

Columbus's Report of Discovery In Rare Letter in Library Here

Although not generally known, it is of considerable interest that the Cincinnati Public Library is in possession of a very rare and valuable copy, printed May 11, 1494, by B. de Olpe in Basle, Switzerland, of the letter in which Christopher Columbus made his first announcement of the discovery of the New World, according to a statement issued last night by Chalmers Hadley, Librarian.

This unusual volume, although it had been in the Cincinnati Public Library for more than thirty years, lay in its dusty corner for years until forgotten. That such a document was in her custody was recalled by Miss Anna Collman, director of the Fine Arts Department of the Library, upon reading a newspaper article recently telling of a similar book in New York City. The volume is now on display at the Library.

Columbus wrote this historic document, according to Mr. Hadley, while homeward bound with the news of his discovery. A storm overtook him near the Azores, and, fearing that the discovery would be lost in case his ship foundered, Columbus wrote a letter recounting his achievement to Louis Santangel, a Spanish courtier, whose aid had made the expedition possible, sealed it in a bottle and prepared to cast it overboard in the last extremity.

Fortunately, the ship survived the storm, but the letter, nevertheless, was forwarded to Santangel, who first, before making any public announcement, had a few copies of it printed privately for his friends.

In the New York Public Library is one of the copies of the Columbus letter, printed at the instance of Santangel. It was found in Paris by James Lenox, a collector, about 400 years after it was printed, and given by him to the New York Library. It is valued at \$8,500.

The book in the Cincinnati Library is another printing of the same letter. In itself it is very valuable because less than a dozen copies of it are known in the world, according to the census of Fifteenth Century books. This copy was obtained by Leon and Harriet Lewis, of Penn Yarn, N. Y., in 1875, at a cost of \$252 in gold. Later it was sold by Quaritch, famous London auctioneer, to Robert Clarke, who was acting for the Cincinnati Public Library.

The paper of the book is a fine linen handmade stock which seems as good as ever after 430 years.

The Cincinnati Public Library also has a very fine facsimile of the Lenox copy of the letter in the New York Public Library. This facsimile itself is rather rare and valuable, because it is No. 24 of the 100 copies which were printed.

AN IDYL OF THE ALCOVES.

BREVITY is the soul of wit, and abbreviation appears too often to be the sole aim of the cataloguing librarian. The "Librarian" of the Boston *Transcript* has recently combined the two in a romantic sketch, which he entitles "Love in the Library." Even a fairly well-informed frequenter of libraries and student of catalogues may need the preliminary hint that proper names are among the words ingeniously abbreviated for catalogue use. An initial followed by a colon indicates a masculine name beginning with that letter—as J: for John, G: for George; but if it is followed by two dots in horizontal order it is to be interpreted instead as a feminine name—as M.: for Mary, A.: for Anna, S.: for Sarah. The reader will surely not allow his unfamiliarity with such details to mar the charm of a sweetly simple idyl of the alcoves.

Late in the afternoon, as the sun was sinking behind the Ill. hills, C: J:son, the handsome chief of the circulation division, walked with a firm step into the cataloguing room. Would she be there? Yes, there she was, the beautiful A.: W:son, leaning negligently on the shelf list. He hastened to her side.

"A.:," said he, "you are a perfect dk."

"Hush, C:," she warned him; "Mrs. B.:, the assist. classifier, will hear you. Make believe to be reading this."

And she picked up a copy of "R.: of Sunnybrook Farm."

"I prefer something more serious," said he. "Have you ever read 'Progress and Poverty,' by H: G:?"

"No," replied A.:, "and my brother S: says it's too hard for girls to understand."

"Your brother S:," replied C:., with great scorn, "is a cf."

"O C:!"

"Well, at any rate, a hf. cf."

"That is most unfair. My mother says he resembles his grandfather, and he was the bp. of O."

"I don't care if he was G: Wash. or R: of the Lion Heart."

"And that his mind is like that of W: Ja:."

"!" exclaimed C:.

"Now I must go," replied A.:. "I am on the bd. of directors of the lib. of St. M:':s parish house, and —"

"Oh, these bds.!" cried C:.. "Look here, A.:, I don't think you're giving me a sq. deal. I believe I have some anon. rival."

"Don't be ridiculous. Come here, C:."

And drawing him for an instant behind a book-case, she priv. pr. a kiss upon his lips and fled like a bird.

