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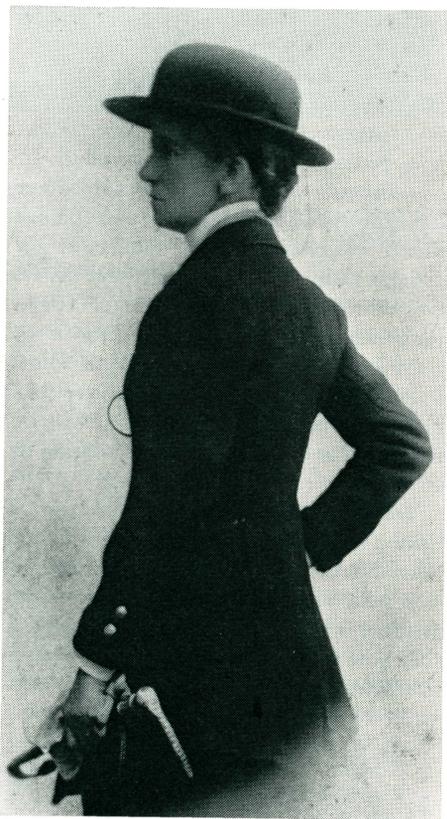
June 1974

Somerville & Ross

"YESTERDAY WAS FOUR WEEKS since the infant was born and now she is a fine fat, jolly little animal and is to be made a Christian of next Thursday," wrote Colonel Thomas Somerville from Corfu on May 31st, 1858. The infant was duly christened Edith OEnone and a short time afterward accompanied her parents from the Ionian islands to Drishane House, Skibbereen, County Cork. Educated at home and for a brief period at a college in Dublin, Edith's chief pursuits became hunting, riding, and drawing; she attended art classes in London and Paris and accepted commissions to illustrate magazine serials.

Early in the year 1886 she met for the first time her cousin Violet Martin, who had been born in 1862 at Ross House, near Oughterard, County Galway. The two formed a close friendship and a literary association, the first product of which was *An Irish Cousin*, published in 1889. The edition consisted of 500 copies; of this work Edith Somerville later noted in *Irish Memories*:

It was in October, 1887, that we began what was soon to be known to us as "The Shocker," and "The Shaughraun," to our family generally, as "that nonsense of the girls," and subsequently, to the general public, as "An Irish Cousin." Seldom have the young and ardent "commenced author" under less conducive circumstances. . . . Begun in idleness and without conviction, persecution had its usual effect, and deepened somewhat tepid effort into enthusiasm, but the first genuine literary impulse was given by a visit to an old and lonely house, that stands



Edith O.E. Somerville

on the edge of the sea, some twelve or thirteen miles from Drishane . . . the old house, dying even then, touched our imaginations . . . the insincere ambition of the "Penny Dreadful" faded, realities asserted themselves, and the faked "thrills" that were to make our fortunes were repudiated for ever. Little as we may have achieved it, an ideal of

Art rose then for us, far and faint as the half-moon, and often, like her, hidden in clouds, yet never quite lost or forgotten.

The book achieved a third edition by 1903, by which time Somerville & Ross, as they styled themselves, had published eight titles. The immensely popular novel *Some Experiences of an Irish R. M.* (1899), praised by readers and critics, including Queen Victoria, established the authors' position as lively interpreters of Ireland as viewed from upper-class Anglo-Irish society.

Before the death of Violet in 1915, more than a dozen books were written and published, many of them with illustrations by Edith. *The Real Charlotte* (1894) which has been called "a long, perfectly proportioned novel which presents an entire society" is a balance of biographical fiction and creative fantasy; upon publication it was received by the families of both authors with a volley of abuse, and the first reviews were equally disapproving. However, the book caught on with the public, and in 1950 Lord David Cecil, writing to Edith Somerville's biographer, called it "a masterpiece, a classic; one of the very few novels of the first rank that has appeared in England during this century."

The literary partnership did not end with the demise of "Martin Ross" for Somerville considered herself in direct spiritual communication with Violet, a belief that was to remain with her till her own death in 1949. In a prefatory note to Elizabeth Hudson's bibliography of their work, which appeared in 1942, Edith wrote of the books:

Laughter went to their making; sometimes, also, tears; yet while we were together happiness never failed us.

"Sic itur ad astra" is the motto of Violet Martin's family. She has gone to the stars, but our collaboration is not ended.

The volumes by "E. OE. Somerville and Martin Ross" continued to come forth, the last being *Maria, and Some Other Dogs* (1949).

