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Obituary

Joseph H Keegan 1907-1998



Joe Keegan, who died aged 91 on 26 April 1998, was a member of the University Library staff for 48 and a half years, the longest period of continuous service so far recorded. When he was appointed, as a library boy, on 23 March 1925, the Edmund Street building (the former Mason Science

College) was only 45 years old and the University in its first quarter century. It was being served by its second Chancellor (Viscount Cecil of Chelwood), its second Vice-Chancellor (Sir Charles Grant Robertson) and its second Librarian (Edward Fenwick Mills). The library had a staff of 12. When Joe retired in September 1973, as Sub-Librarian in charge of bookbinding, the staff had grown to 130, the Edmund Street building had been demolished for 10 years and the new Main Library open for 14.

The handwritten minutes of the Library Committee for the meeting of 1 December 1924 record the resignation of Mr G H Bushnell, who had been appointed as Librarian at St Andrews. Some debate followed. The Vice-Principal (Sir William Ashley) thought the post should be advertised and an assistant of the same standard as Mr Bushnell and his colleague Mr Flack (both on salaries of £300 a year) should be sought, but most committee members were in favour of giving a chance of promotion to a junior member of staff. They did this by promoting Mr Oldaker to £150 a year and sanctioning the appointment of a new boy in his place, at a salary of 17/6 a week, while at the same time 'agreeing to make clear to the Council that the principle of having two assistants at £300 a year remained unchanged'. How Council reacted to this curious argument is not recorded, but the decision was a fortunate one. The new boy was Joe, aged just 18. He had been earning 15/- a week in his previous job so the increase must have been most acceptable.

Mr Oldaker took him round the building on his first morning, introducing him to the dismal basements, the coal fires and the minimal supplies of hot water. Finally he left him on his own to serve readers in the library and nearly half a century later Joe recalled the first book he was asked for - G.E Herman's *Difficult labour*, 1898, now in the Barnes Library.

Joe spent most of his time at Edmund Street, although shortly after his appointment he was sent for a period to the Harding Library at Edgbaston, apparently to separate him from the other library boy with whom he made too much noise. He regarded the Harding Library as 'a place in the fields', though unlike Edmund Street, it had seen a coat or two of paint. Once this frivolous episode was over, however, he used his capacity for hard work and infinite adaptability to work his way up, progressing to Cataloguing, Inter-library Loans and ultimately establishing the Bindery. During the Second World War

he became probably the most influential member of staff at Edmund Street and was known to all the teaching staff. He taught cataloguing to many members of library staff including Paul Morgan, later to become the Rare Book Librarian, and enjoyed a warm friendship with John Simmons, who also started work in Edmund Street as a library boy and went on to become Fellow and Librarian of All Souls and a Russian and Slavonic scholar of international standing. Joe's practical skills were much in demand when a new library was being planned by the Librarian Dr Wilfrid Bonser. K W Humphreys, who succeeded Dr Bonser in 1952, scrapped the plans and started afresh, but he asked Joe to become responsible for the University Library Bindery, which was set up first in Edmund Street and later moved to purpose-built accommodation, planned by Joe, in the new Main Library in 1959.

In the Bindery Joe found his real vocation. He began work with Alf Boxall as Foreman and Charles Nickless as Head Finisher and had constant support and encouragement from Dr Humphreys. At the time of opening the Bindery was said to be the finest University Bindery in Europe and its layout was included in Anthony Thompson's book *Library buildings of Britain and Europe*, 1963. Under Joe's direction the exceptionally happy relationship between the Bindery and the Special Collections department, which continues today, began. Two copies of Thornton's *Temple of Flora*, discovered by Dr Humphreys in an attic above the Harding Library, were superbly bound by Charles Nickless and infinite pains were taken over a copy of the 1511 edition of Ptolemaeus's *Liber geographiae*, in 1959. A note by Joe inside this book records the difficulty at that time of obtaining appropriate materials. The boards had to be made from 'awful pieces of oak upon which my faithful foreman has worked for many hours at home to render them suitable'.

Although he had no higher education he was able to deal with a great variety of languages without ever, as Dr

Humphreys once said, 'making a nonsense'. His work was recognised by the ex-officio degree of M.A. in 1959.

Joe worked for three University Librarians - Fenwick Mills, Wilfrid Bonser and K W Humphreys - and was the colleague of five others who went on to become University Librarians - G Ellis Flack, B S Page, J J Graneeck, B M Bland and T H Bowyer. Always meticulous and practical, he was known for his good humour and kindness and his firm moral principles. Despite his high spirits as a new boy he eventually came to have a rather paternal appearance, which continued unchanged throughout the rest of his long life. Hywel Evans, with whom he shared an office at Edmund Street (facing each other at desks whose mountains of books sometimes hid both men from view), often tells the story of an elderly cleaning lady looking in on her rounds one evening, seeing Hywel working on his own and enquiring 'Is Father gone?'

During nearly 25 years of active retirement Joe maintained close contact with his old friends, taking a continuous interest in the library and, latterly, very much enjoying the issues of the *Research Libraries Bulletin*. Meticulous to the last, he took care to leave no loose ends before his death. A month or so before he died we received a gift of a few items for Special Collections with detailed notes on them. His funeral took place at the Oratory in Birmingham - a Tridentine mass for which he had left 8 pages of instructions.

Dr Humphreys wrote in his annual report for 1973-4 that Joe 'made a greater contribution to the development of the library and its services than any one other person from its beginnings' and Paul Morgan comments that his passing 'severs a link with the days when one could know practically everyone in the University'.

Chris Penney

Recent Accessions

MANUSCRIPTS AND ARCHIVES

List of new accessions of manuscripts and archives, 1997-98

Starting with this issue the *Research Libraries Bulletin* will incorporate, as a regular feature, a comprehensive list of new accessions of manuscripts and archives acquired by loan, gift or purchase by the University. This list will also include information about the transfer of historical records of the University for inclusion in its own archive in Special Collections. The *Research Libraries Bulletin* provides a valuable opportunity to publish in print the details of new acquisitions, which are also reported to the National Register of Archives for inclusion in their online database (accessible on their website at: <http://www.hmc.gov.uk>). Researchers should note, however, that archives and manuscripts are not usually made available for consultation until they have been catalogued and inclusion in this list does not automatically mean that material is currently accessible for use. Potential users are therefore advised to make enquiries with the University Archivist for further information about the availability of new accessions.

This present list records details of new accessions from January 1997 to May 1998, with the associated accession numbers (not catalogue references). The list also indicates where an accession is an addition to an existing archive or artificial collection.

University Archives

PRINCIPAL AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

Lodge, Sir Oliver Joseph (1851-1940), physicist and Principal of the University 1900-19: letter and address presented to the Principal from the officers and members of the Institution of Electrical Engineers in appreciation of the University's hospitality on the occasion of their visit to Birmingham, 1906 (Acc 1997/15 pt)

ACADEMIC OFFICE

Admissions and Student Records: examination papers, session 1996-97 (Acc 1997/17); registers of graduates, 1901-89 (Acc 1997/26); student record cards, c1900-65 (Acc 1997/46); degree congregation programmes, 11-12 December 1997 and typescript amendments (Acc 1998/3); internal document *Undergraduate Admissions: A guide to good practice*, 1990 (Acc 1998/2 pt)

FACULTIES AND ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

German Studies: student attendance registers, 1901-62 (Acc 1997/3 pt)

Law Faculty: Faculty timetable and letter, 1932 (Acc 1997/44)

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Library Committee: Clinical Teaching Block Library Sub-Committee copy minutes, 1981-1994 (Acc 1997/1)

Miscellaneous: Report on the University Library compiled by R. Tucker when on a student placement from University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, 1967 (Acc 1997/15 pt)

EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Internal document *Corporate identity handbook*, 1989 (Acc 1998/2 pt)

HALLS OF RESIDENCE

Chancellor's Hall: Junior Common Room Committee minutes, 1953-66; correspondence, plans, handbooks, photographs, reports and other papers, early 20th cent-c1970 (Acc 1997/45)

University House: Committee minutes, 1902-10; warden's correspondence, 1927-65; furnishing accounts, 1928-29; papers relating to war work of residents, c1942; list of residents, 1967; brochures, programmes, leaflets, 20th cent (Acc 1997/27 pt)

UNIVERSITY AND STUDENT SOCIETIES AND CLUBS

German Club (*Deutscher Verein*): minutes, 1896-1938, 1948-54 (Acc 1997/3 pt)

ALUMNI GROUPS

University House Association: minutes, 1914-61; annual newsletters and reports, 1919-83 (incomplete) (Acc 1997/27 pt); *The Letters of Margery Fry*, First Warden, University House, 1998, reprinted from issues of the *Annual Newsletter of University House Association*, 1915-58 (Acc 1998/16)

STUDENT (ALUMNI) PAPERS

Hall, Isobel Norah, B.Sc. Zoology 1943, Dip. in Ed. 1944: miscellaneous receipts, photograph and Christmas card, 1943-44 (Acc 1997/28)

Moore, Herbert Melville, B.A. French 1931: essays and other working papers, 1929-31 (Acc 1997/2)

Russell, Rosetta Sarah (1907-1994), B.Sc. Chemistry 1934: lecture, laboratory and other working notebooks, artefacts (including college blazer, dissecting instruments and microscope slides), c1932-34, and print of pencil portrait of Professor W. N. Haworth, 1937 (Acc 1997/47)

