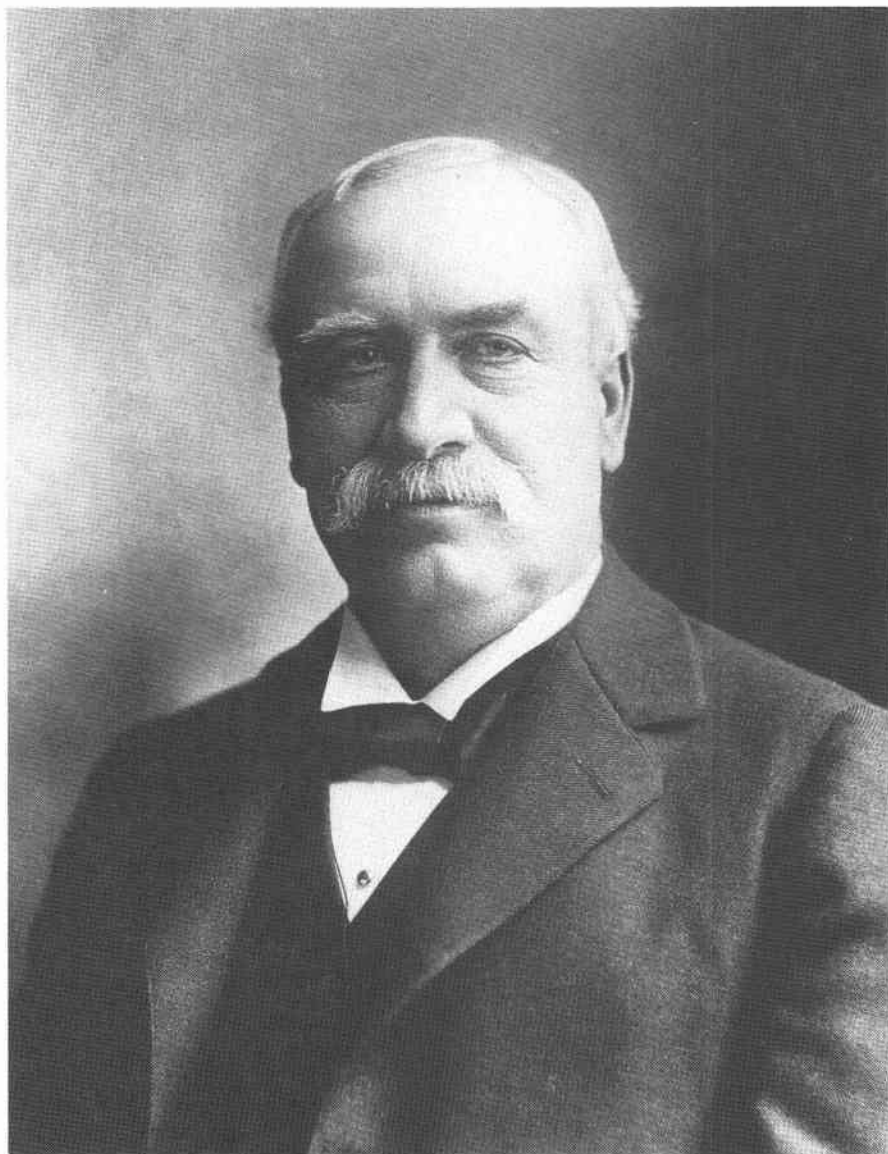


# Imprint: Oregon

Vol. 3

Spring 1976

No. 1



Henry Villard

## OREGON CENTENARY

Though the University of Oregon is now celebrating its centenary, the University Library is younger by six years, having begun in 1882 with the arrival of a collection of books given by Henry Villard. Nonetheless, *Imprint: Oregon* features in this number a history of the Villard benefaction, and thereby pays tribute to the occasion. The second article herein is also appropriate, touching on the personalities of early librarians.

Library problems have not changed in a century as much as we would like to think they have. As evidence we offer the second report of Mark Bailey, Librarian and Professor of Mathematics at Oregon. In this short document Prof. Bailey touches on the acquisition of unwanted duplicates, the problems of binding, un-received orders, overcrowding, uninformed administration, and floods of pamphlets.

Pres't. J. W. Johnson:

During the year ending June 18/85 the Library & Reading Room have been in my Recitation room & I have had charge of the books & reviews. Two new book cases have been placed in my room to receive the books which have been added to the Library. About 184 books were received through the Villard fund, ten of which were duplicates of volumes already in the Library. About 132 were received from Washington. Prof. S. F. Baird, Secretary Smithsonian Institute wrote me that some seven unbound volumes of "The Diplomatic Review" would be sent us if we would have them bound. After consulting Mr. T. G. Hendricks I wrote agreeing to have the binding done at our expense if the volumes were sent us. These volumes have not yet been received. Within the past few weeks I have received notice from Washington, which I have not yet answered, that by an act

of Congress some unbound volumes of the Congressional Globe were about to be distributed to various Libraries containing some 5,000 volumes if such Libraries would be at the expense of having them bound. But I have not yet answered the notice. Quite a number of Reviews have been subscribed for for our reading room, but they have not all, as yet, been received. The number of volumes in the Library is now something over 1560. I have cut the leaves of over 23,000 pages. All the books are in the Library or in the hands of the professors except one which is in the hands of a student at the time of writing out my report.

As provisions will, I suppose, be made in the new building for the Library and Reading Room, I, with my report, place in your hands for the use of the Regents, a Circular of Information of the Education Bureau No. 1-1881 on "The Construction of a Library Building."

Your with esteem, M. Bailey.

P.S. Number of pamphlets nearly 1000.

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## Henry Villard and the University of Oregon Library

Early in August 1881 Henry Villard of New York City, president of the Oregon and California Railroad Company as agent for German bondholders who controlled the company, gave the University of Oregon \$7,000 to cover the major portion of unpaid debts of the Union University Association, incurred for the construction of the University's first building, now Deady Hall. On October 22, while inspecting the Oregon lines, Villard visited the University and announced his intention of aiding the institution with further gifts, including \$1,000 worth of books to found a University Library. In 1881 the only library associated with the University was a collection owned by the Laurean and Eutaxian student literary societies.<sup>1</sup> On October 25 he confirmed this intention in a letter addressed to the Board of Regents of the University: "I will give \$1000 for the foundation of a library for the University. I will personally undertake to have the most suitable works of reference selected by competent experts."<sup>2</sup>

On his way to Oregon, Villard had talked with his friend, Matthew P. Deady, Federal District Court judge for Oregon and president of the Board of Regents, in San Francisco,<sup>3</sup> and had probably sought his advice concerning the needs of the University. Deady was on his way east for an extended vacation. The several gifts appear to reflect, in various ways, his special interests and prejudices. The gift for the founding of a Library, in particular, sounds like a Deady suggestion.

In 1881 the faculty and students were probably well satisfied with the Laurean and Eutaxian library, which was a respectable collection for their immediate needs. In fact, the Villard Library seems to have been a bit of a nuisance for some years to come. The Laurean and Eutaxian library had comfortable quarters in the University building; the Villard books, for which Professor Mark Bailey was assigned custody, nearly crowded him out of his room in the building.<sup>4</sup> The original arrangement allowed access to the Library only on Fridays at 2:00 p.m.<sup>5</sup> As late as May 27, 1891, President John W. Johnson wrote to Deady that the Library was not "of much value to under graduates, who have usually all they can do with the ordinary textbooks."<sup>6</sup>

Deady, who was president of the Library Association of Portland and an omnivorous reader, would not have shared this view and would not have been satisfied with a library selected by students; to the end of his life, he did not trust the judgment even of adult librarians and enjoyed the self-imposed duty of book selection for both the University and Portland libraries. Villard's provision, "I will personally undertake to have the most suitable works of reference selected by

<sup>1</sup> The societies were legally incorporated under Oregon law, without "faculty advisers."

