

# Bookplates for the Collector

By Ruby Ethel Cundiff



*Ex Libris* · EARLHAM · ALUMNI ·

ORIGINALLY the bookplate was used for the purpose of getting the book returned to its owner. In the early libraries the books were chained, but the individual could not very well employ this method of keeping his books, so he resorted to the personal mark. Shortly after the beginning of printing, separate bookplates began to be used. Many early bookplates had admonitions printed on them urging anyone having the book to return it to its owner. In England the coat of arms was added to the book, without the name on it, as the coat of arms stood for the name and could be recognized even by persons who could not read. All other valuable possessions of the family were so marked. Later the name was added to the coat of arms on the bookplate. As the art of bookplate making continued, the beauty of the bookplate as a thing in itself was emphasized. This is what makes a collection of bookplates valuable as a collection of art.

The beginner who contemplates designing a bookplate often makes the mistake of trying to have it include too much of his life history. Symbolism is attractive, but an overcrowded bookplate gives such a cluttered appearance that the beauty of the symbolism is lost. There are those who say that the individual bookplate is simply a matter of show and that it indicates that the owner is too lazy to write his name in his books, or that he wishes to pretend he has so many books that it would not be possible to do so. Others contend that it dignifies a book and a library to have a bookplate, also that it makes the return of the book much more probable in case it is lent or strays from its home. Needless to say,

the collector is fully convinced of the value of the bookplate for its original use and also for its charm as a collection of art.

In recent years bookplate collecting and the bookplate art have become widespread interests; so much so, that international bookplate exhibits are held, including not only the United States and England, but also Germany, Belgium, Canada, Russia, Poland, and Sweden. There is even a "Bibliography of Bookplate Literature," which was published in 1926 by the public library of Spokane, Washington. It is the joint work of George W. Fuller and Verna B. Grimm with a preface by Winward

Prescott which gives a survey of bookplate literature in books and magazines. The Ex Libris Society of London, England, founded in 1891, was the first organization formed for the promotion and study of the bookplate. Many other countries now have such societies.

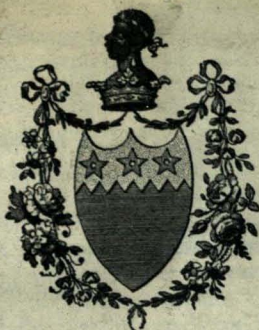
BOOKPLATES are classified in various ways. There are the armorial ones, whose chief feature is the family coat of arms. The earliest bookplates were of this sort. The oldest known separate bookplates are those in books given by Brother Hildebrand Brandenburg of Biberach to the Carthusian monastery of Buxheim about 1480. The design is an angel holding a shield upon which is the coat of arms. The date indicates that the bookplate was almost as early as the printed book. The plate of George W. Doane is an armorial one. Portrait plates are another variety. Some of them are excellently done, and they are frequently used for memorial collections such as the James Monroe Taylor Fund at the Vassar College Library, or the Vail Library at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Both of these are by Sydney L. Smith. Landscape and architectural bookplates are often very effective.







Library of Princeton  
University



Nath. F. Moore



George W. Doane

### Types of armorial bookplates

Another classification divides bookplates according to the users. There are those of individual, public libraries, State, college and university libraries, and the libraries of other institutions such as the Engineering Societies Library, Drexel Institute, and the Lutheran Theological Seminary, at Philadelphia; academies and schools; fraternities;

college annuals; university clubs in the various cities, for example the Harvard Club of New York City and the University Club of Chicago. Many churches also have bookplates for their libraries. That of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Chicago, is dignified and inspiring, with its architectural design.

In recent times more stress has been laid on the personal element in bookplates, that is, a design portraying some particular interest of the owner. The trend of fashion in decoration can also be seen in bookplates. In State library bookplates one frequently

finds the State seal used; it also appears at times in the design of college and public library bookplates. The Princeton University Library bookplate is a beautiful example of an engraved copy of the seal of the university. The motto *Dei Sub Numine Viget* ("Under the power of God it increases") is in the ribbon under the shield. Usually the college library bookplate has some one distinctive feature, something as personal to that library as a coat of arms is to a family—if not the seal, a campus scene, a library interior, or a glimpse of one of the buildings.

One interesting college library bookplate which illustrates this individuality of design is that of the Earlham College Library which was designed by Walter E. Spahr, an alumnus. It shows two Quakers in

the garb worn at the time of their arrival in Indiana. They are shown looking westward on the present site of the college where they see their dream materializing in the distance: a college where men and women may have an education under Christian influences. The vision materialized in the building shown in the plate,

Earlham Hall, modeled after the home of the Guerneys in England, bearing the same name. This is both distinctive and personal; no other Quaker college could use precisely the same design. It combines a landscape campus scene with a bit of college history. Important, too, is the fact that the two Quakers are not both men, but a man and a woman. From the beginning, women have been co-workers and partners with the men in everything. Even in its boarding-school days, Earlham was a coeducational school. Another Earlham College plate was designed by Grace and May Greenleaf for a special collection given by the alumni. It shows a modified Quaker costume and a combination of campus and student interest.

An entirely different classification sometimes appeals to the collector. He may collect bookplates of actors, civil engineers, or doctors; or he may collect bookplates featuring ships—they are very popular just now—or owls, or lamps of learning, or even elephants. He may collect the bookplates of just one artist as, for example, those by E. D. French, the New York designer who made 298 bookplates. His work is so highly valued by collectors that the Grolier Club of New York City had a special

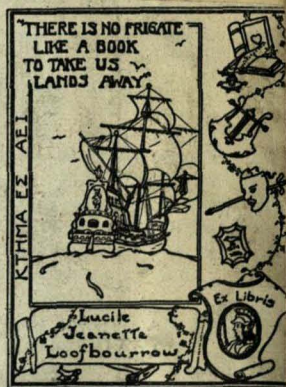




exhibit of his bookplates. The plates of J. W. Spenceley, Sydney L. Smith, Edwin Austin Abbey, who made the plate for James Brander

Matthews—and William F. Hopson, might well be collected as a special interest. These are all modern artists. If one had plenty of money and time, it would be an absorbing pastime to collect plates of the early artists such as Dürer, the German master who also did bookplates; Thomas Bewick of England; Hans Holbein; and Paul Revere, of whom everyone has read but few have realized that he is also connected with the bookplate art. Books, open or closed, might be the deciding factor in choosing a plate, or fireplaces might be the feature making the appeal.

