The aim of any good library is to attract students and scholars who will come to it for the purpose of carrying on research which requires the use of materials not obtainable elsewhere. With this in mind, the library at the Rice Institute has, throughout its history, stocked its shelves with rare and valuable books; and in recent years this policy has been intensified and expanded, so that the Fondren Library is now purchasing worthwhile manuscripts as well as bound volumes. The two recent acquisitions described in this issue by Messrs. Craig and Phillips furnish an indication of the kind of manuscript documents which are now housed in the library, and the Axson Collection of Restoration and Eighteenth Century drama is the largest single collection of rare books which we possess.
Nevertheless, there are a number of other items which Friends of the Fondren Library would like to know about, so we have asked several members of the faculty to prepare short articles describing some of the rare books and manuscripts in their fields. The first of these articles will appear in the October issue of the FLYLEAF, and our plan is to include at least one article in each number next year. It is hoped that through their comments we shall become more acutely aware of our needs as well as of our attributes.

W. S. D.
The Rice Institute has recently purchased from Mrs. Ora Osterhout Wade of Belton, Texas, the papers of her father, John Patterson Osterhout (1826-1903), and her brother, Dr. Paul Osterhout (1859-1944). John Patterson Osterhout migrated to Texas in 1851 from Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania. He became a judge on the Texas frontier, served as an officer in the Confederate army in Texas throughout the Civil War, and was one of the leaders of the Republican party in Texas from 1868-1890. His letters shed much light on the social, political, and economic life of Texas in the second half of the nineteenth century. Dr. John Osterhout, a graduate of Baylor College and the University of Pennsylvania medical school, settled in Nicaragua in 1889 and later moved to Panama, where he was active in the fight against yellow fever during the digging of the canal. A number of letters from the Osterhout relatives in Pennsylvania are included in the collection. The Osterhout collection should prove a valuable source of research for the historian.

E. H. Phillips
The Library has recently acquired a collection of letters and papers, mainly addressed to Mr. John Campbell of Seguin and dating from 1830 to 1890. These documents were almost miraculously saved from being burned as waste paper.

Besides a large number of letters, there are hundreds of receipts, bills, and legal documents of all sorts. The papers would form a splendid source for a study of business life in a small Texas city of a century ago. There are half a dozen letters signed by Anson Jones, the only prominent name so far discovered in them. A considerable number come from Ireland, which was John Campbell's native country, and others are from Canada and Mexico.

One 1873 letter from Wind River Valley, Wyoming Territory, speaks of the "Red Raskels" who had scalped the writer's partner. Another group come from Civil War times, including such nuggets as the letter from a private in a Texas
5.

regiment serving in Virginia who says to his wife that he "wold have rote to you bafor now but we ware on a march for a month in pursue of the yankies in this state and had to march day and night to over take them."

All in all, not a great collection perhaps, but an interesting one which should provide many hours of occupation for the interested student.

H. C.

MANUSCRIPTS OF BOOKS BY RICE PROFESSORS

Two recent gifts of unusual interest are the manuscripts of books by Professors DeZurko and Vandiver. Professor DeZurko placed the typescript of his Origins of Functionalist Theory in the Fondren Library. The book was published last Fall by the Columbia University Press. Professor Vandiver gave to the library the corrected typescript, page proof, and final printer's copy of Mighty Stonewall.
RECENTLY ACQUIRED WORKS AWAITING SPONSORSHIP BY FRIENDS


Amours of Messalina. London: Lyford, 1689. $30.00.


Irene Taylor Allen, Saga of Anderson; the Proud Story of a Historic Texas Community. New York, Greenwich, 1957. $4.50.


Mrs. Dinah Maria (Mulock) Craik, John Halifax, Gentleman. 3 vols. London: Hurst, 1856. $15.00.

Thomas Brice, the History and Description, Ancient and Modern, of the City of Exeter. Exeter: By the Author, 1802. $3.97.

"Philip II was reluctant to lend books and hated to see them leave the library, not because he was a booklover but because he was a collector of books.

The books in the library were arranged with their titles to the wall and their gilt fore-edges outward, a method, I was told, that has existed since the Escorial was built. The effect is that of a wall lined with gold. But it is a system that would worry most people, for not only is it impossible to find a book without reference to a list and its numbered place on the shelves, but a thief could also easily abstract a book and replace it by any book with gilt edges and the theft would not easily be discovered. Beautiful as they look, books with their faces to the wall appear to me as if in disgrace."

--Henry Vollam Morton

A Stranger in Spain
9.

GIFTS

Chaille Rice Literary Society
Gift for purchase of records for music room

Owen Wister Literary Society
Gift for purchase of southwestern and western history (Memorial to Ann Calhoun Lewis)

Sarah Lane Literary Society Alumnae
Gift for purchase of records for music room

Rice Institute Pre-Medical Society, Class of 1957
Guggenheim. Die biogenen amine

Current Study Club
Annual gift for purchase of books

National Assn. of Corrosion Engineers
Collection of books and periodicals on corrosion

National Council of Catholic Women, Galveston Diocesan Council
Annual gift for maintenance of subscriptions to periodicals

United Daughters of the Confederacy, Texas Division, Dist. 1
Robert E. Lee Chapter
Cash gift for purchase of books & three volumes on the confederacy
10.

GIFTS

John A. S. Adams
3 geological maps

Sister M. Agatha
5 volumes current non-fiction

James P. Baughman
Shepard. The lore of the unicorn

A. C. Chandler
Phelps. Aves Venezolanas

Lawrence Cowles
Fauna of the USSR. Arachnida, v. 4, no. 2

Raemon Wilson Craig
Collection of non fiction

Collection of letters from her grandfather, Hugh H. Wilson written 1859-1874

Acker. Prints of the past from Mobile

Dr. & Mrs. Robert Friedman
Works of Epictetus, 2v.

Hubert Guyod
Geologisches jahrbuch, v. 74

Arthur Hall
2 phonograph records

William M. Hart
6 volumes non-fiction

Sven F. Helland
Rice Institute publications

W. P. Hobby, Jr.
Confederate centennial studies, no. 5

Karl Hoblitzelle
The Esther Thomas Hoblitzelle collection of English Silver, by Mary Kennedy

Ima Hogg
Biographical sketch of James Stephen Hogg
11.

GIFTS

Humble Oil & Refining Co.  Formation evaluation, a symposium...
File of technical periodicals

Reuben C. Johnson  The flying owls; Rice Institute from the air

Rainer Kogon  Publications of IBM Corporation

Mrs. B. M. Kuminir  Opera News, 1956-57

Howard McGaw  Neblett. No peace with the regulars

Alan D. McKillop  Thomson, James. Letters and documents, ed. by A.D. McKillop

Fleming Mays  Collection of periodicals

Mrs. J. R. Mooney  Longan. Parliamentary rules

Andrew F. Muir  Historical magazine of the Protestant Episcopal Church, 1957

William H. Nelson  Gibbon. Decline and fall of the Roman Empire, ed. by Bury, v.1-2

Mrs. Hugo Neuhaus, Sr.  Microfilm file Christian Science Monitor, continuing subscription

Patrick J. Nicholson, III  Social directory of Houston, 1957

GIFTS

James W. Phillips
E. Pat Quinn
Theodore Seewann
Shell Oil Company
Julia Bishop Smith
A. C. Stimson
Texas Company
Frank Vandiver
Adele Waggaman

IN HONOR OF DR. SCHACHTEL

A gift has been received from Mrs. Belle M. Kuminii; for the purchase of a book in honor of Hyman Judah Schactel on the occasion of his receiving an honorary Doctorate of Divinity from Hebrew Union College.
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