

Analysis and Valuation OF THE BANCROFT LIBRARY.

Estimation of
Literary men
and Scholars.

Respecting Mr. Bancroft's Pacific Library as a store-house of historic data, pertaining to this broad and new western land, but one opinion has been expressed during the sixteen years that the existence of such an institution has been known to the world. Of his historic and literary enterprise as a whole, of his labors and methods and results, various views have been taken; but in all that has been said or written, at home and abroad, by friend or foe, by admirers, indifferent observers, conservative critics, or hypercritical fault-finders, there has been entire unanimity of praise of the Library as a collection, and of its owner as a collector of material. Disinterested and impartial visitors, after a personal inspection, have invariably shown a degree of admiration far exceeding that of the warmest friends who knew the Library only from description; and the praise of those supposably influenced to some extent by local enthusiasm and provincial pride, has never equalled that of prominent scholars from the East and Europe.

Bearing of this
material upon
the history of
this coast.

Its complete-
ness.

There is no American collection with which this can fairly be compared. There are larger and more costly private libraries; but this scope and plan put them beyond the possibility of comparison. The Bancroft Library is made up exclusively of printed and manuscript matter pertaining to the Pacific States, from Alaska to Panama. To say that it is superior to any other in its own field goes for little, because there are no others of magnitude; but nowhere in the world is there known a similar and comparable collection pertaining to any other broad territorial subject. And not only does this collection thus excel all others as a whole, but a like excellence is apparent for each of its parts. In it may be found for instance a better library of Mexican works, of Central American works, of Pacific United States works, than elsewhere exists. And to go still further, it may be said to contain a more perfect collection of material on Alaska, on New Mexico, on Yucatan, on Costa Rica, or on any other of the states than can be found outside its walls. Not only this, but in several cases, notably that of California, this Library is regarded as incomparably superior to any state collection existing, or that could at this date be formed in all the United States. The nearest possible approach, so far as completeness is concerned, would be in the case of some state where there is or has been very little material to collect, where nothing much has ever happened.

No other sec-
tion of the
world can
claim such
wealth of his-
toric mate-
rial.

There is no other state or country whose historic data have been so thoroughly collected at so early a period of its existence; especially none whose existence has been so varied and eventful, and its record so complicated and perishable. Mr. Bancroft has attempted, and successfully as is believed, to do for his country a work which in the ordinary course of events would have been left for a succession of historical societies and specialists to do, in later generations, when a large part of the material had been lost. Thus the resulting stores of data, besides their comparative paucity, would have been scattered, and not accessible as a whole to any single investigator. The advantage of having such historic treasures in one institution rather than in many, is almost as obvious as that of preventing the loss of valuable material. And it would be indeed a pity that the vantage ground thus gained by our state and our coast should be lost; that the data gleaned under such exceptional circumstances should be scattered again, to be reunited only in part with vast labor by coming generations.

California has a right to be proud of such a Library, and would be disgraced by its loss. It should properly remain at San Francisco, the coast metropolis. At Berkeley or Palo Alto it might still be regarded as a San Francisco institution. At Sacramento or Los

The most suitable places for it.

Angeles it would be none the less the pride of California. And as a Pacific States collection and the fullest upon Oregon and Colorado as on California, it might abide most appropriately at Portland or Denver. But it should at the least remain within the Pacific States, and should not be permitted to leave United States territory, notwithstanding its wealth of Mexican material.

Price \$250,000.

Especially should the Library become the property of some permanent institution. Said Mr. Charles Francis Adams, during a recent visit: "Mr. Bancroft has no right to these books; they are not safe in his hands, or in the hands of any individual. They are sure to fall under the auctioneer's hammer, if not in his time then in that of his son or his grandson." This view has often been expressed by Eastern and European visitors, and the truth has become more and more apparent to the owner. Yet, though the collection was formed mainly for a special object, now almost accomplished, the idea of parting with it has not been a welcome one. A recent disastrous fire, however, has made him fully realize, what he knew well enough before, that the Library cannot remain permanently a private or family possession. The same disaster has also destroyed any pleasing hope he may have entertained of being able by gift or bequest of dictating its future destination. He, therefore, offers it for sale at the price of \$250,000.

A just valuation.

In fixing this price he does not limit the figure to the amount it would probably fetch if catalogued and reasonably offered as a whole, or in parts, by auction, in New York or London. Neither on the other hand does he name a speculative price, or one corresponding in any degree with its real value to-day, to say nothing of its value fifty years hence. He names what he believes to be a fair and reasonable valuation from the standpoint of both buyer and seller. He is not able either to keep it permanently, or bestow it as a gift; he has no disposition to keep it until he can so manipulate the sale as to realize the highest possible figures without regard to the Library's ultimate destination. Neither is he so reduced financially as to see it greatly sacrificed. To have it sold purely as the merchandise of a dealer in old books to any Pacific Coast buyer, he would regard as a disgrace to himself, to his Library, and to California. If ever sacrificed in that way—he still being unable to burn it—it will be abroad.

Constant increase in value.

Its true value cannot be measured by money.

It is too early by many years for the real value of such a collection to be fully appreciated in California; but it is not too early for many individuals, even in this bustling community, to realize its future value and importance. In forming any proper estimate we must look both to the future and to the past. Suppose such a collection to have been made at a corresponding time in the history of Massachusetts, or New York, and ask what would be its value to-day. Californians do not lack faith in the grand future of their State; and there can be no possible reason to doubt the coming of the time when as much interest will be felt in the early annals of this far West as is now felt in those of the East. But consider also not only the fact that there is no such Eastern collection, but that there can be none. Can California afford to lose the advantage she has gained? Consider not only the impossibility of ever forming such another Pacific States collection, but the improbability of its ever being attempted on so large a scale. Consider not only the present and future value of the Library as it stands, but its value as a basis for future collecting, and we will soon arrive at the conclusion that its true value cannot be measured by money. With such a foundation, what superstructure may not be expected from the enthusiastic and well-directed efforts of coming years. If it can be comprehended, California has an opportunity that no other state can have, and that few of the commonwealths of the world would neglect if offered.

Number of volumes.

The Library contains about 40,000 volumes of printed and manuscript matter, or if all pamphlets, maps and plates are numbered separately, perhaps 50,000. It is not possible to do justice to its value by affixing prices to each lot in a catalogue. Large portions and the most precious find no even approximate standards of valuation in the world's book-markets. There are numberless unnoticed lots on the shelves which will figure as nuggets in future catalogues of varieties. The whole 40,000 volumes might be divided into

Relative value
in relation to
quantity.

100 or 200 classes, respecting which it might be truly said that the detached value of each lot is small compared with its value as part of the class; and again that the aggregate price of the class is as nothing to what it is worth as part of the grand whole. It is not proposed here to make such a classification, nor even to dwell on items of a general catalogue but merely to glance at the shelf classification of the Library as it stands, with a view of bringing somewhat more clearly into light the value of the different parts.

The cost of the Library, including traveling expenses, agents' salaries, etc., far exceeded the price asked. And this notwithstanding Mr. Bancroft's business connections with book firms in all parts of the world, by means of which connections he has been able to obtain books of certain large classes at more advantageous rates than most other collectors would have had to pay. Still, it may safely be said with regard to a large part of the collection, that the expenses attending collecting amount to more than the books themselves. Therefore, \$250,000 is in no wise a speculative valuation; nor anything like what would be a proper return from an investment of 25 years, even without including the expenditure of Mr. Bancroft's time and labor. Another unique feature connected with this collection, is that in Mr. Bancroft's published volumes is found a critical, bibliographical, and biographical notice of nearly every book and author. And in the last volume of his works, *Literary Industries*, is given a detailed account of his experiences in gathering these treasures, both in Europe and America, giving the places where many of them were obtained, and how he gained possession of them.

For what sum, it may be asked, could the Library be duplicated—that is, so far as it could be duplicated at all?

Cost of Dupli-
cation.

Obviously, no one is likely to be better situated for the task than Mr. Bancroft; and it is equally clear that other conditions will be less favorable in the coming than they have been in the past twenty-five years. Old books, with few exceptions, constantly increase in price as time passes, and the lots that could be bought for the same amount in the second gleaning would be comparatively few.

The cost of collecting would depend to a considerable extent on the time spent. In twenty-five years the cost would materially exceed Mr. Bancroft's expenditures, for in ten years—the shortest period in which anything could be done—the outlay might be easily doubled if the search were really pushed in earnest.

It cannot be
Duplicated.

But a vital defect, and a most discouraging feature in this project of re-collecting, is the obvious fact that of the manuscripts which are the most valuable of the Library, not one-eighth could be replaced in any form or at any cost. Moreover, this manuscript portion adds to the collection much more than its own detached value. And of the printed matter there is probably one-quarter, so far as value is concerned at least, that could never be found again; and there is much more that would hardly appear, except with the most extraordinary good luck, and after a search of many years.

From a financial point of view, the Library is of course worth more than its duplicate, even if a duplicate could be made.

Consider also the slight incentive for devoting time and money to the formation of a Pacific States collection, that could never rival the best, and the consequent improbability of such an attempt being made, unless the Bancroft Library should be scattered.

We may therefore conclude that no individual, or institution, would ever hesitate at a price of \$250,000 for the Library, with any sane idea of ever duplicating it.

Classes of Ma-
terial.

Let us now glance at the different classes of material and their comparative value.

1st. Working
Library \$60,-
000.

The volumes of the main collection, numbered consecutively from 1 to 15,300, fill nearly all the space in the 2nd floor working room, in 300 shelves, from each of which might be selected half-a-dozen or more volumes notable as rare, costly, standard, or curious books. They are printed in many languages, and treat of many topics, but all relate in some way to the Pacific States.

There are volumes that cost from \$40 to over \$100 each; very many cost from \$10 to \$20; some cost a dollar, or twenty-five cents, but worth ten times the amount. They

are arranged alphabetically, and not by subjects, on the shelves. There are some volumes and pamphlets that might be regarded each by itself as worthless, but even these in collected form have a positive value. By no means all the numbers represent single works, but often volumes of collected matter on various subjects.

Not one-tenth of these works could be found in any other California library, nor one-fifth in all other libraries of the State combined.

Analysis or specification seems a hopeless task; and not even a catalogue of several thousand representative books could do justice to the mass.

Some notable
works.

Here we have the Mexican historians from Alaman and Bustamante to Orozco y Berra and Zamacois; good and various editions and translations of the early chronicles like Bernal Diaz, Cavo, Clavigero, Cortès, Herrera, Las Casas, De Laet, Garcilasso de la Vega, Sortozano, and Solis; the standard voyagers in great numbers from Anson to Beechey, Cook to Drake, Lapèrouse to Meares, and Petit Thouars to Vancouver, with a hundred more of familiar names rarely found together. Then we notice voyage collections like those of Burney, Galvano, Harris, Navarrete, and the Hakluyt Society's publications; also hundreds of standard English, French, and German books of travel, history, and description pertaining to California, Oregon, and other Pacific United States; and other hundreds, chiefly in Spanish, and comparatively unknown, that treat of the republics of Mexico and Central America. Such books as *Morfas' Exploration* and *Ward's Mexico*, may here be found with Humboldt's voluminous and invaluable works. The *Recopilacion de Indias* heads a long list of old Spanish legal works; while Mexican law collections and government memoirs are still more numerous. The history of Mexico and Central America is represented not only by all the formal works of native and foreign authors, and by original documentary points, but by thousands of political pamphlets of recognized importance, and never to be found when wanted. A noticeable feature is the almost perfect collection of works printed in California, including the Hesperian and Hutchings' magazines and many other items of ever increasing variety, with similar collections for the other states. Then there are quaint old cosmographic folios, like those of Davity and Ogilvy, and the *West Indis Spieghel*—but we must stop somewhere.

Enough has been said to show that this class is a library in itself. From it a choice and large collection of rare books could be selected, but its highest value is in the completeness and symmetry of its sub-divisions on each distinct topic of the whole subject.

The collector who should approximately duplicate this class in twenty years for \$60,000 would do exceedingly well.

2nd. Reference
Bibliography,
\$1,000.

A second class includes about 350 volumes of separate books, not pertaining exclusively to the Pacific States. They are cyclopedias, some ancient, rare and costly; dictionaries, geographic and statistical works; also bibliographic material, including such items, as Brunet, Ternauz, Stevens, Backer and Labin, with hundreds of valuable catalogues. The price named is very low, because the lots could nearly all be replaced (though not for the money), and some of them would not be deemed necessary.

3rd. Rare
Books, \$15,000.

There are 315 volumes of so called rare books, including 145 volumes of American linguistics, a large part of them extremely scarce. This is a class of material that is increasingly in demand at ever growing prices, as is well known to all who have tried to purchase. One of the works is *Molina's Vocabulario* of 1571, long regarded as the first book printed in America.

The rest of this third class are the first and the rarest editions of the old standard chronicles of New World affairs, the veritable authorities for most parts of the conquest and early missionary progress. Among such works may be noted the famous ones of Torquemada, Peter Martyr, Oviedo, Gomaro, Acosta, and Herrera; the ecclesiastic chronicles of such writers as Medina, Mendieta, Gutierrez Dávila, Gonzalez Dávila, Dávila Padilla, Grijalva, Arricivita, Espinosa, Vetancur, and Villaseñor, many of which contain matter of great importance pertaining to regions as far north as California and New Mexico.

Nuggets.

Here are the provincial chroniclers like Burgoa for Oajaca, Cogalludo for Yucatan, Remesal for Guatemala, and Ribas for Sinaloa and Sonora. Here the works of Baegert, Sales, Venegas, and Clavigero on Lower California; and on Upper California, Palous *Noticias* and his life of Serra; also Cabrera Bueno's famous and rarely consulted treatise; and Villagr a's almost unknown and destined-to-be-famous epic on the conquest of New Mexico. The *Reales Ordenanzas* of 1603 is of extreme rarity; *Barcia's Historiadores Primitivos* a standard work; and here are to be found the earliest and best editions of Bernal Diaz and Solis on the conquest, also early editions of Cort s' letters.

There are several early 16th century books referring to America, notably *Enciso's Suma de Geograf a*; the famous atlases of Mercator and Ortelius; and deserving prominent mention, the well known but rare voyage collections of Grynaeas, Ramusio, Purchas, and Hukluyt.

Among 16th century American prints we have a splendid copy of Zum rraga's *Doctrina Christiana* of 1546, and the *Puga Cedulaario*, with others including several among the linguistics.

