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In 1952 Leon E. Seltzer (left), then Editor of *The Columbia Lippincott Gazetteer of the World*, and Charles G. Proffitt, President and Director of the Press, discuss editorial matters.
That Patrician Publisher on Morningside Heights

GENE R. HAWES

ONE ageless and quite special personality in publishing has frequented Morningside Heights from the days when Columbia moved there in 1897 to fulfill its manifest destiny as a university. Indeed, this fellow came into being full-blown four years before, and has served as the publishing arm of the University ever since. As with many another publisher, he has an odd quirk. His is absolute anonymity. He is known only through the rubric of Columbia University Press. He acts only through his officers and friends.

Columbia's publishing gentleman has by nature been a patrician, one devoted to good works of particular kinds, as befits a Knickerbocker of the fine old New York family to which he belongs. He publishes only scholarly things—books, for the most part—that convey the urbanity as well as the insights of university research.

As a book publisher, he has grown quite distinguished over the years. His house now regularly stands as the third or fourth most productive university press in the country. It stands among the seventy-five or eighty most productive American book publishers of all kinds, some four hundred or more. He has issued works by prime authorities on everything under the sun, and one
on the sun (S. A. Mitchell’s *Eclipses*, 1923). His authors include four Presidents of the United States and three Chief Justices. His best-known opus, *The Columbia Encyclopedia*, crisply surveys universal knowledge in one great volume found today in many hundreds of thousands of homes. In all, he has published more than four thousand books, of which a thousand continue in print and to which he adds about a hundred new works a year. He distributes some three hundred fifty thousand copies of his books a year. The Columbia crown colophon of his press is known and respected the world over.

All such present eminence, though, seems a far cry from the early day when his first Trustees agreed on the need for contingent funds, and solemnly assessed themselves five dollars each for his cause. This came not long after his creation as the brain-child of a towering intellectual sire.

Nicholas Murray Butler, then Professor of Philosophy, drafted a committee report in 1890 proposing that university press functions be started by Columbia. “A marked activity” in original research had come into existence at Columbia “within the last few years,” he noted, but its results could not be published through ordinary channels because such “contributions to knowledge are always of a technical character and usually destitute of commercial value.”

Dr. Butler’s inspiration was surely influenced by the example of his uncle, Nicholas Murray. For the uncle, librarian at Johns Hopkins, also headed the first true university press in America: The Johns Hopkins Press, which issued its first book in 1887 and adopted its present name in 1890. (A Cornell University Press had been operated as a small printshop from 1869 to 1884, but did no publishing until its revival in 1930.)

Three years passed before the brain-child of the future brilliant President of Columbia University was commissioned, years in which Chicago (1892) and California (1893) introduced their presses. Columbia University Press was finally incorporated as
a nonprofit organization on June 8, 1893, the fourth university press to be founded in America.

Columbia's patrician publisher thereupon began his work with the blessing of the University Trustees, the exclusive right to Columbia's imprint, the stipulation that his managing board consist of Columbia officials—and no funds. Book printing and even, at first, complete publishing, were not included in his mission. A statement made at the outset declared, "Without engaging in the business of printing it is believed that the Press can, through satisfactory arrangements with printers, publishers, and others, insure the publication of works affording a real contribution to knowledge."

Nicholas Murray Butler shortly became Secretary of the Press, that is, its principal operating officer. Seth Low, Columbia's President, was also the Press's first President. And when Mr. Low resigned to become the first Mayor of Greater New York in 1902, Dr. Butler succeeded him both as President of the University and President of the Press. The man whom Theodore Roosevelt was later to hail, understandably, as "Nicholas Miraculous," continued to head the Press all through the years of his growing eminence as a national and world figure, indeed, until 1946, the year before his death.

Getting started proved difficult for our publishing friend, for not only he but the University were very new to the business. He soon worked out an agreement under which the Macmillan Company would manufacture and sell all books bearing the Columbia Press imprint. This connection, which freed his time to arrange for books and their financing, continued in force into 1911.

His very first work was a special volume dedicated to the venerable first dean of Columbia College. *Classical Studies in Honour of Henry Drisler* appeared close to the Press's first anniversary on Commencement Day in June of 1894, which also marked Dr. Drisler's fiftieth anniversary on the faculty. The
book’s nineteen contributions from the dean’s former students included one by President Low, and its cost of $1,285.82 (for the 613 copies printed) was borne by the contributors in proportion to the length of their essays.

