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Mr. Tooryalay Etemadi, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and Engineering of Kabul University (left), Dr. Logsdon, and Mr. Mohammed Asghar, President of the University. Photograph taken in early June, 1959, in the garden at Dean Etemadi's home in Kabul, Afghanistan.
A Librarian in Afghanistan

RICHARD H. LOGSDON

We came in by air from Amritsar, India, on April 20, 1959, threading our way through the mountains somewhere south of the Khyber Pass, and then turning north until we were over the Kabul plains and the city itself. Some apprehension is usual when flying at this time of year, because there is only a dirt runway at Kabul. A quick shower may force diversion of a flight, while a thorough soaking may close the field for several days. It had been open only a few days in the month preceding our flight. But fortunately the field was dry, and, as we circled for a landing, the snow-capped peaks of the Hindu Kush could be seen in virtually all directions, much like the San Luis Valley of southern Colorado. The nearer mountains, I later learned, were 14,000 feet high (some 8,000 feet above the valley floor), while those in the distance, particularly to the northwest, were even higher. The city, too, with so many adobe houses and dirt roofs, was suggestive of our southwest. Other similarities were to be noted continuously through my two-month stay in Afghanistan: sunny and frequently hot days, followed by cool nights; little rainfall, and that concentrated in a few weeks; complete dependence on irrigation for crops; hundreds of miles of arid and sometimes overgrazed land; the summer wind and dust storms; and, almost invariably, friendly people.
My mission in Kabul was worked out by the United States Information Service with the President of Kabul University and officials of the Royal Afghanistan Government. Under the Specialist Program of the State Department, I was to review proposed plans for a new university library building; to work out a plan of organization of staff and services; to determine the number and qualifications of staff members; to make recommendations as to the training of staff; and, finally, to give such assistance to government libraries as time permitted.

Not all of the time in Afghanistan was spent in libraries. We worked a five-day week, but in two sections: Monday through Thursday; and Saturday. This left Friday, the Moslem holiday, and Sunday free for sightseeing. Special religious and national holidays sometimes combined to give four-day weekends. Our first out-of-town venture was east and south down the Kabul River Gorge to Jalalabad and over the storied Khyber Pass to Peshawar, Pakistan. To some, the "gorge" road provides one of the most breath-taking experiences possible in Afghanistan. At times you are at the river's edge, literally in the sound and spray of rapids. The roar of water, reverberating between narrow canyon walls, drowns out engine noise and conversation. A few miles later you will be working your way along a narrow shelf of rock hundreds of feet above the canyon floor. Passing becomes a problem, especially when you meet a truck and are on the outside. Tioga Pass at the eastern entrance to Yosemite is mild by comparison.

We went through the gorge in the rainy season, and huge boulders, some half the size of our jeep, were common in the roadway. A few hours after passing one of the critical points, the whole canyon wall gave way, pushing a hundred yards of the road into the river. We half expected to be "marooned" at Peshawar for several weeks, but our experienced Pakistan driver knew how to find the "old road," now little more than a trail. This return trip was along the way used by Alexander's army in 327 B.C. At times I am sure we moved much slower than our esteemed predecessor,
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picking our way along river beds and jostling over irrigation ditches, taking more than seven hours in all to travel 100 miles. Our car failed us twice, both times miles from any help; but our driver always had the proper tools and props. When our emergency gas can sprang a leak in the boiling sun at Jalalabad, he produced a ball of pitch, kneaded it and sealed the hole, even as the hot raw gasoline oozed around it. I learned later that he had nursed a new Thunderbird over the pass and through the gorge road to Kabul. Some say it will be there until the new road is built unless he should consent to bring it out.

My last weekend in Afghanistan coincided with the celebration of Eide, so there was time for another venture into the mountains. For this trip we managed to draw the “new” jeep, and traveled north and west deeper into the Hindu Kush to Bamian. Here in the valley of the Ghorband River was a series of cities and extensive cliff dwellings. The community, Graeco-Buddhist in origin, flourished for many centuries until Genghis Khan came through in the twelve hundreds. With the death of his favorite grandson near Bamian, so the story goes, Genghis Khan ruled that no native person should be left alive in the valley. The capture of one city, which had proved much more difficult than anticipated, was finally made possible only with the help of the daughter of the local ruler. She had fallen in love with one of the generals and helped his cause by sending a message by arrow, telling how the water supply could be cut off.

Two huge Buddhas remain among the hundreds of rooms carved in the tufa walls of the cliff, the largest measuring one hundred and eighty-two feet. Hinged arms, now gone, were attached to ropes so that Buddha could give his blessing to the multitude assembled in the valley below.

Other holidays were spent in and around Kabul: climbing to the “noon gun” past Baber’s tomb and on up the mountain overlooking the city; wandering through the Bazaars (rugs, spices, fruit, hardware, tinsmiths, rock salt, automobile parts, and even a
bookbinder busy sewing together the signatures of a full-sized volume); and visiting the offices of the French Archaeological Mission with its incredibly complete and up to date library of monographs, journals and documents covering all phases of the subject relevant to regional study.

Perhaps my favorite spot was Baber’s tomb. This founder of the Mogul Empire and grandfather of the builder of the Taj Mahal is buried in a simple marble tomb of excellent taste in a garden overlooking the city of Kabul. For me it served as a kind of symbol of Afghanistan’s larger place in history. I could not escape the feeling that the current resurgence of interest there in education and technological development would lead to much closer ties with other countries, and vice versa.

With the foregoing sketched in for background, I come back now to the librarian-centered purpose of my trip. Afghanistan has a population of 12,000,000 (about that of Pennsylvania or California) and an area of 250,000 square miles (almost as large as Texas). Kabul, the capital and site of Afghanistan’s only institution of higher education, has a population of 300,000. Kabul University’s School of Medicine was established in 1932. Since then eight faculties and institutes have been created: Law and Political Science; Science; Letters; Islamic Law; Islamic Judiciary; Education; Agriculture and Engineering; and Economics. There is a full time faculty of 192 and a student body of 1300. The university is now housed in 14 buildings in different parts of the city, but plans are now well along, with assistance from the United States, to bring all faculties together on a new 380 acre campus. Five new buildings are all but ready for contract, one of them a new central library building of 40,000 square feet. Most of my time at Kabul was to be spent in connection with the university library and its program.

First was the matter of the building itself. Outside dimensions and module size were already fixed, but, fortunately, the modular nature of the design allowed great flexibility in working out the
interior location of reading areas, offices and stacks. A sketch and memorandum of suggestions for a new layout of the interior were submitted to the architect of the United States Operations Mission at Kabul and taken to Tokyo for conference with the architectural firm handling the campus contract. Revised plans incorporating these suggestions were to be available in late June.

As with the building, the questions of organization and staffing of the library were like those in similar institutions in the United States. It seemed clear from the first that the system of small uncoordinated faculty libraries was no longer adequate to their needs. It was accordingly proposed that a position of Librarian of the university be created, and that a general plan be worked out for coordinate development of the several libraries. Particular emphasis was to be given to working out a collecting policy on a university-wide basis, with each library responsible for subjects appropriate to its clientele. A central acquisitions and cataloging service was projected, thus insuring the creation of a much needed union catalog of holdings.

Perhaps the most difficult problem faced by those who would strengthen Afghanistan libraries is that of recruitment and training of staff. Only two persons employed in Afghanistan libraries were found to have specialized training for library work. Furthermore, the need for high school and college graduates in teaching and government posts far exceeds the supply, making it extremely difficult to attract and to hold persons qualified to assume professional responsibility in libraries. The hope is that one or more librarians from the United States may be available on a continuing basis for a number of years, each working with an Afghan counterpart, and that it will be possible to send staff members back to the United States (or to other countries) for training to fill the key positions, both in the university and in government libraries.

