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## Thatckera y Facsimile Honors William P. Tolley

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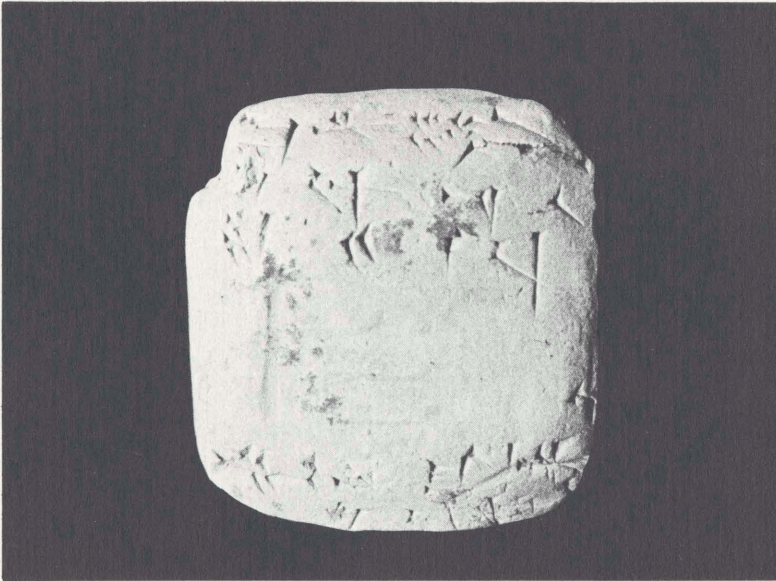
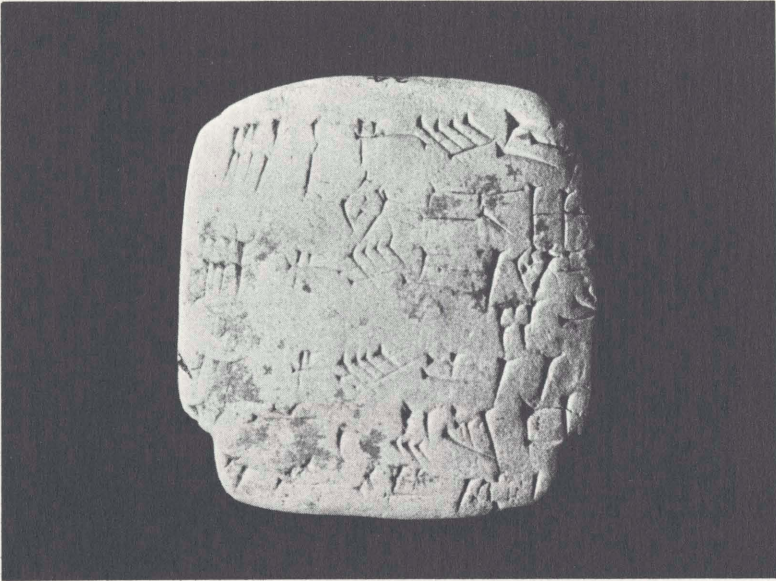
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## *Thackeray Facsimile Honors William P. Tolley*

Library Associates has completed a project to honor the man who instigated its founding and who has remained actively concerned with Library Associates' well-being for twenty-seven years. As an expression of admiration and affection, Library Associates has published a facsimile edition of an illustrated manuscript from the George Arents Research Library for Special Collections at Syracuse University, titled *The Heroic Adventures of M. Boudin*, by William Makepeace Thackeray.

Dr. Tolley was instrumental in acquiring the manuscript in 1965. Plans to publish a facsimile were never completed. According to Mr. Mark Weimer, rare book bibliographer at the George Arents Research Library, who wrote the prospectus of the publication, "preliminary work was undertaken to prepare the manuscript for publication: Gordon N. Ray, a leading Thackeray scholar, wrote an introduction and prepared a translation of the French text, estimates were gathered, and proof plates were prepared by Meriden Gravure Company." Mr. Weimer describes the manuscript as follows:

Twelve original drawings with autograph caption descriptions by Thackeray relating the story *The Heroic Adventures of M. Boudin* [1849?].

Drawings: 12 pen and ink drawings, the first seven embellished with water color.

Text: autograph caption descriptions by Thackeray in his somewhat inaccurate French, corrected in places by his daughter (?) for reproduction in *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*. (The manuscript was photo-mechanically reproduced in *Harpers* in 1891 in a much reduced black-and-white format with a comment on the history of the manuscript by Thackeray's daughter, Lady Ritchie. This was the first and only publication of this story.)

Provenance: Mrs. Robert Bell—Anne Thackeray Ritchie—James F. Drake—Syracuse University. The manuscript was purchased from Drake in 1965 through the initiative of Chancellor Tolley with funds from the estate of George Arents.

The facsimile edition published by Library Associates has a foreword by Chancellor Melvin A. Eggers of Syracuse University, an introduction by Gordon N. Ray, and a reprint from *Harper's* of Anne Thackeray Ritchie's account of the re-discovery of the manuscript after her father's death. Twelve leaves of the original manuscript are reproduced by 4-color offset lithography by Meriden Gravure Co.

The book has been published in a limited, numbered edition of 600, bound in German linen, with a slip case. Except for a number of complimentary copies, these will be sold for the benefit of Library Associates' William P. Tolley Endowment Fund. (All publication costs were donated before the book was completed.)

Dr. Tolley received copy number one, which was specially bound in full burgundy morocco with French marbled endpapers and matching slipcase. A list of donors to the publication costs was inserted in Dr. Tolley's copy. He was also given letters from most of the donors to the project, expressing their birthday greetings. The drop-spine box for the letters was hand-bound by Mr. Sidney F. Huttner, head of the George Arents Research Library.

The book was presented to Dr. Tolley at a party for the donors. It was introduced to Library Associates members-at-large at a special meeting, where they heard Mr. David May, director of Publications at Syracuse University, speak on the graphic work involved in the printing of a fine book.

The Thackeray project involved the help of many people in the university, in Library Associates, and among the friends of Dr. Tolley. They all deserve thanks for its success. The Thackeray Project Committee is especially deserving of credit for the undertaking: Mr. David A. Fraser, chairman; Dr. Alien C. Best, fund-raising; Mr. Mark F. Weimer, production; Mr. Henry S. Bannister; and Mr. Newell W. Rossman. Acting as advisors on the committee were Professors William C. Fleming, Antje B. Lemke, Mary H. Marshall, and David F. Tatham.

Anyone interested in having a copy of *The Heroic Adventures of M. Boudin* should write Syracuse University Library Associates, 605 Bird Library, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York, 13210 or call (315) 423-2585.

In addition to monies raised from the sale of the book, all donations in excess of publication costs will likewise be deposited in the William P. Tolley Endowment Fund. As this issue goes to press, the following donors have supported the costs of publication with their gifts.

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