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Spring 1992

## News of the Library and the Library Associates, from Courier, Vol. XXVII, No. 1, Spring 1992

Syracuse University Library Associates

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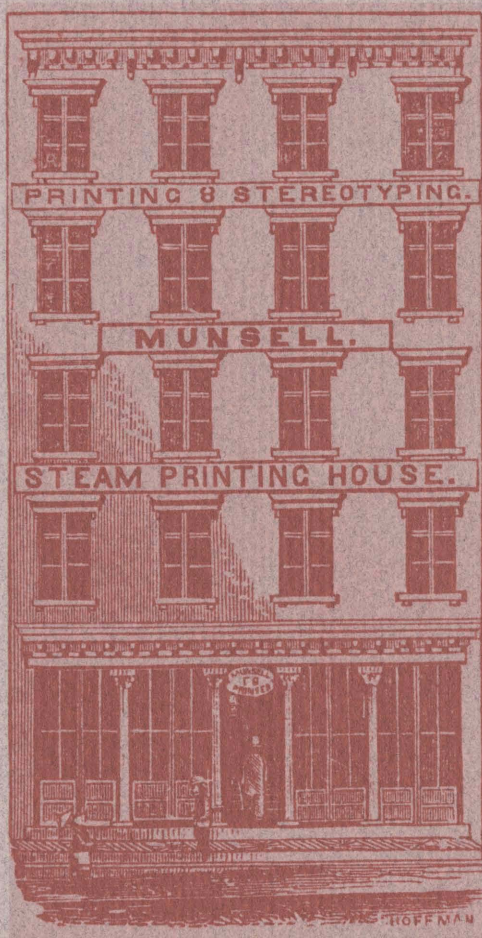
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SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY  
LIBRARY ASSOCIATES  
C O U R I E R



VOLUME XXVII, NUMBER 1, SPRING 1992

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY  
LIBRARY ASSOCIATES  
COURIER

VOLUME XXVII

NUMBER ONE

SPRING 1992

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# News of the Library and the Library Associates

POST-STANDARD AWARD CITATION, 1992

For Phyllis Freeman Poushter

and David L. Poushter

Phyllis Freeman Poushter and David L. Poushter: We honor you today for your generous gift of fore-edge paintings to the Syracuse University Library.

Natives of Syracuse, graduates of Nottingham High School and of Syracuse University—Phyllis as an illustration major in the College of Art and David as a physician trained in the College of Medicine—you have both contributed much to this community since your return in 1953. Your gifts are best known by those closest to you: your family and friends, those in your synagogue, and your professional colleagues and patients. Your passion for books and particularly for those exotic specimens possessed of paintings hidden under the gilt on their fore-edges sprang from Phyllis's childhood love of such books in her own family's library. Book collecting soon, if not immediately, became a shared passion after a visit, more than thirty years ago, to the rare book department of J. L Hudson Department Store where you acquired a copy of Byron's *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*, the first of what was to become a collection numbering one hundred thirty-five volumes containing more than one hundred fifty painted scenes.

Your fascination with fore-edge paintings took you back to Hudson's and to such other fine establishments as Witherspoon's, Totteridge's, Hartfield's, and Bartfield's. In your search for books so uniquely embellished you traveled both widely and close to home. Your book collecting expeditions not only brightened up many medical conferences but also, after nearly thirty years of focused and discriminating collecting, yielded one of the finest collections of fore-edge paintings ever assembled.



Phyllis and David Poushter, recipients of the 1992 Post-Standard Award,  
with David Stam at the Library Associates December  
1991 Chancellor's Holiday Reception.