Stanbury, Florence Annie, B.Sc. 1927, M.Sc. 1930: correspondence relating to her proposed research for an M.Sc. thesis, 1928-30 (Acc 1998/27)

STAFF PAPERS

Priestley, Sir Raymond Edward (1886-1974), geologist and Vice-Chancellor of the University 1938-53: additional papers comprising manuscript of book review of manuals on Arctic regions, c1942 (Acc 1997/10)

Thompson, James, University Librarian 1989-1995: copy of manuscript and typescript of his *Centennial History of the Library of the University of Birmingham* (forthcoming) and associated working notes, 1990s (Acc 1997/34)

UNIVERSITY AND STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

University publications of an annual or serial nature which are regularly added to stock - such as the *Bulletin*, Faculty Handbooks, prospectuses - are not normally accessioned. Some older publications are occasionally acquired from private depositors and these are accessioned
University publications: Lists of civil engineering graduates and index, 1927, 1951, 1957, 1964 (Acc 1998/18)

Student publications: Carnival magazines, 1930-31, 1944-47 (Acc 1998/12)

Other Manuscripts

PERSONAL PAPERS

Allen, Walter Ernest (1911-1995), novelist and literary critic: manuscripts of published and unpublished novels, manuscripts of other published works, copies of published articles, reviews and broadcasts, poetry and other writings, and contracts and correspondence with publishers, c1935-94 (Acc 1997/13)

Anon: Volume of manuscript stories, possibly sent to Joseph Henry Shorthouse (1834-1903), novelist, for an opinion [late 19th cent] (Acc 1998/24)

Bantock, Herman Sutherland (1874-1961), musician: notebooks, account books, concert programmes, leaflets and brochures, engagement contracts, photographs, news cuttings and correspondence, 1885-1959 (Acc 1997/42)

Booth, Martin (b 1944), poet: additional literary papers comprising manuscripts of unpublished novels, manuscripts, proofs and scripts of television and radio work, published and unpublished poetry, notebooks, diaries and travelling books and other papers, c1979-86 (Acc 1997/48)

Brown, Sandra (b c1950), athlete: typescript account of a new ladies' world record in 1000 mile foot race set in Nanango, Queensland, Australia, March 1996, with charts and copy newscuttings, 1996 (Acc 1997/6)

Burcher, Frances Sarah: commonplace book of poems and verses, early 19th cent (Acc 1998/25)

Carr, Edward Hallett (1892-1982), historian: additional papers comprising research notes relating to corrections for a revision of his *History of Russia*, and corrected proofs of volumes 5 and 6; typescript drafts of chapters of incomplete volume about the Comintern; correspondence, including letters from Brian Pearce 1960-80; booklists and other papers, 20th cent (Acc 1997/52)

Chamberlain, Joseph (1836-1914), statesman: additional papers comprising diaries and correspondence as Colonial Secretary, 1895-1903; political correspondence relating to domestic, foreign, colonial and other matters, 1873-1914; political notebooks, 1869-1906; miscellaneous personal material including papers relating to his 70th birthday celebrations, 1906 and to his death in 1914; press cuttings, scrap albums, political cartoons and photographs, 1888-1917; press cuttings and printed material relating to the University of Birmingham, 1887-1934; miscellaneous printed material of and about Joseph Chamberlain, 1871-1914; papers of J. L. Garvin relating to his biography of Joseph Chamberlain, 19th cent.-1946 (Acc 1997/36)

Chavasse, Sir Thomas Frederick (1854-1913), surgeon and writer: photocopy of manuscript text of lecture, 'Practical Hints on Personal Health', delivered at the Birmingham and Midland Institute, 1884 (Acc 1997/9)

Dawson, William Harbutt (1860-1948), publicist: additional letter to his daughter, Else Pickvance, with recollections of Lloyd George, 1945 (Acc 1998/11)

Delarue, J. Ludlow (b 1828), schoolmaster, Lancing Grammar School, Sussex: journal, 1844; commonplace book, 1844-53 (Acc 1997/24)

Dixon, Joseph (fl 1811-1832), mercer and haberdasher, of Birmingham: journals and notebooks, c1811-32 (Acc 1997/23 pt)

Fletcher, Emma Oldfield (fl 1824-1842): autograph manuscript of poetry, written between 1824 and 1842, presented to her mother, 1842 (Acc 1998/9)

Gillott, Joseph, of Birmingham, pen manufacturer and patron of the arts: letters from various artists,

including William Etty, Thomas Danby, Francis Danby and others, 1843-57 (Acc 1998/20)

Hall, Sir William Hutcheon (?1797-1878), admiral: journal of naval service as master on HMS *Morgiana* off West Coast of Africa, 1822 (Acc 1997/25)

Hogben, Lancelot Thomas (1895-1975), zoologist: copies of papers presented at the Hogben Symposium, 1997, and of reviews of a biography of Hogben, 1997-98 (1998/15)

Holden, Neville (fl 1882-1890), of Lancashire: travel journal of holiday tours to Holland, Belgium, France, Ireland, Scotland, Switzerland and Italy, 1882, 1884 and 1890 (Acc 1997/41)

Hutton, Catherine (1756-1846), novelist and historian, of Birmingham: diary of visits to Aston (Derbyshire) and Nottingham, 1779 (Acc 1997/23 pt)

Levick, E. Audrey (née Beeton) of Surrey, lacrosse player: personal papers as founder, honorary secretary and member of the All England Ladies' Lacrosse Association (formerly the Ladies' Lacrosse Association), comprising annual reports, newsletters, magazines, programmes, correspondence, copy minutes and notices of meetings, photographs and other material, 1911-c1960 (Acc 1998/26)

Lodge, David (b 1935), novelist, playwright and literary critic: additional literary manuscripts comprising revised typescripts of his novels, *Small World*, *Out of the Shelter* and *Nice Work*, and corrected proofs of *Paradise News*, c1984-91 (Acc 1997/16)

Lloyd, Kathleen Grace (fl 1912-1943), nurse: certificates, medals, letters and photograph relating to her nursing career as Assistant Matron, Birmingham General Hospital, and Matron, First Southern General Hospital (based in the Great Hall, University of Birmingham), 1912-43 (Acc 1998/13)

Masterman family: additional letter from Lucy Masterman to Richard Braithwaite, 1961 (Acc 1998/17)

Nugie, Eileen (b 1883), of Yorkshire: diary, 1904-07 (Acc 1998/8)

Rhodes, Harold (1889-1956), organist and musician: manuscript and printed music, manuscript drafts and typescript of unfinished book, *Essential Mozart*, copies of published articles, photographs, recordings, programmes and other papers, 1905-55 (Acc 1997/11)

Simmons, Blanch, daughter of General Sir John Lintorn Arabin Simmons: journal as companion to her father on his mission to Rome, Italy as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Pope, 1889-90 (Acc 1997/8)

Smith, John, of Turnham Green: letters, 1837-44 (Acc 1998/19)

Swanzy, Henry Valentine (b 1915), editor and broadcaster: correspondence, largely relating to his work as editor, producer and contributor to the BBC radio programme *Caribbean Voices*, a literary programme featuring poems, stories and other material by West Indian writers, 1945-56 (Acc 1997/18)

Wareing, Eustace Bernard Foley (1890-1958), writer and civil servant: typescript reports, statements and other papers as special correspondent for French affairs and diplomatic correspondent for the *Daily Telegraph*, 1941-44 (Acc 1997/35)

Warren, Sir Henry William Hugh (1891-1961), electrical engineer: copy minutes and memoranda of internal and external meetings and discussions which he attended as Head of Research, British Thomson Houston Co. Laboratories, Rugby, together with associated papers relating to radar developments, 1940-42 (Acc 1997/12)

Weatherhead, Leslie Dixon (1893-1976), Methodist minister and author: papers relating to the City Temple, London, copies of constitutions, reports on records, minutes of Church Council meetings, letter of resignation as minister, correspondence, printed and other material, 1939-63 (Acc 1997/4)

LETTERS ADDITIONAL

Individual letters and other single manuscripts are regularly acquired, usually by purchase, as additions to various artificial collections of letters which complement

our existing holdings of personal papers. The following list is alphabetically ordered by name of sender. Those names marked thus * indicate additions to letter collections devoted to that particular individual; and names marked + indicate additions to a general letters additional collection. Unless otherwise noted, these entries relate to single letters.

