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THE COURIER

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ASSOCIATES

JULY 1962

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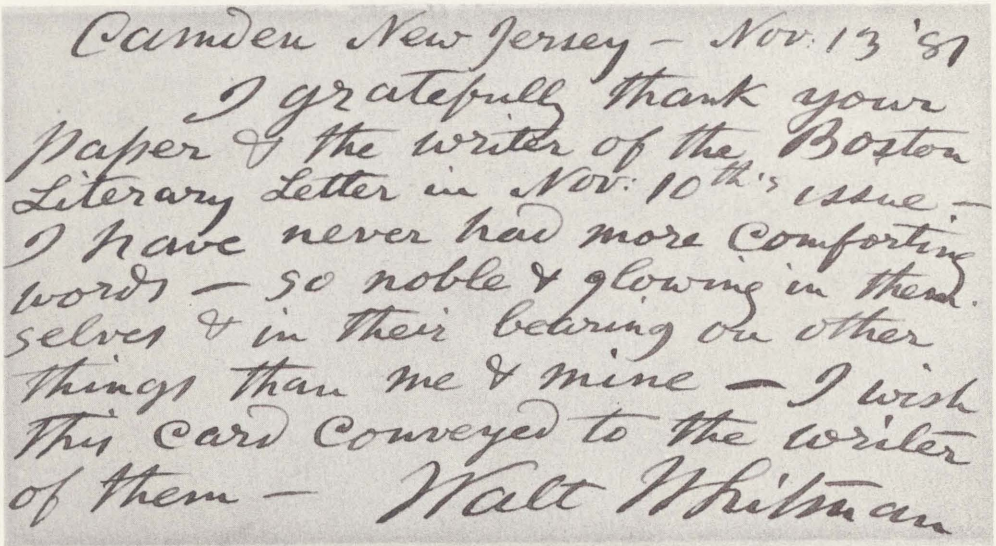
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THE COURIER

VOLUME II, NUMBER 2, WHOLE NUMBER 14 | JULY 1962

So Noble and Glowing



Camden New Jersey - Nov: 13 '81
I gratefully thank your paper & the writer of the Boston
Literary Letter in Nov: 10th's issue -
I have never had more comforting
words - so noble & glowing in them-
selves & in their bearing on other
things than me & mine - I wish
this card conveyed to the writer
of them - Walt Whitman

*I gratefully thank your paper & the writer of the Boston
Literary Letter in Nov: 10th's issue. - I have never had more
comforting words - so noble & glowing in themselves & in their
bearing on other things than me & mine - I wish this card con-
veyed to the writer of them -*

So wrote the Good Gray Poet from his quarters in Camden, New Jersey, Sunday, 13 November 1881.

The addressee of this correspondence card (Where is the envelope in which it was sent?) was the editor of the eminent newspaper, the Springfield, Massachusetts, *Daily Republican*, Samuel Bowles (1851-

1915), grandson of the founder; and the writer of the unsigned article on page two under the heading "Our Boston Literary Letter," a regular feature of the periodical, was none other than the well-known and influential editor, journalist, and biographer, Franklin Benjamin Sanborn (1831-1917), Harvard, '55.

Sanborn's contribution bore the dateline "Boston, Tuesday, November 8," and that part devoted to Whitman was occasioned by the recent publication of *Leaves of Grass* (actually the seventh edition, revised) in that city by the firm of James R. Osgood and Company. When the poet was in Boston seeing the edition through the press, he went out to Concord and not only called on the aging Emerson, but also paid his respects to Sanborn who lived nearby. At the time he sent the note to Bowles, Whitman apparently did not know it was Sanborn who had written the "comforting words—so noble & glowing."

To paraphrase, condense, or describe Sanborn's piece would not be doing it any justice at all, and any attempt would fall far short of reflecting its sincere value and the spirit in which it was written; it is enough to say that Whitman's words of appreciation were appropriate and justified, and that the newspaper notice must certainly have spurred the brisk sale of "the book of the year in Boston which will bear the most reading and study."