<sup>2</sup> Matthew P. Deady Manuscript Collection, Oregon Historical Society Library (hereafter, OrHi).

<sup>3</sup> Deady diary, Feb. 8, 1882, summarizing earlier events. OrHi

<sup>4</sup> Board of Regents minutes, June 15, 1884, Report of Executive Committee: "The Villard library . . . are now crowded into Prof. Bailey's room for want of a suitable place to put them, which makes the Prof's room badly crowded and very inconvenient for his work." Minute Book, vol. I, University of Oregon Archives.

<sup>5</sup> Laurean column, *Oregon State Journal*, Mar. 4, 1882.

<sup>6</sup> Letter in OrHi.

competent experts," is Deady-like; it would not be surprising if he was one of the experts who proposed titles for the initial collection.

The impact of the Villard books on University instruction seems to have been minimal through the 1880s. Though regular weekly columns in the Eugene *Guard* and *Oregon State Journal* contributed by the student literary societies frequently reported what was going on in University classes and what students were reading as class assignments, they provide little evidence of classroom use of the Villard collection—except that Professor Charles E. Lambert in the fall of 1882 assigned the reading of Prescott on *The Conquest of Mexico* as the base for review essays by his classes in rhetoric. Lambert wrote in his June 19, 1884 annual report: "My home Library has been placed freely at the disposal of the graduating classes in the preparation of their Commencement themes; in and out of School hours. They have been freely used. Some Students have been at my house as many as half a dozen times."

The 359 volumes that Villard shipped to Eugene in 1882 were, however, in some ways a remarkable collection. The major fields of competence of the 1882 faculty and the major emphasis of the curriculum lay in the Greek, Latin, German and French languages, mathematics, physics, chemistry, geology and biology, though the faculty managed to broaden the curriculum to some extent by sharing responsibility for elementary textbook instruction in history, government and economics, as well as for rhetoric and elocution. The Villard collection reversed these priorities. It included 243 volumes of political history, twenty-six volumes of literary history, and eight volumes of art history. Ancient and modern non-English philology, apart from literary histories and translations of ancient historians, was represented by a sparse selection of dictionaries, the sciences by nine volumes.

One is tempted to believe that the collection reflected deliberate reservations concerning the curriculum and supplemented it with the hope of providing resources for independent study. If so, the possibility that Deady may have had a part in its selection gains some strength. Whatever the intent of Villard and his experts, the editor of the Laurean column in the December 30, 1882 *Oregon State Journal*, though not critical of the curriculum, perhaps sensed the primary value of the Library with more insight than President Johnson exhibited in his 1891 letter to Deady: "The students are beginning to appreciate the value of the library founded for the University by the generosity of Mr. Villard. There is more outside reading being done this year than ever before. This is partly due to the increased facilities offered in the new library, and partly to a realization on the part of the students that there is something more necessary to fit them for active work in life than a mere knowledge of Greek and [natural] philosophy or similar studies required in the curriculum . . ." However, students then as now were incurably idealistic, as President Johnson was not.

As Villard intended, the Library was a reference collection and included no literary texts except Longfellow's anthology of translations of European literature, two anthologies of translations of German prose and poetry, and the translations of several ancient historians. It is perhaps significant that Xenophon and Sallust translations quickly disappeared. Xenophon was (and still is) one of the first authors sampled by students of Greek, and Sallust was President Johnson's favorite Latin author, whom he enjoyed teaching in Latin not only to collegiate students

but also to selected groups of students in the Preparatory Department. The translations may have served principally as ponies for language students; if so, their shelf life may have been short. And Johnson, who held the chair of Latin and Greek, may not have welcomed their distracting presence in the Library.

The Villard books were chosen primarily from the in-print lists of American and English publishers. A few titles with imprints in the 1860s and earlier have penciled flyleaf notations by antiquarian book dealers, and several of these are distinguished by handsome half-leather bindings. All books are in English except Littré's five-volume French dictionary.

The foregoing analysis of the Villard collection is based on a list published serially in the *Laurean* columns in the *Journal* on February 18, 25 and March 4, 1882, soon after the first shipment of books had arrived. No other contemporary list seems to have survived; the first Library accession book, which probably dates from the mid-1890s, does not identify the Villard volumes. An 1892 printed catalog of the University of Oregon Library includes only 280 of the Villard books, which suggests that there was not yet an accession list to guide the cataloger. A sentence introducing the February 18 *Journal* installment states that "We have the catalogue of new books recently purchased by Mr. Villard." This suggests that Villard had sent a list with the books. But an introduction to the February 25 installment states that "We . . . give what information we have been able to collect in reference to the subject," which may mean that the editor copied short titles from title pages or spines of the books. If so, he did a hasty and careless job; large numbers of entries show gross errors in the spelling of authors' names (there are no first names or initials) and in title transcriptions. An omnibus nine-volume title, "Herodotus," is attributed to one author; actually the title encompassed works of four authors, related only by the common subject and by uniform half-leather rebindings for a former owner.

The student editor probably collected his information from a variety of sources. Some additional books, included in the *Laurean* list, arrived late in April or early in May 1882.<sup>7</sup> And Library accessions reported in the December 23, 1882 *Laurean* column also included several early imprints in the February-March list. They may have been located and purchased after a search of the shelves of New York City antiquarian book dealers, perhaps by Villard himself.

As the spring advanced after the arrival of the first shipment, Villard was expecting some note of appreciation from the faculty of the University, but had heard nothing. Probably late in April he expressed his displeasure in a letter, apparently addressed to the faculty. A May 8 reply, not from the faculty but from Joshua J. Walton, secretary of the Board of Regents and a Eugene resident, apologized and explained: "I beg to say to you on behalf of the Faculty that they are innocent of any intention to neglect the acknowledgment of the receipt of the Books, or of any want of courtesy to you." The book parcels had been addressed to President Johnson, who had consulted Walton and agreed that it was proper for Walton, as secretary of the Board, to make the acknowledgment, which he had done; but Villard never received it.<sup>8</sup> If Deady had been consulted, he would have arranged a more adroit response.

<sup>7</sup> Letter, Joshua J. Walton to Villard, May 8, 1882. Houghton Library, Harvard University.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*

It has required considerable bibliographical detective work to identify the books in the collection; in a few cases, editions still remain unidentified. A previous attempt to reconstruct the collection is recorded in an undated typed manuscript in the University of Oregon Archives, with incomplete and sometimes inaccurate holograph call-number notations. This attempt also began with the 1882 Laurean list and reveals frustrations, similar to my own, through the carelessness of the 1882 transcriptions; but it has provided identifications in a few cases where my own efforts failed. The manuscript may be the product of an NYA or WPA work project in the 1930s, and may be related to another praiseworthy enterprise of about the same time, the provision of a distinctive bookplate in located volumes, with Villard's portrait and a statement concerning the gift. The statement was set at the University Press from a font of Goudy text foundry type; inventory evidence, though not conclusive, indicates that this type was probably purchased by the University Press in 1936. On the basis of the present study, the bookplate has been placed in some Villard volumes overlooked in the earlier reconstruction and removed from several that do not belong.