***Alma-Tadema, Sir Lawrence (1836-1912), painter:** 35 letters (including one from Laura Alma-Tadema) to Charles Deschamps, secretary to the Society of French Artists, and his wife, 1872-98; signed portrait card, n.d. (Acc 1997/20)

+Attwood, Thomas (1783-1856), political reformer: letter to John Wilks (1776-1854), solicitor, MP, book collector, 1833 (Acc 1997/22)

+Browning, Oscar (1837-1923), educationist, historian, mountaineer: letter to Sir Oliver Joseph Lodge (1851-1940), physicist and first Principal of the University of Birmingham, 1905 (Acc 1998/23)

***Chamberlain, Arthur Neville (1869-1940), statesman:** letter to Mrs Suckling, 1895 (Acc 1997/31); letters to James Louis Garvin (1868-1947), journalist and biographer of Joseph Chamberlain, 1928, and Francis Owen Salisbury (1874-1962), painter, 1935 (Acc 1997/43 pt); letter to Pierre Flandin (1889-1958), French Minister of Foreign Affairs, 1935 (Acc 1997/49); letter to Captain Tighe, 1935 (Acc 1998/1 pt)

***Chamberlain, Joseph (1836-1914), statesman:** autograph notes relating to land ownership and other matters, n.d. [late 1870s] (Acc 1997/7 pt); letters to Francis Schnadhorst (1840-1900), Liberal politician, n.d. [1880s-90s] and to the Financial Reform Association, 1871 (Acc 1997/43 pt); letters to Lady Kay-Shuttleworth [c1880], to Sir George Otto Trevelyan (1838-1928), historian and statesman, 1886, and to Sir Charles Edward Howard Vincent (1849-1908), politician, 1904 (Acc 1998/1 pt); letter to Mr Pemberton, 1895 (Acc 1998/22); letter to Matthew Arnold (1822-1888), poet and critic, 1887 (Acc 1998/28 pt)

***Chamberlain, Sir Joseph Austen (1863-1937), statesman:** letter to William Maxwell Aitken (1879-1964), 1st Baron Beaverbrook, newspaper proprietor, 1935 (Acc 1997/7 pt); letters to Edward Walford Karslake Gully (1870-1931), as secretary to the Speaker of the House of Commons, 1906, to Mrs Clive, 1910, to Mr Fell, 1911, to Mr Nicholson, 1925, and to Mr Humbertstone, 1934 (Acc 1997/39); letter to Mr J. C. O'Shaughnessy, 1903 (Acc 1998/5)

***Edgeworth, Maria (1767-1849), novelist:** letter to David Wilkie (1785-1841), painter, 1819 (Acc 1998/7)

***Eden, Robert Anthony (1897-1977), 1st Earl of Avon, statesman:** letter to Allan Francis John Harding (1896-1989), Baron Harding of Petherton, Field Marshall, 1955 (Acc 1997/5)

+**Faraday, Michael (1791-1867), natural philosopher:** letter to [W] White, poet, 1860 and associated papers relating to its provenance, 1960 (Acc 1997/29)

***Galsworthy, John (1867-1933), author:** letter to unnamed recipient, probably his literary agent, Mrs Fisher, 1909 (Acc 1998/28 pt)

+**Holbrooke, Josef (1878-1958), musician:** manuscript musical quotation from *Bells*, 1903, and postcard to R. J. Buckley of Birmingham about the published article 'Bells - Silent Bells', 1906 (Acc 1997/51)

***Martineau, Harriet (1802-1876), writer and historian:** letter to Mr Shepherd of London [1862] (Acc 1997/19); part of letter to unknown recipient, n.d. [?mid 19th cent] (Acc 1997/30); note in her hand ordering copies of *Edinburgh Magazine*, n.d. [?mid 19th cent], (Acc 1997/37); letters to Dr Kay, n.d. [1839] and to Lady Shuttleworth, n.d. [?mid 19th cent] (Acc 1997/43 pt); letters to George Smith, publisher, 1857 and to Edward Moxon, publisher, n.d. [?mid 19th cent] (Acc 1998/29)

+**Scholefield, William (1809-1867), Mayor of Birmingham and MP:** letter to Rev Charles Hume (b 1798) of London, 1859 (Acc 1997/21 pt)

+**Sturge, Joseph (1793-1859), philanthropist:** part of letter to unidentified recipient, 1838 (Acc 1997/21 pt)

+**Webster, Benjamin Nottingham (1797-1882), actor and dramatist:** letter to Morris Barnett (1800-1856), actor and dramatist, n.d. [c1850] (Acc 1997/21 pt)

***Young, Francis Brett (1884-1954), author:** photocopy of signed manuscript of unpublished complete version of poem, *The Birthday - a symphonic ode*, written to celebrate the birthday of Austin Strong (c1927-29) (Acc 1997/38)

RECORDS OF SPORTING BODIES

Amateur Athletic Association: additional minutes of Annual General Meetings and of meetings of General and other Committees, 1947-91; programmes, handbooks and other printed material, 20th cent (Acc 1998/6)

East Lancashire Cross-Country Association: photocopy of official report of individual and club placings of the 36th Annual Cross-Country Championships (1958) (Acc 1997/53)

Wessex Road Club: minutes and register of members, 1924-30 (Acc 1997/50)

see also **PERSONAL PAPERS, Levick, E. Audrey (née Beeton) of Surrey, lacrosse player**

RECORDS OF OTHER SOCIETIES

Monumental Brass Society: rubbings of brasses in England (organised by county), Ireland, Scotland and Wales; plaster moulds of brasses, 20th cent (Acc 1997/33)

RECORDS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Association of County Councils: minutes, 1973-94 (Acc 1997/32 pt)

County Councils Association: minutes, 1891-1974, *Year Book*, 1919-1974, *Monthly Circular*, later *Official Gazette*, 1896-1978 (Acc 1997/32 pt)

Society of Clerks of the Peace and of Clerks of County Councils: copy minutes, 1947-1973 (Acc 1997/32 pt)

RECORDS OF OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

St John's College of Divinity, Nottingham: additional course and other printed literature, 1998 (Acc 1998/14)

see also **UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES**

RECORDS OF BUSINESSES

Sanders, Benjamin Hadley, of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, solicitors: day book, 1890-94 (Acc 1997/14)

HISTORICAL PAPERS

Chinn, Dr Carl (b 1956), community historian: additional material, comprising transcript of interview with Bill Brady of Salford, turf accountant, and other papers relating to research into the history of bookmaking, 1995-96 (Acc 1998/4)

Hilton, Professor Rodney Howard (b 1916), historian: paper printouts of English transcripts (with indexes) of fourteenth century court rolls of the manors of Lakenheath (Suffolk) and Alrewas (Staffordshire) deriving from an SSRC-funded court roll project based in the University's School of History, [c1980] (Acc 1997/40)

Guenther, A. M.: M.A. thesis, *The Hadith in Christian-Muslim Discourse in British India 1857-1888*, submitted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, McGill University, Montreal, Canada, 1997 (Acc 1998/21)

see also **PERSONAL PAPERS, Carr, Edward Hallett (1892-1982), historian**

see also **RECORDS OF OTHER SOCIETIES, Monumental Brass Society**

see also **UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES, STAFF PAPERS, Thompson, James.**

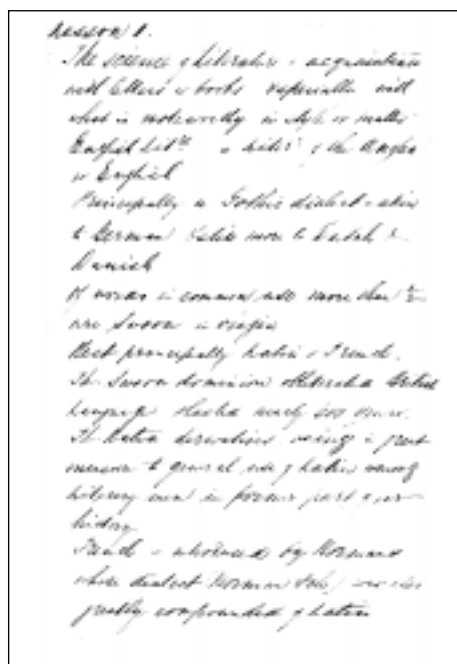
Major Accessions

Chamberlain Papers

The Special Collections department has recently received a significant addition to the Joseph Chamberlain collection of material which had been on loan to the late Lord Amery (1919-1996). Following J.L. Garvin's decision in 1946 to cease work on the *Life of Joseph Chamberlain*, Julian Amery was appointed by the Chamberlain family to complete the project. Drawing upon his own political experiences and the recollections of his father, L.C. Amery (1873-1955), a late associate of Joseph Chamberlain, he published three additional volumes (1951-1969). As Garvin's successor, Amery was the recipient of his predecessor's research papers which included much original material lent to Garvin by the Chamberlain Trustees before the main collection was presented to the University of Birmingham in 1960. This now forms the main part of this additional collection, which also includes research material compiled and used by Garvin in his composition of the *Life*.

Much of the material relates to Joseph Chamberlain's political career, most especially his period in office as Secretary of State for the Colonies (1895-1903), and his later involvement in tariff reform. The collection contains diaries for different colonial departments, including those for North America, Australia and South Africa (1895-1903), and incomplete sequences of official colonial correspondence (with registers) spanning the period 1895-1903. Later political concerns are also reflected, with an extensive sequence of correspondence concerning fiscal reform for the year 1903. There are also additional correspondence sequences (with registers) relating to domestic politics for both the early and later stages of Joseph Chamberlain's career (1880-1912). With the inclusion of communications from Queen Victoria, and correspondence from a young Winston Churchill reporting on his experiences in South Africa during the Boer War (1900), a wide range of Chamberlain's political concerns and associations is represented.

The material also includes papers of a less public nature. The survival of the teaching records for Chamberlain's history class at the Church of the Messiah in Birmingham (1863), and his English literature and French classes at Birmingham Heath and Smethwick Working Men's Club (1864-65), (illustrated here), testify to his early active commitment to the cause of education. This is also borne out in his notebooks containing notes and cuttings on a variety of educational issues (1870-76) and various papers relating to the Birmingham Education League which Chamberlain co-founded in 1869.



The absence of extensive family correspondence is offset by the considerable body of material relating to his seventieth birthday celebrations in July 1906, and his death in 1914. In both instances the volume and nature of the letters and telegrams attest to the extent of

Chamberlain's general popularity. There are communications from political and trading associations, and also from individuals, of all ages and professions, from different parts of the British empire. There are also attachments such as small decorative gifts, celebratory and commemorative verses, and short musical compositions in honour of 'Joe' and his life.