President Low’s handsome gift of $10,000 to the Press early in 1895 enabled it to proceed with a publishing program. The gift was invested, and loans against it furnished operating capital. Upon its receipt, Professor Butler advised his fellow Trustees of six faculty books nearing completion and four being planned. The Finance Committee was forthwith empowered to consider and proceed with the six (which included a grammar of an ancient Iranian language, Avestan, works on the law of contracts in Rome and the novel in Greece, and books on cell structure, statistics, and city government). The Trustees themselves were appointed to report on the merits of the books, according to the following transcription from the minutes of January 28, 1895:

In reference to Professor Jackson’s book, Professor Peck
In reference to Professor Munroe Smith’s book, Professor Cumming
In reference to Professor Peck’s book, Professor Brander Matthews
In reference to Professor Wilson’s book, Professor Osborn
In reference to Professor Mayo-Smith’s book, President Low
In reference to Professor Goodnow’s book, President Low

Columbia’s publisher was well begun. He issued thirty-seven books in all before the close of his first decade, and one hundred ninety-five in his second. In those early years, much of his time was taken up in contracting for the introduction and running of the Columbia Bookstore on the new campus, and serving as publisher of a fine old magazine, the Columbia University Quarterly. Since then, the Bookstore management has passed to the University, and the functions of the Quarterly to such distin-
guished periodicals in other Columbia hands as Columbia University Forum, Columbia College Today, and Columbia Library Columns.

Serious faltering in his stride developed toward the end of his third decade. The casual old arrangements which he had made for the complicated business of publishing no longer met the needs for continued growth. By 1912, sales of his books had approached seven thousand copies a year; by 1922, they had still not surpassed the seven thousand mark.

At about that time, fortunately, Frederick Coykendall helped him to organize a more complete publishing house which has become the Columbia Press as it is today. Mr. Coykendall served Columbia quietly and with great distinction for a half-century. He was President of an old Port of New York towing concern, the Cornell Steamship Company, and was a Trustee and eventually Chairman of the Trustees of the University.

It was as a University Trustee that Mr. Coykendall grew interested in the work of the Press, and he was named Acting Secretary of the Press in 1923 and its Secretary and Director in 1926. In the latter year he chose Hugh J. Kelly as Assistant to the Director and full-time staff member to manage the Press's affairs. Mr. Kelly left in 1927 to join the McGraw-Hill Book Company, later becoming Executive Vice President of McGraw-Hill, Inc., the parent company. He is currently Chairman of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries, and still serves the Press, as its Treasurer. Moreover, Frank D. Fackenthal, who is on the Council of the Friends of the Libraries, serves today as Chairman of the Press. Dr. Fackenthal, former Acting President of the University, served as President of the Press from 1953 to 1958, and has been one of its most faithful friends for many years.

In June of 1927, Mr. Coykendall engaged Charles G. Proffitt to manage the Press. Mr. Proffitt, former Executive Secretary of Columbia's Alumni Federation and Editor of the Columbia Alumni News magazine, also began and headed the Manufactur-
ing Department. Manufacturing placed the printing and binding of the Press’s books with outside firms, and, as the present Production Department, still does. Mr. Proffitt serves today as President and Director of the Press. In 1928 he and Mr. Coykendall chose Clarke F. Ansley as the first Editor of the Press. The scholarly Dr. Ansley came from the Encyclopedia Britannica, and had previously been Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Chairman of the Department of English at the University of Iowa. He started the Editorial Department of the Press, at about the same time that its intensely energetic first Sales Manager, Donald Porter Geddes, arrived to develop its Sales Department.

Before Dr. Ansley’s arrival, the editing of Columbia Press books had been left largely to chance. “As recently as 1927 the Press did practically no editorial work on a manuscript,” Mr. Coykendall commented a few years later, “and matters of spelling, punctuation, arrangement and so forth rested entirely with the author and the printers’ proofreader.”

Such informality ended then, however, and the Press has ever since remained thoroughly professional in all departments. Its work multiplied rapidly after the change. By 1931 its annual output of more than ninety new titles made it the country’s most prolific university press. It continued from then on to serve as one of America’s foremost publishers. As might be expected, professors at other colleges and universities increasingly turned to the Press with fine manuscripts. The Press accepted many of them, feeling obliged to issue the best of the scholarly work that it could attract. A natural result is that only about a third of its current titles are home-grown, as is also the case with its peers.

Harrowing adventures as well as heroic exploits have marked the career of Columbia’s publisher, both before and after he acquired his full professional staff. He has long had a distinctive passion, caught, perhaps, from the University, for enormously ambitious projects. And often, the more heroic the exploit, the more harrowing his consequent adventures.
Nicholas Murray Butler (left), President of Columbia University, and Frederick Coykendall, Chairman of the Trustees of the University, at the conclusion of the opening exercises of the academic year in 1938. Mr. Coykendall was then Secretary and Director of the Press.
In 1915, for example, he announced a great seventeen-volume series, the “Records of Civilization,” with publication of the first volume, _Hellenic Civilization_. In the series were to appear works on “those sources of the history of Europe which are of prime importance in the understanding of western civilization.” Its original editor was the eminent historian James T. Shotwell. To the dismay of our publisher, however, volumes in the series beyond the first three were not contributed on time, and the project lapsed amid the protests of irked subscribers. He resumed publication of the series in 1919, though, and later broadened its definition to encompass the globe. By now, his splendid _Records of Civilization_ series extends to the Orient and numbers more than seventy volumes.

