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Syracuse University
Library Associates

COURIER

NUMBER 8

NOVEMBER, 1960

“Jenkins’ Ear”

An interesting and historically important group of nine publications was recently purchased to supplement source materials dealing with the war between England and Spain, 1739-1748, commonly called the “War of Jenkins’ Ear.”

In 1738, English trading interests were meeting resistance by the Spaniards to alleged abuse of trading rights in the latter’s colonial ports. A resounding clamor against Prime Minister Sir Robert Walpole’s government followed the parade of one Robert Jenkins through the streets of London carrying a shriveled ear which he declared he had lost seven years earlier. Jenkins claimed that while he was master of the brig “Rebecca” off the coast of Cuba, a Spanish captain had boarded and cut off his ear. For political reasons John Milton’s *A Manifesto of the Lord Protector . . . Wherein is Shown the Reasonableness of the Cause of This Republic Against the Depredations of the Spaniards . . .* was revived. First published in 1655 as a protest against Spain’s molestations of English shipping in the West Indies, the Library’s copy is a 1738 reprint of Milton’s pamphlet. An account of Spain’s interference with England’s shipping appears in *Spanish Treachery, Baseness and Cruelty . . . or Reasons for an Immediate War with Spain*, published at London in 1739.

Pushed by public agitation against Jenkins’ disfigurement and other Spanish depredations, Sir Walpole began a war with Spain in 1739, the War of Jenkins’ Ear. The Prime Minister defended his policy in *The Grand Question, Whether War or no War with Spain, Impartially Considered: In Defence of the Present Measures Against Those that Delight in War* (London, 1739).

Other tracts acquired for the Library relate to an expedition of the British fleet to Italy, to an exposé of the weakness of Spain, and to a charge that Spanish depredations in America were instigated by France in order to safeguard the latter’s trade. Another pamphlet published anonymously attacked Sir Walpole for the British reverses in the War. Included in the group of publications is the Convention between Great Britain and Spain and an anonymous defense of the Prime Minister’s policy entitled *Popular Prejudices Against the Convention and Treaty With Spain*, both published at London in 1739.

Invitation to Alumni

The most essential building on any campus is the library; its content is a resource without which a university cannot exist. The written word is still the chief means of advancing knowledge, whether the words are chiseled on ancient stone tablets or reproduced on microfilm.

The spectacular growth since World War II of the University's graduate schools, now comprising nearly one-half of the student population, emphasizes the need to make available the tools of scholarship far beyond the requirements of an undergraduate school. To the extent these tools of scholarship are available in our library, the scholars of the world, whether teachers, graduate students, or undergraduates, will beat a path to this campus and into the library.

Library Associates was founded about seven years ago, inspired by Chancellor Tolley who recognized the urgent need to accelerate the growth of the University's Library. The group has enjoyed a steady, if modest, growth since that time. We must now "explode" as has our student and faculty population.

The University itself has given a tremendous impetus to the growth of its collections. During the past four years it has been possible to nearly double the annual increase in volumes added to the Library, from about 18,000 in 1956 to approximately 34,000 in the year just ended.

The magnificent gifts of George Arents, Frederick Hier, Phillips Bradley, Donald Bean, and others have enriched our collections. Some noteworthy memorial gifts have also added considerably to our resources.

Above all, however, we must establish and maintain communication about the Library with you Alumni. I feel we have been remiss in not telling you until now the story of our library needs. Where we have done this in local alumni clubs, we have found them eager to help the University improve the academic program by strengthening the Library. You will find that many members of your local alumni groups are receptive to a project of supporting library development just as Alumni have responded to appeals for support of their athletic teams.

Here is a blueprint for action I would like to submit to you to take up with your alumni groups: First, appoint a representative or a committee of members in your club who have the interest and time to supervise the project and maintain liaison between your local Alumni and Library Associates. Second, constitute each local Alumnus a "book scout" to locate and influence owners to donate desirable books, manuscripts and other source materials to the University Library.

