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Syracuse University Library Associates

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SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY ASSOCIATES

C O U R I E R



VOLUME XIX, NUMBER 2, FALL 1984

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY ASSOCIATES
COURIER

VOLUME XIX

NUMBER TWO

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News of the Library and Library Associates

THE HENRY S. BANNISTER DONATION

Henry S. Bannister, Chairman Emeritus of the Syracuse University Library Associates and a member of its board of trustees, is the generous donor with his daughters, Carol and Susan, of 850 select books in memory of Olive MacDonald Bannister, Syracuse University 1929 and B.S. (Library Science) 1934. This gift to the George Arents Research Library is accompanied by related manuscripts and research files and reflects the family's wide interests in bookcollecting.

A particular strength of the Bannister collection is New York State history, early highlights of which are Cadwallader Colden's *The History of the Five Indian Nations of Canada, which are dependent on the Province of New-York in America* (London, 1747) and the first English edition of William Smith's *The History of the Province of New-York* (London, 1757). From the nineteenth century there are numerous regional imprints from Auburn, Ithaca, Rochester, Syracuse, and Utica, as well as other places, and works printed by the Phinneys at Cooperstown. The Rev. William M. Beauchamp (1830-1925), archeologist and chronicler of the Iroquois, is represented by thirty-four titles, including his work as published by the New York State Museum and the Onondaga Historical Association. These gifts provide the occasion to consolidate the library's holdings of early local and regional imprints into a New York collection.

Joel Munsell (1808-1880) of Albany is often cited as the principal scholar-printer of the United States in the mid-nineteenth century. He assembled source materials on the early settlement of North America, edited New York State historical documents, and printed all these and other works to his high typographic standards. Mr. Bannister's bibliographic researches have added considerably to the recorded output of the Munsell firm and the successor firm of Joel Munsell's Sons. Numerous titles have been thereby identified that were

9-6-

T H E
H I S T O R Y

Of the PROVINCE of

N. Novis. Halsted

N E W - Y O R K ,

F R O M T H E

First Discovery to the Year M.DCC.XXXII.

To which is annexed,

A Description of the Country, with a short Account of the
Inhabitants, their Trade, Religious and Political State, and the
Constitution of the Courts of Justice in that Colony.

*Lo! swarming o'er the new discover'd World,
Gay Colonies extend; the calm Retreat
Of undeferr'd Distress.*

*Bound by social Freedom, firm they rise;
Of Britain's Empire the Support and Strength.*

THOMSON.

Nec minor est Virtus, quam quarere, parva tueri.

By WILLIAM SMITH, A. M.

L O N D O N :

Printed for THOMAS WILCOX, Bookfeller at *Virgil's Head*, opposite the
New Church in the Strand.

M.DCC.LVII.

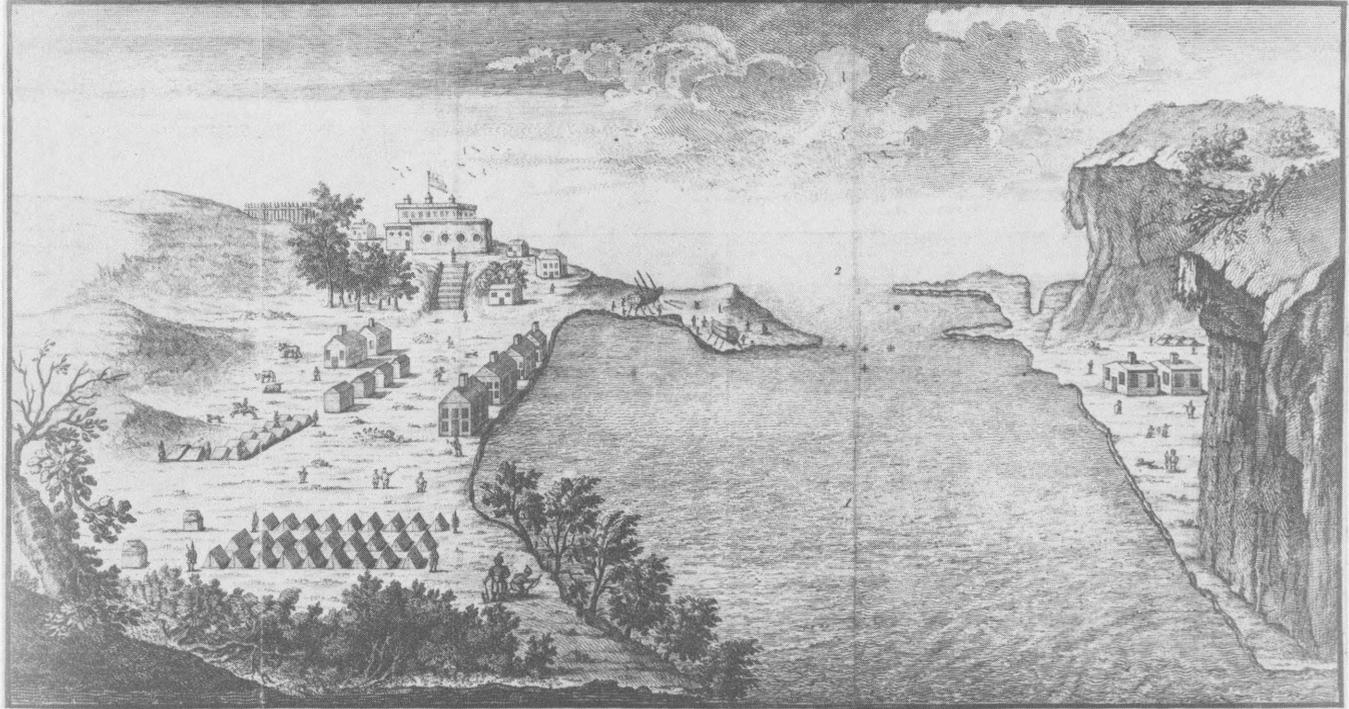
not listed by Joel Munsell himself in *Bibliotheca Munselliana: A Catalogue of the Books and Pamphlets Issued from the Press of Joel Munsell, from the Year 1828 to 1870* (Albany, 1872). More than 180 Munsell imprints are part of the Bannister gift. Syracuse University's holdings of Munsell