A bookplate carrying much symbolism, yet not appearing crowded is one made by Marston Dean Hodgkin, a young artist of Richmond, Indiana. The ship is the main design, with the quotation from Emily Dickinson:

*"There is no frigate like a book  
To take us lands away."*

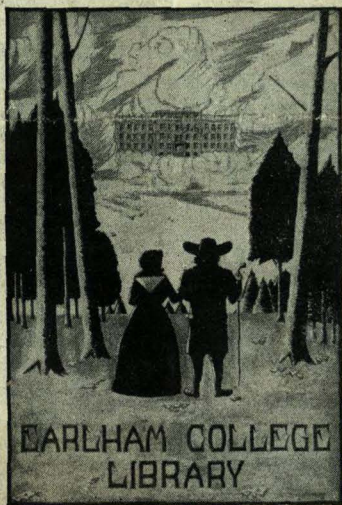
On two sides is a margin with Miss Loofbourrow's interests and hobbies shown therein. An inkpot and pen show her talent for writing clever essays and fanciful poems; a lyre indicates her interest in music; a mask, her dramatic tendency; and beneath the scroll bearing her name is a lamp of knowledge, and a stone mallet which brings to her memory an interesting experience in collecting rock specimens for a course in geology. The Greek quoted in the other margin shows her scholastic trend. As the man on the sight-seeing bus says, "You see it means more to you when you understand about it."

IT MIGHT be interesting to consider how many Presidents of the United States of America had bookplates. Though they are not available to the collector, they nevertheless are worth calling attention to. George

Washington had an armorial bookplate, as did John Adams and John Quincy Adams. John Tyler used a printed label to mark his books. Theodore Roosevelt's was an armorial bookplate, while William Howard Taft's has for its main feature his boyhood home with the seal of Yale, his university, and the United States arms in opposite corners above. Woodrow Wilson used two: in one, which shows the influence of his part in the peace treaty,

he is portrayed sitting at a table with pen in hand, with Notre Dame Cathedral in the background and the motto, "Behind the clouds is the sun still shining," Out of the darkness, unity must come." Washington's is the only American bookplate which has been counterfeited, but the fraudulent duplicate was discovered before anyone had mistaken it for the original.

A collection of authors' bookplates would be interesting but hard to get. In a joint bookplate of Louisa and Booth Tarkington, the window forms the T. The figures reading in the window seat add charm to the design. Drawn by Margaret Steele, daughter of the Indiana artist, T. C. Steele, it was originally printed in two colors. Oliver Wendell Holmes' bookplate has for its main design a beautifully engraved nautilus beneath which is the motto, *Per ampliora ad altiora*, and his name in script at the bottom of the plate. This is partly the work of



J. Winfred Spenceley, who made 107 bookplates between 1883 and 1902. His designs are very highly prized by collectors. Cecil J. Rhodes, noted South African statesman and founder of Rhodes scholarships, had a bookplate designed by Robert Anning Bell, depicting the discovery of the Cape of Good Hope, with a Dutch officer and his men killing the Hottentots what they mean by coming there. The initials C. J. R. form a monogram at the bottom of the plate.



AMONG the few copies of his plate in the hands of collectors is the one owned by Zella Allen Dixon of Chicago, who has a large collection of bookplates, and is an authority on the subject. In her book "Concerning Bookplates" she gives a list of collectors with their addresses, the number of plates in each collection, the date when it was begun, and whether or not the owners desire to exchange. Although the book is not new, being published in 1903, the information is of much value to a would-be collector, for it gives the names of artists of the past as well as modern ones, with lists of plates which they have made or references to sources where such information may be found. There are a number of reproductions of bookplates which add greatly to the interest of the book. The American Bookplate Society publishes a list of members and the kind of plates which they are interested in obtaining. This list is limited in scope but is kept up to date, as the society publishes a yearbook of which this is a supplement.

An interesting type of bookplate is known as the rebus. This takes the name of the person for whom the plate is intended and illustrates it by something which sounds the same but is different in meaning. For example, Helen and George Beach have a bookplate picturing a beach with water rippling on the sand; Thomas Bell's bookplate is mostly a huge bell; H. Ashbee uses an ash tree and a bee; Nathaniel F. Moore, who was president of Columbia University from 1842 to 1849, had a moor pictured on his bookplate.

In planning a bookplate the possibility of such a use of one's name is large. Consider, for example, the names Pond, Cool, Palmer, Mills, Starr, Marshall, Burr, Butler, Garrett, and so forth. Many persons prefer symbolism which portrays their special interest. A really fine bookplate demands a certain amount of dignity.

The Columbia University Library has a collection of bookplates, the designs of which are related to Columbia history. Plates made by or for anyone connected with the university, whether faculty member, student, or trustee, go into this collection. In connection with the early plates, a picture of the person to whom the plate belonged is added to the collection.

Most large libraries have collections of bookplates which they are very glad to show to interested persons. They also have literature about bookplates which the would-be collector may consult for the asking.