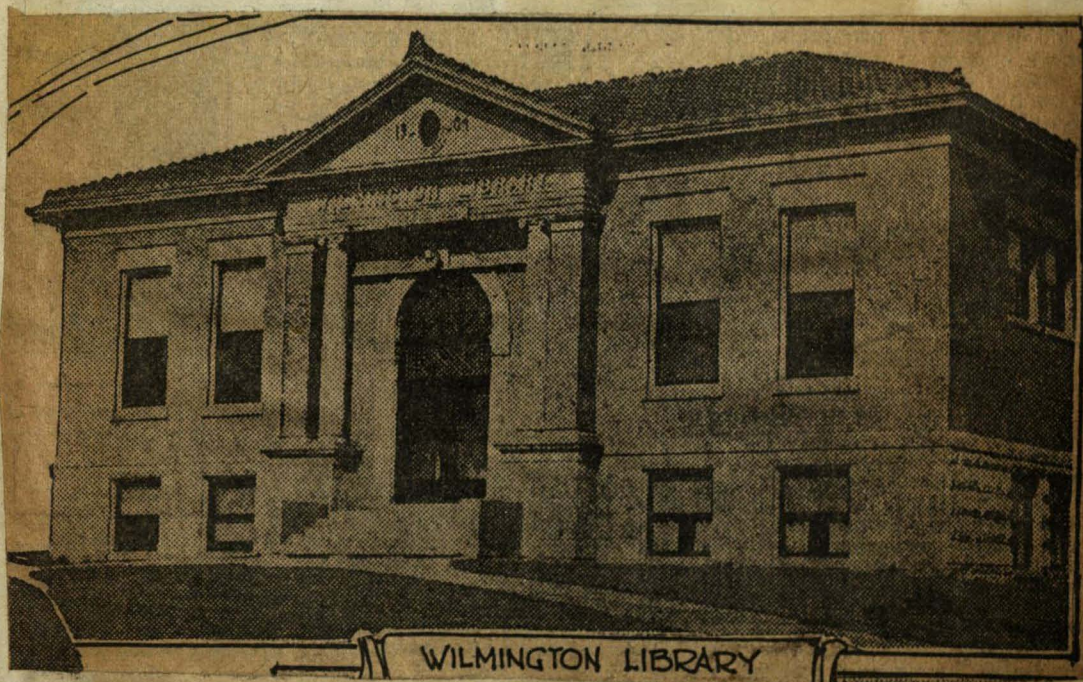
With a little guessing, translation is not difficult. Perhaps the fair Anna was audacious to print a kiss even privately under such circumstances; but she was certainly a duck to pardon so readily the petulant Charles his insulting reference to her brother as even half calf.

Largest Book—

The largest book in the world, over six feet in height, is in the University of Rostock, Germany. This remarkable volume is over 400 years old and contains maps of Holland.



THE VAN WERT COUNTY
BRUMBACK LIBRARY
at Van Wert.



WILMINGTON LIBRARY

RARE LIBRARY LEFT BY CURTIS G. LLOYD

Valuable books and botanical specimens brought from
all parts of the world by Cincinnati scientist
—Lloyd Library open to the public.

BY GRACE HALLER.

THE cedar tree is hot and dry with an excellent tenacity of parts. Cedar infused in vinegar killeth the worms in the ear and with a decoction of hyssop stilleth the noise thereof."

This sound advice, startling as it may seem to those accustomed to daily ablutions, is given by the author of an old English herbal book dated 1540. The very casuistry of his remarks show such complete lack of astonishment at what he deems to be a very common visitation that progress in some directions, at least, seems certain since that time. With equal solemnity he assures his readers that,

"The berries (of cedar) when eaten in too great quantity cause gnawing in the stomach and head-ache."

The herbal from which these declarations are taken is one of a collection found in the Lloyd Library. Since the death of Curtiss G. Lloyd, the whole of the Lloyd Brothers pharmaceutical and botanical library has been opened to the public. Sums for the maintenance of this library as well as for the museum of fungi and his natural preserve at Crittenden, Kentucky, who left in trust by C. G. Lloyd at his death.

Mr. Lloyd was an eccentric kind of fellow who, as a boy, roamed and hunted through the hills about Florence, Kentucky. Later as a young man, his older brothers, John Uri and M. A. Lloyd, took him into their drug business. Curtiss Gates Lloyd entered the business with the idea of studying and perfecting the more strictly botanical side of the preparations. It was the custom of the two older brothers to devote one tenth of their incomes annually to the upkeep of the library which they had founded,

consisting of volumes on materia medica, pharmacy and eclectic medicine. They gave their young brother the authority to add to their collection volumes of botanical interest.

Instead of his native hills, C. G. Lloyd now roamed the continents of the world. He brought from the book stalls of England and the continent, rare old volumes. He brought as well packages of fungi which he himself collected from the fields and woods. And he brought the finest and most authentic of modern writings. At present the library contains information valuable alike to the scientist, the botanist and the historian—information which is difficult of access except where it is gathered together under one roof and methodically kept.