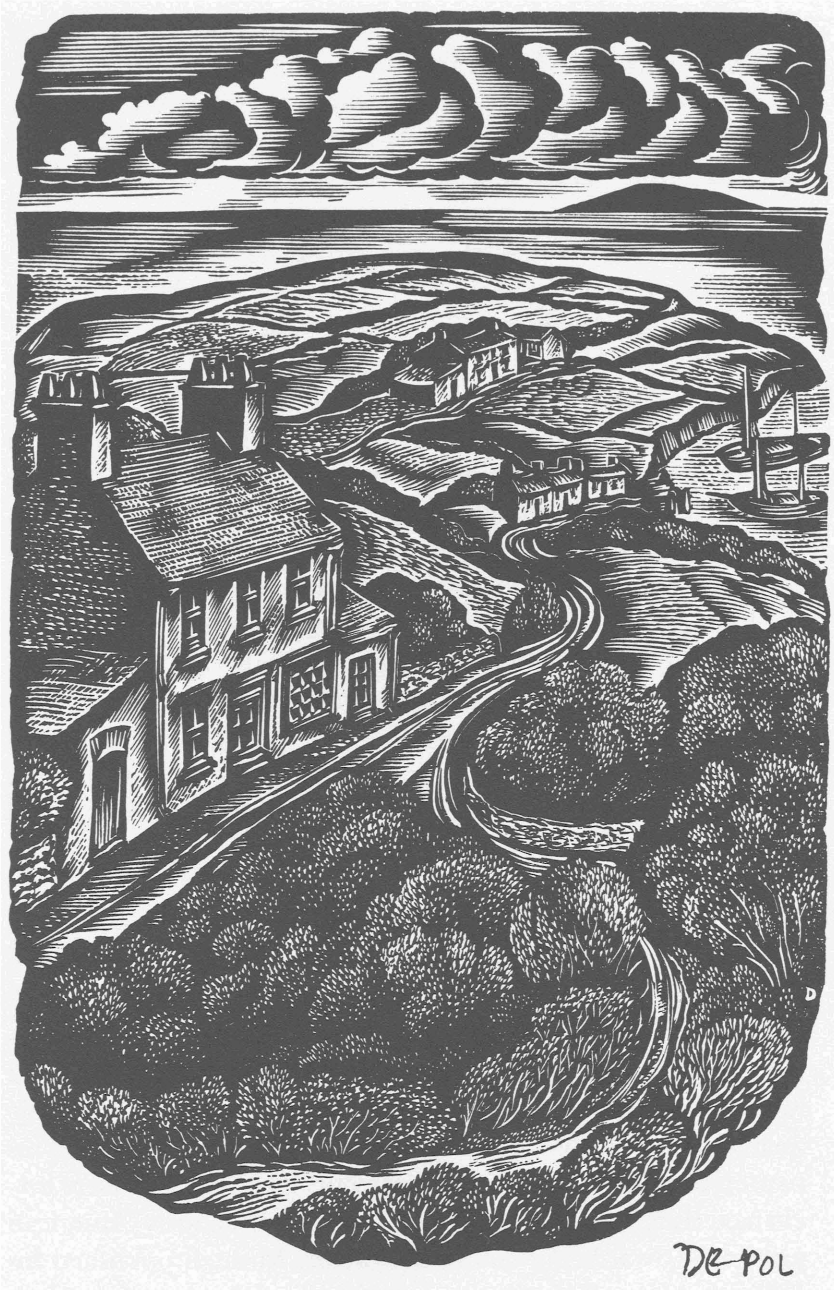
In presenting this valuable collection to the Syracuse University Library you make available to present and future generations of students an extraordinary gathering of beautifully painted books. It is most fitting that you should jointly receive the 1992 Post-Standard Award for Distinguished Service to the Syracuse University Library.

## RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Noted below are selected additions to the historical and graphic arts collections in the George Arents Research Library.

DePol, John

In 1959, wood engraver John DePol presented the Library with a collection of his work and designated Syracuse University as the repository for his papers. Mr. DePol's engraving of three eighteenth-century men examining a book in a library appeared on the caption title of the first number of this journal in April



DePol wood-block print for *The Man Who Loved Islands* by D. H. Lawrence  
(Lewisburg, Pa.: The Press of Appletree Alley, 1985).