There was not enough time to do more than make a general survey of the principal government libraries. The library of the Ministry of Education is under the direction of one of the two
Afghan librarians with special training. This library serves as the Kabul Public Library, and is operated essentially as a similar institution would be in the United States. It has a collection of approximately 50,000 volumes, many of them in English. There is a full-time staff of four persons. Five thousand readers are currently registered.

The library of the Press Department has a similarly large collection, not only serving the staff of the department, but open to the public for research purposes. Visits were made, also, to the Foreign Office, the Department of Agriculture and to the National Bank.

As in the university, there was evidence on every side of a burgeoning interest in strengthening library resources and services along modern lines. There was little need to “sell” the idea of libraries to the officials directly responsible. In most instances they had a precise idea of what was desired of their libraries; their difficulty was in finding (or sparing from other important tasks) the skilled manpower needed to carry out their ideas. Accordingly key recommendations for the government libraries were: (1) to upgrade the status of librarians in the civil service hierarchy; (2) locate additional university graduates for special training there or abroad; and (3) develop a government-wide plan for sharing responsibility for different subject areas. It is expected that a commission representing the various departments of government and the university will be created to carry these suggestions forward.

I am told that “Ariana,” the ancient name for Afghanistan, means “land of polite people.” It is also a land of friendly people. A return trip would be a pleasure.
Some of you undoubtedly think of scholars as living remote from the reality of the present. Yet historians are often less startled than their contemporaries by spectacular inventions. Thus when the Russian dog Laika ascended into space and many throughout the world joined the S. P. C. A. in protest, some of us thought back to a day in 1835 when the balloon of the Brothers Montgolfier rose perilously from the ground, carrying into the air a cock, a duck and a sheep, the first living creatures to fly by aircraft. My own thoughts went farther back, to a romance published in 1638 by Francis Godwin, a Bishop of the Anglican Church, whose imagination anticipated the Montgolfiers by nearly two centuries. In *The Man in the Moon*, a tale that influenced Cyrano de Bergerac, Defoe in *Robinson Crusoe* and dozens of other writers at least down to H. G. Wells, Godwin imagined a shipwrecked Spanish mariner, Domingo Gonsales, with his own "man Friday," who trained the gansas (wild swans or geese) upon his lonely island until they learned to carry weights. Upon a certain day he harnessed to his ingenious contraption a lamb which flew from one end of the island to the other. "The happiness of that lamb," Godwin soliloquized, "I much envied, that he should be the first living creature to fly." Domingo was to make a much more remarkable flight when he harnessed himself to the gansas, not realizing that this was their season for hibernation and that gansas hibernate in the moon! Off to the moon he went, willy-nilly, a gallant aviator of 1638 who reached the moon entirely by goose-power.

From the rag-bag of memory in which I have collected scores of such tales for my own amusement, I can cull out predecessors for most of the animals that have been sent experimentally into
space during the last few years. If I cannot precisely match Laika and the nameless mice, I can offer you Edgar Allen Poe’s “The Unparalleled Adventures of Hans Pfaal,” published in 1835. Hans took with him in his fantastic kite-machine a cat... that kittened on the voyage. And I can even give you predecessors for the recent American space-monkeys, Able and Baker. In 1707 the Italian poet, Pier Jacopo Martello, in Gli Occhi di Gesù, described a voyage to the moon conducted by no less an imposing celestial flyer than the prophet Elijah. On the moon the traveller discovered an extraordinary interplanetary flying-machine “manned”—or “monkeyed”—by one hundred apes, some dressed in yellow, some in blue. Going our recent American anthropoids one better, Martello’s apes, like galley-slaves, furnished their own motive power to the flying-machine.

The idea that man would some day fly seems to have been one of the oldest beliefs or desires, deeply rooted in humanity. “O that I had wings like a dove!” cried the Psalmist, and literature echoed his cry for centuries. Far back in imagination we find aerial voyagers. Solomon was said to have given to the Queen of Sheba, among many rich gifts, “a vessel wherein she could traverse the air.” At the dawn of
Early Space-Travellers

recorded Chinese history there was a legend of Emperor Shun who not only flew, but made a successful descent in a parachute. An early Persian tale described Emperor Kai Koos who “essayed the sky to outsoar angels” by fastening four eagles to his throne. Alexander the Great made a similar ascent by using four gryphons. And King Lear might never have ascended to the throne had not his father, Bladud, legendary tenth king of Britain, emulated Alexander by harnessing himself to birds, with the result that, as one of many poets who wrote about him said, “He brake his neck because he soared too high.”

Until the seventeenth century moon-voyages were usually fantastic or satirical. But after a night in 1610 when Galileo, “the man who saw through heaven,” turned his telescope upon the moon and discovered its true topography and nature, the idea that man would fly to the moon became not only possible but even probable. Nation vied with nation in the desire to be the first to land on lunar soil—if soil there were. It will be no surprise to those who have lived through modern wars to learn that the two chief contenders for that honor were England and Germany. The great scientist Johannes Kepler insisted seriously that the German flag would be the first to fly on a lunar flagpole, while in England Oliver Cromwell’s brother-in-law, John Wilkins, a scientist in his own right, bent his energies to the problem of space-flight with true imperial desire that England be the first to colonize the moon. Our ancestors in the seventeenth century were fully aware of the problems which must be solved before man could actually fly, but equally certain that all the problems were capable of solution, as time has proved. Physicists, astronomers, mathematicians joined in the search for the secret of human flight, and, while no flying-machine of the seventeenth century actually made an ascent, basic principles which lie behind modern aviation were established in the “century of genius.” Literary imagination did not lag behind; indeed, it was often in advance of scientific discovery. In dream,
A 17th century portrayal of Bishop Francis Godwin’s imaginary character, Domingo Gonsales, borne aloft by wild-goose power at the beginning of a voyage which unexpectedly took him to the moon. (The picture originally appeared in Godwin’s *The Man in the Moone: or A Discourse of a Voyage thither*, by “Domingo Gonsales”, London, 1638.)
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in trance, in ecstasy, imagination mounted into the air by means of harnessed birds, of artificial wings, of remarkably ingenious flying-chariots. Legends of Daedalus and Icarus and old tales of Lucian came back with new meaning. Godwin’s Domingo Gonzales and Cyrano de Bergerac established patterns of cosmic voyages that were to persist for two centuries in Defoe, in Fontenelle, in Gulliver’s Travels and dozens of others. Indeed those patterns are still to be detected in science-fiction of our contemporaries who are often not aware of their literary heritage.

Throughout nearly all the seventeenth century, the voice of Scientia was a voice of optimism. Bacon’s New Atlantis prophesied a brave new world made by science in which all would be for the benefit and use of man. In the best of all possible scientific worlds man would live in comfort and in luxury because, having learned the secrets of nature, he could command Nature and use her to his purposes. Not until the end of the century do we find the other note of dread, omens of warning to man not to unleash forces which he might be unable to control. It is one of the great ironies of history that the note of danger and dread with which we are only too familiar should have been uttered by a scientist who firmly believed that he had solved the problem of human flight.

In 1670 an important Italian scientist, Francesco Lana, invented the first lighter than air machine, a charming little flying-ship like a canoe with sails and oars that were to cleave the air as wooden oars the water. The real novelty of the flying-ship lay in four evacuated globes, fastened to the ship by ropes. The principle of the vacuum had long been familiar. The little model of Lana’s ship flew through the air although it soon became clear that the “thin metal” he proposed could never be used for a really heavy machine, since, increased to a size necessary to carry men, the globes would burst under atmospheric pressure. Nevertheless Lana was on the right path. It remained for eighteenth-century experimenters to use cloth instead of copper or glass, and hydrogen in
Francesco Lana's concept in 1670 of an airship which would be borne aloft by vacuum balls and propelled by a sail and oars.
place of Lana's vacuum. It was only a matter of time before the first successful ascent of the Montgolfier balloon—with its cargo of a cock, a duck and a lamb.