An important aspect of the collection is the inclusion of Garvin's own papers relating to the composition of the *Life*. There is correspondence between Garvin and Austen Chamberlain and other biographers concerning the early period of the book's development, and there are his own preparatory notes for use in particular chapters. Research for the biography also entailed the acquisition of additional material relating to Joseph Chamberlain. This includes some papers of E.A. Sonnenschein compiled during the first half of this century relating to the history of the University of Birmingham, and a number of press-cutting albums obtained from a variety of sources.

The addition of this material enhances and extends the range of the current holdings. In particular it is hoped that the inclusion of a number of correspondence registers compiled by members of Chamberlain's colonial office staff will facilitate use of the existing Chamberlain collection.

Rachel Canty

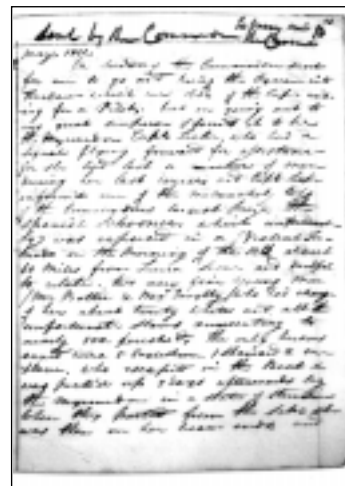
Journal of William Hall

The recent purchase by the Special Collections department of a short naval journal by William Hall (later Admiral Sir William Hutcheon Hall, ?1797-1878) was inspired by our custody of the Church Mission Society Archives, for it covers the exact period during which perhaps the best known of all the CMS missionaries, Samuel Crowther (1809-1891), was rescued from slavery.

The journal runs from 5 April - 29 July 1822, while Hall was serving as master on HMS *Morgiana*, off the west coast of Africa. His ship was part of a naval squadron of six commanded by Sir Robert Mends, charged with suppressing the traffic in slaves. The other five ships were the *Iphigenia*, *Pheasant*, *Myrmidon*, *Snapper* and *Thistle*. Several abortive attempts were made on suspected slave vessels during April but it was not until 15 April that Hall's ship captured a brig off Lagos and found they had 'released 149 creatures from slavery'; they were all sent to freedom in Sierra Leone.

Meanwhile the young Samuel Crowther, aged about 13, was coming to the end of over a year of misery and horror which he was to describe years later, in harrowing detail, in a letter to the CMS dated 22 February 1837. Early in 1821 his village in Nigeria had been attacked by members of the Eyo tribe. Separated from his father (whom he never saw again) and from his mother (with whom he was reunited 24 years later,) he was passed on from owner to owner, sometimes for the price of rum or tobacco, subjected to forced marches with other little boys, who endured agonies when the fetters round their necks were pulled by the adult captives with whom they were chained, and several times tried to strangle himself but 'had not courage enough to close the noose tight'. Eventually he fell into the hands of a Portuguese slave trader, who put him on board a vessel in the river Lagos on 7 April 1822, with 187 other slaves. The same evening the ship was intercepted by two of Sir Robert Mends's ships - the *Iphigenia* and the *Myrmidon*. Crowther was taken on board the latter and found to his astonishment that his former master was now in fetters himself; he had what must have been the enormous satisfaction of punching him in the face while his son was shaving him, though he later repented of this unkind action.

On 16 June 1822, the *Myrmidon* arrived off Sierra Leone, where the *Morgiana*, with William Hall on board, had been anchored since the end of May. Hall was ordered to pilot the arriving ship, initially thought to be the *Cyran*,



into harbour. Crowther thus reached the sanctuary of Sierra Leone, where he was cared for by CMS missionaries at Bathurst, eventually becoming a missionary himself and ultimately the first Bishop of the Niger. Hall went on to become a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1847, a K.C.B. in 1867 and an Admiral in 1875. It is a happy coincidence that the first hand accounts of these two men have now reached the same repository.

Chris Penney



Herman Sutherland Bantock Collection

The Special Collections department has recently acquired the papers of the musician Herman Bantock (1874-1965), cousin of Sir Granville Bantock and the father of Geoffrey Bantock, Professor of Education at the University of Leicester. Professor Bantock died in September 1997 and his

widow, Mrs Jean Bantock, kindly offered the collection to the University of Birmingham.

The period 1880-1939 has often been described as the time of the English Musical Renaissance, in which a new tradition of English music emerged, rejuvenating composition, musicology and performances. This collection gives an insight into the social history of the period, documenting Herman Bantock's life as a professional musician.

There is little material on his early life except for a notebook from 1885-86, giving details of his instrumental practice. It was on the violin and principally the viola that Bantock made his living, although the collection also shows that he was a keen sportsman, with some skill in cricket and lacrosse.

Bantock's career as a provincial musician (he lived and worked in the north-west) is well documented in four receipt books which not only give amounts earned but also say for which orchestra he was playing, where and when. Together they give a detailed picture of his work in terms of earnings and frequency.

In his career he played in a large number of orchestras, beginning in seaside orchestras such as that on Blackpool's North Pier and working his way up to play for more renowned ones, such as the Liverpool Philharmonic and the Halle. An idea of the repertoire he was expected to perform can be gleaned from nearly 200 programmes, brochures and flyers of concerts at which he performed. A significant item is a bound volume of programmes from the 1899 and 1900 series of Sunday concerts given at the New Brighton Tower. These concerts became nationally known for their innovative programming and many were conducted by Granville Bantock.

Herman Bantock came into contact with many famous performers, conductors and composers, some of whom are represented in the collection either in photographs or

in letters. They include Hamilton Harty, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor and Hans Richter. His long performing career spanned sixty years. His second wife was also a performer, a cellist in the Halle. She is represented in the collection by some programmes and press clippings. The collection as a whole gives a remarkable picture of a life in music and complements the large collection relating to Sir Granville Bantock which the University already holds.

Ed Venn

The Henry Reed Collection



The acquisition by the Special Collections department of the Henry Reed collection has particular relevance for the University of Birmingham, given Reed's strong connections with both the city and the University. Reed was born in 1914 in Erdington on the northern edge of Birmingham and attended the

University in the 1930s, graduating with first class honours before being awarded his Master of Arts for a much acclaimed thesis on Thomas Hardy.

He began his working life as a free lance journalist and had only just taken up a teaching post (at King Edward VI Grammar School in Aston) when the Second World War intervened. He was then conscripted into the Royal Army Ordnance Corps where he was rather incongruously given the role of drill instructor. Ill health, and perhaps

the Army's realisation that Reed's linguistic abilities could be better utilised, secured his transfer to Naval Intelligence in the Code and Cypher School at Bletchley, where he was to spend the rest of the War.

Reed's writing talents had lain particularly in the composition of poetry and this he continued to pursue throughout his military service. As the War entered its final stages in 1944 Reed's poetry was brought to the attention of the Drama and Features Department of the British Broadcasting Corporation. This was at a time when the BBC were looking to restructure their radio service in preparation for peacetime audiences, and were intent on searching out new writers to enhance their more intellectual programmes.

From then onwards, Reed became a major contributor to BBC radio: as poet, critic, playwright, and translator/adaptor. Somewhat fittingly, his last play for them in 1979 was a reworking of the first one he had written for the BBC in 1944: an adaptation of Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*. Included in the Birmingham collection is a carbon copy (with emendation) of the 1979 version of the play.

The Reed collection was purchased from two separate sources (Jane Reed, his niece, and Michael Ramsbotham, his long-standing friend), and is varied in content. In addition to the *Moby Dick* typescript, the collection contains four more radio plays, broadcast between 1947 and 1959: his Greek play *Pytheas*; the two biographical plays charting the life of the Italian poet Giacomo Leopardi, with whom Reed heavily identified himself, *The Unblest* and *The Monument*; and the seventh and last play in his Hilda Tablet series, *Musique Discrète*. There is also some fragmented material in various stages of drafting relating to the play *Dimitry* which Reed worked on over a number of years but which was neither completed nor published. In addition to this there are some manuscripts, typescripts and *Listener* cuttings of translations 'from the Italian'; including a typescript of one of Reed's most well known

translations, *The Advertisement*, from Natalia Ginzburg's *L'insorzione*.

There are several notebooks in the collection, containing working notes on, amongst others, the proposed script for the radio play *Mycenae*, and the television play on Richard Strauss which Reed was working on with Ken Russell in 1969 and which was Reed's only foray into the medium of television.

However, the main bulk of the collection consists of Reed's poetry and personal letters. The poetry is largely in manuscript or typescript form with emendations in Reed's hand. There are also cuttings of various poems, mainly taken from *The Listener*; and some amended galley proofs, including those for the Clover Hill, 5th edition of *The Complete Lessons of the War*, printed in 1970. Some of the poetry contained in the Birmingham collection was published for the first time in Professor Jon Stallworthy's *Henry Reed: Collected Poems* (OUP, 1991); some appears never to have been published: for example, *The Candidate* or *The Summer Exam*, *Liberal Rhymes for Liberal Times* and *Voyage Autour de ma Chambre*.