Columbia's publisher endured long suspense in producing his complete _Works of John Milton_. President Butler first proposed the project in 1909. The University appropriated $20,000 toward its cost in 1920. His publication of its first four volumes, eleven years later, was deemed by reviewer Carl Van Doren to be “a literary event of the highest importance.” The full eighteen volumes of the Columbia Milton, handsomely designed by Bruce Rogers, were completed in 1938.

A particularly harrowing experience came to our publisher in the final stages of preparing his best-known work, the volume that President Butler had suggested calling _The Columbia Encyclopedia_. Dr. Ansley had first conceived
of America's now-famous one-volume encyclopedia as a book of some two and a half million words. Heavy investment was accordingly arranged for that amount. Once under way, however, the volume grew larger and larger. To appeals that the size be held down, Dr. Ansley repeatedly replied, "I will do my best, but we must not spoil the job." Five million words eventually resulted, twice the amount first planned. Without burdening the University in any way, Columbia's publisher increased his already unprecedented backing of the untried project by many thousands of dollars—and held his breath until its enthusiastic reception in 1935. The wisdom of Clarke Ansley's steadfast vision has been confirmed by additional experience with the six-million-word Second Edition of 1950 and the seven-and-a-half-million-word Third Edition of 1963. A similar saga of integrity triumphant after passing through perilous financial straits lies behind another five-million-word work that the Press issued in 1952, after years of effort: the magnificent *Columbia Lippincott Gazetteer of the World*.

Columbia's publisher, of course, continues attached to heroic projects today. In one ambitious work especially close to his heart, he is striving to complete the definitive edition of *The Papers of Alexander Hamilton*. When finished, the twenty-two-volume series will present an essential part of the record of the nation's beginnings. President Butler first suggested the project
in the 1930's, out of admiration for the early alumnus who had become one of the great Founding Fathers and the chief architect of the American economy. Painstaking research in progress since 1955 has completed the manuscript for ten of the volumes. Reviewers of the seven volumes issued thus far have said that the series, "seems certain to become one of the century's major works of scholarly editing," and that it contains, "an historical record at once illuminating and overpowering."

The spirit behind the Columbia Press continues un-aging today, though seasoned by more than seventy years in his work. Through those years the patrician gentleman has seen scholars become more worldly, and the world become more scholarly. Most of his titles still serve erudite readers. But an increasing number of his publications educate general readers in an age of clearly increased importance of learning. As in the beginning, his greatest delight lies in the book well wrought by a brilliant scholarly mind, and the greatest wonder he works is continually freeing this thought, through the power of print, from its limited here-and-now to benefit whom it will, anywhere, and forever.
Alexander Pope at Columbia

ROBERT HALSBAND

THE reputation of Alexander Pope, greatest English poet of the eighteenth century, has suffered its vicissitudes. Today, having been reassessed by the full resources of modern critical theory and historical scholarship, he is firmly acknowledged as a master. With the heroic couplet as his only medium he achieved an astonishing range of expression—as can be seen in such contrasted mock-epics as The Rape of the Lock and the Dunciad, and in the satiric Epistles and the philosophic Essay on Man.

Pope’s manuscripts, when revised copies, are valuable for showing the intense care and craft he put into poetic composition; and when “fair” copies, they demonstrate his exquisite calligraphy. A plentiful number of both kinds of manuscripts survive. As the major ones are gradually being published in facsimile, the Columbia Libraries have been acquiring them—most recently the sumptuous edition of the Essay on Man edited by Maynard Mack and issued by the Roxburgh Club. But now at last the Library has acquired an original autograph. It comes from the library of the late Professor Elizabeth Reynard, and was presented to Columbia in 1962 by Virginia C. Gildersleeve, Dean Emeritus of Barnard College.

Pope frequently sat for his portrait, and although many examples are extant their history and authenticity are complicated. A two-volume study of The Portraits of Alexander Pope by William K. Wimsatt, Jr., will be published next year by the Yale University Press; it will reproduce and discuss all the known portraits. Special Collections has recently acquired one—it will appear as No. 63.16 in Professor Wimsatt’s numbering—and thus at approximately the same time Columbia has come into pos-
session both of an example of Pope iconography and of a Pope autograph manuscript.