Yet Lana, who believed that he had solved the problem, was the first to raise a warning voice about the dangers of aviation. "Other difficulties I do not foresee that could prevail against this invention," wrote the real inventor of the flying-machine, "save one only, which to me seems the greatest of them all, and that is that God would never surely allow such a machine to be successful." The airship, if actually invented, Lana went on to warn, would "create many disturbances in the civil and political governments of man." It could be "steered over the squares of cities, over the courtyards of dwelling houses," over navies at sea. From it men could throw fireballs and bombs, so that "not ships alone, but houses, fortresses and cities could be thus destroyed." Surely, wrote the man who was both a great scientist and a reverent son of the Church, God will never permit man to fly. This, let us remember, was in the year 1670.

Perhaps the first scientists were poets and romancers whose imaginations soared into space, untramelled by reality, dreamers who believed that their dreams might come true. They have become true—but the dream may yet prove to be a nightmare. Which voice will conquer—that of optimism or dread of extinction—only time will tell.
THE use of source material in astronomy presents interesting features which are not found in the other sciences or social sciences. Of course, in so far as contemporary source material is concerned, the astronomer, the physicist, the chemist, and the other scientists are on the same footing; they can do useful research only by maintaining day to day contact with the current papers published in their fields. But the astronomer must go further than this, for he must also review work that was done in his field as far back as recorded observations go if he is to obtain answers to important astronomical questions.

The reason for this is that astronomy, as an exact science, differs from other exact sciences, such as physics, in one essential respect; it is observational rather than experimental, and its observational material is beyond the control of the astronomer. It is true that the stars, the planets, the sun, the moon, and all other heavenly bodies are the same for all observers, but events may occur in the structure and motions of these bodies that can never be reproduced. Whereas in physics one can perform precisely the same experiment as often as may be desired, no two observations in astronomy can be exactly alike because all the heavenly bodies and their configurations are undergoing change, albeit very slowly, and it is by comparing observations from year to year that important discoveries are made. Some extremely interesting examples of this are to be found in the astronomy source material in the Special Collections Department of the Columbia Libraries.

The dominant figure in observational astronomy up to the time of Newton was Tycho Brahe, whose amazingly accurate observations led to the discovery of the laws of planetary motion. On a November evening in the year 1572, Tycho observed what
This edifice, decorated with the astronomer's tools and symbols, is rich with historical allusion. The pillars are named for astronomers whose concepts of the universe successively had wide acceptance: Hipparchus (2nd century B.C.); Ptolemy (2nd Century A.D.); Tycho Brahe (1546-1601) of Denmark; Copernicus (1473-1543) of Poland; and others. Kepler included a reference to Rudolph II, King of Bavaria and Hungary, because Tycho Brahe and he worked at Rudolph's court in Prague. (Illustration is frontispiece to Johannes Kepler's Tabulae Rudolphinae ... 1627.)
appeared to be a new star in the constellation of Cassiopeia which became as bright as Venus at its brightest and was visible even in the day time. He made systematic observations of the position and brightness of the star which appeared in published form as *De Stella Nova* and were later reproduced in his *Astronomiae Instauratae Progymnasmata*, published in 1610 in Frankfurt by Godefred Tampach. This supernova which Brahe observed is of more than historical interest to the modern astronomer because it is intimately related to present day research in radio astronomy. With our radio telescopes we can detect an intense source of radio waves in the constellation of Cassiopeia in the position of Tycho’s nova, and we must therefore conclude that novae, or exploding stars, emit radio waves.

This conclusion is also borne out by two other supernovae that appeared in our galaxy: the one that appeared in Taurus in the year 1054 and is now visible as the beautiful Crab Nebula, and the supernova in Ophiucus which Kepler observed in the year 1604. There are no records in European manuscripts of the occurrence of the 1054 outburst, but Japanese and Chinese documents record it as having been observed on July 4 of that year. The complete story of the Kepler supernova is contained in his *De Stella Nova in Pede Serpentarii* published in 1606 by Paulus Sessius in Prague and by Wolfgang Richter in Frankfurt. Both the Crab Nebula and Kepler’s nova are known today to be intense radio sources.

Brahe rejected the idea that the nova he had observed was the star of Bethlehem, presaging the return of the Saviour, and argued that it was the coagulation of Milky Way matter into a new star, but concluded that it would have to fade soon, as, indeed, it did, because, he said, “anything that arises after the completion of Creation can only be transitory.”

The observations of the three supernovae so long ago in the past have had an important bearing on present day cosmological theories and on the theories of the evolution of stars. The occur-
rence of three such outbursts during the last 1000 years tells us that these events are very rare in any one galaxy and probably represent the very last stages in the life of a star.

Astronomers in all periods had to keep in constant touch with observations in the past in order to understand what was going on in their day, and it often happened that errors in these earlier observations became the source of important discoveries, as we shall illustrate with some examples taken from source material. In his collected letters, Kepler says that “the rehabilitation of astronomy was first conceived and decided upon by Tycho, that phenix among astronomers, in 1564.” Brahe, the greatest of all naked-eye observers and an astronomer whose enormous output of work has never been equalled, came to astronomy by way of astrology and because of errors in the planetary tables. He observed in 1563 a conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn and noticed that the *Tabulae Prutenicae* (The Prussian Tables) were in error by a few days and that the Alfonsine Tables were in error by a whole month. He was so annoyed by this and the futility of attempting “correct” astrological forecasting with such tables that he decided to revise them, and set out on the path which led him in the year 1571 to the Island of Hveen, granted to him by Frederick II of Denmark. There Tycho built his great observatory, Oraniborg (City in the Heavens), and filled it with the finest instruments of that day, most of which he himself had designed and constructed, and which he describes in *Astronomiae Instauratae Mechanica*, published in Nürnberg in 1602 by L. Hulsius. The first edition of this book can be consulted in the Special Collections Department of the Columbia Libraries.

In Oraniborg, Brahe prepared the tables of Planetary motions which were to serve Johannes Kepler so well. In his *Astronomia Nova* Kepler analyzed the motion of Mars and discovered—on the assumption that Tycho’s observations could not be in error by more than eight minutes of arc “since,” as he says, “the Divine Goodness has given us in Tycho Brahe a very accurate observer”
—that the orbit of Mars could not possibly be a circle. He then turned to elliptical orbits and discovered the first of his three laws of planetary motion. "Only these eight minutes led to a complete reformation of astronomy," he later explained.

A more modern example of the inter-relationship of different periods in astronomical research is to be found in the discovery of the planet Neptune. A young German-Jewish musician fled to England from a Hanoverian regiment of guards and after becoming music master at Bath at the age of thirty-six turned to optics, mathematics, and astronomy. He became so proficient in these subjects that he soon became the outstanding British astronomer and the greatest astronomer England ever had. Among Sir William Herschel's great accomplishments, recorded in his Memoirs, is the story of the discovery of the planet Uranus in the year 1781. The orbit of this planet was carefully plotted from the numerous observations that were made after its discovery and by the year 1820 it was clear that its motion did not follow Kepler's laws. This anomalous behaviour of Uranus led the famous German astronomer Bessel (the first astronomer to measure the distance of a star) to write to Humboldt that the time would come when the "mystery of Uranus" would be solved by the discovery of a new planet. This was precisely what happened when Adams in England and Leverrier in France computed the orbit of Neptune and thus led astronomers to its discovery.