This does not mean you should go searching attics in the hope of locating a copy of *Tamerlane* or the Gutenberg Bible. The great book rarities have largely gravitated to institutions and relatively few now appear even in the book market. However, you can locate for the University hundreds of books of a more commonplace pedigree including biographies, travel books, literary criticism and historical works urgently needed to fill gaps in the Library's collections. It may be that some alumni clubs will want to adopt as a project the formation of a collection of your local and regional historical material. This might include county and state histories, diaries, and reminiscences of early settlers, commercial histories, letters, and in fact anything which will evidence the social, political, and economic development of your particular geographical area. You can receive helpful suggestions from your local historical associations, book dealers, and collectors. Nearly every community can produce a collection of three or four hundred volumes which would be useful to scholars and historians at Syracuse University.

Your project chairman should develop your project in consultation with Mr. Wayne Yenawine, the Director of Libraries at Syracuse University, who will cooperate and give you every assistance. When the collection which your local alumni club forms is sent on to the Library, each volume

will be bookplated to indicate the source of the gift. Your alumni club will, I am sure, be pleased to make a permanent contribution in support of academic excellence at Syracuse University.

DAVID A. FRASER
Vice Chairman,
Library Associates

(Editor's Note: "Invitation to Alumni" is a summary of remarks Mr. Fraser made at a meeting of the Alumni Advisory Board held at Syracuse University, October 14, 1960.)

Incunabula

With funds provided by the Syracuse University Library Associates the Lena R. Arents Rare Book Room has added five books printed before 1500 to supplement the collection of incunabula.

The *Breviloquium* of St. Bonaventura was printed in Augsburg by Anton Sorg. This book is undated, but the Huntington Library, San Marino, California, states that it was printed "not after 1476." Printing was introduced into Augsburg in 1468. Sorg was the fifth printer there, commencing operations in February, 1475. The book is printed in Sorg's notable fine Gothic type. The paragraph marks and the initial strokes have been supplied by hand in red. The subject matter comprises short discussions on the Scriptures by St. Bonaventura, the famous Franciscan theologian who was accorded

the Red Hat in 1273 and canonized in 1482. When he was Magister General of his Order he interdicted Roger Bacon from lecturing at Oxford.

Robertus Caracciolus' *Collecta Magistralia* comprises Advent sermons of this popular Franciscan preacher commonly called "The Second Paul." The book was printed by Friedrich Creussner in Nuremberg in 1479. He was the third printer in Nuremberg and established his press in 1472, two years after the introduction of printing there. The type is fine Gothic and includes many handsome initial letters added by hand in red.

Eusebius' *Historia Ecclesiastica*, translated by Rufinus, bears the date of 1479 and was printed by Johann Schalls in Mantua. The printing press was introduced there in 1472. This book was printed on Schall's second press on which only four books were printed of which this is one of the two bearing a date. The book is the great ecclesiastical history of Eusebius, a noted Palestinian theologian and church historian who has been called the "Father of Church History." Most of the pages have handsome initial letters sketched in by hand in red and blue.

St. Augustine's *De Trinitate* was printed in 1494 by Kilian Fischer on the first press used in Freiburg. This is the second of but three books printed by Fischer. It comprises sermons on the doctrine of the Trinity and is

printed in fine Gothic letter. The initial letters of the paragraphs and chapter headings are alternately rubricated in red and blue.

The *Polyhistor* of Solinus, the famous third century Latin grammarian and compiler, was printed in Parma in 1480 by Andreas Portilia who brought the printing press to Parma in 1472. The text of this book is a revision of Solinus' *Collectanea* first copied in the sixth century and described as "the earliest popular geography."

Incunabula, frequently landmarks in preservation of classical and medieval manuscripts, are the cornerstone of all distinguished and scholarly historical collections. A significance of incunabula lies in the fact that they record the choice of works printed during the first fifty years following the invention of printing from movable type. Syracuse University Library should have a more extensive and more representative collection of incunabula and Library Associates who have books printed before 1500 are urged to add them to the Lena R. Arents Rare Book Room as some already have done.