Under the joint auspices of the Department of English and the Library Associates, Mr. Charles E. Feinberg, Detroit, Michigan, a business man with a literary interest, distinguished collector, and recognized Whitman authority, visited the campus on 27 April last, and delivered a public lecture on "Walt Whitman's Worksheets and Manuscripts." To honor Mr. Feinberg and commemorate the occasion, Library Associates published a keepsake which was distributed gratis to those who attended the lecture. This leaflet, displaying a facsimile of Whitman's note to Bowles, the first time it ever appeared in any printed form, was limited to 250 numbered copies, and actually constituted a Walt Whitman first edition. In no time at all the copies were gone (three guests plead so convincingly for additional copies to send to friends back home who admired W.W. that they were allowed to get away with a total of eight), and it is a safe prediction that within the near future this item may assume collectors' interest. The keepsake was designed by Mr. Robert S. Topor, and produced under the supervision of Mr. Richard G. Underwood, Director of Syracuse University Press and anchor man on the Editorial Committee of the *Courier*.

At a luncheon, attended by literati, cognoscenti, intelligentsia, a few illuminati, a scholar or two, and some plain, ordinary people,

presided over by Dr. Frank P. Piskor, bibliophile and manuscript collector de luxe (Dr. Piskor is also Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculties of the University), Mr. Feinberg presented three Walt Whitman items he had had especially bound for Syracuse University Library:

(1) Proof sheet of *An impromptu criticism on the 900 page Volume, "The Complete Poems and Prose of Walt Whitman,"* first issued December, 1888, by Dr. R.M. Bucke, which was printed in Camden about 23 December 1888 for Whitman to distribute to a few friends. (See *With Walt Whitman in Camden*, by Horace Traubel, New York, 1914, Vol. 3, p. 397, 27 December 1888.) This was written by Dr. Bucke in a letter to Whitman on his receiving and reading an early copy of the 1888 volume. Whitman was naturally delighted with Dr. Bucke's comments and had the paragraphs set up in type. There were only a few copies struck off.

(2) An offprint of Whitman's "Old Age Echoes," from Lippincott's Magazine, March 1891.

(3) Proof sheet of a condensed translation of Gabriel Sarrazin's "Walt Whitman and his Poems" in *La Nouvelle Revue*, Paris, France, 1 May 1888, by William Sloane Kennedy, Boston.

These have been deposited in the Lena R. Arents Rare Book Room, and are available for all to see and study.



Mr. Charles E. Feinberg examining Walt Whitman materials in the Lena R. Arents Rare Book Room. Microfilms are being supplied to Mr. Feinberg of those items in which he was particularly interested for a special study he is undertaking. This photograph was taken by Dr. Rikutaro Fukuda, Visiting Professor from Japan.

Aaron Burr and Woodrow Wilson

By *Walter F. McCaleb*

*M.A., Ph.D., Sometime Fellow in History in the University of Chicago,
and author of The Aaron Burr Conspiracy, etc.*

(Written especially for the COURIER)

Some years ago, I was the guest of Woodrow Wilson, President of Princeton. At dusk one day he walked into the cemetery where lie the ashes of Aaron Burr. As we approached the grave Wilson removed his hat & so did I.

after a pause, he said in a feeling voice: "How misunderstood, how maligned—"

You may well believe that the phrase burned deep in my heart.

Sincerely yours
Walter F. McCaleb

Some years ago I was the guest of Woodrow Wilson, President of Princeton. At dusk one day we walked into the cemetery where lie the ashes of Aaron Burr. As we approached the grave Wilson removed his hat and so did I.

After a pause he said in a feeling voice: "How misunderstood, how maligned—"

You may well believe that the phrase burned deep in my soul.

Sincerely yours,

WALTER F. McCALEB

New Syracuse University Library Building

In his annual spring report to the Syracuse University Board of Trustees at the June Commencement, Chancellor William P. Tolley declared that "the Library remains our top concern," and stated he hoped construction would begin on the new building in the spring of 1964.

1961 Post-Standard Award

At the recent semi-annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of Library Associates, Dr. Adrian Van Sinderen, corporation official and author of New York City, who has been Chairman of the Board since its inception in 1953, was presented the Syracuse *Post-Standard* Award for outstanding service to the Syracuse University Library system.

Mr. J. Leonard Gorman, distinguished editor of the *Post-Standard*, presented the engraved silver cup to Dr. Van Sinderen with the following citation:

For his loyal devotion to Syracuse University Library and his continuing interest in its growth over a period of nearly two decades; for his leadership and service as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Syracuse University Library Associates where he has combined imagination with judgment; for the influence he has exerted among his personal friends, members of the Faculty, Library Associates, and scholars of Syracuse University in behalf of the Library and its intelligent acquisition of books of unusual rarity and interest; for his philanthropic nourishment with gifts in widely separated fields of interest and his support of the established collections in the Library; and for his inspiring activities which have spanned many areas of endeavor: business organization, authorship of numerous volumes, civic and educational institutions, his city, his state, his country, all based upon an intermingling of the intellect and the spirit by which he is so well known and for which he is highly regarded:

The Syracuse, New York, *Post-Standard* Award for the year 1961 is presented to Dr. Adrian Van Sinderen.

