, and the Rare Books Department held the manuscripts of Rudjer Boskovic and the books of Florian Cajori, as well as a large microfilm archive known as the Sources for the History of Quantum Physics. The present program is designed to add to the wealth of material already available, and to enable The Bancroft Library to become a leading research center for the study of the annals of recent science and technology, so much of which have been fashioned in California.

## "To Dig for Mammon"

FAR MORE RARE THAN 1849 journals are those written by pre-Gold Rush voyagers to California, and the Friends have recently helped to purchase such a journal, together with a remarkable group of letters which chronicle the experiences of various members of the De Witt family of New York City, in California and Oregon between the years 1848 and 1854. The family was a large one, and of their number four sons, a daughter-in-law, and an uncle made the trip to California (some of them several times), stayed a while, and eventually returned to New York. All, with the exception of Uncle John, kept the eastern De Witts well posted on activities, and informative and entertaining letters they are.

With the conclusion of the Mexican War in February, 1848, there were many Americans convinced that a new California was in the making. Alfred De Witt was one of them, and, forming a partnership with Augustus Harrison, he decided to establish a mercantile firm in San Francisco. They chartered passage on the brig *Belfast*, and on April 6th, 1848 set sail for California with a cargo of goods destined for their store and with material with which to build a house. The journal kept by Alfred during the voyage (twenty-three closely written pages) is a lively one (a rarity for "round-the-Horn journals) in which he recorded everything he thought might interest or amuse his family.

The long voyage ended on September 22d,

but the San Francisco scene was not at all what he expected. The harbor was crowded with shipping, the wharves lined with goods, and laborers at a premium. The Gold Rush was on, and he had left New York with no knowledge of the gold discovery in California. His letter dated September 24th must be among the earliest eye-witness accounts of this scene to reach New York from California.

We have arrived at a period of great excitement, the *Gold fever* is raging and we are informed on good foundation—the town is nearly deserted—the disbanded volunteers and all who have not any particular occupation to bind them to the town are now on the hills some 30 or 40 miles back gathering gold dust, even the missionary has given up the care of *other men souls to dig for mammon*—the samples that I have seen are very fair apparently; the article has been assayed and the intrinsic value pronounced to be worth from 18 to 20 dolls pr ounce—it is reported that some have collected nearly a pound in one day in fact one lump was found weighing about 10 oz—the average a man collects is from 1 oz to 4 oz pr day . . . mechanics cannot be employed under \$10 pr day and slow workers at that in fact the excitement has reached the shipping and out of 20 vessels hardly 3 besides our own have any of their crew left—our Captain was informed immediately on arrival of the situation of affairs and feels very anxious. The Gentlemen ashore told me that it would be impossible to keep the crew as they steal off at night swim ashore and in several cases have stolen the Boats and run up the river Sacramento where it is impossible to find them.

It took Alfred twenty days to get his goods and house material unloaded. Renting a building near the shore for \$150 a month, he established the firm of De Witt and Harrison, commission merchants, and some time later moved into a fireproof building at 187 Sansome Street. He also purchased a lot, 34 feet by 137 feet, on Broadway for \$2000, engaged a carpenter, and erected his house.

In May, 1849, having made a return trip to the eastern seaboard in the meantime, Alfred

brought his bride, Margaret, to California, coming by way of the Isthmus, and both wrote at length describing the journey up the Chagres to Panama. Thereafter, Alfred's letters, which were usually filled with news of his business ventures and of economic conditions in California, were supplemented by Margaret's accounts of the difficulties of living in San Francisco, from a woman's point of view. It was not an easy life, for her household included from time to time the store clerks who boarded there, her husband's partner, and her brothers-in-law. Servants were scarce, "at even \$10 per month," and she often felt the want of a female friend.

Brothers Henry, Peter, and Theodore were also drawn to California, not by the lure of gold but by the promise of mercantile careers, and one by one they came, in 1849 and 1850, all working for a while in Alfred's store. Each recorded his own impression of his new life, and not one was tempted to take up mining. Henry was particularly emphatic on the matter.