Lloyd library is situated on Court street, west of Plum, in a neighborhood not now as fashionable as it once was. The buildings is a narrow brick structure having an air of scholariness which seems singular in a building with a fire station on one side of it and a warehouse on the other. On the opposite side of the street, a few houses down, is the

twin of this building, bearing instead of the inscription, Lloyd Library, that of Lloyd Museum.

The Museum contains rows on rows of dusty boxes and these in turn hold carefully preserved fungi collected by C. G. Lloyd from all parts of the world. In the course of his wanderings these queer plants—strange and fantastic forms, which rank much below the green plants in the scale of life—fascinated Mr. Lloyd to such an extent that his constant study of them finally made him a world authority in his subject. In recognition of his research and his collections the honorary degree of Doctor of Science was conferred upon him by the University of Cincinnati in 1921.

Inside, the Lloyd Library is a cool, quiet place, away from the noise and rattle of the streets. In long aisles, the wisdom of ages looks down on



ENGLISH
EARTH-STAR.

FROM THE
COLLECTION
OF
C.G. LLOYD



PEPPER BOX
EARTH-STAR.



CURTIS GATES LLOYD

the student or on the idler who may have strayed in out of curiosity. Here is a book bound in parchment bearing a Latin title and dated 1540. Inside are painstaking drawings made by patient, innumerable strokes of a hair-fine pen. Not a jot of root or stem or flower is missing. Beside it, and ruled and printed by hand, are the Latin explanations. Again there is the ancient tooled-leather cover of an English herbal giving strange and often uncouth advice, and phrased in terms that call a spade a shovel.

There are too, strange and wonderful drawings, such as those showing the barnacle tree which produced geese as fruit. Who could doubt in that far away day? Wasn't the tree right there in the book? Wasn't the fruit shown opening and the goose shown flying out? Were there not other geese swimming in the water below? And strangest of all, these geese, after a proper length of time afloat on the ocean, congealed into spongy masses and became the barnacles which cling to the hulls of ships! Hence the tree, producing the geese, was known as the barnacle tree.

Among these rare works is a book printed soon after the invention of

printing. It is dated 1517 and contains the works of Raymond Lully who lived in the thirteenth century.

Lully was a Spanish soldier, scholar and alchemist. Among other things, he was the first man in history to distill alcohol. And during his career he was incarcerated in the Tower of London for the purpose of coining gold money for the King of England. He succeeded in some fashion, it seems, for the coins he made are still in existence and are known as "Raymonds." The leather cover of this book is beautifully tooled by hand and is closed by a brass clasp. It has been owned during the four centuries of its existence by a Jesuit monastery, a Russian Baron and the bookseller in Germany from whom Mr. Lloyd bought it.

Beside these old books, new volumes of rare editions, with delicately colored plates, may be found. One of these is a hand-colored edition of the *Flowers of Japan*.

Not many are the visitors to this quiet, musty place, but it has its regular patrons who have discovered the mine of information it is. They drop in at odd hours to find in this or that volume the indispensable facts they must have or they work for long hours in research among the books of the library.

There are books in all languages and about all the kinds of plants and their respective structures and functions which compose "God's living cloak." In the same way students are found in the quite seclusion of the museum searching over "earth stars" and "bird nests," and other plants of mushroom affinities.

In addition to those two institutions, Curtiss G. Lloyd left a natural reserve at Crittenden, Ky. No ax has touched the woods there, and according to the terms of the trust, never will. In this same place is the tombstone which he delighted to erect for himself, as much for the amusement he took in the horror of his friends as for any other reason. In a bulletin published at Crittenden he says:

"The monument is, first, a burlesque on tombstones in general and, second, a satire on personal vanity, including the writer's and some other 'old gentlemen' he knows. The usual tombstone is a parody on the virtues and vital statistics of the deceased, of no possible interest to any one but him, and he is dead. Everyone is more or less vain, and some so possessed with the idea, especially in their old age, that they are a nuisance to their friends and acquaintances. They seem to think they are so important to the world that when they die the sun will stop, or if it does not stop, it will at least pause a little.

The writer hopes this stone will stand for years after he is dead and cause a smile to the passers-by, for he is a pessimist, but believes in giving pleasure in maintaining properties, chiefly for himself, but incidentally for others."

In Crittenden he also established a community house and a fund that will provide forever for a monthly dance. Seasons may come and go and fashions change but once every month an orchestra will appear at the Community House and play dance music. Mr. Lloyd instituted the dance fund because of the opposition to dancing he found in the little country town. The citizens objected because they said that the dancing was vulgar. Mr. Lloyd maintained that dancing need

not be vulgar and that it was a natural expression much better given outlet than suppressed. The dance fund followed. Now the young people of Crittenden, no matter what vicissitudes may come their way, will have at least their monthly dance. At Crittenden there is also a log cabin which Mr. Lloyd bought and preserved in order to hold up as a lasting example the hardships and trials and the persistent courage of the early pioneers.