Sometimes astronomers have been too prone to accept the observations of the past and to apply them to their own day without taking into account the fact that even slight errors can lead to gross inaccuracies over a long enough period of time. In the books and papers of the great French astronomer Joseph de Lalande can be found the story of the transit of Mercury in 1753, and how it led to a revision of the tables of Mercury. In 1753 when Lalande was young and full of confidence that science could do anything, he wished to impress his king with its wonders and so invited him to witness a transit of Mercury across the face of
the sun. Louis XV, being firmly convinced that scientists were infallible, appeared at the observatory promptly at the hour specified, only to find that Mercury was not so prompt. In fact its transit did not occur until eight hours later and after the sun had set so that it was not visible in Paris at all! In predicting the transit, Lalande had used tables that were fifty years old and cursed these for having led to his disgrace. But it can be seen that these tables could not have been too greatly in error when they were first published, for an error of eight hours spread over a period of fifty years means an error of only two minutes for each period of revolution of Mercury, that is, an error of forty seconds per month.

Leverrier produced corrected tables of Mercury in 1840 and predicted the transit of Mercury with an error of only five seconds but which he still found unacceptable. After carefully revising the entire calculations of Mercury’s orbit, he was able to reduce the error (that is, the discrepancy between the computed orbit and the observed orbit) to 38 seconds of arc per century (one second of arc is the deviation represented by the diameter of a ten cent piece viewed at a distance of two and a half miles). This error, small as it was, remained to plague astronomers until it was accounted for almost a century later by the general theory of relativity.

What about the very earliest manuscripts in astronomy? Are they still of practical importance in astronomy today? The answer is yes. To see this we can go to the last great astronomer of ancient times whose work dominated the scientific thought of the western world for 1500 years. The writings of Claudius Ptolemaeus were accepted as the standard texts in astronomy until many years after the death of Copernicus and were not completely discarded until the end of the eighteenth century. But there is much in what Ptolemy wrote that is valuable today. In his *Almagest*, the first Greek and Latin editions of which can be found in Special Collections, one can study the systematized and cor-
rected data of the ancient Greek astronomers and compare the occurrences of any periodic phenomena then with the occurrence of the same phenomena now. Thus a comparison of modern observations of eclipses with these ancient records demonstrates that the earth is slowing down in its rotation at the rate of one thousandth of a second per day every century. In other words the length of the day is increasing by one second every hundred thousand years, and this effect can be traced to the frictional action of the tides on the earth. This leads to a very definite conclusion about the evolution of the earth-moon system and its ultimate destruction.

Between the time of Ptolemy and Copernicus very little was done in the way of astronomical research and manuscripts such as De Natura Rerum by Isidore of Seville, who lived in the sixth century, and De Fide Orthodoxa by St. John of Damascus, who died about 754 A.D., were merely of an expository nature with no new ideas beyond those that could be found in the Almagest. It was during this period that European astronomy came under the influence of Arabian astrology as developed by Albumasar in his De Magnis Coniunctionibus, and although it was slow in gaining a foothold, astrology all but squeezed the life from astronomy by the time Copernicus was beginning to think about the heavens. It is interesting to note that the Church rejected astrology in its early stages and, as late as 1108, the Archbishop of York was refused Christian burial because a book on astrology was found under his pillow, although a year later, in 1109, Adelard of Bath called astronomy the science of the past, present, and future.

What is perhaps most remarkable about the medieval period of European astronomy is its negative character from the observational point of view. Either people were too bowed down with their daily cares to look at the stars or else they felt that there was nothing to be found beyond what was contained in the writings of Ptolemy. There was some concern about the calendar and the determination of the date of Easter, and one finds such manu-
scripts as *Computo del Corso del Sole e della Luna*, in Italian, devoted to these questions. The only tables of any importance appearing in this period were the *Tabulae Astronomicae* written by Bartholomeus de Austria and Petrus de Polonia in 1367, which recorded the observed motions of the sun, the moon, and the planets.

As we pass from the middle ages to the Copernican period, we see the first real application of observational techniques to the development of astronomical theories. Copernicus himself was not a brilliant observer and only some hundred odd observations are recorded in his *De Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium*, but he made excellent use of the Ptolemaic records and whatever contemporary observations by such astronomers as Walther of Nuremberg as were available. With the publication of Copernicus' *De Revolutionibus*, observational astronomy began to grow very rapidly, probably spurred on greatly by the need for a reliable system of celestial navigation. Such manuscripts as *Astronomia Nautica* and books like the *Instrument Buch* of Peter Apianus give evidence of the emergence of astronomy from its purely speculative and astrological phase and its development into an exact and practical science; and with Tycho Brahe as its devoted subject, it could do no less than become the “Queen of the Sciences.”

Few of us today have time to think much about the past, let alone to study it in any detail, but to the astronomer no observation, however long ago it may have been made, can be completely disregarded, and even so fanciful an exposition of astronomy as the poem *Phaenomena* by the Greek poet Aratus of Soli, 3rd century B.C., may contain material pertinent to our understanding of some observation today.
Editor's Comment on the Golding Manuscript

In the May issue of Library Columns notice was taken of the generous gift by the Class of 1923 of the original manuscript of Arthur Golding's A Morall Fabletale, a series of tales paraphrasing Aesop's fables presumably written by Arthur Golding. Professor William Nelson in an accompanying article in the present issue further discusses the manuscript and its great importance, and assigns a much more probable date to it than had heretofore been considered ("before 1570," instead of "about 1590").

The late F. O. Matthiessen described translation as "an Elizabethan art," referring to the surge of English interest in classical and current foreign writings during the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries. The relative youth of the English language in the Elizabethan period, and the unhampered flexibility which reflected that youth, contributed to the literary greatness that was achieved by men like Shakespeare, Spencer, and Lyly. And many of those who devoted their talents to translation—Thomas North, Philemon Holland, John Harington, among a host of others—were equally productive of fine style and felicity of phrase which were dependent more on their own literary mastery than on the text of their originals.

As Professor Nelson points out, Golding too could turn a vivid Elizabethan phrase, although in his later years, as he concerned himself with the sober task of translating Calvinistic polemics, he became more staid in his rhetoric. But this Aesop belongs to his greener years; it is a re-telling rather than an exact translation of any known Aesop text. The strength of his imagination and the ease of his pen are well exemplified in the accompanying compari-
son of his fable “The Wolf and the Lamb” with another, more modern version. (See page 32)

The manuscript has other facets which make it of great interest to those who believe that Edward De Vere, the seventeenth Earl of Oxford, was the author of Shakespeare’s plays. It will, then, be scrutinized not only by scholars interested in it as the work of one of the most important of Elizabethan translators, but also by those who are concerned with examining the facts surrounding the authorship of Shakespeare’s plays.
"A Morall Fabletalke"

WILLIAM NELSON

WHEN booksellers describe their manuscripts as "very rare" they are for once understating their wares. All manuscripts are unique, but if some are more unique than others, the Elizabethan volume which is the recent gift of the Columbia College Class of 1923 to the Library certainly deserves the superlative. In spite of generations of research students, antiquaries, and catalogers, it has remained unnoticed to the present day. Or if some secretive scholar has leafed it, he has not let the world know. No history of Elizabethan literature mentions it, no auction catalogue lists it (to my knowledge), it bears no signature of its former owners. To be sure, its discovery does not bring to light a lost play of Shakespeare’s or the last six books of The Faerie Queene. But in our hunger to comprehend the ways of people of Elizabeth’s time even the smallest morsel becomes precious, and this manuscript is at least a good bite.