The Bancroft Library recently was able to purchase, with the assistance of its Friends, a comprehensive collection of the first editions

of Somerville & Ross, most of them inscribed, as well as original drawings by Edith Somerville, letters, and a few photographs, one of which is reproduced here. The addition of these more than seventy volumes to the Rare Books Collection substantially strengthens the Library's holdings of Anglo-Irish literature.

27th Annual Meeting

A SPIRITED, STIMULATING, and magnificently-delivered address on "Thoreau's *Walden* and the American Dream" by James Thorpe, Director of the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, highlighted the well-attended 27th Annual Meeting of the Friends in Wheeler Auditorium on Sunday afternoon, May 19th. Prior to Dr. Thorpe's engaging talk in which he pictured the rustic young Thoreau moving among the established literati of Concord, notably Emerson and Hawthorne, and spending what was termed the most famous one night in jail in American history, the Friends listened to remarks by the Chairman, Norman H. Strouse, the University Librarian, Richard M. Dougherty, and the Director, James D. Hart.

The appreciation of and continuing need for strong support of the Library by the Friends were included in all the speeches, and Professor Hart noted, in his annual report, that while the number of gifts has increased markedly, the administrative support for processing these materials has not kept pace. He also mentioned the completion of the Bancroft's remodeled quarters, accomplished during this past year, and commented on the expanded use of the Library's facilities.

Two members of the Council, William Bronson and Henry Dakin, having served two consecutive terms, are retiring this month, and the Nominations Committee, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Gerald H. Hagar, offered the names of Kenneth K. Bechtel of Kentfield and John R. May of Sausalito as replacements. The Friends unanimously elected them to terms beginning on July 1st.

Following the business meeting and the major address, the Friends and their friends

walked the short distance to the Library for a reception to mark the opening of an exhibition, in the Gallery and administrative offices, "Selections from Some Privately Formed Collections in The Bancroft Library." Members of the staff had brought together manuscripts, books, pictures, maps, and artifacts, themselves parts of collections formed prior to their acquisition by the Library. Included are examples from the original library of Hubert Howe Bancroft, as well as those from more recently-received collections such as those of Robert B. Honeyman, Jr., William Randolph Hearst, and Charles M. Weber.

The annual keepsake, which is being mailed to the Friends, is the first printing of an original Bancroft dictation, *Recollections of Old Times in California, or, California Life in 1843*, by William Henry Thomes. George R. Stewart, a long-time member of the Friends, whose own collection of etiquette books is shown in the exhibition, has provided a lengthy introduction, and the volume is enhanced by illustrations from the Bancroft's fine pictorial resources.

Retirement of John Barr Tompkins

JANUARY 31ST marked the end of a notable era in the Bancroft's history with the retirement of Dr. John Barr Tompkins, after more than twenty-three years' service to the Library. Mrs. Tompkins, Public Administration Analyst in the Institute of Governmental Studies, also retired on that day, and together they were presented the Berkeley Citation, the campus' highest award, "for distinguished achievement and for notable service to the University of California."

Dr. Tompkins began his academic career at Berkeley, received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Nevada, and completed his doctoral studies in anthropology at the University of London. Shortly before service with the United States Navy in World War II he received a degree in librarianship at Berkeley. During this period he was also a physiotherapist, head trainer for the University



The Tompkinses and James D. Hart examining the Berkeley Citation

of Nevada's football team, a social worker, and first mate of the training schooner, *Wanderbird*, which rounded Cape Horn in 1936. He conducted field research in Mexico in 1939 and his ethnological studies led to the recovery of the Codex Fernández Leal, a gift to the Library from the Crocker family of San Francisco.

Following three years in which he served as Instructor in Berkeley's School of Librarianship and as a staff member of the University Library, Dr. Tompkins was appointed to the newly-created position of Head, Public Services in The Bancroft Library in July, 1950. The Bancroft itself had recently moved from its cramped quarters in the upper reaches of the Doe Library into the just-completed Library Annex, and it was Dr. Tompkins' responsibility to devise new procedures for operation and new regulations for use of materials; it is noteworthy that many of the methods so developed are in use today. Over the years, J. B., as he is familiarly known to scores of colleagues and patrons of the Library, devoted more and more of his time and energy to the bibliographic control of a rapidly-expanding collection of pictorial materials: lithographs, paintings, engravings, drawings, and photographs.