Whatever its faults in author and title transcriptions, the 1882 list is probably complete. The editor of the student column reported that the collection totaled 336 volumes. The difference from the 359 volumes now identified can be accounted for by the fact that the column is sometimes in error in recording the number of volumes in sets.

The present list is arranged alphabetically by author (the 1882 list attempted a rough subject grouping), with the author's name as it appeared on the title page, title transcription, number of volumes in a set, edition if noted on the title page, and place and year of publication. In all cases, the year reflects the title-page imprint. If the title page shows no year, an entry is designated "n.d." Copyright dates would be misleading, since they might suggest, erroneously, books out of print in 1882.

Of the Villard volumes, 308 or 86 per cent have been located in Library collections. Of the remaining volumes, twenty-five are recorded as withdrawn or lost; no official record has been found concerning six; seven are listed in the accession book but there is no further record; eleven have been replaced by copies of the same edition; and two are missing or misshelved. The status of titles not located is indicated in square brackets. Some of the volumes reported withdrawn or lost or having no disposal record have been replaced by later editions; such replacements are not noted, since they are not relevant to the reconstruction of the original Villard collection. Replacements by the same edition are noted, but are not included in the count of located Villard volumes; if these volumes were included, the location percentage would be 89 per cent.

Abbott, Benj. Vaughan. Dictionary of terms and phrases used in American and English jurisprudence. 2 vols. Boston, 1879.

Abbott, Lyman, ed. Hints for home reading. A series of chapters on books and their use. New York, 1880.

Adler, G. J. A dictionary of the German and English languages. New York, 1877. [Replaced by same edition]

Allibone, S. Austin. A critical dictionary of English literature and Brit-

- ish and American authors living and deceased from the earliest accounts to the latter half of the nineteenth century. 3 vols. Philadelphia, 1871-74.
- American almanac and treasury of facts, statistical, financial, and political, for the year 1881. New York, 1881.
- Arnold, Thomas. The history of Rome. New York, 1881.
- Bancroft, George. History of the United States of America, from the discovery of the continent. 6 vols. Boston, 1878-79.
- Bancroft, Hubert Howe. The native races of the Pacific states of North America. 5 vols. New York, 1875-76.
- Bartlett, John. Familiar quotations. 7th ed. Boston, 1880. [Replaced by same edition]
- Bartlett, John Russell. Dictionary of Americanisms; a glossary of words and phrases usually regarded as peculiar to the United States. 4th ed. Boston, 1877.
- Blackstone, William. Commentaries on the laws of England. 2 vols. Philadelphia, 1876.
- Blanqui, Jérôme-Adolphe. History of political economy in Europe. Tr. from 4th French ed. by Emily J. Leonard. New York, 1880.
- Brewer, E. Cobham. Dictionary of phrase and fable. 9th ed. Philadelphia, n.d.
- Bristed, Charles Astor. Five years in an English university. 3rd ed. New York, 1874.
- Bryant, William Cullen, and Sydney Howard Gay. A popular history of the United States, from the discovery of the Western Hemisphere . . . to the end of the first century of the union of the states. 4 vols. New York, 1878-81.
- Bryce, James. The Holy Roman Empire. 8th ed. New York, 1880.
- Buckle, Henry Thomas. History of civilization in England. From 2nd London ed. 2 vols. New York, 1882.
- Clarke, James Freeman. Ten great religions: an essay in comparative theology. Boston, 1882.
- Cooke, Josiah P. The new chemistry. New York, 1878.
- Coppée, Henry. History of the conquest of Spain by the Arab-Moors. With a sketch of the civilization which they achieved, and imparted to Europe. 2 vols. Boston, 1881.
- Cox, George W. The crusades. 3rd ed. London, 1875. (Epochs of modern history.)
- Coxe, William. History of the House of Austria . . . 4 vols. Vol. 4 continuation by Walter K. Kelly. London, 1876-77. (Bohn's standard library.)
- Curtis, George Ticknor. History of the origin, formation, and adoption of the constitution of the United States; with notices of its principal framers. 2 vols. New York, 1854-58.
- Cushing, Luther Stearns. Elements of the law and practice of legislative assemblies in the United States of America. 9th ed. Boston, 1874.

- Dana, James Dwight. A system of mineralogy. 5th ed. New York, 1882.
- Donaldson, John William. A history of the literature of ancient Greece; from the foundation of the Socratic schools to the taking of Constantinople by the Turks. 2 vols. London, 1858. (Bound as vols. 2-3 of Müller; see below.)
- Drake, Francis S. Dictionary of American biography, including men of the time. Boston, 1879.
- Draper, John William. History of the American civil war. 3 vols. New York, 1867-76.
- Drone, Eaton S. A treatise on the law of property in intellectual productions in Great Britain and the United States. Boston, 1879.
- Duncker, Max. The history of antiquity. Tr. by Evelyn Abbott. 4 vols. London, 1877-80.
- Duyckinck, Evert A. and George L. Cyclopaedia of American literature. 2 vols. Philadelphia, 1875.
- Dyer, Thomas Henry. Modern Europe, from the fall of Constantinople to the establishment of the German Empire, A.D. 1453-71. 2nd ed. 5 vols. London, 1877.
- Elmendorf, John Jay. Outlines of lectures on the history of philosophy. New York, 1876. [In accession book; no further record]
- Fergusson, James. A history of architecture in all countries, from the earliest times to the present day. 2nd ed. 4 vols. London, 1873-76.
- Freeman, Edward A. General sketch of history. New York, n.d. [Replaced by same edition]
- Freeman, Edward A. Historical essays. 3 vols. London, 1875-80.
- Freeman, Edward A. The historical geography of Europe. 2nd ed. 2 vols. London, 1882.
- French, D'Arcy A. English grammar simplified. Galena, Ill., 1846. [In accession book; no further record]
- Froissart, John. Chronicles of England, France, Spain, and the adjoining countries. Tr. by Thomas Johnes. 2 vols. London, 1874.
- Frothingham, Richard. The rise of the republic of the United States. 3rd ed. Boston, 1881.
- Froude, James Anthony. History of England from the fall of Wolsey to the death of Elizabeth. 12 vols. New York, 1881.
- Gairdner, J. The houses of Lancaster and York with the conquest and loss of France. Boston, 1875. (Epochs of modern history.)
- Gardiner, Samuel R. The first two Stuarts and the Puritan revolution, 1603-1660. Boston, 1876. (Epochs of modern history.) [Withdrawn or lost]
- Gardiner, Samuel R., and J. B. Mullinger. Introduction to the study of English history. London, 1881. [No official record]
- Gardiner, Samuel Rawson. The thirty years' war 1618-1648. 3rd ed. London, 1875. (Epochs of modern history.)
- Gibbon, Edward. The history of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire. 6 vols. New York, 1880.