As is often the case with old books, some of its owners, finding paper scarce, scribbled things on blank pages: titles of songs and dances, a poem all in aitches ("heavy harte whose harmes are hydde . . ."), Latin verses describing the effects of successive drinks to the number of ten. The substance of the volume, however, is described on a neatly written title page:

A MORALL FABLETALKE
THAT IS TOO SAY

A most delectable Garden of morall Philosophy, conveyed in fables, by speeches attributed too brute Beastes. ———
Wherin the labyrinth or maze of mannnes lyfe is set foorth: And the way off vertew, by most beawtifull preceptes (as it were by Theseussis clew of yarne) is directed. ———

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Then follow 130 pages of "fabletalke" (a pretty word of the author's invention), most of it translated, or rather adapted, from what the world calls Aesop's fables. A later hand has added a few more moral tales, but the text shows that the original author regarded his work as complete.

Who was that author? The handwriting of the Fabletalke, in the opinion of Dr. James G. McManaway, Consultant in Literature and Bibliography at the Folger Shakespeare Library, is that of Arthur Golding, best known to literary history as the translator of Ovid's Metamorphoses, and since the manuscript is singularly free of errors, it seems likely that the scribe is the author himself. The fame of Golding's Metamorphoses, the first part of which was published in 1565, arises not from its excellence (its verse jigs rather unpleasantly) but from the fact that Shakespeare frequently borrowed from it. Golding was a deeply religious man, quite puritanical in tendency, and it may seem odd at first that he should have occupied himself with the Metamorphoses, a book full of good stories charmingly told but scarcely uplifting. Like most medieval and Renaissance readers of Ovid, however, Golding discovered morality in the tales in terms of allegory: Lycaon's transformation into a wolf denotes the beastliness of his character, and so on. In his later writings, Golding avoided even so much taint of frivolity and devoted himself to translating sober Calvinist tracts. If he is the author of A Morall Fabletalke, we may guess that its date is before 1570, when he turned from the translation of classical authors to what he considered more serious tasks.

Aesop's fables, like the Metamorphoses as Golding understood it, combined "delectable" entertainment with morality and were therefore thought suitable as reading exercises (in Latin) for children in their first year at the Elizabethan grammar schools. In Greek, Hebrew, Latin, English or other tongue, they have been taught to the young since a time earlier than the golden age of Greece almost to the present day—"almost," since "The Fox and the Grapes" seems at last to have been supplanted in our elemen-
tary schools by "The Little Engine that Could," and it is only because expressions like "sour grapes" and "blowing hot and cold" have passed into the language that future generations are likely to remember the ancient tradition. The history of the origin and development of the fables (for they were constantly being altered and added to) is an extremely complicated one. Our manuscript version is by no means their first appearance in English. Chaucer's tale of Chanticleer and Reynard the Fox is one bit of evidence among many that the stories were well known in England during the Middle Ages. In 1484, just a few years after the introduction of printing into England, William Caxton translated and published them. It was one of his most successful ventures, if the number of editions be taken as a guide. In Golding's own time the fables were even subjected to publication in "reformed" spelling by one Bullokar under the title Aesopz Fablz in tru Ortography (1585). Since then there have been innumerable translations in prose and verse, with illustrations and without, moralized by Whigs and moralized by Tories.

The fables in the manuscript are not simple translations of the traditional stories. Although some are fairly close to the originals, others are largely rewritten, and still others appear to be the author's own. The moral interpretations are longer and weightier than usual, and to each is appended a more or less appropriate biblical quotation. In improving on the bluntness of Caxton's version, the author loses some of the simplicity which is essential to the charm of the fables: he is fond of long words like "substantialness," "preposterous," and "opprobrium," and not infrequently cites Cicero, Aristotle, and other learned authorities. Perhaps he did not mean his book for children at all, for at least one of his readers was a scholar who made erudite comments in the margins in Latin and Italian. But the verve of the Elizabethan vocabulary remains (I have modernized the spelling):

As a Wolf and a Lamb were drinking by chance both at one brook, the Wolf on the upper part of the stream and the Lamb on the nether
THE FABLE OF THE WOLF AND THE LAMB

Woodcut illustration from the earliest Florentine edition of Aesop, which was printed in 1496 by Francesco Bonaccorsi for Piero Pacini.
part, as soon as the Wolf spied the Lamb, by and by like a crafty Jack and a cruel greedygut, he quarreled that the Lamb troubled the water and made it thick with mud, stopping to him with these or like words, “I would never have thought though thou hadst been an Ox that thou durrest to have broken out into so great boldness.” The Lamb being too well acquainted with the cruelty of his enemy and thoroughly afraid of him in his heart, as he was about to excuse himself mildly, was repressed by the Wolf with these words: “Darest thou, Jack Sauce, like an imp of thy father’s brood, chop logic with me? Darest thou so much as utter one word? Thou shalt not scape it unpunished. For I promise thee that thy malapertness shall by and by cost thee thy life.”

The Moral: It reprehendeth the malicious lust that quarrelers have to do harm, who taking occasion upon every toy, yea, even where no cause at all is ministered, make a gain to their malice of the behaviors of innocents, and never laugh more slyly in their sleeves than when they have brought the lives, good names and goods of good men to destruction. The malice of the wicked hunteth after mischief. Whereupon the princes and great personages sought occasion to find some fault in Daniel on the behalf of the kingdom. Daniel, 6. 4.

In another example, a servant who has beenbibbing his master’s wine is so bereft of his wits “that doing all things more unbridledly than at other times he fell to galping disorderly and unsavorily after the manner of drunken men, and ran gadding here and there, with frisking and leaping . . . insomuch that stumbling at a block he broke his leg with a foul fall.”

The moralizations often reflect the profound Elizabethan concern with problems of kingship and government, the problems which Shakespeare makes into the themes of his history plays. The tale of a man who cruelly overburdened his horse has this application:

This fable fitteth the devourers of their people, which like unto horse-leeches do suck out the blood of their subjects with so sore exactions that nothing is reserved to the silly [i.e., poor] wretched souls save only skin and bones.
And the story of an old lion who is scorned by those whom he once mistreated draws this comment:

Let Princes and such as are in authority bear in mind that their state is subject to alteration and change, and that nothing is so forcible to the weakening of their power as the unwieldy lust of overruling and of holding their subjects in awe with terror, and that tyranny . . . [is] but one day's continuance, and that the wheel rolleth continually about, now hoisting up the things that were lowest, and anon casting down the things that were highest.

If these sentiments represent the current of Elizabethan thought, kings (and queens) may have been considered above the law, but they were mortals and not beyond criticism.

The seriousness of the author's purpose is evident particularly at the end of the book. He wishes to draw his readers to the path of virtue, guided both by Holy Writ and by Plato and Aristotle:

And not only by Christ's warrant, but also by the record of the Philosophers, we shall accomplish the globe of virtues, chiefly by two duties of man's life, to wit by yielding chief honor to God as we ought to do, and by loving all men as ourselves.

Moral instruction may seem harsh and bitter, but its consequence is a happy one, figured by the author in the examples of the Phoenix, who stands for Christ, and the Stork, model of familial and religious piety. With these symbols the author concludes, "to end the act of this play with a gladsome winding up, such as comedies ought to have."
FABLE I.

THE WOLF AND THE LAMB.

By thirst incited, to the brook
The Wolf and Lamb themselves betook.
The Wolf high up the current drank,
The Lamb far lower down the bank.
Then, bent his rav'rous maw to cram,
The Wolf took umbrage at the Lamb.
“How dare you trouble all the flood,
“And mingle my good drink with mud?”
“Sir,” says the Lambkin, sore afraid,
“How shou’d I act, as you upbraid?
“The thing you mention cannot be,
“The stream descends from you to me.”
Abash’d by facts, says he, “I know
“’Tis now exact six months ago
“You strove my honest fame to blot”—
“Six months ago, Sir, I was not.”
“Then ’twas th’ old ram thy sire,” he cry’d,
And so he tore him, till he dy’d.
To those this fable I address,
Who are determin’d to oppress,
And trump up any false pretence,
But they will injure innocence.