ALMOST everyone who has a collection of bookplates can tell you how to arrange them; the methods will be quite numerous. The simplest way, however, is to keep them loose in envelopes or boxes. Anyone who is interested in bookplates will be interested in books about them, and fortunately there is a great deal of material available. A particular book on the phase of bookplates in which you are interested could have extra pages bound in, on which you could mount your bookplates. For example, if you are collecting college bookplates, you might get the book "Some American College Bookplates" and "extend" the volume, as the writer put it, by adding to it all the college plates which you collect. If you are collecting only those of E. D. French, they could be used to "extend" a book about his plates or a book about him. Some "fans" advocate that you

keep your collection mounted on sheets or cards, arranged alphabetically by the artist who made them, or the person for whom they were made. Others arrange them by the country of the artist and then by period, or *vice versa*. If they are separately mounted, it is much easier to change your mind about the method of arrangement as the collection grows. It is a good plan to have your name on the back of each sheet or card, in case your collection is ever lent for exhibition purposes.

## Book-Friends

Books are about as good friends as there are. They get a little dog-eared, maybe, but—unlike some humans we know—they keep right on saying useful things, every time they're consulted. And if they're picked as carefully as a fellow picks his human friends, they'll say pretty fine things. Good consistent things to have around, books are.

Q. Will you be kind enough to give me a very rough estimate on the number of books of one title sold yearly, the book not being by a noted author, and we will say, a fair story. I should like to have some idea about it, in order to know what a certain per cent would amount to.—E. S. K.

A. A publisher whom we have consulted says: "We sell an average of approximately 5000 of each book of fiction which we publish, that is by an author with a little-known name. In some cases the sales run slightly under this number, in other cases they run higher."

THE CONGRESSIONAL Library at Washington, has a very rare collection of Persian manuscripts dating back to the ninth century.



# CINCINNATIAN IS OWNER OF HISTORIC DOCUMENT

## Hobby of Harrison-av Man Leads to Acquisition of Aguinaldo's Philippine Declaration

There is a great fascination in "reading between the lines of history. Here, a statesman's indigestion precipitated a near world war. On that page a lady's favor kept impatient hosts from tearing one another asunder. On another page the health of a child decided a nation's foreign policy.

Horace F. Lyons' thoughts are something like this when he reads history. Lyons lives at 3705 Harrison-av and has made a hobby of collecting army antiques: guns, documents, clothing.

One day Harry S. Gribbelle, a former buddy of Lyons' father when he was with the American army in the Philippine Islands, came to the younger Lyons and gave him a faded and dog-eared document written in Spanish.

### Found Military Papers

"I picked this up in a house near Cabaatuan in 1900 when I was with General Lawton in his northern campaign in the islands," Gribbelle told Lyons. "When the American forces entered the barrio (village) they found it had been headquarters of the rebel chief, Emilio Aguinaldo. I located the house where he had been staying and scooped up a handful of military papers. This is one of them. I have been wondering since what it is."

Lyons saw the document was the Declaration of Independence of the Philippine Islands written in long hand. On its last page names of the signers had been torn off; only the first letter of one signer remained.

Lyons became curious. Aguinaldo still was living in the Philippines, still a champion of their independence. Why not write to him about the papers?

Aguinaldo sent Lyons an answer and asked to see the original document or a photostatic copy. He was almost certain it was the original and only existing copy of the declaration he himself had drawn up during those stormy days after the Treaty of Paris had ceded the islands to the United States, he wrote.

### Belief Confirmed

The photostatic copy Lyons sent Aguinaldo confirmed the Filipino's belief. "Wasn't that his E on the last page where the signature had been torn? Why shouldn't he know the curve and swing of his own handwriting?"

"What would Mr. Lyon take for it? It was priceless to all Filipinos who cherished hopes of complete independence. If Mr. Lyons would send it to him he would see that ample reward was given him. And his name would be handed down to posterity. He would help make history."

There was history enough in the yellow pages the soldier had picked up in 1899. Here it reads: "—and taking possession of all the land by the archipelago in order that Spain, by virtue of the decrees of King Philip II, that are given in histories . . ."

### Real History

And here on another page: "—with Don Emilio Aguinaldo as president of the republican government. And accepts for the governor-general Don Fernando Primo de Rivera."

There was history! There was the heart of all the little, tempestuous rebel, as the Americans had called him, fought for. "With Don Emilio Aguinaldo as president!" Wasn't that what he had withstood Spain for? Wasn't it for that he had brooked the overwhelming forces of the Americans?

And Primo de Rivera! Forty years later still waving the saber in Spain. Causing Alfonso to shift uneasily on the throne. Military dictator of the Spaniards! The same who had been Spain's representative when guerrilla warfare flared in the sun-scorched villages of the desperate Philippines. And the document telling all this and more in a quiet home in Cincinnati.

### Hundreds of Battles

In the encyclopedia one reads under the story of the Philippine Islands' fight for independence: "It is unnecessary to trace in detail the gradual conquest of the islands, or

the hundreds of engagements, often small, between the rebels (under Aguinaldo) and the Americans. With the capture of Aguinaldo by Maj. Gen. Frederick Funston on March 23, 1901, the resistance became little more than that of guerrillas."

But Lyons smiles and reads between the lines:

"Was it so unnecessary after all to relate in detail the 'hundreds of engagements, often small,' between the Americans and the rebels? Wasn't it during one of those a soldier ran thru someone's headquarters and took the original of the Philippine Declaration of Independence? It's small things, sometimes, that make history."



# The Books of Childhood

By F. C. HOGGARTH

NOT the least precious memories of our early years are those that gather about good books. Those first eager excursions in the realms of literature are for many among life's more memorable things.

Harriet Beecher Stowe tells how one rainy day she found at the bottom of a barrel of her father's old sermons and pamphlets, a copy of the "Arabian Nights." Henceforth her happiness was unbounded. The book was not read once and then dismissed; it was read daily, becoming an ever dearer and dearer old friend. It transported her to far-off lands and gave her a new world of her own. Thereafter when things went wrong, when the boys went away to play higher than she dared climb in the barn, or started for fishing excursions, she would find a nook where she would seek fairyland on her enchanted carpet.