The 137 letters and postcards held at Birmingham are mostly from Reed to his family (mother, father, sister Gladys and niece Jane), and to Michael Ramsbotham. They have survived because they were retained by the recipients. Unfortunately, Reed did not keep the correspondence he received; although, interestingly, the collection does contain a photocopy of a letter written to Reed by E M Forster and praising Reed's poem *The Return* which was broadcast on BBC radio on Christmas Eve 1944. To have kept the letter Reed must have highly valued Forster's praise. The letters are an invaluable source of information for anyone researching 'Reed-the-man' and have in fact been used recently as part of a Masters dissertation on critical editing. Some of the letters are extremely witty; some are full of despair. Together they demonstrate the duality of Reed's nature.

Although other research libraries (such as Kings College Cambridge, John Rylands Manchester, and Reading University) do hold some material relating to Reed, there are only two Reed collections of major significance in Britain: the one now held at the University of Birmingham; and the other, comprising business correspondence relating to his work for BBC radio, scripts for broadcast, and recordings of plays, in the BBC Written Archive Centre.

Linda J Curry

Papers of the Amateur Athletic Association

The athletics archives held by the Centre for Sports Science and History (CENSSAH) have been greatly enhanced by a further gift of papers donated by the Amateur Athletic Association of England (AAA). They relate to the activities of the former Amateur Athletic Association for the period 1959 to 1991. The core of the collection is a set of Minutes of the influential General Committee covering the years 1970 to 1991 which augment the AAA archives already held by CENSSAH and which include the Minutes of the General Committee for the period beginning with the inaugural meeting in 1880 until 1970.

For those researching into the history of athletics in Britain this is a fascinating period during which, it might be said, athletics finally lost its innocence. Through these papers one can trace the AAA's growing preoccupation with advertising and sponsorship deals, television contracts and the increasing problem of drug use to enhance performance and the need for effective dope testing procedures.

Researchers can follow the debate and final acceptance by the AAA of the concept of a single governing body for athletics in the UK, which became the ill-fated British Athletics Federation. The papers also document the careers of influential people in the world of athletics: George Adam and E.R.L. Powell, whose papers are

deposited with CENSSAH; and more recently, Dave Bedford, Andy Norman and Frank Dick. This period also witnessed the close of one of the most influential athletics careers - that of Harold Abrahams, (1899-1978). Abrahams was, for twenty years or more, the public voice of athletics administration, broadcasting regularly on BBC radio. He served on the General Committee from 1926, (after an athletics accident at Stamford Bridge terminated his sporting career at the tender age of 25), until his death in 1978. Researchers can follow the remaining years of this somewhat enigmatic figure who was so often cast as the 'establishment' figure in athletics, yet was frequently at odds with the conservative policies of the AAA. The personal papers of Harold Abrahams also reside within the Centre.

As well as the Minutes of the General Committee the following papers have also been deposited: Finance and General Purposes Committee, 1970-1989; Promotions Committee (Championships), 1972-1985; Championship Promotions Committee, 1985-1989; Road Race Advisory Committee, 1985-1986; Rules, Revisions and Records Committee, 1973-1986; Officials' Committee, 1975-1986; Development Committee, 1985-1987; Fixtures and Selections Committee, 1973-1979; Schools Consultation Committee, 1966-1986; Facilities Committee, 1979; the Minutes of the Annual General Meetings of the AAA, 1959-1991; and the Minutes of the Committee of the Southern Counties AAA, 1947-1964.

Steve Hewett

Papers of Walter Allen, novelist and literary critic (1911-1995)

The papers of Walter Allen have recently been added to the collections of literary manuscripts in the Special Collections department. It is entirely appropriate that his papers should have been deposited at the University by his widow since he had a strong association with Birmingham.

Allen was born in Birmingham, was educated at King Edward's Grammar School, and attended the University of Birmingham where he read English. His connection with the city continued during the Thirties when he became one of a famed Birmingham circle of authors and artists which included Louis MacNeice, W. H. Auden, Henry Reed, Reggie Smith and Leslie Halward. It is pleasing to note that the papers of some of these other writers have been finding permanent homes in recent years: a report on the papers of Reed appears in this issue of the *Research Libraries Bulletin*; the papers of MacNeice have recently been purchased by the Bodleian Library; and the literary manuscripts and papers of Halward are deposited in the Birmingham City Archives.

Allen's papers largely consist of manuscripts of his published and unpublished work, but they are by no means a complete record because he did not collect in a deliberate or consistent way, preferring to throw things away. As a result, there are no working papers, manuscripts or typescripts of any of his earlier published novels such as *All in a Lifetime* (1959), for which he is perhaps best known. The surviving material consists of original typescripts of his last two published novels, *Get Out Early* (1986) and *Accosting Profiles* (1989), and various typescripts of his published works of literary criticism. The latter include a printer's typescript of *Tradition and Dream* (1964), the original typescript of *George Eliot* (1964) and typescript drafts of the major part of *The Short Story in English* (1981). The original typescript and correspondence relating to the publication of his autobiography *As I Walked Down New Grub Street* (1981) also survives. There is an original typescript of a completed novel, probably his first, entitled *Tomorrow is Another Day* which, although submitted for publication in the 1930s, was never published; and there are also original typescripts of various unfinished novels, some with titles. The collection also includes copies of a limited number of published articles, reviews and broadcasts, including an article in *Night and Day* about Aston Villa Football Club (1937); original and copy typescripts of a small

quantity of his poetry; and correspondence with publishers and literary agents spanning the whole of his writing career, which relates to the publication and translation of his works. There are no diaries, personal correspondence or other private papers in the collection, but there is a typescript of his own memories of his desire to be an author and his early literary career together with a delightful series of personal, often amusing, memories of a number of his friends. These include reminiscences of various of his contemporaries or near contemporaries at school and university, including Henry Reed and Reggie Smith, and of his literary agent, David Higham

Phil Bassett

Papers of E. H. Carr, historian (1892-1982)

These papers were presented to the University of Birmingham mainly in the 1980s, and were acquired from several different sources, including John H. Carr (E. H. Carr's son), the late Tamara Deutscher, Brian Pearce, R. W. Davies, and Jonathan Haslam (then a lecturer in the University's Department of Political Science and International Studies and now a Fellow of Corpus Christi, Cambridge), who is working on a biography of E. H. Carr. The deposit agreement included a time restriction on access to and the use of these papers, and consequently the collection was not made immediately available for research. The papers were initially housed in the Baykov Library in the University's Centre for Russian and East European Studies but have been subsequently transferred to Special Collections in the Main Library. During the last few months substantial progress has been made in the work of sorting and cataloguing them. It is hoped that the following brief description will provide an introduction to the scope and content of the collection.

The papers document many aspects of Carr's long and varied life and include material relating to his schooling and employment as a civil servant and also to his multi-faceted career as a biographer, journalist, critic, essayist

and historian. The papers relating to his education, for example, include some of his essays and the Latin oration which he gave as head monitor of Merchant Taylors School in London; letters relating to the award of scholarships at Trinity College, Cambridge; and printed copies of the Latin poem and epigram and Greek verse translation for which he won prizes while at Trinity. Although there is little material relating to the nature of his work as a civil servant, the official documents have survived which relate to his appointment as a temporary clerk in the Foreign Office in 1916 and his subsequent preferments, rising to the position of First Secretary in the Diplomatic Service in 1933.

The papers also include what appears to be a comprehensive collection of very many contributions of book reviews and short articles of comment published principally in the *Spectator*, *Fortnightly*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Slavonic Review* and *Times Literary Supplement*, but also in *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*. They were written over a period of almost 50 years, from 1929 to 1978, and for the period 1929-51 are accompanied by chronological listings compiled by Carr. In 1939 alone, for example, Carr published in excess of 70 such reviews and notes. From 1945, Carr appears largely to have restricted his contributions to the *Times Literary Supplement*, and these included a series of front page articles published between 1950 and 1963. The subject matter of these reflect Carr's wide-ranging interests in and breadth of knowledge of Russian culture, European and Soviet history, and the politics and international relations of the twentieth century. These are largely preserved in the form of cuttings from 1936; prior to that they are a mixture of manuscripts and typescripts as well as cuttings.

Carr's papers also include scripts of some papers, lectures and radio broadcasts which he gave from the late 1930s to the 1950s. These include scripts of papers delivered at meetings of the Royal Institute of International Affairs at Chatham House, to which Carr was invited as Professor

of International Relations at University College, Aberystwyth: 'Impressions of a visit to Russia and Germany' (1937), 'What are we fighting for?' (1940) and 'The post-war world: some pointers towards reconstruction' (1940). The broadcast scripts include a series of weekly political/news talks (some manuscript, some typescript), given between April and September 1940, and cuttings of various broadcast talks and discussions, as published in *The Listener*, including a series of six on 'The New Society' (1951) and others on British foreign policy in 1946.

The most extensive material in the collection, however, relates to Carr's research and publications, but it should be emphasised that by no means all of his books and articles are represented. The raw research material includes typescript and manuscript notes and jottings, copies and transcripts of documents, copies of relevant published articles, drafts and reworkings of texts, and correspondence with other scholars. There is a quantity of material relating, for example, to parts of his monumental 14-volume *A History of Soviet Russia*, on which he was engaged for more than a quarter of a century; and to *The Twilight of Comintern 1930-35*, published in 1982. The papers relating to the latter include notes and correspondence of Tamara Deutscher, who worked as a researcher for Carr for many years and who posthumously published Carr's last manuscript, *The Comintern and the Spanish Civil War*, in 1984. The material relating to *The Romantic Exiles* (first published in 1933) includes Carr's transcripts of more than 100 letters, written between 1848 and 1851 by Alexander Herzen (1812-70, Russian radical journalist) to George Herwegh (1817-75, German revolutionary and political poet) and Emma, his wife (the originals of which were made available to Carr by Max Herwegh, eldest son of the poet, and are now deposited in the British Library). The collection also includes detailed notes made by Carr for a planned new edition of *What is History?* (first published in 1961); and a small amount of correspondence relating to his research for the biography of Michael Bakunin, which was published in 1937.