Exhibit California Books.

And finally the first products of the California press, which some day perhaps will be the costliest of all. Besides both editions of *Wiezbickis' California*, the first book printed in San Francisco, we have not only the *Reglamento* of 1839, the first book published in California, but a complete set of all the seven books printed here before the coming of the Americans. Of four out of the seven, in twenty-five years' search we have never seen duplicates. In still another volume are found hundreds of painted documents from the same press, a collection that it would be impossible to duplicate, since not one-quarter of the sheets exist even in the United States archives.

These eight volumes constitute, then, an almost perfect collection of all California printed matter before 1846. The time will come, and not very far in the future, when \$10,000 would be no price for this little lot alone.

These rare books have cost, that is such as have been bought in open market, from \$25 to \$400 per volume. Copies of many have since fetched more money than was paid by Mr. Bancroft; a few have gone for less. The price on an average is constantly increasing; yet, as the price of such works depends to some extent on the caprices of the world's book-buyers, and as these famous books are more easily found than many whose fame is to be in the future, we have put the valuation of this class somewhat below actual cost. Indeed, \$20,000 would be a low figure.

4th. Manuscripts \$115,000

California Manuscripts \$90,000.

Public Archives, \$10,000.

Mission Manuscripts, \$10,000

The manuscripts, about 1,200 volumes, constitute by far the most valuable part of the Library, since for the most part they exist nowhere else, and could never be replaced. Their importance can best be shown by a subdivision into several minor classes, as follows:

1st. California manuscripts, about 600 volumes, which must also be classified.

(a) Copies and extracts of archive documents from the U. S. Surveyor-General's office, and from the different county archives, seventy-five volumes. No comment is needed on the value of archive evidence as the very foundation of history. The price named is less than one-third of the actual cost to Mr. Bancroft of the work of copying alone. But the valuation is thus reduced, because the originals are for the most part accessible.

(b) Mission archives and other Mission manuscripts, sixty volumes. These documents are of no less fundamental importance for California history than the secular archives. A large part of this class is composed of copies and extracts, but the originals are more scattered, some of them being lost, and very much less accessible than those of class (a). There are, moreover, thousands of original documents existing only here, many of them going back to earliest periods of Mission annals; also several original volumes, including samples of the regular Mission Registers, an immense book of music for neophyte use, written in 1813 on home-make parchment, a *Libro de Patentes* in which all communications from Franciscan authorities were copied on receipt, a book of sermons in Basque, and many interesting fragments. An original document containing autobiographic

sketches and autographs of all the California padres in 1817 is a lot that some day may not be dear at the price affixed to this whole class. Judge Hayes' *Mission Book*, in two large volumes, filled with originals, copies, scraps and photographs, represents the patience and the labor of a pioneer collector for many years. Thus it will be seen that this class at the figure named is perhaps the cheapest in the whole list.

Private Archives, \$60,000.

(c) Over 60,000 original documents brought together in 100 bulky volumes from the private archives of native and pioneer families. These papers resist all attempts at brief analysis, but as a whole they are the most important class of all. For many events and periods they constitute practically the only existing record on all events and periods; they are an indispensable supplement to the public archives at every step. The most important and largest collections are those of Thos. O. Larkin and Mariano G. Vallejo, but it should be noted that the latter includes the papers of many native families besides those of the donor. About half of these family papers are really public documents, often of the greatest importance, that should be in the public archives, but are missing there; the other half are made up of personal correspondence on political, commercial, and other topics—often more important historically than official communications. There are but few of the 10,000 early Californians named in Mr. Bancroft's *Pioneer Register* whose autographs are not here to be found; and there is hardly a prominent official or citizen whose correspondence does not appear in considerable bulk. From this source alone might be written a tolerably complete history running back from 1876 almost to the beginning in 1769. No State in the Union has or can ever hope to have such a collection of original historic data. No attempt is here made to specify individual documents; such a catalogue would be almost endless. Hundreds of documents as the years pass will be found to have a significance now unsuspected; but enough is now known to justify the statement that within twenty years 1,000 separate papers or small topic collections might be selected without seriously impairing the general or apparent bulk or usefulness of the whole—each of which would not be regarded as dear at \$100. Indeed, the mass as now bound and arranged, solely by chronology and the donor's name, could not well be in worse condition if the aim were to show in clear light the present and prospective value of the items. The total price named is far from being excessive.

California Pioneer Dictations, \$5,000.

(d) About 200 dictations—or in some cases autographic statements of California pioneers and natives. Most of the prominent men of early times have been interviewed like many who were not prominent, and have talked from one day to one year on their recollections. Perhaps half of them are already dead; in ten years from now very few will be left. The aggregate value of their testimony is apparent without comment. This value is more than doubled when the testimony is used in connection with the original documents of the other classes, though its apparent value would be ten times as great if the contemporary documents did not exist at all. The valuation here put upon these dictations is less than half their cost, and may be regarded as much too low.

Miscellaneous California Manuscripts, \$5,000.

(e) Miscellaneous California manuscripts number about 130 volumes, including a vast amount of valuable matter, some of it practically identical in character with each of the other classes. Here we find a priceless original diary of the Donner Party; a bulky and precious volume of emigrant notes, containing all that Judge Hayes could glean in many years from pioneers, archives, and newspapers respecting Southern California, with hundreds of photographs of men and places—a volume that for a Los Angeles or southern historical society should be cheap at \$1,000; a voluminous set of San Francisco presidio records in Spanish times; a set of Thos. O. Larkin's day books and ledgers of 1839-47, containing running accounts with nearly every pioneer in Northern California and many in the South; a copy of Juan B. Anga's *Diario* of his expedition from Sonora to San Francisco in 1775-6; several original Spanish and pioneer diaries, Captain Cooper's Log of voyages up and down the coast in 1839-44; Larkin's immense folio consulate book, with copies of all correspondence with the authorities at Washington; a copy of the California Pioneer Society's manuscript collections; copies and extracts from unobtainable early

California newspapers; some bulky collections of pioneer dictations or memoirs; and several valuable scrap-books. This class like the preceding is really worth more than the price affixed.

Mexican and
Central Amer-
ican Manu-
scripts, \$20,-
000.

2d. Mexican and Central American manuscripts, about 350 volumes; very many of which are originals of the 16th and 17th centuries, and of the greatest value. Some volumes of early copies from originals no longer existing or accessible are of almost equal value. Very little of this material exists in any other form, and these manuscripts must be regarded as the original and fundamental sources for the history of important periods in the history of Spanish America. Nothing short of an extended catalogue could do even approximate justice to the wealth of this class. We may mention, however, the *Concilios Provinciales*, or the original records in five volumes of the first three councils of the Catholic Church in America in the 16th century—a collection that to the Church would be priceless; the various volumes of the Ramirez Library entitled *Ordenes de la Corona*, *Disturbios de Frailes*, *Papels Franciscanos*, *Papeles de Jesuitas*, *Maltratamientos de Indios*, etc.—a veritable mine of original information, containing hundreds of autograph orders of the kings of Spain, with original writings of ecclesiastical and secular dignitaries, and bearing on every page the marks of a most competent collector; the voluminous works of Carlos Maria Bastamante in autograph manuscript, some of them never published; special collections of the earliest documentary evidence on the history of the different provinces, including that of the north, as Texas, New Mexico, and Sonora. A pastoral letter of Bishop Zumárraga, dated 1536, bearing also the autograph, 'Yo la Reyna' of Doña Juana la Toca, mother of Charles V.; also the *Moralia* of Saint Gregory, beautifully written on parchment before the art of printing was invented; a fragmentary Aztec manuscript on the native maguey paper; some early 17th century diaries of Lower California explorations; the Squier collection on Central America; the Brantz Mayer collection on 18th century Mexican affairs; the Plácido Vega collection on Maximilian's rule; and the Pinart collection on Sonora.

The valuation of this class is far below the actual cost, and is probably less than the manuscripts would bring at auction in London. Of course these works would sell now, or for many years, at much nearer their value than would the California manuscripts, whose day of appreciation has not yet come.

Oregon, Wash-
ington, Brit-
ish Columbia,
and Alaska
Manuscripts.
\$5,000.

3d. Some 200 volumes of manuscripts, pertaining to the Pacific U. S. outside of California; here the old Spanish history with its corresponding wealth of documentary record is wanting, but there are important records from the old Hudson Bay Company archives in the north; and also a collection of invaluable Russian records on Alaska and the Ross Colony. Here pioneer reminiscences assume relatively greater importance than in California. Here also should be noted the net results of extensive researches by Elwood Evans on Oregon and Washington history; and some newly discovered diaries of the early voyages of Captain Gray, Kendrick, and the Winships in northern waters. This lot cost at least twice as much as it is put down for.

5th. Numbered
and Lettered
Sets, \$25,000.

About 10,000 volumes in bulky sets fill the 440 shelves of three sides of the lower room. Some of the sets may be mentioned as follows: The quarto and folio volumes of the rare *U. S. Exploring Expedition*; the *Nouvelles Annales des Voyages*; Lord Kingsborough's famous folios on Mexican Antiquities; Niles' Register, rich in Pacific Coast items, not likely to be found elsewhere; journals of the London Geographical Society; sets of the English and American Reviews and Magazines; Pinkerton's and other collections of voyages.

The *Gazetas* and *Diarios de Mexico*, very complete and rare sets of the official government journals for long periods; *Arrillagas Recopilacion de Leyes*; the *Cartas Edificantes*, *Lettres Edificantes* of the Jesuits; the *Collecion de Documentos* inéditos from the Spanish archives; folio collection of Spanish *Ordenes y Decretos*; the *Diarios* of the Cortes of Spain.

The *Papeles Varios* is a grand collection in 218 volumes of several thousand Mexican

pamphlets, formed by uniting the carefully made collections of half a dozen Mexican statesmen. Many of the pamphlets are of great value, and the aggregate importance of the mass can hardly be overestimated. In the same connection may be named 50 volumes of Mexican sermons of the 17th and 18th centuries.

The rear wall of the room is occupied by U. S. government documents in about 200 volumes, most of which contain valuable matter on the Western Country. Of somewhat similar nature are the State publications of California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and British Columbia, embracing legislative documents, journals and laws; also a set of many thousand records of cases in the California Supreme Court.

The Hayes' scrap-books are 130 volumes of carefully classified clippings from newspapers, largely pertaining to Southern California matters, but also including volumes on other states, as well as on special subjects as Indians and mines.

The Bancroft Library scraps are clippings from duplicate newspapers on topics of general interest, such as the Chinese Labor Question, Railroad Affairs, etc. They furnish material for many large volumes of useful matter.

A choice collection of Russian publications should not pass unnoticed; Almanacs and Directories here have their place; folio atlases and books of plates include Charnay's photographs and Waldeck's drawings of Central American ruins; and finally mention may be made of some 75 volumes of county and town histories.

This class could not be duplicated as a whole for much more than the price assigned.

There are from 400 to 500 files more or less complete of Pacific States newspapers, about 300,000 numbers, including many from Mexico, Central America and the Sandwich Islands. The collection includes various early California papers, especially complete or nearly complete sets of the *California Star*, the first paper published in San Francisco; the *Sacramento Daily Union*, and the *San Francisco Evening Bulletin*; also tolerably complete files of leading journals of every section. Of course it will be understood that these papers could never be replaced, not one-tenth of them. This class of material is bulky and unwieldy, but its value, not only for personal and local annals—for this has always been apparent—but for a study of social and institutional development, is becoming more and more fully understood each year by the world's scholars. No institution, having room to store their papers, could afford to lose them at twice the valuation indicated.

Of maps, the Library contains a very large number, covering the whole extent of Pacific States territory. They are ancient and modern, general and local, small and large, reserved in a suitable case of drawers. There are also many engravings hanging about the building; some of them of considerable value, as part of the collection.

There are probably two or three thousand volumes of duplicate books and manuscript—some of them rare and important—which can hardly be worth less than the sum indicated.

The card catalogue of abbreviated titles is complete, and for a large part of the books there are, besides, full titles copied on larger cards. The catalogue could not be made for twice the sum named; but for use in an institution, it would perhaps have to be copied sooner or later. There is also a catalogue in book form complete up to about 1875; and another of the letters A-L, in large convenient folio form nearly complete to date, so arranged that for years additions may be clearly entered.

This is a subject index made on a carefully considered plan of about half the books in the Library. If completed as planned it would very greatly increase the value of the collection. Or it might be completed on a reduced scale, and profitably blended alphabetically with the catalogue. The valuation given is less than one-fifth of the actual cost.

These are the notes from which Bancroft's Works were written. Properly classified and pasted in scrap-books, they would furnish a wonderfully complete index and résumé of all Pacific States historical matter in manuscript and print. Of course the valuation is not one-tenth of the actual cost.

6th.
Newspapers,
\$10,000.

7th. Maps,
\$3,000.

8th. Duplicates
\$2,000.

9th. Catalogue,
\$4,000.

10th. Card Index,
\$5,000.

11th. Manuscript Notes
and References,
\$10,000.

GENERAL RESUME.

1st Class.	Working Library, 15,300 vol.....	\$60,000
2d Class.	Reference and Bibliography, 350 vol.....	1,000
3d Class.	Rare Books and Linguistics, 315 vol.....	15,000
4th Class.	Manuscripts as follows:	
	a.—Pub. Arch. 75 vol.....	\$10,000
	b.—Miss. Arch. 60 vol.....	10,000
1 Cal. Mss. 565 vol.	c.—Private Arch. 100 vol..	60,000
	d.—Dictations, 200 vol.....	5,000
	e.—Miscell. 130 vol.....	5,000—\$90,000
	2 Mex. and Cent. Amer. Mss. 350 vol.....	20,000
	3 Oregon Mss. 200 vol.....	5,000
		—————\$115,000
5th Class.	Sets numbered and lettered, 10,000 vol.....	25,000
6th Class.	Newspapers, 4,000 vol.....	10,000
7th Class.	Maps and Engravings	3,000
8th Class.	Duplicates	2,000
9th Class.	Card Catalogue.....	4,000
10th Class.	Card Index.....	5,000
11th Class.	Mss. Notes and References.....	10,000
	Total.....	\$250,000

The cost and value of the above classes, as before remarked, would be more correctly indicated by twice or thrice the sums set opposite to them; and \$50,000 might very properly be added for expenses of collecting; hence the sum of \$250,000 for the entire collection is exceedingly low.