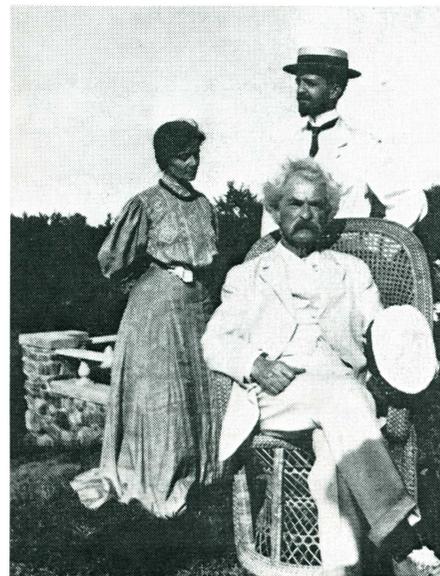
I have not been hardly long enough here to gather much information in regard to the Gold diggings but one thing I know is that it is a very unprofitable business to those that have not been accustomed to hard labor all their lives. No person can no matter what constitution they have cannot work over six weeks in the mines and then they are very lucky if they get over 500 dolls clear. The idea you NYorkers have that the Gold can be picked up without any trouble is ridiculous and many here have found it out. In fact this California Gold business is all a humbug (you can bet high on it.)

Peter, the most adventurous of the brothers, went on to Oregon in 1851 and, with a partner, opened a store in Portland, the largest and handsomest one in the city, according to his own description. By 1853 he realized his great error was leaving Wall Street, and he decided to return to New York, going, however, by way of China. His brothers all having returned to the east coast by the beginning of 1854, Alfred stayed on until July 15th, when he and Margaret too set out to rejoin the family in New York.

By virtue of being a pioneer of 1848, Alfred was listed in Hubert Howe Bancroft's *Pioneer Register*. The entry is brief.

De Witt (Alfred), 1848, of S.F. firm of De Witt & Harrison; remained at S.F. till '54.

It is gratifying indeed to be able now to clothe those factual bones so effectively.



Mark Twain with Isabel Lyon and Ralph Ashcroft, 1909.

## Mark Twain's Last Manuscript

AN UNPUBLISHED 400-page manuscript written by Mark Twain during the last months of his life has recently been presented to The Bancroft Library for its collection of Mark Twain Papers. Addressed as a letter to the novelist William Dean Howells, the book-length document gives the ailing author's caustic account of how he, "a born ass," was victimized by "a pair of degraded and sufficiently clumsy sharpers"—his personal secretary and the man who managed a number of the writer's business affairs.

The manuscript is the gift of Mrs. Eugene Lada-Mocarski and Mrs. Bayard Schieffelin,

granddaughters of Samuel Clemens' brother-in-law, Charles Langdon. Readers of the last issue of *Bancroftiana* will recall that these were two of the donors of the seventy letters written by Mark Twain to various members of the Langdon family. According to Frederick Anderson, Editor of the Mark Twain Papers, Clemens' account of his domestic and business affairs in the last years of his life will be published as the concluding section of a definitive edition of the author's autobiographical dictations to be issued by the University of California Press.

The facts of the complicated charges and countercharges about the alleged swindle of Clemens family funds is biased and inevitably conflicting. In the midst of the controversy, the suspects, Ralph W. Ashcroft and Isabel Lyon, were married and promptly left for England on their honeymoon. No formal legal action was taken and the author's failing energies forced him to retreat from this final outburst in a life which was marked by business and legal entanglements.

The vituperative nature of the manuscript and its accompanying documents is evident in a note Mark Twain wrote on an envelope addressed to him by the business manager, Ashcroft:

Letter from a sniveling hypocrite—who is also a skunk, and a professional liar. It is precious, it has no mate in polecat literature—don't let it get lost. SLC.

In a nine-page foreword, the 74-year-old author addressed himself "To the Unborn Reader," for whom he believed the account would furnish "an intimate inside view of our domestic life of to-day not to be found in naked and comprehensive detail outside its pages." As a gift to The Bancroft Library it now rejoins the author's personal papers where it is available to those readers for whom Mark Twain wrote it.

## Donald Coney, 1901-1973

THE FRIENDS will be saddened to learn of the death on February 10th in Berkeley of Donald Coney, University Librarian from 1945 until



Mrs. David Clayborn Mosby of San Francisco recently presented to the Library's pictorial collections this large oil on canvas, *The Camp Grounds*, signed by [B?] Ring. No information regarding this artist has turned up, and we wonder whether any of our readers might be able to shed light on the painter, the setting, or the exact subject.

his retirement in the summer of 1968. During the period from February, 1966 to August, 1968, Mr. Coney also served as Acting Director of The Bancroft Library.