Upon the acquisition in 1964 of the famed Robert B. Honeyman, Jr. Collection of Western American Art, purchased jointly by The Regents of the University of California and

The Friends of The Bancroft Library, it became his responsibility not only to make such a treasure easy of access but also to display as much as possible on the walls of the Reading Room, offices, and processing areas. In October, 1972, Dr. Tompkins was named Curator of the Pictorial Collections. With the completion of the remodeling of the Library and the creation of the new Exhibition Gallery last year, J. B. and his lovely wife, Dorothy, spent countless evening and weekend hours hanging and labeling that portion of the collection now on view in the Gallery, the Heller Reading Room, and the administrative offices. In recognition of their long years of loyalty and devotion to the Library, they have been named to Honorary Membership in The Friends of The Bancroft Library.

Catalonian Manuscripts

A COLLECTION OF FORTY-SEVEN original Catalonian records, containing some fifty-three documents dating from the eleventh to the sixteenth centuries, has been purchased with funds provided by The Friends of The Bancroft Library and the Chancellor's Opportunity Fund. In content the acquisition may be described as a miscellany of legal instruments recording commissions, donations, sales, exchanges, payments, receipts and the like, which have evidently survived in old private archives still numerous in Catalonia.

Most of the items are well preserved parchments; four of the later ones are of paper, including some fragments of registers, and only seven of the pieces are incomplete or seriously mutilated. Their language is chiefly Latin, although a Latin often lapsing into the vernacular, as is characteristic of rustic instruments from medieval Catalonia; only one piece, dated 1497, is altogether in Catalan. The earliest item of the set is a lease of lands in the Berguedà, within view of the high Pyrenees, inscribed in the year 1031. No less than nine parchments of the years 1303 to 1357 pertain directly to Ramon d'Holm de Puigcastellar and his relations, and it is likely that some of the other pieces from neighboring parishes of the Berguedà belonged to the same collection.

Several of the later documents concern Caldes de Montbui, in the eastern Vallès, one or two deal with the city of Vich. Apart from Pope Alexander III, whose well-known foundation privilege for the Order of Santiago (1170) is represented in a late copy, the only personage of note who figures actively in the documents is Guerau de Cabrera, son of Count Ponç I of Urgell, who acknowledged receipt of eighty marcs of gold in the sale of his castle of Pinea on April 3d, 1270. But there is an arresting reference to one Arnau the minstrel (*menestral*) in a piece of 1208 from the upper Empordà that will surely interest literary historians; while the provincial commission for which Gabriel Alemany—"painter, citizen of Barcelona"—was paid sixty pounds in 1498 is well enough described to furnish useful details for the art historians.

The paucity of great figures is more than compensated by the wealth of information about ordinary people, whose names and transactions are precisely recorded, and whose properties are often identified and defined. The collection is perfectly representative of a great class of archival documentation that is fundamental to the study of social, economic, and institutional history, and, accordingly, these Catalonian records will be especially useful for instructional purposes. Moreover, an unpublished collection of this size cannot be safely neglected by the specialist, and since the collection of canon law being formed by the Law School's Robbins Fund has recently acquired microfilm of the capitular archives of Vich for the eleventh and twelfth centuries it can be said that medieval Catalonia is now unusually well-documented at Berkeley.

Edwin Moody Drawing

ON JULY 1ST, 1851, the steamship *Union* left San Francisco with 250 passengers and a cargo of \$270,000 in gold dust and headed for Panama. This was the third such voyage for the *Union*; the first two trips were made under the auspices of the People's Line and now she was sailing for the Independent Line. George Naunton, a member of the crew on this latest voyage, recalled, in 1908, that on the Fourth of July



"Wreck of the Steamship *Union* on the Coast of Lower California. July 5th, 1851"

"every soul on board but myself got gloriously drunk." His narration continued:

I was too sick to imbibe or no doubt I would have joined the celebration. July 5th the steamer ran ashore on the coast of Lower California, and by a special providence it happened at the only part of the coast for miles either way where there was a sandy beach.

All on board got safely to shore and later crossed the desert for forty miles to San Quentin Bay, where they were met by the steamer *Northerner* which had been sent to assist in the rescue.

Shown here is a lithograph depicting the wreck on July 5th, drawn by Edwin Moody and published by J. H. Bufford. Moody, who lived in San Francisco in the 1860's and 1870's and worked for the A. L. Bancroft Company as a lithographer and an engraver, sketched not only the wreck but also the rescue at San Quentin Bay, which was also published by J. H. Bufford. One of Moody's original renderings for the lithograph illustrating the wreck was discovered, shortly before his recent retirement, by Dr. John Barr Tompkins in the Will S. Brooks Collection. In his *California on Stone*

(1935), Harry T. Peters notes that "the original drawing [of the wreck] turned up in New York City a few years ago." At this time we are unable to establish whether this reference is to the sketch now in The Bancroft Library or whether there is another "original" for "Wreck of the Steamship *Union* on the Coast of Lower California, July 5th, 1851."