This version of the fable, which was written in Latin verse by Phaedrus of Macedonia in the 1st century A.D. and translated by the English poet Christopher Smart for publication in 1765, is printed here for comparison with Arthur Golding’s stylistically different 16th century rendering as quoted in Professor Nelson’s article.
In November, 1958, a report was presented in these pages of the notable purchases of library materials that had been made during the preceding decade. It is hoped that hence-forward such reports can be compiled on an annual basis; the present notes inaugurate that policy.

Each year the Columbia Libraries expend a substantial portion of their budgeted funds to buy current and older materials in support of study and research. This continuing accessions program has brought Columbia to, and maintains her in, a high-ranking position among university libraries in this country. It is obviously impossible to report here the details of the past year’s accomplishments in adding needed volumes to our resources: literally thousands upon thousands of books and pamphlets passed through the hands of the cataloging staff on their way to the shelves during the twelvemonth just past. The Law Library, for example, added 8,414 books and serial volumes to its holdings; the Medical Library increased its collections by 5,536 items. The general collections of Butler Library have seen the addition of 20,805 volumes.

We can, however, take notice of some of the less usual collections and individual items that have been purchased within the year, and which add strength to our resources in unexpected ways or in exceptional depth.

Perhaps the most exceptional and unexpected purchase of the year was that involving a collection of approximately 1,600 Coptic ostraca—potsherds and limestone fragments bearing writings in the language and script of the inhabitants of upper (northern) Egypt during the seventh and eighth centuries of the Christian era. An article discussing this remarkable purchase and its importance to the study of linguistic and paleographical mat-
ters, by Professor A. Arthur Schiller, appeared in the May, 1959, issue of *Library Columns*.

The ostraca represent by no means the only manuscripts that were purchased during the year. Two fifteenth-century texts of vernacular translations of classical writings were added to the Gonzalez Lodge collection: an Italian version of Sallust's *De conjuratione Catilinae*; and an unpublished Spanish text of *Facta et dicta memorabilia* by Valerius Maximus. Both of these manuscripts are on paper. On the recommendation of Professor Kristeller, two other early manuscripts were obtained. One of these is a single leaf of an important text on the composition of letters, *Summula artis dictaminis* by Matthaeus (Notarius Bononiensis), ca. 1300. The other is a fifteenth-century manuscript of Domenico Bragadin's *Expositio sive declaratio super probatione terminorum*.

Most of the later manuscripts recently purchased are letters or documents. Two Alexander Hamilton letters were acquired, one to "Fitsimmons, Esq." of 1 Sept. 1790, the other to William Seton, 24 Jan. 1792. Four autograph letters of John Jay were also purchased: to Egbert Benson, 19 March 1781 (from Madrid); to Peter Van Schaaack, 14 May 1784 (from Paris); another to Peter Van Schaaack, 8 Sept. 1784 (from London); and to Benjamin Franklin, 13 Dec. 1784 (from Trenton, N. J.).

Other autographs of special interest to Columbia history are: a letter from James Kent, July 1805; three receipts signed by Lorenzo Da Ponte, 1830–31; and a letter from David Hosack, 17 March 1826, relating, among other matters, to the adoption of the name "College of Physicians and Surgeons."

A number of letters from and to important figures in literature and art include one from Hector Berlioz, 11 May 1838; four from Richard Grant White, 19 May to 12 Dec. 1855; a lot of 82 between Sarah Orne Jewett, William Dean Howells, Annie Fields, etc.; five letters and notes from Elizabeth Akers Allen, 1884–1908; one from Stephen Crane (but written by Cora Crane), 7 Dec. 1899; four from Laura Riding; a group of 29 from Ella Wheeler Wilcox,
Notable Purchases, 1958-1959

ca. 1890–1918; one (about Jane Austen) from William Dean Howells, 4 Jan. 1902; and two letters and three signed poems by David Gascoyne, 1949.

Three book manuscripts have been added: Sir Thomas Wilford’s The Sympathetical Affection Between Arithmetick and Geometry, early seventeenth century (for the D. E. Smith collection); L. E. Du Flou’s unpublished novel, A Summer Romance, ca. 1873–84; and Henry Miller’s The Air-Conditioned Nightmare (including the original manuscript and corrected galley and page proofs).

Four fifteenth-century printed items were acquired for inclusion in the Gonzalez Lodge collection of early classical works: the earliest one is the Bologna, 1479, edition of Franciscus de Maioranis’ Passus super universalia et prae dicamenta Aristotelis; thereafter follow Aulus Persius Flaccus’ Satyrae in the Brescia, 1486, edition; the Milan, 1491, edition of Suetonius’ Vitae XII Caesarum; and the Venice, 1500, edition of Aulus Gellius’ Noctes Atticae.

In addition to the two manuscripts and four fifteenth-century printed books already mentioned, forty-four other early texts were added to the Gonzalez Lodge collection. Of these, thirty-five are sixteenth-century items, including the first Aldine edition (1503) of the commentaries by Ammonius Hermiae; the Paris (1512) edition of Apuleius’ Asinus aureus; the Aldine edition (1503) of Euripides; a German translation of Ovid’s Metamorphoses (Frankfort, 1581); a German translation of Plutarch’s Vitae (Kolmar, 1547); and the Paris (1552–53) edition of Sophocles in Greek, published by Adrien Turnebe, and bound in handsome red morocco, gilt, by Roger Payne for Earl Spencer, from whom the volume passed to Sir Mark Masterman Sykes and later to the Duke of Sussex. The remaining Gonzalez Lodge purchases represent seventeenth-century (8) and eighteenth-century (1) printings of classical writings, and include three English editions: Thucydides Eight Bookes of the Peloponnesian warre
(London, 1629); Pindarus (Oxford, 1698); and Sappho (London, 1733).

Only sixteen items were purchased for the David Eugene Smith Collection on the history of mathematics, in addition to the Wilford manuscript mentioned above. Of these the most distinguished were the Frankfort (1610) edition of Tycho Brahe’s *Astronomiae instauratae progymnasmata*, and the very rare work on modern rockets, Robert Esnault-Pelterie’s *L’Exploration par fusées de la très haute atmosphere et la possibilité des voyages interplanétaires*, Paris, 1928 (presentation copy).

Mention should be made of the acquisition of the scarce first edition (signed) of Frank Norris’ *Yvernelle*, Philadelphia, 1892; of the first edition (Amsterdam 1782) of de Laclos’ *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*; of Joaquin Miller’s scarce *Pacific Poems*, London, 1871; and of the extremely rare broadside showing of Sequoyah’s Cherokee alphabet (1833).

All of the items so far mentioned have found their way into Special Collections, Columbia’s principal rare-book and manuscript library. Similar rarities have of course been added to the Avery, Law, and Medical collections, but these have been fewer in number for the very obvious reason that the first responsibility of those collections has been—and continues to be—the support of courses of study and research in current problems; accordingly there has been by the very nature of things less emphasis on acquiring historical rarities. However, the East Asiatic Librarian, Mr. Howard Linton, reports that during the past year the Japanese collection has been strengthened in several fields through the efforts of Professor Donald Keene during his trips to Japan in the summers of 1958 and 1959. Particularly numerous are works on literature, and the Library’s collection on theater and drama is now considered among the finest and strongest in this country. Professor Keene also filled all gaps in the Library’s holdings of *Zen’ei*, the official organ of the Japan Communist Party. As for the Chinese collection, outstanding purchases include the impor-
LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES, 
OU
LETTRES
Recueillies dans une Société, & publiées pour l'instruction de quelques autres.
Par M. C.... de L....