There are also proofs and annotated published texts for some of his publications. These include bound corrected second proofs of *The Bolshevik Revolution, 1917-23*, volumes 1-3 (1950-53); page proofs with corrections of *Foundations of a Planned Economy, 1926-29*, volume 2 (1971); annotated copies of *Socialism in One Country, 1924-26*, volume 3, parts 1 and 2 (1964), for a possible revision; and corrected proofs of *From Napoleon to Stalin* (1980). Also of interest is a typescript draft of chapters of another incomplete volume about the Comintern in the period 1935-38, which were not included in *The Comintern and the Spanish Civil War*.

Some research use has already been made of the papers, most notably by R. W. Davies (with whom Carr collaborated in the writing of *Foundations of a Planned Economy, 1926-29*, volume 1 (1969)) for the second edition of *What is History?*, published in 1986; and, more recently, by Charles Jones in the research for his book, *Carr on International Relations* (forthcoming). Interest in the archive has also recently been expressed by other researchers in respect, for example, of Carr's understanding of nationalism. It is hoped that a detailed catalogue will be made available later and that, as a result, the collection will become much more accessible to scholars.

Phil Bassett

Autograph letter of Arthur Neville Chamberlain (1869-1940)

The Special Collections department has recently acquired an important autograph letter of Neville Chamberlain, purchased with the generous support of the Friends of the National Libraries, which was written in the period when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer. It is a lengthy 4-page letter dated 25 April 1935 written to Pierre Flandin (1889-1958, French Minister of Foreign Affairs) in response to his letter of congratulation on Chamberlain's

recent financial budget. The content of the letter relates to international political and economic issues of the day.

The main text starts with a reference to their joint pleasure at the collaboration of the two countries at Stresa and Geneva in efforts to ensure peace, although Chamberlain notes that 'Mr Hitler keeps everyone in Europe on the qui vive which is very tiresome'. He expresses his obvious support for the policy of rearmament, the main issue on which the government was to win the general election later in the year, and also clearly recognises the very real threat posed by Germany. He comments on the German people that 'they cannot be satisfied unless they are perpetually rattling the sabre and consequently they can keep no friends.' The second part of the letter relates to international economic affairs, with Chamberlain expressing his personal doubts about the desire of the Americans to enter into negotiations on monetary questions. He also comments on the need to maintain the level of the pound and his wish, as far as it is within his control, to ensure that it does not depreciate.

Neville Chamberlain did not keep a copy of this letter although Flandin's original letter does survive in the Chamberlain archive. In this, Flandin prophetically comments: 'I am sure that your Budget will increase your very strong position.'

Phil Bassett

Correspondence of Henry Swanzy, editor and broadcaster (b 1915)

Henry Swanzy began his career in the civil service after his education at Wellington College and New College, Oxford. He initially worked at the Colonial Office from 1937 to 1940 as Assistant Principal in various geographical departments and then in 1940 at the Dominions Office as Private Secretary to the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State. In 1941, Swanzy joined the BBC as News Talks Assistant, Empire Department,

Overseas Division in 1941, and, apart from a period when he was seconded to the Gold Coast (later Ghana) Broadcasting Service as Head of Programmes between 1954 and 1958, remained with the BBC until his retirement in 1975. At this point he had risen to the position of scriptwriter in the Central Talks and Features section of the External Services.



Stewart Brown, John Figueroa and Arnold Hughes

A small collection of Swanzy's correspondence was purchased by the Centre for West African Studies and formally presented for deposit in Special Collections at a small ceremony in June 1997. The occasion was also attended by the vendor of the papers, John Figueroa, a writer, broadcaster and lecturer whose works include *Caribbean Voices*, an important anthology of West Indian literature.

The letters, which span the years 1945-56, largely relate to Swanzy's work as editor and regular producer of the BBC radio programme *Caribbean Voices*, a literary programme which ran for many years between 1945 and 1958. The programme, which was broadcast back to the West Indies, featured poems, stories and other literary material by West Indian writers and provided an important and rare opportunity for writers of West Indian poetry and fiction to have their work publicised. The letters, which

include correspondence between Swanzy and Gladys Lindo, the BBC's local representative in Jamaica, give detailed information about the format, content and organisation of the programme and provide evidence of the significance of the programme in raising the literary standard of Caribbean writing. Other correspondence includes letters to and from contributors who included such well-known individuals as Derek Walcott and Figueroa; and letters of comment, criticism and appreciation from listeners. The papers also indicate the enormous level of support and encouragement which Swanzy gave to West Indian writers, by assisting them in their efforts to find publishers for their work and by finding them employment as readers on the programme

Phil Bassett

Papers of Eustace B. F. Wareing, writer and civil servant (1890-1958)

The Special Collections department has recently acquired a small but significant collection of papers of E. B. Wareing, a former student of this University who was awarded a B.Com. in 1911. After graduation, he studied and lectured at Munich University between 1912 and 1914, during which time he also acted as a correspondent of *The Times*. He served in France in the First World War in the Royal Garrison Artillery and the Intelligence, and at the end of hostilities joined the staff of the Interallied Rhineland High Commission, becoming Secretary General in 1928. In 1929 he was appointed as a foreign correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, first in Rome, then in Berlin from 1933 to 1938, when he transferred to Paris. During the Second World War, Wareing was the newspaper's special correspondent for French Affairs and diplomatic correspondent, 1940-43, and special correspondent in Algiers in 1943, and in 1944 he covered General de Gaulle's visits to Washington and Ottawa. He returned to Paris after the liberation of the city and continued as the *Telegraph's* correspondent until 1948,

when he joined the Control Commission in Germany as a temporary civil servant until his retirement in 1953.

These papers, which have been presented to the Library through the generosity of Wareing's family, focus on the period from 1941 to 1944, when he was special correspondent for French Affairs. They largely comprise typescript reports and statements written by Wareing, at least some of which were communicated to the Editor of the *Daily Telegraph*. They include accounts of interviews and conversations and records of information obtained from a variety of sources. A number of these documents are marked as 'confidential' or 'top secret'. The papers focus particularly on the power struggles in the Free French movement and offer a valuable insight into the conflicts between the important figures of de Gaulle, Muselier, Giraud and Darlon and also into the tensions between de Gaulle and the British and American officials and governments. To quote just one example, in an account by Maurice Dejean of the circumstances surrounding the severing of his connection with the French National Committee in October 1942, he describes de Gaulle as 'by nature *ombrageux*, ready to take offense [sic], and *méfiant*, suspicious. He is aloof and proud, cut off from military affairs because he does not get on with the British Generals and therefore inclined to be adventurous in politics.'

The documents reveal some intelligence information about military operations. For example, a confidential report dated 21 April 1941, which is based on information supplied by one of the advisers of the War Cabinet and from a Foreign Office source, concerns military and naval positions in the Mediterranean and in Greece. Another report, which uses information supplied by a French staff officer, concerns the expedition to liberate Corsica in September 1943. The papers also provide some information about resistance operations and about the political and civil situation in occupied France. A report from an unidentified Englishman, for example, who left

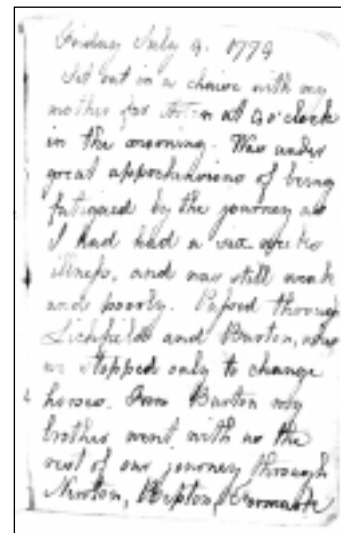
Paris in April 1942, having worked there with a newspaper, provides first hand evidence of public attitudes and opinion in France.

Records and notes of other interviews which Wareing conducted include notes of a lunch time conversation at the Connaught Hotel in London attended by de Gaulle whom he describes as 'very affable and at moments almost witty for the possessor of a single-track mind'; a summary of a private talk with Sir Samuel Hoare at the Foreign Office, in September 1942 about the Franco regime in Spain; and, the latest document in this collection, dated October 1944, a report of a conversation with King Peter of Yugoslavia, 'who proved to be by no means the lightweight I had been led to expect.'

Phil Bassett

Diaries and journals

Several additions have been made during the last year to the growing collection of journals and diaries in the Special Collections department. We were fortunate enough to acquire diaries of two Birmingham individuals at an auction at Sotheby's. This acquisition was made with the full knowledge and agreement of the Birmingham City Archives and it is pleasing that we have been able to ensure that material of Birmingham interest has been preserved locally.