The Portrait

The portrait of Pope (reproduced here) is signed George Lumley, 13 April 1750. Lumley was a solicitor by profession and a painter by avocation; he lived in the city of York where he died in 1768 at the age of sixty. Since Pope lived until 1744 the two men’s lifetimes overlapped. But Pope did not sit for this portrait (as its date makes certain); instead Lumley copied it from an important one now lost. Its archetype was an oil painted by William Hoare of Bath soon after Christmas, 1739, when Pope was visiting his friend Ralph Allen there. The original, commissioned by Robert (later Earl) Nugent, can be traced until it disappeared from sight in 1917. The Lumley copy differs from its parent portrait in being darker and more Italianate in style—as we know from comparing it with Hoare’s other surviving portraits of Pope. A handsome picture in its own right—particularly as restored by Ingrid Held—the Lumley Pope gives us a close look at the poet at the height of his fame.¹

The Manuscript

Among Pope’s Minor Poems in the recent Twickenham Edition is an eight-line poem entitled “Inscription on a Grotto of Shells at Crux-Easton. The Work of Nine young Ladies” (p. 353), included only as an attributed piece. The editors’ caution arises from the fact that the poem, first printed after Pope’s death, lacks definite proof of his authorship. But the newly acquired autograph at Columbia, which is a fair copy entirely in his hand and signed, rescues the poem from the limbo of probability; it can now be firmly placed in the canon of his authentic works. The provenance of the manuscript supports this certainty, for it

¹ I am indebted to Professor Wimsatt for some of the above information.
ALEXANDER POPE

George Lumley's 1750 copy of a portrait. The copy is now at Columbia.
The original Alexander Pope autograph poem which was presented to the Columbia Libraries by Virginia C. Gildersleeve.
was inserted in a manuscript volume of plays, masques, and poems written by members of the Lisle family at Crux Easton. The masque "Telemachus," for example, written by Thomas Lisle (1709-67), brother of the nine young ladies, was—as noted in the volume—"design'd to amuse the Company, while the Servants were illuminating the Grotto." Evidently Pope presented a copy of his epigram, with his signature, to the family, who then placed it among their own poetical effusions.

Here is the poem literally transcribed. (Its variants from the printed version are inconsequential; the most significant is “Clean as her soul” in line 4 which was printed “Clear as her soul.”)

An Incription on A Groto of Shells
The work of nine young Ladys

Here shuning Idleness at once & praise
This radiant Pile nine rural sisters raise
The glittering emblem of each spotless dame
Clean as her soul & shining as her frame
Beauty which nature only can impart
And such a Polish as disgraces art,
But fate disposed them in this humble sort
And hid in deserts what would charm a court

A Pope

The nine young ladies who decorated the grotto were the daughters of Edward Lisle, owner of the manor of Crux Easton near Highclere in Hampshire. When the blue-stocking Elizabeth Montagu visited its wood and grotto in 1747 she thought that the nine sisters “in disposition as well as number, bear some resemblance to the Muses.” The grotto stood as late as the mid-nineteenth century; by then the manor had passed from the Lisle family and was owned by the 4th Earl of Carnarvon. Pope’s famous grotto at Twickenham (see illustration) could have inspired the ladies to construct their own. Tradition rather than documentary evidence supports the friendship between them
and Pope. Lord Carnarvon is the source for the story that “the nine ladies used to amuse themselves by standing in niches in the grotto, as the Nine Muses; Pope being placed in the midst, as Apollo.” It makes a charming picture. If true, how could Pope resist celebrating the young ladies and their grotto with a graceful epigram?

Pope's grotto was actually an underground passageway, connecting his two gardens, and decorated with bits of mineral and mirror.
The New Thomas J. Watson Library of Business and Economics: A Picture Section

BEN C. DRIVER

In April, 1964, the Business Library moved from Butler Library to its new quarters in Uris Hall, which is located on the North Campus behind Low Memorial Library. The reading room and service areas of the library are on the first floor of Uris, with two levels of stacks above and a storage area below. A distinctive feature is the semi-circular reading room, in which ceiling-to-floor windows give a feeling of spaciousness. Walnut paneling adds to the richness of the decor; the furniture arrangement includes attractive informal groupings.

The Thomas J. Watson Library of Business and Economics is named in honor of Thomas J. Watson, a past chairman of the Board of IBM and a life-time and valued trustee of the University. Mr. Watson's widow made a magnificent gift to the building, which houses one of the finest and largest collections of business materials in the nation.
Uris Hall, the new home of the Graduate School of Business. It houses, on the main floor at the rear, the Thomas J. Watson Library of Business and Economics.
The semi-circular shape of the main reading room and the high windows create a dramatic effect.
A mezzanine floor extends along the south side of the main reading room, with individual study desks along its edge.
Concentration is aided in the semi-seclusion of the study desks which are located around the perimeter of the reading room.
In accordance with current trends, study areas are brought into close proximity to bookstacks which contain the more frequently used books.
Our Growing Collections

ROLAND BAUGHMAN

Gifts

Bancroft gift. Professor Margaret Bancroft (A.M., 1913) has added to her earlier gifts of letters and documents pertaining to the shipping interests of her grandfather, Captain John Otis Given. Her most recent gift includes a packet of fifteen items, mainly letters that passed between various members of the Given family, 1854-81.