J. M. Barrie has told something of his early adventures with books, which so far as the book of the magic carpet is concerned, is in humorous contrast to the experience of Harriet B. Stowe. Barrie and his mother were great chums. They read many books together, when Barrie was a boy. "Robinson Crusoe" was the first and the second, and "Arabian Nights" should have been the next. They got it out of the library, but on "discovering that they were nights, when we had paid for knights, we sent the volume packing and I have curled my lips at it ever since." Not everyone, however, can afford to do that,

not having, like Barrie, a magic carpet of his own!

Joel Chandler Harris, the famous creator of "Uncle Remus," once told a friend how when he was a little fellow in the Putman country, his mother spent many an hour on winter evenings, reading to him.

"My desire to write," he said, "to give expression to my thoughts, grew out of hearing my mother read 'The Vicar of Wakefield.' I was too young to appreciate the story, but there was something in the style or something in the humor of that remarkable little book that struck my fancy, and I straightway fell to composing little tales, in which the principal character, whether hero or heroine, silenced the other characters by crying 'Fudge!' at every opportunity."

Not a very studious boy, full of pranks and mischief, given to playing truant a good deal and much fonder of animals, especially horses, than of books, his mother's reading probably did more for Harris in a formative way than all his schooling. Nor is the reward of such reading all on one side. Those hours can be among the happiest that parents have.

It is evident that the outstanding books of childhood are by no means always so-called "children's books." Great literature has

power to fascinate the young. A recent biography of Bishop Quayle, an essayist well known in America, tells how he saved all the coins he got, as a poor boy, and bought a copy of Shakespeare, which he read while he plowed. He threw the horses' reins round his neck, then headed the team in the right direction and read "Hamlet" till they struck the fence on the other side of the field. Then, turning the horses round, he set them on their return journey, while he returned to Shakespeare.

SHAKESPEARE has been among the formative influences of many a young life. He has often been a first excursion among the immortals. Writing about the books that influenced him as a boy, Lord Shaw of Dunfermline, who has played a prominent part in the legal life of Scotland, gives a picture of a rather undersized boy, sitting in a great leather chair, and resting on one of its arms a large one-volume edition of Shakespeare's plays. He might, he says, have been heard drawing his breath hard, panting with excitement over the closing scenes of Othello. Though now an old man, he writes, "I remember it as if it were yesterday."

They are great memories that thus gather round our early books. And sometimes a man will sally forth in search of some old favorite for his own children. J. C. Squire has told how he once thus set out for a copy of "The Swiss Family Robinson." There was a memory of a distant, vivid, yet almost unreal past, in which he saw a small boy curled up in an armchair reading that book. He would get it for his sons and read it again himself. "He would recover the old excitement over the battle with the snake; refresh his memory as to the habits of the armadillo and the duckbilled platypus; and above all see that picture of the house in the tree which was the basis of the earliest of his ambitions, and (alas!) the least likely to be fulfilled, unlikely though all the others may be." He found no little difficulty in getting a copy. When he asked for it the booksellers seemed to look upon him as an antediluvian! He succeeded in the end, and once more had a sight of the book of his boyhood, "a classic beyond all dispute," he declares.

## She Was Deliberate.

It is said Dinah Maria Mulock Craik, the famous author of "John Halifax, Gentleman," made a habit of leaving at her bank the manuscript of each of her stories as soon as it was completed. It would remain there perhaps six months, and then she would call for it and see how the story affected her after that lapse of time. If it pleased her the manuscript was sent to the publisher. Otherwise it was rewritten or thrown away.



## Growth of Library "Request System"

BECAUSE England "borrowed the State librarian of California recently to make a survey for a like system in South Africa," considerable interest has been aroused in the county library system of that State. Only eighteen years ago a "shelf of books, a desk, typewriter, and a lone librarian" comprised the county system of Los Angeles County. In a checking of international statistics, that county has to-day achieved the ultimate in county libraries of the world. Three hundred fifty thousand volumes may be drawn upon by borrowers located at extreme points, geographically speaking, in Los Angeles County. Three trucks and parcel post transport volumes to the Mojave desert or distant mountain towns. In fact, an automobile drive of ten minutes from any point in the county brings a reader to a county branch library.

The "Request System" is the feature of this particular county which has made its library service so outstanding. It enables any borrower to secure practically any book he desires, even if it is not in his own small library. His request is sent by his librarian to the central library in Los Angeles. There the book is located in whatever branch it happens to be and sent as soon as possible to the reader. The lengths to which authori-

ties will go to secure a requested book, illustrate the excellent service put in force in that location. If this book is not included in the library's catalogue, it is purchased when possible. Sometimes it is borrowed from the State library or the Congressional Library and, in some instances, a book has even been sent from abroad.

A recent survey of this "Request System" reveals some interesting human angles. A certain borrower was studying elephant breeding. He made request for books on that subject. When it was impossible to secure them at the State library as well as at the Balboa Park Zoo, an appeal was sent to the Congressional Library. The demand was finally supplied by the New York Zoo; information also came in from London and India.

The county system does not stop at merely supplying books. Its usefulness is manifold. One branch tells of displaying a wild flower show. Another conducts travel tours. In fact, any feature that will enrich the lives of the people of a community may be introduced by the county librarian.

The county system started originally in Maryland and Ohio, but to-day 38 States have inaugurated the county service. Hawaii and the British Isles have also adopted the plan. The ideal of the Los Angeles County librarian demands that people need go no more than two miles to borrow books and magazines.

The county branches are housed in a library building when that is possible; sometimes they have only a room in a schoolhouse, a filling station, or a clubhouse. After all, the actual housing is unimportant so long as a spirit of helpfulness prevails to fill the demand for library assistance.