The first is a single diary of Catherine Hutton, who was the daughter of William Hutton, historian of Birmingham, and a novelist and historian in her own right. It is a diary which she kept, as a young woman (aged 23), of a visit made from Birmingham in the company of her mother to stay with maternal relatives in Aston, Derbyshire in July 1779, probably to recuperate after a lengthy illness. At the end of July, she went on to Nottingham with her brother to visit friends for a week. It is a delightful and intimate record which provides detailed and vivid descriptions of and observations about her daily routines, her family and friends, her social activities, and her pastimes of sewing, knitting and reading. It provides a brief but valuable insight into the role and values of an educated young woman in late eighteenth century English middle class society.



personal life. Several of the journals serve as both personal and business travel diaries. The earliest notebook, for example, starts as a diary of a visit to Shrewsbury and North Wales in 1811; another begins with an account of a journey to Cornwall and his subsequent itinerary there

By contrast, the five journals and notebooks of Joseph Dixon span more than two decades from the 1810s to the early 1830s. Dixon had evidently established himself as a mercer and haberdasher by about 1820, with a shop in Great Hampton Street, Birmingham, and the volumes reveal all manner of information relating to his employment and business interests, and about his family and

in 1822; and a third relates to much more local journeys of only a few days to such places as Warwick, Henley in Arden, Coventry, Stourbridge, and Bromsgrove between 1822 and 1828. The volumes also include details and accounts of the goods he sold on his travels, topographical, historical and statistical information about the places he visited, and much other incidental information. This ranges from medical and culinary recipes and other domestic and chemical formulae to acrostic poems written to celebrate such occasions as the births of his children, songs, hymns, epitaphs and sermon notes which he wrote or collected, and sketches and technical and other drawings. Some volumes also include copies of family letters which he wrote and received, and the earliest notebook contains a detailed financial account of the family and household expenditure between 1809 and 1821.

Phil Bassett

PRINTED BOOKS

Dr B T Davis's bequest



The Special Collections department has received a magnificent bequest from the estate of Dr B T Davis, who died, aged 78, on 22 May 1998. Ben spent his entire professional life in Birmingham; he studied Medicine at the University, was a Home Office pathologist and held the post of Senior Lecturer in Forensic

Pathology. He also served a term as Assistant Dean of the Medical School.

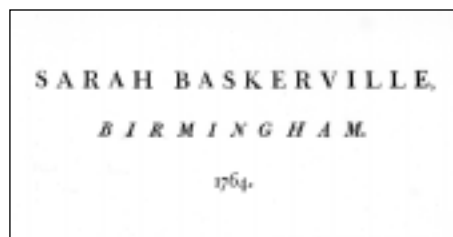
Ben was always a good friend to the University Library. Like many members of the medical profession he was an enthusiastic and extremely knowledgeable book-collector and for many years he was President of the Birmingham Bibliographical Society. He was a skilled bookbinder and his knowledge of the early history of the University, and especially of the Medical School, was unrivalled - knowledge which he was always delighted to share. His determination to prevent historical records from destruction sometimes took unusual forms, as when he entered the medical lecture theatre in the former Mason College building, shortly before its demolition in 1963, armed with a hacksaw with which he chopped off some of the wooden desk-tops on which generations of students had carved their names.

Ben's personal collection reflected his many interests - medicine, local history, the printing of John Baskerville and the island of St Helena, on which he served as Medical Officer during the Second World War, to name a few. The seven items he left to us were obviously chosen with great care to complement the collections in which he used to take such interest. There are two works by the



Drawing by William Hamper in his copy of Hutton's *History of Birmingham*

Birmingham publican and poet John Freeth (1731-1808) - *The political songster* of 1790 and *The annual political songster* of 1794, the latter edition being an author's presentation copy; Robert K Dent's *The making of Birmingham*, 1894, in the original 24 parts; William Hutton's *The history of Birmingham*, published in 50 parts by James Guest, circa 1835; Blair's *Graphic illustrations of Warwickshire*, 1823-29 in eight parts, uncut, and, compared with the bound version, extremely rare; and two superb association copies. The first is William Hamper's copy of the 1795 edition of Hutton's *History of Birmingham*. Hamper (1776-1831) was a noted local antiquarian. This copy is in two volumes, interleaved, with notes and drawings in Hamper's clear hand. It evidently became well-known, since the entry in the *Dictionary of National Biography* for Hamper describes it as being then in the possession of Alderman Avery of Birmingham. A note inside the first volume records that it was given to Mrs Avery in 1865 by Hamper's eldest daughter. The other is the Baskerville Bible of 1763 which belonged to Baskerville's wife Sarah. Formerly the wife of Richard Eaves she had lived with Baskerville since 1750, after being deserted by her husband, who had fled the country after carrying out a forgery in a will.



On Eaves's death in 1764 Baskerville married her and the book label he printed for her (illustrated here) bears this date. The book was inherited after her death by her nephew-in-law John Ryland, whose grand-daughter Louisa Ann Ryland donated Cannon Hill Park to the City

of Birmingham. This Bible will now join the Baskerville collection in the Heslop Room, given in 1954 by J W Hely-Hutchinson in memory of his brother Victor, Professor of Music from 1934-44, and much admired by Ben. Of all his books this was the one he would talk about most often, always with the cheerful reminder 'I've left it to you in my will, you know!' It is a bequest we had hoped would be long delayed, for his enlivening visits to the Heslop Room are now sadly missed.

Chris Penney

Progress on Projects

Retrospective catalogue conversion: Giovanni Boccaccio's *Decamerone*

Among the large collection of Italian literature in the Special Collections department that has been catalogued by the retrospective catalogue conversion team over the last two years, a copy of a 1729 edition of Giovanni Boccaccio's *Decamerone* has stood out. Not only does this edition have an interesting history in itself, it has also been lavishly illuminated by hand, probably in the first half of the nineteenth century.

The University holds two copies of this edition: the first was acquired in 1956 from the bookseller L.W. Bondy; less than a year later, Mrs. A.F. Daughlish donated the illuminated copy to the University, along with almost 200 other printed books and manuscripts, including 66 volumes on Dante. Mrs. Daughlish was a generous benefactor of the University Library, and had close links with the University. She was the daughter of Michael Tomkinson, a former member of the Council of the University, and was an active member of the Friends of the University Library. The bookplate of Michael Tomkinson is on the front pastedown of the book, indicating that it came from his own private library.

A limited pressing of 300 copies of this edition was commissioned in 1729 by Salvatore Ferrari from the publisher Pasinello in Venice, and was printed by Stefano Orlandelli. It is a type facsimile of the 1527 edition published by the heirs of Filippo Giunta in Florence. The Giunta edition was very highly regarded, and until the publication of the Manelli text in 1761, the Giunta text formed the basis for many of the best editions of the *Decamerone*. Although a good reproduction of the Giunta edition, it is fairly easy to tell the original and facsimile apart, mainly through corrections to the foliation made in the facsimile edition, and through slight differences in the typeface used.

It is, however, the illuminations in the Daughlish copy that are of most interest. The title page has one of the most striking illuminations in the whole book. The title and the small printer's device of Giunta occupy the top half of the page, and have been framed with a border of gold leaf, with an elaborate red and blue decoration painted on top. The rest of the page has been filled with rinceaux painted in a variety of colours, including pink, red, blue, grey, and yet more gold leaf. Flowering plants occupy the four corners of the page, and a majestic peacock with a gold crown around its neck is to be found to the right of the gold leaf frame. The overall effect is stunning.

The illuminator has taken full advantage of the fact that the initials in the book have been left blank by the printer, in order for them to be added later by hand. Some have been painted in quite simply, with the initial being painted on top of a single colour background, although it is possible to see the illuminator experimenting with a variety of styles with regard to the shape and colouring of the initial. Others have become quite complex illuminations in their own right. The decorated initial Q on folio 2r is a good example. A gold letter Q has been placed on top of a blue, green and red painted background, with what appears to be white tendrils emerging from the centre of the letter and descending down the left hand margin.

The book has relatively few full page border illuminations, with ten red and violet pen illuminations in the Proemio, and eight painted illuminations in the main body of the text. They are, however, most impressive. The illuminator appears to have been influenced by the decorative techniques used in fifteenth century French Books of Hours, with the copious use of decorated initials, foliated bar borders, rinceaux and acanthus.



One of the more interesting illuminations is that on folio 27v, (illustrated here), for it is on this page alone that someone has pencilled in a decoration in the other copy of the book held by the Library. This allows a comparison of how two different illuminators approached the decoration of this page. The Daughish copy has a red, blue, purple, green and brown acanthus decoration sprouting from an initial letter G approximately one quarter of the way down the text, and from the bottom left hand corner of the page. What appears to be small, gold leaf, flower head designs are scattered in the background. A gold leaf initial letter S has also been added about two-thirds of the way down the text. The other illuminator has taken a quite different approach to the decoration on this page. Rather than add border illuminations, the illuminator opted to use an anthropomorphic initial. A greatly enlarged letter G has been pencilled in, with the profile of a woman facing the text emerging from the

centre of the letter. Unfortunately, the illuminator got no further than pencilling the design in, but it shows an interesting contrast of approaches to the decoration of the same page.