Mr. Lloyd was known for his private charities. Santa Claus was his favorite role. It pleased him to leave, unannounced, baskets of provisions and clothing on the doorsteps of the needy. He often took "street-arabs" on blissful jaunts to amusement places in the city.

Curtiss Gates Lloyd, when he died, November 11, 1926, left behind him for the benefit of the public, a valuable library of a rare kind, a forest preserve, a community center and a log-cabin at Crittenden, Ky., and a natural preserve at Cornell University. He was a man delighting in charity, skepticism, humor and the gaiety of youth. On his tombstone he wrote:

Curtiss Gates Lloyd, born in 1869, died 60 or more years later.

The exact number of years, months and days he lived nobody knows and nobody cares. Monument erected by himself, for himself, during his own life, to gratify his own vanity.

What fools these mortals be!

December 11, 1927

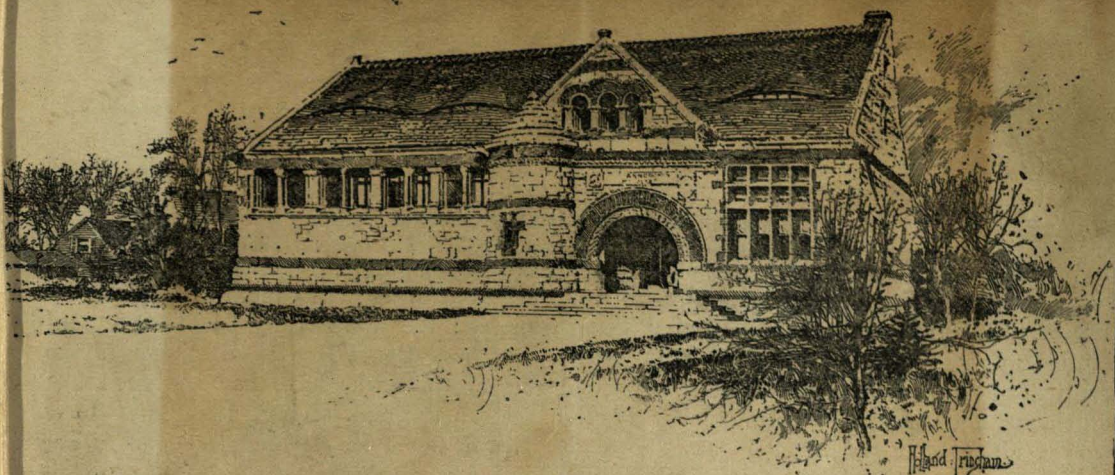
GOOD BOOKS.

When Personally Owned They Gather
a Wealth of Association.

Cultivated men and women have always good books among their most valued possessions, and one cannot believe that this taste can be sacrificed without definite loss to our civilization.

The spoken word can never supplant the written word, and in fact the present tendency is all toward substituting print for speech. Nor can reading in public places take the place of reading one's own books in the quiet of one's home. Books that are owned wait patiently on the reader's leisure, and to have just the book one wants when one wants it must remain one of the supreme luxuries of a cultivated life.

Books, too, when personally owned, writes Earl Barnes in the *Atlantic*, gather around themselves a wealth of personal associations. The very binding, paper and title page recall the conditions under which the book came into our possession. As we open its pages we remember the last time we read it, the place and circumstances and the people with whom we discussed it. Books have personality, and they must always remain the warm friends of their possessors.



CRANE MEMORIAL LIBRARY, QUINCY, MASS.



CARNEGIE LIBRARY AT LONDON. —Biddle-Redmon.

PLAN TO RESTORE LOUVAIN LIBRARY

International Committee to At-
tempt Reconstruction.

PRICELESS WORKS LOST.

M. Delannoy, Librarian at University of Louvain, During a Visit to London In Connection With Proposed Rebuilding of Library Gives Details of Damage It Is Hoped to Repair.

London.—The reconstruction of the famous library of Louvain, destroyed in part by the Germans, will be undertaken by an international committee of distinguished savants, artists and men of letters of allied and neutral countries. Viscount Bryce is at the head of the British committee.

M. Delannoy, the librarian to the University of Louvain, during a visit to London in connection with the projected rebuilding of the library gave to the London Standard the following details of the loss it is hoped to repair:

"The university was founded in 1425 and was a veritable child of the renaissance. No less a celebrity than the great Erasmus himself made two consecutive sojourns there. In the days of Justus Lipsius (1547-79) it boasted 7,000 students and had a world

wide reputation. At the dawn of the following century it had Cornelius Jansen as professor and rector.