WALTER SCOTT'S famous poem, "The Lady of the Lake," was written in 1810, and the centennial anniversary is a reminder of the remarkable influence which the poem has had upon the popularity of the Highlands of Scotland among tourists. In general, the shrines which are venerated by those who live in the neighborhood, and visited in great numbers by people who live at a distance, are associated with the lives of famous persons or with important historical events. But "The Lady of the Lake," which is a romantic novel in rime, brings many thousands of dollars to Scotland every year from Americans—not to mention the others—who quote its lines as they climb Benvenue and sail on Loch Katrine and visit Ellen's isle. The spot where the knight's gallant steed lay dying, the cave where Ellen prayed; Lanrick mead, where the clansmen mustered; Collantogle ford, where the desperate duel was fought—these and a score of other places celebrated in the beautiful poem have an enchantment which never grows old. Such is the power of this poem, more than any other of the works of Scott, upon the affections and the imagination of succeeding generations.

ONE OF THE SMALLEST BOOKS in existence is the 1838 edition of the *Bijou and London Almanack*. Measuring only three-quarters of an inch by five-eighths, and about one-eighth of an inch in thickness, it contains several portraits. Other small books are the *Mill*, the *Glasgow Midget New Testament* and *The Court of Flowers*. The latter, published in Holland in 1674, is but one-fourth the size of a postage stamp.

### Rare Book of Poems

FRANCIS E. SOMMER, of the Cleveland Public Library staff, is compiling a book of poems, but when it is finished he'll probably be the only one able to read it. The book will incorporate poetry in 79 languages, including Turkish, Burmese, Arabic, Chinese, and Singhalese. Mr. Sommers knows them all.

April 26, 1931

AUTHORSHIP OF THE FAMOUS Civil War poem, 'The Vacant Chair,' is again in dispute, Worcester, Massachusetts, claiming that Henry S. Washburn of that city was the real author. Records on file in Worcester show that the poem was first published in the *Worcester Spy* in November, 1861, with the initials H. S. W. The author neglected to have it copyrighted and it was freely copied, finally catching the eye of a music publisher who made it one of the most popular of war-time songs.



# PRINCESS' COPY BOOK NEARLY 150 YEARS OLD

First Used by Daughter of King George III and  
Her Brother, the Duke of York and Albany

By United Press.

LONDON, May 13.—Little Princess Elizabeth is laboriously scrawling in a copy book which was once used by a Princess Elizabeth nearly 150 years ago.

An album, containing two copy books, was used by Princess Elizabeth, daughter of King George III, and her brother, Frederick, Duke of York and Albany. These, by the consent of the Duchess of York, were presented to the present princess by E. A. Barnard of Cambridge on the recent fifth birthday of Elizabeth.

The album was recovered as the result of a broadcast appeal by Barnard some time ago for the preservation of old documents and papers.

The specimens, which are beautifully written, presumably with quill pens, on hand-made paper, are typical copy book quotations and that of the young Princess Elizabeth reads:

"Fortune takes away nothing but what she gave. But she gives not virtue. Therefore, virtue is a good which she cannot make away." The princess made a mistake in writing "make" for "take." This was written in 1783.

The Duke of York's specimen is also very nicely done and in his case is signed Frederick, "April 12, 1771." It reads:

"True honour is the bright sun which warms and nourishes noble souls to noble actions. It elevates

our thoughts, dignifies our lives and points every deed toward heaven, the places of its birth."

Both sheets, together with an engraving of the princess, are mounted in an album which is inclosed in a vellum portfolio.

## CENTURY-OLD LIBRARY SURVIVES IN INDIANA

Book Collection at Madison  
Begun 109 Years Ago by  
Learned Pioneers.

MADISON, IND., APRIL 11.—(AP).—The first public library in the Northwest territory, established 109 years ago in a wayside inn along the Ohio river, ministers today to the community which has grown up around it.

Across the Appalachians and down the river to southern Indiana a group of men of learning came soon after 1810.

Led by Alexander Meek, attorney, they formed a circulating library for mutual exchange of books. In 1818 the men of the hamlet met at the inn, and formed there a public library of voluntarily contributed books. Twenty-four subscribers paid \$5 apiece in its first year for borrowing privileges. It outgrew quarters in the inn, moved to a store, and after the Civil war became a county enterprise.

Today it occupies an entire floor of the Masonic temple. Its shelves still hold most of the worn and rare volumes which started it—notably a French atlas published in Amsterdam in 1733.

MAY 13, 1931—

Q. Who was the first American woman to publish a book of poems?  
—T. B. G.

A. Anne Bradstreet was the author of our first book of poems. She was the first literary woman to win a reputation among her English and American contemporaries. Her book appeared in London in 1650.

### Prize Book

For what book did Sinclair Lewis win the Nobel Prize for literature?

He won on the merits of his books in general. "Main Street," "Babbitt" and "Elmer Gantry" received special mention. "Arrowsmith" was not mentioned in the report.



## The Libraries

MEN sometimes give their money away because they have to give it up, anyhow. They take it as far along with them as possible, and would take it clean through the eternal gates if they could, and sit down on it in Heaven; but they find no convenience for transportation of bullion across the Styx, and so, in the last moment, they throw it at a Bible Society, or a historical library, saying: "Catch this, and put me down as one of your almoners." But here is a man in health and prosperity, who hands over a magnificent donation, not because he is compelled to leave it, but because he wants to help a grand institution. Post-mortem beneficence is well, but ante-mortem beneficence is better. What a monument a man builds to himself when he builds it in books, builds it in the intellectual and moral improvement of his city, builds it while he lives, so he can read its inscription, not, "Here is entombed a man, born at such a time, and died at another time; peace to his ashes," but, "Here lies a man who loved his city, and loved humankind, and loved his God; and here he will live as long as the world lives; peace to his great, living soul."