Marco Francis Hellman Fund

A SPECIAL ENDOWMENT FUND to support documentation of California history in several categories has been established as a memorial to Marco Francis Hellman, a prominent San Francisco financier, member of the University's Class of 1927, and cousin of Edward Hellman Heller, for whom the Bancroft's Reading Room is named.

The idea of the Fund was conceived, shortly before his own death last December, by Mr. Frederick L. Ehrman of New York, friend and Berkeley classmate and later brother-in-law of Marco Francis Hellman. The endowment planned by Mr. Ehrman, the former Chairman of the Board of Lehman Brothers, has now been brought into being by Mrs. Ehrman as a gift

from both of them and has been supplemented by members of the family, including her mother, Mrs. Jesse Koshland of San Francisco, whose late husband was graduated from the University in 1892. Other donors include Mr. Hellman's children, Mr. F. Warren Hellman, a member of the Class of 1955 and President of Lehman Brothers, and Mrs. Nancy Hellman Parish, as well as Mr. I. W. Hellman III, brother of Marco Francis Hellman, a graduate in the Class of 1920, and former President of Wells Fargo Bank.

These three generations of Californians have together created the Marco Francis Hellman Fund, a permanent endowment whose income will be used for the documentation of California economics, technology and science, placing emphasis on the business activities to which Mr. Hellman was dedicated and the California background that was so much in his heritage.

The Bancroft Fellows

THE COMPETITION among graduate students from all the University's campuses for the Bancroft Fellowships for 1974-1975 has resulted in awards to John Alan Lawrence and Eric Julian Van Young, both of the Berkeley campus, and to William Hickman Pickens of the Davis campus. Each of these doctoral candidates is engaged in research on subjects whose source materials are in The Bancroft Library.

Mr. Lawrence, a graduate of Oberlin College, is writing a thesis on the labor movement and working class culture in San Francisco from the sandlot, anti-Chinese riots of 1877 through the great teamster strike of 1901. His study will include an evaluation of the attempt, by the middle class population, to influence working class life through the temperance movement, religious and charitable organizations, and the educational system.

A graduate of the University of Chicago with a Master's degree from Berkeley, Mr. Van Young is a specialist in Latin American history, particularly the colonial period, and his dissertation is concerned with social and economic developments in the Guadalajara area in the eighteenth century. He has noted that many

sources to be found in the Bancroft's collections are unavailable in Mexican libraries.

Mr. Pickens holds both undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of New Mexico and is a student in the Department of History at Davis. His dissertation is titled "The Railroad Corporation as a Social Institution: The Central-Southern Pacific System in California, 1860-1900."

We welcome them to the Library where we expect to see them often in the Heller Reading Room.

Greenberry Miller Diary

ALTHOUGH A CENTURY and a quarter have passed since the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill at Coloma led to the great influx of the '49ers into California, fresh accounts of that migration continue to turn up and re-quick the insatiable thirst for knowledge of those frantic years. One such diary, kept by Dr. Greenberry Miller during the period of March 23d, 1849 to December 13th, 1850, has now been presented to The Bancroft Library by Miller's great-granddaughter, Mrs. Helen Miller MacMillan of Felton and by her father, Mr. Roy Wallace Miller of Saratoga.

A native of Illinois, Miller was born in 1817 and had completed four years of medical training before the journey to California. His vision was evidently keen and it was matched by the ability to distill what he observed into vivid prose. On June 20th, 1849, passing through the foothills of the Rockies, he encountered an Indian squaw with her family.

She was of Snake Indians and had married among the Sioux but because herself and husband did not agree parted and was now on her way back to her own nation. After our teams had started I remained behind amusing myself at beholding while she pack up her things on her ponies. She seemed to understand her business pretty well. She had three boys and a papoose. It appeared to be very young, was fastened to a board. The board was cut in the form of a circle at one end and gradually sloped off to the other end. This end might be called the foot, the feet of the

child coming down thereto. A cloth or piece of buckskin being fastened to it formed a kind of pocket into which this child was put. A bow extending over the head of the child and a cloth fastened to it formed a covering which breaks off the sun and keeps the dust out.

At the end of August, Miller's party had reached the Yuba River gold camps and started to pan.

This was a kind of new business to us, eager we were to see the yellow dust about which so much has been said, and has set, as it were, the world upside down and caused so many to emigrate to this country from various parts of the world.

Within the first two weeks Miller's party had accumulated "something like \$1,000," but they became dissatisfied by the mines and also by the Indians who "were becoming troublesome" by stealing cattle and horses. Feeling that the northern mines would be uncomfortable in the winter, the party left for the mines of the south, "they being considered the richest."