APPENDIX.

1895.

Eight years ago, at the request of the owner, Hubert H. Bancroft, a careful inspection was made of his historical library by literary men, librarians and book experts, and a valuation placed upon the same. All of the persons thus acting were disinterested, honorable men; among them were the librarians of all the public and other principal libraries in San Francisco, the California State librarian, the judges of the United States circuit and district courts, pastors of several of the churches, and leading members of the bar of literary taste and book-buying experience. The collection then numbered 43,000 volumes, and the valuation placed upon it by these gentlemen was \$250,000. Since then the number of volumes has been increased fully fifty per cent., which ratio of increase in valuation would make the amount \$375,000.

But this is not all. Nothing is allowed here for the expenses of gathering; only the actual cost of the books in the open market is considered. The expenses of collecting, transporting, housing, etc., has been no small item; in many instances these expenses have amounted to far more than the original cost of the books themselves; \$125,000 would not cover more than one-half of this expense, which would bring the cost of the collection up to \$500,000, which, indeed, was the value placed upon it two years ago, prior to the financial depression, librarians, college presidents, United States senators, and others solicitous for the lodgement of the collection in the Library of Congress at Washington.

Were it necessary, we might go further and speak of the natural and inevitable

increase in value of all collections of this kind, an increase far exceeding the rate of interest on money. All book collectors know how much more difficult it is to get together a collection of really valuable works on a given subject now than it was fifty years ago. There were then fewer public libraries where a book once finding lodgement remains, and is not sold and resold at intervals, as is the case with regard to libraries upon the death of the owner. State and national libraries never die, and these are constantly and forever withdrawing from the market every good book within reach. And this state of things will continue, and it will become more and more difficult to make up a fair collection of old standard historical works than ever before.

All this applies in a tenfold greater degree, when a large proportion of a collection consists of archives and manuscript works of which there is and never has been but a single copy. There are many hundreds of books in Mr. Bancroft's library which not only could not be duplicated at any price, but which have dropped out of existence, so far as any recollection of them by men now living is concerned, many hundreds of books of which it would be impossible to find another copy in the world, much less to buy with money.

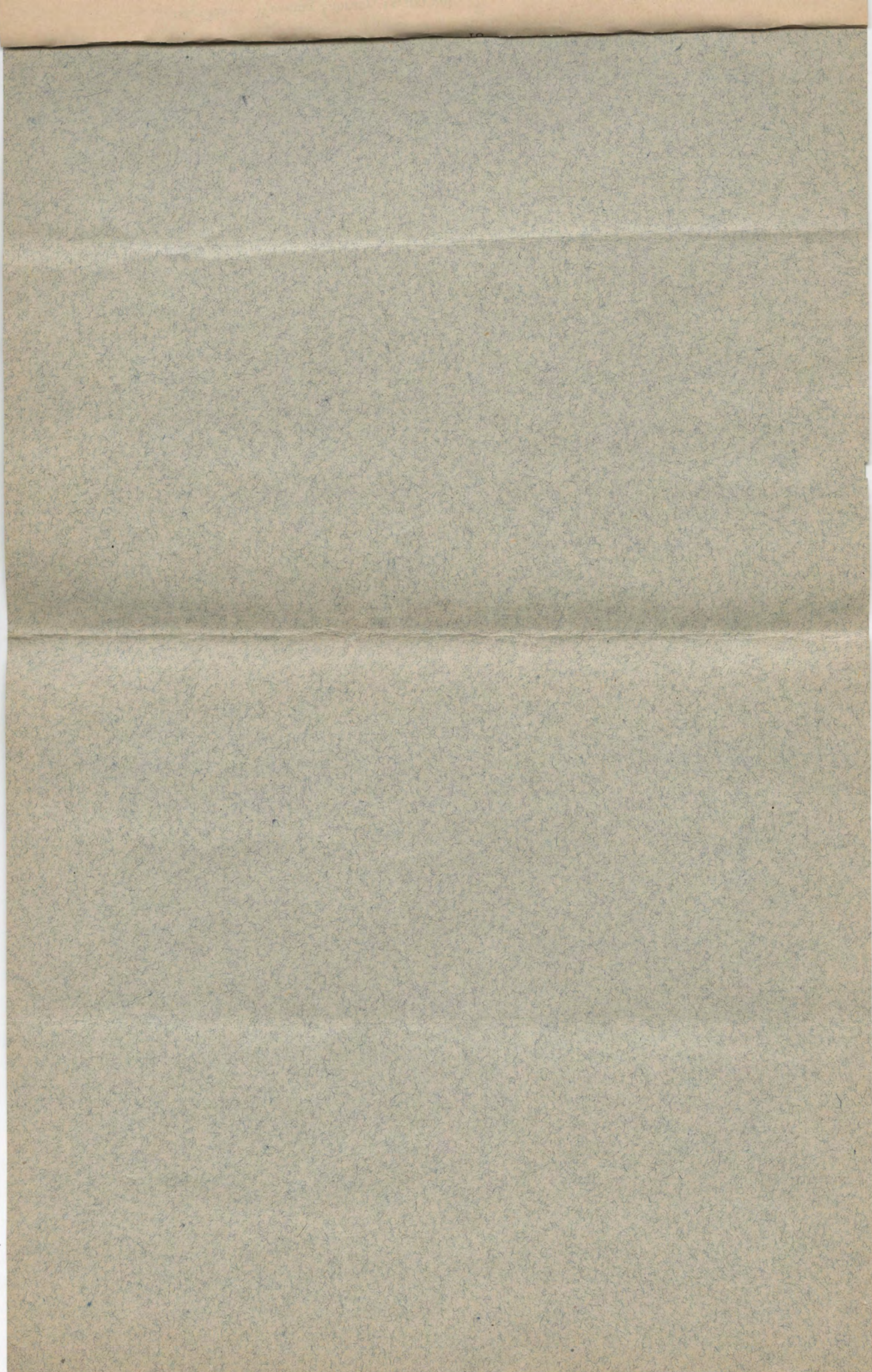
Here, then, are the leading characteristics which go to swell the value of this library beyond the power of mind to conceive or of money to measure.

First: It consists largely of original manuscript matter, of which never but one copy existed.

Second: Of the printed books of which there was originally more than one copy, many exist nowhere else, and many more could not be found, and such of them as could be found could not be purchased.

Third: The value of every book in a collection like this is increased by every addition to it. Add a thousand books on chemistry to a collection of a thousand books on the same subject, and the value of the whole is more than doubled. How much more is this the case when the subject is history, not science, and when the rearing of the structure has been by adding piece by piece for nearly half a century.

In a word, without further remark, here is a subject second to none whatever as affecting the destinies of mankind. Its interests are vital and will be perpetual over a wide area of that part of earth occupied by civilized man. This interest will grow as time passes by, and to estimate the value and importance of this library as time passes by, one has only to figure up what would now be worth such collections as the lost library of Alexandria. The price of the Bancroft Library would be low at five times the price asked for it.



Danvers
Library

Collection

Wm. H. Weston

D. = Bernard's library
has been Catalogued
and made ready for
sale, and we are anxious
to place it where
it will be of the
greatest value.

My father felt
that to a school
like the Chicago
Institute his
pedagogical books
would be invaluable
and at one time
Colonel Parker was

no date
Mr Jackson
as with
of this
D. = Bernard's library
has been Catalogued
and made ready for
sale, and we are anxious
to place it where
it will be of the
greatest value.
D. = William R. Harper

Dear Sir
Dr. Harris has
very kindly sent
me this letter of in-
troduction to you,
without which I
should hesitate to
ask a moment of
your valuable time.

much interested in
the matter.

Mr. C. W. Braden
has just sent me
his valuation of the
library, — and says
that "to a new library
which wants a broad
foundation in the
pedagogical department
these books would
be cheap at five
thousand dollars.

The fact that there are
so many presentations

copies would add to their value
to libraries. Some of the books
like Steele's 'New Dictionary of the
Art and of Dressing' if needed be
impossible to put a price on.
As it is doubtful if there is another
copy of this book in the country.
And there are others of equal value.
The best book collection is quite
unique, and the collection of
Prof. Laplace Pinney is one of

says "it could not
be duplicated for
that. And he considers
that the prices of
such books will go
up rather than down."

Colonel Parker has
the type written
catalogues of both
these collections.

I think Mr. ~~Baden~~
would be quite
willing to answer
any questions you

the largest, altho there
are more perfect
single copies. —

The teachers who have
looked over the
text books are most
enthusiastic, and
Dr. Barnard considers
them of great value
in the history of
Education.

The price placed
on this collection is
also five thousand
dollars, and Mr. ~~Baden~~

might care to ask
him on the subject.

I am
Very Sincerely Yours
Josephine E. Bernard

(Miss J. E. Bernard
118 Union St. —
Hartford Conn.

referred ~~to~~ ^{Dr. Harper} ~~to~~ ^{Dr.}
Bardene, in case
he wished to ask
any further particulars
on the subject. —

I wish the University
of Chicago might secure
the books, my father
always thought that
an ideal place for
them, in point of
usefulness. —

Mr. Bardene says that
"to a new library that
wants a broad foundation

Hartford —
March 1st 1902 —
118 Main Street

Dear Corbuel Parker —

I sent a letter to
Dr. Harper together
with a note of intro-
duction from Dr.
Wm. J. Harris on
the 14th of January.

As it I gave Mr.
Bardene's valuation
of the library, and

in a pedagogical department, these books would be cheap at five thousand dollars, and adds that if the books were bought separately they could not be picked up for twice that sum. This of course refers to the educational field. He values the text books at the same figure (five thousand) and thinks that the price of such books will go up rather than down.

I know for many thousands you have a far finer, and perhaps far better lot, but if you should have an opportunity to discuss the matter with Dr. Stupper when he is in the city.

Very sincerely yours—
Ralph W. Howard

are gratified by the
suggestion that a
joint memorial
should be made to
my Father and
Colonel Parker, and
under other cir-
cumstances it would
be a great pleasure
to us to present the
books for such a
purpose, but I am
sorry to say that it
is a matter of grave

Hartford
118 Main St. May 15 1902



D^r. William E. Harper

Dear D^r. Harper
In reply to your
letter of May 2nd
offering three thousand
dollars for D^r. Barnard's
General Library, I
am sorry to say that
I cannot accept your
proposition.
My sister and I

importance to as
to sell the library.
I consulted Colonel
Parker on the subject
and he wrote me
that he would be
satisfied with
Mr. Bardeen's valua-
tion of the books.

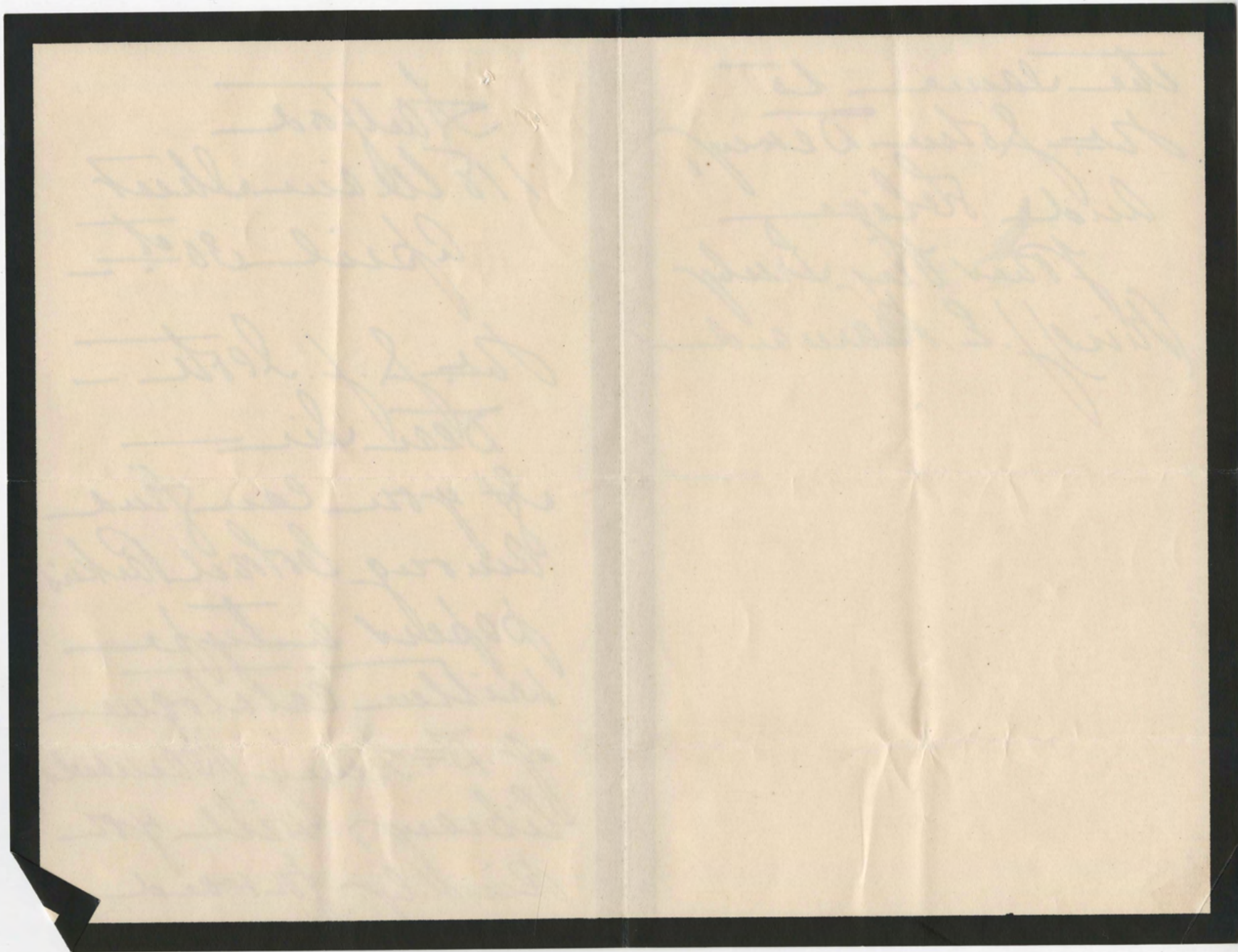
I have asked
Mr. Bardeen to
write directly to
you. —

I wish that you might find it
in your power to purchase the
books for the University. —

Very sincerely yours —
Stephen E. Mann and

the same to
Mr. John Dewey,
and Helge
Yours truly
Miss J. E. Barnard

Harford
118 Main Street
April 30th.
Mr. J. J. Scott -
Dear Sir -
If you can find
among Col. A. C. Parker's
papers a type-
written catalogue
of Dr. Henry Barnard's
library, will you
kindly forward



For a year before
my Father's death
Colonel Parker was
interested in securing
these books for the
Chicago Institute,
and later wrote me
requesting that the
library might be
catalogued, and
valued by a respon-
sible person. —

Mr. Bardeen of
Syracuse to whom

118 Main Street
Hartford, April 30th

Mr. John Dewey
Dear Sir —

Our friend Mr.
H. P. Monroe has
told me that he
has written you
concerning the pur-
chase of Dr. Howard's
library by the
Chicago University.