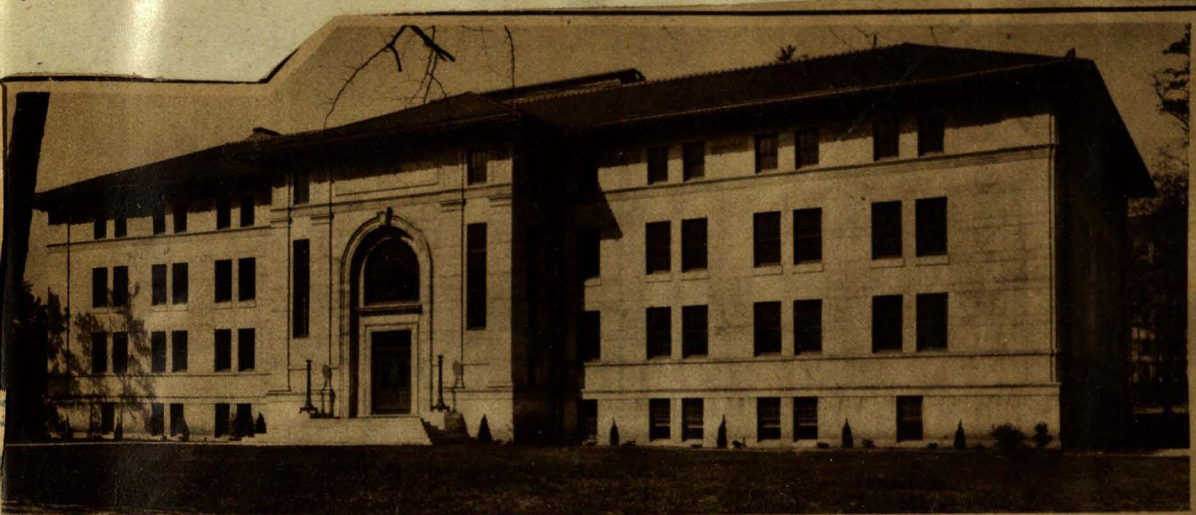
A contribution to a public library is especially gracious at this time. Book-reading needs to be fostered. Everything in this day goes to newspapers. There are men who read three or four newspapers a day, who do not read one book in two years. By all means read the daily and weekly newspapers. Without newspaper reading you cannot be intelligent, and you cannot be useful; but you also need consecutive reading of books—books of history, books of science, books of travel, books of art, books of essay, books of poetry. You ought to have one book all the time occupying your spare hours. It ought to be on the stand, or on the counting-desk, or on your dressing-case, and every day you ought to dip into it. You want consecutive knowledge, elaborated information, wide sweeping views, such as you can get only from books.

He who blesses a public library blesses all classes of people, and blesses them for both worlds. The more such institutions you build, the more those already built will be prospered. The more people read, the more they will want to read. Make the appetite of a city voracious for literature, and all the books of your

libraries will not be able to satiate it. The inspired sage said in Ecclesiastes what we quote in gratitude: "Of making many books there is no end."

• • •  
A wise man is strong; yea a man of knowledge increaseth might. Prov. 24: 5.  
• • •





**THE LIBRARY AT EMORY UNIVERSITY**, Atlanta, Ga., has storage capacity for 400,000 volumes. The main study room has seats for 300 students. The building, recently completed, cost \$400,000. The institution has 1,200 students enrolled.

## Books

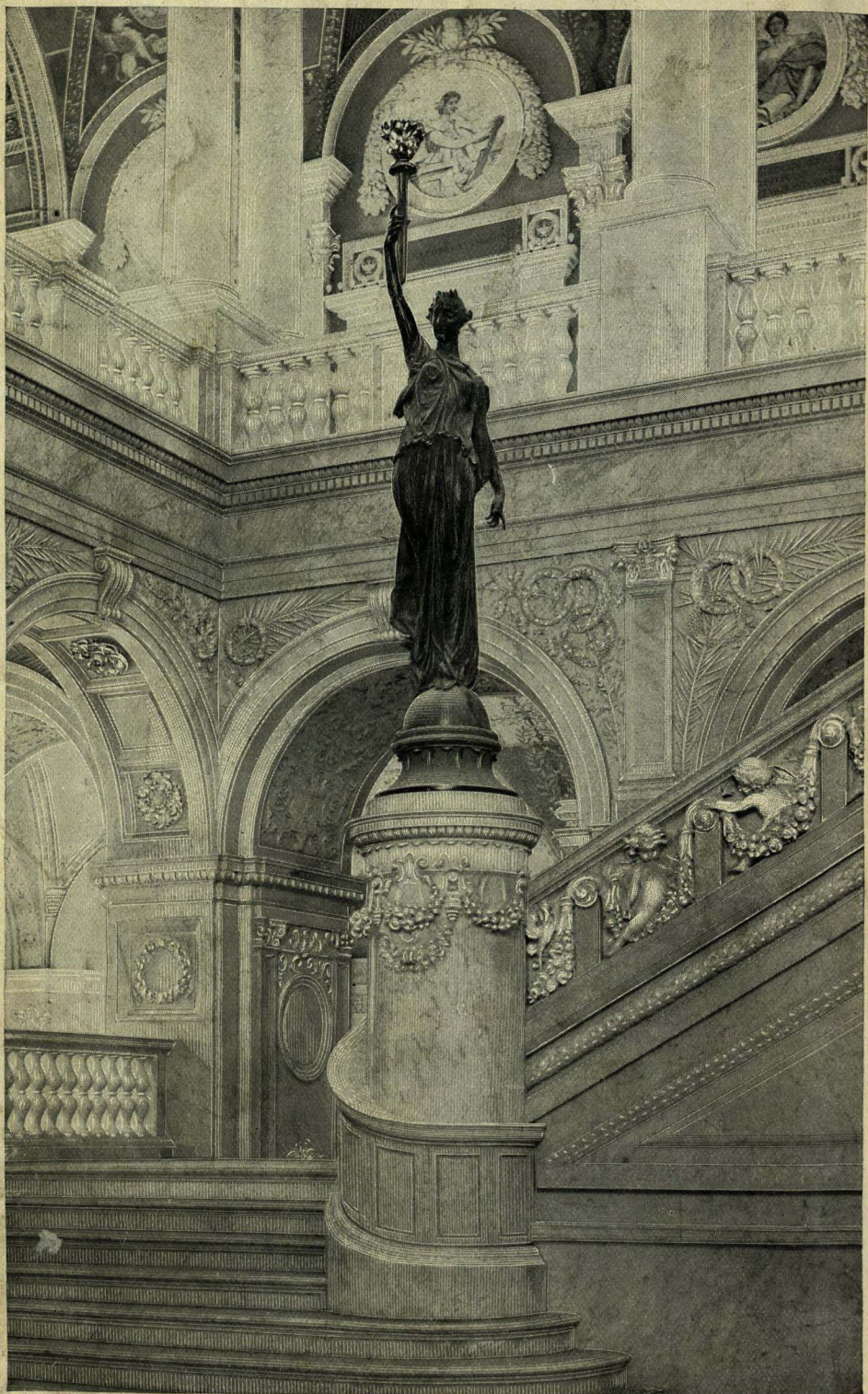
It is the man who loves to read  
That never lacks a faithful  
friend,  
No matter what his race or  
creed  
Or wither he his way must  
wend.  
He grumbles not nor wears a  
frown  
If skies are dark and rain  
comes down,  
And all the earth seems joy  
forsook,  
Who owns a book.