- Godwin, William. History of the commonwealth of England. From its commencement, to the restoration of Charles the Second. 4 vols. London, 1824-28.
- Gray, Asa. Structural botany, or organography on the basis of morphology. New York, n.d. [Replaced by same edition]
- Green, John Richard. History of the English people. 4 vols. New York; vols. 1-2, 1881-82; vols. 3-4, n.d.
- Grote, George. A history of Greece; from the earliest period to the close of the generation contemporary with Alexander the Great. 12 vols. London, 1869-70.
- Guizot, F. P. G. A popular history of France, from the earliest times. Tr. by Robert Black. 6 vols. Boston, n.d.
- Haeckel, Ernst. The history of creation: or the development of the earth and its inhabitants by the action of natural causes. Tr. rev. by E. Ray Lankester. 2 vols. New York, 1880. [Vol. 1 withdrawn or lost]
- Hale, E. Fall of the Stuarts and western Europe from 1678 to 1697. Boston, 1876. (Epochs of modern history.)
- Hallam, Henry. Introduction to the literature of Europe in the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries. 4 vols. New York, 1880.
- Hallam, Henry. View of the state of Europe during the Middle Ages. 2 vols. New York, 1880. (Cover title: Hallam's works.)
- Harper's Latin dictionary. Ed. by E. A. Andrews. New York, 1879. [Replaced by same edition]
- Hart, James Morgan. German universities: a narrative of personal experience, together with recent statistical information, practical suggestions, and a comparison of the German English and American systems of higher education. New York, 1878.
- Haydn's Dictionary of dates and universal information relating to all ages and nations . . . to 1881. Ed. by Benjamin Vincent. 17th ed. New York, 1882.
- Hedge, Frederic H. Prose writers of Germany. Philadelphia, n.d.
- Heeren, A. H. L. Ancient Greece. Tr. by George Bancroft. Also three political treatises, by the same author. London, 1847. (Cover title: Heeren's historical researches.)
- Heeren, A. H. L. Historical researches into the politics, intercourse, and trade of the Carthaginians, Ethiopians, and Egyptians. 2nd ed. London, 1850.
- Heeren, A. H. L. Historical researches into the politics, intercourse, and trade of the principal nations of antiquity. 2 vols. London, 1846. (Cover title: Heeren's historical researches.)
- Heeren, A. H. L. A manual of ancient history, particularly with regard to the constitutions, the commerce, and the colonies, of the states of antiquity. London, 1847. (Cover title: Heeren's historical researches.)
- Heeren, A. H. L. A manual of the history of the political system of

- Europe and its colonies, from its formation at the close of the fifteenth century, to its re-establishment upon the fall of Napoleon. Tr. from 5th German ed. London, 1846. (Cover title: Heeren's historical researches.)
- Herodotus. History. Tr. by William Beloe. 4 vols. 4th ed. London, 1821.
- Hill, Thomas. The true order of studies. New York, 1881.
- Holst, H. von. The constitutional and political history of the United States. Tr. by John J. Lalor, etc. 3 vols. Chicago, 1877-81.
- Hume, David, and T. Smollett. The history of England. 13 vols. London, 1825. [Withdrawn or lost]
- The international atlas and geography; modern, historical, classical, and physical, containing one hundred and thirty maps. London, n.d.
- Irving, Washington. Chronicle of the conquest of Granada. From the mss. of Fray Antonio Agapida. New York, n.d. (Cover title: Irving's works.)
- Irving, Washington. Life of George Washington. 5 vols. New York, 1879-80 (vol. 2, n.d.). (Cover title: Irving's works.)
- Irving, Washington. The life and voyages of Columbus: to which are added those of his companions. 3 vols. New York; vols. 1-2, n.d., vol. 3, 1878. (Cover title: Irving's works.)
- Irving, Washington. Mahomet and his successors. 2 vols. Vol. 1, New York, n.d.; vol. 2, Philadelphia, 1872. (Cover title: Irving's works.)
- Jewett, Charles C. Notices of public libraries in the United States. Washington, D.C., 1851. [Replaced by same edition]
- Johnson's New universal encyclopaedia. 4 vols. New York, 1880.
- Josephus. Works. Tr. by William Whiston. 2 vols. London, n.d.
- Kent, James. Commentaries on American law. 12th ed., ed. by O. W. Holmes, Jr. 4 vols. Boston, 1873.
- Kiddle, Henry, and Alexander J. Schem. The cyclopaedia of education: a dictionary of information for the use of teachers, school officers, parents, and others. New York, 1877.
- Knight, Charles. The popular history of England: an illustrated history of society and government from the earliest period to our own times. 8 vols. London, n.d. [Vol. 1 withdrawn or lost]
- Knight, Edward H. American mechanical dictionary. 3 vols. Boston, 1880-81.
- Lanfrey, Pierre. The history of Napoleon the First. 2nd ed. 4 vols. London, 1871-79. [No official record]
- Larcher, P. H. Historical and critical comments on the history of Herodotus, with a chronological table. 2 vols. London, 1844.
- Lecky, William Edward Hartpole. History of European morals from Augustus to Charlemagne. 3rd ed. 2 vols. New York, 1881.
- Lewis, Charlton T. A history of Germany, from the earliest times. New York, 1881.

- Liddell, Henry George, and Robert Scott. A Greek-English lexicon. New York, 1876. [In accession book; no further record]
- Lippincott's Gazetteer of the world. Philadelphia, 1882.
- Litré, E. Dictionnaire de la langue française. 4 vols. and 1882 supp. Paris, 1878, 1882.
- Livius, Titus. The history of Rome. Tr. by D. Spillan and Cyrus Edmunds. 4 vols. London, 1875-79. (Bohn's classical library.) [Vol. 1 withdrawn or lost]
- Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth, ed. The poets and poetry of Europe. With introductions and biographical notices. Boston, 1882.
- Longman, F. W. Frederick the Great and the seven years' war. Boston, 1881. (Epochs of modern history.)
- Ludlow, J. M. The war of American independence, 1775-1783. Boston, 1876. (Epochs of modern history.) [Withdrawn or lost]
- Lübke, Wilhelm. Outlines of the history of art. Tr. of 7th German ed. 2 vols. New York, 1881.
- Lyell, Charles. The geological evidences of the antiquity of man with remarks on theories of the origin of species by variations. 2nd American ed. Philadelphia, 1863. [Replaced by same edition]
- Lyell, Charles. Principles of geology or the modern changes of the earth and its inhabitants considered as illustrative of geology. 11th ed. 2 vols. New York, 1877.
- M'Culloch, J. R. A dictionary practical, theoretical, and historical of commerce and commercial navigation. London, 1880.
- McCulloch, J. R. The literature of political economy: a classified catalogue of select publications of the different departments of that science. London, 1845.
- Macaulay, Lord. The history of England from the accession of James the Second. 5 vols. New York, 1879.
- Marsh, George P. Lectures on the English language. First series. 4th ed. New York, n.d.
- Marsh, George P. The origin and history of the English language, and of the early literature it embodies. 3rd ed. New York, 1877.
- Merivale, Charles. The conversion of the northern nations. Boyle lectures, 1865. New York, 1866. [Withdrawn or lost]
- Milman, Henry Hart. The history of Christianity from the birth of Christ to the abolition of paganism in the Roman Empire. 3 vols. New York, 1880.
- Mommsen, Theodor. The history of Rome. Tr. by William P. Dickson. 4 vols. New York, n.d.
- Morris, Edward E. The age of Anne. Boston, 1877. (Epochs of modern history.)
- Motley, John Lothrop. History of the United Netherlands from the death of William the Silent to the twelve years' truce—1609. 4 vols. New York, 1880.
- Motley, John Lothrop. The life and death of John of Barneveld advocate of Holland. 2 vols. New York, n.d.