Miller returned to Chicago in 1851 and completed his courses at Rush Medical College; the last few leaves of the diary are filled with notes taken during his classes. He opened practice at Terre Haute, Indiana, and in February, 1853, married Caroline Patterson. Shortly afterwards the family moved to Oregon, and after the birth of their first son settled, finally, at Glen Ellen, in Sonoma County. Miller no longer practiced medicine, but devoted his attention to farming; he died in Glen Ellen just one hundred years ago.

Membership News

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, Norman H. Strouse, Chairman of the Council, noted that the Membership Committee had been diligent in assuring a steady growth for the organization, which now numbers almost 1700 members. His remarks continued:

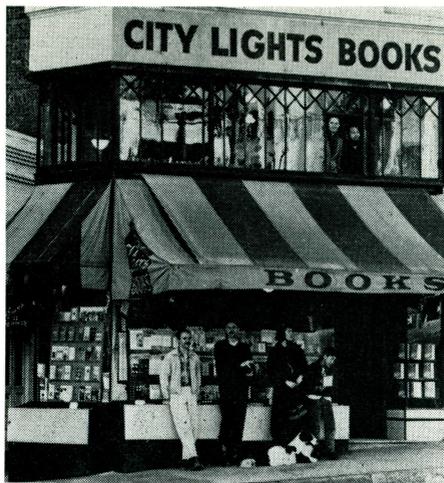
Some of our Friends are moving up to higher levels of membership, evidence of increasing interest and support, which also significantly

increases our funds available for special acquisitions. We hope you will give some consideration to this act of financial levitation as well. The Regular membership of \$15 just about takes care of the cost of operating the Friends organization, the special meetings, and the annual keepsake, with only a modest amount left over to assist in acquisition of rare materials. When you move up from Regular membership to Supporting at \$35 the increased amount of the gift goes fully to acquisitions. So you see, if you should decide to become a Sustaining member at \$100, or, bless you, a Patron at \$250, a rare book or manuscript of considerable significance could be added to the Bancroft's treasures through your own action alone. And if you look at it from an after-tax standpoint the Government pays part of the costs, so it isn't too very much out-of-pocket after all, and so for myself, nothing gives me greater pleasure than to oblige the government to spend some of my money my way—in other words, "For the glory of Bancroft."

As a further incentive, those Friends who do increase their membership category will receive a special bonus in the form of a keepsake of their choice from the list of those still available.

City Lights Archives

IN THE YEARS FOLLOWING World War II, San Francisco became the center of an intense literary activity, known popularly as the San Francisco Renaissance. There emerged a new school of poets, most of whom had migrated from elsewhere in the United States to this area where they found an atmosphere highly receptive to experimental writing. Many of them, critical of society and its values, restless and disillusioned, following a life style totally alien to accepted standards, were dubbed the "beat" writers. But all shared in common a desire to free writing from stringent academic form, and the practitioners were as varied in style as James Broughton, Robert Duncan, William Everson (Brother Antoninus), Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac, Philip Lamantia, Gary Snyder, and Philip Whalen.



Ferlinghetti and Shig Muroa in upper window

The pace of literary activity in the city quickened considerably in 1953 when Lawrence Ferlinghetti, another poet-emigrant from the east, founded City Lights Books, the first all-paperback bookstore in the country. Located in North Beach on Columbus Avenue, the shop soon became one of the leading avant-garde centers in the city, and a meeting place for the “beat” poets. It was Ferlinghetti who put many of them into print for the first time when, in 1955, the bookshop began to publish paperbacks as well as sell them. First to appear was a book of Ferlinghetti’s own poems, *Pictures of the Gone World*, in the “Pocket Poet” series which, in time, included works of Kenneth Rexroth, Allen Ginsberg, Kenneth Patchen, William Carlos Williams, Robert Duncan, Gregory Corso, Frank O’Hara, Malcolm Lowry, Bob Kaufman, Philip Lamantia, and others.

A number of prose paperbacks were also published under the City Lights imprint, including Kerouac’s *Book of Dreams*, Michael McClure’s *Meat Science Essays*, Alan Watts’ *Beat Zen, Square Zen & Zen*, Paul Bowles’ *Hundred Camels in the Courtyard*, and *The Yage Letters* by William S. Burroughs and Allen Ginsberg.