It is the man who loves to read,  
Be he peasant or a king,  
Who has no thought of want or  
need,  
But every day can laugh and  
sing.  
He dwells within a palace grand  
Set in the midst of Fairyland,  
Who has a quiet little nook  
And just a book.

What bliss they know who love  
to read!  
They quench their thirst with  
mellow wine,  
Upon ambrosia they feed,  
All clad in silks and laces fine.  
On velvet covered floors they  
tread  
And view a world with wealth  
bespread  
Whatever way they chance to  
look  
Who love a book.

—Beatrice McDonald, in the  
Detroit News.

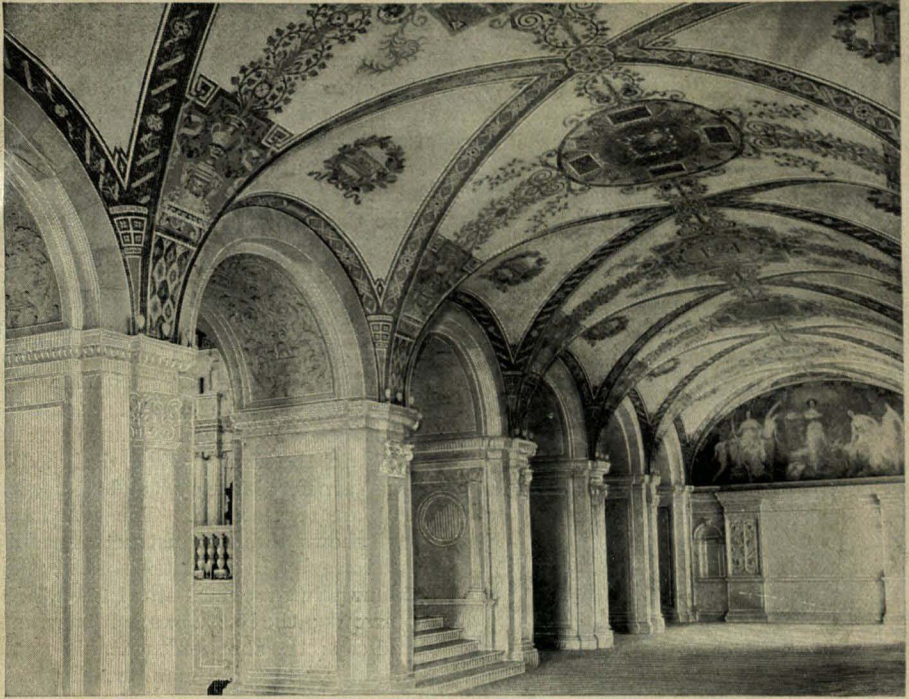




THE GRAND STAIRCASE OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY.

*From a photograph by Cullen, Washington.*





"POETS' HALL"—CORRIDOR SOUTH OF THE MAIN ENTRANCE.

*From a photograph by Cullen, Washington.*

## THE NATIONAL LIBRARY.

The architectural and artistic splendors of the great new library in Washington, "the greatest, grandest, most beautiful, and most secure treasury for books that the world has ever known."

FROM time to time the newspapers have told us that our National Library—for so the Library of Congress should be called—was to be the greatest, grandest, most beautiful, and most secure treasury for books that the world has ever known. It is now completed, and we are called upon to pass judgment; for every American has an interest of ownership in this splendid building. And after passing through its halls, the visitor is pretty sure to feel his patriotic enthusiasm awakened, and to declare it a triumph which fitly crowns the close of an eventful century of American history. There is everything in the structure to remind us of our country's past, and to make us thankful for its present and hopeful for its future. The famous names and stirring words emblazoned on the walls move

us to nobler aims. With Daniel Webster, we are moved to "thank God we are Americans!"

The Goddess of Liberty facing the east on the Capitol's dome has long had to lament the fact that the growth of the capital, frustrating the plans of its founders, has been all to the westward, where she cannot see it. She has now at least one great public building before her. Its torch tells her of sunrise, and signals the last glow in the west; for wherever the sun may be, it strikes the golden dome of the library and turns to flames the torch of learning which marks its apex.

As we cross from the Capitol Park, the first object of interest is Mr. Roland Perry's fountain at the base of the central landing of the imposing granite steps.



It represents a scene in the court of Neptune, with the god of the seas sitting on his throne of rock, and surrounded by



STATUE OF COLUMBUS, IN THE ROTUNDA.

*Modeled by Paul Bartlett.*

Tritons and nymphs—a fine piece of work, breathing strength and freedom.