Professor Bancroft also presented typescripts of poems in rhymed Latin by the late Nelson Glenn McCrea, Anthon Professor of the Latin Language and Literature, and one of Columbia's most distinguished Latinists. Of prime interest to Columbiana are typed copies of his well-known hymn, "In Lumine Tuo Videbimus Lumen," which he composed in 1916; the copies bear his manuscript alterations. Also present are his "Stabat Mater" and "Dies Irae." All were given by the author to Professor Bancroft, who had been one of his students.

Beyer gift. Mr. Preston Beyer of Bronxville has presented a long-hand letter by the English author and divine, the Reverend George Croly (1780-1860), written November 10, 1849, to Reverend W. Valentine. The letter is a rather testy refusal to preach a "charity sermon" for Valentine because it would compel his absence from his own church, and contains an admonition to "Let your Bishop preach for you."

Bonnell gift. Miss Alice H. Bonnell (B.S., 1940) has presented a copy of the 1898 "Maude Adams" edition of James Barrie's The Little Minister, autographed with a Christmas message by Miss Adams.
Cane gift. Mr. Melville H. Cane (A.B., 1900; LL.B., 1903) has presented four items relating to George Edward Woodberry, former professor of literature at Columbia (1891-1903) and first chairman of the Department of Comparative Literature.

Clark gift. Mrs. John Maurice Clark of Westport, Connecticut, has added a most valuable series of letters to her earlier gifts. The present group comprises 23 pieces, including letters to her late husband (A.M., 1906; Ph.D., 1911) and to his father, the late Professor John Bates Clark (LL.D., 1929). Among the letters are choice ones from Franklin D. Roosevelt, Dwight W. Morrow, Ida M. Tarbell, and Booker T. Washington, but the finest of the lot is a warm long-hand letter from Woodrow Wilson to John Bates Clark, dated August 26, 1887, near the beginning of the future President’s teaching career. The letter was occasioned by his having read Professor Clark’s Philosophy of Wealth, published the previous year, which greatly impressed him. He writes: “I feel that it has fertilized my own thought . . . A sane, well-balanced sympathizer with organized labour is very dear to my esteem; and one who finds all the necessary stimulations of hope, not in chimeras or in hastened reformation, but in the slow processes of conservative endeavor is sure of my whole respect.”

Fox gift. We were deeply saddened by the news of the death of Mrs. Dixon Ryan Fox (A.M., 1914) on July 15. Only a few weeks earlier Mrs. Fox had made a special visit to the Library and announced her outright gift to Columbia of the notes and supporting documents which her father, the late Professor Herbert L. Osgood (Ph.D., 1889), had gathered for his The American Colonies in the Eighteenth Century (Columbia University Press, 1924). Mrs. Fox had helped her father compile the notes, which had been placed in Columbiana for safekeeping many years ago.

Professor Osgood had not completed his work at the time of his death in 1918. His son-in-law, Professor Dixon Ryan Fox
Letter from Woodrow Wilson to John Bates Clark, 26 August 1887.

(Clark gift.)
Roland Baughman

(A.B., 1911; A.M., 1912; Ph.D., 1917), carried it to its final stages and saw the four-volume study through the press.

The collection which Mrs. Fox has presented consists of the original typescript (of which some parts are unfortunately lacking) of the work as published, and 57 of the 77 numbered volumes of notes taken at the Public Records Office and elsewhere, and including transcripts from the Privy Council Papers, War Office Papers, Board of Trade Journals, etc., all comprising the basic research for Professor Osgood's account.

Friedman gifts. Mr. Harry G. Friedman (Ph.D., 1908) continues his long series of generous gifts. To be noted on this occasion are: a manuscript deed to certain lands in Queens County, dated 4 July 1749 and recorded by one G. W. Banyer (John Jay's daughter, Maria, married into the Banyer family); the 1599 (Frankfurt) edition of Josephus' Opera; and a collection of 13 mounted prints and portraits.

Gildersleeve gift. Dean Virginia C. Gildersleeve (A.B., 1899; A.M., 1900; Ph.D., 1908; Litt.D., 1929) has made a magnificent addition to her earlier gifts to the Columbia Libraries. Not only has she presented her personal library of more than 2,200 volumes, including many rare and interesting items, but also she has entrusted her extensive files of papers to our care.