I was referred as
an authority in
such matters, has
done this. —

He places the value
of five thousand
dollars on the general
library, and says
"it would be impossi-
ble to pick up the
same books for twice
that sum."

The collection of text
books is quite unique.

and Dr. Barnard considered
it of incalculable value to the
teacher, enriching the
collection of the text, the
papers in method of teaching
&c. &c. This collection includes
about thirty best English Grammars.
and best Grammars valued if
also of five thousand at least
and valued that the value of the

I will ask Mr.
Scott to send it
to you.

In case it cannot
be found I will
send you another.

I enclose a letter
from Mrs. Blaine
to Professor Leason
of Cornell. —

Very sincerely yours
Josephine E. Bernard
Miss Bernard
118 Main St. Hartford

books will go up
rather than down.

Mr. Barden has
told me that he
will be glad to
answer any questions
on the subject.

His address is
406 Franklin St.
Syracuse.

A type written
catalogue was sent
to Colonel Parker
eighteen months ago.

Brother will be safe
within the hour
The children had
the use that he
will be glad to
business and property
to the subject
and will be
for the children
your care
The children
and property
to the subject
and property

I will not let
the children
The children
and property
to the subject
and property
The children
and property
to the subject
and property

The University of Chicago
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Office of the President

Miss Mitchell
Art Inst.

Pyman 7

Lila

Cent 7080

Four years ago Mr. C. W. Best loaned to the University a notable collection of autographs and autographed pictures of famous musicians some 35 in number which have been exhibited on the wall of Harper Memorial Library since that time. He has removed to Honolulu and is closing up his affairs in the United States. For these autographs and pictures and additional ones, constituting in all a collection of over one hundred he has received an offer from parties in New York. He would prefer to leave them in Chicago and is willing to sell the whole collection to the University for from \$1000 to \$1200.

These include a number of autographed photographs which include those of Mendelsohn, Beethoven, Wagner, Paganini, Clara Schumann and Robert Schumann, and Liszt.

302, - 2 - 1 - 6 - 6 - 6

The University of Chicago
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Office of the President

Cent 7080

Four years ago Mr. G. W. Best loaned to the University

a notable collection of autographs and autographed pictures

of famous musicians some 35 in number which have been exhibited

on the wall of Harper Memorial Library since that time. He

has removed to Honolulu and is closing up his affairs in the

United States. For these autographs and pictures and additional

ones, constituting in all a collection of over one hundred he

has received an offer from parties in New York. He would prefer

to leave them in Chicago and is willing to sell the whole col-

lection to the University for from \$1000 to \$1200.

These include a number of autographed photographs which

include those of Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Wagner, Paganini, Clara

Schumann and Robert Schumann, and Liszt.

200 - 5 - 1 - 2 - 5 - 2

Miss Whitwell
Oct 1904
Gymer W. 0
10

Li 1a

The University of Chicago

The University Libraries

221074

DMTS

September 29, 1923.

Dr. Burton,
President's Office.

My dear Dr. Burton:

Mr. Best called me on the telephone a few days ago and I told him what you had told me namely that we could not use our book funds for the purchase of autographs, but that you would be glad to make an effort to find a donor for them. This was perfectly agreeable to him and he says that as soon as he gets back to Honolulu (probably in November) he will send me the balance of the collection. After seeing it all we can take our time in making arrangements and advise him later regarding the results. He insists there is no hurry about it.

Very truly yours,

Edward A. Henry

Head of the Readers' Department.

EAH*LS

The University of Chicago

The University Libraries

September 22, 1923.

Dr. Burton,
President's Office.

My dear Dr. Burton:

Mr. Best called me on the telephone a few days ago and I told him what you had told me namely that we could not use our book funds for the purchase of autographs, but that you would be glad to make an effort to find a donor for them. This was perfectly agreeable to him and he says that as soon as he gets back to Honolulu (probably in November) he will send me the balance of the collection. After seeing it all we can take our time in making arrangements and whatever later regarding the results. He insists there is no hurry about it.

Very truly yours,

William A. Fisher
Head of the Research Department.

WAF:15

Li 1a

The University of Chicago
The University Libraries

February 16, 1924.

President Ernest D. Burton,
University of Chicago.

My dear Mr. President:

I have received a letter from Mr. C. W. Best, the owner of the autographs of
musicians now on exhibit in our center corridor. Herewith I hand you the list
which he sends me and which he says is incomplete. He has many others in addition
to these. He offers the entire collection to the University for \$1,000. with the
understanding that his name will be preserved in connection with it.

You may recall our conversation last December wondering if Mr. Butler, the donor
of the Butler-Gunsaulus letters, might be willing to finance this deal.

Very truly yours,

Edward A. Henry
Head of the Readers' Department.

EAH*LS

336250

Sent from PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

MAR 5 1924

to Mr. Wilkins

Upon return send to FILES

Received files MAR 8 1924
Sent from PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

MAR 10 1924

to Mr. Henry

Upon return send to FILES

Received files MAY 15 1924

The University of Chicago

The University Libraries

February 10, 1934

President Ernest D. Burton,
University of Chicago

My dear Mr. President:

I have received a letter from Mr. C. W. Best, the owner of the autographs of
mustard now on exhibit in our center corridor. Herewith I hand you the list
which he sends me and which he says is incomplete. He has many others in addition
to these. He offers a partial collection to the University for \$1,000 with the
understanding that his name will be preserved in connection with it.
You may recall our conversation last December regarding it. Butler, the donor
of the Butler-Gonzales letters, might be willing to finance this deal.

Very truly yours,

Head of the Records

241-12

Lila

The University of Chicago

The University Libraries

May 14, 1924.

Memorandum to President Burton:

Some months ago you may remember I wrote you that I had received a letter from Mr. C.W. Best offering his entire collection of autographs to the University for \$1,000. This collection consists of something over one hundred and sixty autographs, about two-thirds of which are autographs of musicians including such famous names as Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Brahms, Gounod, Rubinstein, etc. The remaining one-third of the collection is made up of autographs of authors, mostly American, and a few others such as Booker T. Washington, Woodrow Wilson, Theodore Roosevelt, Andrew Carnegie, etc. You referred my original letter to Mr. Wilkins who seemed uninterested unless the letters contained biographical material. I talked with Mr. Boynton and some others of the literature men and found the same feeling with the added comment that we needed all of our available money for the purchase of either material needed directly for class use or of research value. Later I wrote Mr. R.W. Stevens. He made a special trip to the library, and, finding me out, talked with Mr. Hanson. He is very enthusiastic about the matter, and urges that the collection be secured for the University Library. He has been familiar with the collection for many years and considers it invaluable to a possible future department of music.

I have glanced over the auction sales catalogues under a few of the names and find that autographs are quoted as follows:

Beethoven	\$50
Wagner	\$15 to \$20
Mendelssohn	\$10
Jennie Lind	\$11
Oliver Wendell Holmes	\$25
William Cullen Bryant	\$20
Charles Dickens	\$50 to \$250
Sir Walter Scott	\$15 to \$50
Ralph W. Emerson	\$20

May 14, 1934

Memorandum to President Burton:

Some months ago you may remember I wrote you that I had received a letter from Mr. C.W. Best offering his entire collection of autographs to the University for \$1,000. This collection consists of something over one hundred and sixty autographs, about two-thirds of which are autographs of musicians including such famous names as Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Brahms, Gounod, Rubinstein, etc. The remaining one-third of the collection is made up of autographs of authors, mostly American, and a few others such as Booker T. Washington, Woodrow Wilson, Theodore Roosevelt, Andrew Carnegie, etc. You referred my original letter to Mr. Wilkins who seemed uninterested unless the letters contained biographical material. I talked with Mr. Boynton and some others of the literature men and found the same feeling with the added comment that we needed all of our available money for the purchase of other material needed directly for class use or of research value. Later I wrote Mr. R.W. Stevens. He made a special trip to the library, and, finding me out, talked with Mr. Hanson. He is very enthusiastic about the matter, and urges that the collection be secured for the University library. He has been familiar with the collection for many years and considers it invaluable to a possible future department of music.

I have glanced over the auction sales catalogue under a few of the names and find that autographs are quoted as follows:

Beethoven	\$20
Wagner	\$15 to \$20
Mendelssohn	\$10
Jennie Lind	\$11
Oliver Wendell Holmes	\$25
William Cullen Bryant	\$20
Charles Dickens	\$20 to \$30
Sir Walter Scott	\$15 to \$20
Ralph W. Emerson	\$20

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

\$50 to \$75

These, of course, are only a few of the many represented in the collection but they serve to indicate that the price of \$1,000 for the whole collection is very reasonable.

I am still wondering if we might not persuade Mr. Butler, the donor of the Butler - Gunsaulus collection to purchase this collection as an addition to the other one. Of course I would not for the world urge calling upon him for a comparatively small gift if that might inhibit an approach to him later in your finance campaign. He is Mr. Edward B. Butler, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Butler Brothers. His residence seems to be in Winnetka.

I am still very anxious to secure these materials because of their value for exhibit purposes, a matter in which few of our faculty are interested, but which I feel helps materially to vivify things in the minds of the students. It just occurs to me to wonder if there might be any possibility of the Gunsaulus family financing this matter, as it was through Dr. Gunsaulus that the collection originally came to us.

Very truly yours,

Edward A. Henry
Head of the Readers' Department.

EAH*LS

Henry Wedgworth Longfellow

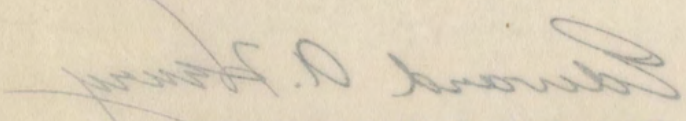
\$50 to \$75

These, of course, are only a few of the many represented in the collection but they serve to indicate that the price of \$1,000 for the whole collection is very reasonable.

I am still wondering if we might not persuade Mr. Butler, the donor of the Butler - Gussalus collection to purchase this collection as an addition to the other one. Of course I would not for the world urge calling upon him for a comparatively small gift if that might inhibit an approach to him later in your finance campaign. He is Mr. Edward B. Butler, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Butler Brothers. His residence seems to be in Winnetka.

I am still very anxious to secure these materials because of their value for exhibit purposes, a matter in which few of our faculty are interested, but which I feel helps materially to vivify things in the minds of the students. It just occurs to me to wonder if there might be any possibility of the Gussalus family financing this matter, as it was through Dr. Gussalus that the collection originally came to us.

Very truly yours,


Head of the Readers' Department.

EHB:IS

P.S.

It should be explained that some of these volumes are portions only of the Holy Scriptures, as Psalms, Gospels, etc.

Hopkins

32 Germania Bank Building, St Paul, July 22 1892.

The Rev. President Harper,

CHICAGO UNIVERSITY.

*Casa
Mila*

Dear Sir,

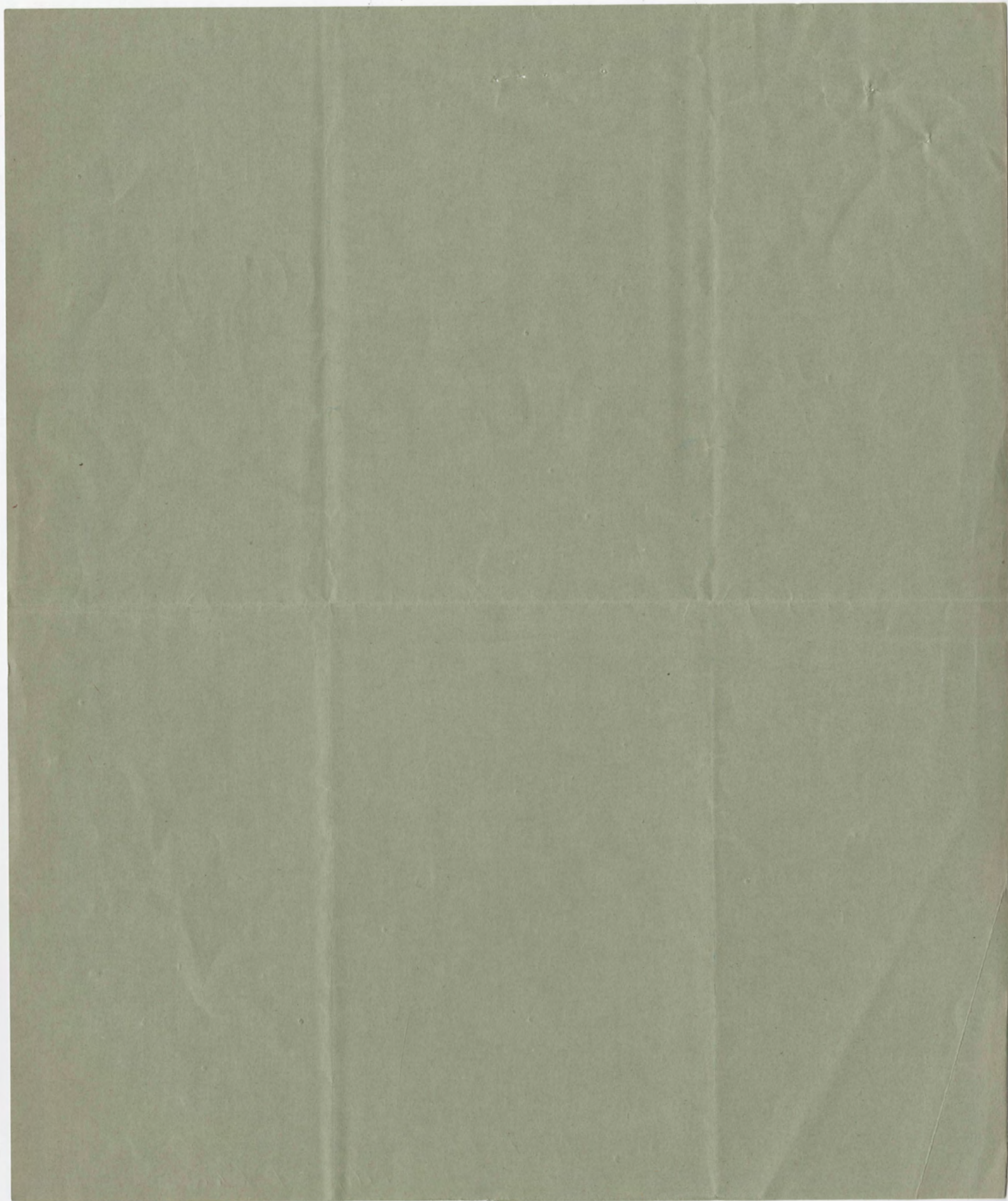
I beg leave to offer for sale to your University at a bargain my private collection of Bibles. I am not a bookseller, however.