1958 and has been employed as the Library Associates emblem for thirty-four years. Recently, Mr. DePol, a Life Member of Library Associates, contributed an extensive collection of books, pamphlets, and keepsakes, together with a large number of his original prints. These materials join the DePol Collection of prints, books, proofs, sketches, and wood blocks first established by the artist more than thirty years ago. The collection now provides an extensive record of the career of one of America's pre-eminent wood engravers. *Gift of John DePol.*

### Fore-edge Paintings

With a recent gift of 128 volumes, the Library now has one of the world's largest collections of fore-edge paintings, an art form that dates from mid-seventeenth-century England. The paintings on these books, typically portraits of literary figures, landscapes or buildings, are revealed by fanning the edges opposite the bindings. In this collection the oldest volume, dated 1728, is a copy of *De Structura Orationis*, a book of literary composition and rhetoric by the ancient Greek writer Dionysius. The edition marks the first publication of this work in England. It contains text in the original Greek with Latin translations on the facing pages. Also included are works by Samuel Johnson, Milton, and Cervantes. *Gift of David L. and Phyllis Freeman Poushter.*

### Munsell Collection

In 1984 Henry S. Bannister gave the Library his extensive collection of books and pamphlets printed by Joel Munsell (1808–1880) of Albany. An exceptional printer and discriminating publisher, Munsell produced some of the finest books in mid-nineteenth-century America. Munsell's scholarly and antiquarian interests, his concern for typography and design, and his passion to preserve historical documents through print were uncharacteristic of the majority of nineteenth-century American printers. Towards the end of his career, Munsell published his *Bibliotheca Munselliana* (1872). A fascinating document, it catalogs the products of the press for the period 1828 to 1870. However, many items were omitted, and there is no record of the work is-

sued by the press for the years after 1871. Munsell continued to produce books until his death on 15 January 1880. The press was carried on by his son Frank until 1895 when, because of declining business, the presses were sold. Other members of the Munsell family continued to issue occasional pieces, until the last known work carrying the Joel Munsell's Sons imprint was issued in 1950.

Since the mid-1950s Mr. Bannister, assisted by his wife Olive until her death, has collected Munsell imprints; and beginning in 1980, the Bannisters began systematically to compile a bibliographical record of the Munsell firm's output. Their bibliography now includes 3694 entries for the period 1825 to 1950, which is a 61 percent increase over the 2280 entries in Munsell's own *Bibliotheca*. Over the last eight years, as a result of Mr. Bannister's many gifts and of purchases made possible by Library Associates, the Syracuse collection of Munsell imprints now numbers 525 titles and represents one of the major collections in the country. Recently, Munsell's biographer, David S. Edelstein, and Professor David Tatham presented the Library with additional Munsell imprints.

These Munsell books and pamphlets are listed below. It should be noted that the Library also has received a large number of minor Munsell imprints, including almanacs, city directories, school and college catalogs, church and fraternal constitutions, membership lists and by-laws, none of which are individually listed here. Unless otherwise noted, the following publications bear Munsell's Albany imprint.

Ames, Charles Gordon. *Dead Flies in Precious Ointment: A Discourse on Morals in America . . .* (1864). Gift of Henry S. Bannister.

André, John. *Minutes of a Court of Inquiry, Upon the Case of Major John André . . .* (1865). Gift of Henry S. Bannister.

Bleeker, Leonard. *The Order Book of Capt. Leonard Bleeker, Major*



*of Brigade in the Early Part of the Expedition Under Gen. James Clinton, Against the Indian Settlements of Western New York, in the Campaign of 1779* (New York: [Printed by J. Munsell for] J. Sabin, 1865). Gift of Henry S. Bannister.

Brown, Paul. *The Radical and Advocate of Equality; Presenting a Series of Expostulatory Animadversions on the Present State of Practical Politics and Morals; With a View to an Access of Improvement* (1834). Gift of Henry S. Bannister.