Included in the latter category are her correspondence, notes, articles, reports, and speeches relative to the United Nations Conference in San Francisco in 1945; the Dumbarton Oaks Conference; the International Federation of University Women and the American Association of University Women; the American Council on Education; and the Near East College Association. Also included, of course, are Dean Gildersleeve's papers relating to Barnard College, of which she served as Dean for more than thirty-five years (1911-47).

In addition are manuscripts, notes, and correspondence con-
My dear Dr. Gildersleeve:

I take pleasure in inviting you to serve as a member of the Delegation of the United States to the United Nations Conference which is to meet at San Francisco on April 25, 1945 to prepare a charter for a general international organization along the lines proposed in the informal conversations at Dumbarton Oaks. You will understand, I am sure, that the sending of this invitation several days after the public announcement is due to the unavoidable delay in my return to Washington from the Crimea Conference.

I feel certain that this important conference bringing together all the United Nations which have so loyally cooperated in the war against their common enemies will successfully complete the plans for an international organization through which the close and continuing collaboration of all peace-loving peoples may be directed toward the prevention of future international conflict and the removal of the political, economic, and social causes of war.

I am confident that as a member of the Delegation you would effectively contribute to the realization of the hopes and aspirations of the American people for an international organization through which this nation may play its full part in the maintenance of international peace and security.

Very sincerely yours,

Virginia C. Gildersleeve, LL.D., Ph.D.,
Dean of Barnard College,
Columbia University,
New York, New York.

President Roosevelt's invitation to Dean Gildersleeve to serve as a member of the U. S. Delegation to the Charter Conference of the United Nations. (Gildersleeve gift.)
cerning her published writings, as well as numerous photographs and other biographical memorabilia.

*Knickerbocker gift.* Professor William S. Knickerbocker (A.B., 1917; A.M., 1918; Ph.D., 1925) has added to his earlier gifts a fine typed letter from John Erskine, 17 February 1949, and a series of 12 letters from the late Professor Irwin Edman (A.B., 1916; Ph.D., 1920). All of the letters were written to Professor Knickerbocker.

*Magriel gift.* Mr. Paul Magriel has presented 13 items, mainly contemporary literature but including G. Hartwig's *The Tropical World*, London, 1863. The Hartwig volume contains eight "chromoxylographic" plates, which represent an interesting color-printing technique of the time—a master wood-engraving supplemented with two or more auxiliary blocks lightly overprinted in color.

*Merton gift.* The Reverend Thomas Merton of the Abbey of Gethsemani, Trappist Post Office, Kentucky, has presented a number of his recently-published works. His *Life and Holiness* (1963) is present in both the English and German editions; *Monastic Peace* (1958) in English and French (1961); *Secular Journal* in the French edition (1964); and a number of shorter works are present in mimeographed and off-print form.

*Morris gift.* Professor Richard B. Morris has presented the manuscripts, notes, drafts, and related correspondence pertaining to his various books—*Select Cases of the Mayor's Court* (1935); *Era of the American Revolution* (1939); *Government and Labor in Early America* (1946); *The Spirit of 'Seventy-Six'* (1948); *Fair Trial* (1952); *Basic Ideas of Alexander Hamilton* (1957); and *Great Presidential Decisions* (1960). Also included in the gift are Professor Morris' correspondence during his service on the American Historical Association's Committee on Legal
Our Growing Collections


Nevins gift. Professor Allan Nevins (Hon. Litt.D., 1960) has presented a large file of his notes on the Civil War, a subject to which he has devoted a great deal of his research for many years. In addition to this, Professor Nevins has presented a collection of 35 pieces, mainly correspondence, among which are letters to and from the late Governor Herbert H. Lehman.

Two documents are included in the latter lot: Personal Recollections of John D. Rockefeller by "Mr. Sheppard," undated typescript; and a memorandum on Grover Cleveland by Winslow Warren, ca. 1930.

Parsons gift. Professor Coleman O. Parsons of City College has presented the Dublin (1777) editions of William Combe's The Diaboliad and The Diabo-Lady (bound and issued together).

Starr gift. Through the good offices of Mrs. Walter Batts of the Library staff, Mr. William Ireland Starr of West Redding, Connecticut, has presented, in memory of Walter Titus Avery (A.B., 1832), a number of unique and highly desirable items. Among them are two works that were extra-illustrated by Mr. Starr's grandfather, Joseph Norton Ireland, the well-known historian of the New York stage. They are: A History of the Four Georges by Samuel M. Smucker, published in New York (1860) in a single volume that has been extended to five by the insertion of nearly 600 prints; and The Life and Reign of William the Fourth by Rev. G. N. Wright (ca. 1860), originally published in two volumes but extended to six by the insertion of more than 600 prints. In both instances complete indexes have been supplied in manuscript by Ireland.