The SOUTH VIEW of OSWEGO on LAKE ONTARIO

General Shirley in 1755 Strengthen'd & enlarg'd, this Fort and erect'd two others, one Westward 130 Square with a Rampart of Earth & Stone. Another on the Opposite side of the Basin, 120 Yards distant from the Old Fort, this which is call'd the East Fort, is built of Logs and

the Wall is surrounded by a Ditch. The Projection of the Rocks, renders the Channel at the Entrance into the Onondaga River very narrow, and our Vessels are generally warp'd from the Lake into the Basin.

Explanation
1. The River Onondaga
2. The Lake Ontario



Frontispiece from William Smith's *The History of the Province of New-York* (London, 1757), gift of Henry S. Bannister.

imprints grow beyond this tally, with additional titles being added as this report goes to press.

Through Mr. Bannister's generosity books by Randolph Caldecott, Kate Greenaway, and Beatrix Potter now strengthen the George Arents Research Library's collection of children's literature, as do a number of early nineteenth-century American primers and alphabet books. Additionally, Mr. Bannister has given examples of the colonial presses of William Bradford in Philadelphia, and Edes and Gill in Boston, as well as Isaiah Thomas in Worcester. A copy of John Dickinson's *An Address to the Committee of Correspondence in Barbados* (Philadelphia, 1766) carries proof corrections and annotations in an unidentified hand. The book arts are represented by items that span nearly five centuries. Examples of modern fine printing include works from the Arion Press, the Book Club of California, and the Grabhorns.

THE SCHOBERLIN STEPHEN CRANE COLLECTION

The Melvin H. Schoberlin Collection of Stephen Crane, presumably the largest Crane collection remaining in private hands, has now been acquired by Syracuse University for the George Arents Research Library. Its arrival secures the University's position as a principal Crane research center.

Commander Melvin H. Schoberlin, USN (1912-1977) devoted much of his adult life to the study of Stephen Crane. After reading Thomas Beer's biography *Stephen Crane: A Study in American Letters* in 1932, he began to seek out Crane documents and to recover material that otherwise might have been lost. His own writing of a biography of Crane, many times interrupted by his naval career, was never published.

Paul Sorrentino, assistant professor of English at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and editor with Stanley Wertheim of a new edition of the Stephen Crane correspondence, rediscovered the collection, which had been in storage in Hawaii for nearly two decades and had not been accessible to modern Crane scholars. Following Dr. Sorrentino's discussions with Laura D. Schoberlin, Syracuse University's purchase of the collection was arranged.

Original material on Crane is scarce because of the shortness of Crane's life (1871-1900) and the neglect into which his reputation fell in the generation after his death. The Schoberlin Collection includes sixty-two holograph letters by Crane, thirty-nine letters by his wife

Cora Crane (1865-1910), seven Crane manuscripts, and Commander Schoberlin's research files, including the typescript of his biography. With the Library's earlier Crane acquisitions and the Schoberlin Collection, Syracuse University holds the largest group of Stephen Crane and Cora Crane letters recorded anywhere.

The George Arents Research Library is an appropriate repository for letters and manuscripts of Stephen Crane, for it was at Syracuse University that he completed his brief collegiate education in the spring semester, 1891. His granduncle, the Methodist bishop Jesse Peck, had been a founder of the University. During the 1940s and 1950s, Crane items were assiduously sought by the University's curator of special collections, Lester G. Wells. Under his guidance, the Ames W. Williams Collection was acquired in 1948, and shortly later George Arents presented first editions, letters, and manuscripts. Also during this period, Syracuse University Press published *The Sullivan County Sketches of Stephen Crane*, edited by Melvin H. Schoberlin and with his introduction (1949); *Stephen Crane's Love Letters to Nellie Crouse*, edited by Edwin H. Cady and Lester G. Wells (1954); and Corwin Knapp Linson's memoir *My Stephen Crane*, edited by Edwin H. Cady (1958).

