GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

BY CLARK L. BECK, JR.

Rooks

It is pleasant to report that the Library has acquired another rare seventeenth-century New Jersey promotional tract. The work of one Beauchamp Plantagenet (pseudonym?), this 1648 London imprint is entitled A Description of the Province of New Albion. And a Direction for Adventurers with Small Stock to Get Two for One, and Good Land Freely.... Besides New Jersey, it concerns portions of Delaware, Pennsylvania, and Long Island. The Library now has eight of these seventeenth-century New Jersey publications, most of them being tracts designed to lure English settlers to the area. A further description of the 1648 New Albion pamphlet can be expected in a forthcoming issue of the Journal.

Shortly before retiring, former University President Mason W. Gross donated two volumes of sheet music to the Library. These are selections from the works of Baroque composer George Friedrich Händel, all printed in London and, although undated, apparently published at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

Other European imprints received include Paolo Sarpi, Dominio del Mar Adriatico e Sue Raggioni per il Jus Belli della Serenissima Republica di Venetia (Venice, 1685); A Serious Answer Paragraph by Paragraph to the Bishop of Salisbury's Speech in the House of Lords, upon the Bill against Occasional Conformity (London, 1704); The Life and Character of the Late Lord Chancellor Jefferys (London, 1725); George, Viscount of Tarbet, et al., The Laws and Acts Made in the First Parliament of Our Most High and Dread Sovereign James VII (Edinburgh, 1731); John Wesley, Catholick Spirit. A Sermon on 2 Kings X. 15. (Bristol, 1770); James Ramsay, Objections to the Abolition of the Slave Trade, with Answers (London, 1788); and William IV, Substance of the Speech of His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence in the House of Lords, on the Motion for the Recommitment of the Slave Trade Limitation Bill (London, 1799). An acquisition having both European and American interest is A Compleat Catalogue of All Books and Pamphlets Published for Ten Years Past; with Their Prices, and References to their Characters in the Monthly Review (London, 1760). The title-page of this pamphlet bears the signature of Thomas Bradbury Chandler, the well-known Anglican minister and able defender of the Loyalist cause in the years preceding the American Revolution.

Among the American imprints acquired recently are John Willison, The Mother's Catechism (New Brunswick, 1788); Peter Studdiford, A Funeral Sermon, on the Death of the Rev. Jacob R. Hardenbergh (New Brunswick, 1791); and John Bunyan, The Jerusalem Sinner Saved (Philadelphia, 1805) and Come and Welcome to Jesus Christ (New York, 1812).

Manuscripts

The insecurity engendered by today's social, political, and economic tensions has assigned crucial importance to the question of higher education. In New Jersey this question has been a controversial one also, since the state's per capita output for education lags far behind that of states with comparable wealth and population. It was this inadequate funding, together with a recognized need for educational reform, that prompted a group of distinguished educators, business and political leaders to meet in 1965 at the home of Princeton's President Robert F. Goheen. The meeting resulted in the formation of a Citizens' Committee for Higher Education in New Jersey.

Recently, the Committee's records were deposited at the Library through the efforts of Rutgers Trustee Tracy S. Voorhees '11, an influential member of the Committee. The two-carton archival collection consists of correspondence, reports, clippings, histories of the Committee's work and the files of Committee chairman Robert F. Goheen and Tracy S. Voorhees so far as relevant. Although covering the period from 1962 to 1971, the records date primarily from 1965 and 1966.