A Note for Swinburne Collectors

In the private collection of the Curator of Manuscripts and Rare Books is a copy of the first edition of *A Channel Passage and Other Poems*, by Algernon Charles Swinburne, London, Chatto & Windus, 1904. This copy is enhanced by the fact that on the front free end-paper is a note in the poet's handwriting to the effect that a comma should come after the word *darkness*, last line, p. 53.

Swinburne collectors, especially those who are members of the Fly Speck School of Bibliography, please note. (Qualifications for membership in the F.S.S.B. are set forth, pp. 120-1, in the recently issued third edition, revised, of the book *ABC for Book-Collectors*, by John Carter, published by Rupert Hart-Davis, Ltd., 36 Soho Square, London, W. 1.)

1,098 Letters by Oscar Wilde

"I have put my genius into my life, and only my talent into my work," said Oscar Wilde, and anyone who heard his brilliant conversation never doubted the truth of the remark. The art of the talker has disintegrated, and talking is no longer an art (except in a very few isolated cases), but some of Wilde's genius certainly survives in his correspondence. So too does the character of the man himself, the wit, the affection, the indestructible gaiety, the gift of phrase, and above all the total lack of malice.

Oscar Wilde discovered English, French, and American society with an enthusiasm and penetration which sparkles through his letters. His conquest of the literary élite brought him into close association with great seniors, such as James Abbott McNeill Whistler, Walter Horatio Pater, John Ruskin, and William Ewart Gladstone. His great kindness and interest in the work of aspiring men of letters led him to encourage George Bernard Shaw, William Butler Yeats, Max Beerbohm, and countless other young writers, essayists, and critics.

In the edition of *The Letters of Oscar Wilde*, edited by Rupert Hart-Davis, published in England last week (by Rupert Hart-Davis, Ltd., 36 Soho Square, London, W. 1; the American edition will be issued in September by Harcourt, Brace & World, Inc., 750 Third Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.), the correspondence begins with the young undergraduate travelling in Italy and Greece. Then after success at Oxford and a brief start in London, he chronicles his absurd and triumphant tour (1882) in the United States of the Gilded Age. From

Dear W. Shore
Low Queensberry
is at Carter's
Hotel - Albemarle
Street
write to
him from W.
Alexander
Yours respect to

*First page of a letter by Oscar Wilde, hurriedly written in pencil 13 February 1895, at the beginning of the most tragic part of his life, included in Mr. Rupert Hart-Davis's recently published edition of *The Letters of Oscar Wilde*, p. 382. The original of this letter is in the private collection of the Curator of Manuscripts and Rare Books, Syracuse University.*

this he returned to marriage, journalism, his first books, and his gradual conquest of Society, culminating in the production of his four comedies. Parallel with his rising success is his rapid development as critic and artist, from the shy and self-conscious Oxonian to the lord of language and master of epigram who dazzled the London theatrical

world in the early 90's. Then comes disaster, and with it the agonised letters in durance vile and the magnificent dissection of himself and indictment of Lord Alfred Bruce "Bosie" Douglas which has come to be known as *De Profundis*, here presented in its initial appearance in a full and accurate text from the British Museum manuscript, kept under lock and key until 1960.

For the first time, here is a reliable narrative of the life of Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde, a name "once so musical in the mouth of Fame," composed of valuable and revealing documents, and linked by brief recitation of the required background for each. More than a thousand letters to nearly 300 correspondents have been included, collected for more than a decade by Mr. Hart-Davis from all over the world. Here at last is an enduring and authoritative corpus of Oscar Wilde letters which may greatly alter long-standing views of his life, his work, and his times. The editor has deliberately refrained from making judgments, but instead has supplied a wealth of explanatory notes and memoranda which supplement the letters and with them present a unique and purely objective picture of a singularly brilliant man of the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

There is not an intelligent scholar alive today who is better qualified to edit these letters than the estimable Mr. Rupert Charles Hart-Davis, chairman and managing director of the publishing firm which bears his name. Born in 1907, Mr. Hart-Davis was educated formally at Eton and Balliol College, Oxford, served in the Coldstream Guards during World War II, entered the publishing business as an office boy and worked his way up until he established his own firm, becoming along the way Chairman of the Committee of the London Library and Chairman also of the Phoenix Trust, and the biographer of the English novelist Hugh Walpole (1952). Mr. Hart-Davis has become the most outstanding and discriminating publisher of remarkably original contributions to English writing of this time, and it is a safe prediction that his edition of Oscar Wilde's correspondence will soon be regarded as an outstanding literary achievement and quickly assume the status of an authoritative production not liable to be surpassed for its quality of scholarly workmanship for some time to come.