Campbell, Charles. *Some Materials to Serve for a Brief Memoir of John Daly Burk . . .* (1868). Purchased with Library Associates funds.

*Conversation with a Churchman Upon Religious Matters. A Tract for Our Own Neighborhood . . .* (1858). Gift of Henry S. Bannister.

Dixon, Bernard Homer. *Brief Account of the Family of Homer or de Homere of Ettingshall, Co. Stafford, Eng. and Boston, Mass.* (1889). Gift of David Tatham.

Doane, George Washington. *Songs by the Way . . .* 3rd ed. (1875). Gift of David S. Edelstein.

Dyer, David. *Impressions of Prison Life in Great Britain. Submitted to the Inspectors and Superintendent of the Albany Penitentiary* (1868). Purchased with Library Associates funds.

*Early Voyages Up and Down the Mississippi by Cavalier, St. Cosme, Le Sueur, Gravier, and Guignas with an Introduction, Notes, and an Index by John Gilmary Shea* (1861). Purchased with Library Associates funds.

Hough, Franklin Benjamin. *Washingtoniana: or, Memorials of the Death of George Washington . . .* (Roxbury, Mass.: Printed [by] J. Munsell] for W. E. Woodward, 1865). Gift of David S. Edelstein.

Hyde, Alvan. *A Sermon, Delivered at the Funeral of Mr. Nathan Ball, Who Departed this Life December 29th 1797 in the 62nd Year of His Age* (1862). Purchased with Library Associates funds.

- Lintner, George Ames. *A Memoir of the Rev. Walter Gunn, Late Missionary in India . . .* (Albany: [Printed by J. Munsell for] E. H. Pease & Co., 1852). Gift of Henry S. Bannister.
- Mahan, Milo. *The Healing of Nations: A Sermon, Preached in St. Peter's Church, Albany, on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 29, 1855* (1855). Gift of Henry S. Bannister.
- National Loan Fund Life Assurance Association of London. *Statement . . . in Regard to the Claim of Mrs. Hetzell* (1850). Purchased with Library Associates funds.
- Neill, Edward Duffield. *Biographical Sketch of Doctor Jonathan Potts, Director General of the Hospitals of the Northern and Middle Department in the War of the Revolution, With Extracts from His Correspondence* (1863). Purchased with Library Associates funds.
- Neill, Edward Duffield. *History of the Virginia Company of London, With Letters to and from the First Colony, Never Before Printed* (1869). Gift of Henry S. Bannister.
- Palmer, Ray. *The Highest Civilization a Result of Christianity and Christian Learning* (1866). Gift of Henry S. Bannister.
- Read, John Meredith. *A Historical Inquiry Concerning Henry Hudson, His Friends, Relatives and Early Life, His Connection with the Muscovy Company and Discovery of Delaware Bay* (1866). Gift of David S. Edelstein.
- Simms, Jephtha Root. *Trappers of New York, or a Biography of Nicholas Stoner & Nathaniel Foster; Together with Anecdotes of Other Celebrated Hunters, and Some Account of Sir William Johnson, and His Style of Living* (1871). Gift of Henry S. Bannister.
- Stiles, Henry Reed. *Bundling; Its Origin, Progress and Decline in America* (1869). Gift of Henry S. Bannister.
- Street, Alfred Billings. *Frontenac, a Poem of the Iroquois* (1866). Gift of David S. Edelstein.
- Wallace, John William. *An Address Delivered at the Celebration by the New York Historical Society, May 20, 1863, of the Two Hun-*



Official device of the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice.