City Lights and Allen Ginsberg made the national literary scene in 1957 when copies of Ginsberg’s poem *Howl*, published by City

Lights in 1956, were confiscated by San Francisco police from the bookstore, and Ferlinghetti and his clerk were arrested and charged with selling obscene and indecent literature. The seizure generated storms of protest over censorship, and the trial, in which Jake Ehrlich and the American Civil Liberties Union represented the defendants, made national headlines and drew capacity crowds. San Francisco Municipal Court Judge Clayton W. Horn dismissed the charges, ruling that the volume was not lewd or pornographic. His thirty-nine-page decision, studded with erudite quotations from other obscenity cases and warning of the dangers of government censorship, was hailed with applause and cheers.

This lively literary ferment, in all its aspects, is well-documented in the archives of City Lights, both bookstore and publishing company, purchased in part with funds made available by The Friends of The Bancroft Library and by University Regent William M. Roth. The correspondence files are rich in letters from the young radical poets, from some of the more established authors sympathetic to the new movement, as well as from other publishers, editors of “little” magazines (which also experienced a postwar rebirth), printers with hand-presses, and other bookstore operators following in the wake of City Lights—all attesting to the vitality and group-consciousness of this contemporary literary renaissance.

1973 Keepsake Chosen “Western Book”

THE ROUNCE & COFFIN CLUB of Los Angeles has selected last year’s keepsake, *Some Treasures of The Bancroft Library*, as one of the Western Books for 1973. Since 1938 the club has selected books, of varying subject matter, reflecting outstanding design and craftsmanship, which it feels are excellent examples of bookmaking from presses of the West. *Some Treasures* is the tenth of the Friends’ publications to have won this award; other volumes which have been so honored are:

Overland to California on the Southwestern Trail, 1849 (1950)

The Mariposa Indian War, 1850–1851 (1957)
Mexico: Ancient and Modern (1962)
A Journey to California, 1841 (1964)
Captain Charles M. Weber (1966)
Valley of Salt, Memories of Wine (1967)
A Kid on the Comstock (1968)
The Life of George Henry Goddard, Artist, Architect, Surveyor, and Map Maker (1969)
The Great Landslide Case (1972)

With the exception of *The Mariposa Indian War, 1850–1851*, printed by the University of Utah Press, all of these volumes were printed by Lawton Kennedy, the most recent few in partnership with his son, Alfred.

Yerba Buena Controversy

A RECENTLY ACQUIRED collection of the papers of Benjamin Brooks deals with the efforts by this prominent San Francisco attorney to have himself declared a legal owner of Yerba Buena, following his purchase, in 1866, of a portion of the island in San Francisco Bay. The controversy surrounding the title had erupted in the first year of California’s statehood when President Fillmore issued a proclamation reserving the island for military use. The military did not subsequently utilize the island and in 1855, when the Van Ness Ordinance relinquished all city claims to lands within San Francisco’s corporate limits to parties in actual possession, title to Yerba Buena went to one Thomas H. Dowling.

Congress ratified the Van Ness Ordinance on July 4th, 1864, allowing one year from passage during which the President could set aside areas within the city of San Francisco for military purposes. Although this year had already passed, in 1867 President Johnson declared that a military post was essential for the island, and occupants were evicted by Presidential order. At this point Brooks retained the services of a New York lobbyist, David S. Turner, for only by an act of Congress could Brooks be named the legal owner. The matter of ownership was further complicated by the desire of the Central Pacific Railroad to gain exclusive rights to the island as a western terminus for its operations, and so it proposed that Yerba Buena be ac-

quired for “military or other public uses,” i.e. for the railroad itself.

The bulk of the correspondence, from Turner to Brooks (448 letters dating from 1868 to 1877), is perhaps the most illuminating portion of the collection. Turner wrote frequently of his visits to various members of the Congress, especially to the two Senators from California, Eugene Casserly and Cornelius Cole; he expressed dismay at the “treachery” of Cole when the latter introduced a bill favorable to the railroad in 1869 (Brooks had thought Cole sympathetic to his cause); and he commented on many of the minor political intrigues of the day. Other letters in the collection come from Samuel Ward, “King of the Lobby,” who also acted for Brooks. On April 7th, 1870, Ward informed Brooks that the hydrographer of the Coast Guard, “has reported against a railroad bridge to the island as destructive to the harbor,” thus scotching the plans of both the Central Pacific Railroad and Brooks, who had hoped to develop the island commercially. The federal government remained the sole occupant of Yerba Buena.

Aside from the correspondence, the Benjamin Brooks Papers include accounts from eastern newspapers regarding the controversy, and several rare pamphlets relating to Yerba Buena which greatly enlarge the Library’s holdings in this area of San Francisco history.