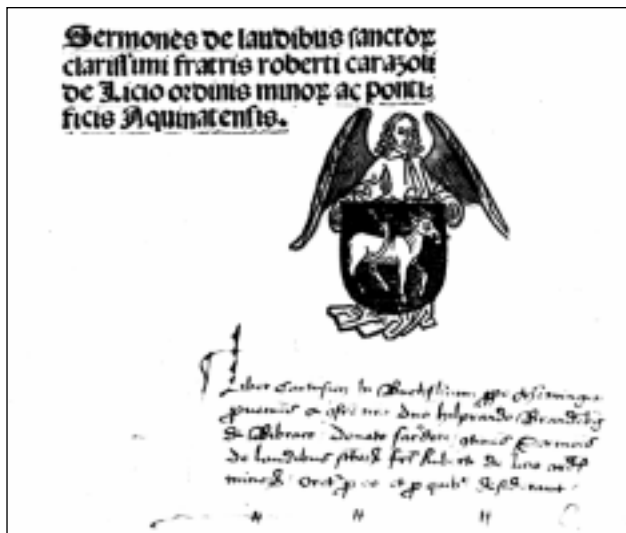
The illuminator of the Daughish copy had obviously planned to add more illuminations to the book. Half finished outlines of illuminations are to be found scattered throughout the book, along with one complete outline on folio 177r where a number of birds, possibly doves, are illustrated, perched and flying between a mass of foliage. Unfortunately, the anonymous illuminator was prevented from completing work on these illuminations, and we are left with just a tantalising glimpse of what promised to be even more complex and beautiful designs.

Mike Lacey

Retrospective catalogue conversion: The Buxheim bookplate

The Special Collections department has a copy of one of the earliest known bookplates on the front pastedown of a 1490

edition of Carraciolus's *Sermones*. This was donated in 1957 by Mrs A.F. Daughish, who also donated the 1729 edition of Boccaccio's *Decamarone* discussed above.



Measuring roughly 5cm square the bookplate is a fifteenth century woodcut printed on binder's waste. The plate, crudely coloured by hand, depicts an angel holding a coat-of-arms bearing a bull. The coat of arms is that of the Brandenburg family, and the handwritten Latin inscription which appears beneath the bookplate attests that the book belonged to the Carthusian Monastery at Buxheim, and that it was donated by Brother Hildebrand Brandenburg of Bibrach. The bookplate is reproduced in F Warnecke *Die deutschen Bucherzeichen*, Berlin, 1890, pp. 8-9.

The monastery at Buxheim was founded in 1402 and is estimated to have held some 30,000 volumes in its library. In 1803, however, the monastery was secularised with the result that now only about 1000 volumes can be accounted for, mostly dating from the 16th and 17th Centuries.

While many people claim that the Buxheim bookplate is the earliest known in existence, its priority is not undisputed. Its main rival is a crude 15th century woodcut which was owned by Johannes Knabensberg, known as Iglter; it depicts a hedgehog with a ribboned description above it which reads, rather strangely, 'Hans Iglter that the hedgehog may kiss you' (see Fridolf Johnson *A Treasury of bookplates*, New York, 1977, pp. iii-iv).

However, as Johnson notes, there are certainly some factors which raise doubts about the date of the Iglter plate. Tentative dating has placed it at around 1450, but there is some difficulty here as this is the approximate period when printing with moveable type began. It would therefore seem unlikely that Iglter would have had very much into which to paste his bookplate, apart from manuscripts and block-printed books. At that time these would have been rare and extremely valuable, and so they would perhaps have been unlikely to have been lent out anyway. However, as Johnson remarks (p.iii) 'The inscription on Iglter's bookplate must be the first to warn against stealing or injuring a book'.

Kate Taylor

The Artists' Papers Register

Good progress has been made in the past year on the *Artists' Papers Register*, a project whose main objective is the compilation of a computerised index to papers and primary sources relating to artists, designers and craftspeople held in archives and publicly accessible collections in Great Britain. Robin Bourne, the second project officer to be appointed to the project, based at the Barber Institute of Fine Arts at the University of Birmingham, has now surveyed six out of the eight areas he is covering in the south of England and Wales, whilst David Tomkins, his counterpart at the Henry Moore Institute in Leeds, has finished his survey work of repositories in the north of England and Scotland. To

date, the ACCESS database contains 3,500 artists and 7,000 records.

In the *Artists' Papers Register* the term *artists* is defined as not only being fine artists, such as painters and sculptors, but also designers, design groups and studios, craft occupations and those responsible for the design content in manufacturing processes. All artists have been included in the Register to date, irrespective of their nationality, the period in which they worked, or their status. So you will encounter the papers of well known artists such as J.M.W. Turner, William Morris and Henry Moore alongside foreign artists such as Michelangelo, Miro and Gaudier-Brzeska, together with well-known *amateur* artists such as Winston Churchill, D.H. Lawrence and members of the Wedgwood family. But many of the artists listed to date are those who rarely achieved great fame or acclaim beyond their own locality. This is an area where the project will help to break down the traditional and conventional boundaries of conventional art history as perpetuated by the plethora of artists' dictionaries published each year listing the same old *famous* artists as of yore.

In the context of this project the term *papers* is defined as letters sent to or by an artist, personal and professional papers, journals, diaries, ledgers, photographs and press cuttings. Audio and video tapes, sketchbooks and personal ephemera are also included. These papers may have been produced or collected by the artists themselves or they may have originated from family, friends, dealers, patrons, associates, art historians, galleries or critics.

Before work could begin on surveying archival collections in the south of England and Wales, an initial list of 700 likely repositories, including national, regional and local archives, libraries, museums, galleries, universities, societies and institutions, was compiled from existing published sources. These were then divided into eight areas each containing roughly the same number of repositories. In turn the repositories in each area have been, or will be, approached for possible inclusion in the survey by means of a questionnaire. Each repository's

holdings are initially checked against the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts' *National Register of Archives*, which provides a general means of access to material, but cannot offer the level of detail required by a subject specialist. Those repositories that are able to provide full details of their relevant holdings, or which already have full details available at the National Register of Archives, will immediately be listed on the ACCESS database of the *Artists' Papers Register*. Those that are unable to provide details are visited by the project officer who will list the appropriate collections. Archives with large collections are usually visited. In the past year, Birmingham Archives, Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery, the Fitzwilliam Museum and the Bodleian Library have all been visited.

Running parallel with the survey work has been the testing and development of an online database eventually to be made publicly available via the Web. This will, in the future, be maintained by the National Register of Archives and linked to their web-site. It will include full search facilities including artists' names, types of artist, artists' dates and the location of the papers. Funding, and a host site, for a third project officer to cover the Greater London area is also currently being sought by members of the project working party. It is hoped that the database will be available for public consultation before, or at least by, the time the south of England and Wales part of the project is completed in April 1999.

Robin Bourne

Internet Library of Early Journals

As reported in *Research Libraries Bulletin* No 4 Spring 1996 The Internet Library of Early Journals project (ILEJ) aimed to provide researchers with instant desktop access to a variety of early British journals in full text: *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*, *Annual Register*, *Notes and Queries*, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society*, *Gentlemen's Magazine* and *The Builder*.

various techniques have evolved. If the operator finds that shot after shot produces distorted and shadowed images and several consecutive shots of an unmoved item produce variable output then meticulous observation of results obtained with each variance of procedure is required. In this way patterns may be discerned and a methodology developed which minimizes inconsistencies. If a page does not lie flat then a stiff backing card or glass cover (or both) may solve the problem. Foxing and dirt may be de-emphasised by prudent adjustment of brightness settings consistent with strong text capture. Positioning within three dimensions can compensate for variable book size and shape. The aim is always to present an image that is faithful to the aesthetic integrity of the original, but clear enough to optimise the OCR process and create a valuable research tool.

The ILEJ homepage is at <http://www.bodley.ox.uk/ilej/>

Paul Newton

Centennial history of the University of Birmingham

Information Services is to publish a centennial history of the University Library in January 1999. Written by James Thompson, University Librarian from 1987 to 1995, the history takes us from the Mason College library, opened in 1880 and transformed into the University's first library by the Birmingham University Act of 1900, to the creation of the converged Information Services in 1995. The book includes illustrations of all Librarians during this period and some of the Library's sites. Further details can be obtained from Vicki Whittaker on 0121 414 6836; email v.j.whittaker@bham.ac.uk

Vicki Whittaker

English Short-title Catalogue (ESTC): The Temple of Flora

More than 17000 records of books held in the Special Collections department have now been contributed to

this project. Among the latest of our books to be surveyed is Robert Thornton's *New illustration of the sexual system of Carolus von Linnaeus*, 1799-1807, generally known as *The Temple of Flora*, the title given to the third part. As mentioned earlier in this issue we have two copies of this most celebrated of all florilegia: one was transferred from the library of Queen's College (the original medical school in Birmingham) to the Mason Science College in 1892; the other was one of the first gifts to the new University of Birmingham from the widow of Dr R Rickards in February 1900.

No two copies of this book, whose lengthy and costly production brought financial ruin on Thornton, are alike. The plates in the Rickards copy are early states while those in the Queen's College copy are much later, the mezzotints having been ground down in the printing process, showing evidence of reworking and, occasionally, having extra, highly imaginative details not present in the earlier states. The background to the 'Dragon Arum', for example, has storm clouds and mountains in the Rickards copy, but in the later one it is embellished with lightning and an erupting volcano. The plate 'Roses', painted by Thornton himself, is a splendid example of crisp engraving with clear washes of colour in the Rickards copy but in the later printing attempts to compensate for the plate's deterioration result in cruder, thicker colours; the central rose, a delicate pink in the early state, is now an unnatural crimson with ochre edges and the petals appear to be turning outwards rather than inwards. These two plates are reproduced on the front and back covers of this issue of the Research Libraries Bulletin.

Both copies were sumptuously rebound in the library bindery in the 1950s and finished by Charles Nickless. The Rickards copy is a contemporary design in tan morocco with green onlays and the Queen's copy is more traditionally bound in full green morocco.

Julia Cooper



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