MEMBERSHIP BONUS: HISTORICAL RECORDINGS

This year Syracuse University Library Associates is giving to its members a thirty-minute tape of selections of historical recordings from the Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive. Side I holds six short speeches made by Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and William H. Taft, and Presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan. They range in subject matter from imperialism to Irish humor. On Side II, a musical companion-piece drawn from the same turn-of-the-century period, Enrico Caruso and Johanna Gadske sing Verdi's "O Terra Addio", and Lillian Russell sings "Come down ma evenin Star". Also included in the music selections are "The Whistler and his Dog", played by the New York Military Band, and the ballet music from Massenet's "Le Cid", performed by the Victor Herbert Orchestra. A brochure giving details of each selection accompanies the tape.

Those non-members who might be interested in acquiring a copy of this tape should address inquiries to: The Secretary, Syracuse University Library Associates, 600 Bird Library, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 13210.

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

This year Syracuse University Library Associates wishes to honor with a gift of Life Membership each of the following six people, whose support of the library collections has been both outstanding and generous.

HENRY S. BANNISTER has been a Library Associate for some fourteen years. During that time he has been both a Trustee and Chairman of the Board, as well as recipient of the Post-Standard Award. In 1984 he donated to the George Arents Research Library eight hundred fifty books and twelve manuscripts, whose special strengths lie in New York State history, Joel Munsell imprints, children's literature, and private press books. It is a very interesting collection indeed and attests to the quality of Mr. Bannister's broad interests and discerning eye in the world of books.

In 1979 JEROME R. and ARLENE GERBER established the Jerome and Arlene Gerber Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, journals, and other library materials relating to Jewish religion and culture. The Gerber acquisitions, although broadly representative in all Judaic materials, have particularly emphasized the theology and history of the Holocaust and post-Holocaust periods. Both Gerbers are old friends of the University. In 1984 Jerome Gerber was elected Trustee of the Syracuse University Library Associates.

LOUIS KRASNER was Professor of Music at Syracuse University from 1949 to 1971 and joined the Syracuse University Library Associates in 1962. In 1983 he made a notable gift to our collections. It consisted of first, early, and rare editions of seventeenth-, eighteenth-, nineteenth-, and twentieth-century music, along with early printings of scores and books on music and string instruments. Also included in the Krasner collection are concert memorabilia, photographs, and historical materials from the Syracuse Friends of Chamber Music archives and the 1963-64 Tanglewood Symposium.

GERALD MICHAELS is currently Assistant Professor of Psychology at Syracuse University. In 1983 he donated to the Syracuse University Libraries five hundred monographs and five hundred journal issues dealing with modern Jewish history and in particular with the history of Jews in America. These materials had been collected by his grandfather, Dr. Rudolf Glanz, an eminent Judaic scholar, who died in 1980. This gift, which provides Syracuse University with long-needed basic research tools, nicely complements the ongoing Gerber acquisitions.

PAUL D. WILLETTE received his Ph.D. in 1979 from Syracuse University and is currently a senior geologist with Arco Exploration. In 1983 his generous donation to the Library Associates was augmented by the Atlantic Richfield Foundation to make up the accumulated amount of \$15,000. This money has made possible the purchase of word-processing equipment, which is already in full use on the sixth floor of the Bird Library.

ROLL OF LIFE MEMBERS

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THE SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ASSOCIATES, founded in 1953, is a society whose efforts are devoted to the enrichment of the special collections of the Syracuse University Libraries. The Associates' interests lie in strengthening these collections through the acquisition of unusual books and manuscripts, items which are rare and often of such value that the Libraries would not otherwise be able to acquire them.

The Associates welcome anyone to join whose interests incline in the direction of book collecting or the graphic arts. The perquisites of membership include the use of the Syracuse University Libraries' facilities and resources, as well as invitations to exhibitions, Associates-sponsored lectures, and special events of the University Libraries. In addition, members will receive not only copies of all our incidental publications, historical tape recordings, and typographic keepsakes, but also, semiannually, a copy of the *Syracuse University Library Associates Courier*, which contains articles related to unusual and interesting aspects of the Libraries' holdings, and in particular, to the holdings of the George Arents Research Library for Special Collections.

SUGGESTED MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS are as follows: full membership, \$30; introductory membership, \$20; student and senior citizen membership, \$10. Checks made payable to Syracuse University Library Associates should be sent to the Secretary, 600 Bird Library, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 13210. Telephone (315) 423-2585.

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