“Beloved Morse Stephens”

PERHAPS THE ONE MAN in Berkeley most responsible for the University’s purchase, in 1905, of Hubert Howe Bancroft’s monumental collection of books and manuscripts dealing with the western portion of North America was Henry Morse Stephens, an Anglo-Californian whose legacy to his adopted university was manifold. Born in Edinburgh in 1857, educated at Haileybury College and at Balliol College, Oxford, he achieved early distinction in the field of journalism and as a brilliant lecturer and author. His professional career began at Cambridge University, from where he was called to a professorship at Cornell University. At Ithaca one of his closest colleagues was Benjamin Ide



Henry Morse Stephens by F. C. Cochran

Wheeler, Professor of Classics, and soon after Wheeler left for Berkeley in 1899, to become the University of California's eighth President, Stephens joined him, ostensibly to take charge of the University's Extension Division, then in its infancy.

Interest on the part of members of the faculty to purchase The Bancroft Library had been strong, and as early as December, 1898, Professor Charles Mills Gayley of the Department of English had written to the University Librarian: "I have no hesitation in saying that the acquisition of The Bancroft Library would be one of the greatest benefits historical and literary that could accrue to the University." But it was Stephens, as Professor of European History, whose voice was strongest in arguing for the acquisition. He aroused the interest of several of the Regents, notably Rudolph J. Tausig, President of the Mechanics Institute of San Francisco, and he made a series of calls on the Bancrofts to discuss with them the advantages of having the collection at Berkeley. These conversations led to an offer on the part of Hubert Howe Bancroft to contribute \$100,000 toward the purchase price of \$250,000.

Until the completion of California Hall in the spring of 1906, which would provide

proper housing for the collection, the Library remained in Bancroft's Valencia Street building in San Francisco; its location in the Mission district, away from the conflagration that engulfed the city on April 18th, enabled it to escape destruction. In May the Library came across the Bay, and President Wheeler remarked:

The purchase of The Bancroft Library marks a great day in the history of the University. . . . It means the inevitable establishment at Berkeley of the center for future research in the history of Western America; it means the creation of a school of historical study at the University of California . . . for the State of California it means rescue from the threatened danger of having the fundamental and unreplaceable documents of its earliest history carried as spoils outside its boundaries.

Stephens took charge of the Library, and a year later it was reported that "remarkable progress has been made by Prof. Henry Morse Stephens and his corps of student assistants in editing and classifying the manuscripts." During 1907 Stephens was also instrumental in having established the Academy of Pacific Coast History, a group of private citizens whose financial contributions supported the activities of the Library. Between 1909 and 1919, the year of Stephens' death, the Academy issued four volumes of publications, consisting largely of edited documents drawn from the manuscripts collection. Included were translations of diaries written by Miguel Costanso and Vicente Vila, members of the Portolá Expedition of 1769-1770, the diary kept by Patrick Breen while traveling to California with the Donner Party, and the Papers of the San Francisco Committee of Vigilance of 1851.

Aside from his activities in The Bancroft Library, Stephens pursued an active teaching career; in 1912 he was named to the newly-created Sather Professorship in History. Students came to Berkeley from all sections of the west to study in his courses for even in his large lecture class, in which more than 750 students were enrolled, he had the rare gift of making each individual feel that the lecture was being

addressed to him personally. Membership in his small classes was a much-sought privilege, more for the resulting acquaintance with the "English-Californian" than merely for the subject matter he covered.

Grieving over the death of his close friend and the University's great benefactor, Regent Phoebe Apperson Hearst, Stephens was returning from her funeral in San Francisco on April 16th, 1919 when he dropped dead of an apparent heart attack. In keeping with his wishes, funeral services were held under the oak trees in Faculty Glade, those same trees which he had viewed from his tower room in the Faculty Club, a room he had had built for his use in the summer of 1904. Honorary pallbearers included United States Senator James D. Phelan and President Wheeler, whose comment on hearing of Stephens' death had been: "Dearly beloved Morse Stephens, great teacher and scholar, great heart and friend, how empty and hollow this world seems tonight without you."

By the terms of his will, Stephens left his property to the University of California; this included a library of well over 12,000 volumes, many of which are now in the Bancroft's Rare Books Collection. A special exhibition honoring Stephens, including items from his unique *Rubaiyat* collection as well as material from his papers held by the Manuscripts Division and records from the University Archives, has been created in the Library's Joseph C. Rowell Exhibition Case, where it may be viewed through September.