J'ai vu les mœurs de mon temps, & j'ai publié ces Lettres.
J. J. Rousseau, Prêf. de la Nouvelle Héloïse.

SECONDE PARTIE.

A AMSTERDAM;
Et se trouve à PARIS;
Chez Durand neveu, Libraire ; à la Sageffe, rue Galande.

M. DCC. LXXXII.

Title-page of the second part of the novel (referred to on the opposite page) which has been the chief claim to fame of its author Choderlos de Laclos (1741-1803). From the time of its publication in 1782, the novel has been praised for its frankness and its author's analytical prowess and likewise condemned for its immorality. A new French movie, with the same title, caused a furor in Paris in September of this year.
Notable Purchases, 1958–1959

Notable FmchaseSj in nine volumes, containing photo-reproductions of original government documents related to Chinese maritime defense during the 1860–1911 period. This indispensable source material was edited and published by Academia Sinica in Taipei, currently directed by Dr. Hu Shih. Two other purchases of note were the mainland-purchased volume of fine reproductions of Sung Dynasty paintings in the Palace Museum collections, and a collection of 200 volumes of books and 2,100 periodical issues published in China in the 1930's and now extremely difficult to acquire.

So in many respects the year 1958–1959 has seen the strength of the Columbia Libraries increased by the purchase of unique or very rare and precious materials. But—as it was pointed out a year ago in these pages—it must not be forgotten that many of these additions, too, represent gifts, for their acquisition has been made possible by gift, bequest, and endowment funds that have stemmed from the generosity of those who wish Columbia well.
Our Growing Collections

ROLAND BAUGHMAN

Barnouw gift. Professor Adriaan Barnouw has placed in our care a valuable photographic facsimile of the autograph manuscript of Gerard de Groote’s *Dat Leven ons Leven Heren*, the original of which is in the Bibliotheek Kruisherenklooster St. Agatha at Cuyk, the Netherlands. It is the only known extant manuscript in the autograph of de Groote.

Bassett-Monroe gifts. Mrs. Jeanette Monroe Bassett (Mrs. Henry Bassett) and Mr. Ellis Monroe have presented an extremely valuable collection of antiquities in memory of their father, the late Professor Paul Monroe of Teachers College. The gifts include a group of about 75 complete or nearly complete cuneiform tablets, as well as a large number of small fragments, representing various periods from Ur III to the Neo-Babylonian (ca. 2100 B.C. to 539 B.C.); a collection of ten original “oracle bones” dating from about 1200 B.C., together with three modern imitations; two unglazed pottery vases, possibly of early Islamic origin; one small pottery head, unidentified but under study; a large lectern manuscript of the Hebrew Torah dating from the 18th century or earlier; and a beautiful alabaster vase of considerable antiquity.

The importance of these gifts can scarcely be exaggerated. Chinese “oracle bones” represent the earliest known extant examples of the Chinese script (see *Library Columns*, May, 1959, pages 11–14). Cuneiform tablets, also, are of prime significance in the study of the writing and records of the various peoples who lived in ancient Babylonia and its environs (see *Library Columns*, May, 1959, pages 28–30).

Bechtel gift. Mrs. Edwin De T. Bechtel has presented a number of useful volumes from the collection of her late husband. Of prin-
cipal note are Thomas Birch’s *The Heads of Illustrious Persons of Great Britain, engraved by Mr. Houbraken, and Mr. Vertue, with their Lives and Characters...* London, 1747; and Auguste Forel’s *The Social World of the Ants compared with that of Man...* London & New York, [1928], translated by C. K. Ogden.

**Benson gift.** Through the kindness of Reverend John M. Krumm, Chaplain of the University, Mrs. H. C. Benson of Burlingame, California, has presented an interesting letter from Sydney Smith, Canon of St. Paul’s, dated 26 February [1840].

**Corey gift.** Mrs. Lewis Corey has added a number of useful items to the collection of books and manuscripts formed by her late husband and recently presented by her to Columbia University. The present gifts represent works that were used by Lewis Corey in his study of Frances Wright, the notes and unfinished manuscript of which are in the previously-given collection.

**Friedman gifts.** The flow of gifts of useful and beautiful volumes from the collection of Mr. Harry G. Friedman (Ph.D., 1908) continues without abatement. Most recently have come three 16th-century Latin Bibles: one printed in Venice for Lucantonio Giunta in 1519, with woodcut illustrations; one printed in Lyons by Jacobus Mareschal in 1519 with attractive pictorial woodcut initials; and a fine example printed in Lyons by Joannis Crispinus in 1539, plentifully illustrated with hand-colored woodcuts. Jacobus Lydius’ *Syntagma sacrum de re militari...* Dordrecht, 1698, with many engraved plates showing war machinery, fortifications, types of armor, and the like, has also been received.

**Hobart gift.** Mrs. Alice Tisdale Hobart (Mrs. Earle T. Hobart) has presented the manuscripts of three of her novels, *The Cleft Rock*, *The Peacock Sheds His Tail*, and *The Serpent Wreathed Staff*. 
Our Growing Collections

Mrs. Hobart’s gifts are in response to our request for assistance in building at Columbia a collection of manuscripts to document the contemporary approach to authorship. *The Cleft Rock* and *The Serpent Wreathed Staff* are, in the author’s own words, examples of “the trend toward use of big institutions for the environment of a novel,” and the third, *The Peacock Sheds His Tail*, represents another trend, “the American in the international scene.”

Columbia’s collection of authors’ original manuscripts has grown rapidly in recent years, due to the generosity and the understanding of our serious purpose by writers such as Mrs. Hobart.

*Hughes gift.* A body of manuscripts of supreme importance to Columbia was recently received as the gift of Mrs. Arthur M. R. Hughes of Rochester, New York. The collection comprises family papers, among which are thirty-one letters from John Jay, all but one being addressed to his son, Peter Augustus Jay. There are also seven letters to John Jay, including one from De Witt Clinton.

In all, this magnificent gift includes 161 letters from or to, or relating to, various members, antecedents and descendants of the Jay family; in addition there are 57 documents dating from 1668 to 1843. Many of the latter are deeds to or conveyances of property. One especially notable one is a manuscript conveyance from certain Indians to Caleb Heathcote and his associates of lands lying in the environs of Rye and Harrison. The document is dated June 11, 1701.

This gift is especially welcome in view of the effort that is being made at Columbia to acquire as nearly complete as possible a collection of manuscripts by or relating to John Jay. Mrs. Hughes’ great generosity in thus parting with treasured family heirlooms in order to help us in this endeavor is deeply appreciated.

*Keio University Gift.* Keio University in Tokyo is presenting to the East Asiatic Library a complete set of *Fukuzawa Yukichi*
zenshū (The collected works of Yukichi Fukuzawa). Five of the projected 21 or more volumes of the definitive edition of the writings of this prolific author have so far been received. Dr. Fukuzawa (1834–1901), a leading promoter of Western ideas in Japan, was founder of Keio University. Dr. Shinzō Koizumi, who served as its President from 1933 to 1947, received an honorary degree at Columbia University during the Bicentennial.

Komroff gift. Mr. Manuel Komroff has added a number of extremely valuable items to his earlier gift of “The Manuel Komroff Collection.” The present lot comprises twelve letters and two cards from Eugene O'Neill, totaling twenty-two pages, plus an enclosed two-page autograph letter from Carlotta Monterey O'Neill; five letters from Sherwood Anderson, totaling six pages; and eight letters from Theodore Dreiser, totaling ten pages. All of the letters are addressed to Mr. Komroff.