- Motley, John Lothrop. *The rise of the Dutch republic. A history.* 3 vols. New York, n.d.
- Müller, K. O. *History of the literature of ancient Greece, to the period of Isocrates.* Tr. by C. G. Lewis. London, 1847. (See Donaldson, above.)
- Parkman, Francis. *The conspiracy of Pontiac and the Indian war after the conquest of Canada.* 9th ed. 2 vols. Boston, 1880-82. (Cover title: Parkman's works.) [Vol. 2 replaced by same edition]
- Parkman, Francis. *Count Frontenac and New France under Louis XIV.* 8th ed. Boston, 1880. (Cover title: Parkman's works.)
- Parkman, Francis. *The Jesuits in North America in the seventeenth century.* 15th ed. Boston, 1880. (Cover title: Parkman's works.)
- Parkman, Francis. *La Salle and the discovery of the great west.* 12th ed. Boston, 1880. [Withdrawn or lost]
- Parkman, Francis. *The old régime in Canada.* 9th ed. Boston, 1880. (Cover title: Parkman's works.)
- Parkman, Francis. *The Oregon trail. Sketches of prairie and Rocky-Mountain life.* 7th ed. Boston, 1880. (Cover title: Parkman's works.)
- Parkman, Francis. *Pioneers of France in the new world.* 17th ed. Boston, 1880. (Cover title: Parkman's works.)
- Perkins, Frederic Beecher. *The best reading. Hints on the selection of books.* 4th ed. New York, 1880. (Spine stamping, 17th ed.)
- Prescott, William H. *History of the conquest of Mexico, with a preliminary view of the ancient Mexican civilization, and the life of the conqueror, Hernando Cortés.* 3 vols. Philadelphia, 1881. [Vol. 2 withdrawn or lost]
- Prescott, William H. *History of the conquest of Peru; with a preliminary view of the civilization of the Incas.* 2 vols. Philadelphia, 1881.
- Prescott, William H. *History of the reign of Ferdinand and Isabella the Catholic.* 3 vols. Philadelphia, 1881.
- Prescott, William H. *History of the reign of Philip the Second, king of Spain.* 3 vols. Philadelphia, 1881.
- Rawlinson, George. *The five great monarchies of the ancient eastern world.* 3 vols. New York, 1881.
- Reclus, Élisée. *The earth: a descriptive history of the phenomena of the life of the globe.* Tr. by B. B. Woodward. New York, 1879. [Missing or misshelved]
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The gift of this collection for the founding of the University of Oregon Library did not bring Villard generosity in support of the Library to a close. In the fall of 1882 Henry Villard gave the University its first endowment, \$50,000 in Northern Pacific bonds. On February 1, 1883 he wrote to Deady: "I am entirely willing to agree, for my part, that the income from it shall be applied towards the general purposes of the University, except the sum of \$400 per annum, which I desire to have devoted annually to the enlargement of the library, for which I provided the foundation."<sup>9</sup> The endowment, with this condition, was formally accepted by the Board of Regents on June 15.

The interest of the Villard family in the University of Oregon Library continued after Henry Villard's death on November 12, 1900. Over the years the Library received frequent gifts of books from Mrs. Fanny Garrison Villard and her son, Oswald Garrison Villard. In June 1942 Oswald Garrison Villard, by then an honorary alumnus of the University, joined a group of New York alumni in purchasing and presenting to the Library a thirty-year run (1836-1865) of his grandfather's abolitionist newspaper, *The Liberator*.

<sup>9</sup> Letter in OrHi.

## The Cardelius Syndrome

The frontispiece of *Inland Printer* for April 1909 was, as usual, an example of the best (or worst) in contemporary typographical design. On dark grey cover stock, hand lettered in round Gothic, graced with an illuminated capital in gold and red, the text bracketed in a border design of vines in red, black and gold, the frontispiece was a broadside tribute of the art of printing, by "Cardelius," 1546. (See illus. p. 16)

The designer of the broadside, Frederick J. Trezise,<sup>1</sup> probably first saw the text of the Cardelius tribute in *The Nation* magazine, April 1, 1909. The impression made on him must have been immediate and vivid, because he had his plate ready for the deadline of the April *Inland Printer*. As quoted in a letter to the editor of *The Nation*, the text read:

"This Our Noble Art. And this our noble art of Printing is the very foster Mother of all Learning; for though the few had Books before Gutenberg gave us our Art, not until Printing came could Learning, yes and Wisdom also, knock at every man's door. From the Latin of Cardelius, 1546."

The quotation was followed by a question, "Who was Cardelius," and was signed, "B." whose address was Summit, N. J.

The inquiry of the anonymous "B." was the first link in a chain of correspondence designed to satisfy the curious and confound the learned. The first reply was published in *The Nation* on May 6:

"I am glad to be able to inform [your correspondent] of the probable source of the quotation he has seen. . . .

"John or Joachim Cardelius was one of the most learned writers of the sixteenth century. He was a native of a small town in Franconia and son of a physician. . . . At the age of ten our writer was graduated by his teacher as knowing more than he did; and thereafter the pupil succeeded to the master's perquisites. He had a peculiar affection for the classics, was a humanist in everything but his humanity, and wrote a vast quantity of Latin verses, dealing chiefly with the delights of learning, of which he was entitled to speak, and of marriage, of which he could have known nothing, since he is reputed never to have entered wedlock. One of his works best known in his day is on the virtues of garlic, another on the spread of polite literature among the peasant classes, and a third on the diseases that affect bookworms. . . . Robert Restieaux[.] New York, April 15."

The following week, May 13, *The Nation* published a third Cardelius letter:

"Master Joachim Cardelius . . . was neither a native of Franconia nor the son of a physician. Frankenau—the native place of Master Joachim—does not become Franconia by translation or transliteration. . . . More-

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<sup>1</sup> Frederick James Trezise taught layout and design at the Inland Printer Technical School and the International Typographical Union printing course, a joint venture of the two concerns. His textbooks on advertising layout and type design were standard. He wrote articles for *Inland Printer* and designed many of the frontispieces features in it. He was 33 years old when he met Cardelius.



## This Our Noble Act

**A**nd this our noble act of Printing is the very Foster Mother of all Learning, for though the few had Books before Gutenberg gave us our Act, not until Printing came could Learning, yes, and Wisdom also knock at every man's door.

From the *Life of Coe* 1546

Designed and lettered by  
W. D. Fisk,  
Lithographer, Printer, Bookbinder, and  
Stationer, 117 W. 11th Street,  
New York

Printed by  
The Henry A. Blodgett Company,  
Lithographers and Stationers,  
100 Nassau Street,  
New York



over, his father, far from being a physician, was the village barber. It is generally known, of course, that the gentlemen of this profession . . . combined . . . surgery of the flesh with regulation and adornment of the skin. The allusion to bleeding—the commonest form of medicinal practice then—may have well led to confusion in reading the passage hastily in Zedter, 'Gross. Vollständ. Universal Lexikon' (Halle, 1702 and ff.), from which your correspondent seems to have compiled his information. This source of information, I may add, is notoriously incorrect. A supplement to it was planned, for which a further and more faithful account of Master Joachim had been written by his disciple Andreas Keinmensch. This supplement, however, still exists in the archives of his native town, Rothenstein. . . . Harmon Karl[.] Detroit, Mich., May 8."

The editor of *The Nation* may have received two additional letters about Cardelius that lively month, neither of which he printed. The first, from "A Respectful Enquirer," was even more prolific with learned authorities and added a woman's touch for spice.