L. G. W.

Awards for Book Collecting

At the annual Scholastic Achievement Convocation held April 18, 1960, Mr. William C. Farmer received the George Arents Library Award for the

best library assembled by a graduating Senior. His library of literary and historical works was selected by a jury of judges including Dr. Erik Hemmingsen, Dr. William P. Hotchkiss and Dr. Walter Sutton. Mr. Farmer received a medal designed by Ivan Mestrovic with a personal check for \$100 from Mr. Arents. In the 1959-60 competition Robert S. Phillips received Honorable Mention for his fine collection of literature.

Also at the Scholastic Achievement Convocation Miss Michelle R. Martin received the Fraser Freshman Library Prize, awarded annually to the student who has assembled the most outstanding personal library during his first year at Syracuse University. The jury of judges who selected Miss Martin's library of literature included Dr. Robert Durr, Dr. Ross Evan-Iwanowski and Dr. Edward McGrath. The prize was Mr. David Fraser's personal check for \$25.

In Memoriam

With deep regret the Executive Secretary records the loss from our membership of

W. R. G. Baker

John W. Brooks

Carl R. Bye

A. E. Johnson

Dr. Carlton Kavle

William Dodge Lewis

Mrs. Ira Silverstein

Donald Pritchett Bean

In October 1955, Mr. Donald Bean arrived on the campus as Director of the Syracuse University Press. Mr. Bean brought to his new assignment a rich background of experience with the University of Chicago, the Williamsburg Restoration, and the Stanford University Press. In five short years, Mr. Bean, a gifted designer, master craftsman, talented executive and astute scholar, has created at Brewster House one of the nation's leading university presses and has given scholarly productivity at Syracuse University imaginative leadership. No aspect of creativity on the campus escaped his interest or failed to benefit from his support.

Mr. Bean has loved books all his life and throughout his career in scholarly publishing has strengthened libraries wherever he has lived. Shortly after coming to Syracuse University he became a member of Library Associates and has contributed generously in many ways to the library development program. It is with profound regret that Mr. Bean's colleagues and host of friends accept the announcement of his retirement last summer. Mr. and Mrs. Bean will make their home in California.

In recognition of Mr. Bean's distinguished service to the University Library, he was the recipient of the 1959 *Syracuse Post-Standard* Award at the Scholastic

Achievement Convocation April 18, 1960. Mr. Leonard Gorman, Editor of the *Syracuse Post-Standard*, presented to Mr. Bean an inscribed silver bowl and the following citation:

For his imaginative and appealing design of publications for the Syracuse University Library Associates which have attracted support so vital to the success of the library development program;

For the warm encouragement he has given productive scholarship among librarians on this campus and the generous contribution he has made to the planning and publishing of books which enhance the prestige of the Library and stimulate creative talent;

For the dynamic influence he has had on undergraduate students in encouraging them by his example and through the Brewster House program to cherish, collect and read fine books;

For his gift to the University of his distinguished library on typography and graphic arts assembled over the past forty years as a source of reference and inspiration in his brilliant career as publisher, designer and ally of scholars;

Donald Pritchett Bean is awarded the 1959 *Syracuse Post-Standard* Award for distinguished service to the Syracuse University Library.

American Rubaiyat

Another rare copy of Edward FitzGerald's *Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám* has been added to the FitzGerald Collection in the Lena R. Arents Rare Book

Room. The acquisition is a copy of the first American printing of the translation, a reprint of the second edition, pirated in Columbus, Ohio, in 1870. One hastens to add, however, that the printing was an "aesthetic" and not a vulgar commercial act of piracy.

The story behind the book begins in 1869 when a group of men with literary tastes first became acquainted with the *Rubáiyát* through Charles Eliot Norton's review of the second edition in the *North American Review*. They obtained copies of the poem from Bernard Quaritch, the publisher in London. When they attempted to buy additional copies, they learned that those already received were the last of the edition. Without so much as "by-ye-leave" they resolved to print copies of their own to distribute among friends.