It was during the early years of Don Coney's administration that the Doe Library Annex was completed, and the Bancroft moved from its cramped attic quarters which it had occupied since 1922 to the spacious area facing the Campanile Esplanade—that area which has now been expanded and remodeled to accommodate the new Heller Reading Room, the Exhibition Gallery, and other facilities. It was also during Don Coney's earlier years that the Library's Regional Cultural History Project, now known as ROHO, and the Rare Books Department were established, and the Mark Twain Papers arrived in Berkeley; all are now component parts of The Bancroft Library.

At a memorial service on March 2d, Lawrence Moe, University Organist, played a concert in Hertz Hall and Professor Travis Bogard

read a moving tribute written by Professor Raynard Swank.

### *Frederick Law Olmsted Letters*

DURING HIS LONG CAREER at the University of California—sixty-eight years including the period 1870–1874 during which he was an undergraduate on first the Oakland and later the Berkeley campus—Joseph Cummings Rowell succeeded in gathering and preserving in the University Archives a collection of the records of the University's predecessor, the College of California. Rowell personally knew many of the individuals who had been connected with the College, particularly the Reverend Samuel Hopkins Willey, who may be called the founder of the College and, in turn, one of the founders of the University. From Willey he received minute books, financial records, and correspondence which Willey had accumu-

lated during the years from 1856 to 1867. Among these letters, bound into a scrapbook, are three written by the noted landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted.

Olmsted had been asked by the trustees of the College to devise a plan for the development of the institution's country property at what is now Berkeley. His letters to Willey were written between November, 1864 and August, 1865 when he was in California overseeing the property. In an eight-page holograph letter dated July 25th, 1865, Olmsted is concerned with the naming of the property, and lists many suggestions of English names—Billingsbrook and Lincolnwood among them—as well as Spanish names, and concludes:

I believe your property was formerly included in the ranch of Peralta or owned by Sr. Peralta. If this name has not been appropriated to designate any other locality, it would be natural and proper to take it, and it is not bad. . . . Please let me know when you have hit upon anything that suits you, as I may want a name for use.

Berkeley was not a name that Olmsted mentioned; it was left to Frederick Billings to "hit upon" the English philosopher.

Olmsted's subsequent *Report Upon a Projected Improvement of the Estate of The College of California at Berkeley, near Oakland*, published in 1866 by W. C. Bryant in New York and by Towne and Bacon in San Francisco, runs to some twenty-six pages, and calls for the immediate construction of two buildings.

One designed to contain its library, records, and scientific collections, and therefore constructed of brick, stone and iron, and as nearly fire-proof as you could afford to make it. The other to contain a general hall of assembly, and a series of classrooms, lecture rooms, and rooms for the use of your faculty.

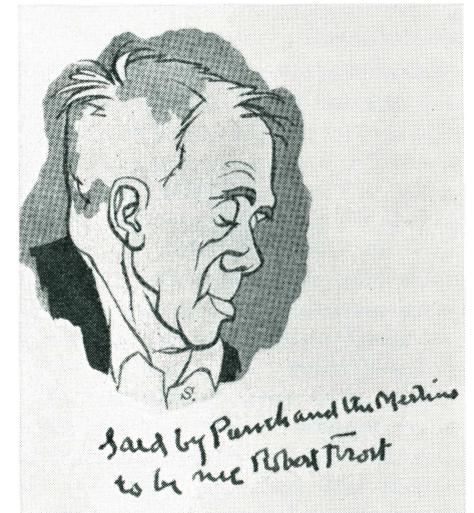
The College, however, could not secure funding for this building scheme, and the Berkeley property was transferred to the newly-established University in 1868 without further development. Olmsted's plan was followed closely by the University when it erected both South Hall and North Hall in 1873.

### *The Mertins Collection of Robert Frost*

THROUGH THE GENEROSITY of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Mertins of Redlands, the Rare Books Collection now possesses a substantial body of materials by and about the San Francisco-born poet whose life work spanned several generations. The original group of Frost items was presented at the time of the poet's visit to the Berkeley campus in May, 1958, when he addressed a University Meeting in the Hearst Greek Theatre. Additional Frost materials came to the Bancroft in 1972.