A list is enclosed. Those crossed out in pencil are not sold but should be restored to the list. Much of the collection was formed by Rev Dr Pinkerton, Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society of London, early in the century. Some of the translations were made by the devoted Baptist Missionaries in India, seventy or eighty years ago. Many are handsomely bound.

Of the Bibles in English, No 92 is a worn out volume but very quaint. No 93 has covers damaged but binding and preservation of the inside are good. 94 was a very handsome book in green morocco. 95 has a very large number of striking illustrations. 97 was printed by the British Government to show the Presbyterians that the K. James' translation had not been tampered with. The price is \$100. for the lot. The collection of these volumes could hardly be accomplished now. I will send the books for your inspection if you will pay the freight.

Respectfully,

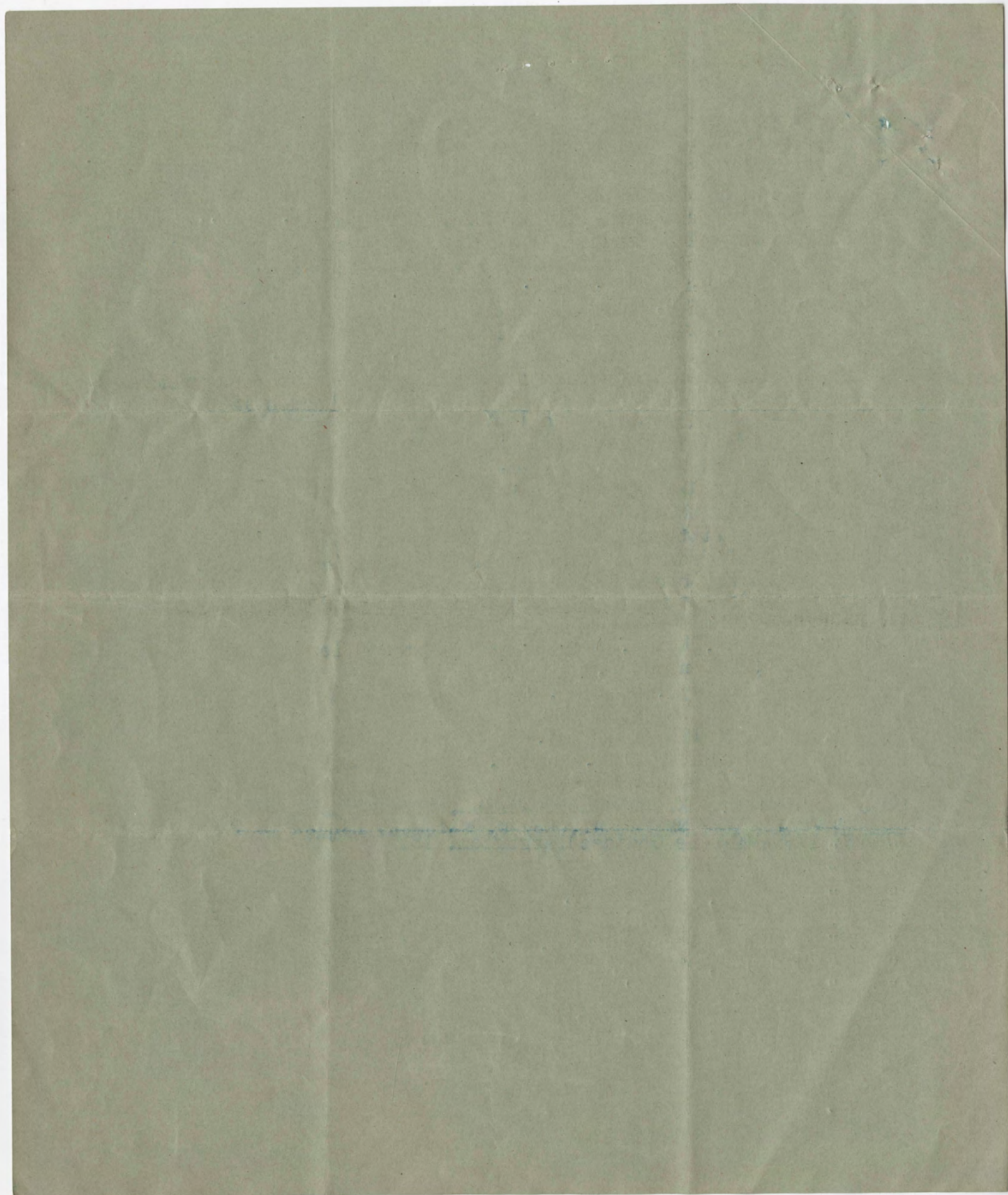
*H. P. Hopkins
Atty at Law.*



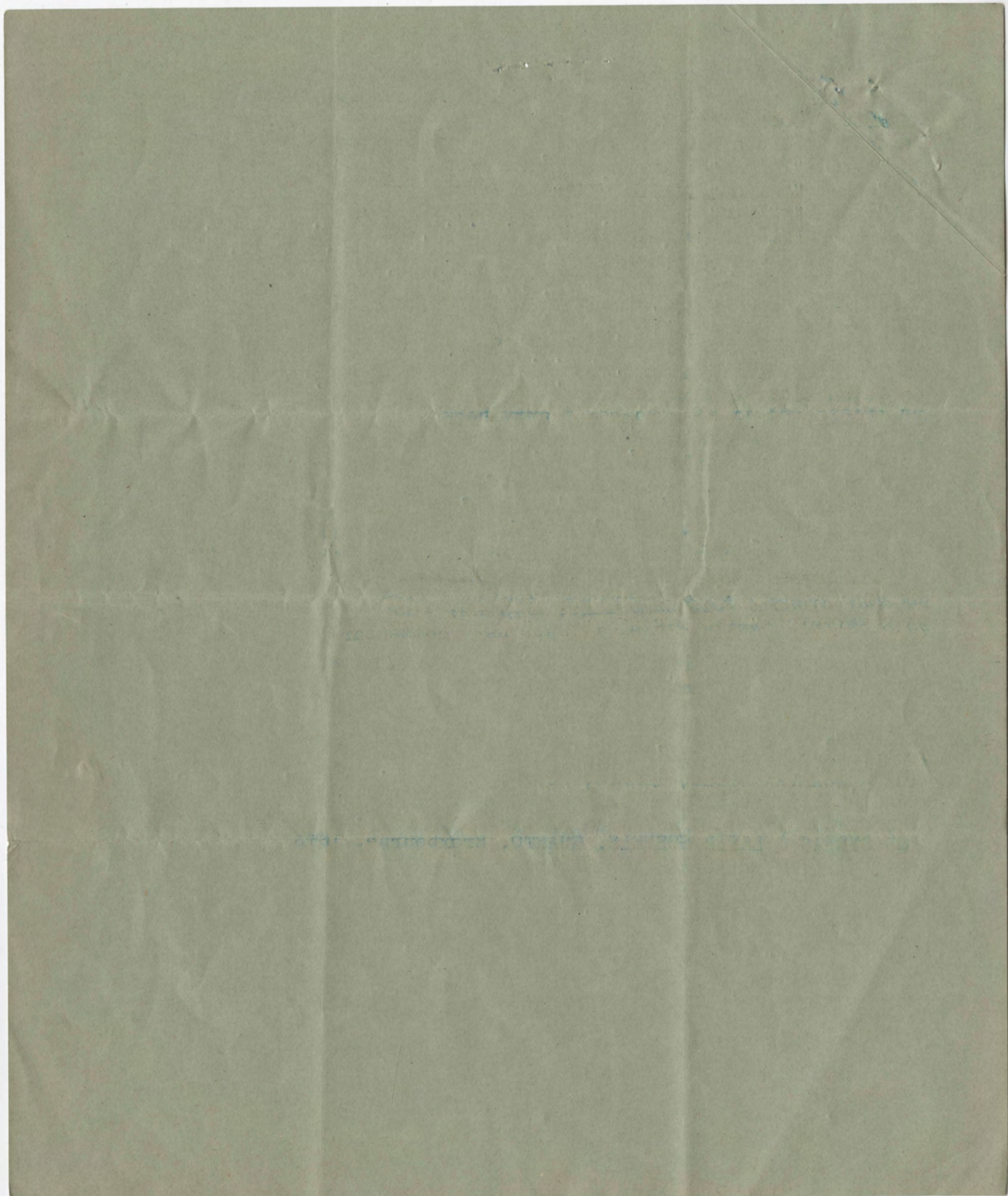
32 Germania Bank Building,

St Paul, Minn., July 14
1892

- 1 PENTATEUCH in TAMIL, Madras, 1827.
- 2 NEW TESTAMENT in TAMUL, probably same date but title page is in Tamul
- 3 PUSHTOO TESTAMENT, Serampore 1818.
- 4 St MATTHEW & St JOHN in English and Bengalee, Calcutta, 1819
- 5 NEW TESTAMENT in Bengalee, cannot read the title page
- 6 NEW TESTAMENT in TELOOGOO, by Pritchett, Madras 1818
- 7 NEW TESTAMENT in NEPALA, Serampore 1821
- 8 NEW TESTAMENT in HAROTEE Serampore 1821
- 9 GOSPELS & ACTS IN MALAYALIM, London, 1834
- 10 GOSPELS in CANARESE
- 11 NEW TESTAMENT in HINDUSTANI Calcutta 1834
- 12 TURKISH-ARMENIAN TESTAMENT
- 13 GENESIS in PERSIAN
- 14 St MATTHEW in SIRIANIAN
- 15 GENESIS & PSALMS in TURKISH
- 16 GERMAN HEBREW TESTAMENT London 1820
- 17 LETTISH TESTAMENT, Gadda, 1816
- 18 GERMAN & WENDISH TESTAMENT, Cottbus, 1821
- 19 SERVIAN NEW TESTAMENT, Leipzig, 1830
- 20 HUNGARIAN TESTAMENT, Pesten 1829
- 21 St MATTHEW in Carelian language, 1820
- 22 NEW TESTAMENT IN CATALONIAN, London, 1832
- 23 NEW TESTAMENT in RAROTONGA, London 1836
- 24 BIBLE in FINNISH, St Petersburg 1817
- 25 BIBLE in ROMANESE, 2 volumes, Coira, 1818
- 26 " " DUTCH, Embden 1563.
- 27 " " ARABIC
- 28 " " ROMANESE, same as no. 25
- 27 " " GERMAN (van Ess) Sulzbach, 1840
- 28 " " FRENCH (de Sacy) Paris, 1821
- 29 " " TAHITIAN, London, 1851
- 30 " " GERMAN, (Luther's) Cologne, 1855
- 31 ST LUKE & ST JOHN in Vaudois, (Pierre Bert) London, 1830
- 32 NEW TESTAMENT (Vulgate) in GERMAN, Munich, 1847
- 33 BIBLE in HUNGARIAN (Gaspard Karoli) Koszegen, 1848