Seminars in the Bancroft

SINCE THE FALL QUARTER of 1973 the Library's handsome Seminar Room has been heavily used for classes, the materials for which are in large part to be found in the Bancroft's collections of books, manuscripts, maps, and pictures. Not only have departments such as Classics, Dramatic Art, English, Ethnic Studies, Geography, History, and Librarianship scheduled seminars in the room, but the Library's staff have created special exhibitions for students from neighboring schools, notably the University of the Pacific and the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Subjects of these seminars and exhibitions have ranged from Latin American history to Tudor and Stuart theater, from medieval France to the history of printing. The Library is pleased that it is now able to extend its role in the teaching program of the University by offering this facility.

Keepsakes Available

ISSUANCE OF AN ANNUAL KEEPSAKE to members of the Friends began in 1949 with the publication of *The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, February second, 1848*, edited by George P. Hammond. The book went out of print, as did the following six keepsakes, soon after publication. New members have found it difficult to build up complete files of the keepsakes, but copies turn up in antiquarian bookstores occasionally, usually at prices of \$30 or more.

Copies of several of the more recent keepsakes are still in print, and by action of the Council are now offered to Friends at the following prices:

Stockton Boyhood, being the reminiscences of Carl Ewald Grunsky, which cover the years from 1855 to 1877, edited by Clotilde Grunsky Taylor, 1959, \$15.00

American Images of Spanish California by James D. Hart, 1960, \$12.50

The Ralston-Fry Wedding and the wedding journey to Yosemite May 20, 1858, from the diary of Miss Sarah Haight (Mrs. Edward Tompkins) edited by Francis P. Farquhar, 1961, \$17.50

Mexico: Ancient and Modern, as represented by a selection of works in The Bancroft Library; an exhibition celebrating the acquisition of the Silvestre Terrazas Collection, 1962, \$12.50

Rose, or Rose Thorn? Three women of Spanish California by Susanna Bryant Dakin, 1963, \$17.50

GPH: An Informal Record of George P. Hammond and his Era in The Bancroft Library, 1965, \$15.00

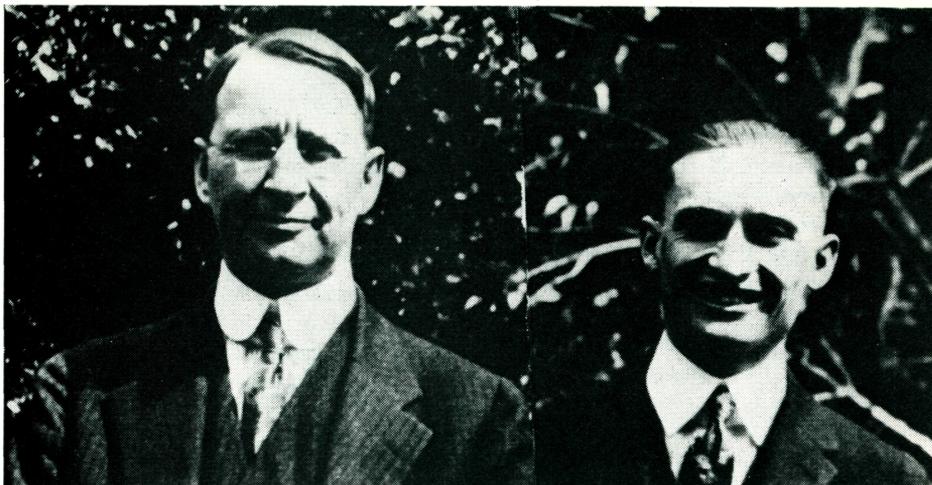
Desert Rats remembered by Charles L. Camp, 1966, \$15.00

Valley of Salt, Memories of Wine; a journal of Death Valley, 1849, by Louis Nusbaumer; edited by George Koening, 1967, \$17.50

A Kid on the Comstock, by John Taylor Waldorf; edited by Dolores Waldorf Bryant, 1968, \$20.00

A Sailor's Sketch of the Sacramento Valley in 1842, by John Yates, with an introduction by Ferol Egan, 1971, \$20.00

The Great Landslide Case by Mark Twain, with editorial comment by Frederick Anderson and Edgar M. Branch, 1972, \$20.00



Professor Herbert Eugene Bolton, Director of The Bancroft Library, with his graduate student, George Peter Hammond, in the spring of 1922. Professor Hammond was named Director of the Bancroft in 1946.

Orders, accompanied by checks including applicable sales tax, may be sent to the Secretary, The Friends of The Bancroft Library, Berkeley, 94720.

Gertrude Stein Exhibition

IN COMMEMORATION of the centenary of the birth of Gertrude Stein, a special exhibition will be on view in the Library's Gallery from July 15th through August 30th. Aside from materials selected from the Bancroft's own extensive Stein collections, the exhibition will include imprints and photographs of productions of Stein's operas and plays from the collection of Mr. Paul Padgette of San Francisco.

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

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