Building their Robert Frost collection was a labor of love on the part of Louis and Esther Mertins. They began in 1932, soon after Mertins had received the manuscript of "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening," as a gift from the poet. Frost had, at that time, recently returned to California for his first visit since 1885, when his mother had taken him, a ten-year-old boy, from San Francisco to Lawrence, Massachusetts. During the summer and fall of 1932 he was living at Monrovia, near Pasadena, and there Mertins and Frost met and became fast friends.

Almost every Christmas thereafter, Frost



"Said by Punch and the Mertins to be me Robert Frost."

sent to Mr. and Mrs. Mertins something for their collection, often manuscripts of his poems. When "Neither Far Out nor In Deep" was published in the spring, 1934 issue of the *Yale Review*, Frost dispatched a copy of the magazine, with the inscription:

This was one of my few California poems. But it is made of mixed memories. Take care of the MS of it I gave you Louis. R. F.

Included in the collection are first and subsequent editions of his volumes of poetry, first and later printings of poems in periodicals and anthologies, and manuscripts and letters. There are also published book reviews and biographical materials, including photographs and news articles relating to the poet's numerous public appearances. The original group of materials was described by Fulmer Mood in an introductory note to Louis and Esther Mertins' *The Intervals of Robert Frost*, published by the University of California Press in 1947. Noting that the collection was eventually to be transferred to the University, Mood concluded his remarks:

At Berkeley it will come to rest with other literary treasures within sight of hilly San Francisco, the natal city of Robert Frost.

## Manuscripts Guide Volume II

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO Hubert Howe Bancroft was energetically amassing manuscripts relating to Mexico and Central America, and he used these voluminous materials in the compilation of his monumental histories of those areas. In the more than six decades since the University acquired his Library in 1905, the Bancroft has continued to collect primary resource materials, such as the great Terrazas Collection, purchased with the assistance of the Friends in 1961.

Now we have a special vantage from which to assess the extent and richness of these manuscripts, for the long-awaited Volume II of *A Guide to the Manuscript Collections of The Bancroft Library*, dealing primarily with Mexican and Central American materials, has recently been published by the University of

California Press. This volume, which its editor, Director Emeritus George P. Hammond, began in 1967, lists and describes the Library's holdings, either as individual manuscripts or as collections, depending upon the character of the materials. Its scope extends beyond Mexico and Central America to include the Philippines, Louisiana, the West Indies, and certain areas of colonial South America, as well as miscellaneous manuscripts gathered by scholars in diverse fields of special interests. It treats both items collected by Hubert Howe Bancroft himself and those added by the Library through the years.

In this volume, as in its companion Volume I (Pacific and Western manuscripts), edited by Professor Hammond and the late Dale L. Morgan, the aim is to provide the investigator with references which will readily indicate whether the Library has material pertinent to his field of research. An unusually detailed index adds to the utility of the *Guide*.

### *Alice James' Diary*

IN THE APRIL, 1972 ISSUE of *Bancroftiana* mention was made of the Library's acquisition, part of a gift from Mrs. Robert Bruce Porter, of a copy of Alice James' *Diary*, ordered printed in 1894 in an edition of but four copies by Alice's companion Katherine Peabody Loring. That article erred in stating that this copy had been given by Miss Loring to Alice's niece, Mrs. Mary James Vaux. We have learned from Mrs. Vaux's son, Professor Henry James Vaux, a member of the faculty of the University of California's School of Forestry and Conservation, that his family owned, and owns, only the manuscript of the *Diary*. Further, Professor Vaux has kindly shared with us information he received from his friend Mr. Donald Brien of Haverford, Pennsylvania, regarding the disposition of Miss Loring's own copy of the work, and we wish at this time to provide a more positive statement about the intriguing history of this rare title in the field of Americana.

Following the publication of the *Diary* in 1894, Miss Loring sent one copy to the novelist Henry James, who later destroyed his copy,

and a second copy to the philosopher William James, which was bequeathed to his son Harry, who presented it to the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Due to the evident displeasure of the two brothers over the public airing of their sister's views, Miss Loring kept the two remaining copies, later giving one of them to Harry. It is *this* copy which recently came to the Bancroft from Mrs. Porter, whose late husband was Harry's nephew.