"Is it possible that no one of [your readers] has been struck with what to me is so obvious—the apparent printer's error, which, by the simple dropping of the letter 'n,' has made 'Cardelius' out of the well-known name of John Cardelinus, the famous jurist of Bologna, husband of the beautiful and learned Novella, whose name has been perpetrated [*sic*] in the title which her father, John Andreus, gave to his famous legal work, 'Novellae'? It may be of interest, in passing, to notice that so well-versed was this lady in the knowledge of the law, that when her father was too engaged to read lectures to his scholars, he sent her to supply his place in the schools, where the danger of the students' attention being diverted by her beauty was averted by the simple expedient of a curtain drawn before her face. Mr. Peter Bayle in his Dictionary enters into a discussion of the merits and demerits of this device, which discussion is both petty and frivolous.

"Cardelinus (or, as he is more popularly known, Calderinus—both forms of the name are given by an authority as accessible as Jacques Charles Brunet) was born in 1348, and his famous 'Repertorium Juris' is a work of no slight bibliographical importance. . . . It is a folio in two parts of 257 and 231 leaves, in double columns, of forty-seven lines each, without signatures, and, though the printer's name is not given, is unmistakably in the types of Michel Wensler (see Heckethorn's 'Printers of Basle in the XV. and XVI. centuries').

" . . . Lest any controversial reader protest that [Cardelinus's] writings were of a legal character, let me remind him that the beautiful Novella was of great assistance to her husband in his work (so says Mr. Bayle), and what is more probable than that she would have inspired him to write humane and tender passages, such as the one under discussion?"

The second unpublished letter was signed "Beverley Buncombe, Black Mountain, N.C., May 1, 1909." Buncombe's Cardelius took quite different form.

"I have read with growing indignation the correspondence concerning 'the printer' Cardelius. . . . Cardelius is neither a German nor a French-

man, nor has he been dead for several centuries. On the contrary, he is a native born citizen of Buncombe County, in this State, and I have had the honor of an interview with him this very morning. . . . Colonel Jefferson Cardelius was in his youth a gallant supporter of the Lost Cause, as the absence of his right leg (left on the glorious field of Chancellorsville) shows. After that great battle he returned to his home County and became publisher and editor of *The Buncombe Bugle*. It was in the following year that he first printed at the head of his editorial column the sentence about The Noble Art of Printing. It is needless to say that this was printed in English, not in Latin; and the date which is given as 1546 is an absurd misprint for 1864.

The Cardelius controversy was resolved in *The Nation* of May 27, by a confession:

“Cardelius is a child of the imagination; rather, he was born of the union of a printer’s composing-stick and a font of 60-point Cheltenham.

“Being fond of types and of the smell of printer’s ink I naturally spend parts of my holidays and of long New Jersey winter evenings in playing with our library press. Several months ago I composed a brief thought, a one-line hymn, to the printer’s art I so much admire, and set it and printed it on our press. It was long enough for a thought; but it did not compose well in 60-point type. . . . I went on, adding a word here, dropping one there, changing this phrase and that, shifting capitals and small letters, escaping hyphens and other pitfalls. . . . As it came slowly into good typographic form, I found it by chance had taken on a slightly archaic flavor. I nursed this a little. When it was nearly done, I said to myself, “This needs a half line of 30-point at the bottom for a balance, and needs also an author fit to have said this thing and well able to have said it in this way. Let him be unknown; let him be early; if I say he wrote in Latin I shall have just the length of line in 30-point that I need. What is a good name for a Latin author of early printing days?”—and then came Cardelius. I never heard of him before. I cannot find him in the books. If it was wrong to invent him, the sin must be laid on the Devil, which has always been in types.

“Since ‘B.’s’ note appeared, the *Inland Printer* for May [*sic*] has come to us with this one and only sentence of the hitherto unknown Cardelius skilfully written out by hand and elaborately decorated for its frontispiece. This is natural and proper. If the craftsman saw a sentence from Cardelius, of the sixteenth century, quoted somewhere, it was his right to quote it again. I hope the *Inland Printer’s* editor will not think less well either of the style or substance of the quotation when he learns that it came from an amateur in his own art. . . . J.C. Dana Newark, N.J.”

John Cotton Dana<sup>2</sup> did not confess openly to having sent the “B.” letter to *The Nation*, nor did he explain what collusion ensured its appearance in the April 1

<sup>2</sup> John Cotton Dana (1856-1929) was that most dangerous of librarians—one who could have been or was successful in a variety of other professions. Dana had been a lawyer, surveyor, newspaperman, engineer and printer before he became a librarian in 1889. His greatest success was with the Free Public Library of Newark, N.J., beginning in 1902. *The Dictionary of American Biography* aptly says, “He had no specific training for librarianship and needed none.”

issue. If there was an accomplice at *The Nation*, it could hardly have been the editor, Hammond Lamont, who is known to have avoided sham or dishonesty of any kind. Lamont died suddenly and coincidentally before the Cardelius series had run its course. He was succeeded by the associate editor, Paul Elmer More—companionable, witty, urbane—surely more likely than Lamont to attract the friendship of a man like Dana.

“Bibliothecar” was one of Dana’s several pseudonyms, and it seem reasonable to attribute the letter to him. Any doubts are laid to rest by a manuscript in the Newark Public Library’s Dana Collection indicating that on April 16 Henry W. Kent, then assistant secretary of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, assured Dana in a letter, “I will get up the Cardelius agitation and ask Virgin to do his share.”

Edward Virgin was librarian of the General Theological Seminary in New York. He, Kent and Dana had in the past, and would again combine their talent for bibliographic mischief. “Robert Restieaux” was Kent; “Harmon Karl” was Virgin.

“A Respectful Enquirer” was almost surely Ruth Shepard Grannis, librarian of the Grolier Club. There is no evidence that Kent persuaded Miss Grannis to add her bit to the “Cardelius agitation.” She may have recognized the association between Cardelius and April 1 and decided, on her own, to join the fun. “Beverley Buncombe” was Edmund Lester Pearson, with whom Dana and Kent were, at the time, collaborating on what would become the year’s best-known bibliographic hoax, *The Old Librarian’s Almanack*.<sup>3</sup> Pearson was a librarian, then working near Black Mountain, N.C., and author of the weekly column, “The Librarian,” in the Boston *Evening Transcript*.

On July 8 *The Nation* printed the last of the Cardelius series, a letter from William E. A. Axon, a British journalist and scholar, the 6th edition of whose *Verses, Original and Translated* was issued in 1910, and who was once deputy chief librarian of the Manchester Free Libraries:

“The correspondence on what we may perhaps call the evolution of Cardelius . . . has been very amusing. Before the appearance of the illuminating letter of Mr. J.C. Dana I had been much puzzled by the quotation from the pseudo-Cardelius, for I was at the time occupied with a genuine fifteenth century poem in honor of the first printer. . . . In ancient times it was the function of poets to celebrate the heroic deeds and skilful achievements of those who contributed to the advancement and prosperity of the tribe or nation. . . . Where is the poem to celebrate the invention of printing? . . .

“The greatness of the invention was, however, not entirely without recognition. . . . The most elaborate attempt I have seen is in the verses subjoined by Hieronymus Bononius to his edition of the ‘Orthographia’ of Tortellius of Arezzo, sometimes called Jean Aretin, which was issued in 1477. . . . Bononius is known to me only as a name in the British Museum catalogue.”<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> For a description of this hoax, see “An Irrepressible Deceiver,” by Jane Durnell. *PMLA Quarterly*, 36, 17-23.