245 *Letters by Thomas Carlyle*

The editors of *Thoth*, the journal of the English Graduate Group of the Department of English, have succeeded exceedingly well in at-

tempting to reflect some of the best graduate work performed in the fields of English and American literature at Syracuse University.

The Winter 1962 issue, Vol. III, No. 1, was edited by Arthur L. Clements, Jack Kligerman, and Barry Targan, and credit should be accorded them for collecting this series which includes William Scheuerle's "Satan the Cormorant," "Theme and Image in *Romeo and Juliet*," by William A. Henry, "Jane Austen's Families," by Ellen McIlroy, and two pieces pertaining to Nathaniel Hawthorne: "The Structural Principle of *The Marble Faun*," by Charles R. Smith, Jr., and a selected bibliography of Hawthorne's four major romances by Robert Phillips, Robert E. Long, Robert Hastings, and Kligerman.

These are all excellent pieces, worthy of preservation in print, but the one which evokes the most unusual interest (and not because of its unusual introductory sentence either) is the one entitled "Discovery of Some New Carlyle Letters," in which Edwin W. Marrs, Jr., recounts his exciting experiences in tracking down a remarkable collection of 245 original letters, with only a few exceptions, all written by Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881, the "Sage of Chelsea" and one of the foremost men of letters of his time) to his brother Alexander between 1819 and 1876, the year of the latter's death.

The present possessor of the collection is the granddaughter of Alexander and the grandniece of Thomas Carlyle, Mrs. Blanche Carlyle Clump, who is to be congratulated for having taken perfect care of the materials over the many years she has had them and for her intelligent realization that the best interests of scholarship and literary endeavor the world over, as well as those of the present Carlyle family who are concerned with the status of their forebears, would be best served by releasing the letters for study and publication.

Mr. Marrs is fortunate in having such a sympathetic coadjutrix as Mrs. Clump, and it is commendable that she recognizes the illimitable research possibilities and the incalculable value of the materials she has justifiably and with confidence placed in Mr. Marrs's hands. His scholarly productivity, under the expert and energetic guidance of his counselor, Professor Cecil Y. Lang, will be watched with eagerness both here and abroad.

One must read Mr. Marrs's account in *Thoth* to sense the intense flavor of the exciting experience he has had, and to appreciate fully the splendid opportunity he and Mrs. Clump have of rendering a great service to literature in general and to Thomas Carlyle and his kinspeople in particular. It has not been forgotten that Carlyle's *Reminiscences*, published in 1881, without editing, tended to prejudice the

estimate of his genius; and there is the possibility this may be altered beneficially by the result of Mr. Marrs's work with these valuable materials.

From Two of the Class of 1907

On 2 June last some very interesting and valuable materials were presented to the Library when the Lena R. Arents Rare Book Room was visited by two prominent members of the Class of 1907: Mr. Clifford L. DuBois, Hollywood, Florida, and Mr. Azro L. Barber, Little Rock, Arkansas. Both were here to attend the 108th Commencement and the reunion of their class, graduated fifty-five years ago when Dr. James Roscoe Day was Chancellor and the total enrollment was less than 3,000 students.

Mr. DuBois brought an original photograph showing the "View Looking North on University Ave. from Liberal Arts Building," taken in 1881 by John H. Cuninghame (with his signed inscription on the reverse). "Doc" Cuninghame was the Chancellor's man of many parts, and later Mr. DuBois's father-in-law. Mr. DuBois also presented a photographic copy of the original "Syracuse University Subscription," dated 1 March 1870, consisting of five pages of names of "citizens of Syracuse & its immediate vicinity" who pledged various amounts to the as yet unchartered institution if it be located in the Town of Onondaga, an event not recorded in Vol. 1 of the history of *Syracuse University: The Pioneer Years*, by Dr. W. Freeman Galpin, 1952. This copy once belonged to "Doc" Cuninghame, according to Mr. DuBois, but the whereabouts of the original document is not known. The total subscribed was \$53,100. W. R. Cleaveland pledged \$250 "in work."