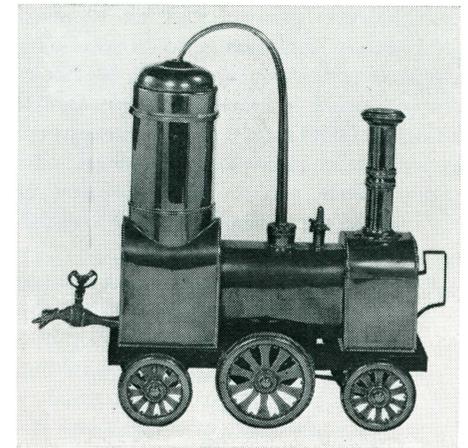
Miss Loring's own copy was purchased from her estate in 1964 by the University of Virginia and is now part of its C. Waller Barrett Collection in the Alderman Library. Thus, we note, the three surviving copies are all held by American research libraries.

### *Joseph M. Bransten Coffee and Tea Collection*

A GROUP OF SOME eighty-one volumes dealing with the history, sociology, and, indeed, philosophy of coffee and tea has been presented to the Rare Books Collection by Mr. Joseph M. Bransten of San Francisco, chairman of the board of the family firm, M. J. B. Company. Gathered together over a period of seventeen years, the collection reflects an interest, by a native San Franciscan, in one of the city's leading industries, which sprang up during the early Gold Rush years and led to the establishment of several of the nation's largest coffee and tea companies.

Ranging in date of imprint from Philippe Dufour's *Traitez Nouveaux et curieux Du Café, Du Thé, et Du Chocolate*, published in Lyon in 1685, to Bernhard Rothfos' *Coffea Curiosa*, published in Hamburg in 1968 and from which the accompanying illustration has been selected, the collection also includes Cornelis Bontekoe's *Tractaat Van het Excellenste Thee*. Of Bontekoe's work, issued at s'Gravenhage (The Hague) in 1690, a later author, G. G. Sigmond, writing in *Tea: Its Effects, Medicinal and Moral* (London, 1839), commented:

Although this work was, from the extravagance of its commendations on tea, severely handled by some of the critics, it was translated into many languages, and quoted as



*Brass coffee machine of the 19th century*

the highest authority. He pronounced tea to be the infallible cause of health, and that if mankind could be induced to drink a sufficient quantity of it, the innumerable ills to which man is subject would not only be diminished, but entirely unknown. He thinks that 200 cups daily would not be too much.

The Library is gratified by this gift from one of its former Council members—Mr. Bransten served four terms on the Friends' Council, from 1952 to 1960 and from 1963 to 1971—and is also pleased that it is able to offer this unique resource to its patrons whose research lies in the fields of agricultural, commercial, and social history, as well as in seventeenth century printing.

### *A Continuing Bancroft Tradition*

IN 1953 THE BANCROFT LIBRARY conducted its first tape-recorded oral history session, an interview in Paris with Alice B. Toklas concerning Gertrude Stein's life in Oakland, in effect reinstating a technique used by Hubert Howe Bancroft who almost a century earlier had trained his assistants to interview the early settlers of the American west and to transcribe their words with pen and ink. As one of the first entrants into the field following the founding, by Allan Nevins, of Columbia University's

oral history program in 1948, the Regional Oral History Office has not only provided a wealth of primary documentation but has itself pioneered in developing techniques for oral history. ROHO's early start has brought the exciting challenges of a new field, as well as the responsibilities, and sometimes burdens, of advising the many neophytes who have followed during the past two decades.

Initially established along lines recommended by Professor Nevins, the ROHO staff has continued to perfect professional procedures for interviewing, transcribing, editing, and preparing final transcripts for research. From these experiences has come a how-to-do-it manual on methods for initiating and conducting oral history projects, written by ROHO's head, Willa Baum, and published by the American Association for State and Local History. The manual, which serves as a guide and a textbook for many oral history projects as well as college and university courses, is now in its second printing. In addition to procedures, the ROHO staff in conjunction with the General Counsel of The Regents of the University of California has developed legal agreements providing for the wide research use of an interview, while protecting the rights of the interviewee; these agreements are used, with modifications, by many institutions today.