"Before the war the university enjoyed great prosperity and new institutions, covering all branches of human knowledge, were springing into being. There were five faculties—theology, law, philosophy and letters, science and medicine. The number of students approached 3,000. They came from all parts of the world and largely from America, but the majority were Belgians. Before his elevation to the archbishopric of Malines Cardinal Mercier was professor of philosophy there.

"As to the library itself, it contained 950 manuscripts, between 800 and 1,000 incunabula and more than 250,000 volumes. Among its more notable con-

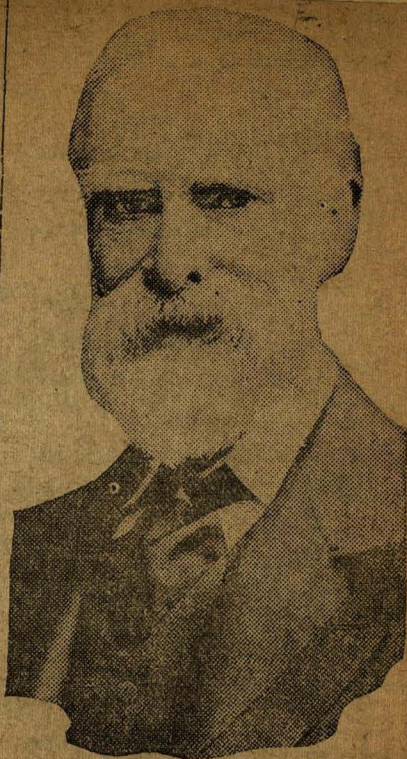



Photo by American Press Association.

VISCOUNT BRYCE.

tents were a little manuscript from the hand of Thomas a Kempis, the celebrated work of Andreas Vesalius (1514-64), the father of human anatomy, given to the university by Charles V., and many beautiful miniatures and editions rare and unique.

"It was particularly rich in theological works. In a unique collection of letters, documents and pamphlets it preserved all that was vital of the great religious controversies of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries—controversies with which the university was intimately associated.

"The library also contained many beautiful specimens from the celebrated presses established at Louvain immediately after the invention of printing. The records of the university itself were a priceless possession. Among them was the papal bull of 1425 authenticating its foundation. The library, which was installed in the ancient Cloth Market, dating from the early fourteenth century, to which building had been added a superb edifice in the style of the renaissance, conserved a precious gallery of portraits of the professors and doctors associated with the university from the earliest times."



INAUGURATION of
the new Louvain Li-
brary of the Belgian
University, destroyed
during the World War
and rebuilt with
money contributed in
the United States.

—Associated Press.

M. Delannoy was a personal witness of the destruction that overcame the famous city. He inspected the ruins of the library. Nothing had been spared. All the volumes had disappeared. In the streets of the town and far away into the surrounding country the wind bore about at its will the half consumed pages of the precious volumes and the scraps of irreparable parchment. The time worn boiseries en chene of the venerable Halle aux Draps were nothing but a flame.

"The world is fully conscious of the great task that is incumbent on it—that of rendering to one of the great centers of learning and true culture the means to continue its civilizing work. The more worthily it accomplishes that task the more will it show to future generations the respect that is due to science."

JULY 22,

1928

RARE OLD PRINTS LEFT TO HARVARD MUSEUM OF ARTS

French Etchings by Meryon Feature Architecture.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—The Fogg Art museum of Harvard university has received an important addition to the print collection in the group of French etchings of old Paris by Charles Meryon, bequeathed to the museum by the late Joseph B. Marvin.

Meryon's work was done in the period when Housman, under direction of Louis Napoleon, was demolishing old Paris in the course of laying out the Paris of to-day. His work was not only the expression of a great artist but of an intense lover of landmarks, and as a result these never have been depicted with more sympathy.

Meryon is rated as the most original etcher of the mid-Nineteenth century and one of the greatest architectural etchers of all times. Printed in brown ink, and often on green paper, which the etcher himself preferred, the impressions are usually brilliant. Two and even four impressions from a plate in its different states bring up to 20 the total number of Meryon etchings in this bequest.

Among the Fogg museum prints are four impressions of Le Stryge, one of which shows the uncompleted plate before the tower of St. Jacques, and the figure of the grotesque monster that has sat on the tower of the cathedral, watching over Paris, for centuries. A very early print of St. Etienne du Mont is of extraordinary brilliancy. This print, like many others in this collection, has passed through some of the greatest and most important collections of Meryon's etchings. A print of special interest is the earlier of the two different states of L'Abside de Notre Dame. This is the actual print given by Meryon to his teacher, Blery, and bears Meryon's presentation in his handwriting.