Mr. Barber presented a collection of nineteen original documents which have been preserved in his family ("sometimes in old shoe boxes") for the past 145 years, dated between 1817 and 1842, in splendid condition, and consisting of agreements, contracts, indentures, mortgages, bills of sale, and memoranda dealing with land and other properties at such places near Syracuse as Cazenovia, Pompey, and Delphi, all bearing the wax seals and autograph signatures not only of the principal signatories, but also of a great many of the early officials and citizens of the communities. Included is the original commission of Mr. Barber's maternal great grandfather, Samuel S. Fisher, as an Ensign in the 27th Regiment, New York Infantry, signed 16

March 1822 by Governor DeWitt Clinton (promoter of the Erie Canal—"Clinton's big ditch"—and savage and bitter archenemy of Aaron Burr, American Revolutionary officer and political leader). Fisher was not long in being promoted as evidenced by another document: his commission as Captain in the same regiment, signed 7 November 1823 by Governor Joseph C. Yates (who was "over-cautious and timorous" and lacking in "boldness and energy," according to his biographers who evidently thought Yates's being married three times counted for nothing).

These gifts by Mr. DuBois and Mr. Barber qualified them readily for membership in Syracuse University Library Associates, and their names have been duly and appropriately entered in the records.

Where a Lad Is

Where A Lad Is: An Account of Vachel Lindsay, by Ralph L. Schroeder, an unusual human document based on the heretofore unrevealed reminiscences of the poet by his favorite cousin, Mrs. Ruby Vachel Lindsay Maurice, has now been published and is ready for distribution to those who are interested in the personality of one of the most outstanding makers of modern American poetry.

The regular edition of *Where A Lad Is* is priced at \$2.00; the limited edition signed by the author is \$5.00; and orders should be directed to: The Syracuse University Press, Syracuse 10, New York.

Upon reading Copy No. 1, presented to her by Mr. Schroeder, Mrs. Maurice wrote as follows: "The book is beautiful and everybody delighted with it. I appreciate the work you must have done on it You have written it so well I enjoyed your writing, the first I really knew of your style. Thanks for my copy. Ruby Vachel."

Mr. Wayne Allen, reviewing Mr. Schroeder's monograph in the Springfield, Illinois, *State Journal-Register*, declared that the author eschewed the pseudo-sensational aspect of his subject, wrote in a "readable but scholarly fashion," presented an "in-depth" portrait of Lindsay, achieved "a certain poignancy and even a touch of suspense," and had produced a work which should be welcomed by Lindsay scholars and admirers.

"There is more to read between the lines of this brief profile," Mr. Allen added, "than in many more ambitious portraits of the legendary Lindsay."

The Mystery

He came & took me by the hand
Up to a red rose tree,
He kept His meaning to Himself
But gave a rose to me.

I did not pray Him to lay bare
The mystery to me,
Enough the rose was Heaven to smell,
And His own face to see.

For John S. Mayfield,

Ralph Hodgson

The Mystery

By Ralph Hodgson

He came and took me by the hand
Up to a red rose tree,
He kept His meaning to Himself
But gave a rose to me.

I did not pray Him to lay bare
The mystery to me,
Enough the rose was Heaven to smell,
And His own face to see.

(Editor's note: On the opposite page is a reduced reproduction of the manuscript of this famous poem written out by Mr. Ralph Hodgson as a birthday present for John S. Mayfield several years ago. Mr. Hodgson, pronounced by the best literary critics to be the most famous living English poet, is now 91, and lives at his place called Owlacres, on the outskirts of the little town of Minerva, Ohio. Of him it has been said: "He gives his own beautiful and personal touch to the great tradition in which he works, and the content of his poetry comes from a mind as loyal and single as any in our poetry. The ghosts of the old world are no ghosts for him, but the living pledges of his own vision, purging his own time and environment of everything trivial and captious, and informing it with the very spirit of religion.")



Photograph by Edith S. Mayfield

*Ralph Hodgson, wearing an oilcloth apron as protection against falling solanaceous ashes, and Mrs. Hodgson, the former Aurelia Boliger of nearby Canton, at Owlacres greeting a recent visitor, John S. Mayfield, Curator of Manuscripts and Rare Books, Syracuse University. For his volume *The Skylark and Other Poems*, Hodgson received the 1961 Ohioana Book Award for Poetry, sometimes referred to as the Buckeye Pulitzer Prize. Mr. Joseph Kelly Vodrey, Canton newspaper executive, bibliophile, literary raconteur, and member of the Board of Trustees of the Ohioana Library Association, declared: "Naturally, it is particularly gratifying when someone from your own area is recognized by the Awards Committee."*

A Few Words with Aldous Huxley

Aldous Huxley, the noted English novelist and critic, now living in Los Angeles near the experts working to restore his failing eyesight, on the evening of 4 April last gave a lecture on the campus of Syracuse University. His subject was: "Visionary Experience."