The effort of their printer to produce an exact copy of the original was surprisingly successful. The format of the Columbus volume meticulously follows the Quaritch printing. The types are virtually identical. The American title page, however, understandably deviates from its prototype. The names of the English publisher and printer, as well as the place and date of original publication, were omitted by the "pirates." One hundred copies only were printed, and the book is an extremely elusive collector's item. The Syracuse copy was obtained after a protracted and patient search by Mr. Wells.

A. McK. T.

Resolution

Library Associates published *Rare Books at Syracuse University* on May 18, 1960 to celebrate a triple anniversary. May 18 is the birthday of Mr. George Arents, distinguished benefactor of Syracuse University, and 1960 is the thirtieth anniversary of his appointment to the University's Board of Trustees and the third anniversary of the dedication of the Lena R. Arents Rare Book Room, a memorial created for his wife. To accompany a copy of *Rare Books at Syracuse University*, the Library Associates Board sent Mr. Arents a copy of the following resolution adopted May 23, 1960:

Recalling:

George Arents' inspired leadership in encouraging among students a love of fine books and the habit of book collecting, his discriminating taste and scholarly judgment in selecting gifts of books and manuscripts for the Library, his vision and generosity in creating the Lena R. Arents Rare Book Room, and his distinguished service as a Founder and Trustee of the Syracuse University Library Associates;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Trustees of Library Associates express to George Arents their deep appreciation and warm affection with belated good wishes on his 85th birthday.

* * *

"You, O Books, are the golden vessels of the temple . . . burning lamps to be held ever in the hand." Richard de Bury

Fine Bird Books

It is seldom that a book combines high literary quality, beauty, and practical reference value. The Lena R. Arents Rare Book Room has recently acquired, with funds provided by Mr. Arents, a copy of *Fine Bird Books, 1700-1900; a Bibliographical Record of Two Centuries of Coloured Plate Bird Books*, published in London in 1953. The main text and introductory essay were written by Sacheverell Sitwell, the eminent British poet and critic.

The volume contains 16 plates in full color and 24 collotype plates in black and white. The pages measure 19½ by 13½ inches. It is interesting to observe that there are included 8 plates from Audubon's *Birds of America* of which there is a copy of the large folio edition in the Lena R. Arents Rare Book Room.

Fine Bird Books . . . contains a highly useful bibliography compiled by Handasyde Buchanan and James Fisher. No general bibliography of fine bird books has ever been published comparable to this highly specialized one.

L. G. W.

Memorial Funds

Friends have established Memorial Funds for the purchase of library books inscribed in honor of

John W. Brooks
Carl R. Bye
Eleanor R. Cohen
A. E. Johnson
Mary Wallace Miller

New Members

Mr. David Fraser, Chairman of the Membership Committee, announces with sincere pleasure the following new members:

Rev. Robert Ayers
William E. Boggs
Dr. Paul J. Brennan
Frederica B. Carleton
Dr. Marcus E. Crahan
Charles E. Croom
Carl E. Dorr
James H. Elson
Margaret Farley
Sarah Greenberg
Dr. Aleksander Gudziak
Asbury Harpending
Evelyn M. Herrington
Capt. R. Lloyd Jones
Mrs. Margaret Kilpatrick Kellam
Henry H. Keller
Earle H. Ketcham
Mrs. Marion Wood Kilpatrick
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Robert P. McDowell

Harley J. McKee
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Laurence Schmeckebier
Ewing C. Scott
Mira Spinning
Michael Stern
F. B. Stevens
Mrs. Harold R. Stevens
Gladys Timmerman
Mrs. Clarke Van Deren
Laurence H. Van Dusen
Thomas H. Walnut
Marion L. Ward
Mrs. James W. Watters
Mr. and Mrs. James K. Wilbert

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publishes the *COURIER* several times each year for its members.

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