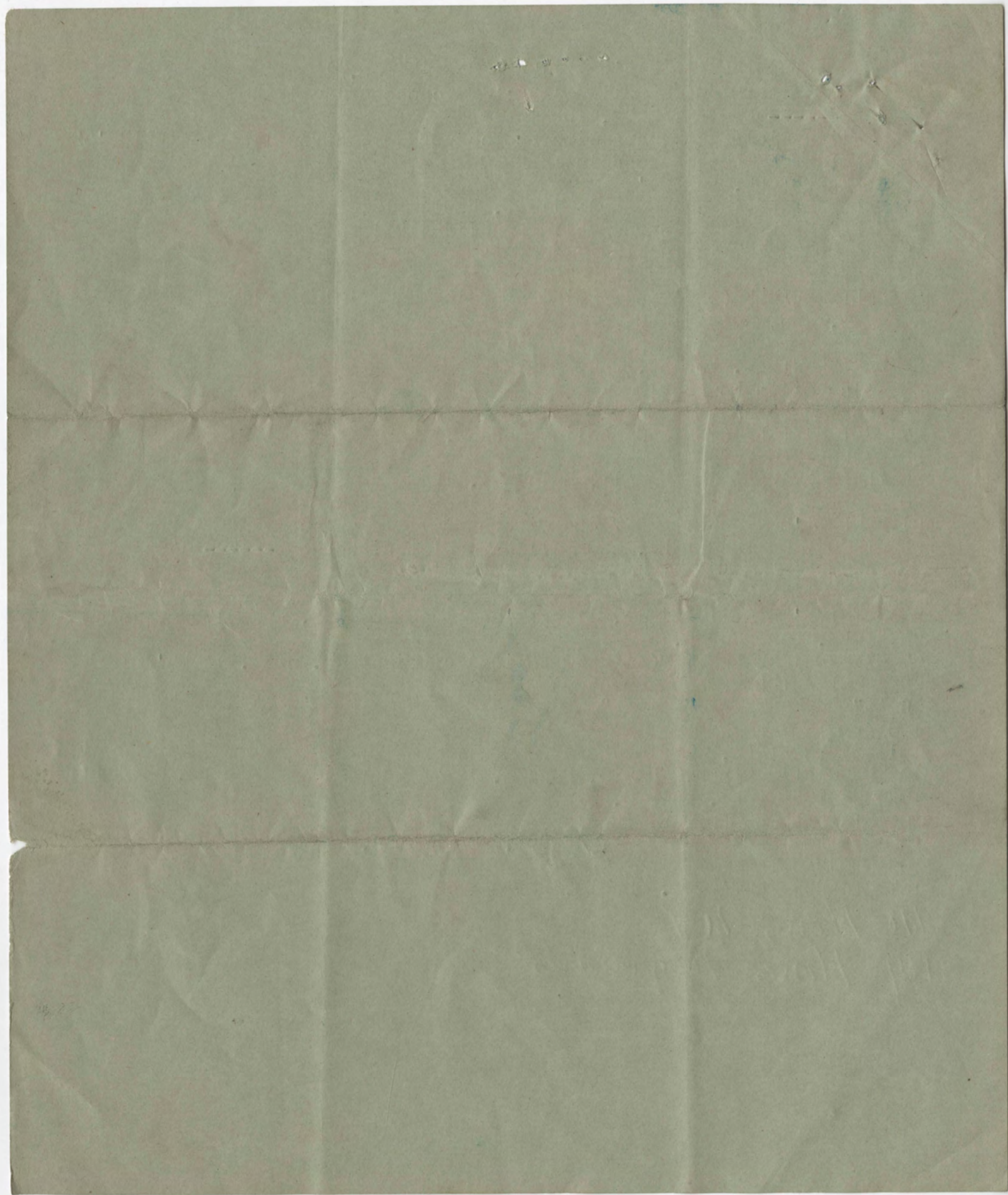
- 34 St LUKE & THE ACTS in Chinese London 1845
- 35 NEW TESTAMENT in MODERN GREEK, LONDON 1815
- 36 " " " SPANISH, London 1817
- 37 " " " MALAGASSE " n d
- 38 " " " ENGLISH, Newark, N.J. 1849 (pub. by Benj. Olds)
- 39 " GOSPELS and ACTS, English, with Mann'n notes, DUBLIN, 1771
- 40 NEW TESTAMENT & PSALMS in SECHUANA, London, 1840
- 41 ST LUKE in Spanish and Aymara, London 1829
- 42 TURCO-GREEK PSALMS, Istamboul, 1827
- 43 NEW TESTAMENT in DANISH, London, 1814
- 44 ST JOHN in Mohawk, London, n.d.
- 45 PSALMS, Sshimmelpennick's ed. of authorized vers.(and observations)
London 1825
- 46 St Matthew in Mandinga, London 1837
- 47 EPISTLES in OTAHEITIAN, Tahiti, 1828
- 48 PENTATEUCH in NEW ZEALAND, Ranana, 1848
- 49 NEW TESTAMENT in NEW ZEALAND, Ranana, 1844
- 50 NEW TESTAMENT in ENGADINE, Paris, 1836
- 51 GREEK N TEST. (Tittmann) Leipzig 1820 Tauchnitz.
- 52 FRENCH NEW TEST from the Vulgare(Valart) Saint Brieuc, 1812
- 53 MEXICAN ST LUKE, London 1833
- 54 PSALMS in IRISH language and type, (Norman McLeod) London 1836
- 55 TESTAMENT " " " " " London 1818
- 56 ACTS and some GOSPELS in YORUBA, (by Crowther) London 1851
- 57 PSALMS in ARABIC, n. d
- 58 ESQUIMAUX PSALMS(vy United Brethren) London 1830
- 59 ESQUIMAUX GOSPELS, by same London 1813
- 60 BRETON NEW TESTAMENT, Brest, 1847
- 61 POLISH NEW TESTAMENT, authorized Roman Cath.version, Leipzig, 1847(2)
- ~~62 same, another copy Leipzig 1839 (61&62 are Tauchnitz editions)~~
- 63 POLISH NEW TESTAMENT Reformed version, Warsaw, 1852
- 64 JUDAE0-POLISH NEW TESTAMENT, (Rev N. Solomon) London 1821
- 65 BRETON TESTAMENT(Le Gonidec), Angoulem, 1827
- 66 TSCHWASHIAN GOSPELS
- 67 SWEDISH TESTAMENT, Stockholm, 1814
- 68 PSALMS in ITALIAN (Rolandi's edition of Martini) London 1822
- 69 NEW TESTAMENT in ANCIENT and MODERN GREEK, London (1808?)
- 70 "HOLY DAVID" (Psalms with explanatory notes) London 1706



- 71 ICELANDIC BIBLE (on basis of 1747) Copenhagen, 1813
- 72 WENDISH BIBLE O T Barline 1824; N T Schoschobusu 1822
- 73 RUSS-BIBLE NEW TESTAMENT, 1823
- 74 English Bible auth vers with Scotch vers of metrical Psalms EDINB'52
- 75 FLEMISH TESTAMENT Brussels 1836
- 76 GERMAN BIBLE, Luther's Nuremberg 1852
- 77 MALAY BIBLE (in character) Wilmet, Harlem 1824
- 78 MALAY BIBLE in type resembling English 1821
- 79 NEW TESTAMENT in TURKISH
- 80 SERVIAN NEW TESTAMENT, 1847
- 81 POLISH BIBLE (reformed revision of 1632 and 1810) Halle 1854
- 82 Same, another ed 1836
- 83 ANCIENT & MODERN ARMENIAN TEST 1825
- 84 DANISH BIBLE. London, 1829
- 85 Welsh Bible London 1804
- 86 ARABIC (?) in blue boards & gray back
- 87 POLISH BIBLE (Roman Catholic) Moscow, 1822
- 88 KYTHEE-NAGRY TESTAMENT
- 89 OLD TESTAMENT in Bengali, Calcutta, 1845
- 90 NEW TESTAMENT in Mongolian London 1846
- 91 HEWLETT'S NEW TESTAMENT 4to with engravings and commentary Lond 1817
- 92 HISTORY OF THE BIBLE, 260 full page plates, London 1817-- 1752
- 93 BASKERVILLE BIBLE folio, illustrated 17--
- 94 HOLY BIBLE 2 vols Cambridge, England, 1799
- 95 S SMITH'S family Bible, illustr'ns & commentary, Lond 1732 2 vols
- 96 BIBLE, Lunenburgh, 18
- 97 OXFORD 1833 REPRINT (lof 250 copies) of first ed. of K. JAMES' BIBLE
- 98 ARABIC BIBLE (home purchase)
- 99 " TEST " "
- 100 ARABIC GRAMMAR
- 101 ARABIC BIBLE, QUARTO
- 102 HUNGARIAN BIBLE, QUARTO, Peszth, 1837
- 103 TURKISH BIBLE, QUARTO,
- 104 SINGHALESE OLD TEST (Psalms etc) Colombo 1820 QUARTO
- 105 SYRIAC & LATIN GOSPELS, QUARTO, Broxbourne, 1815
- 106 GOOJURATTEE TESTAMENT QUARTO
- 107 CARSHUN TESTAMENT. QUARTO.

108 Hong NY

109 Hong Magyarics



Paul Haupt,
2315 LINDEN AVENUE,
BALTIMORE, MD.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
BALTIMORE.

Oct. 8th, '97.

Dear President Harper,

Collection *43* *Haupt* *Ref* *Ref*

I have just received the enclosed letters from Derenbourg and Noldeke. De Goeje's letter came to hand a few days ago. I am convinced that you will never have a chance again to acquire a collection of Arabic manuscripts like the one offered by Brill, and the price of \$25,000 is relatively lower than what the Royal Library of Berlin paid for their Landberg Collection of Arabic Manuscripts. Some of the manuscripts in the Brill Collection are quite unique, and an average of less than \$24 per manuscript, it seems to me, is not too high. Of course, if you could go to Arabia and happen to find a valuable collection you might buy it cheaper, but the question is whether you would be so fortunate to find a first class library of Arabic manuscripts.

Let me emphasize once more the fact that you will hardly ever have a chance to acquire so fine a collection of Arabic manuscripts. You will always be able to purchase Assyrian tablets &c., but I doubt very much whether it will be possible to get a first class collection of Arabic manuscripts in ten or fifteen years.

One of the Baltimore reporters asked me what I considered the most important result of the Paris Congress so far as the United States was concerned. I answered, the most important result would probably be the acquisition of one

Paul Hagg
2315 LINCOLN AVENUE
BALTIMORE, MD.

JOHN HARRIS UNIVERSITY
BALTIMORE
Oct. 18, '37.

Dear President Harper,

I have just received the enclosed letter from Harbord and Gillette. Dr. Goetz's letter came to hand a few days ago. I am convinced that you will never have a chance to acquire a collection of Arabic manuscripts like the one offered by Brill, and the price of \$25,000 is relatively lower than what the Royal Library of Berlin paid for their lastest collection of Arabic manuscripts. Some of the manuscripts in the Brill Collection are quite unique, and an average of less than the per manuscript, it seems to me, is not too high. Of course, if you could go to Arabistan and happen to find a valuable collection you might buy it cheaper, but the question is whether you would be so fortunate to find a first class library of Arabic manuscripts. Let me emphasize once more the fact that you will hardly ever have a chance to acquire so fine a collection of Arabic manuscripts. You will always be able to purchase Assyrian tablets, etc., but I doubt very much whether it will be possible to get a first class collection of Arabic manuscripts in ten or fifteen years. One of the Baltimore reporters asked me that I considered the most important result of the Paris Congress so far as the United States was concerned. I answered, the most important result would probably be the negotiation of an

of the most valuable collections of Arabic manuscripts. He enquired whether it would come to Baltimore, but I replied, it did not make so much difference where it was deposited; the chief point was to have it within the United States. I was not sure whether you would have liked to have your name mentioned in connection with this matter, so I gave a rather evasive answer.

It is about time now that the question be decided whether the next meeting of the Oriental Society is to be held in Chicago or at Hartford. If we have the meeting during Easter week, as has been the custom during the past few years, we should have to meet on April 14th, 15th and 16th. If you are absent from Chicago at that time we might perhaps meet the last week in April or the first week in May. March would not be a good month, I think.

If I can be of any assistance to you in connection with the purchase of the Brill manuscripts you may command my services.

Yours sincerely

Paul Haupt.

EXCLINOR
JOHN HOBBS UNIVERSITY

Paul Haupt,
2315 LINDEN AVENUE,
BALTIMORE, MD.

of the most valuable collection of Arabic manuscripts. He enquired whether it would come to Baltimore, but I replied, it did not make so much difference where it was deposited; the chief point was to have it within the United States. I was not sure whether you would have liked to have your name mentioned in connection with this matter, so I gave a rather evasive answer.

It is about time now that the question be decided whether the next meeting of the Oriental Society is to be held in Chicago or at Hartford. It is now the custom during Easter week as has been the custom during the past few years, we should have to meet on April 14th, 15th and 16th. If you are absent from Chicago at that time we might perhaps meet the last week of April or the first week in May. March would not be a good month, I think.

If I can be of any assistance to you in connection with the purchase of the Brill manuscripts you may command my services.

Yours sincerely

Paul Haupt

BALTIMORE.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Paul Haupt
2315 LINCOLN AVENUE
BALTIMORE, MD.

Collection

Tomlinson

Brookline Park. Monday Sept 11th 1893

Pres^t Harper,

Chicago University,

Dear Sir;

(89)
I have a copy of the History of three of the Judges
of King Charles the first by President Stiles of Yale College
published in 1794, of which I am told by a Yale Graduate
that there are but three copies in existence. This volume
is in excellent preservation, and valuable, as I presume you
are making a collection of old manuscripts for your College,
thought you might desire to purchase this volume.

If you think favorable of this please address,

Tomlinson.

P.O. Box 163.

Brookline Park.

Chicago,

Chicago

Dear Mr. [Name]
[Address]
[City, State, Zip]

88

Chicago University
[Address]

I have a copy of the [Title] of [Author]
[Description of the book or document]
[Details about the acquisition or sale]
[Closing remarks and signature]

Yours truly,
[Signature]
[Name]

REMOVED TO ROOM 4, SPURLING BLOCK.

Lovell

ELGIN, ILLINOIS, Oct. 23, 1897.

Dr. William R. Harper,
Pres. University Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Sir:-

Miss Mary Otto of #489 Laurel St., Elgin, Ill., has from the library of her late father, Rev. Martin Otto, a large Folio edition in 8 thick Vols. of Dr. Martin Luther's works, printed in 1581; and also a very large Folio Bible, printed in 1589. Miss Otto dislikes to part with these books, but her circumstances are such that she would sell them, if she could get their fair value. Not knowing what that value is, but understanding that they are rare, I write to ask if you care to purchase them for the library of the University and, if so, what price you think they ought to bring. The books are full leather bound and in a good state of preservation. They are so large and heavy that it would be quite a task to take even one Vol., unless it were one of the thinnest, to Chicago for your inspection. But, she would be glad to show them to any representative you might send to Elgin, if you thought it worth while.

I write this letter direct to you; because of having had some slight acquaintance with you a few years ago, when you visited Elgin, and the Trustees of the Elgin Academy visited you in Chicago in regard to that institution; and I thought this might be an opportunity of which the University would gladly avail itself.

Very truly yours,

E. C. Lovell

55

Elgin, Illinois

Dr. William H. Barrett,

Free, University College,

Chicago, Ill.

My dear Sir:

When Mary Gato of 4428 Tanager St. Elgin, Ill., has

been the library of her late husband, Mr. Gato, a large

volume entitled "A History of the United States," written

in 1881, and also a very large photo album, printed in 1889,

also were directed to me by her estate, for her

estate and that she would sell them. It was thought that

no. Not knowing what that value is, but understanding that

they would be sold at a low price to someone, I am sorry

that I cannot say, but what price you think they ought to

bring. The books are full leather bound and in good state of

preservation. There are no tears and holes and it would be quite

a task to take even one volume. I have a lot of the things, in

Chicago for your inspection. But, we would like to know what

you would like to pay for them. I have thought it worth

while.

I write this letter direct to you, instead of having had some

agent acquaintance with you a few years ago, when you visited El-

gin, and the purpose of the Elgin Academy was to

in regard to the institution, and I thought it was an op-

portunity of seeing the University and its

Very truly yours,

33

384 Ontario St. *Mason*
April 5, 1899.

President Harper.
Chicago University.
Chicago.

Dear Sir:

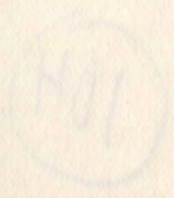
The library collected by
Edward G. Mason upon the
history of Illinois and the North-
-West is for sale. If you should
wish to take it for the University
library I shall be glad to furnish
you with farther details concern-
-ing it.

Respectfully yours
Roswell B. Mason.

