



T H E F L Y L E A F

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THE FLYLEAF

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ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

WATCH FOR YOUR BALLOT IN THE MAIL!

Since the Friends will not meet again until next fall, officers for the coming year will be elected by mail. All members holding membership cards for 1951-52 will receive a ballot within a few days with the slate suggested by the nominating committee and space to write in other names. Please return this ballot promptly before some of us disperse for the summer.

DESIDERATA

AN UNUSUAL COLLECTION: An English dealer recently offered us a collection of parodies, 110 volumes in all, which has been sent to us at a prospective cost of \$51.80. The collection is built around the once famous work of Horace and James Smith, Rejected Addresses, published anonymously in 1812, and frequently reprinted and imitated. Many of the editions and imitations are in this lot -- Rejected Odes, Accepted Addresses, American Rejected Addresses, etc. There is also a long series of Martin and Aytoun's Bon Gaultier Ballads (sixteen or more editions from 1845 to 1903), and works in this kind by Calverley, Swinburne, J. C. Squire and others. Frivolous as these works may seem, Joe Lee Davis has recently made a brilliant plea for parody "as a unique combination of both creative and cognitive criticism. . . . To employ Menck-

en's analogy, the writing of it involves the katharsis not only of laying an egg but also of throwing it" ("Criticism and Parody", Thought: Fordham University Quarterly, XXVI, 1951, 181). We think this collection would make a novel and distinctive gift for Fondren.

AUTOGRAPHS: Since the subject of autographs has not been touched on here before, perhaps we should hasten to explain that we do not mean just signatures in albums, but association pieces comparable in interest and significance to association copies of books. The imagination, which after all figures in education, may often be touched by a document. Here are some offerings on which we have an option; we use the dealer's description.

Alexander Pope. - Receipt for payment of two guineas, the first payment for a subscription "for the Translation of Homer's Iliads". The name of James Eckersall, Esq. is in Pope's hand as well as the signature. \$35.00.

Samuel Johnson. - Two lines of Latin verse in his hand, and portion of an address sheet sent to Mrs. Lucy Porter in Lichfield. Because of the enormous interest in the Johnson circle, his letters have almost entirely disappeared from the market. \$45.00

Leigh Hunt. - Autograph letter signed, written from Surrey Jail during the writer's imprisonment, May 3, 1813. \$20.00

Sir Walter Scott. - Autograph letter signed. (London), "Tuesday", (1820). To Thomas Frognall Dibdin. \$15.00

Joseph Conrad. - Autograph letter signed. Oswalds, Kent; October 17, 1921. To J. C. Squire. Interesting

letter relating probably to a critical article sent to the editor of the London Mercury. Conrad compares the technique of narrative writing with the art of seamanship. \$27.50

MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE: The following works were bid for and obtained at a New York auction, on the recommendation of the Mathematics Department. They deserve sponsorship for their scientific and historical significance.

Augustin Louis Cauchy, Nouveaux Exercices de Mathématique. Prague, 1835. "Interesting work by one of the greatest mathematical investigators of the time, published while living at Prague as tutor to the Comte de Chambord." \$13.20

Jean Baptiste Joseph Fourier, Theorie Analytique de la Chaleur. Paris, 1822. Presentation copy from the estate of Joseph Henry to Benjamin Pierce. \$82.50

Pierre Duham, Traite d'Energetique, ou de Thermodynamique Generale. Paris, 1911. \$6.05

Alexis Claude Clairaut, Theorie de la Figure de la Terre. Paris, 1743. \$17.60

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Our bibliographical item for the month: Essays Honoring Lawrence C. Wroth. Portland, Maine, 1951. A scholarly and finely printed tribute to an eminent American bibliographer. \$22.50

AN EARLY ATLAS: Well worth your consideration is the little Ortelius atlas, Epitome Theatri Orteliani. Antwerp, 1601. \$37.50. This might appeal to some member who is particularly interested in early maps.

THE NEW YORKER: On looking into the attractive little publication Books at Brown, passed on to us by Jim Whitcomb, we noticed an appeal for old issues of The New Yorker. This moved us to see how we stood in that esteemed publication. Fondren's files begin in 1934. Issues in and before that year, single numbers, or short or long runs, would be most welcome.

RARITY IS NOT ENOUGH: We are not trying for the works of G. A. Henty or other juvenilia, but we noted an interesting comment in a catalogue from a dealer in Newcastle-on-Tyne. He offers Henty, The Tiger of Mysore, "a very fine fresh copy. Has the original printed wrapper," etc. His comment follows:

First editions of Henty with dust-wrappers are of great rarity. I cannot remember seeing one for very many years. As an example of the fact that rarity (as Nurse Cavell said of patriotism) is not enough, one could point to the fact that in this state the Henty is rarer than the first edition of Boswell's Johnson or even the First Folio Shakespeare. "Elementary, my dear Watson!"