As pioneers in the new technology, ROHO has quite naturally been in the forefront in discussion and debate on oral history as a research technique. Members of the staff hold positions in and speak at meetings of historical and other organizations, including the Society of American Archivists, the Conference of California Historical Societies, and the Western History Association. In 1966 the staff assisted in the founding of the Oral History Association; Willa Baum served as a charter member of the OHA Council and Amelia Fry, director of the Earl Warren Oral History Project, helped to formulate the ethical standards for oral historians. In 1970 ROHO and UCLA's Oral History Office served as co-hosts for the Oral History Association's Colloquium held at Asilomar. Amelia Fry is now serving her third year as secretary of the OHA in addition to her

job as oral history editor for the *Journal of Library History*.

From Singapore to Australia to Mississippi to San Francisco, scholars and administrators enlist the advice of ROHO in setting up their own oral history programs. Sometimes visitors spend a day or two in the office; sometimes consultations are requested by other offices in places as distant from Berkeley as Mexico, Hawaii, England, and New York—usually coinciding with a staff member's vacation travel—or, more often, as close as Oakland and Tucson. Malca Chall, director of the Woman Suffragists project, is presently consultant to an oral history course on women in politics at Immaculate Heart College, Los Angeles.

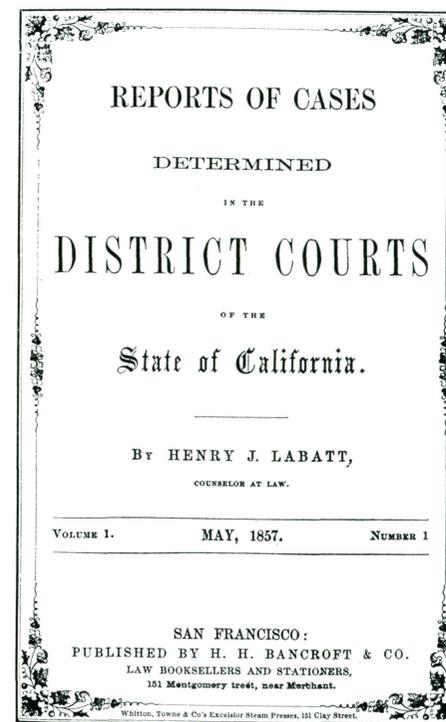
ROHO staff serve also as instructors in oral history workshops sponsored by the Oral History Association and by historical and educational groups throughout the United States. These workshops provide training for new directors and interviewers of recently-created programs; they introduce faculty to the use of oral history as a teaching method and they show students how to conduct interviews for their own research.

But most important, after all, are the interviews themselves, which are being used more and more as source material by students and scholars throughout the academic community—such interviews as those with San Francisco Bay area fine printers, California winemakers, political leaders, and conservationists, to name but a few. And, of course, the one with Alice B. Toklas.

## 1857 H. H. Bancroft Imprint

THE DESCRIPTION of the Library's acquisition of Samuel S. Greene's *The Elements of English Grammar*, published by H. H. Bancroft & Co. in 1858, included in the issue of *Bancroftiana* for September, 1972, has stimulated comment from two bibliographers among our friends. Professor Harry Clark of the University of Oklahoma, whose dissertation topic at Berkeley was "The Production, Publication, and

Sale of the Works of Hubert Howe Bancroft," has reported the existence of an 1857 imprint held by the Law Library on the University of California campus. That Library has graciously permitted us to reproduce the cover, here illustrated.



Henry J. Labatt's *Reports of Cases Determined in the District Courts of the State of California* was planned as a monthly continuation to be complete at the end of twelve issues. Aside from its copy of Volume I, Number I, in its original dark green printed wrappers, the Law Library also holds a single whole volume of the series, published in 1858 by Whitton, Towne, the printers of the first number. It has not been determined how long H. H. Bancroft & Co. were the principal publishers of the series.

Ruth Frey Axe, secretary and research assistant to the late Henry Raup Wagner, also wrote to identify the Labatt work, and mentioned, as well, an exceedingly important catalogue issued by H. H. Bancroft & Co. in 1857, ap-

parently prior to Labatt's *Reports*. Wagner's own checklist of Bancroft publications, expanded by the late Eleanor Ashby Bancroft, has been further expanded by Mrs. Axe, with the assistance of Anna Marie Hagar, and is now being readied for publication.

