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SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ASSOCIATES COURIER



SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ASSOCIATES COURIER

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News of the Libraryand the Library Associates

RECENT ACQUISITIONS, FALL 1992

71125: Fifty Years of Silence and B 11226: Fifty Years of Silence, Artists' Books on the Holocaust. Purchased with funds from the Jerome and Arlene Gerber Endowment Fund.

The Library recently acquired two limited-edition artists' books in which Holocaust survivors Eva and Eugene Kellner recall their experiences in Nazi concentration camps. The books were designed and printed by their daughter Tatana, who is artistic director of the Women's Studio Workshop in Rosendale, New York.

Lying across each 12" x 20" book is an embedded three-dimensional arm with identifying tattoo—cast in handmade paper from Eva and Eugene Kellner's own arms—around which the pages have been cut. The Kellners' recollections, handwritten in their native Czech against a shadowy background of old family photographs, alternate with English translations and concentration camp images. On some pages it seems as though the hands have gouged into the happy faces of an earlier time.

As her parents grew older, Tatana Kellner felt an urgency to preserve some record of their wartime experiences. She said, "There is a lot of information about the Holocaust, but as time goes on it becomes less and less real to succeeding generations. I wanted to make it real for readers, to bring it back to a vivid reality".* Eva Kellner died in early 1992, and Eugene the following December.

Spafford, Horatio Gates. A Pocket Guide for the Tourist and Traveller, along the Line of the Canals, and the Interior Commerce of the State of New York (New York: T. and J. Swords, 1824). Purchased with Library Associates funds.

^{*}Quoted in Kevin Morrow, "University Acquires Holocaust Stories", *The Syracuse Record*, vol 23, no. 17 (19 January 1993), 1, 5.



An artist's book on the Holocaust, by Tatana Kellner. Syracuse University Library.

This work, which appeared just one year before the final western section of the Erie Canal opened, was the first published travel guide to the canal known as "Clinton's Ditch". Spafford, a geographer and author of the first gazetteer of New York (1813), provided essential information to those traveling the Hudson River, the Champlain Canal, and the Erie Canal. He included schedules of steamboats and packet boats, fares, timetables for connecting stagecoach lines, distances between locks and villages, and recommended hostelries. Describing the packet boats on the Erie Canal he writes:

These Packets are drawn by 3 horses, having relays every 8, 10, 12 miles, and travel day and night, making about 80 miles every 24 hours. They are ingeniously and well constructed, (though there is yet room for some improvement,) have accommodations for about 30 passengers, furnish good tables, and a wholesome and rich fare, and have very attentive, civil, and obliging captains and crews. It is a very pleasant, cheap, and expeditious mode of travelling, where

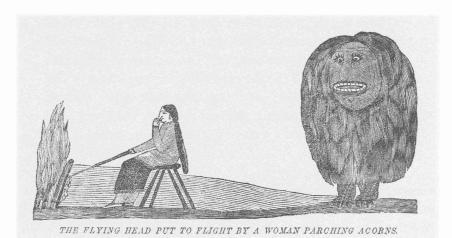
you have regular meals, pretty quiet rest, after a little experience, say of the first night; and find the time pleasantly employed, in conversation, and the variety of incidents, new topics, stories, and the constantly varying scenery. The bustle of new comers, and departing passengers, with all the greetings and adieus, help to diversify the scene, and to make most persons *seem* to get along quite as fast as was anticipated.

Cusick, David. Sketches of Ancient History of the Six Nations, Comprising First—A Tale of the Foundation of the Great Island, (Now North America,) the Two Infants Born, and the Creation of the Universe. Second—A Real Account of the Early Settlers of North America, and Their Dissensions. Third—Origin of the Kingdom of the Five Nations, Which was Called a Long House: the Wars, Fierce Animals, &c. (Lockport, N.Y.: Turner & McCollum, 1848). Purchased with Library Associates Funds.

According to Joseph Sabin, compiler of an important bibliography of Americana, Cusick (d. ca. 1840), a Tuscarora Indian, published in 1825 at Tuscarora Village the first edition, without illustrations, of this history of the Iroquois (Lewiston, Niagara County, N.Y.); however, no copy of that edition can be located. There survives an 1827 edition, also without illustrations, and a "second edition of 7000 copies" (containing two woodcut illustrations), which appeared the following year. The 1848 edition, sometimes identified as the "third edition", was issued at Lockport and includes two woodcuts by the author: "Stonish giants" and "The Flying Head put to flight by a woman parching acorns". There are two additional illustrations, also by Cusick, entitled: "Atotarho, a famous war chief, resided at Onondaga" and "A war dance".

Cusick's account of the legend of the Flying Heads (see illustration) follows:

About one hundred winters since the people left the mountain,—the five families were increased, and made some villages in the country. The Holder of the Heavens was absent from the country, which was destitute of the



An illustration from David Cusick's nineteenth-century history of the Iroquois. Syracuse University Library.

visits of the Governor of the Universe. The reason produced the occasion that they were invaded by the monsters called Ko-nea-rau-neh-neh, i.e. Flying Heads, which devoured several people of the country. The Flying Heads made invasions in the night; but the people were attentive to escape by leaving their huts and concealing themselves in other huts prepared for that purpose. An instance:—there was an old woman which resided at Onondaga; she was left alone in the hut at evening, while others deserted. She was setting near the fire parching some acorns when the monstrous Head made its appearance at the door: while viewing the woman it was amazed that she eat the coals of fire, by which the monsters were put to flight, and ever since the Heads disappeared and were supposed concealed in the earth.

THE SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ASSOCIATES, founded in 1953, is a society whose efforts are devoted to the enrichment of the Syracuse University Library and especially the rare book and manuscript collections. The Associates make it possible to strengthen these collections through the acquisition of unusual books, manuscripts, and other research materials that are rare and often of such value that the Library would not otherwise be able to acquire them.

Those with an interest in history, literature, book collecting, and the graphic arts are welcome to join the Associates. Perquisites of membership include general use of the Syracuse University Library's facilities, as well as invitations to exhibitions, Associates-sponsored lectures, and special events of the University Library. Members at the patron level may borrow books. In addition, all members will receive our incidental publications, typographic keepsakes, and the *Syracuse University Library Associates Courier*, a semiannual publication that contains articles related to unusual and interesting aspects of the Library's holdings and, in particular, to rare books, manuscripts, and archival collections in the George Arents Research Library.

SUGGESTED MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS are as follows: Benefactor, \$500; Sustaining member, \$200; Patron, \$100; Individual member, \$50; Faculty and Staff of Syracuse University, \$35; Senior citizen, \$25; Students, \$15. Checks, made payable to Syracuse University Library Associates, should be sent to the Secretary, 600 E. S. Bird Library, Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y. 13244-2010. For further information about the programs and activities of the Library Associates, telephone (315) 443-2697.

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