<sup>4</sup> A sample of text and a translation of the “thirteen couplets” of the original poem are printed after Axon’s letter.

The Dana papers do not reveal who was inspired to assemble and print the several Cardelius letters as one small pamphlet, nor why it was issued by The Printing Art, the University Press, Cambridge instead of by the Dana brothers' own Elm Tree Press in Woodstock, Vermont. Without the pamphlet, however, the letters of Ruth Granniss and Edmund Pearson probably would not be known; there is no copy among Pearson's papers now in the possession of his wife's niece in Alexandria, Virginia, and no separate copy of Miss Granniss's letter in the Dana collection. Indeed, it is possible that both letters were manufactured for the pamphlet, and never sent to *The Nation*.

Titled *Who Was Cardelius?* the pamphlet contains a reduced facsimile of "This Our Noble Art," and a "Note of Explanation" written by Dana in Newark on December 1, 1909, which ends, "It has been regarded as well worth while to bring all of this matter together in pamphlet form . . . in the hopes that it will be an acceptable memento."

Two Cardelius manuscripts now in the Dana Collection, Newark Public Library, were never published. One is an undated and unsigned poem which touches briefly upon the mystery of Cardelius's origin and ends, "But there's a probability/One man might know—try J.C.D." It bears the stamp of the Dana Collection, Newark Museum, so it may once have been part of their Dana papers. The second illustrates the glee with which Dana and his friends greeted their successful hoax. It, too, is undated, a letter to Dana signed "Karl Harmon," reversing Virgin's previous pseudonym, stuffed with bibliographic allusions.

Cardelius was not an isolated incident. Usually centered near John Cotton Dana, but wider than Newark or the profession of librarianship, was a group of men so sure of the worth of themselves and their professions that they could thumb their noses at both. Most of them were learned men, unashamed to practice scholarship for its own sake. But when they played jokes, they were no back-room sniggerers. They advertised. They invited public inspection. They slipped the word to the press.

No doubt Dana saw to it that the press heard about a joke that was developing rather well in the Spring of 1903. In April, Dana had sent a survey form and a cover letter to a number of friends. The letter read in part, "ON ESCAPING FROM INDIANS. I wish to compile a Hand-book of Method on this subject. Can you help me by sending me brief notes descriptive of your favorite method of Escaping from Indians and of Escaping Capture by them when in danger thereof?"

On May 26, 1903, the Newark *Evening News* published an account of Dana's survey. After describing the survey blank and speculating on Dana's purpose in collecting such information, the article quotes him, ". . . When I was a boy I had lots of fun 'playing Indian,' and I don't doubt that my friends enjoyed themselves in the same way. I devoured good Indian stories and planned, as many others have planned before and since, just how I would elude the wily savages. My circular is simply to get views on this interesting subject. I am getting views all right. That some of them reflect on my mental condition doesn't worry me. I am having plenty of fun, I can tell you. As to the 'Handbook,' I may speak more definitely when my replies are all in."

Dana's reference to his boyhood reading lends some purpose to the fun. Many public librarians at that time believed they were missionaries to convert their pat-

rons' reading tastes from fiction to "higher" quality. Other librarians, chief among them John Cotton Dana and Edmund Lester Pearson, frequently and loudly denounced such efforts as snobbish, unnecessary, and unworkable. Both men chose ridicule and jokes, as well as serious discussion to make their point. The Indian escape survey may have been a form of Dana's protest against uplifting librarians.

Another Dana manuscript, however, suggests a different purpose. On June 13, 1903, Dana circulated a letter, surely to friendly librarians only, written entirely in Latin.<sup>5</sup> It reads in part, in translation:

"Rumor is that at Niagara there are many American Indians . . . about to begin war with all zeal. My faithful scout, Melvin Dewey [Melvilus Rorulentus] . . . has written to me that not only full-grown bucks, but even babes in cradles, are about to hunt scalps with vigor. Therefore, I, John Cotton Dana, an expert in all military matters, and especially in war with the redskin, urge and solicit all librarians, male and female, to bring a sufficiency of implements of war to Niagara with you. Let not the thundering waters of the Niagara suffice to drown our wails, should these devilish aborigines remove the scalps from the friendly librarians. Aromatic spirits of ammonia, the pure spirit of grain, perked-up ears, open eyes, six-shooters, and especially false wigs are called for. . . .

"I have written in the Latin tongue . . . first, because that is the language of the learned; second, because my scouts say that the red inhabitants of the forests have often intercepted our mail."

The allusions, thinly disguised, are to the American Library Association meeting in Niagara Falls at which Dana would talk on Fiction in Public Libraries and would serve on a panel to discuss current children's books. Edmund Pearson in his column frequently attacked the inanity of children's literature of the time. He called misguided, at best, the efforts of children's librarians, almost invariably young women, to form character through denying to children any reading but puerile moral tales. Dana supported this view, and may have been marshalling support through his Latin call to arms.

Directed toward similar ends was a more elaborate vehicle, Vol. 1, No. 1 of *The Men of Letters*, handsomely printed by the Elm Tree Press in May 1913. On the cover is the coat of arms of an organization also called The Men of Letters. Edmund Pearson described the device in his June 25, 1913, "The Librarian" column: "Dexter, a bag of pirate gold, Or, surmounting a Buccaneer's Head with a dagger in his teeth. Sable Sinister, a thumb mark, Gules, on a flint-lock pistol. Argent: the whole surmounting a shattered wreck. Vert. Supporters: Dead Eye Dick, bearing pistol and cutlass: and Tarantula Ike, bearing two six-shooters. Crest: A Detective Novel, rampant. Motto: Read What You Like."

According to the magazine's "Historical Note," John Silver, who preferred not to identify himself further,<sup>6</sup> wrote to the "In the Air" department of the Newark *Evening News* on May 8, 1913, describing The Newark Men of Letters.

"It has no constitution, by-laws, fees, or dues, unless duties are dues.

<sup>5</sup> I am grateful to Prof. Bennett Pascal, Department of Classics, University of Oregon, for the translation from the Latin which follows. According to Dr. Pascal, "Dana's Latin is terrible, so bad, in fact, that I'd be willing to bet he knows better."

<sup>6</sup> Probably Leonard H. Robbins, who conducted the column.

Every member is an office-holder and bears a title. Duties consist of:

1. Reading as many interesting novels per year as possible.
2. Disclosing to other members the names of the interesting novels which any member discovers."

The members adopted *Treasure Island* as "the model of all novels," and the John Silver letter names other novels as the standards for subcategories like Sea adventures, Bloodless adventure, Glorious impossibilities, The accursed jewel.

Each member was assigned the name of a character from popular fiction. Dana was The Devil's Admiral. Wayland E. Stearns, principal of Newark's Barringer High School, was Captain of the Pirate Crew. L.H.R. (Leonard H. Robbins) who wrote the "In the Air" column for the Newark *Evening News* from 1901-1917, was Sherlock Holmes. Louis Wisa, staff artist for the same paper, was admitted as Aramis the Musketeer for designing the coat of arms. Edward Ward, president of Aaron Ward and Sons, a grocery and fine foods store chain in Newark, was Robinson Crusoe. A letter from Pearson in the Dana Collection applies for his admittance as Injun Joe, "or (in case that title should be pre-empted) Professor Moriarty."