During his brilliant disquisition, Mr. Huxley made a poignant comparison between the sub-faceted fire of a precious gem and the radiant force of mystical experience as manifest in religion, folklore, and art.

Afterwards I asked him if he would inscribe a copy of the first edition of his *Brave New World*, and he pleasantly complied.

Aldous Huxley
April, 1962

Everything about Aldous Huxley seemed to be gentle and lenient. Seen from a little distance, he appears extraordinarily tall and lean, his small head perched on shoulders not stooped, but rather bowed, gracefully, like some strange passerine bird. Up close, he appears quite warm and clement. His manner is serene and smooth. His hair is long and soft gray.

In his private talk he speaks slowly, distinctly, almost deferentially, and with a hint of a Far Eastern accent, for all the world like the lingua franca of an old ascetic mendicant. His California sun-tanned skin and the deep furrows in his cheek and brow accentuate this impression. His face is not craggy; the lines indicate many busy, richly lived, years of gentillesse.

Outside the building, in the cool spring evening, Huxley stood

alone, waiting for his host to drive up. He turned toward me, smiled, and seemed to invite an approach.

"Mr. Huxley, did you ever talk with D. H. Lawrence about manifestations of mystical experiences?" I asked. Lawrence's mysticism had long intrigued me, and I desired firsthand information from this scholarly source.

"Oh, that was all before I knew anything about that," he replied, and then added, "Certainly Lawrence saw the world as transfigured. There's no doubt about that." And then, thoughtfully, "He did write a book called *Apocalypse*, you know."

"Yes, and his poem 'Not I, But the Wind' has the mystical essence, doesn't it?" I ventured.

"Decidedly so," Huxley readily agreed. "Mysticism is its primary force."

I tacked to draw him out further: "And when Lawrence saw what he termed the 'quick' in certain things, a certain stove in a certain room had a 'life' of its own, whereas a chair in the same room did not . . ."

Huxley nodded understandably, and took over. "And van Gogh, too," he quickly added. "He also saw the world as transfigured, as illuminated. He had extraordinary visions. Some of them were . . . negative, but some were . . . heavenly."

And then Huxley seemed to want to say something further, but he desisted, and only repeated the word "heavenly," and glanced hastily up at the faintly-starred sky; and I saw his long, knowledgeable smile as he turned and left.

—Ronald Kesselring.

Amendment of the Constitution

By action of the Board of Trustees, the Constitution of Library Associates has been amended to include the following provision:

A person who contributes \$1,000 or more to Library Associates in any year shall become a Life Member. A person contributing \$100 or more, but less than \$1,000, in any year shall be designated a Sustaining Member of such year. Such contribution may be in money or property, or both. A person rendering outstanding service to Syracuse University Library Associates may become an Honorary Member upon nomination by the Chancellor and election by the Board of Trustees.

Unequivocal William Morris

Frederick James Furnivall, English philologist, promoter of various literary societies (Early English Text, Chaucer, New Shakespeare, Wycliffe, Browning, Shelley, Ballad, Philological, *et alii*), editor of Chaucer's works, *Percy Ballads*, and other early writings, an enthusiastic sculler all his life (1825-1910), was interested in the Christian Socialist group, active in social reform work, and aided in founding the Working Men's College in London.

(In a literary controversy, A. C. Swinburne dubbed the man "Dunce Furnivall," "Mr. F. J. Flunkivall," "Dunce Donkivall," and "fetid Flunkivall," and referred to his "gross and infantile incompetence," his "clownish impertinence," and his "persistent and consistent display, for many years, on all hands, of utterly unprovoked, gratuitous and promiscuous insolence.")

Furnivall's work with the W.M.C. and his political activities threw him into contact with the great William "Topsy" Morris, inventor of the morris chair, poet, artist, medievalist, Gothic revivalist, disciple of beauty, founder of the Kelmscott Press, and protector of old buildings. The men corresponded, but somehow they were never what might be called tombstone buddies.

Recently the Curator of Manuscripts and Rare Books acquired the original of an unpublished letter written by Morris to Furnivall some eighty-six years ago. It reads as follows:

26, Queen Square,
Bloomsbury, London,
Jan 31st 1876.