OCTOBER 22, 1924—

Oldest Manuscripts

I would like to know something about the oldest manuscripts now existing.—F. G., Albion, Ill.

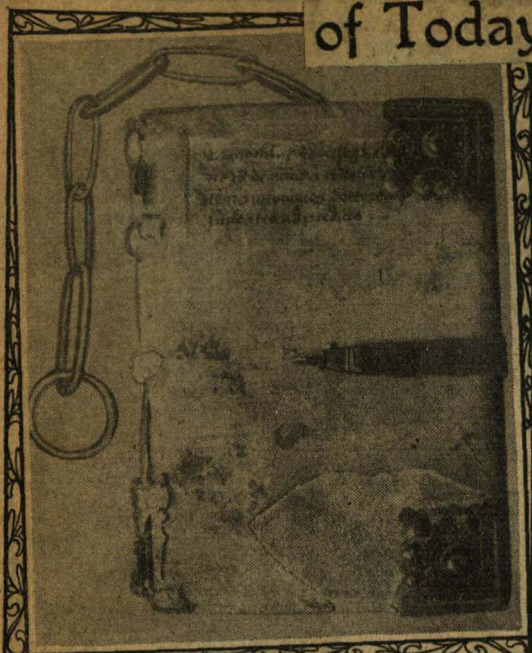
The most ancient manuscripts still preserved are those written on papyrus, which have been in Egyptian tombs. Next to them in point of age are the Latin manuscripts found at Herculaneum, of which there is a rich collection in the Naples museum. Then there are the manuscripts of the imperial era, among which are the Vatican Terence and Septuagint and the Alexandrine Codex of the British museum. Since the middle of the 19th century many manuscripts of Greek writings have been found in Egypt, among the chief being that containing the orations of Hyperides, several containing parts of the works of Homer, Plato, Demosthenes, etc., that in which occurs a portion of the Antiope of Euripides, and the almost complete text of Aristotle's work on the constitution of Athens. It was the custom of the Middle Ages to obliterate and erase writings on parchment for the purpose of writing on the materials anew. This custom ceased in the 14th century, probably because paper came then more into use.

Mr. Wilson's Last Gift Was to Tokyo Library

On the last day that Woodrow Wilson attended to his correspondence, January 31, he sent a letter to his publishers, Harper & Brothers, requesting that a set of his "History of the American People" be sent to the Meiji University of Tokyo, and another letter to the Meiji University Library committee, stating that it had given him great pleasure to present the books. Mr. Wilson's letter was the first response to the letters of appeal which the Library committee had sent out, asking for books to replace the ones which had been destroyed in the Japanese earthquake. Thus the "History of the American People" is one of the last gifts—if not the last—made by Woodrow Wilson. Mr. Wilson's secretary wrote to Harpers that Mr. Wilson wished them to "signify that the books come from the author," and that the charge be placed on the Wilson account. Mr. Henry Hoyns, vice president of Harpers, personally attended to the order, and the volumes are now on their way to Japan to help the earthquake victims resume their cultural progress.

MARCH 7, 1924—

Books Not Always Handy Volumes of Today



CHAINED VOLUME IN SHEEPSKIN



PHOTOS © FRANCIS DICKIE

CONVENIENT TO CARRY

THROUGH the united efforts of all the greatest libraries in France, Paris recently staged the greatest exhibition of books probably ever put on view. This was done in order to show the entire history of bookmaking from the long ago until now. Out of some 4,000 books the three shown here have been chosen as the most interesting.

The most unusual type of book produced before the art of printing came into general use after the year 1470, was the "book in chains." Books were books in those days, and well guarded. The priests and professors did not trust the people nor their pupils. In the schools, monasteries and upon the pulpits the books

were chained tight. This was done by chains of really serviceable strength, capable of defying the strongest man to break without attracting attention. In the picture at the left in the accompanying group a magnificent specimen is shown. It has a sheepskin binding. The corners are of bronze. Like most of the volumes of the time, it is a treatise on religion and belongs to the middle of the 1400 period. The size is seven inches by six inches.

The smallest book in the entire collection, and one calling up visions of monasteries and Crusades that flourished toward the end of the Fourteenth Century, is shown in the center picture. It is a breviary of Cremona. The binding is formed of two narrow bands bound together, with a back of brass in which a small ring is set. The ring was used to hang the book to a small hook in the belt of the monk or knight, for in those days pious men and warriors made long journeys afoot and on horseback. The book is five and a quarter inches long by two inches wide.