Part of the last page of *The Men of Letters* may record some fact, but is more likely pure invention:

"Mr. J. Wilmer Kennedy<sup>7</sup> was refused admission as the whole Swiss Family Robinson, his first choice; but was welcomed, under a compromise, as Robin Hood. Mr. Hamilton Wright Mabie has cabled from Japan, so the secretary reports, for the title of Ivanhoe. Unless it is shown that he has in hand some fell design for the promotion of serious and vital reading among the members, he will be admitted without question. Point d'Escrime was charged with trifling with an improving book; he showed that it was merely *The Adventures of Pantagruel* and was found not guilty. Mr. F.F. Browne of Chicago<sup>8</sup> is reported to be much disturbed for two reasons: 1. John Silver did not send his letter first to the Dial. 2. He, Mr. Browne, was not admitted as Henry Esmond instantly on application. He now is. The secretary reports that the delay was due to a row in the Council over the status of Henry Esmond;—is he an adventurous hero or a mere literary creation?

The members greeted *The Men of Letters* with approval. Several requested extra copies; Dana wrote to Robbins on May 27, 1913, in reply to one such request: "The Men of Letters' is O.K. except that I made a mistake French [*sic*] and what is worse I made a joke about Browne of Chicago, who died a short time ago. In my absence in Vermont I did not hear of this. If I ever bring this out again you can leave that out. He is the man who pointed the finger of scorn at me because I found fault with certain literary junk."

Dana, Pearson, and a few other librarians were affiliated with another organization whose membership adopted bibliographic patronymics. But "The Bibliosmiles," founded during midnight conviviality at the American Library Associa-

<sup>7</sup> Kennedy was Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Newark. I am indebted to Ms. Paula Lichtenberg, Senior Reference Librarian, New Jersey Reference Division, Newark Public Library, for several identifications, and unflinching help in other respects.

<sup>8</sup> Francis Fisher Browne was editor of *The Dial*; he died May 11, 1913.

tion Conference in Asheville, N.C., in 1907, mocked a different library tradition, the solemnity of library conferences. Several times in his columns Pearson advised librarians to shun scheduled meetings at an approaching ALA conference and to substitute more healthful activities like swimming, dancing, walking, sight-seeing, or, if age precluded those, sitting on the hotel verandah with a cool, minty drink at hand.

Mr. Dana concurred. In the scrapbook kept by Pearson during the production and after the publication of *The Old Librarian's Almanack*, is a letter from Dana dated July 31, 1909:

"One of our Trustees was at Bretton Woods with two of my assistants and me. We were joined by Mr. Winship of the John Carter Brown Library and by careful attention to serious matters and a studied abstention from the Association's hilarious meetings, we managed to have a most delightful time. I wish you could have been there. You would have climbed Mt. Pleasant and other less important knolls.

"Lummis was not there and not a word was said about Bibliosmiles. Perhaps the others waited for me; but to tell the truth, I went with the intention of keeping quiet, and I saw comparatively few people and discussed library matters but little. When I got back I started to write a paper on the conduct of conventions, but gave it up in despair. There is too much to be said."

Charles Lummis was then the interesting and improbable librarian of the Los Angeles Public Library. Margaret Bingham Stillwell describes him as "an man who . . . was knighted by the King of Spain for his research in Spanish-American history and who was an outstanding scholar of Indian lore." She adds a passage about her meeting Lummis at the 1906 American Library Association conference at Narragansett Pier, R.I.:

"His costume, in which he seemed to take inordinate pride, consisted of green corduroy trousers and jacket. His soft white shirt and trousers were held in place by a bright red sash. Fringe adorned the trousers at the side and the sleeves of his jacket from elbow to wrist. The opal adorned his buttonhole. His hair hung to his shoulders. He carried a large felt sombrero crushed under his arm.

"He had had this costume made for the convention. All Yankees, he said, thought of Westerners as wild and woolly. He only wore this Buffalo Bill costume to keep the fiction alive. In other words, he did it to oblige. Then he showed me a photograph of some nice-looking men in business suits, himself among them. That was the way Westerners really looked today, he said; and he chuckled with delight. The picture, he added, was of the librarians of California, a group he had organized under the title, *A Society of Librarians who are Nevertheless Human*. They met two or three times a year and apparently gave themselves a grand good time. I have to confess it is from the Society, founded by this extraordinary man, that I derived the title of this book—even though, if the truth be known, he was a bit too human for my taste."<sup>9</sup>

<sup>9</sup> Margaret B. Stillwell, *Librarians Are Human* (Boston, 1973), 13-15. Miss Stillwell confuses the name of The Bibliosmiles with one of the statements on the seal of the organization.

Lummis corresponded with his "fellow Bibs" on what must have been official stationery. A circular seal in the upper left corner of the sheet was inscribed: "The Bibliosmiles. Homo Sum and *Then* Some. Founded 1907." The circumference carries the identification, "A Rally of Librarians Who Are Nevertheless Human." Underlined for emphasis on the upper right of the stationery is a statement of the society's purpose: "To Keep the Book-dust off our own Top Shelves."

A letter from Lummis to Dana, May 26, 1911, provides more detail:

"We missed you! It was a Miss as bad as 3,000 miles—and even deeper than it was wide. It was so beggarly a showing, in numbers, that we could hardly crack a Bib grin. Only that Daddy Greene and Glad Hand Daniels, and Dear Old Dud, and Leupp, and Gillis, and Purd Wright, came to the assistance of Grim Reality. And they didn't assist as early and as often as they should in order to make up somewhat, for the absence of the rest. We elected two new Mirthfuls: namely, Frank P. Hill, who is henceforward and forever 'Sunny Jim,' and Bertha Lummis, who is 'Editio Princeps.' You will instantly hold up your right hand and ratify these elections, under penalty of immediate excommunication.

"There were other candidates, but no others were crucified. There will be time enough to send around a nominating ballot to be graced by your autograph."

The letter refers to four founders of the organization in addition to Grim Reality, who was Lummis himself. Samuel S. Green (Superintendent of Edification) was librarian of the Worcester (Mass.) Free Library, and one of the seven incorporators of the American Library Association. In 1911 Joseph Francis Daniels (Glad Hand) was librarian of the Riverside (Calif.) Library. "Dear Old" Charles R. Dudley (Chief Troubadour) headed the Denver Public Library. Harold L. Leupp (Contagious Mirth) was then associate librarian at the University of California. Not present at the founding dinner, but elected as a charter member nevertheless, was Purd B. Wright (Inextinguishable Laughter) librarian of the Kansas City Public Library. "Gillis" was probably James Louis Gillis, State Librarian of California. He was not a charter member, but a handwritten notation on a copy of the minutes of the first meeting suggests that his name was proposed for membership then or shortly thereafter. Frank P. Hill, librarian of the Brooklyn Public Library, had preceded Dana at Newark; Bertha was Lummis's first child. A letter from Lummis to Dana, July 28, 1912, addresses him a "Most Worthy-Grand Ha-Ha."

Although Pearson occasionally mentioned The Bibliosmiles in his newspaper column, the references were usually rather cryptic. Of all the literary and bibliographic hoaxes and elaborate practical jokes devised by Dana and his booky friends, The Bibliosmiles attracted the least public attention, perhaps because it was too parochial, a bit too precious for wide appreciation.

JANE DURNELL

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Edwin R. Bingham says that Lummis was decorated, not dubbed, by the King of Spain, and that green corduroy and red sash was normal attire. Edwin R. Bingham, *Charles F. Lummis* (San Marino, Ca., 1955), 16, 100-101.