## Desiderata

THE LIBRARY would very much like to obtain copies of the following titles for the Rare Books Collection:

William Faulkner. *Knight's Gambit*. New York, Random House [1949].

Lucien Pissarro. *Notes on the Eragry Press, and a letter to J. B. Manson*. Cambridge, England [privately printed at the Cambridge University Press] 1957.

Stephen Spender. *Collected Poems, 1928-1953*. London, Faber & Faber [1955].

Robert Louis Stevenson. *The Wrecker*. London, Cassell, 1892.

William Butler Yeats. *Selected Poems*. London, Macmillan, 1929.

—*The Shadowy Waters* (acting version). London, Bullen, 1907.

—*The Wild Swans at Coole*. Churchtown, Dundrum, Ireland, Cuala Press, 1917.

Should any of these be available to the Library, please communicate with Mrs. Eloyde Tovey or Miss Patricia Howard, by letter or by telephone at 642-3781.

## Kipling on Howard on Kipling

ALTHOUGH THE SIDNEY COE HOWARD Collection, which is being presented to the Bancroft by the children of the late American playwright, Mr. Walter Howard and Mrs. Jennifer Goldwyn, has not yet been fully processed by the Manuscripts Division for use by the Library's patrons, we should like at this time to make mention of one of the most recently received items. This is a 136-page, handsomely bound stencilled script of Howard's screen adaptation of Rudyard Kipling's novel, *The Light That Failed*.

The manuscript, which bears the date April

12th, 1935, had been sent to the British poet and novelist for review and contains voluminous emendations in Kipling's hand—mostly corrections of diction, class speech, and “English” usage. For example, Kipling, in lining through “confer” and substituting “consider,” notes that “confer” is “pure U.S.A. of only a generation ago.” He changed all mention of “mail” to “letters,” with the explanation that “mail is U.S.A.” Even the stage directions are annotated; at one point where Howard indicated typewriter noise in the background, Kipling has scrawled: “too early. Cut all this business with typewriter.”

Included with the manuscript is a two-page letter written by Kipling to the film's producer, Arthur Hornblow, Jr., as well as an article from the London *Daily Mail* for May 28th, 1935, describing a meeting between the two men which occurred after the novelist had read the screenplay. The newspaper's film correspondent reported that Hornblow said of Kipling: “The one thing that stands out in the scenario he has revised is his accurate and emphatic perception of the English language.”

Not only is this manuscript a valued addition to the Howard Collection, which includes correspondence and literary property, but it also nicely complements the fine Rudyard Kipling materials in the Bancroft's Rare Books Collection.

## Theodore R. Meyer, 1902-1973

LOYAL AND CONCERNED ALUMNUS, you have served for six years as a Regent of your University, for two terms as Chairman of the Board, and you distinguished yourself by your courage, your patience, and your great good sense in a time marked by crisis. Thus concluded the text of the honorary degree awarded to Ted Meyer by the Regents of the University of California in 1971. His courage, his patience, and his great good sense were qualities well known too by the Friends, who now express their personal sorrow in his death on March 31st in San Francisco.

A native of San Diego, an alumnus of the

University in its Class of 1922 and of its School of Law in 1924, Ted Meyer served as president of both the California and San Francisco Bar Associations, and practiced law as a member of the firm Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison. As president of the Mechanics Institute of San Francisco he served as a regent of the University until his resignation in 1968. But his service to his alma mater continued, both as chairman of the Council of The Friends of The Bancroft Library, and as co-chairman for the successful 1972 bond drive to provide funds for expansion of the University's medical and health science programs.

During his chairmanship of the Council he was constantly active in his quiet, unassuming way to aid the program and purposes of the Library, as in his raising of needed funds to buy the great collection of Mexican pamphlets described in the previous *Bancroftiana*. Typical of him was his spending part of his last week writing to some Regents and other friends urging them to become members of our organization.

Some gifts have been received in his memory that will allow his name to be perpetuated at the Bancroft by purchase of books, but beyond them Ted Meyer will always be remembered at the Library for his own qualities and his own dedication.

## Council of The Friends

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

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Contributors to this issue: Frederick Anderson, Willa Baum, Marie Byrne, Stephen Drew, Mary Ann Fisher, Suzanne Gallup, Roger Hahn, Peter Hanff, Estelle Rebec, and Eloyde Tovey.