104

Chicago, Illinois
Dear Sir,
The Library collected by
Edward B. Mason upon the
subject of Illinois and the
United States is now ready
to be sent to the University
of Chicago. I shall be glad to
send it with further details
concerning it.

Respectfully yours
Edward B. Mason



384 Ontario St.

Chicago.

April 10, 1899.

W. F. Adams
President Harper.
The University of Chicago.
Chicago.

Dear Sir:

Your kind letter of April 7th. was duly received. There are about 700 volumes in my father's historical library, and the price which has been placed upon it is \$1500⁰⁰. My father considered this library very complete in its particular field, and its selection was the result of much time and care on his

part.

The books have been taken out of their packing cases and placed, without classification, in a room at 384 Ontario St, where they may be seen by any one wishing to look at them.

Yours respectfully
Roswell B. Mason.

The University of Chicago

FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

CHICAGO

May 1, 1899.

My dear President Harper,-

The enclosed letter with reference to Mr. Mason's library, I was entirely unable to attend to until Saturday, last. I went over Saturday afternoon, and examined the books with considerable care. There are, I should judge, about 700 volumes in the collection, besides some pamphlets and manuscripts. It is a collection which principally relates to the history of the settlement of the Northwest, especially, of Illinois. There are books bearing on ^{the} French in Canada and ^{in a} Louisiana, as of course they relate to the special topic. There are also some general history works on the United States.

The whole ^{thing} ~~collection~~ is a very good special collection on the subject named. I think, on the whole, it is fairly worth the price which they place upon it, and it would be a very decided addition to our library. If it is purchased for us, it seems to me that it would be very fitting to keep the collection together as the Edward G. Mason Collection.

Very truly yours,

H. P. Adams

Returned by Mr. Hutchins
Mr. Hutchins
Collection

Mr. Hutchins

The University of Chicago

CHICAGO

May 1, 1899

My dear President Harper,

The enclosed letter with reference to Mr. Mason's library, I was entirely unable to attend to until Saturday last. I went over Saturday afternoon, and examined the books with considerable care. There are, I should judge, about 700 volumes in the collection, besides some pamphlets and manuscripts. It is a collection which principally relates to the history of the settlement of the Northwest, especially of Illinois. There are books bearing on French in Canada and Louisiana, as of course they relate to the special topic. There are also some general history works on the United States. The whole collection is a very good special collection on the subject. I think, however, it is fairly worth the price which they place upon it, and it would be a very decided addition to our library. It is purchased for us, it seems to me that it would be very fitting to keep the collection together as the Library of Mass. Collection.

Very truly yours,

Wm. D. Fiske

384 Ontario St.

May 12, 1899.

~~C. P. Hutchinson
C. P. Plummer
John W. Plummer~~

President Harper.

University of Chicago.

Mason
1892

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the 10th inst. is received. In reply I would say, that it is my Mother's earnest wish, that my Father's historical library should be owned by the University of Chicago, as it seems the most fitting and worthy resting place for it. The collection of books, manuscripts and pamphlets was made with the utmost care by my Father, and from the standpoint of a thorough student of the history of the Northwest. There is not, I venture to say, a book among the collection, which is not of value

to the working historian desirous
of collating facts for the writing of
history on this subject. It would have
been my Father's wish, that his care-
fully selected and rare collection
should be placed where it might be of
assistance to the worker in the line of
historical writing, in which he himself
was so deeply interested. My Mother
was under the impression that the
University had a fund for the purchase
of books for its library. Under the
circumstances, she wishes me to say,
for her, that she would like the books
to go to the University, at whatever
price may be offered for them. Begging
the favor of an early reply, I am

Respectfully yours,

Roswell B. Mason.

Mason

J. M.

President Harper

Dear Sir:

In reply to your favor of the 14th. inst. I would say that we have already disposed of my father's library at a good price, and cannot therefore offer it to the University of Chicago for a nominal sum much as we should like to have had it placed there.

Respectfully yours
Roswell B. Mason.

September, 2/1899.

He despaired on that
account.

Sincerely yours
J. Rendel Harris

Harris

no date
Collection

(115)

5 Park Terrace
Cambridge

April 1879

Dear Dr. Harper,

I thought it might
be as well to let you know,
in case you should ever
be making a department
of mss. in connexion with
your University Library, that
there will probably be
accessible (at my death
or perhaps sooner) one
of the best Collections of
Syriac mss. in private

hands. It includes not only a lot of inédits, as well as modern transcripts of books either unknown in Europe or only known by single copies, but also many early copies of the Scriptures, three of which are as early as the fifth or sixth Century; there is a copy of the Harklean (Harkleian) version which is two hundred years

older than the one in the British Museum, is probably the oldest yet known of that version
[Cent. VIII?]
xc xc.

Make a note in your pocket-book of these things, in case of my being sold up or departing hence.

There are nearly a hundred separate entries of Syriac MSS.; some of them, naturally mere fragments, but not

~~Mr. Buxton~~
~~Please return~~
~~to Mr. Buxton~~

Harper's
Mr. A. L.

5 Park Terrace
Cambridge

Sept. 30/99

Dear Dr. Harper,

I have your note
enquiring what value I
put on my collection of
Syrian and Armenian
vases, of which I sent you
a rough catalogue.

When I made a private
valuation of them some

time ago, for the purpose
of special insurance, they
were estimated by me at
£1300; ^(£6500) this estimate was
quite a moderate one,
and the schedule did
not contain some valuable
things added later (such
as the Gospel of the Twelve
Apostles) which appear in
your rough list.
Moreover the books have
been steadily going up
in value, chiefly in

consequence of heavy
purchases made for
the Vatican Library in
Eastern Syria.

I think I will leave
you, in view of these
circumstances, to make
me a definite offer,
which I will carefully
consider.

Sincerely yours

J. Rendel Harris

June 8, 1921.

To the Trustees of the University of Chicago.

Gentlemen:

There has come to the University of Chicago the opportunity to purchase one of the most notable private libraries in Europe -- that of the Canal's, a noble family of Venetia.

The library is not publicly offered for sale. The owners are not forced to make the sale, but would be glad to sell the library as a whole in this country. A friend of the family, for some time a resident of Chicago, brought the matter recently to the attention of the University Library and left with the Library privately printed catalogs of four portions of the Canal collection. Examination of these catalogs showed at once the extraordinarily distinguished character of the collection and led the University Library to make further investigation of the matter. Dr. Burckhardt of the Central Library of Zurich was therefore employed to examine the Canal library in situ. A copy of his report is enclosed herewith.

From his report and from the printed catalogs it appears that the Canal library is exceedingly strong

- (1) in incunabula, of which there are over 200;
- (2) in books of the sixteenth century, of which there are 4,000 or more;
- (3) in works of Italian literature;
- (4) in editions of the classics, and critical works on classic literature;
- (5) in historical and biographical material; and
- (6) in music and musical history.

Many of the incunabula represented in the Canal collection are not now in any library in this country; and a very great many of the sixteenth century books would doubtless be unexampled in this country. These early books are in particularly fine condition.

Acquisition of this library would give to the University of Chicago by far the finest collection of Italian literature of the Renaissance in this country. These books would be of the greatest value not only to students of Italian literature but also to students of the English, French, and Spanish literatures which in the Renaissance were so largely derived from or influenced by the Italian.

The classical and the historical material is not only very extensive but is also marked by many rare books of great importance. The collection of early music, containing many sixteenth century issues of vocal compositions, is very notable indeed and would be of value both for itself and in connection with literary studies.

The Canal library includes also the private library of the Italian poet, Carrer, and that of the great sculptor, Canova.

The cost of the library would be at the highest, according to the report herewith enclosed, \$60,000. Such a price would seem, in view of the extent and

June 8, 1931.

To the Trustees of the University of Chicago.

Gentlemen:

There has come to the University of Chicago the opportunity to purchase one of the most notable private libraries in Europe -- that of the Canal's a noble family of Venetia.

The library is not publicly offered for sale. The owners are not forced to make the sale, but would be glad to sell the library as a whole in this country. A friend of the family, for some time a resident of Chicago, brought the matter recently to the attention of the University Library and left with the Library privately printed catalogs of four portions of the Canal collection. Examination of these catalogs showed at once the extraordinarily distinguished character of the collection and led the University Library to make further investigation of the matter. Dr. Burckhardt of the Central Library of Zurich was therefore employed to examine the Canal library in situ. A copy of his report is enclosed herewith.

From his report and from the printed catalogs it appears that the Canal library is exceedingly strong

- (1) in incunabula, of which there are over 300;
- (2) in books of the sixteenth century, of which there are 4,000 or more;
- (3) in works of Italian literature;
- (4) in editions of the classics, and critical works on classic literature;
- (5) in historical and biographical material; and
- (6) in music and musical history.

Many of the incunabula represented in the Canal collection are not now in any library in this country; and a very great many of the sixteenth century books would doubtless be unexampled in this country. These early books are in particularly fine condition.

Acquisition of this library would give to the University of Chicago by far the finest collection of Italian literature of the Renaissance in this country. These books would be of the greatest value not only to students of Italian literature but also to students of the English, French, and Spanish literatures which in the Renaissance were so largely derived from or influenced by the Italian.

The classical and the historical material is not only very extensive but is also marked by many rare books of great importance. The collection of early music, containing many sixteenth century issues of vocal compositions, is very notable indeed and would be of value both for itself and in connection with literary studies.

The Canal library includes also the private library of the Italian poet, Carver, and that of the great sculptor, Canova.

The cost of the library would be at the highest, according to the report herewith enclosed, \$60,000. Such a price would seem, in view of the extent and

character of the library, a remarkably reasonable one. The cost of transportation would doubtless run to some \$5000.

The University of Chicago Libraries hold today third place among American libraries with respect to the number of volumes loaned to scholars and institutions of learning at a distance, -- the Library of Congress and Harvard occupying respectively the first and second place. The acquisition of the Canal Collection would greatly strengthen the ability of the University to serve in this manner the larger and broader interest of scholarship. It would further serve to attract students who must now travel to the eastern seaboard, or even abroad, for the purpose of consulting material not as yet available in the central west.

Believing that the addition of this library would further very greatly the services of the University of Chicago along the lines here indicated and particularly in the maintenance and development of humanistic studies, we earnestly recommend that the Board of Trustees provide or secure such guaranties as will enable them to authorize the University of Chicago Libraries to negotiate for the purchase of the Canal collection.

Very respectfully yours,

John M. Manly

Elmer T. Merrill

James W. Thompson

Ernest H. Wilkins, Chairman.

character of the library, a remarkably reasonable one. The cost of transportation would doubtless run to some \$3000.

The University of Chicago Libraries hold today third place among American libraries with respect to the number of volumes loaned to scholars and institutions of learning at a distance, -- the Library of Congress and Harvard occupying respectively the first and second places. The acquisition of the Canal Collection would greatly strengthen the ability of the University to serve in this manner the larger and broader interest of scholarship. It would further serve to attract students who must now travel to the eastern seaboard, or even abroad, for the purpose of consulting material not as yet available in the central west.

Believing that the addition of this library would further very greatly the services of the University of Chicago along the lines here indicated and particularly in the maintenance and development of humanistic studies, we earnestly recommend that the Board of Trustees provide or secure such guarantees as will enable them to authorize the University of Chicago Library to negotiate for the purchase of the Canal collection.

Very respectfully yours,

John M. Manly

Elmer T. Merrill

James W. Thompson

Ernest H. Wilkins, Chairman.

REPORT ON THE LIBRARY OF THE CANAL FAMILY

IN CRESpano VENETO

I. General Remarks.

The Library of the noble family, Canal, was collected by the Count Pietro Canal, Professor of Classical Philology at Padua, 1805-1887. It contains, among others, the Library of the Sculptor Canova, with whom Count Canal was related on his mother's side, and also that of the Venetian poet, Carrer. After the death of Pietro Canal, the Library was inherited by his nephew, and after the decease of the latter, by his widow (still living), and her children. The Library is located on the country estate of the Canal family at Crespano Veneto (also called Crespano del Grappa), in the Province of Treviso, Italy.

According to your instructions, I journeyed to Crespano Veneto, and remained there from April 6th - 10th inclusive. During this stay, I had not only an opportunity to examine the Library most thoroughly, but I also learned to know the family of the owner, something which may possibly have its importance for the business in hand. Above all, I wish to express my conviction that you are dealing with gentlemen, who, in case of a sale of the Library, will deliver it according to contract, and not retain any part of it, unless this has been expressly excepted from sale. On the other hand, I also became convinced that the owners of the Library have a thorough knowledge of its real value; besides, the one time private librarian of Count Pietro is still living, and it is natural that the family would, in case of sale, seek his advice. Concerning the value of the Library, I have, as a matter of course, refrained from expressing myself to the owners. I have, however, received the impression that you will be obliged to purchase the Library at its approximate value, as the mode and standard of living

REPORT ON THE LIBRARY OF THE CANAL FAMILY

IN CRESPANO VENETO

I. General Remarks.

The library of the noble family, Canal, was collected by the Count Pietro Canal, Professor of Classical Philology at Padua, 1805-1887. It contains, among others, the library of the Sculptor Canova, with whom Count Canal was related on his mother's side, and also that of the Venetian poet, Gervasio. After the death of Pietro Canal, the library was inherited by his nephew, and after the decease of the latter, by his widow (still living), and her children. The library is located on the country estate of the Canal family at Crespino Veneto (also called Crespino del Grappa), in the Province of Treviso, Italy.

According to your instructions, I journeyed to Crespino Veneto, and remained there from April 6th - 10th inclusive. During this stay, I had not only an opportunity to examine the library most thoroughly, but I also learned to know the family of the owner, something which may possibly have its importance for the business in hand. Above all, I wish to express my conviction that you are dealing with gentlemen, who, in case of a sale of the library, will deliver it according to contract, and not retain any part of it, unless this has been expressly excepted from sale. On the other hand, I also became convinced that the owners of the library have a thorough knowledge of its real value; besides, the one time private librarian of Count Pietro is still living, and it is natural that the family would, in case of sale, seek his advice. Concerning the value of the library, I have, as a matter of course, refrained from expressing myself to the owner. I have, however, received the impression that you will be obliged to purchase the library at its approximate value, as the mode and standard of living

of the Canal family, and their country seat, point to the fact that it is not because of any financial stringency that a sale is contemplated. The reason might rather be sought in the circumstance that none of the numerous heirs are willing to take over the Library as a whole, no one member of the family having taken any great interest in it. On the other hand, they do not wish to have it divided.