Richard Henry Dana Honored

THOUGH Richard Henry Dana, Jr., was born in August, 1815, the Cambridge Historical Association appointed the 20th of October, 1915, as the time for the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of his birth. Under the auspices of that society a Dana exhibition was opened in the Widener Memorial Library at Harvard, consisting of paintings, books, letters and other articles closely connected with Mr. Dana's life. In the Harvard Memorial Hall formal exercises were held at night with Bishop Lawrence in the chair. Addresses were made by Joseph H. Choate, who was a legal associate of Dana; by Professor Bliss Perry, and by Moorfield Storey. Like his father,

Dana was a graduate of Harvard, a lawyer of ability and reputation, and an author. During his college course his eyes became affected and he went on a voyage as a common sailor to California and back. The result of this voyage was his book "Two Years Before the Mast," which is thought by good critics to be the best sea story ever written. He sailed on the brig Pilgrim, 86 feet long, on his famous voyage around Cape Horn. He told a straight story as a literary man, a keen observer of nature and a brave sailor before the mast. He hated his captain because the captain was a small man and a big tyrant and flogged the tars. Dana had to summon all of his powers to match the native ability of some of the common sailors, and opened his heart to the sympathies and confidences of the humble men of various nationalities. He loved the high, and wide, and deep in nature and in human hearts, and described them with such a charm as to compel the honor of his alma mater and of the world. The copyright of "Two Years Before the Mast," like that of so many other great books, was sold for a song. Though William Cullen Bryant interested himself in securing a good

financial return for the manuscript, all that Dana got for it was \$250. This was the pittance for a book which has been read by two generations, and is being read by the third, and has been translated into foreign languages and read in all lands. In the centennial of this book this truth is illustrated: "He being dead yet speaketh." (Heb. 11:4.)

Great interest always attaches to the French Revolution, and at the great bookmaking history show in Paris the only book peculiar to the time was shown. It is a rare binding of porcelain containing a text detailing the benefits of mankind under a state governed by the people. Of course, such a binding was impractical, as the porcelain easily broke. However, a few of these books were published. The present one, acquired by the state, was broken but has been repaired.

Concerning Rare Books.

The late J. Pierpont Morgan has left among his collections the only perfect copy in existence of Claxton's "Mort d'Arthur." It is one of the rarest books in the world for which Mr. Morgan paid about \$43,000, each page being worth \$250.

Some years ago, when the Antwerp collection was sold at Sotheby's, a great American collector coveted the First Folio Shakespeare which was included in the sale. His agent traveled 6,000 miles to secure the treasure, and returned to the states with the great book. But he had left behind him the record price, \$18,000. In 1812 this book fetched \$650.

There is a story of the unearthing of a Caxton at Thorneck hall, Lincolnshire. The butler was entrusted with the work of weeding out superfluous books. A perfect copy of Dame Juliana Berners' "Boke of St. Albans" was thrown aside and sold to a peddler for ninepence. The latter thought he was lucky when he sold it to a Gainsborough chemist for three shillings. It was soon sold to a bookseller for \$10, and he sold it to another bookseller for \$35. It was subsequently sold to Sir Thomas Grenville for \$400. At the time of this transaction Dibdin valued this book at \$2,100, and in 1882 a perfect copy changed hands for \$3,150.

The most valuable printed book in the world is the first ever issued from the press—a Gutenberg Bible. But even in those early days there were "editions de luxe." An ordinary paper copy, with three leaves "restored," fetched \$14,800 the last time it appeared on the market, but at the Hoe sale a tremendous sensation was caused by the inclusion of a fine copy on vellum, printed by the very first printer.

Dealers hurried like homing pigeons from all quarters of the globe to view this treasure and also to bid for it. It was finally secured by Henry E. Huntington, the greatest book collector on the globe, for the record price of \$50,000.

The public library at Seattle, Wash., has installed special telephone service for the purpose of answering various requests for information. The public is invited to make use of this service, and notices telling it so have been posted all over the city.