Mr. Starr's gift also includes two lots of engravings and mezzotints, mainly portraits of English royalty and nobility, which
had been collected by his grandfather in furtherance of his extra-illustrating interests.

Straus gift. Mrs. Roger Williams Straus, Sr., through the good offices of Mr. Frank Wetzel of the Lincoln Educational Foundation, has presented a number of welcome items. The gift was made in honor of Mrs. Straus' late husband, and many of the items come from the collection formed by his father, the late Oscar S. Straus (A.B., 1871; LL.B., 1873; A.M., 1874; LL.D., 1904 Hon.).

Most of the pieces in the gift are writings by Oscar S. Straus or memorabilia relating to him, but in addition to these is a set from George Washington's library—Uvedale Price's Essay on the Picturesque (1796-98), in two volumes, the first of which is inscribed "from the author."

Willis gift. Mr. Parker B. Willis of Boston, Massachusetts, has presented a most noteworthy collection of books and papers formed by his father, the late Henry Parker Willis (LL.D., 1929 Hon.). The collection is mainly concerned with financial matters, especially the formation and early development of the Federal Reserve System. The books number upwards of 400 volumes. The papers comprise correspondence, memoranda, reports, and the like, dealing not only with the Federal Reserve but also with the Philippine National Bank, the Irish Banking Commission, the Banking Inquiry of 1925 and the Banking Act of 1933, the New Zealand Monetary Commission, the Indian Currency Commission, etc.

Readers of these notes will perhaps be struck by the depth of coverage which Columbia is beginning to have in original source materials relating to recent financial history, particularly as regards the Federal Reserve System. The Willis Papers will take their place on our shelves alongside the Vanderlip Papers and the George L. Harrison Federal Reserve Papers.
A signed photograph of President Roosevelt with U. S. Delegation to the U. N. in March, 1945. (Gildersleeve gift.)

Governor Stassen, Senator Vandenberg, and Representative Eaton (Gildersleeve gift)
Notable Purchases

A Fine "Fifteener." In acquiring items for the Gonzalez Lodge collection of early editions of Greek and Roman classical works, emphasis is often placed on important vernacular translations. A very distinguished acquisition of this sort is to be noted here. It is a version in French by Vasquez de Lucerne of Historiae Alexandri Magni by Quintus Curtius Rufus, printed in Paris by Antoine Vérard about 1500. Only two other copies of this edition are known to exist, one in the Bibliothèque Nationale and the William Morris copy in the Huntington Library in California. Ours is a fine, large-margined exemplar, excellently preserved except for minor damage to the early leaves (not affecting the text), and complete but for folio 137 which is supplied in photostat.

The Third Oldest Printed Work on Accounting. Columbia's long interest in the historical background of accountancy is well known, and goes back at least forty years to the establishment of the "Montgomery Library of Accountancy." The original gift was made by Colonel Robert H. Montgomery in 1924, and the donor continued his interest and support until the collection numbered some 2,500 volumes, including several hundred manuscripts and a wealth of printed rarities. And when the Smith Mathematics Library was presented in 1931, it also was found to contain a splendid representation of early works on commercial arithmetic and accounting methods; thus Columbia's holdings in this specialized field are of remarkable depth and strength.

Recently we have added a most notable item. It is Diego del Castillo's Tratado de Cuentas, published in Burgos in 1522 by Alonso de Melgar. Until this edition turned up bibliographers were agreed that the earliest Spanish work on accounting was Antioch Rocha's Compendio of more than a generation later,
Our Groningen Collections 35

1565 (a copy is in the Montgomery collection). Our acquisition is, in fact, among the earliest works on the subject to be printed anywhere in Europe, being preceded only by compilations by the Italian, Luca Paciolo, 1494, and the German, Heinrich Schreiber (Henricus Grammateus) in 1518.

Our copy of Castillo's work bears his autograph signature at the end of the text.

Silas Deane Defends Himself to John Jay. A great deal has been made in these notes of our acquisitions of John Jay materials, perhaps to the surfeit of our readers. The recent purchase of a letter to Jay, therefore, would be passed over lightly were it not for its extraordinary content. The letter in question was written from Ghent by Silas Deane on December 1, 1783, and concerns one of the shadiest, shabbiest, and most shadowy events in our national history.

Deane, who had played an important part in the American Revolution, had fallen on evil times. His personal honesty had been questioned in connection with his negotiations to obtain military supplies from French sources through Caron de Beaumarchais. Recalled from France in 1778 to render an accounting, Deane was unable to furnish an audit that would satisfy his critics, chief among whom was one of his co-commissioners, Arthur Lee. He returned to France to expedite matters, but found himself frustrated by delay after delay. Finally in 1781, disgruntled and in failing health, according to the historian Ralph V. Harlow, "he was so indiscreet as to embody his pessimistic views in letters to friends in America, advising them to drop the war for independence, and to work for a reconciliation with England." The letters were leaked, as might have been expected, and Deane found himself in worse trouble than ever.