When I come to speak of the market value of the Library, I believe that, in consideration of the many rarities and the unusually fine condition of the books, an average price of 20 Swiss Franks per volume will be justified. The number of volumes being placed at 18,000, this will make 360,000 Swiss Franks, or 1,440,000 lire, or \$60,000.00. This would, in any case, be the highest price.

II. Contents of the Library.

The Library consists of:

1. Of the works noted in the four printed catalogues:

a)	Biblioteca italiana	c.1250	
b)	" classica 1884	c.4130	
c)	" " 1885	c.1300	
d)	" musicale	<u>c.1150</u>	7830 vols.

2. Of the works not represented in the printed catalogues:

a)	Italian literature of the 15th-18th century	c.2000	
b)	History, Biographies, Collections of letters	c.3200	
c)	Theology, Philosophy, Art, Geography	c.3000	
d)	Music	<u>c.1000</u>	<u>10,200</u> vols.

Total in entire Library 18,030 vols.

of the Canal family, and their country seat, point to the fact that it is not because of any financial stringency that a sale is contemplated. The reason might rather be sought in the circumstance that none of the numerous heirs are willing to take over the library as a whole, no one member of the family having taken any great interest in it. On the other hand, they do not wish to have it divided.

When I come to speak of the market value of the library, I believe that, in consideration of the many rarities and the unusually fine condition of the books, an average price of 30 Swiss Franks per volume will be justified. The number of volumes being placed at 18,000, this will make 360,000 Swiss Franks, or 1,440,000 lire, or \$60,000.00. This would, in any case, be the highest price.

II. Contents of the Library.

The library consists of:

1. Of the works noted in the four printed catalogues:

a)	"	musical	 c. 1150
c)	"	"	1882 c. 1300
d)	"	cinemas	1884 c. 4130
a)	"	Bibliotec Italiana	 c. 1350

3. Of the works not represented in the printed edition:

10.200 vols.	c. 1900	4) Music
c. 3000	c. 3000	5) Theology, Philosophy, Art, Geography
c. 3500	c. 3500	6) History, Geography, Collections of letters
c. 3000	c. 3000	7) Italian literature of the 15th-18th century

Total in entire Library . . . 18,030 vols.

As to the contents of the divisions named under (1), the printed catalogues, of which you have a copy, furnish information. I have considered it my province with reference to these divisions, to examine into the condition of the books (see below) and as to how far they agree with the entries in the catalogues. For this purpose, I made 300 tests. All the works sought were found, with the exception of one volume of a work in several volumes, which presumably had been misplaced, as the Library had, during the war, been removed from Crespano, which had resulted in some disorder, afterwards in the main remedied. At the same time, it is to be recommended that you reserve the privilege of checking the contents on its arrival in America.

Concerning the works not catalogued, I may state as follows:

a) Italian literature of the 15th-18th centuries. This is a collection supplementing that noted in the printed catalogue, Biblioteca Italiana. It contains, in contrast to the former, only the works which, from linguistic-puristic reasons, are not cited by the Accademia della Crusca. In my opinion, this collection is, aside from its greater extent, at least as valuable or even more valuable than the former, as it contains apparently the less known works and editions. It contains, among others, romances of chivalry, collections of novels, religious and secular dramas and comedies, also dialect literature. An idea of the great value of this division may be gained from the fact that it contains 20 different older editions of Savanarola, about 50 of Dante (15th-17th centuries), among others the Venice editions of 1491 and 1497 with woodcuts, Venice, the Aldus edition 1502, 16. Of single works, I may mention further: Here beate v'ginis, Paris, 1491 (1 leaf defective); Giov. de Chiaramonte: Pronosticatione in vulgare, Modena, 1492, with woodcuts; Mirabilia urbis Romae, Romae,

As to the contents of the divisions named under (1), the printed catalogues, of which you have a copy, furnish information. I have considered it my province with reference to these divisions, to examine into the condition of the books (see below) and as to how far they agree with the entries in the catalogues. For this purpose, I made 300 tests. All the works sought were found, with the exception of one volume of a work in several volumes, which presumably had been misplaced, as the library had, during the war, been removed from Cremona, which had resulted in some disorder, afterwards in the main remedied. At the same time, it is to be recommended that you reserve the privilege of checking the contents on its arrival in America.

Concerning the works not catalogued, I may state as follows:

a) Italian literature of the 15th-18th centuries. This is a collection supplementing that noted in the printed catalogue, Bibliotheca Italiana. It contains, in contrast to the former, only the works which, from linguistic-purist reasons, are not cited by the Accademia della Crusca. In my opinion, this collection is, aside from its greater extent, at least as valuable or even more valuable than the former, as it contains apparently the less known works and editions. It contains, among others, romances of chivalry, collections of novels, religious and secular dramas and comedies, also dialect literature. An idea of the great value of this division may be gained from the fact that it contains 20 different older editions of Savonarola, about 50 of Dante (15th-17th centuries), among others the Venice editions of 1491 and 1497 with woodcuts; Venice, the Aldine edition 1502, 16. Of single works, I may mention further: Here beste v'ania, Paris, 1491 (1 leaf defective); Stav. de Chirramonte: Promesse in vulgare, Modena, 1492, with woodcuts; Mirabilia urbis Romae, Rome,

Joa. Besicken, 1494; Petrarca: Venetiis, Barth. de Zani, 1497, fol., with woodcuts, title page reprinted; Seraphica Sylva, Florentiae, 1498.4° with woodcuts; Frottola de diversi autori, Firenze s.a. (c.1490/1500), with woodcuts; Psalterium s.a. and l., but Italian Incunabulum with 22 woodcuts; Compendio di sphaera et machina de mondo, Firenze, Bern. Zucchetto, s.a. (c.1510/20); Joh. de Sacro Bosco: Sphaera, Lutetiae, 1557, with the movable spheres. La rappresentazione della favola d'Orfeo, comp da Messer Agnolo Politiano novam. ristampata. s.l.et a. (16th cent.) with 5 woodcuts.

b) History, Biography, and collections of letters. Also History of Literature. More recent works, especially 18th-19th centuries, but nevertheless many valuable publications of the 16th and 17th centuries. Of the more recent works, must be emphasized: "Scelta di curiosità letterarie inedite e rare" (c.1860-1880, brech.), of which many parts are now out of print. To this division must be added the periodicals Atti del R.Instituto veneto, Memorie of the same institution, Atti della R.Accademia dei Lincei, Rendiconti del Instituto lombardo, Philologus, from the 40's - 80's of the 19th century.

c) Theology, Philosophy, Art, Geography, (among the latter, about 60 volumes containing "Universo pittoresco"), mainly 18th - 19th centuries. As far as contents is concerned, of less interest but apparently containing the works on the history of art in the possession of Canova.

d) Music, c. 60 volumes in 1000 parts, mainly manuscripts: Motets, Arias, etc., chiefly from the 18th and beginning of the 19th centuries.

e) Not catalogued are finally the following two manuscripts:

1. Boccaccio, 1457. Paierhdschr. fol. 2 col. without Miniatures, but with colored initials, 1 leaf replaced.

Joan Bealcken, 1494; Petrarca: Venetia, Barth. de Zani, 1497, fol., with
woodcuts, title page reprinted; Geographica Sylva, Florentiae, 1498.4^o with
woodcuts; Protesta de diversi autori, Firenze s.a. (c. 1490/1500), with woodcuts;
Psalterium s.a. and l., but Italian Incunabulum with 22 woodcuts; Compendio di
sphera et machina de mondo, Firenze, Bern. Zucchetto, s.a. (c. 1510/20); Lib. de
Sacro Sacro: Sphera, Lutetiae, 1527, with the movable spheres. In rapsoman-
tiane della favola d'Orfeo, comp. da Messer Agnolo Politiano novam, ristampata.
s.l. et s. (16th cent.) with 2 woodcuts.

b) History, Biography, and collections of letters. Also History
of literature. More recent works, especially 18th-19th centuries, but neverthe-
less many valuable publications of the 16th and 17th centuries. Of the more
recent works, must be emphasized: "Scelta di curiose letterarie inedite e rare"
(c. 1860-1880, broch.), of which many parts are now out of print. To this division
must be added the periodicals Atti del R. Istituto Veneto, Memorie of the same
institution, Atti della R. Accademia dei Lincei, Rendiconti del Istituto Lombardo,
Philologus, from the 40's - 80's of the 19th century.

c) Theology, Philosophy, Art, Geography, (among the latter, about
60 volumes containing "Universo pittoresco"), mainly 18th - 19th centuries. As
far as contents is concerned, of less interest but apparently containing the
works on the history of art in the possession of Geneva.

d) Music, c. 60 volumes in 1000 parts, mainly manuscripts: Metete,
Atias, etc., chiefly from the 18th and beginning of the 19th centuries.

e) Not catalogued are finally the following two manuscripts:

1. Boccaccio, 1457. Palastrachr. fol. 2 col. without

miniatures, but with colored initials, 1 leaf replaced.

2. Regola di S. Benedetto, c. 1450, from the Convent S. Giorgio Maggiore, Venice, with one full page illustration and colored initials.

N.B. Other manuscripts, not at hand.

III. Condition of the Library. The books are, with very few exceptions, in very good, in part as already noted, magnificent condition. Numerous imprints of the 15th and 16th centuries look as fresh as if they had come direct from the press. Many volumes are with extra wide margins and, in part, uncut leaves. With the exception of some hundred volumes of the 19th century, they are all bound, the older volumes mostly in pigskin or parchment. Exceptionally fine bindings appear, especially in the Italian collections, for instance, 8, 14, 367, 395, 401, 463, 496, Andrea Fulvio (after 500) 505, 679, 758 (probably gift copy from the noble author to some person of high rank), 759, 856, 871, 930, 933, 1037. Further works not noted in the catalogue: Ariosto: Orlando furioso, Venezia, 1617, 16^o. Aless. Piccolomini: De la istituzione di tutta la vita de l'huomo, 1543, with bindings containing mosaic pattern. Further, some pressed leather bindings from the period 1500, and a number of de luxe bindings of the 16th and 17th centuries, and quite a number of fine french morocco bindings of the period 1820.

IV. Export.

Manuscripts and rare old books fall under the Italian Export Prohibition, covering art objects and antiquities. For the permission to export from this region, the Direktion der Biblioteca nazionale Marciana in Venedig is responsible. During a visit to this library, I incidentally touched on this question of export prohibition. Whereupon, the Director declared that as he had only assumed office quite recently, he did not know exactly what his relation to

2. Regola di S. Benedetto, c. 1450, from the Convent S. Giorgio

Maggiore, Venice, with one full page illustration and colored initials.

M.B. Other manuscripts, not at hand.

III. Condition of the Library. The books are, with very few exceptions,

in very good, in part as already noted, magnificent condition. Numerous imprints of the 15th and 16th centuries look as fresh as if they had come direct from the press. Many volumes are with extra wide margins and, in part, uncut leaves. With the exception of some hundred volumes of the 19th century, they are all bound, the older volumes mostly in pigskin or parchment. Exceptionally fine bindings appear, especially in the Italian collections, for instance, 8, 14, 367, 392, 401, 462, 496, Andrea Fulvio (after 500) 502, 679, 758 (probably gift copy from the noble author to some person of high rank), 759, 826, 871, 930, 932, 1037. Further works not noted in the catalogue: Aristotle: Orlando furioso, Venezia, 1617, 16°, Aless. Piccolomini: De la institutione di tutta la vita de l'huomo, 1543, with bindings containing mosaic pattern. Further, some pressed leather bindings from the period 1500, and a number of de luxe bindings of the 16th and 17th centuries, and quite a number of fine french morocco bindings of the period 1820.

IV. Export.

Manuscripts and rare old books fall under the Italian Export Prohibition, covering art objects and antiquities. For the permission to export from this region, the Direktion der Bibliotheca nazionale Marciana in Venedig is responsible. During a visit to this library, I incidentally touched on this question of export prohibition. Whereupon, the Director declared that as he had only assumed office quite recently, he did not know exactly what his relation to

6.

this embargo was to be. It may be well, therefore, to hasten purchase and removal of the Library before the official referred to has had an opportunity to become more closely acquainted with his duties in connection with the embargo. Perhaps it might be worth while to have the most valuable parts of the Library removed to Venice, where the Canal family has a residence, in case the presence of American ships of war in that harbor should prove of service. During my visit in Venice, there were two such ships at anchor there. It is also possible that the Zentralbibliothek Zürich might be willing to receive the Library, and send it on to America via France, as it is said to be easier to get books across the frontier by land. The book dealer, Heeppli, in Milan, born in Switzerland, with whom I discussed the export from the theoretical point of view, informed me that a private Italian library destined for America had been held up at the last moment in the harbor of Genoa six months ago, and was still there, with no immediate prospect of being exported. I need not advise you, in view of these conditions, not to make any payment before the Library has been received in America.

I close my report with sincere thanks for the confidence which you have shown me, and for the friendly financial support extended, which has given me an opportunity to become acquainted with one of the most valuable private libraries of Italy.

Respectfully,

(Signed) Dr. Felix Burckhardt

Librarian, Zentralbibliothek Zürich.

Zürich, April 29, 1921.

this embargo was to be. It may be well, therefore, to hasten purchase and removal

of the library before the official referred to has had an opportunity to become more closely acquainted with his duties in connection with the embargo. Perhaps it might be worth while to have the most valuable parts of the library removed to Venice, where the Canal family has a residence, in case the presence of American ships of war in that harbor should prove of service. During my visit in Venice, there were two such ships at anchor there. It is also possible that the Central-

bibliothek Zürich might be willing to receive the library, and send it on to America via France, as it is said to be easier to get books across the frontier by land. The book dealer, Hoepfl, in Milan, born in Switzerland, with whom I discussed the export from the theoretical point of view, informed me that a private Italian library destined for America had been held up at the last moment in the harbor of Genoa six months ago, and was still there, with no immediate prospect of being exported. I need not advise you, in view of these conditions, not to make any payment before the library has been received in America.

I close my report with sincere thanks for the confidence which you have shown me, and for the friendly financial support extended, which has given me an opportunity to become acquainted with one of the most valuable private

libraries of Italy.

Respectfully,

(Signed) Dr. Felix Burckhardt

Librarian, Centralbibliothek Zürich.

Zürich, April 29, 1921.