My dear Furnivall

Thanks for your invitation, but you ask me to do a thing more remote from my inclination and powers at once than any thing else that I could imagine so I must say No.

I am
Yrs truly
WILLIAM MORRIS.

Could a letter be any more positive and definite and mysterious?
How many people know what it was that Morris could never imagine himself doing?

26, Queen Square,

Bloomsbury, London,

Jan 31st 18/6

My dear Furnival

Thank for your
invitation, but ^{you ask me to do} ~~it is~~ a thing
more remote from ^{my} inclination
and powers at once than any
thing else that I could imagine
So I must say No.

Yours truly
William Morris

*The Only Good Wangostickadiddle
is a Dead Wangostickadiddle*

Of the fourteen Library Associates who wrote to the Editor attempting to supply the answer to the question: "What was torn?" (See the *Courier*, Vol. II, No. 1, Whole No. 13, April 1962, p. 15), fourteen were off course by 180°. The Editor has therefore rehidden in the cranny the "beautiful, unique, and valuable" prize, and refers all to: *John Phoenix, Esq., The Veritable Squibob: A Life of Captain George H. Derby, U.S.A.*, by George R. Stewart (New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1937), pp. 27-9, where will be found the entire story relating to the sheep-searcher, the wild and uncultivated Wangostickadiddles, and the Bingodamsquiddyfix which was about 168 feet deep. See also: *Bibliography of American Literature*, Compiled by Jacob Blanck (New Haven and London, 1957), Vol. II, pp. 443-5.

Of George H. Derby, the author of the story, no less a person than the great William Makepeace Thackeray once referred to him as "America's first wit"; the shrewd critic William Dean Howells recorded in 1882 that before Derby came on the scene "there was scarcely any American humorist—not of the distinctly literary sort—with whom one could smile and keep one's self-respect"; and the one and only Theodore Roosevelt swore he could pass a competitive examination on all the writing which had flowed from Derby's pen.

The Papers of Sawyer Falk

A valuable new addition to the Manuscript Collections and Archives of Syracuse University has been made in the form of the papers of the late Sawyer Falk, Professor of Drama and Director of Dramatic Activities. Several thousand manuscripts, documents, and letters, both personal and academic, were presented recently by Mrs. Falk and the faculty of the Drama Department. These are now being arranged and catalogued under the direction of the University Archivist, Mr. James K. Owens, and application to use the materials should be addressed to him in Room 401 of the Main Library.

A gifted teacher and a man who unweariedly applied himself to his cultural tasks, Sawyer Falk, author of that masterpiece entitled *The Sons of Acastes*, carefully preserved his official and unofficial correspondence and papers; and it is certain that anyone studying or writing in the field of fundamental histrionic problems and practice

and the drama as an art form, and its relation to social, ethical, and historical backgrounds, will there find a veritable lode of the isotope of mass number 238, capable and worthy of immeasurable utilization.

Cor Cordium

The Preamble of the Constitution of Syracuse University Library Associates reads as follows:

At the heart of a University's intellectual resources stands its library. From this center of its academic work stems its purposes of conserving knowledge, transmitting knowledge, and advancing knowledge.

The Syracuse University Library is built on solid foundations. If the University is to continue its intellectual leadership, the Library must keep pace with the needs of its faculty and students. First-rate library facilities must be enhanced in order to stimulate research interest in our present faculty and to attract scholars in many fields. Graduate students must similarly be attracted by the opportunities at Syracuse for effective research in their chosen fields. Undergraduates should be able to discover through the library new frontiers of intellectual interest and the means to explore them. The solid foundations already laid need, now more than ever before, to become the base of a truly great university library at Syracuse in the years ahead.

The Syracuse University Library Associates will promote the objective of increased library resources. Through the interest and support of friends of the University, alumni and non-alumni alike, the existing facilities of the Library should be expanded more rapidly and effectively than could be hoped for otherwise. The Associates will be concerned with the University's future development and so participate actively in assuring the University's continued academic leadership.

Syracuse University Library Associates cordially invites you to add your strength to its program by providing funds for the purchase of books, journals and special collections, by donating books and private libraries, by creating new and contributing to existing Memorials, and by providing endowment funds.

Members who are Alumni of Syracuse University may pay dues to this organization as part of their annual giving program and these

gifts will be credited to the Alumni Fund. All contributions are tax deductible under the Revenue Act. The minimum annual membership is \$10 and members voluntarily contribute annual dues in excess of \$10 as they can. The Syracuse University Library Associates welcomes inquiries concerning a method of giving private libraries while retaining life possession.