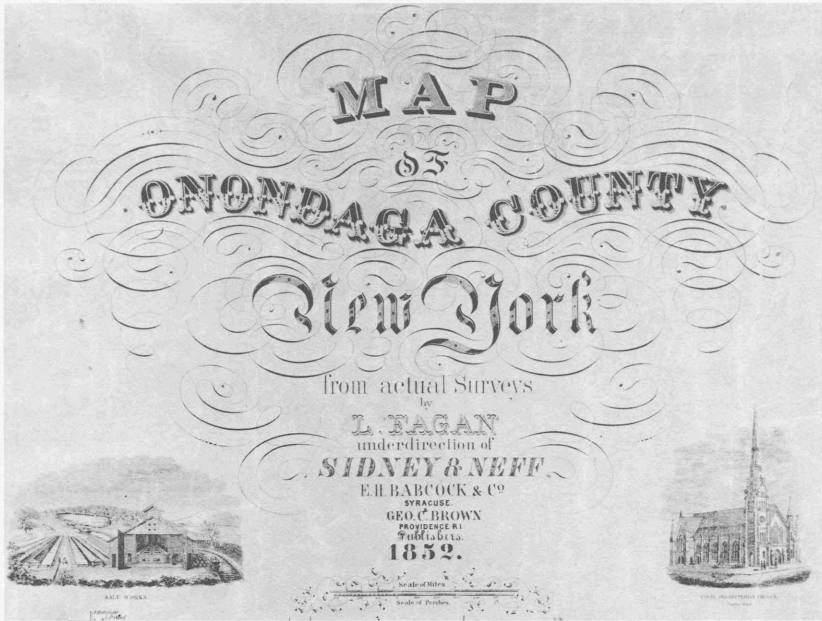
*dredth Birth Day of Mr. William Bradford, Who Introduced the Art of Printing into the Middle Colonies of British America* (1863). Gift of David S. Edelstein.

Williams, Eleazer. *Life of Te-ho-ra-gwa-ne-gen, Alias Thomas Williams, a Chief of the Caughnawaga Tribe of Indians in Canada* (1859). Gift of Henry S. Bannister.

Worth, Gorham A. *Random Recollections of Albany, from 1800 to 1808*. 3rd ed. (1866). Gift of David S. Edelstein.

New York Society for the Suppression of Vice

*Annual Report*. Vols. 1–53 (1875–1926). The New York Society for the Suppression of Vice was founded in 1873 by Anthony Comstock, its leader for forty years until his death in 1915. The



Title with vignettes illustrating Syracuse's salt works and the First Presbyterian Church from an 1852 wall map of Onondaga County.

first such organization in the country, the Society enjoyed considerable support throughout the last decades of the nineteenth century, though it was not universally popular. The tighter postal obscenity law, passed by Congress in 1873, and similar state statutes came about through Comstock's vigorous lobbying efforts, and the resultant body of law became known as "Comstock laws". The work of the Society is summarized in these annual reports, which include statistics on activities such as the following: "Indecent playing cards destroyed"; "Obscene pictures, framed, on walls of saloons seized and destroyed"; "Miles traveled by Agent outside N.Y. City"; "Microscopic Pictures for charms, knives, etc. seized and destroyed"; and "Obscene plays stopped, or Places of Amusement closed". *Purchased with Library Associates funds.*

#### Onondaga County

*Map of Onondaga County, New York, from Actual Surveys. By*

*L. Fagan under the Direction of Sidney & Neff* (Syracuse: E. H. Babcock & Co., 1852). A hand-colored wall map detailing land ownership in the county and showing buildings, names of occupants, roads and toll gates, canals, waterways, and railroads. This is perhaps the first printed land-ownership map of Onondaga County. *Purchased with Library Associates funds.*