Longwell gift. Mr. Daniel Longwell (1922 C) continues to build toward completeness of the distinguished Churchill Collection which he has presented to Columbia University. Recently he has sent for inclusion six current publications by and about the great statesman. These copies, as in every other instance of Mr. Longwell’s gifts, are in the finest possible condition.

Macy gift. Mrs. George Macy has continued to present the current publications of the Limited Editions Club as a memorial to her late husband. Among the most beautiful of these beautiful volumes is Quarto-Millenary: The First 250 Publications and the First 25 Years (1929–1954) of The Limited Editions Club. This milestone volume records the achievements of George Macy in monumental style. It has splendid chapters by eminent authorities discussing the productions as printed books, as illustrated books, and as literature. It is replete with facsimiles or reprintings of selected title-pages, text pages, and illustrations. There is a biblio-
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raphy of the 250 productions, arranged by date of publication, and this is implemented by a title index. A truly magnificent printing of a long needed work!

Moore bequest. The legatees of the estate of the late Henry L. Moore, Professor Emeritus at Columbia University, have presented his collection of books, pamphlets, documents, manuscripts, and correspondence. The donors of this valuable collection, Mrs. Edith M. Cole, Mrs. Eleanor Todd, and Mr. Dallas A. Shafer, intend the collection to stand as a memorial to Professor Moore, who was one of the great pioneers in the field of econometrics.

The materials in this large and valuable collection relating to the field of economics are to be maintained as a unit, with the designation “The Henry L. Moore Collection on Economics and Econometrics.”

Nevins gift. Professor Emeritus Allan Nevins has made a most significant addition to the collection of his papers, books, manuscripts, and documents which, from time to time, he has presented to Columbia University. The present gift is unusually valuable, including important letters to and from Eli Whitney relating to arms shipments in 1860, Grover Cleveland papers, Henry White papers, Henry Adams letters, Hamilton Fish papers, documents by and to Theodore Roosevelt, Brand Whitlock materials, and a number of miscellaneous items of considerable interest.

Among the last-named items are two unpublished manuscripts of exceptional value. One is a full account (37 pages) by Don Carlos Buell, Commander of the Army of the Ohio, of the Battle of Shiloh, April 6–7, 1862. It is in the form of an undated letter to Professor Henry Coppee, editor of the United States Service Magazine, written to correct the errors in a published account by General Sherman.

The other document is also in the form of a letter, written to Professor Nevins on 26 December, 1937. It is an account (8 pages)
by Philip Dippel, Jr., of his father's journey in 1849 from Parral, Mexico, to the California gold fields.

O'Brien gift. Professor Justin O'Brien has presented a copy of Les Années Vingt, les écrivains Américains à Paris et leurs amis, 1920–1930, the catalogue of an exhibition held under the auspices of the Centre Cultural Américain in Paris, 11 March to 25 April, 1959. This is an interesting catalogue of a most important aggregation of material, and it will serve a useful purpose in Special Collections.

Plimpton gift. Mr. Francis T. P. Plimpton has presented several useful and rare items for inclusion in the library established at Columbia by his father, the late George A. Plimpton. Six works comprise the present gift: Recueil de Tables Astronomiques, Perpétuelles, et de la Table des Logarithmes des Sinus . . . Paris, 1764; L. Murray, English Grammar . . . York, 1795; Conversations on Chymistry . . . Philadelphia, 1809 (with the signature of R. S. Livingston on the title-page); Joseph Lancaster, Improvements in Education . . . London, 1808; William Oldys, The British Librarian . . . London, 1738; and Joseph Young, A New Physical System of Astronomy . . . New York, 1800 (with the signature of Robt. S. Livingston on the title-page).

Stokes gift. Dr. J. G. Phelps Stokes (M.D., 1896) has presented his personal collection of books, pamphlets, manuscripts, and correspondence in the fields of philosophy, religion, trade unions, the Social Democratic League of America, Bolshevism, etc. The books and pamphlets number more than 1500 volumes, and the manuscripts, which represent the period 1885 to 1950, are contained in about 85 metal boxes.

Spanniernan gift. Mr. Ira Spanniernan has presented an apparently unpublished manuscript memoir of Rufus Choate (1799–1859),
Our Growing Collections

written by his niece by adoption, M. A. Cruikshank (referred to as "Marge" in the text). The account is based on intimate household acquaintance with Choate during the latter's senatorial years, 1841–1845. It contains between 5,000 and 6,000 words, and is clearly written on 44 pages of a leather-bound notebook. Tipped in at the front is an autograph note from Choate to the Librarian of Congress, 4 March 1843; also enclosed is an A.L.S. from M. A. Cruikshank to an unidentified correspondent, relevant to the completing of the memoir, 2 March 1866.

Taylor gift. Professor Horace Taylor has presented a collection of nearly 500 books, pamphlets and serials which he has gathered in the course of his researches in economics.

Trilling gift. Professor Lionel Trilling (A.B., 1925, A.M., 1926, Ph.D., 1938) has presented from his personal collection seven Robert Frost items, including six booklets that were issued by the author as Christmas greetings, 1952–1958, and A Remembrance Collection of New Poems . . . in Honor of His Eighty-fifth Birthday, March 26, 1959.
Activities of the Friends

Dr. Fackenthal New Council Member. Dr. Frank D. Fackenthal, a Trustee of Columbia University, has been appointed to the Friends' Council, filling a vacancy in the Class of 1960. Following a period of service at the University in various positions starting in 1906, he was Provost under President Nicholas Murray Butler until the latter retired in 1945. He was then appointed Acting President, a position which he held until June, 1948, at which time Dwight Eisenhower became the chief administrative officer of the University.

Growth in Membership. Mrs. Albert M. Baer, the Chairman of the Membership Committee, reported at the September meeting of the Council that the membership of the Friends had grown during the past year from 331 to 364. Thirty-nine members joined our association as a result of activity of the committee in the spring. During the year, six members died or withdrew, leaving a net gain of 33. It is a source of pleasure to record here the successful results of the work carried on by Mrs. Baer.

Fall Meeting on November 11. As we go to press, plans are being completed for the first meeting of the new academic year, which will be held in Avery Library on the above-indicated date. The program will have the general title "Architecture and the Phoenix." The speakers will be Frederick J. Woodbridge, consulting architect for the University, and Max Abramovitz of the firm of Harrison and Abramovitz, who will describe the latest developments in the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, illustrating his talk with slides which will show the facades and floor plans of the principal buildings which are to be constructed. Architectural drawings of the Lincoln Center will be on display in exhibit cases in the Library.

Annual Meeting on January 18. When the Friends of the Columbia Libraries were organized at a meeting on May 1, 1951,
Mark Van Doren, poet, author, and beloved Columbia faculty member, was the principal speaker. He will return to the podium at the meeting of the Friends on January 18 to present to the Libraries his collection of correspondence, manuscripts, and publications. The program for the evening will be centered around this important event.
ERRATA

The following corrections should be made in the May, 1959, issue:
Page 2: “sericiae” should read “unciae.” Page 5: “pecuna” should read “pecunia.” Page 7: “Number 5 shows the reverse side” should read “Number 5 shows the obverse side.”

CREDITS

The sources of the illustrations are as follows: “Gonsales’ flight by goose power” is from Grant McColley’s “The Man in the Moone and Nuncius Inanimatus.” (Smith College Studies in Modern Languages [no date or serial number]). “Francesco Lana’s airship” is reproduced from “Navis Aeria of B. Zamagna” (Smith College Classical Studies, no. 12 March, 1939). “The Fable of the Wolf and the Lamb” is from Christopher Smart’s A Poetical Translation of the Fables of Phaedrus . . . (London, J. Dodsley, 1765).


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