Time did not heal matters. In 1783 a Loyalist newspaper revived and enlarged the old charges. In the letter we have just acquired, Deane, then living in Ghent, sought the help of Jay
Tabla de la presente obra. XXVIII

Parte dozena que trata que hecha la cuenta se tiene de hacer pago del alcance al señor o la hacienda.

Parte tercena que contiene si el administrador paga al señor el alcance ¿y aquel hecho se halla que está rico y se supone aver lo mal llevado o hurtado o que lo gano por su industria de otra parte.

Parte catorceña y final que trata si se tiene o dar copia de las cuentas: y como se tiene de hacer el instrumento hechas las cuentas y las posiciones y sentencias.

fin de la tabla.

Aquí se da fin a la presente obra y tratado de cuentas hecho por el licenciado Diego del castillo: natural de la ciudad de Alcalá. Ésto privilegio le dan que ninguno lo pueda vender ni imprimir en estos reynos: salvo a la persona o personas que su poder ouitere por espacio de veinte años: según que por la cédula y privilegio de sus Magestades parece. És impreso en la muy noble y mas leal ciudad de Burgos por Alonfo de Helgar. Acabase a. x.r. días del mes de Mayo. Ano de mil y D.p. xrii. años.

in counteracting the accusations of his enemies. But the cloud remained over him until his death in 1789, and even to this day. It was only partially dispelled by the act of Congress in 1842, granting restitution to his heirs in the amount of $37,000, and calling the original audit of his accounts "a gross injustice."

We were able to acquire this important document from a Philadelphia dealer through the gracious act of the American Philosophical Society in waiving their prior claim.

*Thomas Strode, English Mathematician of the Restoration.* Two extraordinarily rare mathematical works by the little-known English mathematician, Thomas Strode (ca. 1626-99), have been added to the David Eugene Smith Library. They are: *A New and Easie Method to the Art of Dyalling*, in a unique and unrecorded edition, London, 1698; and *An Arithmetical Treatise of the Combinations, Elections, Permutations, and Composition, of Quantities*, London, 1693, of which only one other copy is known. The two works are bound together, and their acquisition for the Smith Library adds distinction to this collection.

*Correspondence of Harry Thurston Peck.* At the turn of the century, Professor Peck was one of Columbia's most distinguished Latinists and most brilliant teachers. He was a key figure in American letters of his time. Our recent purchase of a collection of some 200 letters written to him during the peak of his career, 1879-1910, was therefore eagerly negotiated. The collection contains letters from Columbia Presidents Frederick A. P. Barnard and Nicholas Murray Butler, and from such prominent literary figures as William Dean Howells, the critic and novelist James G. Huneker, and Edwin Markham.
Activities of the Friends

FINANCES

In the November issue we publish the annual statement of the amount which has been contributed by the Friends during the twelve-month period ending on March 31. During the year, $10,634 in unrestricted funds and $4,165 for specified purposes were received, making a total of $14,799. Such gifts from the Friends over the past thirteen years now amount to $219,887.

In addition to the monetary gifts, the Friends have during the year augmented the Libraries' resources for research by presenting rare books, manuscripts, and other items having an estimated value of $69,325. The principal items have been described in "Our Growing Collections."

The comparative figures for funds contributed during the past years are indicated in the following table.

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$84,859.00  $135,028.00  $219,887.00

As of September 30, 1964, the membership of the Friends totaled 571, an increase of 32 over the previous year.

* December 1950-March 1952. Later years begin April 1 and end March 31.
PICTURE CREDITS

Credit for some of the illustrations in this issue is acknowledged as follows: (1) *Article by Gene R. Hawes*: The photograph of Messrs. Seltzer and Proffitt was taken by Manny Warman, photographer of the Columbia News Office; the one of President Butler and Mr. Coykendall was a *Herald Tribune* photo by Rice. (2) *Article by Robert Halsband*: The photograph of the Alexander Pope portrait was made by Ingrid Held after she had completed restoration of the painting; the picture of Pope’s grotto is from *The Architectural Review*, 96:143, November, 1944. (3) *Article by Ben C. Driver*: The picture of Uris Hall was made by Manny Warman (see above), and those of the interior of the Thomas J. Watson Library, by The Barton-Gillet Company.
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Opportunity to purchase most Columbia University Press books at 20 per cent discount (through the Secretary-Treasurer of the Friends).

Free subscriptions to Columbia library columns.

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Sustaining. Any person contributing not less than $50.00 a year.
Benefactor. Any person contributing not less than $100.00 a year.

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