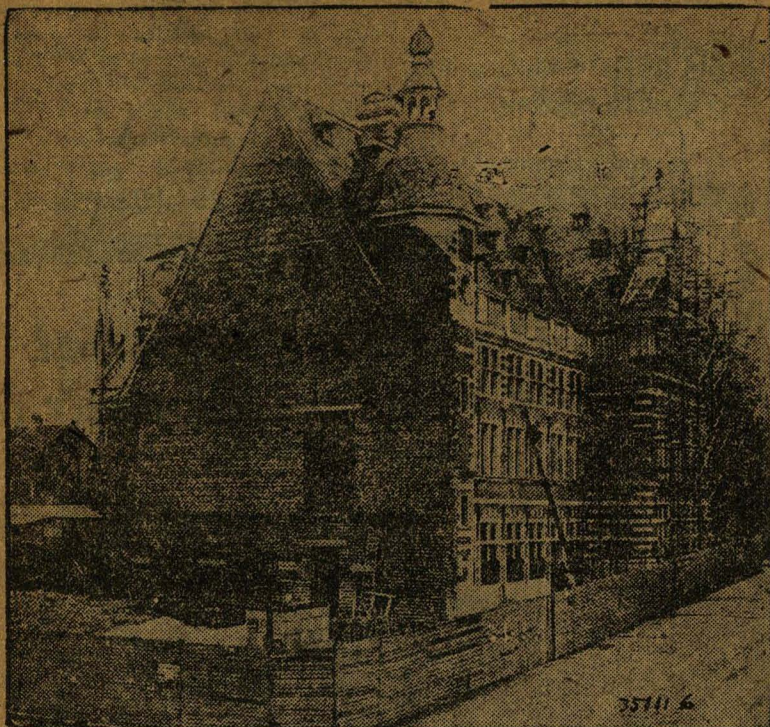
BOOK VALUED AT \$5500



With 26 precious stones in its French Levant binding, the copy of Tennyson's "Holy Grail" which Miss Ruth Kraner, 3883 Beech-st., is holding is valued at \$5500. John G. Kidd, owner of the volume, speaking to the Cincinnati Woman's Club, said no book more beautiful ever had been produced. Its cover is carved and embossed, the pages are hand-lettered and the illustrations done by hand by Sidney H. Mityard.

JANUARY 19, 1926.

FOR LACK OF MONEY LOUVAIN'S RESTORATION COMES TO END



Because of lack of funds the work of restoring the five-hundred-year-old Louvain library has ceased, according to a cablegram from Louvain to Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia university and chairman of the National Committee for the Restoration of the University of Louvain. A million dollars was needed to restore the library, but thus far only \$300,000 has been available. The library was founded in 1425 and destroyed by the German soldiers in 1914. The photograph shows the present state of restoration which is only about one-fourth completed.

NOVEMBER 16, 1923—

Book-friendship.—I never come into a library (saith Heinsius) but I bolt the door to me, excluding lust, ambition, avarice, and all such vices, whose nurse is idleness, the mother of ignorance and melancholy herself; and in the very lap of eternity, among so many divine souls, I take my seat with so lofty a spirit and sweet content that I pity all our great ones and rich men that know not their happiness.—**Robert Burton.**

Coming Back to Books.

Some with happy hearts and some with sad, Cincinnati's childhood and youth come to book for another term in schooling. Getting an education is the phrasing we use in our not always successful endeavor to argue the embryo American into enthusiasm for ambitious accomplishment. And yet we know that school days are but days of training in preparation only for life's commencement. Getting an education is an endless proceeding. The process occupies all of life's time allotment for the individual, and that it extends beyond the bar through the boundlessness of eternity is a conviction by no means uncommon. Be that as it may, the best schooled boy and girl, all else being equal, is the best equipped contestant in life's handicap at commencement time.

There is this to be said in behalf of graduation as a mark of education, and the diploma as its badge, that the boy and girl of Cincinnati, the fortunate pupil of the public school of today, has available vehicles of conveyance along the high road of education that in full keeping with modern progressiveness are as the motor car and the flying machine to the stage coach and the overland express in the facilities furnished for getting there soonest with the finished product. Specialization is the passion and the fashion of the era in all things. The schools have not escaped the epidemic. But the science of pedagogy has applied to educational engineering the adjustment of the personal equation with such intelligence as insures to the pupil full acquisition of general knowledge along with special development in specifically defined branches.

Traditionally the school imprisoned children and youth should have commiseration from a sympathetic public condoling with them in their temporary loss of freedom. In reality a sympathetic public must of necessity congratulate them upon this renewed and enlarged opportunity for refreshing at the founts of learning whence flow new streams of discovery added to the tested streams of old.

payment of dividends by

SEPTEMBER 14, 1920.

The Public Library as an Ally of Morality and Religion

The importance of the public library as an influence in the city life, and an agent in its higher civic development, is gradually becoming known. It serves not simply as a distributor of books, mostly fiction, as it did some years ago. Beyond that, it is a great research bureau on behalf of the extension of knowledge to all who stand in need of it and are curious and inquiring, or engaged in special research work. Not only books, but photographs of all sorts, and lantern slides, can be had. If one is in want of information on almost any subject in heaven or earth, the research department of a great public library is willing and glad to aid in running it down. In the newer requirements also of social service and such other community factors as relate to the home, the school, the recreation centers, industries, law-making bodies—local or State—the library has become an agency of immense importance. Trainers of child-life and persons engaged in vocational problems find its machinery particularly designed and efficient for their using.