

## GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

### BOOKS

BOOK funds continue to be the most important means by which the Library secures high priority items. Two early English imprints which were recently acquired through the fund provided by Mr. and Mrs. Curlett H. Wilhelm are *The Chronicles of England* (St. Alban's Chronicles), a 1502 edition printed at London by Wynkyn de Worde (STC 9997), and *The Works of Geffray Chaucer*, London, ca.1545 (STC 5074). The Joseph S. Frelinghuysen Fund has made possible the acquisition of *A Journal of the Life, Gospel Labours, and Christian Experience of that Faithful Minister of Jesus Christ John Woolman*, a Dublin imprint of 1776 (Sabin 105202). Two sixteenth-century religious works: *Psalmorum Davidis paraphasis poetica*, Paris, 1566, and *Pseavmes Octantetrois de David*, Geneva, 1551, were acquired by means of the funds of Mrs. James Van Deventer and James W. Mailer respectively. Bound with the latter volume are two other Geneva imprints of 1552: *La Forme des Prieres Ecclesiastiques* (Reformed Church liturgy and ritual) and John Calvin's *Catechisme*. *The Chinese Speaker or Extracts from Works Written in Mandarin Language*, Ningpo, China, 1846, was purchased with money from the Silas Cook Fund.

A significant item included in a gift from the estate of Julia B. Williamson is a 1680 London edition of *The Book of Common Prayer* (Wing 3658). Frank Altschul, publisher of the Overbrook Press, has presented a copy of *The Overbrook Press Bibliography, 1934-1959* (1964), along with numerous books, pamphlets, broadsides and ephemeral items produced at the press. These supplement an earlier gift of Overbrook Press material also presented by Mr. Altschul. Children's books and other items have come from Mrs. Ruth Sloan. Henry W. Pilch gave *The Millennium* by David Austin, Elizabeth, N.J., 1794 (Evans 26594).

Other books were presented by Helmut von Erffa, Israel S. Stamm, John McCoy, Thomas A. Todd, John R. Andrews, Edward Nagy, Martin Picker, Juhan Simonson, William H. Cole,

Edward M. Donohue, Robert Mifflin Sentnan, Saul H. Mendlovitz, E. P. Bestelmeyer, Franklin F. Moore, and Edward Oster.

## MANUSCRIPTS

## Middlesex County Records

Over the years the Library has received a significant body of Middlesex County (N.J.) official records. Although several sources and methods of acquisition were involved, most of the material came directly from the office of the county clerk in two lots and as general deposits. The earlier of these consisted of twenty-three boxes of Treasurers' records including: bills, receipts, petitions, letters received, etc., of the sheriff and town officers, 1781-1898; commitments and jail accounts, *ca.*1786-*ca.*1860; draft minutes (scattered) of the Board of Justices and Freeholders, *ca.*1785-*ca.*1860; papers relating to the "Election for fixing the place for building a courthouse and Goal, 1793"; accounts of tavern licenses, etc., 1795-1866; building accounts for a jail, 1796-97, 1848-49; building accounts for a courthouse, 1794-1801, 1838; abstracts of ratables, 1831-32; county collectors' bonds, 1828-52; county collectors' accounts, 1839-54; coroners' inquests: proceeding, documents, etc., *ca.*1850-*ca.*1880; lunatics and insane records, *ca.*1845-*ca.*1870; Civil War certificates of substitutes, 1861-65; Civil War enlistment bounties, 1861-65.

Another large deposit, received within the past year, consists of sixty-one separate volumes relating to the following: marriages, 1795-1928; public road surveys, 1705-1828; conveyances, recorded, 1714-22; official oaths, 1779-1831; sheriff's bonds, 1807-1929; slave births, 1804-44; slave manumissions, 1800-25; minutes of the Court of Common Pleas, 1683-1736, 1755-71, 1783-93, 1798, 1802-61; judgments of the Court of Common Pleas, 1799-1858; minutes of the Court of General Quarter Sessions, 1683-1736, 1755-71, 1783-93, 1798, 1802-71; minutes of the Court of Oyer and Terminer, 1799, 1805-35, 1842-69; Circuit Court minutes, 1799, 1805-26, 1838-57, and Circuit Court judgments, 1838-55, 1858-61.

Other Middlesex County records which were acquired as gifts and by purchase include: tax collectors' accounts, 1782-1824; petitions before the Court of Common Pleas, 1795-1824; petitions be-

fore the Court of Quarter Sessions, 1781-82; miscellaneous court papers and township and municipal election returns, *ca.*1802 (1860-95) 1912.

Additional Spencer Brodney papers have been received in a gift from Mr. Brodney, formerly editor of *Current History* (1931-36, 1941-43) and *Events* (1937-41). The new materials which relate to the publication of the two journals include correspondence, chiefly of contributors, editorial memoranda, drafts of articles, financial statements, etc. The papers of Albert M. Bradshaw, businessman (real estate and insurance) of Lakewood, N.J., have come from Arthur R. Smock, Jr., '42. They include general store accounts, 1874-76; business letterbook, 1866-77; fire insurance records, 1868-75; scrapbook of clippings, pictures, etc., relating to sites and celebrities of Lakewood, *ca.*1890-1920; Lakewood Hotel and Land Association papers, 1890-1912; Forest Hotel Company papers, 1906; photographs of the Lakewood region, *ca.*1920; Lakewood Library Association records, 1869-96. Records of the Bergenfield (N.J.) South Presbyterian Church, formerly the Schraalenburgh Reformed Dutch Church, were presented as a permanent loan through Adrian C. Leiby. Totalling approximately two hundred separate items, the papers, which cover the years 1725-1900 and relate in part to the Reformed Dutch Church of Hackensack, N.J., consist of letters, memoranda, oaths, consistory minutes (frags.), financial statements, petitions, bills, receipts, deeds, etc. From Dun and Bradstreet of New York, through Mr. Glenn L. Johnson, have come tax ratables for Montgomery Township, Somerset County, 1820-23, 1826-28, 1830; Hillsborough Township, Somerset County, 1834-35, and Delaware Township, Hunterdon County, 1874. Also received were Montgomery Township school committee minutes and reports, 1843-44, and Burlington and Hunterdon county deeds, 1717-86. Papers of Charles A. Hopkins of Elizabeth, N.J., chiefly Civil War materials, were presented by Mrs. J. Burke Wilkinson.

Other significant manuscripts were presented by Norman C. Wittwer, Henrietta Chittick, Margery E. Hill, Helen M. Wright, Craig Skillman, John B. Kaiser, Joseph L. Parkhurst, Mrs. W. Rudolph F. Stier, Mrs. Walter F. Sloan, and Tracy S. Voorhees.

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