* * *

GIFTS

Although the last issue of the Flyleaf appeared only recently, many interesting gifts have been received since that time. The largest gift in physical size is certainly a bound file of The Commercial and Financial Chronicle from 1881 to 1941, occupying some fifty linear feet of shelf space. The Economics Department reports that this file should be quite useful in research into such phenomena as business cycles.

This comes as a gift of the Houston Cotton Exchange and Board of Trade through the good offices of Henry L. Gossman, Vice-President and Secretary.

Another interesting collection of research material has been sent to us by Mrs. Minnie Rice Bixler of Mobile. This collection consists of some five large boxes containing neatly arranged and classified clippings dealing with the theater.

From Noyes D. Smith have come a number of long runs of important technical periodicals. Additions to the recently announced collection of old songs and sheet music have been presented by Ray Wood, Mrs. W. C. Allen, Rosie Horton, and Julia Bishop Smith. The Rice Hillel has presented \$70.00 for the purchase of books, periodicals and records dealing with Jewish culture.

Periodical subscriptions are always welcome when there is assurance that they will be continued. The Danforth Foundation has given such assurance for subscriptions to Motive, Presbyterian Life, and Religion in Life, selected by the Foundation's Rice representative, Mr. Dowden. Jonathan Lane, a member of the Patience cast, has presented complete recordings of the Mikado and Patience in honor of the Rice Gilbert and Sullivan group. The first major response to our appeal for geological material has come from Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Sherar, - a large collection of books including a number of important geological surveys.

Several interesting first editions have come in during the month: from William H. McCarthy, Jr., an association copy of Willa Cather's April Twilights, her first published volume, with the signature of her friend, Louise Pound; from E. F. Kalb, Sir Walter Scott's Antiquary; and from Miss Vivian Jones, H. G.

Well's Boon. Individual volumes and small collections have been donated by Edward Bailey, George D. Blocher, Mrs. Ralph D. Looney, Adrian Pauw, Miss Elma Schneider, Charles F. Squire, Ruben Weltsch, and M. Haltom Wray.

MEMORIAL GIFTS: Four different people requested the privilege of presenting the ten-volume Interpreter's Bible. Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Brown called first, and this carefully annotated Bible will be added to the Fondren Library collections in memory of Walter F. Brown.

Several other titles requested in the last Fly-leaf have been chosen as memorials: the ten-volume Moliere by Mr. and Mrs. Fred V. Shelton in memory of William Carr Davis, Sr. and Neil Baxter Gardner; Jennett's The Making of Books and Bennett's Guide to Nineteenth Century Color Plate Books by Mr. and Mrs. Raymond A. Cook in memory of Mrs. David Hannah, Sr. and Mrs. Edgar Odell Lovell; the handsome private press edition of Endymion by Mrs. Lela Goar Davis in memory of Roy F. Davis; and Bennett's Books and Printing by John Baker Prickett in memory of Howard Emil Wright.

Other memorial gifts have been presented by Mr. and Mrs. James L. Whitcomb and Mrs. Joseph C. Brown in memory of Randolph Fairfax Crow; R. B. Everett & Company in memory of J. M. Jackson; Mrs. Hally Bryan Perry in memory of Mrs. Edgar Odell Lovett; Nell Willman and John Blodgett Davis in memory of Ann McHale; Julia Picton in memory of David M. Picton, Jr.; Mary Patty Sigler and H. O. Nicholas in memory of Jessamine Lewis Sigler.

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This list includes only the names of active members of the Friends, - those who have paid dues in cash or in gifts of books during the 1951-52 membership year. Donors of one hundred dollars or more become life members; other memberships are on an annual basis.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

May 27, 1952

Balance, Cash on Deposit, May 29, 1951 \$ 125.88

Receipts: Dues and Donations

87 at \$ 2.00	\$ 174.00
5 at 4.00	20.00
3 at 5.00	15.00
39 at 10.00	390.00
3 at 12.15	36.45
2 at 15.00	30.00
15 at 25.00	375.00
1 at 50.00	50.00
2 at 100.00	200.00
2 at 500.00	<u>1,000.00</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS

2,290.45

2,416.33

Disbursements:

Postage	19.09
Mimeographing	169.65
<u>Flyleaf</u> Covers	71.00
Invitations	61.83
Mailing Permit	10.00
Membership Cards	17.65
Equipment Rental	<u>4.00</u>

353.22

Amount turned over
to the Librarian
for the Book Fund 1,525.00

1,878.22

Balance, Cash on Deposit, May 27, 1952

\$ 538.11

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