The next thing noted may be the decorative figures above the three arches of the entrance porch. They are in couples, life size, and typify "Literature," "Science," and "Art." The literary figures—one writing, the other dreaming

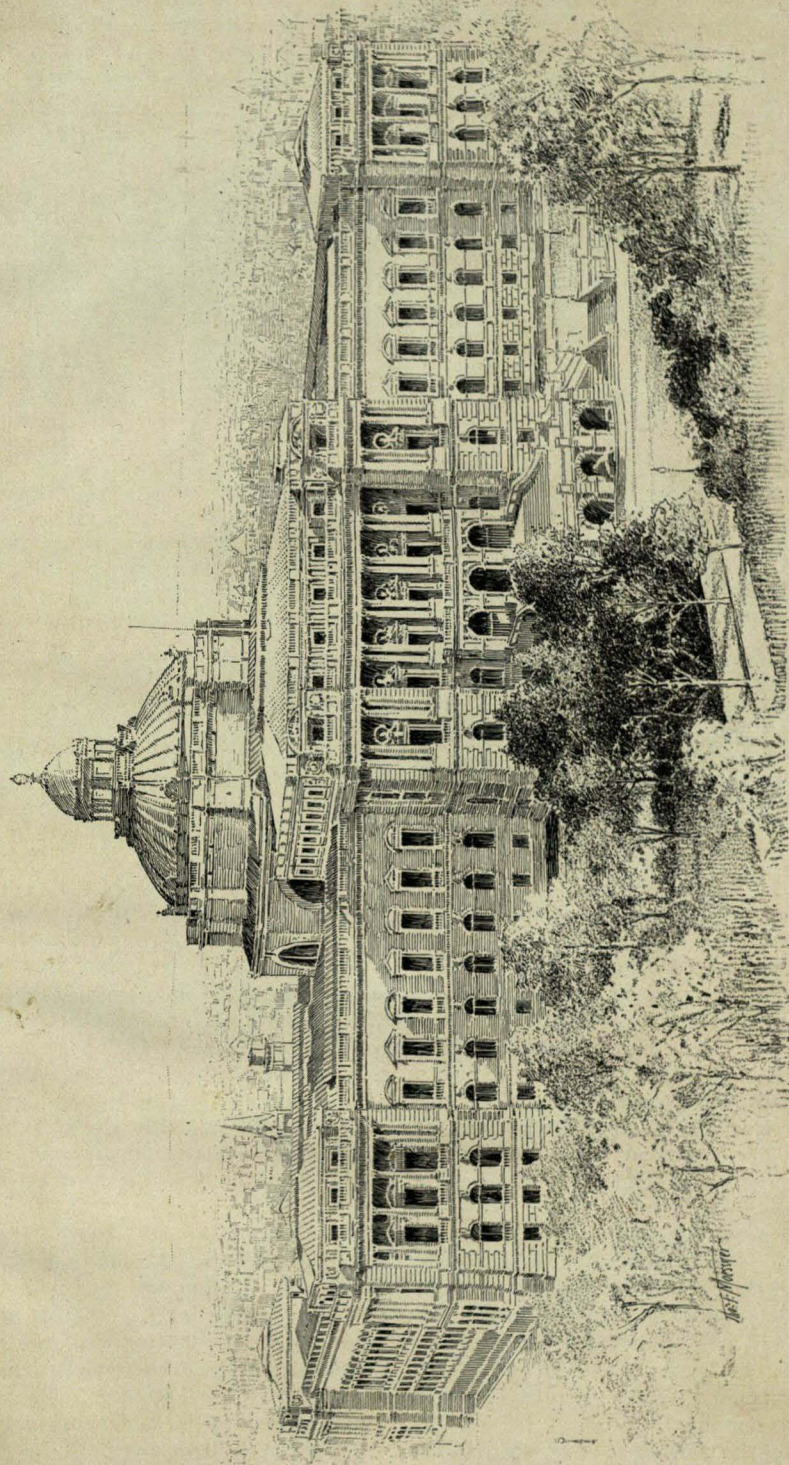
over a book—embody the creative and the reflective side of letters. In "Science," one daughter holds the torch of knowledge; the other, celestial globe in hand, gazes contemplatively at the stars. "Art" is represented by the twins, "Sculpture" and "Painting," the former armed with palette and brush, while the latter, mallet in hand, looks thoughtfully at the half masked features of the "Divine Dante" which she is creating. Mr. Pratt is the sculptor.

Under these spandrels are the great bronze doors of which we have heard much, yet nothing too eloquent. The decorations form a series, portraying "Tradition," "Writing," and "Printing." In the first of these, designed by Olin Warner, "Memory" and "Imagination" are represented. The tympanum above shows a woman instructing a child. Seated near by, in an attitude of attention, are four primitive men—the Indian, holding arrows; the Norseman, with a winged metal cap; the shepherd, with his crook; and the prehistoric man, armed with a stone axe. The panels of the middle door, "Printing," by Frederick Macmonnies, picture "The Humanities" and "Intellect." The face of the former is soft with sympathy; that of "Intellect," stern and hardened with truth. The artist has entitled the tympanum, "Minerva Diffusing the Products of Typographical Art." The goddess, attended by a winged genius, bearing books, and the solemn owl, are fitting wardens at the central door of the temple of learning.

The door to the right, "Writing," was begun by Olin Warner, and on his death, in August, 1896, the work was taken up by Herbert Adams. On one panel "Truth" is seen, with mirror and serpent, symbols of accuracy and wisdom. On the other, "Research" holds aloft her lighted torch. In the center of the tympanum sits a woman with scroll in lap, teaching writing to the children at her side.

On passing through these massive doors, the first view of the interior of the library is a positively dazzling one. "It is a white gleam, gold and glory!" as one visitor expressed it.





THE NATIONAL LIBRARY.

*Drawn by T. F. Moessner from a photograph by Handy, Washington.*