The Manuscripts Development Program

By Howard L. Applegate

Within the past several years there have been four significant events which have helped to make Syracuse University Library an important collegiate research center. First was the creation of the Library Associates by a devoted group of far-sighted people and the development of this nucleus into the organization which it is today. Another event of importance was the founding of the Lena R. Arents Rare Book Room and the resultant acquisition of rare books and literary manuscripts. Under the guidance of its librarian, Lester G. Wells, the Arents Room has gained national recognition for its research sources. Next was the University's awareness that it had a responsibility to preserve and maintain its own corporate records, resulting in an archival program directed by James K. Owens, the University Archivist. The final and most recent chapter in the Library's current growth was the establishment of a manuscripts development program, which began in February, 1961. This project was partially based on the collections acquired for the Library by historians Dr. W. F. Galpin and Dr. O. T. Barck, Jr., records donated by various alumni and friends of the University, and the more recent addition of the Governor Averell Harriman Papers.

This manuscripts development program is founded on several facts. First, that a manuscript collection which is extensive, diversified and selective serves as one of the fundamental bases for both the student academic programs of the colleges and for much of the scholarly research conducted on the campus. Important documents will attract competent students and researchers to Syracuse and their articles and monographs will also assist in publicizing the University as a research center. The University has also recognized the fact that it has a responsibility to the community and its people and businesses to acquire and preserve those records which illustrate the growth and vitality of Central New York. Finally, there are several reasons why Syracuse

University is becoming a center of manuscript research. Syracuse is the hub of the central and northern New York regions and here many national industries were started and currently many companies are located. New York State has exercised a dominant role in national politics. Central New York has fostered many of the cultural, religious, and social movements in our history. The geographical area, therefore, is fertile ground for a manuscripts development program.

In the expansion of the manuscripts department, a number of special areas have been defined. One includes the papers of alumni and the personal correspondence of administrative officers and faculty members, much of which will complement the University corporate records. A second field of concentration is American art, literature, journalism, and mass communication. Another area of importance is American political history, with particular emphasis on New York State governors and executive and legislative officers, New Yorkers who served in the federal government, and the many aspects of international affairs. Corporate records are equally important, especially in the following industries: railroads and surface transit, forestry and lumbering, automotive, farm implements, canals, candles, textiles and gloves, gas and power, banking, china and pottery, salt, brewing and wine, furniture, and Adirondack businesses. Other areas of note are: men and movements in American history, American religious history, especially papers related to the Methodist foundations of the University, immigration to New York, American military history, New York folklore, New York Indians, adult education, travellers' accounts, records illustrating the work and interests of professional men, and manuscripts related to the resources of the Lena R. Arents Rare Book Room and the various academic departments.

Recent acquisitions include: the corporate records of the Unadilla Valley Railway Company, the autobiography of Rev. W. C. Stevens, George Sachs' diary of an Indian journey, papers of Rev. W. G. Cole, manuscripts of novelist and historian Lynn Montross, political correspondence of Governor Frank W. Higgins, political correspondence of Governor Horace White, the Rev. Byron D. Showers papers, Congressional papers of D. E. Brumbaugh, political and legal papers of William S. Bennet, records of the New York House of Refuge, a collection of photographs on the Syracuse automobile industry, corporate records of the New York Central Railroad, including papers of some several hundred predecessor and subsidiary firms, clerical files of Rev. Arthur Moody, literary manuscripts of Myra Scovel, the Paul Shipman Andrews papers, correspondence of Sawyer Falk, political papers of Richard Newman and Webb Fiser, corporate records of the

Adirondack Railway Company, the research and investigative reports of the Fund for Adult Education, the files of Rev. Henry Smith, travel diaries of Tiffany Brockway, Jr., (1837 Erie Canal) and Nathaniel Booth (1865 New York & Canada), literary manuscripts of Robert Barker, and the sermons of Dr. William H. Powers. Many valuable additions will soon be added to the above list.

The Library Associates have given their firm support to the Lena R. Arents Rare Book Room. The Associates in several ways may be of valuable assistance in the manuscripts development program. They may contribute manuscripts to the Library, inform the Manuscripts Consultant of the availability of papers and records, make contributions to a fund which shall be used for manuscript purchases, circulate copies of this article to their friends and assist in the publicizing of our research facilities.

All correspondence concerning the manuscripts development program should be directed to Howard L. Applegate, Manuscripts Consultant, 401 Main Library, Syracuse University, Syracuse 10, New York.

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