Mark F. Weimer  
Curator of Special Collections

## PROGRAM FOR 1992-93

The Syracuse University Library Associates program for the academic year 1992-93 will be as follows:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| September 25, 1992<br>Friday, 4 p.m.<br>1916 Room, Bird Library                               | Thomas Pinney<br>Professor of English, Pomona College<br>Editor, <i>The Letters of Rudyard Kipling</i><br>KIPLING AT SYRACUSE                 |
| October 23, 1992<br>Friday, 4 p.m.<br>1916 Room, Bird Library                                 | Paul R. Dolan<br>Director, ABC News, NewsOne<br>Services<br>WILLOWBROOK: TWENTY YEARS AFTER   |
| November 5-7, 1992<br>Thursday-Saturday<br>1916 Room, Bird Library<br>(times to be announced) | Book Sale<br>Co-sponsored by the Library Associates<br>and the Syracuse University Library  |
| November 10, 1992<br>Tuesday, 4 p.m.<br>1916 Room, Bird Library                               | Ian Willison<br>Editor, <i>Cambridge History of the Book in<br/>Britain</i><br>ASPECTS OF PRINTING AND PUBLISHING<br>IN GREAT BRITAIN         |
| December 11, 1992<br>Friday, 5 p.m.<br>Chancellor's Residence<br>300 Comstock Avenue          | Chancellor's Holiday Reception<br>(By invitation to members only)   |
| December 12, 1992<br>Saturday, 12:00 noon<br>600 Bird Library<br>(Exhibition closes 3/31/93)  | "SAY! DIS IS GRATE STUFF":<br>THE YELLOW KID AND THE BIRTH OF<br>THE AMERICAN COMIC<br>Exhibition opening                                     |
| February 11, 1993<br>Thursday, 4 p.m.<br>1916 Room, Bird Library                              | Amanda Porterfield<br>Professor of Religion<br>Syracuse University<br>RECURRING TENDENCIES IN THE HIS-<br>TORY OF AMERICAN CHRISTIAN<br>WOMEN |

March 25, 1993  
Thursday, 4 p.m.  
1916 Room, Bird Library

Richard D. Olson  
Research Professor of Psychology  
University of New Orleans  
Keynote Address to The Yellow Kid  
Exhibition

THE YELLOW KID AND THE BIRTH OF  
THE AMERICAN COMIC

May 14, 1993  
Friday, 12 noon  
Goldstein Student Center  
South Campus

Spring Luncheon and Annual Meeting  
Dr. Patricia Donlon  
Director, National Library of Ireland

## IN MEMORIAM

After a courageous battle with cancer, EILEEN SNYDER died on November 23, 1991. Not long before, in a *Courier* essay on nineteenth-century explorer-naturalists, she had observed that *the questing spirit is irrepressible*. Now, in sadness, we reflect on how well these words also apply to her. She was a remarkable person—warm-hearted, generous, blessed with wide-ranging intellectual and artistic interests—a person who never lacked the determination and willingness to undertake what others could not or would not tackle. As Geology and Physics Librarian, she served the Syracuse University community with unusual understanding and energy. All who knew her remember her smile and her friendly good cheer. In particular, the Library Associates, for whom she worked hard as author of *Courier* articles, Program Chairman for six years, and instigator of and laborer for our annual Book Fair, are affectionately and sorely missing her.



THE SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ASSOCIATES, founded in 1953, is a society whose efforts are devoted to the enrichment of the Syracuse University Library and especially the rare book and manuscript collections. The Associates make it possible to strengthen these collections through the acquisition of unusual books, manuscripts, and other research materials that are rare and often of such value that the Library would not otherwise be able to acquire them.

Those with an interest in history, literature, book collecting, and the graphic arts are welcome to join the Associates. Perquisites of membership include general use of the Syracuse University Library's facilities, as well as invitations to exhibitions, Associates-sponsored lectures, and special events of the University Library. Members at the patron level may borrow books. In addition, all members will receive our incidental publications, typographic keepsakes, and the *Syracuse University Library Associates Courier*, a semiannual publication that contains articles related to unusual and interesting aspects of the Library's holdings and, in particular, to rare books, manuscripts, and archival collections in the George Arnts Research Library.

SUGGESTED MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS are as follows: Benefactor, \$500; Sustaining member, \$200; Patron, \$100; Individual member, \$50; Faculty and Staff of Syracuse University, \$35; Senior citizen, \$25; Students, \$15. Checks, made payable to Syracuse University Library Associates, should be sent to the Secretary, 600 E. S. Bird Library, Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y. 13244-2010. For further information about the programs and activities of the Library Associates, telephone (315) 443-2697.

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